

**Conformation of Peptides Containing a Chiral  $\alpha$ -Ethylated  $\alpha,\alpha$ -Disubstituted  $\alpha$ -Amino Acid: (*S*)- $\alpha$ -Ethylleucine (= (2*S*)-2-Amino-2-ethyl-4-methylpentanoic Acid) within Sequences of Dimethylglycine and Diethylglycine Residues**

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Dedicated to Professor *Dieter Seebach* on the occasion of his 65th birthday

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An optically active (*S*)- $\alpha$ -ethylleucine ((*S*)- $\alpha$ EtLeu) as a chiral  $\alpha$ -ethylated  $\alpha,\alpha$ -disubstituted  $\alpha$ -amino acid was synthesized by means of a chiral acetal auxiliary of (*R,R*)-cyclohexane-1,2-diol. The chiral  $\alpha$ -ethylated  $\alpha,\alpha$ -disubstituted amino acid (*S*)- $\alpha$ EtLeu was introduced into the peptides constructed from 2-aminoisobutyric acid (= dimethylglycine, Aib), and also into the peptide prepared from diethylglycine (Deg). The X-ray crystallographic analysis revealed that both right-handed (*P*) and left-handed (*M*)  $3_{10}$ -helical structures exist in the solid state of CF<sub>3</sub>CO-(Aib)<sub>2</sub>-[(*S*)- $\alpha$ EtLeu]-(Aib)<sub>2</sub>-OEt (**14**) and CF<sub>3</sub>CO-[(*S*)- $\alpha$ EtLeu]-(Deg)<sub>4</sub>-OEt (**18**), respectively. The IR, CD, and <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra indicated that the dominant conformation of pentapeptides **14** and CF<sub>3</sub>CO-[(*S*)- $\alpha$ EtLeu]-(Aib)<sub>4</sub>-OEt (**16**) in solution is a  $3_{10}$ -helical structure, and that of **18** in solution is a planar C<sub>5</sub> conformation. The conformation of peptides was also studied by molecular-mechanics calculations.

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**Introduction.** – Foldamers [1], especially, peptides constructed from nonproteinogenic amino acids, such as  $\beta$ -amino acid,  $\gamma$ -amino acid, and  $\alpha,\alpha$ -disubstituted amino acid have attracted much attention among organic, peptide, and medicinal chemists, because some peptide-foldamers form unique secondary structures, show novel biological activities [2], and can be used as a ruler for the design of molecular devices and catalysts [3].

Some  $\alpha,\alpha$ -disubstituted  $\alpha$ -amino acids have been known as biologically active  $\alpha$ -amino acids, components of peptaibol antibiotics, and meteoritic amino acids [4]. For the conformational studies of peptides containing  $\alpha,\alpha$ -disubstituted  $\alpha$ -amino acids, 2-aminoisobutyric acid (= dimethylglycine, Aib) has been extensively used because its structure is very simple and achiral, and it is also found in natural antibiotics. Now, the Aib peptide is known to form a  $3_{10}$ -helical structure [5]. On the other hand, the peptides derived from diethylglycine (Deg), and dipropylglycine are known to form a fully planar C<sub>5</sub> conformers [6]. Very recently, the groups of *Toniolo* and *Seebach* independently reported the conformation of peptides prepared from chiral  $\alpha$ -methylated  $\alpha,\alpha$ -disubstituted  $\alpha$ -amino acids ( $\alpha$ MeAAs) [7]. They concluded that the conformation of peptides prepared from  $\alpha$ MeAAs is the  $3_{10}$ -helical structure both in solution and in the solid state, and the screw sense of helicity would be determined by the chiral quaternary C-atom of  $\alpha$ MeAAs.

We have studied the conformation of peptides prepared from the chiral  $\alpha$ -ethylated  $\alpha,\alpha$ -disubstituted amino acid (*S*)-butylethylglycine ((*S*)-Beg), and reported that (*S*)-Beg homopeptides form the fully planar  $C_5$  conformers [8], and that heteropeptides containing an (*S*)-Beg within a sequence of Aib adopt the  $3_{10}$ -helical structure both in solution and in the solid state [9]. In this paper, we describe the synthesis of heteropeptides containing the chiral  $\alpha$ -ethylated  $\alpha,\alpha$ -disubstituted  $\alpha$ -amino acid (*S*)- $\alpha$ -ethylleucine (= (*S*)-isobutylethylglycine = (2*S*)-2-amino-2-ethyl-4-methylpentanoic acid; (*S*)- $\alpha$ EtLeu) within sequences of Aib residues and Deg residues, and their conformational analyses<sup>1)</sup>.

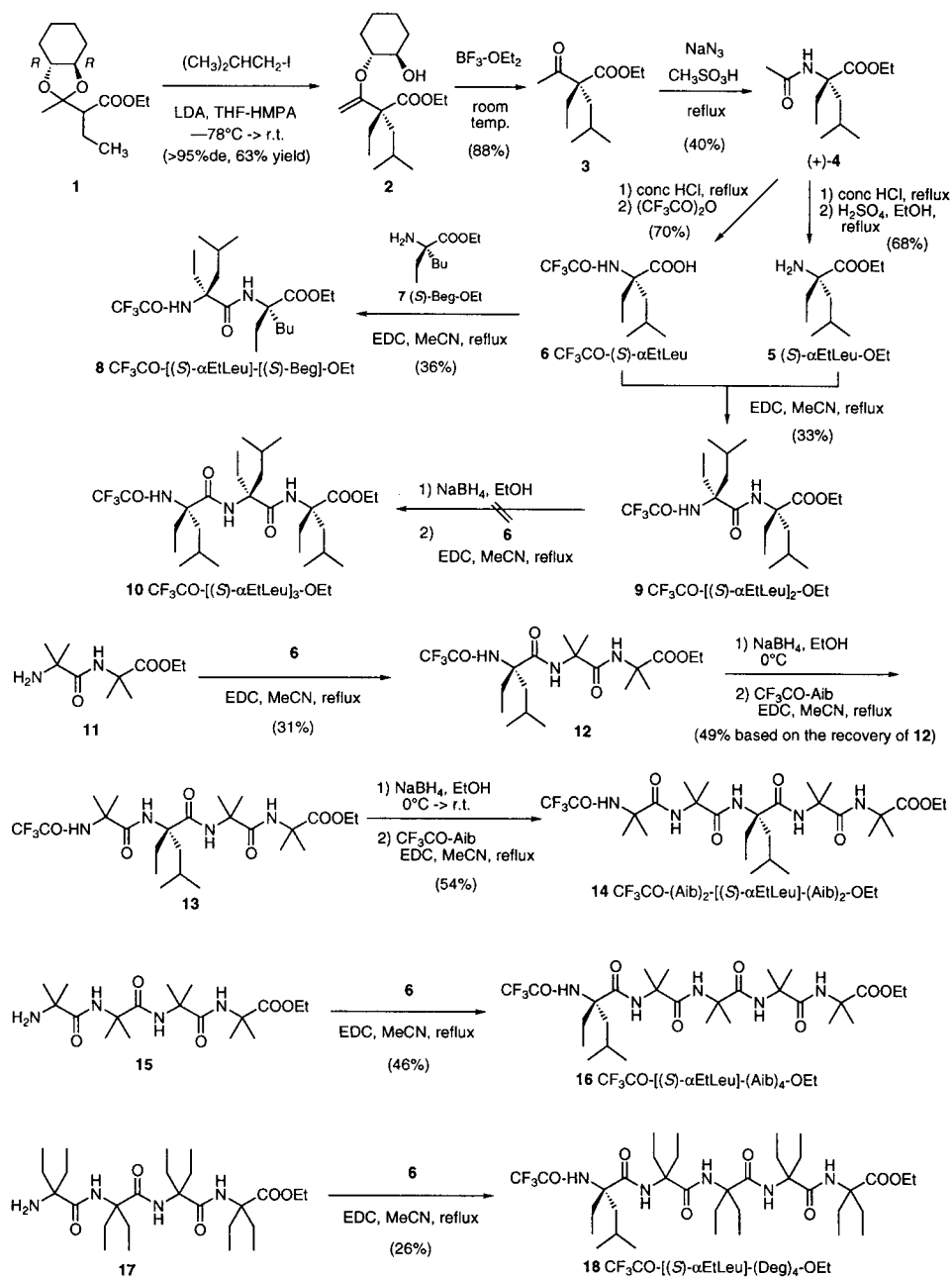
**Results.** – *Asymmetric Synthesis of (S)- $\alpha$ -Ethylleucine.* We synthesized (*S*)- $\alpha$ -ethylleucine by an asymmetric alkylation of the corresponding  $\beta$ -keto ester with (*R,R*)-cyclohexane-1,2-diol as a chiral auxiliary [11], and subsequent *Schmidt* rearrangement (*Scheme*) [12][13]. The chiral acetal **1**, derived from (*R,R*)-cyclohexane-1,2-diol and ethyl 2-ethylacetoacetate, was treated with LDA (5 equiv.), *i*-BuI (5 equiv.), and HMPA (5 equiv.) in THF at  $-78^\circ$  to room temperature to afford ethylated enol ether **2** in 63% yield. Removal of the cyclohexane-1,2-diol moiety in **2** by treatment with  $\text{BF}_3 \cdot \text{OEt}_2$  in EtOH/H<sub>2</sub>O gave  $\beta$ -keto ester **3** in 88% yield. The enantiomeric excess of **3** was determined to be  $> 95\%$  ee by <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectroscopy in the presence of the chiral shift reagent (+)-Eu(hfc)<sub>3</sub>. The *Schmidt* rearrangement of **3** with NaN<sub>3</sub> and MeSO<sub>3</sub>H in refluxing CHCl<sub>3</sub> afforded  $\alpha,\alpha$ -disubstituted  $\alpha$ -amino acid (+)-**4** in 40% yield, 20% of starting material was recovered. With respect to consumed **3**, the yield of (+)-**4** was 50%. The enantiomeric excess of (+)-**4** was confirmed to be  $> 95\%$  ee by the <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectroscopy with the chiral shift reagent (+)-Eu(hfc)<sub>3</sub>, with racemic ( $\pm$ )-**4** as a reference standard. The compound (+)-**4** was converted to the trifluoroacetyl  $\alpha$ EtLeu **6** in 70% yield by hydrolysis with concentrated HCl and subsequent acylation with (CF<sub>3</sub>CO)<sub>2</sub>O. Also, the C-terminal protected  $\alpha$ EtLeu **5** was obtained in 68% yield by treatment of (+)-**4** with concentrated HCl and subsequent esterification with H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> in refluxing EtOH. For the determination of the absolute configuration of (+)-**4**, the N-protected  $\alpha$ EtLeu **6** was coupled with (*S*)-Beg-OEt **7** [8] by means of *N*-[3-(dimethylamino)propyl]-*N'*-ethylcarbodiimide hydrochloride (EDC) in refluxing MeCN to afford dipeptide **8** in 36% yield. The X-ray crystallographic analysis of **8** provided the absolute configuration of (+)-**4** to be (*S*) [13] (*cf. Fig. 1*).

*Preparation of Peptides Bearing an (S)- $\alpha$ EtLeu within Sequences of Aib and Deg Residues.* First, we attempted to synthesize (*S*)- $\alpha$ EtLeu homopeptides. Dipeptide CF<sub>3</sub>CO-[(*S*)- $\alpha$ EtLeu]<sub>2</sub>-OEt (**9**) was easily prepared by coupling of **5** and **6** by treatment with EDC in refluxing MeCN in 33% yield. After deprotection of the CF<sub>3</sub>CO group in **9** by NaBH<sub>4</sub> reduction, the coupling of the amine obtained and the acid **6** was attempted with EDC in refluxing MeCN. Unfortunately, no tripeptide **10** was isolated because of the steric hindrance of  $\alpha$ EtLeu [8].

Next, we tried to synthesize heteropeptides containing an (*S*)- $\alpha$ EtLeu within Aib and Deg residues. We prepared three pentapeptides CF<sub>3</sub>CO-(Aib)<sub>2</sub>-[(*S*)- $\alpha$ EtLeu]-(Aib)<sub>2</sub>-OEt (**14**), CF<sub>3</sub>CO-[(*S*)- $\alpha$ EtLeu]-(Aib)<sub>4</sub>-OEt (**16**), and CF<sub>3</sub>CO-[(*S*)- $\alpha$ EtLeu]-

<sup>1)</sup> For reviews on the conformation of peptides prepared from  $\alpha,\alpha$ -disubstituted  $\alpha$ -amino acids, see [5a–c][10].

Scheme



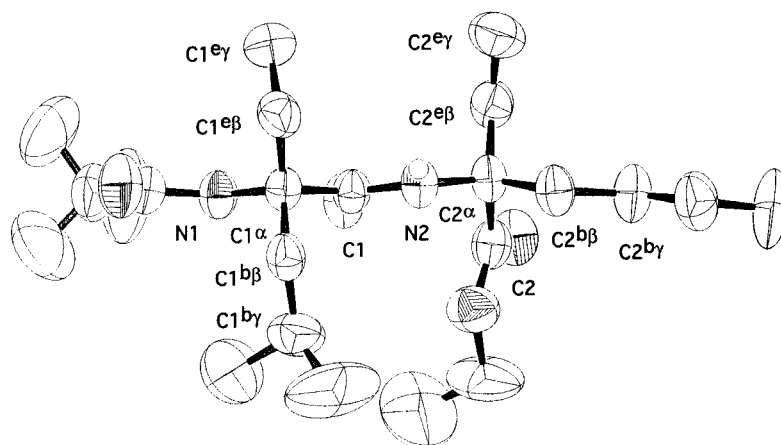


Fig. 1. ORTEP Drawing of the molecular structure of  $\text{CF}_3\text{CO}-[(S)\text{-}\alpha\text{EtLeu}]-[(S)\text{-Beg}]\text{-OEt}$  (**8**) with atom numbering (ellipsoids at 50% probability)

( $\text{Deg}$ )<sub>4</sub>-OEt (**18**) by solution-phase methods. The heteropentapeptide  $\text{CF}_3\text{CO}-(\text{Aib})_2-[(S)\text{-}\alpha\text{EtLeu}]-(\text{Aib})_2\text{-OEt}$  (**14**) was prepared starting from Aib dipeptide **11** [9]. Coupling of **11** and  $\text{CF}_3\text{CO}-(S)\text{-}\alpha\text{EtLeu}$  (**6**) afforded tripeptide **12** in 31% yield. Deprotection of the  $\text{CF}_3\text{CO}$  group in **12** by  $\text{NaBH}_4$  reduction at room temperature afforded complex mixtures, including an alcohol due to the reduction of the C-terminal ester function. Therefore,  $\text{NaBH}_4$  reductive deprotection was carried out at  $0^\circ$  to give the desired amine, but large amounts of **12** were recovered. The coupling of the amine with  $\text{CF}_3\text{CO}\text{-Aib}$  gave tetrapeptide **13** in 49% yield. In a similar manner, the heteropentapeptide **14** was prepared from **13** and  $\text{CF}_3\text{CO}\text{-Aib}$  in 54% yield. The heteropentapeptide  $\text{CF}_3\text{CO}-[(S)\text{-}\alpha\text{EtLeu}]-(\text{Aib})_4\text{-OEt}$  (**16**) was prepared by coupling Aib tetrapeptide **15** [9] and  $\text{CF}_3\text{CO}-(S)\text{-}\alpha\text{EtLeu}$  (**6**) by EDC in 46% yield, and  $\text{CF}_3\text{CO}-[(S)\text{-}\alpha\text{EtLeu}]-(\text{Deg})_4\text{-OEt}$  (**18**) was obtained from Deg tetrapeptide **17** [6d] in 26% yield.

*Conformational Analysis in the Solid State.* We determined the molecular and crystal structures of four terminally protected peptides, two dipeptides **8** and **9**, and two pentapeptides **14** and **18**, by X-ray crystallography. Crystals of good quality for X-ray analysis were obtained by slow evaporation of  $\text{CHCl}_3/\text{MeOH}$  at room temperature. The molecular structures with atomic-numbering schemes are shown in Figs. 1–5. Relevant backbone and side-chain torsion angles are given in Table 1, and the intra- and intermolecular H-bond parameters are listed in Table 2.

The heterodipeptide  $\text{CF}_3\text{CO}-[(S)\text{-}\alpha\text{EtLeu}]-[(S)\text{-Beg}]\text{-OEt}$  (**8**) crystallizes in the space group  $P2_12_12_1^2$  (Fig. 1). One intramolecular H-bond in the  $\alpha\text{EtLeu}^1$  residue is observed. This means that intramolecularly H-bonded  $C_5$  conformer of  $\alpha\text{EtLeu}^1$  is formed in the solid state. The set of  $\phi$ ,  $\psi$  torsion angles of  $\alpha\text{EtLeu}^1$  are  $-175.3^\circ$ ,  $+177.1^\circ$ , and those of  $(S)\text{-Beg}^2$  are  $-50.3^\circ$ ,  $-45.6^\circ$ . In the packing mode, one intermolecular H-bond is seen between the  $\text{H}-\text{N}(2)$  and the  $\text{C}(2')=\text{O}(2')$  carbonyl

<sup>2)</sup> The X-ray crystallographic analysis of **8** has been briefly reported in [13].

Table 1. Selected Torsion Angles  $\omega$ ,  $\phi$ ,  $\psi$ , and  $\chi^a$  [ $^\circ$ ] for the Peptides **8**, **9**, **14**, and **18** as Determined by X-Ray Crystal-Structure Analysis

Torsion angle	CF <sub>3</sub> CO-[(S)- $\alpha$ EtLeu]-[(S)-Bcgl]-OEt ( <b>8</b> )	CF <sub>3</sub> CO-[(S)- $\alpha$ EtLeu] <sub>2</sub> -OEt ( <b>9</b> )	CF <sub>3</sub> CO-(Aib) <sub>2</sub> -[(S)- $\alpha$ EtLeu]-(Aib) <sub>2</sub> -OEt ( <b>14</b> )		CF <sub>3</sub> CO-[(S)- $\alpha$ EtLeu]-(Deg) <sub>4</sub> -OEt ( <b>18</b> )	
			Molecule <b>A</b> ( <i>M</i> )	Molecule <b>B</b> ( <i>P</i> )	Molecule <b>A</b> ( <i>M</i> )	Molecule <b>B</b> ( <i>P</i> )
$\omega_0$	175.4	176.3	-179.8	-177.0	172.3	-174.0
$\phi_1$	-175.3	-177.6	56.3	-55.7	50.4	-55.7
$\psi_1$	177.1	178.0	31.2	-35.5	44.4	-40.9
$\omega_1$	-174.9	-172.2	174.6	-170.1	171.5	-172.6
$\phi_2$	-50.3	-47.7	53.6	-53.7	54.2	-54.4
$\psi_2$	-45.6	-51.1	33.5	-38.8	24.5	-26.6
$\omega_2$	-170.1	-176.3	176.4	-173.5	179.1	-174.4
$\phi_3$	-	-	53.5	-53.5	47.4	-50.7
$\psi_3$	-	-	33.8	-36.2	35.8	-37.8
$\omega_3$	-	-	175.2	-173.5	176.2	-173.8
$\phi_4$	-	-	60.6	-62.9	60.7	-56.2
$\psi_4$	-	-	32.9	-22.1	28.1	-25.7
$\omega_4$	-	-	174.7	178.9	-178.2	-178.7
$\phi_5$	-	-	54.5	-48.5	-43.8	44.3
$\psi_5$	-	-	46.9	-45.3	-51.7	51.5
$\omega_5$	-	-	-177.1	175.8	-175.5	179.5
$\chi_1^e$	-52.8	-52.3	-	-	179.9	57.5
$\chi_1^b$	62.8	66.8	-	-	-52.6	-166.6
$\chi_2^e$	65.4	64.0	-	-	176.4	178.4
$\chi_2^b$	175.4	-173.2	-	-	-62.9 <sup>b</sup> )	62.5 <sup>b</sup> )
$\chi_3^e$	-	-	-177.2	61.3	60.7	63.2
$\chi_3^b$	-	-	-75.5	-168.1	179.6 <sup>b</sup> )	-177.8 <sup>b</sup> )
$\chi_4^e$	-	-	-	-	-63.5	71.6
$\chi_4^e$	-	-	-	-	-56.6	61.5
$\chi_5^e$	-	-	-	-	68.0	-174.8
$\chi_5^e$	-	-	-	-	178.2	-68.9

a) The subscripts e and b refer to the Et and Bu side chains, respectively. b)  $\chi_2^e$  and  $\chi_3^e$ .

Table 2. Intra- and Intermolecular H-Bond Parameters for the Peptides **8**, **9**, **14**, and **18**

Peptide <sup>a)</sup>	Donor D–H	Acceptor A	Distance [Å] D...A	Angle [°] D–H...A	Symmetry operations
CF <sub>3</sub> CO-[( <i>S</i> )- $\alpha$ EtLeu]-[( <i>S</i> )-Beg]-OEt ( <b>8</b> )					
	N(1)–H	O(1)	2.57	117	<i>x</i> , <i>y</i> , <i>z</i>
	N(2)–H	O(2')	2.99	158	<i>x</i> + 1/2, – <i>y</i> + 3/2, – <i>z</i> + 1
CF <sub>3</sub> CO-[( <i>S</i> )- $\alpha$ EtLeu] <sub>2</sub> -OEt ( <b>9</b> )					
	N(1)–H	O(1)	2.55	115	<i>x</i> , <i>y</i> , <i>z</i>
	N(2)–H	O(2')	3.00	171	<i>x</i> + 1/2, – <i>y</i> + 3/2, – <i>z</i> + 1
CF <sub>3</sub> CO-(Aib) <sub>2</sub> -[( <i>S</i> )- $\alpha$ EtLeu]-[(Aib) <sub>2</sub> ]-OEt ( <b>14</b> )					
<b>A</b> ( <i>M</i> )	N(3a)–H	O(0a)	3.16	162	<i>x</i> , <i>y</i> , <i>z</i>
	N(4a)–H	O(1a)	2.97	160	<i>x</i> , <i>y</i> , <i>z</i>
	N(5a)–H	O(2a)	3.01	154	<i>x</i> , <i>y</i> , <i>z</i>
<b>B</b> ( <i>P</i> )	N(3b)–H	O(0b)	3.30 <sup>b)</sup>	165	<i>x</i> , <i>y</i> , <i>z</i>
	N(4b)–H	O(1b)	3.00	152	<i>x</i> , <i>y</i> , <i>z</i>
	N(5b)–H	O(2b)	3.04	159	<i>x</i> , <i>y</i> , <i>z</i>
	N(1a)–H	O(4b')	2.75	153	– <i>x</i> + 1/2, – <i>y</i> + 1, <i>z</i> + 1/2
	N(2a)–H	O(5b')	3.42 <sup>b)</sup>	128	– <i>x</i> + 1/2, – <i>y</i> + 1, <i>z</i> + 1/2
	N(1b)–H	O(4a')	2.84	135	– <i>x</i> + 1/2, – <i>y</i> + 1, <i>z</i> + 1/2
	N(2b)–H	O(5a')	3.21 <sup>b)</sup>	127	– <i>x</i> + 1/2, – <i>y</i> + 1, <i>z</i> + 1/2
CF <sub>3</sub> CO-[( <i>S</i> )- $\alpha$ EtLeu]-[(Deg) <sub>4</sub> ]-OEt ( <b>18</b> )					
<b>A</b> ( <i>M</i> )	N(3a)–H	O(0a)	2.99	158	<i>x</i> , <i>y</i> , <i>z</i>
	N(4a)–H	O(1a)	3.15	171	<i>x</i> , <i>y</i> , <i>z</i>
	N(5a)–H	O(2a)	2.91	152	<i>x</i> , <i>y</i> , <i>z</i>
<b>B</b> ( <i>P</i> )	N(3b)–H	O(0b)	3.04	159	<i>x</i> , <i>y</i> , <i>z</i>
	N(4b)–H	O(1b)	3.14	164	<i>x</i> , <i>y</i> , <i>z</i>
	N(5b)–H	O(2b)	2.96	159	<i>x</i> , <i>y</i> , <i>z</i>
	N(1a)–H	O(4b')	2.82	165	<i>x</i> , <i>y</i> , <i>z</i> + 1
	N(1b)–H	O(4a)	2.88	169	<i>x</i> , <i>y</i> , <i>z</i>

<sup>a)</sup> The number of the amino-acid residues begins at the *N*-terminus of the peptide chain. <sup>b)</sup> The distance of D...A is somewhat long for a H-bond.

O-atom of a symmetry-related molecule (*x* + 1/2, – *y* + 3/2, – *z* + 1), with a N(2)...O(2) distance of 2.99 Å.

The homodipeptide CF<sub>3</sub>CO-[(*S*)- $\alpha$ EtLeu]<sub>2</sub>-OEt (**9**) also crystallizes in the space group *P*2<sub>1</sub>2<sub>1</sub>2<sub>1</sub> (Fig. 2). One intramolecularly H-bonded *C*<sub>5</sub>-conformer of  $\alpha$ EtLeu<sup>1</sup> is formed in the solid state, and one intermolecular H-bond is observed between the H–N(2) and the C(2')=O(2') carbonyl O-atom of a symmetry-related molecule (*x* + 1/2, – *y* + 3/2, – *z* + 1), with a N(2)...O(2) distance of 3.00 Å. The set of  $\phi$ ,  $\psi$  torsion angles of  $\alpha$ EtLeu<sup>1</sup> are –177.6°, +178.0°, and those of  $\alpha$ EtLeu<sup>2</sup> are –47.7°, –51.1°. Therefore, the conformations of dipeptides **8** and **9** are very similar.

The structure of CF<sub>3</sub>CO-(Aib)<sub>2</sub>-[(*S*)- $\alpha$ EtLeu]-[(Aib)<sub>2</sub>]-OEt (**14**, Fig. 3) was also solved in the orthorhombic space group *P*2<sub>1</sub>2<sub>1</sub>2<sub>1</sub>. There are two crystallographically independent molecules **A** and **B** in the asymmetric unit. Molecule **A** is folded into a left-handed (*M*) *3*<sub>10</sub>-helical structure, and molecule **B** is folded into a right-handed (*P*) *3*<sub>10</sub>-helical structure (Fig. 4), *i.e.*, the two molecules **A** and **B** are in a diastereoisomeric relationship, and they are connected by intermolecular H-bonds. Molecule **A** shows

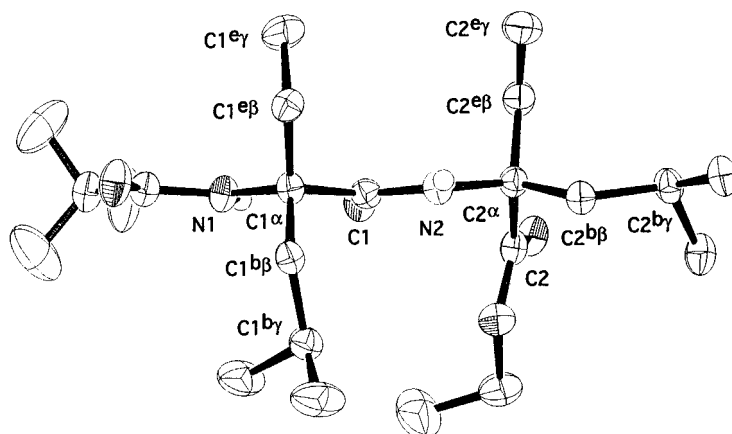


Fig. 2. ORTEP Drawing of the molecular structure of  $\text{CF}_3\text{CO}-[(S)\text{-}\alpha\text{EtLeu}]_2\text{-OEt}$  (**9**) with atom numbering (ellipsoids at 50% probability)

three intramolecular H-bonds between H–N(3a) and the C(0a)=O(0a) O-atom of the  $\text{CF}_3\text{CO}$  group ( $\text{N}(3a) \cdots \text{O}(0a)$  3.16 Å), between H–N(4a) and C(1a)=O(1a) ( $\text{N}(4a) \cdots \text{O}(1a)$  2.97 Å), and between H–N(5a) and C(2a)=O(2a) ( $\text{N}(5a) \cdots \text{O}(2a)$  3.01 Å). In molecule **B**, two intramolecular H-bonds are observed between H–N(4b) and C(1b)=O(1b) ( $\text{N}(4b) \cdots \text{O}(1b)$  3.00 Å), and between H–N(5b) and C(2b)=O(2b) ( $\text{N}(5b) \cdots \text{O}(2b)$  3.04 Å), and also one weak intramolecular H-bond is shown between H–N(3b) and the C(0b)=O(0b) ( $\text{N}(3b) \cdots \text{O}(0b)$  3.30 Å). All signs of the  $\phi$  and  $\psi$  torsion angles in molecule **A** are positive average values being  $\phi = +55.7^\circ$ ,  $\psi = +35.7^\circ$ , while in molecule **B**, all signs of torsion angles are negative with average values  $\phi = -54.9^\circ$ ,  $\psi = -35.6^\circ$ , respectively. The corresponding torsion angles in the molecules **A** and **B** differ by sign, but the absolute values are similar. Although the flip of torsion angles in the C-terminal Aib residue is often observed in the  $3_{10}$ -helical structure of Aib peptides [5], these phenomena are not seen in molecules **A** and **B**. In the packing mode, two intermolecular H-bonds are observed between H–N(1a) and C(4b')=O(4b') O-atom of a symmetry-related molecule ( $-x + 1/2, -y + 1, z + 1/2$ ) with  $\text{N}(1a) \cdots \text{O}(4b')$  distance of 2.75 Å, and also between H–N(1b) and C(4a')=O(4a') of a symmetry-related molecule ( $-x + 1/2, -y + 1, z + 1/2$ ) with  $\text{N}(1b) \cdots \text{O}(4a')$  distance of 2.84 Å. Moreover, one weak intermolecular H-bond is observed between H–N(2b) and the C(5a')=O(5a') O-atom of a symmetry-related molecule ( $-x + 1/2, -y + 1, z + 1/2$ ) with  $\text{N}(2b) \cdots \text{O}(5a')$  distance of 3.21 Å. The distance of  $\text{N}(2a) \cdots \text{O}(5b')$  is 3.42 Å, and is too long for an intermolecular H-bond. The head-to-tail alignment of right-handed (*P*)  $3_{10}$ -helical molecule **B** and left-handed (*M*)  $3_{10}$ -helical molecule **A** forms  $(\cdots (P) \cdots (M) \cdots (P) \cdots (M) \cdots)$  chains of intermolecularly H-bonded molecules **A** and **B**.

The heteropentapeptide  $\text{CF}_3\text{CO}-[(S)\text{-}\alpha\text{EtLeu}]\text{-(Deg)}_4\text{-OEt}$  (**18**, Fig. 5) crystallizes in the monoclinic  $P2_1$  space group. Two crystallographic independent molecules **A** and **B**, which are diastereoisomeric (*M*)- and (*P*)- $3_{10}$ -helical structures, exist in the asymmetric unit. In molecule **A**, three intramolecular H-bonds are observed between H–N(3a) and the C(0a)=O(0a) O-atom of the  $\text{CF}_3\text{CO}$  group with  $\text{N}(3a) \cdots \text{O}(0a)$

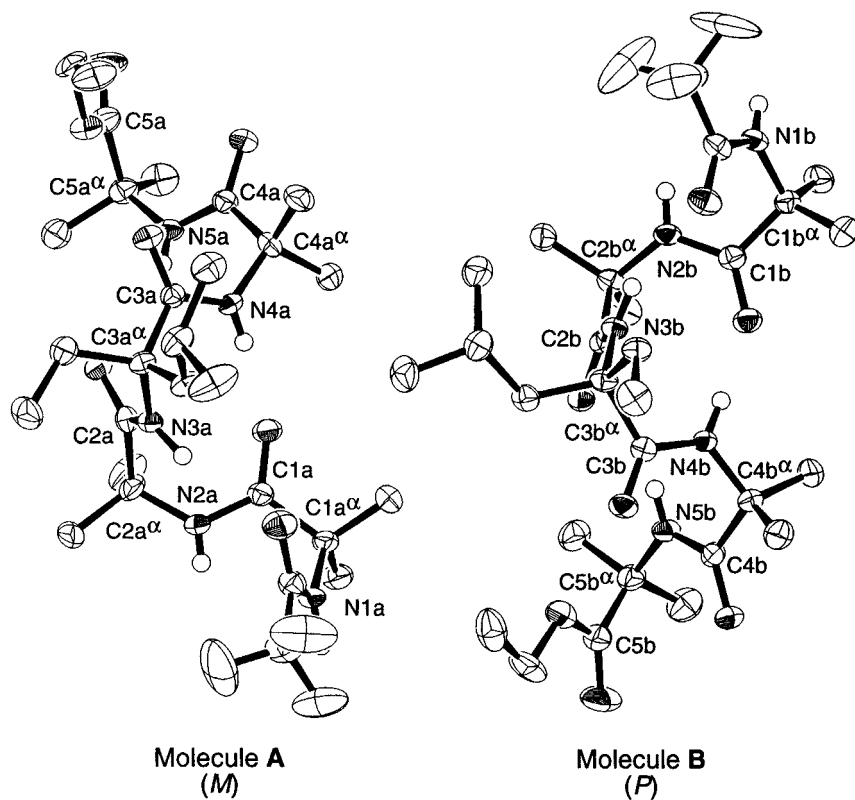


Fig. 3. ORTEP Drawing of the molecular structure of  $CF_3CO-(Aib)_2-[S]-\alpha EtLeu-(Aib)_2-OEt$  (**14**) with atom numbering (ellipsoids at 50% probability)

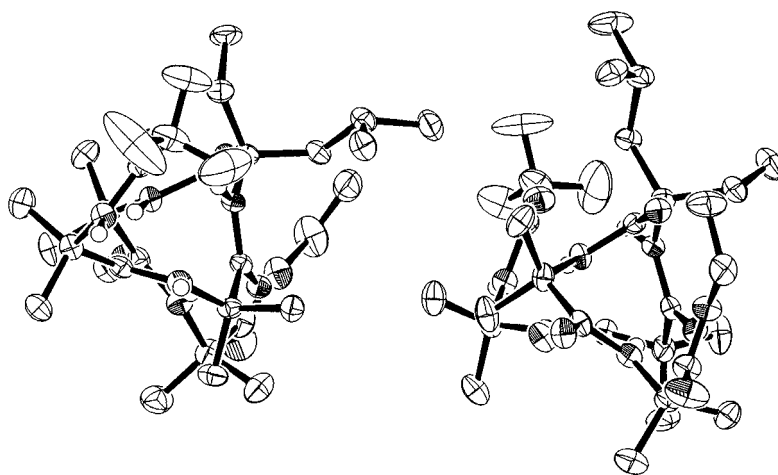


Fig. 4. ORTEP Drawing of **14** viewed along the helix axis (ellipsoids at 50% probability)



distance of 2.99 Å, between H–N(4a) and C(1a)=O(1a) (N(4a)⋯O(1a) 3.15 Å), and between H–N(5a) and C(2a)=O(2a) (N(5a)⋯O(2a) 2.91 Å). Similarly, three intramolecular H-bonds are observed in molecule **B** between H–N(3b) and C(0b)=O(0b) (N(3b)⋯O(0b) 3.04 Å), between H–N(4b) and C(1b)=O(1b) (N(4b)⋯O(1b) 3.14 Å), and between H–N(5b) and C(2b)=O(2b) (N(5b)⋯O(2b) 2.96 Å). The absolute values of the corresponding  $\phi$  and  $\psi$  torsion angles in the molecules **A** and **B** are similar, but the signs of torsion angles are opposite. Furthermore, the signs of torsion angles ( $\phi$ ,  $\psi = -43.8^\circ$ ,  $-51.7^\circ$  in **A**,  $+44.3^\circ$ ,  $+51.5^\circ$  in **B**) of the Deg<sup>5</sup> residues at the C-terminus are opposite to those of the preceding residues (*S*)- $\alpha$ EtLeu<sup>1</sup>, Deg<sup>2</sup>, Deg<sup>3</sup>, and Deg<sup>4</sup> (plus signs in **A**, and minus signs in **B**) in both molecules. These phenomena are often observed in the  $3_{10}$ -helical structures of Aib peptides [5] and also in the  $3_{10}$ -helical structures of Deg homopeptides [6d], and are known as the  $3_{10}$ -helix-terminating structure. The average values of the  $\phi$  and  $\psi$  torsion angles for the sequence (*S*)- $\alpha$ EtLeu<sup>1</sup> to Deg<sup>4</sup> are  $\phi = +53.2^\circ$ ,  $\psi = +33.2^\circ$  in molecule **A** and  $\phi = -54.3^\circ$ ,  $\psi = -32.7^\circ$  in molecule **B**, *i.e.*, close to the ideal torsion angles for the  $3_{10}$ -helical structure are  $\phi = 49^\circ$  and  $\psi = 26^\circ$ . In the packing mode of **18**, two intermolecular H-bonds are observed between the H–N(1a) and the C(4b')=O(4b') O-atom of a symmetry-related molecule ( $x, y, z + 1$ ) (N(1a)⋯O(4b') 2.82 Å), and also between the H–N(1b) and the C(4a)=O(4a) of a symmetry-related molecule ( $x, y, z$ ) (N(1b)⋯O(4a) 2.88 Å). Thus, the chains of intermolecular H-bonded molecules **A** and **B** are of the ( $\cdots(P)\cdots(M)\cdots(P)\cdots(M)\cdots$ ) mode in the head-to-tail alignment. No intermolecular H-bond is formed between N(2a)⋯O(5b') and N(2b)⋯O(5a), as the distances of 3.54 Å and 3.64 Å are too long.

*Solution Conformation Analysis.* Fig. 6 shows the FT-IR absorption spectra of the pentapeptides **14**, **16**, and **18** in the 3500–3250 cm<sup>-1</sup> region (peptide concentration of 1.0 mM). In both Aib heteropeptides **14** and **16**, the bands in the 3420–3440 cm<sup>-1</sup> region, are assigned to free (solvated) peptide NH groups or to weak intramolecular H-bonded amide NH groups of the C–F⋯H–N type, and the strong bands in 3350–3370 cm<sup>-1</sup>, are assigned to peptide NH groups with N–H⋯O=C intramolecular H-bonds of different strength. The relative intensity of the bands in the 3420–3440 cm<sup>-1</sup> region increases gradually with decreasing peptide concentration (10.0–1.0 mM). These IR spectra are very similar to those of Aib homopeptides and Aib heteropeptides having an (*S*)-Beg. In Deg heteropeptide **18**, the bands at 3390 cm<sup>-1</sup> region is assigned to amide NH groups with relatively strong C–F⋯H(N)⋯O=C intramolecular H-bond at the N-terminus, and those at 3340–3360 cm<sup>-1</sup> to peptide NH groups with N–H⋯O=C intramolecular H-bonds of different strength. The concentration of **18** does not essentially affect the IR spectra, *i.e.*, the strength of the intermolecular H-bonds does not change with concentration (10.0–1.0 mM). The behavior of IR spectra of **18** is very similar to those of Deg homopeptides [6d] and (*S*)-Beg homopeptides [8].

To obtain more useful information, we recorded the <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra of pentapeptides **14**, **16**, and **18** under various conditions. In the <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) spectra of **14** and **16**, only the trifluoroacetamide NH signals at the N-terminus could be unambiguously determined by their high-field positions ( $\delta$  6.56 (br. s, 1 H) in **14**, and  $\delta$  6.18 (br. s, 1 H) in **16**), and the remaining four NH protons could not be assigned. In the <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectrum of **18**, the CF<sub>3</sub>CONH signal at the N-terminus could be identified by its high-field position ( $\delta$  6.77 (br. s, 1 H)), and the amide NH signal at the C-

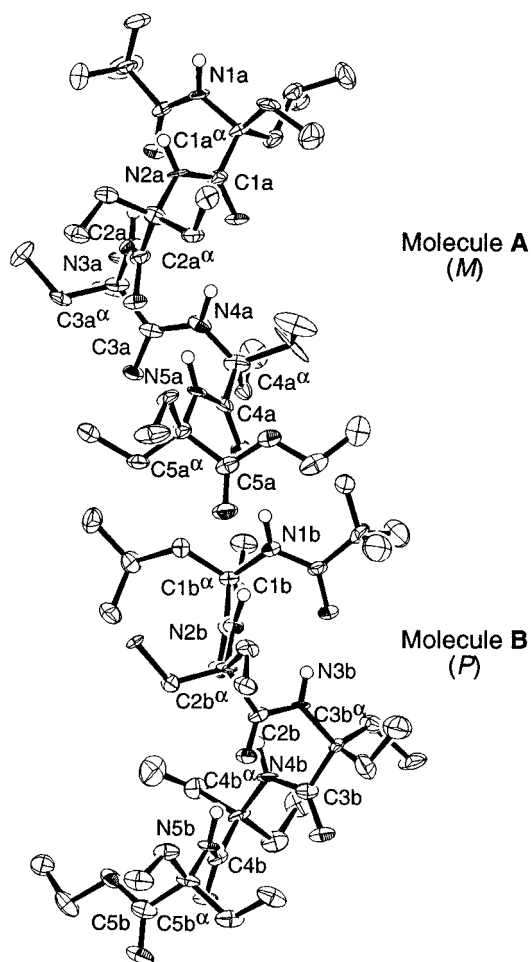


Fig. 5. ORTEP Drawing of the molecular structure of  $CF_3CO-[(S)\text{-}\alpha\text{EtLeu}]-(\text{Deg})_4\text{-OEt}$  (**18**) with atom numbering (ellipsoids at 50% probability)

terminus could be assigned by its low-field position ( $\delta$  8.11 (br. s, 1 H)), but the remaining three NH protons ( $\text{Deg}^2$  to  $\text{Deg}^4$ ) could not be assigned. The chemical shifts of Aib heteropeptides **14** and **16** were shifted to higher fields on dilution in  $CDCl_3$  solution (concentration 10.0–1.0 mM), but those of Deg heteropeptide **18** were independent of the concentration in the examined range (10.0–1.0 mM). Fig. 7 shows the solvent perturbation experiments by addition of the strong H-bond acceptor solvent DMSO (0–10% (v/v)), or the paramagnetic free radical 2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidin-1-yloxy (TEMPO; 0–5·10<sup>-2</sup>% (w/v)). In Aib heteropeptides **14** and **16**, two NH signals (Aib<sup>1</sup> and Aib<sup>2</sup> in **14**, and  $\alpha\text{EtLeu}^1$  and Aib<sup>2</sup> in **16**) were very sensitive (solvent-exposed NH group), and these results suggest that two intermolecular H-bonds between  $3_{10}$ -helical structures might be disrupted by addition of the perturbing agents.

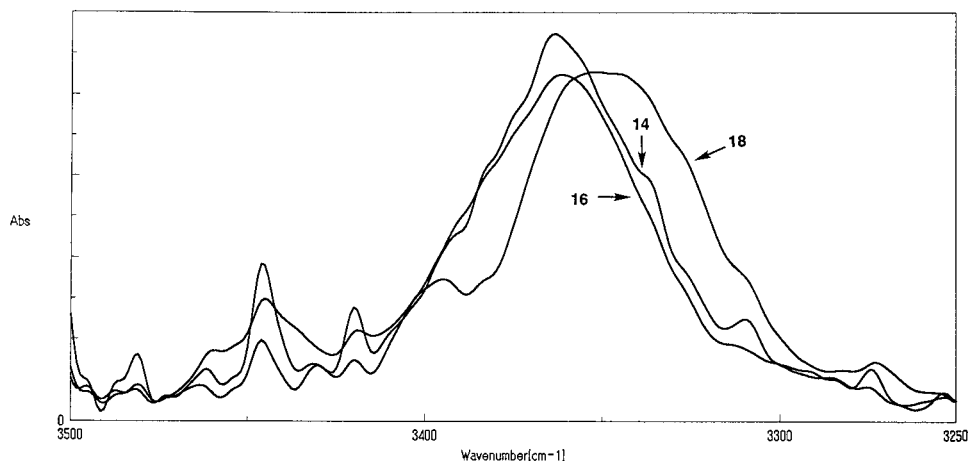


Fig. 6. FT-IR Absorption spectra (3500–3250  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  region) of the  $\text{CF}_3\text{CO}-(\text{Aib})_2-[(\text{S})-\alpha\text{EtLeu}]-(\text{Aib})_2-\text{OEt}$  (**14**),  $\text{CF}_3\text{CO}-(\text{S})-\alpha\text{EtLeu}-(\text{Aib})_4-\text{OEt}$  (**16**), and  $\text{CF}_3\text{CO}-(\text{S})-\alpha\text{EtLeu}-(\text{Deg})_4-\text{OEt}$  (**18**) in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  solution. Peptide concentration 1.0 mM.

In contrast, the NH signals of Deg heteropeptide **18** were insensitive to the addition of DMSO and TEMPO, *i.e.*, all NH signals might be involved in intramolecular H-bonds, that is to say, the heteropeptide **18** might form the planar  $C_5$  conformation.

The CD spectra of heteropeptides **14**, **16**, and **18** were recorded in  $\text{CF}_3\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$  to obtain the information of global secondary structure<sup>3)</sup>. *Toniolo* and co-workers reported that the screw sense of a helix and also a  $3_{10}$ - and an  $\alpha$ -helical structure of peptides constructed from chiral  $\alpha$ -methylated  $\alpha,\alpha$ -disubstituted amino acids could be determined by the CD spectra [14], *i.e.*, the negative and positive maxima, and intensity of two bands at 222 and 208 nm, and a band at 192 nm in the CD spectra. The CD spectrum of Aib heteropeptide **14** exhibits the positive maxima at 220 and 212 nm, and a minimum at 203 nm, and that of **16** shows the positive maxima at 217 and 208 nm, and the minimum at 199 nm (*Fig. 8*). These CD spectra indicate that the (*M*)- $3_{10}$ -helical structure is dominant, but they are different from the typical CD spectrum of  $3_{10}$ -helical peptides containing chiral  $\alpha$ -methylated  $\alpha,\alpha$ -disubstituted amino acids, which show one screw sense (*P*) or (*M*) of helicity. The ellipticity in the 190–250 nm region is positive. This may be attributed to the fact that both (*P*)- and (*M*)- $3_{10}$ -helical structures exist in  $\text{CF}_3\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$  solution [7e], as those of **14** existed in the solid state, or that the main-chain length of the peptides would be too short for conformational analysis by CD spectra. The CD spectrum of Deg heteropeptide **18** is very different from the typical CD spectrum of chiral  $3_{10}$ -helical peptides (*Fig. 8*).

*Computational Analysis* [15]. Molecular-mechanics calculations with *MacroModel* (force field, AMBER\*) [16] were applied to the conformational analysis of the pentapeptides **14**, **16**, and **18** (*Table 3*). In the case of **14**, four different conformations, *i.e.*, a (*P*) distorted  $3_{10}$ -helix (conformer A; 0 kcal/mol), a (*P*)- $3_{10}$ -helix (conformer B; +1.16 kcal/mol), a (*M*) distorted  $3_{10}$ -helix (conformer C; +1.27 kcal/mol), and a (*M*)-

<sup>3)</sup> *Errors*: In our previous papers [8][9], the unit [ $\times 10$ ] must be added to the y-axis of the CD spectra.

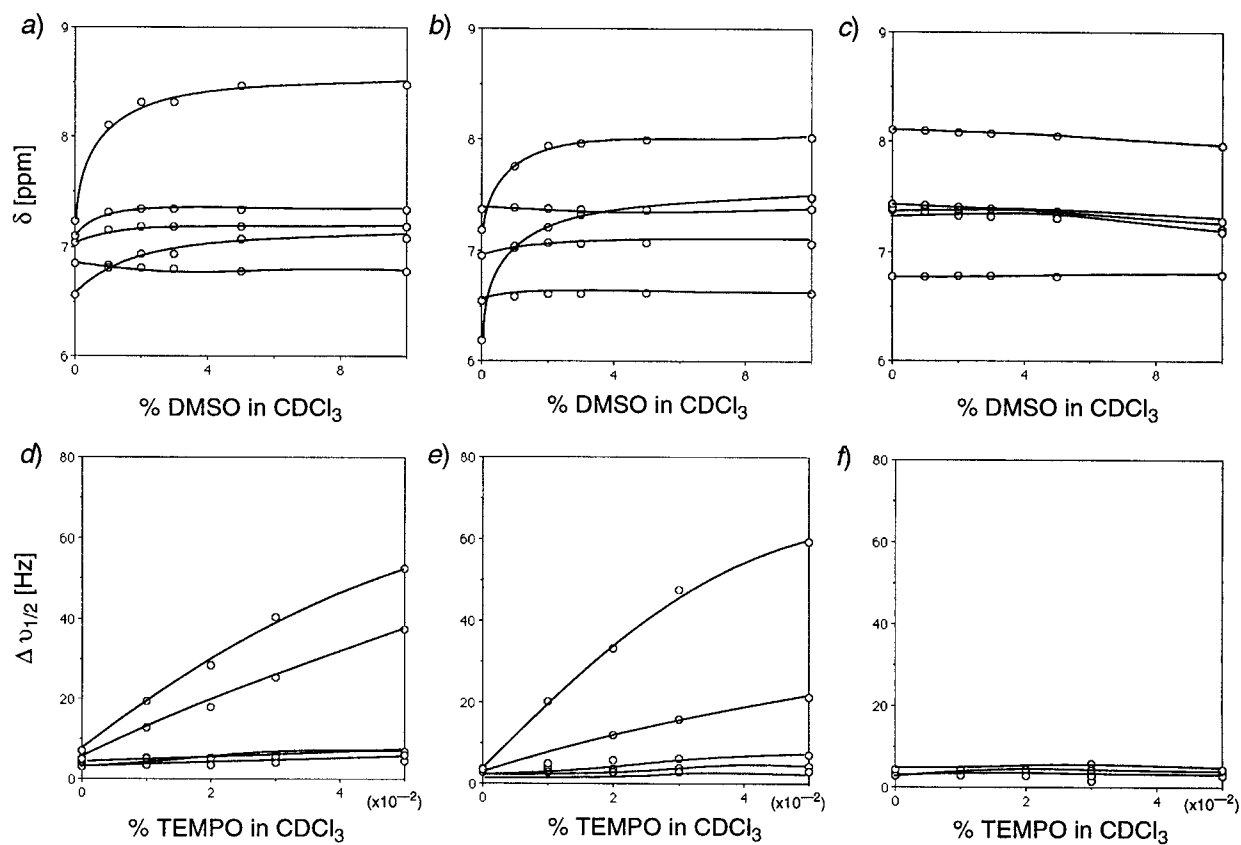


Fig. 7. a) Plots of NH chemical shifts in the  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectra of  $\text{CF}_3\text{CO}-(\text{Aib})_2-[(\text{S})-\alpha\text{EtLeu}]-(\text{Aib})_2-\text{OEt}$  (**14**; 1.0 mM), b) of  $\text{CF}_3\text{CO}-[(\text{S})-\alpha\text{EtLeu}]-(\text{Aib})_4-\text{OEt}$  (**16**; 1.0 mM), and c) of  $\text{CF}_3\text{CO}-[(\text{S})-\alpha\text{EtLeu}]-(\text{Deg})_4-\text{OEt}$  (**18**; 1.0 mM) as a function of increasing percentages of DMSO (v/v) added to the  $\text{CDCl}_3$  solution; d) plots of the bandwidth of the NH H-atoms of  $\text{CF}_3\text{CO}-(\text{Aib})_2-[(\text{S})-\alpha\text{EtLeu}]-(\text{Aib})_2-\text{OEt}$  (**14**; 1.0 mM), e) of  $\text{CF}_3\text{CO}-[(\text{S})-\alpha\text{EtLeu}]-(\text{Aib})_4-\text{OEt}$  (**16**; 1.0 mM), and f) of  $\text{CF}_3\text{CO}-[(\text{S})-\alpha\text{EtLeu}]-(\text{Deg})_4-\text{OEt}$  (**18**; 1.0 mM) as a function of increasing percentages of TEMPO (w/v) added to the  $\text{CDCl}_3$  solution

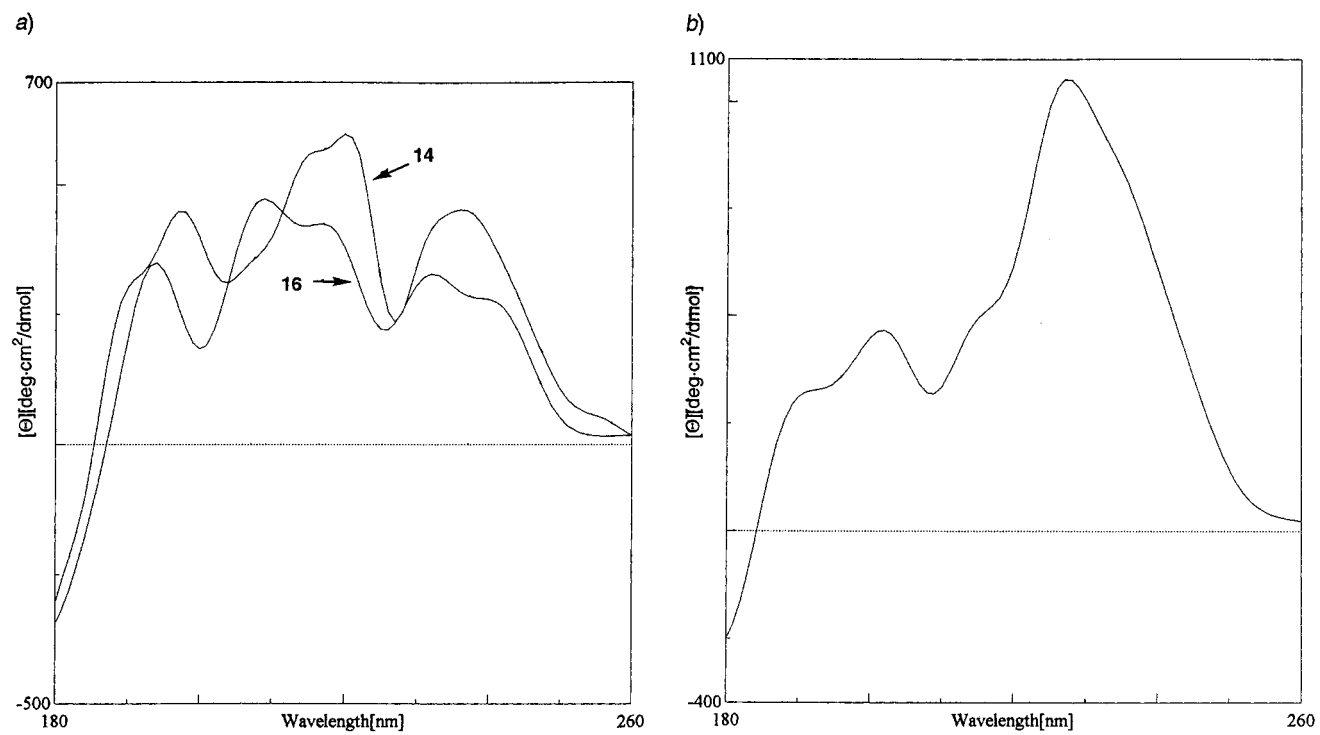


Fig. 8. CD Spectra of a)  $\text{CF}_3\text{CO}-(\text{Aib})_2-[S]-\alpha\text{EtLeu}-(\text{Aib})_2\text{-OEt}$  (**14**) and  $\text{CF}_3\text{CO}-[S]-\alpha\text{EtLeu}-(\text{Aib})_4\text{-OEt}$  (**16**), and b)  $\text{CF}_3\text{CO}-[S]-\alpha\text{EtLeu}-(\text{Deg})_4\text{-OEt}$  (**18**) in  $\text{CF}_3\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$  solution. Peptide concentration 1.0 mM.

$3_{10}$ -helix (conformer *D*; +1.82 kcal/mol) are observed with relative energies less than 3.0 kcal/mol of the global minimum energy. In the distorted  $3_{10}$ -helical conformations *A* and *C*, the  $C_5$  conformation of Aib<sup>1</sup> residues is observed, due to the existence of (*S*)- $\alpha$ EtLeu<sup>3</sup>. The conformers *B* and *D* are very similar to those determined for **14** by the X-ray crystal-structure analysis, as shown by their superimposition in *Fig. 9, a* and *b*. The main differences between the calculated conformations and crystal structures are the torsion angles in the C-terminal Aib<sup>5</sup> residue. The calculated conformations show that the flip of torsion angles in the C-terminal Aib<sup>5</sup> residue are opposite to those of the preceding residues, but the crystal structures show that all signs of the  $\phi$  and  $\psi$  torsion angles are consistent in the molecules. In the case of **16**, the calculations afforded two minimum-energy conformers of  $3_{10}$ -helical structures within 3.0 kcal/mol of the global minimum-energy. A (*P*)- $3_{10}$ -helix (conformer *E*) is more stable than a (*M*)- $3_{10}$ -helix (conformer *F*) by 1.42 kcal/mol. The calculations of **18** also produced two minimum-energy conformers of  $3_{10}$ -helical structures. One is a right-handed (*P*)- $3_{10}$ -helix (conformer *G*; 0 kcal/mol), and the other is a (*M*)- $3_{10}$ -helix (conformer *H*; +1.45 kcal/mol). The conformers *G* and *H* are very similar to those determined for **18** by the X-ray crystal-structure analysis. *Fig. 9, c* and *d* show that the molecules **A** and **B** of **18** as determined by X-ray crystallographic analysis, superimposed on the minimum-energy conformations *G* and *H* calculated by *MacroModel*.

**Discussion.** – The X-ray crystallographic analysis of homodipeptide **9** shows that the  $\alpha$ EtLeu<sup>1</sup> at the N-terminus forms the planar  $C_5$  conformer ( $\phi = -177.6^\circ$ ,  $\psi = +178.0^\circ$ ), and this result suggests that the propensity of (*S*)- $\alpha$ EtLeu homopeptide is to form the planar  $C_5$  conformer, as the propensity of (*S*)-Beg homopeptide is to the fully planar  $C_5$  conformation [8][9]. The conformation of heteropentapeptide **14** containing an (*S*)- $\alpha$ EtLeu within a sequence of Aib residues is proved to be both (*P*)- and (*M*)- $3_{10}$ -helical structures in the solid state. Four Aib residues strongly affect the secondary structure of the peptide and induce the  $3_{10}$ -helical structure, and one (*S*)- $\alpha$ EtLeu within four Aib residues are not able to change the  $3_{10}$ -helical structure into the other conformers, just as the introduction of an (*S*)-Beg within a sequence of Aib residues could not change [9]. The FT-IR and <sup>1</sup>H-NMR experiments revealed that, in solution, the Aib heteropeptides **14** and **16** containing an (*S*)- $\alpha$ EtLeu induce  $3_{10}$ -helical structure, as well as in the solid state of **14**. The chirality of the quaternary C-atom of one (*S*)- $\alpha$ EtLeu within the sequences of Aib residues could not govern the screw sense of the  $3_{10}$ -helical structure in the solid state, and, therefore, both (*P*)- and (*M*)- $3_{10}$ -helical structures existed. The CD spectra of **14** and **16** suggest that the (*M*)- $3_{10}$ -helical structure may be dominant in CF<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>OH solution, but the CD spectra are different from the typical CD spectra of  $3_{10}$ -helical peptides that have one screw sense of helicity [14]. It may be attributed to the existence of both the diastereoisomeric (*P*)- and (*M*)- $3_{10}$ -helical structures in solution. The conformation of heteropentapeptide **18** containing an (*S*)- $\alpha$ EtLeu within a sequence of Deg residues is proved to be both (*P*)- and (*M*)- $3_{10}$ -helical structures in the solid state. The propensity of Deg is known to form the fully planar  $C_5$  conformer [6a], but even homopeptides prepared from Deg are apt to form  $3_{10}$ -helical structures in the solid state when an ethyl ester is used as the protecting group at C-terminus [6d]. The conformational analysis by the FT-IR and <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra reveal that the heteropeptide **18** prefers the  $C_5$  conformation in solution. The

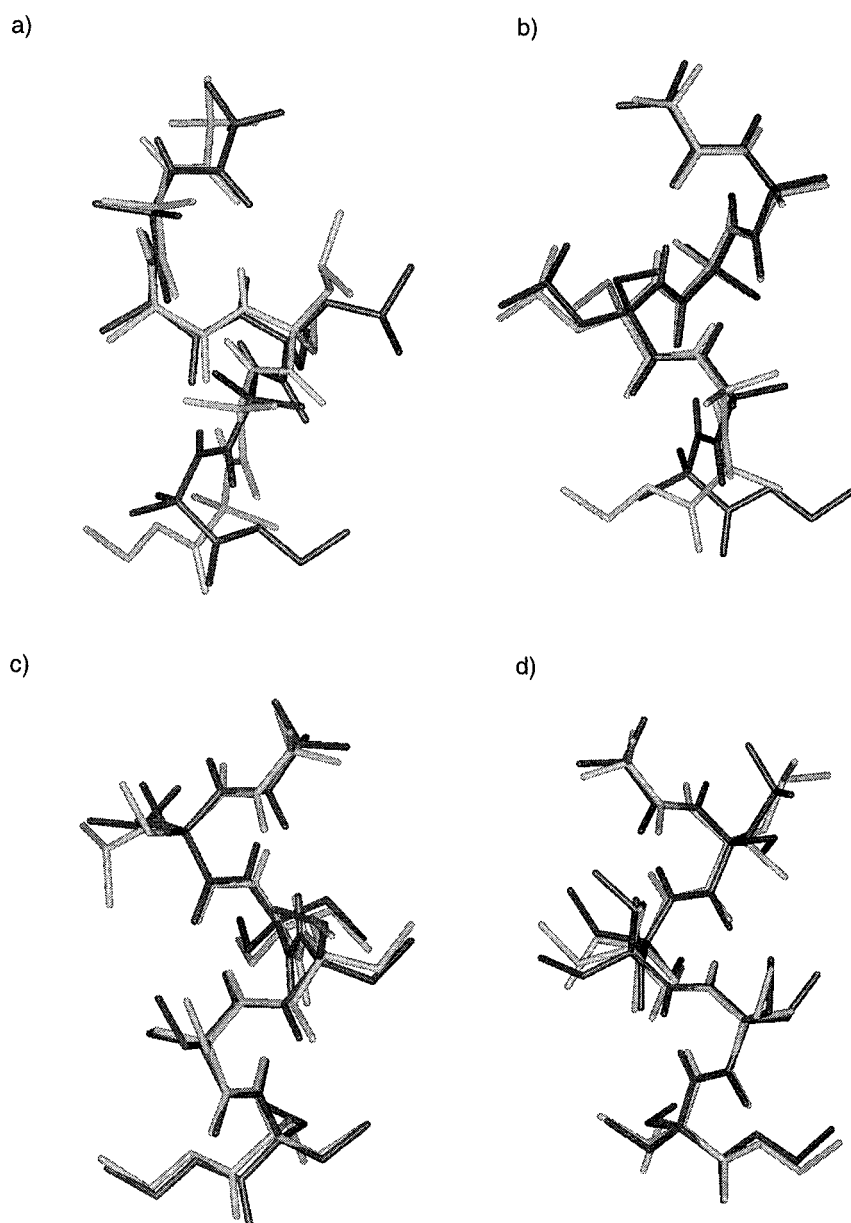


Fig. 9. Superimposition of the conformation determined by X-ray analysis (in light) and of the calculated (MacroModel) minimum-energy conformations (in dark): a) molecule **B** (P) of  $CF_3CO-(Aib)_2-[S]-\alpha EtLeu-(Aib)_2-OEt$  (**14**) and calculated conformation B; b) molecule **A** (M) of **14** and calculated conformation D; and c) molecule **B** (P) of  $CF_3CO-[S]-\alpha EtLeu-(Deg)_4-OEt$  (**18**) and calculated conformation G; d) molecule **A** (M) of **18** and calculated conformation H

Table 3. Selected Calculated (MacroModel) Torsion Angles  $\omega$ ,  $\phi$ ,  $\psi$ , and  $\chi^a$  [°] for the Heteropeptides **14**, **16**, and **18**

	CF <sub>3</sub> CO-(Aib) <sub>2</sub> -[(S)- $\alpha$ EtLeu]-(Aib) <sub>2</sub> -OEt ( <b>14</b> )				CF <sub>3</sub> CO-[(S)- $\alpha$ EtLeu]-(Aib) <sub>4</sub> -OEt ( <b>16</b> )		CF <sub>3</sub> CO-[(S)- $\alpha$ EtLeu]-(Deg) <sub>4</sub> -OEt ( <b>18</b> )	
	Conf. A (P) distorted 3 <sub>10</sub> -helix	Conf. B (P)-3 <sub>10</sub> -helix	Conf. C (M) distorted 3 <sub>10</sub> -helix	Conf. D (M)-3 <sub>10</sub> -helix	Conf. E (P)-3 <sub>10</sub> -helix	Conf. F (M)-3 <sub>10</sub> -helix	Conf. G (P)-3 <sub>10</sub> -helix	Conf. H (M)-3 <sub>10</sub> -helix
Energy	0 kcal/mol	+ 1.16 kcal/mol	1.27 kcal/mol	+ 1.82 kcal/mol	0 kcal/mol	+ 1.42 kcal/mol	0 kcal/mol	+ 1.45 kcal/mol
$\omega_0$	-179.1	-179.1	179.6	-178.5	-178.9	-179.9	-179.1	177.6
$\phi_1$	178.7 <sup>b)</sup>	-46.9	-178.6 <sup>b)</sup>	47.2	-51.9	52.2	-50.6	55.9
$\psi_1$	-161.3 <sup>b)</sup>	-31.6	167.3 <sup>b)</sup>	34.8	-25.2	25.5	-27.3	18.4
$\omega_1$	179.7	177.0	-179.3	179.6	174.5	-174.3	174.8	-171.9
$\phi_2$	-47.6	-43.1	49.5	48.1	-45.7	45.1	-39.2	42.5
$\psi_2$	-34.1	-33.0	30.4	28.1	-32.6	32.6	-39.8	35.3
$\omega_2$	-179.6	-178.4	-178.2	-179.0	178.4	-178.2	-171.6	179.5
$\phi_3$	-51.5	-51.9	49.3	50.0	-48.6	48.4	-54.8	51.8
$\psi_3$	-23.0	-23.8	26.3	26.5	-26.3	26.7	-19.8	23.8
$\omega_3$	171.4	171.5	-175.2	-175.3	174.0	-174.2	174.0	-176.2
$\phi_4$	-44.7	-43.5	46.8	46.1	-45.9	45.8	-48.1	51.6
$\psi_4$	-34.3	-35.2	33.0	33.1	-33.5	33.7	-34.1	32.5
$\omega_4$	-170.9	-171.2	170.6	170.8	-170.9	171.1	-171.6	165.2
$\phi_5$	45.1	44.8	-44.8	-45.0	45.0	-44.7	42.5	-44.4
$\psi_5$	41.9	42.2	-42.1	-42.1	42.1	-42.3	35.5	-35.4
$\omega_5$	-179.1	-178.9	179.0	178.9	-179.1	179.0	-179.2	-177.6
$\chi_1^e$	-	-	-	-	53.3	-63.5	58.2	-67.2
$\chi_1^b$	-	-	-	-	71.6	-65.3	73.0	-65.3
$\chi_2^e$	-	-	-	-	-	-	-177.9	-56.7
$\chi_2^e$	-	-	-	-	-	-	65.0	-48.0
$\chi_3^e$	49.8	51.5	-65.7	-70.4	-	-	56.6	69.1
$\chi_3^b$	63.7	69.5	-66.5	-67.2	-	-	74.4 <sup>c)</sup>	-31.4 <sup>c)</sup>
$\chi_4^e$	-	-	-	-	-	-	59.3	-32.3
$\chi_4^e$	-	-	-	-	-	-	66.1	72.7
$\chi_5^e$	-	-	-	-	-	-	-60.4	66.8
$\chi_5^e$	-	-	-	-	-	-	-64.6	54.4

<sup>a)</sup> The subscripts e and b refer to the Et and Bu side chains, respectively. <sup>b)</sup> The torsion angles  $\phi_1$  and  $\psi_1$  of the Aib-1 residue are typical for a C<sub>5</sub> conformation in the case of conformations A and C of **14**. <sup>c)</sup>  $\chi_3^e$ .



CD spectrum shows no characteristic bands for  $3_{10}$ -helix formed by the homopeptides prepared from  $\alpha$ -methylated  $\alpha,\alpha$ -disubstituted  $\alpha$ -amino acids. The CD spectrum of **18** might be attributed to the existence in solution of several conformers, including the dominant  $C_5$  conformer, and the (*P*)- and (*M*)- $3_{10}$ -helical structures observed in the solid state.

Molecular-mechanics calculations with *MacroModel* can build the (*P*)- and (*M*)- $3_{10}$ -helical structures of peptides, which are very similar to those formed in the solid state. In the case of the heteropeptide **14**, the (*P*) distorted  $3_{10}$ -helix (conformer *A*) having  $C_5$  conformation at Aib<sup>1</sup> residue was calculated as the global minimum-energy conformation. The (*S*)- $\alpha$ EtLeu<sup>3</sup> residue at the center position of pentapeptide affects the torsion angles ( $\phi$ ,  $\psi$ ) of the Aib<sup>1</sup> residue at the N-terminus. However, X-ray-analysis revealed that this calculated distorted  $3_{10}$ -helical structure was not observed, but that a perfect  $3_{10}$ -helical structure was formed in the solid state. Also, the calculations estimated that the (*P*)- $3_{10}$ -helical structures of heteropeptides containing a (*S*)- $\alpha$ EtLeu residue were more stable than the (*M*)- $3_{10}$ -helical structures by only *ca.* 1 kcal/mol. The calculation by AMBER\* could produce the (*P*)- and (*M*)- $3_{10}$ -helical structures, but could not produce the fully planar  $C_5$  conformer of the heteropeptide **18**, which was observed in solution, within 3.0 kcal/mol of the global minimum-energy.

**Conclusions.** – The (*S*)- $\alpha$ -ethylleucine **4** could be synthesized from (*R,R*)-cyclohexane-1,2-diol as a chiral acetal auxiliary, and could be introduced into the sequences of Aib and Deg peptides. The preparation of (*S*)- $\alpha$ EtLeu homotriptide **10** could not be completed. This would be attributed to the steric hindrance, especially the bulkiness of substituent at the  $\gamma$ -position of the side chain, because the formation of (*S*)-Beg homopeptides could be achieved under the same reaction conditions [8].

The conformational analysis revealed that the propensity of (*S*)- $\alpha$ EtLeu is to form the planar  $C_5$  conformer, but the introduction of one (*S*)- $\alpha$ EtLeu into the Aib peptides does not change the  $3_{10}$ -helical structures formed by Aib residues, just as the introduction of (*S*)-Beg could not change it [9]. The Deg heteropeptide **18** containing an (*S*)- $\alpha$ EtLeu forms the (*P*)- and (*M*)- $3_{10}$ -helical structures in the solid state, and the planar  $C_5$  conformation is dominant in solution, as the Deg homopeptide showed the different conformations in the solid state and in solution [6d].

#### Experimental Part

*General.* (*R,R*)-Cyclohexane-1,2-diol acetal **1**, Aib peptides **11** and **15**, and Deg tetrapeptide **17** were prepared according to our previous reports [6d][9]. Optical rotations  $[\alpha]_D$  were measured with a *Jasco DIP-316* polarimeter with a 1.0-dm cell. CD Spectra were recorded with a *Jasco J-720W* spectropolarimeter by using 10.0-mm path length cell. IR Spectra were recorded on a *Jasco A-100* spectrometer for conventional measurement (KBr and neat), and a *Jasco FT-IR 420* spectrophotometer for the soln. ( $CDCl_3$ ) method with 0.1-mm path length of NaCl cell. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR Spectra were determined at 270 MHz (*Jeol GX-270*) or 500 MHz (*Varian Unity-500P*). FAB-MS Spectra were taken on a *Jeol JMS 610 H* or *Jeol JMS-SX 102* spectrometer. Elemental analyses were performed at the Analytical Center of the Faculty of Science at Kyushu University.

*Ethyl (2R)-2-Ethyl-3-[(1R,2R)-2-hydroxycyclohexyloxy]-2-(1-methylpropyl)but-3-enoate (2)* [13]. BuLi (52 ml, 80 mmol, 1.5M in hexane) was added dropwise to the stirred soln. of (*i*-Pr)<sub>2</sub>NH (8.28 g, 80 mmol) in THF (70 ml) at  $-78^\circ$ , the soln. was warmed to  $0^\circ$ , and stirred for 30 min, and then cooled to  $-78^\circ$ . HMPA (15.2 g, 80 mmol) and then acetal **1** (4.1 g, 16 mmol) in THF (10 ml) were added dropwise, and the soln. was stirred at  $-78^\circ$  for 30 min. *i*-BuI (15.1 g, 80 mmol) was added dropwise to the stirred soln. at  $-78^\circ$ , and then the soln. was

gradually warmed to r.t. for 12 h. The soln. was diluted with sat. aq.  $\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$  soln., extracted with  $\text{AcOEt}$ , and the extract was dried ( $\text{MgSO}_4$ ), evaporated, and the residue was purified by CC ( $\text{SiO}_2$ ; 10%  $\text{AcOEt}$ /hexane): **2** (3.14 g, 63%). Colorless oil.  $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -47.7$  ( $c = 0.99$ ,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ). IR (neat): 3500, 1730, 1645, 1610.  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (270 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 4.03–4.24 ( $m$ , 4 H); 3.77 ( $m$ , 1 H); 3.50 ( $m$ , 1 H); 2.87 ( $br. s$ , 1 H), 2.00–2.23 ( $m$ , 2 H); 1.55–1.90 ( $m$ , 7 H); 1.13–1.36 ( $m$ , 4 H); 1.24 ( $t$ ,  $J = 7.0$ , 3 H); 0.90 ( $d$ ,  $J = 6.4$ , 3 H); 0.87 ( $d$ ,  $J = 6.4$ , 3 H); 0.81 ( $t$ ,  $J = 7.4$ , 3 H). FAB-MS: 313.5 ( $[M + H]^+$ ).

*Ethyl (R)-2-Acetyl-2-ethyl-4-methylpentanoate (3)* [13].  $\text{BF}_3 \cdot \text{OEt}_2$  (4.63 g, 32.6 mmol) was added dropwise to the stirred soln. of **2** (1.02 g, 3.26 mmol) in  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  (5 ml) and  $\text{EtOH}$  (20 ml) at r.t., and the soln. was stirred for 1 h. The soln. was diluted with brine, extracted with  $\text{CHCl}_3$ , and the extract was dried ( $\text{MgSO}_4$ ), and evaporated, and the residue was purified by CC ( $\text{SiO}_2$ ; 10%  $\text{AcOEt}$ /hexane): **3** (619 mg, 88%, > 95% ee). Colorless oil.  $[\alpha]_D^{25} = +9.20$  ( $c = 1.15$ ,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ). IR (neat): 1740, 1710.  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (270 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 4.22 ( $q$ ,  $J = 7.0$ , 2 H); 2.12 ( $s$ , 3 H); 1.92–2.50 ( $m$ , 2 H); 1.78–1.90 ( $m$ , 2 H); 1.55 ( $m$ , 1 H); 1.26 ( $t$ ,  $J = 7.0$ , 3 H); 0.87 ( $d$ ,  $J = 6.6$ , 3 H); 0.85 ( $d$ ,  $J = 6.6$ , 3 H); 0.75 ( $t$ ,  $J = 7.6$ , 3 H). FAB-MS: 215.2 ( $[M + H]^+$ ).

*Ethyl (S)-N-Acetyl- $\alpha$ -ethylleucinate (4)* [13].  $\text{MsOH}$  (2.01 ml, 27.6 mmol) was added dropwise to the stirred soln. of **3** (592 mg, 2.76 mmol) in  $\text{CHCl}_3$  (15 ml) at  $0^\circ$ , and then  $\text{NaN}_3$  (898 mg, 13.8 mmol) was added. After reflux for 24 h, the mixture was cooled to r.t., diluted with  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , neutralized with dil. aq.  $\text{NH}_3$  soln., and extracted with  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$ , and the extract was dried ( $\text{MgSO}_4$ ). After evaporation, the residue was purified by CC ( $\text{SiO}_2$ ; 20%  $\text{AcOEt}$ /hexane): **4** (253 mg, 40%). Colorless crystals. M.p. 42–43° (from hexane).  $[\alpha]_D^{25} = +21.2$  ( $c = 1.09$ ,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ). IR (KBr): 3300 ( $br.$ ), 1720, 1645.  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (270 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 6.53 ( $br. s$ , 1 H); 4.17–4.28 ( $m$ , 2 H); 2.46–2.57 ( $m$ , 2 H); 2.02 ( $s$ , 3 H); 1.52–1.73 ( $m$ , 3 H); 1.31 ( $t$ ,  $J = 7.1$ , 3 H); 0.89 ( $d$ ,  $J = 6.6$ , 3 H); 0.77 ( $d$ ,  $J = 6.6$ , 3 H); 0.70 ( $t$ ,  $J = 7.3$ , 3 H). FAB-MS: 230.3 ( $[M + H]^+$ ). The  $\beta$ -keto ester **3** was recovered in 20% yield.

*Ethyl (S)- $\alpha$ -Ethylleucinate ([S]- $\alpha$ EtLeu)-OEt; 5)*. A mixture of **4** (896 mg, 3.91 mmol) in conc. aq.  $\text{HCl}$  soln. (5 ml) was refluxed for 2 d, and then evaporated. The residue and conc.  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$  (1 ml) in  $\text{EtOH}$  (10 ml) were refluxed for 3 d. After removal of  $\text{EtOH}$ , the oily residue was neutralized with 5% aq.  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  soln., extracted with  $\text{CHCl}_3$ , and the extract was dried ( $\text{MgSO}_4$ ) and evaporated: crude **5** (499 mg, 68%), which was used in the next reaction without purification. Colorless oil.  $[\alpha]_D^{25} = +14.2$  ( $c = 1.00$ ,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ). IR (neat): 3360 $w$ , 1710.  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (270 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 4.08–4.22 ( $m$ , 2 H); 1.71–1.86 ( $m$ , 4 H); 1.69 ( $br. s$ , 2 H); 1.53 ( $m$ , 1 H); 1.28 ( $t$ ,  $J = 7.3$ , 3 H); 0.95 ( $d$ ,  $J = 6.3$ , 3 H); 0.833 ( $t$ ,  $J = 7.6$ , 3 H); 0.832 ( $d$ ,  $J = 6.3$ , 3 H). FAB-MS: 188.2 ( $[M + H]^+$ ).

*Trifluoroacetyl-(S)- $\alpha$ -ethylleucine (CF<sub>3</sub>CO-[S]- $\alpha$ EtLeu); 6)*. A mixture of **4** (690 mg, 3.01 mmol) in conc. aq.  $\text{HCl}$  soln. (5 ml) was refluxed for 2 d, and then evaporated. The residue was dissolved in  $(\text{CF}_3\text{CO})_2\text{O}$  (5 ml), and the soln. was stirred at r.t. for 2 d. The mixture was poured into 5% aq.  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  soln., and the soln. was washed with  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$  and then acidified with citric acid. The soln. was extracted with  $\text{AcOEt}$ , and the extract was dried ( $\text{MgSO}_4$ ), and evaporated: **6** (540 mg, 70%), which was used in the next reaction without purification. Colorless oil.  $[\alpha]_D^{25} = +4.2$  ( $c = 0.91$ ,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ). IR (neat): 3300 ( $br.$ ), 1720 ( $br.$ ).  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (270 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 7.35 ( $br. s$ , 1 H); 3.80 ( $br.$ , 1 H); 2.46–2.60 ( $m$ , 2 H); 1.76–1.94 ( $m$ , 2 H); 1.58 ( $sept.$ ,  $J = 6.6$ , 1 H); 0.91 ( $d$ ,  $J = 6.6$ , 3 H); 0.86 ( $d$ ,  $J = 6.6$ , 3 H); 0.80 ( $t$ ,  $J = 7.6$ , 3 H). FAB-MS: 278.1 ( $[M + \text{Na}]^+$ ), 256.1 ( $[M + H]^+$ ).

*Ethyl Trifluoroacetyl-(S)- $\alpha$ -ethylleucyl-(S)-2-butyl-2-ethylglycinate (CF<sub>3</sub>CO-[S]- $\alpha$ EtLeu)-[(S)-Beg]-OEt; 8)* [13]. A soln. of **6** (50 mg, 0.196 mmol), **7** (55 mg, 0.294 mmol) [8], and *N*-[3-(dimethylamino)propyl]-*N'*-ethylcarbodiimide hydrochloride (EDC; 75 mg, 0.392 mmol) in  $\text{MeCN}$  (5 ml) was refluxed for 2 d, and then evaporated. The residue was diluted with  $\text{CHCl}_3$ , washed with 3%  $\text{HCl}$  and 5% aq.  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  solns., and the extract was dried ( $\text{MgSO}_4$ ). After evaporation, the residue was purified by CC ( $\text{SiO}_2$ ; 10%  $\text{AcOEt}$ /hexane): **8** (30 mg, 36%). Colorless crystals. M.p. 106–107° ( $\text{CHCl}_3/\text{MeOH}$ ).  $[\alpha]_D^{25} = +15.3$  ( $c = 0.23$ ,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ). IR (KBr): 3370, 3320, 1730, 1710.  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (270 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 8.05 ( $br. s$ , 1 H); 6.76 ( $br. s$ , 1 H); 4.28 ( $q$ ,  $J = 6.9$ , 2 H); 2.33–2.72 ( $m$ , 4 H); 1.72–1.91 ( $m$ , 2 H); 1.50–1.68 ( $m$ , 3 H); 1.32 ( $t$ ,  $J = 7.1$ , 3 H); 1.05–1.35 ( $m$ , 4 H); 0.90 ( $d$ ,  $J = 6.6$ , 6 H); 0.88 ( $t$ ,  $J = 6.9$ , 3 H); 0.763 ( $t$ ,  $J = 7.4$ , 3 H); 0.756 ( $t$ ,  $J = 7.4$ , 3 H). FAB-MS: 425.4 ( $[M + H]^+$ ). Anal. calc. for  $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{35}\text{F}_3\text{N}_2\text{O}_4$ : C 56.59, H 8.31, N 6.60; found: C 56.64, H 8.28, N 6.57.

*Ethyl Trifluoroacetyl-(S)- $\alpha$ -ethylleucyl-(S)- $\alpha$ -ethylleucinate (CF<sub>3</sub>CO-[S]- $\alpha$ EtLeu)-[(S)- $\alpha$ EtLeu]-OEt; 9)*. A soln. of **5** (125 mg, 0.668 mmol), **6** (255 mg, 1.00 mmol), and EDC (192 mg, 1.00 mmol) in  $\text{MeCN}$  (10 ml) was refluxed for 2 d. After evaporation, the residue was diluted  $\text{CHCl}_3$ , washed with 3%  $\text{HCl}$  and 5% aq.  $\text{NaHCO}_3$  solns., and the extract was dried ( $\text{MgSO}_4$ ) and evaporated, and the residue was purified by CC ( $\text{SiO}_2$ ; 5%  $\text{AcOEt}$ /hexane): **9** (30 mg, 36%). Colorless crystals. M.p. 80–81° ( $\text{CHCl}_3/\text{MeOH}$ ).  $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -92.2$  ( $c = 0.125$ ,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ). IR (KBr): 3390, 3370, 3320, 1730, 1710, 1660.  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (270 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 8.03 ( $br. s$ , 1 H); 6.91 ( $br. s$ , 1 H); 4.11–4.33 ( $m$ , 2 H); 2.35–2.75 ( $m$ , 4 H); 1.50–1.88 ( $m$ , 6 H); 1.34 ( $t$ ,  $J = 7.3$ , 3 H); 0.87–0.92 ( $m$ , 9 H); 0.71–0.80 ( $m$ , 9 H). Anal. calc. for  $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{35}\text{F}_3\text{N}_2\text{O}_4$ : C, 56.59; H 8.31; N 6.60; found: C 56.67, H 8.27, N 6.60.

*Ethyl Trifluoroacetyl-(S)- $\alpha$ -ethylleucyl-dimethylglycyl-dimethylglycinate* (CF<sub>3</sub>CO-[(S)- $\alpha$ EtLeu]-Aib-Aib-OEt; **12**). A soln. of **6** (607 mg, 2.38 mmol), **11** (617 mg, 2.85 mmol), and EDC (547 mg, 2.85 mmol) in MeCN (20 ml) was refluxed for 2 d. After evaporation, the residue was diluted with CHCl<sub>3</sub>, washed with 3% HCl and 5% aq. NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solns., and the extract was dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>) and evaporated, and the residue was purified by CC (SiO<sub>2</sub>; 40% AcOEt/hexane): **12** (398 mg, 31%). Colorless crystals. M.p. 98–99° (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/MeOH).  $[\alpha]_D^{25} = +11.7$  ( $c = 1.18$ , CHCl<sub>3</sub>). IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 3320 (br.), 1715 (br.), 1650. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (270 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 8.07 (br. s, 1 H); 7.12 (br. s, 1 H); 6.55 (br. s, 1 H); 4.22 ( $q, J = 7.3$ , 2 H); 2.55–2.65 ( $m$ , 2 H); 1.42–1.68 ( $m$ , 3 H); 1.65 ( $s$ , 3 H); 1.64 ( $s$ , 3 H); 1.60 ( $s$ , 3 H); 1.59 ( $s$ , 3 H); 1.28 ( $t, J = 7.1$ , 3 H); 0.89 ( $d, J = 6.6$ , 3 H); 0.84 ( $d, J = 6.3$ , 3 H); 0.73 ( $t, J = 7.4$ , 3 H). FAB-MS: 476 ( $[M + Na]^+$ ), 454 ( $[M + H]^+$ ).

*Ethyl Trifluoroacetyl-dimethylglycyl-(S)-2- $\alpha$ -ethylleucyl-dimethylglycyl-dimethylglycinate* (CF<sub>3</sub>CO-Aib-[(S)- $\alpha$ EtLeu]-Aib-Aib-OEt; **13**). NaBH<sub>4</sub> (64 mg, 1.70 mmol) was added portionwise to the stirred soln. of **12** (385 mg, 0.849 mmol) in EtOH (10 ml) at 0°. After stirring at 0° for 8 h, the mixture was poured into 1% HCl soln. (40 ml), and then evaporated. The residue was diluted with 5% aq. NaHCO<sub>3</sub> soln., extracted with AcOEt, and the extract was dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>) and evaporated, and the residue was purified by CC (SiO<sub>2</sub>; 2% MeOH/CHCl<sub>3</sub>): amine (81 mg, 69% based on 61% recovery). The soln. of the amine (81 mg, 0.227 mmol), CF<sub>3</sub>CO-Aib (68 mg, 0.340 mmol), and EDC (65 mg, 0.340 mmol) in MeCN (5 ml) was refluxed for 2 d. After evaporation, the residue was diluted with CHCl<sub>3</sub>, washed with 3% HCl and 5% aq. NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solns., and the extract was dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>) and evaporated, and the residue was purified by CC (SiO<sub>2</sub>; 60% AcOEt/hexane): **13** (98 mg, 80%). Colorless crystals. M.p. 185–186° (from CHCl<sub>3</sub>/MeOH).  $[\alpha]_D^{25} = +4.3$  ( $c = 0.97$ , CHCl<sub>3</sub>). IR (KBr): 3370, 3310, 3210, 3050, 1720, 1710, 1665, 1650. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 7.86 (br. s, 1 H); 7.46 (br. s, 1 H); 7.05 (br. s, 1 H); 6.63 (br. s, 1 H); 4.21 ( $q, J = 7.1$ , 2 H); 2.45–2.54 ( $m$ , 2 H); 1.73 ( $s$ , 3 H); 1.71 ( $s$ , 3 H); 1.43–1.62 ( $m$ , 3 H); 1.62 ( $s$ , 6 H); 1.58 ( $s$ , 6 H); 1.27 ( $t, J = 7.1$ , 3 H); 0.89 ( $d, J = 6.4$ , 3 H); 0.84 ( $d, J = 6.4$ , 3 H); 0.71 ( $t, J = 7.4$ , 3 H). Anal. calc. for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>41</sub>F<sub>3</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>6</sub>: C 53.52, H 7.67, N 10.40; found: C 53.52, H 7.57, N 10.33.

*Ethyl Trifluoroacetyl-dimethylglycyl-dimethylglycyl-(S)- $\alpha$ -ethylleucyl-dimethylglycyl-dimethylglycinate* (CF<sub>3</sub>CO-Aib-Aib-[(S)- $\alpha$ EtLeu]-Aib-Aib-OEt; **14**). NaBH<sub>4</sub> (19 mg, 0.501 mmol) was added portionwise to the stirred soln. of **13** (135 mg, 0.251 mmol) in EtOH (5 ml) at 0°, and the mixture was stirred for 8 h. The mixture was warmed to r.t., and stirred for 12 h, and then poured into 1% HCl soln. (20 ml), and the soln. was evaporated. The residue was diluted with 5% aq. NaHCO<sub>3</sub> soln., extracted with AcOEt, and the extract was dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>) and evaporated, and the residue was purified by short CC (SiO<sub>2</sub>; 5% MeOH/CHCl<sub>3</sub>): amine (80 mg, 72%). The soln. of amine (80 mg, 0.181 mmol), CF<sub>3</sub>CO-Aib (54 mg, 0.271 mmol), and EDC (52 mg, 0.271 mmol) in MeCN (5 ml) was refluxed for 2 d. After evaporation, the residue was diluted with CHCl<sub>3</sub>, washed with 3% HCl and 5% aq. NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solns., and the extract was dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>) and evaporated, and the residue was purified by CC (SiO<sub>2</sub>; AcOEt): **14** (85 mg, 73%). Colorless crystals. M.p. 219–220° (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/MeOH).  $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -15.6$  ( $c = 0.77$ , EtOH). IR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 3360, 3319, 3206, 1713, 1662. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (270 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 7.27 (br. s, 1 H); 7.13 (br. s, 1 H); 7.05 (br. s, 1 H); 6.84 (br. s, 1 H); 6.56 (br. s, 1 H); 4.16 ( $q, J = 7.3$ , 2 H); 1.88–2.12 ( $m$ , 2 H); 1.41–1.77 ( $m$ , 3 H); 1.65 ( $s$ , 3 H); 1.64 ( $s$ , 3 H); 1.56 ( $s$ , 6 H); 1.53 ( $s$ , 12 H); 1.24 ( $t, J = 7.1$ , 3 H); 0.91 ( $d, J = 6.6$ , 3 H); 0.88 ( $d, J = 6.6$ , 3 H); 0.77 ( $t, J = 7.4$ , 3 H). Anal. calc. for C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>48</sub>F<sub>3</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O<sub>7</sub>: C 53.92, H 7.76, N 11.23; found: C 53.33, H 7.29, N 11.23.

*Ethyl Trifluoroacetyl-(S)- $\alpha$ -ethylleucyl-dimethylglycyl-dimethylglycyl-dimethylglycyl-dimethylglycinate* (CF<sub>3</sub>CO-[(S)- $\alpha$ EtLeu]-Aib-Aib-Aib-Aib-OEt; **16**). The soln. of amine **15** (148 mg, 0.384 mmol) [9], **6** (98 mg, 0.384 mmol), EDC (88 mg, 0.461 mmol) in MeCN (5 ml) was refluxed for 2 d. After evaporation, the residue was diluted with CHCl<sub>3</sub>, washed with 3% HCl and 5% aq. NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solns., and the extract was dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and evaporated, and the residue was purified by CC (SiO<sub>2</sub>; 60% AcOEt/hexane): **16** (111 mg, 46%). Colorless crystals. M.p. 179–180° (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/MeOH).  $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -0.504$  ( $c = 3.14$ , CHCl<sub>3</sub>). IR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 3357, 1730, 1675, 1520. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (270 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 7.37 (br. s, 1 H); 7.18 (br. s, 1 H); 6.95 (br. s, 1 H); 6.54 (br. s, 1 H); 6.18 (br. s, 1 H); 4.14 ( $q, J = 7.3$ , 2 H); 2.21–2.36 ( $m$ , 2 H); 1.86 ( $m$ , 1 H); 1.55–1.76 ( $m$ , 2 H); 1.53 ( $s$ , 3 H); 1.52 ( $s$ , 6 H); 1.51 ( $s$ , 6 H); 1.49 ( $s$ , 3 H); 1.47 ( $s$ , 3 H); 1.46 ( $s$ , 3 H); 1.23 ( $t, J = 7.1$ , 3 H); 0.96 ( $d, J = 5.6$ , 3 H); 0.93 ( $d, J = 5.6$ , 3 H); 0.85 ( $t, J = 7.3$ , 3 H). Anal. calc. for C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>48</sub>F<sub>3</sub>N<sub>5</sub>O<sub>7</sub>: C 53.92, H 7.76, N 11.23; found: C 53.65, H 7.74, N 10.77.

*Ethyl Trifluoroacetyl-(S)- $\alpha$ -ethylleucyl-diethylglycyl-diethylglycyl-diethylglycyl-diethylglycinate* (CF<sub>3</sub>CO-[(S)- $\alpha$ EtLeu]-Deg-Deg-Deg-Deg-OEt; **18**). A soln. of amine **17** (131 mg, 0.263 mmol) [6d], **6** (80 mg, 0.315 mmol), EDC (76 mg, 0.394 mmol) in MeCN (5 ml) was refluxed for 7 d. After evaporation, the residue was diluted with CHCl<sub>3</sub>, washed with 3% HCl and 5% aq. NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solns., and the extract was dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>) and evaporated. The residue was purified by CC (SiO<sub>2</sub>; 50% AcOEt/hexane): **18** (50 mg, 26%). Colorless crystals. M.p. 197–198° (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/MeOH).  $[\alpha]_D^{25} = +9.0$  ( $c = 1.40$ , CHCl<sub>3</sub>). IR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 3353, 1720, 1675, 1652. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (270 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 8.11 (br. s, 1 H); 7.43 (br. s, 1 H); 7.40 (br. s, 1 H); 7.37 (br. s, 1 H); 6.77 (br. s, 1 H);

4.28 ( $q$ ,  $J = 7.3$ , 2 H); 2.38–2.69 ( $m$ , 10 H); 1.60–1.91 ( $m$ , 11 H); 1.32 ( $t$ ,  $J = 7.3$ , 3 H), 0.74–0.91 ( $m$ , 33 H). Anal. calc. for  $C_{36}H_{64}F_3N_5O_7$ : C 58.75, H 8.77, N 9.52; found: C 58.60, H 8.69, N 9.52.

*X-Ray Crystal-Structure Determination*<sup>4</sup>). All crystals of **8**, **9**, **14**, and **18** were grown from  $CHCl_3/MeOH$ . Data collection was performed on a *Rigaku-RAXIS-RAPID* imaging plate diffractometer, graphite-monochromated  $MoK_\alpha$  radiation. Crystal and collection parameters are listed in Table 4. All crystals remained stable during the X-ray-data collection. The structures were solved by direct methods with SIR92 [17] and expanded by *Fourier* techniques [18]. All non-H-atoms were given anisotropic thermal parameters, some H-atoms were refined isotropically, and the rest H-atoms included in calculated positions were given isotropic thermal parameters. The final cycle of full-matrix least-squares refinement of **8** gave an  $R$  factor of 0.120 ( $R_w = 0.187$ ) based on 3187 ( $I > -10.00 \sigma(I)$ ) reflections and  $R_1$  factor of 0.065 based on 1829 ( $I > 2.0 \sigma(I)$ ) reflections, and the largest peak and hole in the final difference *Fourier* map were 0.35 and  $-0.29 \text{ e}\text{\AA}^{-3}$ . The  $R$  factor of **9** was 0.073 ( $R_w = 0.098$ ) based on 3089 ( $I > -10.00 \sigma(I)$ ) reflections and  $R_1$  factor of 0.041 based on 1917 ( $I > 2.0 \sigma(I)$ ) reflections, and the largest peak and hole in the final difference *Fourier* map were 0.28 and  $-0.23 \text{ e}\text{\AA}^{-3}$ . The  $R$  factor of **14** was 0.081 ( $R_w = 0.124$ ) based on 8389 ( $I > -10.00 \sigma(I)$ ) reflections and  $R_1$  factor of 0.047 based on 4219 ( $I > 2.0 \sigma(I)$ ) reflections, and the largest peak and hole in the final difference *Fourier* map were 0.50 and  $-0.45 \text{ e}\text{\AA}^{-3}$ . The  $R$  factor of **18** was 0.130 ( $R_w = 0.185$ ) based on 9306 ( $I > -10.00 \sigma(I)$ ) reflections and  $R_1$  factor of 0.067 based on 5152 ( $I > 2.0 \sigma(I)$ ) reflections, and the largest peak and hole in the final difference *Fourier* map were 0.75 and  $-0.56 \text{ e}\text{\AA}^{-3}$ , resp. All calculations were performed by means of the *teXsan* [19] crystallographic package.

Table 4. *Crystal and Diffraction Parameters of the Peptides 8, 9, 14, and 18*

	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>18</b>
Empirical formula	$C_{20}H_{35}O_4N_2F_3$	$C_{20}H_{35}O_4N_2F_3$	$C_{28}H_{48}O_7N_5F_3$	$C_{36}H_{64}O_7N_5F_3$
$M_r$	424.5	424.5	623.71	735.93
Crystal dimensions [mm]	$0.40 \times 0.40 \times 0.40$	$0.25 \times 0.20 \times 0.20$	$0.30 \times 0.30 \times 0.10$	$0.20 \times 0.15 \times 0.10$
Data collection temp.	23°	–150°	–150°	–150°
Crystal system	orthorhombic	orthorhombic	orthorhombic	monoclinic
Lattice parameters:				
$a$ , $b$ , $c$ [Å]	11.301, 11.318, 19.284	11.768, 18.060, 11.224	18.884, 22.285, 16.010	15.017, 11.562, 23.981
$\beta$ [°]	90	90	90	92.416
$V$ [Å <sup>3</sup> ]	2466.5	2385.6	6737.6	4160.2
Space group	$P2_12_12_1$	$P2_12_12_1$	$P2_12_12_1$	$P2_1$
$Z$ Value	4	4	8	4
$D_{\text{calc}}$ [g/cm <sup>3</sup> ]	1.143	1.182	1.230	1.175
$\mu(MoK_\alpha)$ [cm <sup>-1</sup> ]	0.93	0.96	0.99	0.90
No. of observations	3187 ( $I > -10.0 \sigma(I)$ )	3089 ( $I > -10.0 \sigma(I)$ )	8389 ( $I > -10.0 \sigma(I)$ )	9306 ( $I > -10.0 \sigma(I)$ )
No. of variables	272	404	817	920
$R$ , $R_w$	0.120, 0.187	0.073, 0.098	0.081, 0.124	0.130, 0.185
No. of reflections to calc $R_1$	1829 ( $I > 2.0 \sigma(I)$ )	1917 ( $I > 2.0 \sigma(I)$ )	4219 ( $I > 2.0 \sigma(I)$ )	5152 ( $I > 2.0 \sigma(I)$ )
$R_1$	0.065	0.041	0.047	0.067
Solvent of crystallization	$CHCl_3/MeOH$	$CHCl_3/MeOH$	$CHCl_3/MeOH$	$CHCl_3/MeOH$

*Molecular-Mechanics Calculations.* Conformational-energy calculations were performed with the package of MacroModel Ver. 6.5 [16] on a *SGI O<sub>2</sub>* workstation. The parameters used were as follows: conformational search, MonteCarlo method; force field, AMBER\*; more than 15000 structures were minimized; solvent,  $H_2O$ . The fully planar  $C_3$  conformations of heteropeptides **14**, **16**, and **18** were used as the initial conformations for the calculations. The four conformations *A* (0 kcal/mol), *B* (+1.16 kcal/mol), *C* (+1.27 kcal/mol), and *D* (+1.82 kcal/mol) were obtained as the global minimum-energy conformations of **14** within 3.0 kcal/mol. The two conformations *E* (0 kcal/mol) and *F* (+1.42 kcal/mol) were calculated within 3.0 kcal/mol as the global

<sup>4</sup>) Crystallographic data (excluding structure factors) for the structures reported in this paper have been deposited with the *Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre* as deposition No. CCDC-180264, 180265, 180266, and 180267. Copies of the data can be obtained, free of charge, on application to the CCDC, 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB21EZ, UK (fax: +44(1223)336033; e-mail: deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk).

minimum-energy conformations of **16**. The conformational calculations of **18** afforded the two helical conformations *G* (0 kcal/mol) and *H* (+1.45 kcal/mol) as the global minimum-energy conformations, and no planar *C<sub>2</sub>* conformation was observed within 3.0 kcal/mol of the global minimum energy.

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