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Abstract The 1,3-dipolar cycloadducts of N-( $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated) acylpyrazoles (2) with benzonitrile oxide or nitrones were afforded in good yield. In the cases of nitrones, the addition of MgBr<sub>2</sub> or ZnBr<sub>2</sub> promoted the stereoselectivity as well as the acceleration of the reaction rate. In the reaction of 2f and 2g, the big jump on the diastereoselectivity was accomplished by the addition of MgBr<sub>2</sub>, and (3'S,4'R,5'S)-8 was obtained as optically pure form in over 90% yield. These isoxazolidinecarbonylpyrazoles were converted into azetidinones in moderate yield with the retention of their stereo structures.

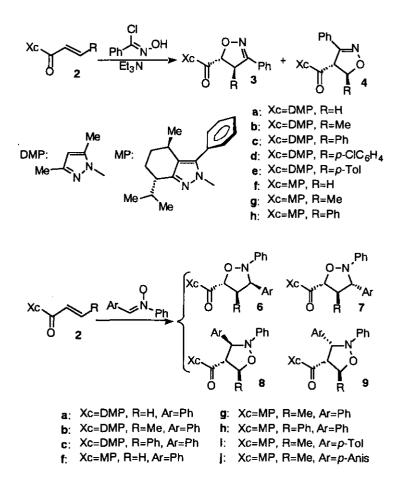
Recently we have developed the preparation and the utilities of 3-phenyl-*l*-menthopyrazole (1) as a new chiral auxiliary,<sup>1</sup> which has some unique structure and properties different from the conventional chiral auxiliaries:<sup>2</sup> The most important characteristic of this auxiliary is that the substrate terminates to heteroaromatic pyrazole ring and is surrounded by the chiral atmosphere. Especially the steric hindrance of 1 is relaxed by twisting the benzene ring, which overlays on one side of the terminal nitrogen atom.<sup>1</sup> This structural characteristic causes the diastereofacial effect in the reactions on the substrate moiety. Moreover, lone pair electrons of adjacent nitrogen take a role of Lewis base to form the chelation of N···Mg···O=C in the mixture of *N*-acylpyrazoles and MgBr2.<sup>3</sup> Similar chelation of N···Li-O is perceived in the lithium enolate derived from *N*-acylpyrazoles. These chelations freeze the bond rotation of acyl group fixing to *Z*-configuration. As the result, the chirality of (4*R*)-

<sup>†</sup> This paper is dedicated to Professor Shigeru Oae on the occasion of his 77th birthday for his brilliant achievement in the field of heteroatom and heterocyclic chemistry.

methyl group of 1 causes the high asymmetric induction in the reactions on acyl group of 2-acyl-3-phenyl-*l*-menthopyrazoles such as  $\alpha$ -alkylation<sup>4</sup> and  $\alpha$ -sulfenylation.<sup>5</sup> Otherwise, *N*-acyl substituted heteroaromatics such as *N*-acylimidazoles are easily converted into various acyl derivatives by the action of nucleophiles especially under acidic conditions.<sup>6</sup> The similar chemical behaviors are observed likely in the reactions of *N*-acylpyrazoles with alcohols,<sup>7</sup> amines,<sup>8</sup> Grignard reagents,<sup>9</sup> or organozinc compounds<sup>10</sup> under very mild conditions.

These facts demonstrated the excellent utility of 1 as a new chiral auxiliary. For the further extension of the utility of 1, a wide variety of the diastereoselective reaction on the acyl moiety of 2-acyl-3-phenyl-*l*-menthopyrazoles is highly desired. Here, we report the diastereofacial 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition of a nitrile oxide and nitrones on 2-( $\alpha$ , $\beta$ -unsaturated) acyl-3-phenyl-*l*-menthopyrazoles (2, Xc=MP).

Firstly 1-( $\alpha$ , $\beta$ -unsaturated) acyl-3,5-dimethylpyrazoles (2, Xc=DMP) were treated with benzonitrile oxide, which was generated *in situ* from 1-chlorobenzaldoxime and triethylamine. In the short reaction time at chilled temperature, 1,3-dipolar cycloaddi-tion of 1-acryloyl-3,5-dimethyl-pyrazole (2a) was performed regioselectively



with benzonitrile oxide to give 1-(3'phenyl-2'-isoxazoline-5'-carbonyl)-3,5-dimethylpyrazole (3a) in good yield. In the case of 1-cin-namoyl-3,5-dimethylpyrazole (2c), the longer reaction time and higher temperature are required to afford the mixture of 3c and its regioisomer

(4c). Table 1 showed that the yield and the regioselectivity were decrease in the more polar solvent. The substituent effect of the dipolarophile was slightly revealed in the yields and the regioselectivity in  $2c_{-e}$ .

Under the similar conditions, 2acryloyl-3-phenyl-*l*-menthopyrazole (2f) afforded predominantly 1,3-

Substrate		Solvent	Conditions	Yield	Ratio <sup>a</sup>	de (%) <sup>a</sup>		
	Xc <sup>b</sup>	R			(%)	(3:4)	3	4
2a	DMP	Н	CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>	0°C, 1 h	90	100:0		
2a	DMP	н	THF	0°C, 2 h	84	100:0	_	
2ь	DMP	Me	CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>	20°C, 16 h	69	53 : 47	_	-
2c	DMP	Ph	CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>	20°C, 24 h	79	29 : 71		_
2c	DMP	Ph	THF	20°C, 24 h	69	35 : 65	_	
2c	DMP	Ph	THF-HMPA	20°C, 35 h	65	39 : 61	_	_
2c	DMP	Ph	Benzene	20°C, 24 h	36	47 : 53		
2d	DMP	p-ClC6H4	CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>	20°C, 20 h	- 74	31 : 69	_	_
2e	DMP	p-Tol	CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>	20°C, 36 h	85	27 : 73		_
2f	MP	Н	CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>	0°C, 1 h	85	100:0	24 (5' <i>R</i> )	_
2g	MP	Me	CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>	20°C, 24 h	84	52 : 48	12 (5'R)	31 (4' <i>R</i> )
2h	MP	Ph	CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>	20°C, 24 h	78	21 : 79	1 (5'R)	29 (4' <i>R</i> )

Table 1. The 1,3-Dipolar Cycloaddition of 2 with Benzonitrile Oxide

- a: Isomer ratio and configuration were determined by <sup>1</sup>H nmr.
- b: DMP and MP were represented to be 3,5-dimethylpyrazole and 3-phenyl-*l*-menthopyrazole rings, respectively.

dipolar cycloadduct (**3f**), while 2-cinnamoyl-3-phenyl-*l*-menthopyrazole (**2h**) gave the regioisomeric mixture of **3h** and **4h**. The diastereoselectivities in these reactions of 3-phenyl-*l*-menthopyrazole derivatives were observed in some extent, summarized in Table 1. The 1,3-cycloadduct (**4h**) was derived into 3-phenyl-5-hydroxymethylisoxazoline (**5**) by removal of the chiral auxiliary according to L-selectride® reduction. By the comparison of specific rotation of **5**,<sup>11</sup> the absolute configuration of the preferable adducts was postulated to have (5*R*)isoxazoline ring. For the promotion of the diastereoselectivity, the 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition of benzonitrile oxide was attempted in the presence of MgBr<sub>2</sub>, which was expected to freeze the bond rotation between acyl group and pyrazole ring.<sup>3</sup> However any remarkable promotion was not observed in the addition of MgBr<sub>2</sub>, where the additive must be quenched by triethylamine contaminated in the solution. Next, cycloaddition of 2 was performed with  $\alpha_{1}N$ diphenylnitrone, which was facile 1,3-dipolar substance as a pure form. When 2a was treated with  $\alpha$ , N-diphenylnitron at refluxing temperature in THF, the mixture of 4 cycloadduct isomers (6a, 7a, 8a, and 9a) was obtained along the regio- and stereo-isomerism. These adducts were treated with sodium methoxide in methanol for the conversion into methyl isoxazolidinecarboxylates, the nmr data of which were compared with the authentic data for the structural determination.<sup>12</sup> Since the reaction rate, regioselectivity and stereoselectivity were strongly dependent on the molecular structure of dipolarophiles, the effects of solvent, additives<sup>13</sup> and substituents on  $\beta$ -position were examined. Any remarkable difference on the selectivity was not observed in the reaction in benzene. The Table 2 showed that the addition of some Lewis acid accelerated the rate of 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition with  $\alpha$ , N-diphenylnitrone. This acceleration due to the chelation was convinced by the electron deficiency on 1,3-dipolarophiles. The introduction of the substituent group on  $\beta$ -position depressed the formation of **6** and 7, and the mixture of 8 and 9 was obtained regioselecTable 2. The Reaction Rate of **2b** with  $\alpha$ , *N*-Diphenylnitrone.

Lewis Acid	$\tau_{1/2}$ (h)		
none	64		
LiBr	82		
MgBr2	2.6		
ZnBr <sub>2</sub>	3.2		

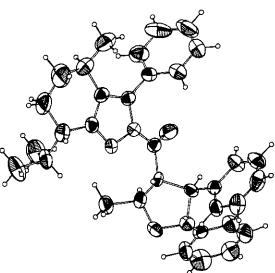


Figure 1. The ORTEP Diagram of 8g

tively, summarized in Table 3. Moreover, the addition of divalent Lewis acids such as MgBr<sub>2</sub> and ZnBr<sub>2</sub> caused the change in the stereoselectivity, while no change was observed in stereoselectivity in the presence of tributylborane. The promotion of the stereoselectivity was reasonably interpreted by the formation of chelate complex, in which the bond rotation between pyrazole and acyl group of N-acylpyrazole was frozen.<sup>3</sup>

Finally the diastereofacial 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition of  $\alpha$ ,*N*-diphenylnitrone was carried out using chiral *N*-( $\alpha$ , $\beta$ -unsaturated) acylpyrazoles (2f~h) summarized in Table 3. Although 16 isomers due to the stereo-, regioand diastereo-isomerism are expected for the 1,3-dipolar cycloadduct of 2g and  $\alpha$ ,*N*-diphenylnitrone, 2-(5'methyl-2',3'-diphenylisoxazolidine-4'-carbonyl)-3-phenyl-*l*-menthopyrazole (8g) was predominantly formed

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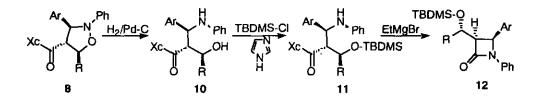
Substrate		Nitrone	Additive	Conditionsa	Yield	Isomer Ratio <sup>b</sup>	De (%) <sup>b</sup>		
	Xc <sup>c</sup>	R	Ar			(%)	6: 7: 8: 9	8	9
2a	DMP	Н	Ph	none	reflux, 10 h	93	15:40:26:19		_
2a	DMP	Н	Ph	none	reflux, <sup>d</sup> 12 h	88	16:39:27:18		·
2a	DMP	Н	Ph	MgBr <sub>2</sub>	reflux, 4 h	62	3: 7:67:23	<b></b>	
<b>2</b> b	DMP	Me	Ph	none	reflux, 16 h	92	0: 0:73:27		
2b-	ÐMP	Мс	Ph	попе	reflux, <sup>d</sup> 17 h	95	0: 0:75:25		<u> </u>
<b>2</b> b	DMP	Мс	Ph	MgBr2	reflux, 1 h	94	0: 0:48:52		
2b	DMP	Me	Ph	ZnBr2	reflux, 2 h	<del>9</del> 0	0: 0:20:80		
2b	DMP	Ме	Ph	BBu3	reflux, 13 h	· <b>4</b> 1	0: 0:73:27		
2c	DMP	Ph	Ph	none	reflux, 17 h	66	0: 0:89:11		
2c	DMP	Ph	Ph	none	130°C, <sup>d</sup> 18 h	82	0: 0:80:20		
2c	DMP	Ph	Ph	MgBr2	reflux, 6 h	25	0: 0:64:36		
2f	MP	Н	Ph	MgBr2	reflux, 1 h	79	0: 0:83:17	>95(4'R)	22(4'R)
2g	MP	Me	Ph	none	reflux, 24 h	93	0: 0:86:14	34(4' <i>R</i> )	10(4' <i>R</i> ) <sup>-</sup>
2g	MP	Me	Ph	MgBr2	reflux, 1 h	94	0: 0:91: 9	>95(4'R)	48(4'R)
2g	MP	Me	<i>p</i> -Tol	MgBr2	reflux, 1 h	99	0: 0:86:14	>95(4'R)	50(4' <b>R</b> )
2g	MP	Me	<i>p</i> -Anis	MgBr <sub>2</sub>	reflux, 1 h	85	0: 0:89:11	>95(4' <b>R</b> )	25(4'R)
2g	MP	Me	Ph	LíBr	reflux, 25h	85	0: 0:87:13	29(4'R)	19(4'R)
2g	MP	Me	Ph	ZnBr2	reflux, 1.5 h	100	0: 0:47:53	66(4' <b>R</b> )	27(4'R)
2h	MP	Ph	Ph	none	reflux, 24 h	32	0:0:e:e	37(4'R)	e
2h	MP	Ph	Ph	MgBr <sub>2</sub>	reflux, 24 h	0			

Table 3.	The 1,3-Dipo	olar Cycloaddition of 2 with Nitrones	5
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a: Reaction was carried out in THF.
b: Isomer ratio and configuration were determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR.
c: DMP and MP were represented to be 3,5-dimethylpyrazolyl and 3-phenyl-*l*-menthopyrazolyl, respectively.
d: Reaction was carried out in benzene.
e: Product ratio cannot be evaluated due to the very complicated reaction mixture.

with poor diastereoselectivity. By the addition of ZnBr2, the big jump on the diastereoselectivity was observed either in 8g and 9g, which were isolated exclusively by the simple column chromatography. The addition of MgBr2 instead of ZnBr2 afforded only one diastereomer (8g) in over 90% yield. From the X-ray structural analysis shown the ORTEP diagram in Figure 1, the isolated 1,3-dipolar cycloadduct was deduced to be (3'S,4'R,5'S)-8g. Similarly, optically pure 1,3-dipolar cycloadduct (8f) was obtained from 2f and  $\alpha$ , Ndiphenylnitrone in good yield using MgBr2 as a catalyst. In the case of 2h, the cycloaddition is extremely inhibited by their steric hindrance and desired products were afforded in poor yields without recovery of 2h. Further,  $\alpha$ -(p-substituted)phenyl-N-phenylnitrones were treated with 2g to give the corresponding 1,3-dipolar cycloadducts in good yield with high regio-, stereo- and diastereoselectivity.

The predominant isomers (8 and 9) were converted into azetidinones, which were paid much attention as the antibiotics. In the first step, isoxazolidine ring of 8b was cleaved by hydrogenation to afford amino alcohol derivative (10b). After the protection of hydroxyl group with *tert*-butyldimethylsilyl chloride (TBDMS-Cl), 11b was cyclized by the intramolecular aminolysis catalyzed by ethylmagnesium bromide. The TBDMS derivative of 3,4-*cis*-(1'-anti-hydroxyethyl)-1,4-diphenyl-2-azetidinone (3,4-*cis*-12b), which was identified by the comparison with the authentic data,<sup>14</sup> was obtained in 29% overall yield. Isomer (9b) was similarly converted into desired azetidinone (3,4-*trans*-12b) with the retention of stereo structure in 13% overall yield. However, the formation of 12b from 3'S,4'R,5'S-8g was unsuccessful because of the steric hindrance of 11g.



In conclusion, the 1,3-dipolar cycloadducts from 2 with benzonitrile oxide were formed in good yield. In the cases of 2-acyl-3-phenyl-*l*-menthopyrazoles, the remarkable promotion of the diastereoselectivity was not observed under various reaction conditions. On the contrary, the cycloaddition of 2 with nitrones was successful to give isoxazolidinecarbonylpyrazoles (6, 7, 8, and 9). The addition of MgBr<sub>2</sub> or ZnBr<sub>2</sub> promoted the stereoselectivity as well as the acceleration of the reaction rate. In the reaction of 2f and 2g, the big jump on the diastereoselectivity was accomplished by the addition of MgBr<sub>2</sub>, and (3'S,4'R,5'S)-8 was obtained as optically pure form in over 90% yield. These isoxazolidinecarbonylpyrazoles were converted into azetidinones in moderate yield with the retention of their stereo structures.

### **EXPERIMENTAL**

Nmr spectra were recorded on JEOL JNM-EX270 (270 MHz) spectrometers in CDCl<sub>3</sub> with TMS as an internal standard. Ir spectrum was measured by Shimadzu IR-460 spectrophotometer. Specific rotations were measured on a JASCO DIP-360 digital polarimeter. Hplc chromatograms were recorded by JASCO BIP-I chromatograph with uv-detector (254 nm) using SIL-C18 (24 cm) column. THF was dried over benzophenone ketyl radical generated from benzophenone and sodium metal, and distilled just before use. *N*-Acyl-3,5-dimethylpyrazoles (2a - e), and 2-acyl-3-phenyl-*l*-menthopyrazoles (2f - h) were prepared from the corresponding pyrazoles according to the method reported in the previous paper.<sup>1,4,7</sup>

### General Procedure of Reaction with Benzonitrile Oxide.

Triethylamine (120 mg, 1.2 mmol) was added slowly to the solution of N-( $\alpha$ , $\beta$ -unsaturated) acylpyrazole (2, 1.0 mmol) and 1-chlorobenzaldoxime (187 mg, 1.2 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (6 ml), and the mixture was stirred under nitrogen atmosphere. After the reaction was quenched with water, the organic layer was washed with 1N HCl, water, 1% NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and 3% NaCl, dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub>, and concentrated. The residue was chromatographed on silica gel with benzene or benzene-ethyl acetate (10 : 1 v/v) mixture. The isomer ratios were evaluated by <sup>1</sup>H nmr.

*1-(3'-Phenyl-2'-isoxazoline-5'-carbonyl)-3,5-dimethylpyrazole* (**3a**). <sup>1</sup>H-Nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 2.24 (3H, s), 2.51 (3H, s), 3.69 (2H, ABX, J = 7.3, 11.6, 17.2 Hz), 5.99 (1H, s), 6.21 (dd, J = 7.3, 11.6 Hz), 7.27-7.47 (3H, m), 7.61-7.68 (2H, m). Anal. Calcd for C15H15N3O2: C, 66.90; H, 5.61; N, 15.60. Found: C, 66.91; H, 5.47; N, 15.55.

1-(4',5'-trans-4'-Methyl-3'-phenyl-2'-isoxazoline-5'-carbonyl)-3,5-dimethylpyrazole (3b). 1-(4',5'-trans-4'-Methyl-3'-phenyl-2'-isoxazoline-5'-carbonyl)-3,5-dimethylpyrazole (3b).  $(CDCl_3) \delta 1.58 (3H, d, J = 6.9 \text{ Hz}), 2.27 (3H, s), 2.54 (3H, d, J = 1.0 \text{ Hz}), 3.97 (1H, dq, J = 3.6, 6.9 \text{ Hz}), 5.87 (1H, d, J = 3.6 \text{ Hz}), 6.02 (1H, d, J = 1.0 \text{ Hz}), 7.32-7.42 (3H, m), 7.63-7.73 (m, 2H).$  S.87 (1H, d, J = 3.6 Hz), 6.02 (1H, d, J = 1.0 Hz), 7.32-7.42 (3H, m), 7.63-7.73 (m, 2H). S.87 (1H, d, J = 3.6 Hz), 6.02 (1H, d, J = 1.0 Hz), 7.32-7.42 (3H, m), 7.63-7.73 (m, 2H). S.87 (1H, d, J = 3.6 Hz), 6.05; N, 14.83. S.87 (1H, d, J = 3.6 Hz), 6.05; N, 14.83. S.87 (1H, d, J = 3.6 Hz), 6.05; N, 14.83. S.87 (1H, d, J = 3.6 Hz), 6.05; N, 14.83. S.87 (1H, d, J = 3.6 Hz), 6.05; N, 14.83.

 $1-(4', 5'-\text{trans}-3', 4'-Diphenyl-2'-isoxazoline-5'-carbonyl)-3, 5-dimethylpyrazole (3c). <sup>1</sup>H-Nmr (CDCl3) <math>\delta$ 2.23 (3H, s), 2.54 (3H, s), 5.05 (1H, d, J = 3.3 Hz), 6.01 (1H, s), 6.02 (1H, d, J = 3.3 Hz), 7.14-7.94 (10H, m). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>19</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: C, 73.03; H, 5.54; N, 12.17. Found: C, 72.86; H, 5.82; N, 11.83.

 $1-[\dot{4}', 5'-\text{trans-4'-(p-Chlorophenyl)-3'-phenyl-2'-isoxazoline-5'-carbonyl]-3,5-dimethylpyrazole (3d).$  <sup>1</sup>H-Nmr (CDCl3)  $\delta$  2.24 (3H, s), 2.55 (3H, s), 5.01 (1H, d, J = 3.3 Hz), 5.97 (1H, d, J = 3.3 Hz), 6.03 (1H, s), 7.25-7.68 (9H, m). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>18</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Cl: C, 66.40; H, 4.78; N, 11.06. Found: C, 66.51; H, 4.75; N, 11.01.

 $1-[4',5'-\text{trans-4'-(p-Methylphenyl)-3'-phenyl-2'-isoxazoline-5'-carbonyl)-3,5-dimethylpyrazole (3e). <sup>1</sup>H-Nmr (CDCl3) & 2.24 (3H, s), 2.32 (3H, s), 2.55 (3H, s), 5.00 (1H, d, J = 3.6 Hz), 5.99 (1H, d, J = 3.6 Hz), 6.02 (1H, s), 7.11-7.90 (9H, m). Anal. Calcd for C22H21N3O2: C, 73.52; H, 5.89; N, 11.69. Found: C, 73.37; H, 6.01; N, 11.60.$ 

2-(4',5'-trans-3'-Phenyl-2'-isoxazoline-5'-carbonyl)-3-phenyl-1-menthopyrazole (**3f**). Anal. Calcd for C27H29N3O2: C, 75.85; H, 6.84; N, 9.83. Found: C, 75.89; H, 6.89; N, 9.81.

5'S-Diastereomer <sup>1</sup>H-Nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 0.74 (3H, d, J = 6.9 Hz), 0.97 (3H, d, J = 6.9 Hz), 1.09 (3H, d, J = 6.9 Hz), 1.18-1.33 (1H, m), 1.42-1.61 (1H, m), 1.87-2.04 (2H, m), 2.38-2.52 (1H, m), 2.60-2.86 (2H, m), 3.59-3.86 (2H, m), 6.28 (1H, dd, J = 8.2, 10.9 Hz), 7.29-7.54 (6H, m), 7.59-7.80 (4H, m).

5'R-Diastereomer <sup>1</sup>H-Nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 0.72 (3H, d, J = 6.9 Hz), 0.97 (3H, d, J = 6.9 Hz), 1.11 (3H, d, J = 6.9 Hz), 1.18-1.33 (1H, m), 1.42-1.61 (1H, m), 1.87-2.04 (2H, m), 2.38-2.52 (1H, m), 2.60-2.86 (2H, m), 3.59-3.86 (2H, m), 6.33 (1H, dd, J = 7.3, 11.2 Hz), 7.29-7.54 (6H, m), 7.59-7.80 (4H, m).

2-(4',5'-trans-4'-Methyl-3'-phenyl-2'-isoxazoline-5'-carbonyl)-3-phenyl-l-menthopyrazole (**3g**). Anal. Calcd for C28H31N3O2: C, 76.16; H, 7.08; N, 9.52. Found: C, 76.08; H, 7.08; N, 9.41.

5'S-Diastereomer <sup>1</sup>H-Nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 0.71 (3H, d, J = 6.9 Hz), 0.96 (3H, d, J = 6.9 Hz), 1.13 (3H, d, J = 6.9 Hz), 1.18-1.33 (2H, m), 1.56 (3H, d, J = 7.3 Hz), 1.90-2.06 (2H, m), 2.35-2.87 (3H, m), 3.88 (1H, dq, J = 7.3, 3.6 Hz), 5.95 (1H, d, J = 3.6 Hz), 7.25-7.43 (8H, m), 7.58-7.72 (2H, m).

5'R-Diastereomer <sup>1</sup>H-Nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 0.75 (3H, d, J = 6.6 Hz), 0.98 (3H, d, J = 6.9 Hz), 1.11 (3H, d, J = 6.9 Hz), 1.18-1.33 (2H, m), 1.58 (3H, d, J = 7.3 Hz), 1.90-2.06 (2H, m), 2.35-2.87 (3H, m), 4.08 (1H, dq, J=7.3, 4.0 Hz), 5.89 (1H, d, J = 4.0 Hz), 7.25-7.43 (8H, m), 7.58-7.72 (2H, m)

1-(4',5'-trans-5'-Methyl-3'-phenyl-2'-isoxazoline-4'-carbonyl)-3,5-dimethylpyrazole (4b).<sup>1</sup>H-Nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) & 1.58 (3H, d, J = 6.3 Hz), 2.28 (3H, s), 2.49 (3H, d, J = 1.0 Hz), 5.00 (1H, dq, J = 5.6, 6.3 Hz), 5.55 (1H, d, J = 5.6 Hz), 6.05 (1H, d, J = 1.0 Hz), 7.33-7.38 (3H, m), 7.63-7.67 (2H, m). Anal. Calcd for C16H17N3O2: C, 67.83; H, 6.05; N, 14.83. Found: C, 68.02; H, 6.28; N, 14.31.

 $1-(4',5'-\text{trans}-4',5'-Dihydro-3',5'-diphenyl-2'-isoxazoline-4'-carbonyl)-3,5-dimethylpyrazole (4c). <sup>1</sup>H-Nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) <math>\delta$  2.26 (3H, s), 2.50 (3H, s), 5.93 (2H, AB, J = 5.0 Hz), 6.06 (1H, s), 7.14-7.94 (10H, m). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>19</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: C, 73.03; H, 5.54; N, 12.17. Found: C, 72.96; H, 5.51; N, 12.26.

1-[4',5'-trans-5'-(p-Chlorophenyl)-3'-phenyl-2'-isoxazoline-4'-carbonyl]-3,5-dimethylpyrazole (**4d**). <sup>1</sup>H-Nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 2.28 (3H, s), 2.51 (3H, d, J = 0.7 Hz), 5.87 (2H, AB, J = 4.6 Hz), 6.07 (1H, d, J = 0.7 Hz), 7.23-7.38 (5H, m), 7.49-7.58 (2H, m), 7.64-7.69 (2H, m). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>18</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Cl: C, 66.4; H, 4.78; N, 11.06. Found: C, 66.28; H, 4.72; N, 10.99.

1-[4',5'-trans-5'-(p-Methylphenyl)-3'-phenyl-2'-isoxazoline-4'-carbonyl)]3,5-dimethylpyrazole (4e).<sup>1</sup>H-Nmr (CDCl3) & 2.28 (3H, s), 2.35 (3H, s), 2.53 (3H, d, J = 1.0 Hz), 5.90 (2H, AB, J = 5.0 Hz), 6.06 (1H, d, J = 1.0 Hz), 7.17-7.69 (9H, m). Anal. Calcd for C22H21N3O2: C, 73.52; H, 5.89; N, 11.69. Found: C, 73.42; H, 5.88; N, 11.68.

2-(4', 5'-trans-5'-Methyl-3'-phenyl-2'-isoxazoline-4'-carbonyl)-3-phenyl-l-menthopyrazole (4g). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>31</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: C, 76.16; H, 7.08; N, 9.52. Found: C, 76.18; H, 7.05; N, 9.37.

4'S-Diastereomer <sup>1</sup>H-Nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.72 (3H, d, J = 6.6 Hz), 0.93 (3H, d, J = 6.9 Hz), 1.13 (3H, d, J = 6.9 Hz), 1.22-1.34 (1H, m), 1.42-1.70 (1H, m), 1.58 (3H, d, J = 6.6 Hz), 1.88-2.06 (2H, m), 2.46-2.59 (1H, m), 2.67-2.87 (2H, m), 4.93 (1H, quint, J = 6.3 Hz), 5.55 (1H, d, J = 6.3 Hz), 7.17-7.48 (8H, m), 7.57-7.70 (2H, m).

4'R-Diastereomer <sup>1</sup>H-Nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 0.72 (3H, d, J = 6.6 Hz), 1.03 (3H, d, J = 6.9 Hz), 1.15 (3H, d, J = 6.9 Hz), 1.22-1.34 (1H, m), 1.42-1.70 (1H, m), 1.58 (3H, d, J = 6.3 Hz), 1.88-2.06 (2H, m), 2.46-2.59 (1H, m), 2.67-2.87 (2H, m), 5.09 (1H, quint, J = 6.3 Hz), 5.65 (1H, d, J = 5.6 Hz), 7.17-7.48 (8H, m), 7.57-7.70 (2H, m).

2-(4', 5'-trans-3', 5'-Diphenyl-2'-isoxazoline-4'-carbonyl)-3-phenyl-l-menthopyrazole (4h). Anal. Calcd for C33H33N3O2: C, 78.70; H, 6.60; N, 8.34. Found: C, 78.46; H, 6.88; N, 8.05.

4'S-Diastereomer <sup>1</sup>H-Nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 0.71 (3H, d, J = 6.6 Hz), 0.82 (3H, d, J = 6.9 Hz), 0.85-0.92 (1H, m), 1.01 (3H, d, J = 6.9 Hz), 1.42-1.57 (1H, m), 1.86-2.03 (2H, m), 2.35-2.50 (1H, m), 2.63-2.84 (2H, m), 6.00 (2H, AB, J = 6.3 Hz), 7.14-7.70 (15H, m).

4'R-Diastereomer <sup>1</sup>H-Nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 0.74 (3H, d, J = 6.9 Hz), 0.85-0.92 (1H, m), 0.95 (3H, d, J = 6.9 Hz), 1.09 (3H, d, J = 6.9 Hz), 1.42-1.57 (1H, m), 1.86-2.03 (2H, m), 2.35-2.50 (1H, m), 2.63-2.84 (2H, m), 6.02 (2H, AB, J = 5.6 Hz), 7.14-7.70 (15H, m).

## Conversion of 4h into 5 by L-Selectride®.

To a solution of **4h** (333 mg, 0.66 mmol, 24% de) in THF (10 ml) under nitrogen atmosphere, L-selectride® (1.0 M in THF, 1.5 ml) was added dropwise at room temperature. After stirring for 30 min, the mixture was quenched with aqueous hydrogen peroxide (30%, 1 ml) and 1N aq-NaOH (2 ml). The product was extracted

with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, the organic layer washed with 3% NH<sub>4</sub>Cl, dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated. The residue was chromatographed on silica gel with benzene-ethyl acetate (2 : 1 v/v) to isolate 4,5-*trans*-5-hydroxymethyl-3-phenyl-2-isoxazoline (5); yield 53%;  $[\alpha]_D^{26}$  -39.8 [c 1.46, CHCl<sub>3</sub>, 24% ee (*R*)];<sup>15</sup> <sup>1</sup>H-nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  2.64 (1H, br s), 3.22-3.45 (2H, m), 3.68 (1H, dd, J=12.2, 7.6 Hz), 3.85 (1H, dd, J=12.2, 3.3 Hz), 4.85 (1H, m), 7.26-7.40 (3H, m), 7.61-7.82 (2H, m); <sup>13</sup>C-nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (DEPT) 36.2 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 63.5 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 81.2 (CH), 126.6 (CH), 128.6 (CH), 129.2 (C), 130.1 (CH), 157.0 (C). Also 3-phenyl-*i*-menthopyrazole was recovered in 99% yield.

## General Procedure of Reaction with Nitrone.

The solution of N-( $\alpha$ , $\beta$ -unsaturated) acylpyrazole (2, 3.0 mmol), nitrone (3.3 mmol) and additive (3.0 mmol) in THF (15 ml) was refluxed under nitrogen atmosphere. After the reaction was quenched with water, the mixture was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The organic layer was washed with 1N HCl, water, 1% NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and 3% NaCl, dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub>, and concentrated. The residue was chromatographed on silica gel with benzene-hexane (2 : 1 v/v) mixture. The isomer ratios were evaluated by <sup>1</sup>H nmr.

*1-(2',3'-Diphenylisoxazolidine-5'-carbonyl)-3,5-dimethylpyrazole.* Anal. Calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>21</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: C, 72.6; H, 6.09; N, 12.1. Found: C, 72.68; H, 6.16; N, 11.93.

3',5'-trans *Isomer* (6a) <sup>1</sup>H-Nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 2.19 (3H, s), 2.56 (3H, s), 2.47-3.70 (1H, m), 3.35-3.48 (1H, m), 4.71 (1H, t, J = 7.4 Hz), 5.76 (1H, t, J = 7.9 Hz), 5.95 (1H, s), 6.89-7.52 (10H, m).

3', 5'-cis Isomer (7a). <sup>1</sup>H-Nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  2.22 (3H, s), 2.47 (3H, s), 2.91-3.08 (2H, m), 4.77 (1H, t, J = 7.4 Hz), 5.90 (1H, dd, J = 5.3, 7.9 Hz), 5.97 (1H, s), 6.89-7.52 (10H, m).

*1-(2',3'-Diphenylisoxazolidine-4'-carbonyl)-3,5-dimethylpyrazole.* Anal. Calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>21</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: C, 72.60; H, 6.09; N, 12.10. Found: C, 72.64; H, 6.15; N, 12.02.

3',4'-trans *Isomer* (8a). <sup>1</sup>H-Nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 2.17 (3H, s), 2.47 (3H, s), 4.20-4.24 (1H, m), 4.63-4.76 (2H, m), 5.32 (1H, d, J = 5.0 Hz), 5.93 (1H, s), 6.90-7.59 (10H, m).

3', 4'-cis *Isomer* (**9a**). <sup>1</sup>H-Nmr (CDCl3)  $\delta$  2.03 (3H, s), 2.26 (3H, s), 4.38 (1H, t, J = 8.4 Hz), 4.74 (1H, t, J = 7.8 Hz), 5.08 (1H, q, J = 8.6 Hz), 5.29 (1H, d, J = 9.2 Hz), 5.82 (1H, s), 6.93-7.38 (10H, m).

1-(4',5'-trans-5'-Methyl-2',3'-triphenylisoxazolidine-4'-carbonyl)-3,5-dimethylpyrazole. Anal. Calcd for

C22H23N3O2: C, 73.11; H, 6.41; N, 11.63. Found: C, 72.94; H, 6.47; N, 11.65.

3', 4'-trans *Isomer* (**8b**). <sup>1</sup>H-Nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.56 (3H, d, J = 5.9 Hz), 2.13 (3H, s), 2.48 (3H, d, J = 0.7 Hz), 4.50-4.66 (2H, m), 5.31 (1H, d, J = 6.3 Hz), 5.94 (1H, s), 6.88-8.41 (10H, m).

- 3', 4'-cis Isomer (9b). <sup>1</sup>H-Nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.50 (3H, d, J = 5.9 Hz), 2.02 (3H, s), 2.25 (3H, s), 4.50-4.66 (1H, m), 4.96-5.02 (1H, m), 5.06 (1H, d, J = 10.6 Hz), 5.80 (1H, s), 6.88-8.41 (10H, m).
- *1-(4',5'-trans-2',3',5'-Triphenylisoxazolidine-4'-carbonyl)-3,5-dimethylpyrazole.* Anal. Calcd for C27H25N3O2: C, 76.57; H, 5.95; N, 9.92. Found: C, 77.09; H, 6.03; N, 9.57.
- 3', 4'-trans *Isomer* (8c). <sup>1</sup>H-Nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.93 (3H, s), 2.47 (3H, s), 5.02-5.07 (1H, m), 5.38 (1H, d, J = 5.9 Hz), 5.59 (1H, d, J = 7.3 Hz), 5.87 (1H, s), 6.93-7.61 (10H, m).
- 3', 4'-cis Isomer (9c). <sup>1</sup>H-Nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.99 (3H, d, J = 0.7 Hz), 2.21 (3H, s), 5.02-5.07 (1H, m), 5.24 (1H, d, J = 7.9 Hz), 5.75 (1H, s), 5.92 (1H, d, J = 10.2 Hz), 6.93-7.61 (10H, m).
- 2-(3'S, 4'R-2', 3'-Diphenylisoxazolidine-4'-carbonyl)-3-phenyl-l-menthopyrazole (**8f**). <sup>1</sup>H-Nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 0.66 (3H, d, J = 6.9 Hz), 0.90 (3H, d, J = 6.9 Hz), 1.12 (3H, d, J = 6.9 Hz), 1.15-1.28 (1H, m), 1.43-1.56 (1H, m), 1.77-1.99 (2H, m), 2.34-2.46 (1H, m), 2.54-2.61 (1H, m), 2.68-2.81 (1H, m), 4.16-4.24 (1H, m), 4.67-4.82 (2H, m), 5.32 (1H d, J = 4.6 Hz), 6.87-7.91 (15H, m). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>33</sub>H<sub>35</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: C, 78.38; H, 6.98; N, 8.31. Found: C, 78.38; H, 7.00; N, 8.41.
- 2-(2',3'-Diphenyl-5'-methylisoxazolidine-4'-carbonyl)-3-phenyl-1-menthopyrazole. Anal. Calcd for C34H37N3O2: C, 78.58; H, 7.18; N, 8.09. Found: C, 78.62; H, 7.22; N, 8.10.
- 3'S, 4'R, 5'S Isomer (8g). <sup>1</sup>H-Nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.67 (3H, d, J = 6.9 Hz), 0.84 (3H, d, J = 6.9 Hz), 1.05 (3H, d, J = 6.9 Hz), 1.11-1.26 (1H, m), 1.39-1.59 (1H, m), 1.52 (3H, d, J = 6.3 Hz), 1.81-1.97 (2H, m), 2.34-2.59 (2H, m), 2.66-2.77 (1H, m), 4.46 (1H, dq, J = 6.3, 6.9 Hz), 4.68 (1H, t, J = 6.9 Hz), 5.27 (1H, d, J = 6.9 Hz), 6.84-7.89 (15H, m).
- 3'R, 4'R, 5'S *Isomer* (**9**g). <sup>1</sup>H-Nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.69 (3H, d, J = 6.6 Hz), 0.76 (3H, d, J = 6.9 Hz), 0.94 (3H, d, J = 6.9 Hz), 1.14-1.27 (1H, m), 1.38-1.48 (1H, m), 1.59 (3H, d, J = 5.9 Hz), 1.82-1.98 (2H, m), 2.19-2.22 (1H, m), 2.51-2.60 (1H, m), 2.69-2.77 (1H, m), 4.59 (1H, dq, J = 7.9, 5.9 Hz), 4.75 (1H, dd, J = 7.9, 6.9 Hz), 5.19 (1H, d, J = 6.9 Hz), 6.84-7.59 (15H, m).
- 2-(3', 4'-trans-2', 3', 5'-Triphenylisoxazolidine-4'-carbonyl)-3-phenyl-1-menthopyrazole. Anal. Calcd for C39H39N3O2: C, 80.52; H, 6.76; N, 7.22. Found: C, 80.54; H, 6.86; N, 7.22.
- 3'S, 4'R, 5'S Isomer (8h). <sup>1</sup>H-Nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 0.61 (3H, d, J = 6.6 Hz), 0.66 (3H, d, J = 6.9 Hz), 0.89 (3H, d, J = 7.3 Hz), 1.06-1.48 (2H, m), 1.75-1.92 (2H, m), 2.05-2.22 (1H, m), 2.41-2.48 (1H, m), 2.62-2.71 (1H, m), 5.11 (1H, t, J = 6.6 Hz), 5.38 (1H, d, J = 5.6 Hz), 5.63 (1H, d, J = 7.3 Hz), 6.87-7.68 (20H, m).

3'R, 4'R, 5'S *Isomer* (9h). <sup>1</sup>H-Nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 0.61 (3H, d, J = 6.6 Hz), 0.66 (3H, d, J = 6.9 Hz), 0.83 (3H, d, J = 7.3 Hz), 1.06-1.48 (2H, m), 1.75-1.92 (2H, m), 1.96-2.02 (1H, m), 2.29-2.37 (1H, m), 2.62-2.71 (1H, m), 5.19 (1H, t, J = 7.3 Hz), 5.30 (1H, d, J = 6.6 Hz), 5.54 (1H, d, J = 8.2 Hz), 6.87-7.68 (20H, m).

2-[3'S, 4'R, 5'S-5'-Methyl-3'-(p-methylphenyl)-2'-phenylisoxazolidine-4'-carbonyl]-3-phenyl-1-menthopyrazole (8i). <sup>1</sup>H-Nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 0.67 (3H, d, J = 6.6 Hz), 0.84 (3H, d, J = 6.6 Hz), 1.05 (3H, d, J = 6.6 Hz), 1.14-1.27 (1H, m), 1.39-1.60 (1H, m), 1.52 (3H, d, J = 5.9 Hz), 1.82-1.98 (2H, m), 2.36 (3H, s), 2.40-2.77 (3H, m), 4.45 (1H, dq, J = 7.6, 5.9 Hz), 4.67 (1H, t, J = 7.3 Hz), 5.23 (1H, d, J = 6.9 Hz), 6.84-7.47 (15H, m). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>35</sub>H<sub>39</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: C, 78.77; H, 7.37; N, 7.87. Found: C, 78.61; H, 7.39; N, 7.96.

2-[5'-Methyl-3'-(p-methoxyphenyl)-2'-phenylisoxazolidine-4'-carbonyl]-3-phenyl-1-menthopyrazole. Anal. Calcd for C35H39N3O3: C, 76.47; H, 7.15; N, 7.64. Found: C, 76.32; H, 7.22; N, 7.61.

3'S, 4'R, 5'S *Isomer* (**8j**). <sup>1</sup>H-Nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 0.67 (3H, d, J=6.6 Hz), 0.85 (3H, d, J=6.6 Hz), 1.06 (3H, d, J=6.9 Hz), 1.17-1.39 (1H, m), 1.52 (3H, d, J=6.3 Hz), 1.43-1.56 (1H, m), 1.82-1.98 (2H, m), 2.39-2.48 (1H, m), 2.53-2.69 (1H, m), 2.71-2.77 (1H, m), 3.81 (3H, s), 4.40-4.50 (1H, dq, J=6.3, 7.6 Hz), 4.65 (1H, t, J=7.3 Hz), 5.19 (1H, d, J=6.9 Hz), 6.85-7.49 (14H, m).

3'R, 4'R, 5'S *Isomer* (**9**j). <sup>1</sup>H-Nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 0.58 (3H, d, J=6.6 Hz), 0.94 (3H, d, J=6.6 Hz), 1.09 (3H, d, J=6.9 Hz), 1.17-1.39 (1H, m), 1.43 (3H, d, J=6.3 Hz), 1.43-1.56 (1H, m), 1.82-1.98 (2H, m), 2.39-2.48 (1H, m), 2.53-2.69 (1H, m), 2.71-2.77 (1H, m), 3.79 (3H, s), 4.55 (1H, t, J=7.3 Hz), 4.78-4.93 (1H, dq, J=6.3, 7.6 Hz), 5.06 (1H, d, J=6.9 Hz), 6.85-7.49 (14H, m).

# Single-Crystal X-ray Diffraction Analysis of 8g.

The crystal data for **8g** are as follows: Monoclinic; space group P2<sub>1</sub> with a=11.792 (5), b=8.377 (2), c=15.297 (6) Å,  $\beta=104.86$  (1)°, V=1460.6 Å<sup>3</sup>, and Z=2. The empirical formula is C34H37N3O<sub>2</sub>, molecular weight is 519.68, and calculated density is 1.18 g/cm<sup>3</sup>. The three-dimensional X-ray data were collected by the use of graphite-monochromated Mo Ka radiation (1=0.71073 Å) using the  $\omega$ -2 $\theta$  scan technique to a maximum 2 $\theta$  of 46.0°. A total of 2283 reflections was collected, of which 2282 were unique and not systematically absent. Lorentz and polarization corrections were applied to the data. The linear absorption coefficient is 0.7 cm<sup>-1</sup> for Mo K radiation. The structure was solved by direct methods. The remaining atoms were located in succeeding difference Fourier syntheses. Hydrogen atoms were located. The structure was refined in full-matrix least-squares and converged to a conventional R factor of 0.068. Atomic coordinates, thermal parameters, and bond

lengths and angles have been deposited with the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre, 12 Union Road, Cambridge, CB2 1EZ, UK.

#### Evaluation of Reaction Rate with Diphenylnitrone.

The solution of  $\alpha$ , *N*-diphenylnitrone (96 mg, 0.49 mmol), **2b** (80 mg, 0.49 mmol) and additive (LiBr, MgBr<sub>2</sub> or ZnBr<sub>2</sub>, 0.50 mmol) in THF (5 ml) was heated at 40.0°C in the presence of naphthalene (*ca.* 100 mg) as an internal standard. The decrease of **2b** was traced with time by hplc eluting with H<sub>2</sub>O-MeOH (3 : 1 v/v, flow rate 1.5 ml / min) mixture.

## Methanolysis of 8 and 9 in the Presence of Sodium Methoxide.

Sodium methoxide (54 mg, 1.0 mmol) in methanol (2 ml) was added to a solution of isoxazolidinecarbonylpyrazole (8 or 9, 1 mmol) in methanol (8 ml) at room temperature and the stirring was continued for 30 min under a nitrogen atmosphere. The mixture was quenched with water and extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The organic layer was washed with 1N HCl, water, 1% NaHCO<sub>3</sub>, 3% NaCl, dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub>, and concentrated. The residue was chromatographed on silica gel with hexane-ethyl acetate (10 : 1 v/v) mixture. In the case of 8g, 1 was recovered by the elution from the column with ethyl acetate in 75% yield. *Methyl* 2.3-Diphenyl-4-isoxazolidinecarboxylate.<sup>12</sup> Yield 37%.

3,4-trans Isomer. <sup>1</sup>H-Nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 3.57 (1H, q, J=7.0 Hz), 3.69 (3H, s), 4.29-4.44 (2H, m), 5.00 (1H,

d, J=5.6 Hz), 6.91-7.06 (2H, m), 7.19-7.56 (8H, m).

3,4-cis *Isomer.* <sup>1</sup>H-Nmr (CDCl3)  $\delta$  3.28 (3H, s), 3.80 (1H, q, J=8.4 Hz), 4.29-4.44 (1H, m), 4.50-4.58 (1H, m), 5.02 (1H, d, J=5.6 Hz), 6.91-7.06 (2H, m), 7.19-7.56 (8H, m).

Methyl 4,5-trans-5-Methyl-2,3-diphenylisoxazolidine-4-carboxylate.<sup>16</sup>

3,4-trans Isomer. Yield 74% from 8g; <sup>1</sup>H-nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 1.41 (3H, d, J=7.0 Hz), 3.21 (1H, dd, J=9.2, 7.0 Hz), 3.71 (3H, s), 4.41-4.49 (1H, m), 5.18 (1H, d, J=7.0 Hz), 6.88-7.00 (3H, m), 7.15-7.55 (7H, m).

*3,4*-cis *Isomer.* Yield 80% from **9b**; <sup>1</sup>H-Nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 1.21 (3H, d, J=7.0 Hz), 3.27 (3H, s), 3.38 (1H, t, J=9.4 Hz), 4.83-4.88 (1H, m), 4.86 (1H, d, J=10.6 Hz), 6.88-7.00 (3H, m), 7.15-7.55 (7H, m).

## Conversion of 9 into Azetidinones.

A mixture of 8 (0.58 mmol) and 5% Pd-C (55 mg) in THF (10 ml) was stirred for 24 h at room temperature under a hydrogen atmosphere (1 atmosphere pressure). After the catalyst was filtered off, the solvent was removed. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel with benzene-ethyl acetate (30 : 1 v/v) mixture and recrystallization from hexane.

1-[2-(1-Hydroxy)ethyl-3-anilino-3-phenyl]propanoyl-3,5-dimethylpyrazole (10b).

2,3-trans *Isomer.* Yield 98%; <sup>1</sup>H-nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.25 (3H, d, J=5.6 Hz), 2.24 (3H, s), 2.27 (3H, s), 4.53 (2H, AB-q, J=4.0 Hz), 5.08 (1H, d, J=6.9 Hz), 5.88 (1H, s), 6.61 (2H, d, J=7.6 Hz), 6.69 (1H, t, J=7.3 Hz), 7.07-7.36 (8H, m).

2,3-cis *Isomer.* <sup>1</sup>H-Nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 1.252 (3H, d, J=5.9 Hz), 2.140 (3H, s), 2.431 (3H, d, J=1.0 Hz), 4.349 (1H, quint, J=6.3 Hz), 4.571 (1H, t, J=5.9 Hz), 5.107 (1H, d, J=5.6 Hz), 5.856 (1H, s), 6.58-6.71 (3H, m), 7.06-7.38 (7H, m).

2-[2,3-trans-2-(1-Hydroxyethyl)-3-anilino-3-phenyl]propanoyl-3-phenyl-1-menthopyrazole (**10g**). Yield 86%; <sup>1</sup>H-nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 0.58 (3H, d, J=6.6 Hz), 0.95 (3H, d, J=6.6 Hz), 1.14 (3H, d, J=6.6 Hz), 1.21 (3H, d, J=5.9 Hz), 1.44-1.56 (2H, m), 1.87-1.98 (2H, m), 2.50-2.56 (1H, m), 2.65-2.74 (2H, m), 4.44-4.56 (2H, m), 4.62 (1H, br s), 5.00 (1H, d, J=7.9 Hz), 6.61-6.72 (5H, m), 7.07-7.31 (10H, m). Anal. Calcd for C34H39N3O<sub>2</sub>: C, 78.28; H, 7.54; N, 8.05. Found: C, 78.22; H, 7.64; N, 8.08.

The mixture of 10 (0.74 mmol), TBDMS-Cl (154 mg, 1.0 mmol), imidazole (115 mg, 1.7 mmol) and DMF (2 ml) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (5 ml) was stirred for 12 h at room temperature. The reaction mixture was quenched with water, and the mixture was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The organic layer was dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub>, and concentrated. The residue was chromatographed on silica gel with hexane-ethyl acetate (10 : 1 v/v) mixture and recrystallization from hexane.

*1-[2-(1-t-Butyldimethylsiloxy)ethyl-3-anilino-3-phenyl]propanoyl-3,5-dimethylpyrazole* (11b). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>39</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Si: C, 70.40; H, 8.23; N, 8.80. Found: C, 70.15; H, 8.22; N, 8.75.

2,3-trans *Isomer*. Yield 59%; <sup>1</sup>H-nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 0.10 (3H, s), 0.12 (3H, s), 0.88 (9H, s), 1.26 (3H, d, J=6.3 Hz), 2.27 (3H, s), 2.28 (3H, s), 4.40-4.46 (1H, dq, J=6.3, 7.6 Hz), 4.53-4.58 (1H, dd, J=7.9, 5.6 Hz), 5.01 (1H, d, J=5.6 Hz), 5.88 (1H, s), 6.46 (2H, d, J=7.6 Hz), 6.59 (1H, t, J=7.3 Hz), 7.01-7.27 (8H, m).

2,3-cis *Isomer.* Yield 54%; <sup>1</sup>H-nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -0.189 (3H, s), 0.000 (3H, s), 0.828 (9H, s), 1.221 (3H, d, J=5.9 Hz), 1.993 (3H, s), 2.417 (3H, s), 4.346 (1H, dq, J=8.2, 1.9 Hz), 4.57-4.63 (1H, m), 4.96 (1H, br s), 5.47 (1H, br s), 5.747 (1H, s), 6.44-6.57 (3H, m), 6.98-7.25 (7H, m).

2-[2, 3-trans-2-(1-t-Butyldimethylsiloxy)ethyl-3-anilino-3-phenyl]propanoyl-3-phenyl-1-menthopyrazole (11g). Yield 92%; <sup>1</sup>H-nmr (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 0.07 (3H, s), 0.08 (3H, s), 0.62 (3H, d, J=4.0 Hz), 0.90 (9H, s), 1.00 (3H, d, J=6.9 Hz), 1.13 (3H, d, J=5.9 Hz), 1.17 (3H, d, J=6.9 Hz), 1.18-1.31 (1H, m), 1.45-1.54 (1H, m), 1.89-1.97 (2H, m), 2.51-2.58 (1H, m), 2.67-2.74 (2H, m), 4.30-4.38 (1H, m), 4.44-4.49 (1H, m), 5.08 (1H, d, J=4.3 Hz), 5.87 (1H, br s), 6.44 (2H, d, J=7.9 Hz), 6.58 (1H, t, J=7.3 Hz), 6.88 (2H, d, J=5.9 Hz), 7.04 (2H, t, J=7.6 Hz), 7.15-7.32 (11H, m). Anal. Calcd for C40H53N3O2Si: C, 75.54; H, 8.40; N, 6.61. Found: C, 75.25; H, 8.67; N, 6.51.

A solution of ethylmagnesium bromide (2.0 M in Et<sub>2</sub>O, 0.36 ml) was added to 11 (0.25 mmol) in THF (5 ml) under a nitrogen atmosphere, and kept at 0°C with stirring for 5 h. After the addition of 3% NH4Cl (2 ml), the mixture was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The organic layer was washed with 3% NaCl, dried over anhydrous MgSO4 and concentrated. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel with hexane-ethyl acetate (10:1 v/v) and recrystallization. In the case of 11g, azetidinone (12g) was not detected at all.

3-(1-t-Butyldimethylsiloxy)ethyl-1,4-diphenylazetidin-2-one (12b).

3,4-cis *Isomer*. Yield 49%; ir (CHCl3) 1747 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H-nmr (CDCl3) δ 0.119 (3H, s), 0.128 (3H, s), 0.954 (9H, s), 0.945 (3H, d, J=6.3 Hz), 2.792 (1H, t, J=4.3 Hz), 4.621 (1H, dq, J=6.3, 4.6 Hz), 5.150 (1H, d, J=4.6 Hz), 6.50-6.67 (3H, m), 7.04-7.49 (7H, m).

3,4-trans Isomer. Yield 24%; ir (CHCl3) 1747 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H-nmr (CDCl3) δ 0.071 (3H, s), 0.103 (3H, s), 0.793 (9H, s), 1.290 (3H, dd, J=6.3, 0.7 Hz), 3.083 (1H, t, J=3.0 Hz), 4.382 (1H, dq, J=6.3, 5.9 Hz), 5.107, (1H, d, J=2.0 Hz), 6.98-7.04 (2H, m), 7.19-7.40 (8H, m).

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