

the 35 Bijvoet pairs for the 2*R*,3*R* enantiomer of (-)-5-HBr and the 2*R*,3*S* enantiomer of (-)-7-HCl, for which $|F_o(h,k,l) - F_c(h,-k,l)| > 1.1$ for (-)-5-HBr and 1.8 for (-)-7-HCl, 68 and 33 of the F_c differences, respectively, had the same sign as the corresponding F_o differences. The weighting scheme used in the later part of the refinement was $w = 1/[1 + ((|F_o| - A)/B)^2]$,³⁰ where $A = 10$ and $B = 9$ for (-)-5-HBr and $A = 8$ and $B = 4$ for (-)-7-HCl. The form factors used were those given by Cromer and Mann.³¹ All calculations have been performed on a DEC-system-10 computer using mainly the X-ray 72 program system.³²

The molecular conformations and atomic labeling schemes are shown in Figure 1.

Molecular Mechanics Calculations. The structural modelling was performed by use of the interactive computer graphics program MIMIC (methods for interactive modelling in chemistry).¹⁶ Calculations were performed on a VAX 11/780 computer using Allingers MMP2 force field,³³ to which had been added parameters for the pheno³⁴ and amino groups.³⁵ Computational times ranged from 1 to 25 min/minimization.

Pharmacology. Materials and Methods. Male Sprague-Dawley rats weighing 200-300 g (ALAB, Stockholm, Sweden) were used. Reserpine and haloperidol were dissolved in a few drops

of glacial acetic acid and made up to volume with 5.5% glucose solution. The other test compounds were dissolved in saline immediately before use. Injection volumes were 5 mL/kg, and injection solutions had approximately neutral pH.

Biochemistry. Brain levels of DOPA and 5-HTP were analyzed by HPLC with electrochemical detection.²¹ For biochemical results and experimental details, see Tables III and IV and footnotes *a* in Tables III and IV.

Locomotor Activity. The motor activity was measured by means of photocell recordings ("M/P 40 Fc Electronic Motility Meter", Motron Products, Stockholm, Sweden) as previously described.¹⁷ For experimental details, see footnotes *b* in Tables III and IV. Each box was equipped with a semitransparent mirror that allowed gross behavior observations of the animals during the experiments. The motor activity results are shown in Tables III and IV.

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Supplementary Material Available: Complete lists of identified low-energy conformations and steric energies and X-ray data of (-)-5-HBr and (-)-7-HCl, including positional and thermal parameters, bond lengths, and bond angles (6 pages); tables of observed and calculated structure factors (61 pages). Ordering information is given on any current masthead page.

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N,N-Dialkylated Leucine Enkephalins as Potential δ Opioid Receptor Antagonists¹

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A series of N,N-dialkylated leucine enkephalins were prepared in order to study the effect of substitution on antagonist activity at the δ opioid receptor. The target peptides 1-7 were evaluated in the mouse vas deferens (MVD) and guinea pig ileum (GPI) at 1 μ M. All of the compounds except [N,N-di-2-phenethyl,Leu⁵]enkephalin (7) showed antagonist activity in the MVD against the δ receptor agonist [D-Ala²,D-Leu⁵]enkephalin. The most potent congener, [N,N-dibenzyl,Leu⁵]enkephalin (3), was 2.5-fold more potent than [N,N-diallyl,Leu⁵]enkephalin (1). None of the compounds at 1 μ M showed any antagonist activity against agonists for other receptor types. The N,N-di-2-phenethyl (7) and N,N-dioctyl (6) analogues showed significant agonist activity at 1 μ M in the MVD.

Since Martin and co-workers^{3,4} reported evidence for multiple opioid receptors, a considerable amount of research has focused on the development of ligands specific for each of the receptor types. Such specific ligands, especially antagonists, can be very useful biochemical tools, both for determining differences between receptor types

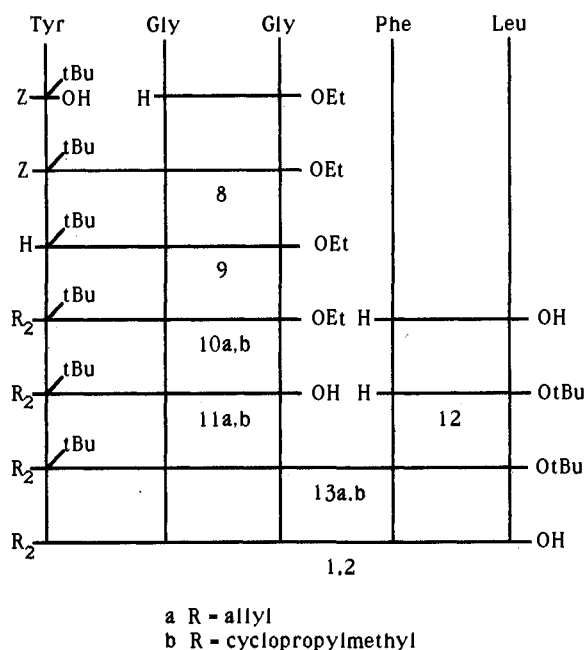
and for studying their roles in various biological processes.

The discovery of the enkephalins⁵ introduced a new class of ligands for the opioid receptor and another receptor type, the δ receptor.⁶ Because the classical alkaloid opiate antagonists, such as naloxone and naltrexone, interact preferentially with the μ receptor,^{7,8} attention was turned

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Scheme I



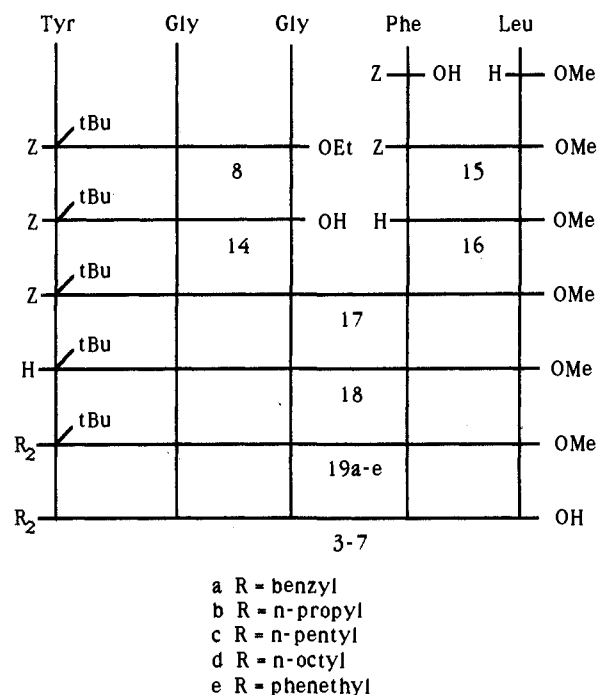
to enkephalin analogues as possible δ receptor antagonists. Since *N*-alkyl groups such as allyl and cyclopropylmethyl confer opioid antagonist properties to these alkaloids, this modification was examined as a way of preparing δ receptor antagonists from the enkephalins. However, introduction of a single such alkyl group at the amine terminus of the enkephalins yielded, at best, weak mixed agonist/antagonists.⁹⁻¹² The first highly selective δ receptor antagonist was successfully prepared by Shaw and co-workers¹³ by introducing two allyl groups at the amine terminus to give the methyl ester of *N,N*-diallyl leucine enkephalin (1). They have prepared additional analogues of 1 with various peptide chain modifications in order to improve potency and stability against enzymatic degradation and to study the differences in structure-activity relationships for agonism vs. antagonism.^{13,14}

We have synthesized a series of *N,N*-dialkylated leucine enkephalins (1-7) to study the effect of substitution on δ receptor antagonism, with the goal of using this information to design irreversible δ antagonists.¹⁵

R₂Tyr-Gly-Gly-Phe-Leu

1. R = allyl
2. R = cyclopropylmethyl
3. R = benzyl
4. R = *n*-propyl
5. R = *n*-pentyl
6. R = *n*-octyl
7. R = phenethyl

Scheme II



Chemistry

The compounds were prepared in solution by one of two routes, as depicted in Schemes I and II. The initial compounds, where R = allyl (1) and cyclopropylmethyl (2), were prepared according to Scheme I. *N,N*-Diallyl leucine enkephalin, 1,^{13,14} was prepared in order to evaluate reaction conditions for the preparation of other *N,N*-dialkylated analogues and as a standard for the biological testing. The *N,N*-bis(cyclopropylmethyl) derivative, 2, was chosen for study because, for the alkaloid antagonists, replacement of the *N*-allyl of naloxone with a cyclopropylmethyl group to give naltrexone results in an increase in receptor binding affinity and antagonist potency.^{8,16} The synthesis of these two leucine enkephalin analogues involved a 3 + 2 strategy. Couplings were performed by the mixed-anhydride procedure. Benzyl-oxycarbonyl groups were used as temporary amine protecting groups and were removed by catalytic transfer hydrogenation.¹⁷ Carboxylic acids were temporarily protected as the alkyl esters, which were removed by alkaline hydrolysis. Both the phenol of tyrosine and the C-terminal carboxylic acid were protected by *tert*-butyl groups, which were removed in the last step by 50% trifluoroacetic acid in CH₂Cl₂ containing anisole as a scavenger. Alkylation was performed on the tripeptide 9, with excess alkyl bromide and *N,N*-diisopropylethylamine in refluxing toluene, according to the procedure of Laguzza and Ganem.¹⁸ After hydrolysis of the esters, the tripeptides 11a and 11b were each coupled to 12 to give 13a and 13b, respectively, which were deprotected to give the target leucine enkephalin analogues 1 and 2. Yields for these and other reactions in the preparation of 1 and 2 were generally greater than 80%.

When the bis(cyclopropylmethyl) derivative 2 did not prove to be any more potent as a δ receptor antagonist than *N,N*-diallyl leucine enkephalin, 1 (see below), several ad-

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Table I. Agonist and Antagonist Activities of *N,N*-Dialkyl Leucine Enkephalins in the Mouse Vas Deferens (MVD) and Guinea Pig Ileum (GPI)

compd	MVD ^a			GPI ^a		
	agonism: ^b % inhibn	antagonism: IC ₅₀ ratio ^c		agonism: ^b % inhibn	antagonism: IC ₅₀ ratio ^c	
		DADLE	morphine		morphine	EK
1	10.0 ± 4.1	2.7 ± 0.6 ^d	0.8 ± 0.1	-6.7, 0 ^e	0.8, 1.1 ^e	0.6, 1.1 ^e
2	27.3 ± 1.7	1.9 ± 0.2	1.4 ± 0.5	2.2, 2.5 ^e	0.7, 1.0 ^e	0.6, 1.2 ^e
3	11.4 ± 5.9	6.6 ± 1.4 ^f	0.6 ± 0.2	1.9, 2.9	1.0, 1.0	0.8, 1.2
4	11.9 ± 7.2	1.8 ± 0.3	0.9 ± 0.2	-2.6, 0	0.5, 1.2	0.4, 1.5
5	20.4 ± 7.9	3.3 ± 1.0 ^g	0.8 ± 0.2	15.9 ± 12.4	1.3 ± 0.6	0.6 ± 0.2
6	39.2 ± 8.7	1.4 ± 0.2	0.7 ± 0.2	8.1, 26.2	0.6, 0.8	0.7 ± 0.1
7	60.5 ± 6.2	0.9 ± 0.1 ^h	1.1 ± 0.4 ^h	14.7 ± 4.4	0.6 ± 0.1	0.8 ± 0.1

^a Compounds were tested at 1 μ M. Results are mean \pm standard error of the mean (SEM, $n = 3$) or individual values ($n = 2$). ^b Percent inhibition of the twitch after a 10-min incubation (unless otherwise indicated) of the tissue with the test compound. ^c The IC₅₀ of the agonist in the presence of the test compound divided by that of the agonist in the absence of the test compound in the same tissue. ^d The K_e value, calculated according to the formula $K_e = (\text{antagonist dose}) / (\text{IC}_{50} \text{ ratio} - 1)$, is 740 ± 220 nM. ^e 30-min incubation. ^f $K_e = 210 \pm 50$ nM. ^g $K_e = 1.4 \pm 1.1$ μ M. ^h Because of the agonism of 7 (IC₅₀ = 1.5 ± 0.4 μ M), the concentration was 0.2 μ M.

ditional derivatives were prepared. In order to minimize the number of steps from a common intermediate to each new analogue, the synthesis was modified and the alkylation of the amine terminus postponed to the pentapeptide stage (Scheme II). The methyl rather than the *tert*-butyl ester was used to protect the C-terminus, since this allowed selective deprotection of the carboxylic acid and coupling to give C-terminal extended peptides. Other protecting groups and the coupling method were the same as described above; the common intermediate 18 was obtained in good yield.

The yields for the alkylation depended on the identity of the alkyl group. Alkylation of pentapeptide 18 with benzyl bromide gave the corresponding *N,N*-dibenzyl pentapeptide 19a in good yield when the reaction was conducted at room temperature in acetonitrile.^{19,20} However, attempts to prepare analogues by alkylation of 18 with other alkyl bromides, namely *n*-propyl, *n*-pentyl, *n*-octyl, and 2-phenethyl bromides, yielded mixtures of the N-monoalkylated and N,N-dialkylated pentapeptides. The use of the alkyl tosylates was examined as a way to improve the yields of the desired N,N-dialkylated pentapeptides. But even under optimized reaction conditions (refluxing toluene, 4 h)²¹ with this better leaving group, the yields of the N,N-dialkylated pentapeptides 19b-e were less than 50% and N-monoalkylated peptides were still obtained. An alternative approach, reductive amination of the peptide with excess aldehyde and sodium cyanoborohydride, proved unsatisfactory because it yielded a mixture of products. The pentapeptides 19a-e were deprotected to give the desired leucine enkephalin analogues 3-7.

Pharmacology

The target compounds were tested at 1 μ M on the electrically stimulated longitudinal muscle of the guinea pig ileum (GPI)²² and in the mouse vas deferens (MVD)²³ preparations. Antagonist activity was measured against morphine (a μ agonist²⁴) and ethylketazocine (EK, a κ agonist²⁴) in the GPI, and against morphine and [D-Ala²,D-Leu⁵]enkephalin (DADLE, a δ agonist²⁴) in the MVD; the potency is expressed as the ratio of the IC₅₀ of

the antagonist-treated preparation divided by that of the control in the same tissue.

All of the compounds, except the *N,N*-diphenethyl derivative (7), showed antagonist activity in the MVD against DADLE (Table I). *N,N*-Diallyl leucine enkephalin, 1, was an antagonist only at the δ receptor and caused a 2.7-fold shift in the DADLE dose-response curve. These findings are consistent with previously reported results,¹⁴ although the observed K_e value²⁵ (740 nM) is higher than that previously reported (200 nM). The *N,N*-bis(cyclopropylmethyl) derivative 2 was slightly less active as a δ antagonist than 1 and showed weak agonist activity on the MVD. The *N,N*-dibenzyl peptide 3 was the most potent δ antagonist of the compounds tested, causing a 6.7-fold shift of the DADLE dose-response curve ($K_e = 210$ nM). For the analogues 4-6 containing saturated alkyl chains, antagonist activity was greatest for chains of middle length, with the *N,N*-dipentyl derivative 5 showing a 3.3-fold shift in the DADLE dose-response curve. Agonist activity in the MVD increased with increasing chain length for these analogues, so that the *N,N*-dioctyl derivative 6 showed significant agonist activity. The *N,N*-diphenethyl compound 7 also exhibited significant agonist activity, causing a 60% inhibition of the muscle twitch at 1 μ M; the IC₅₀ for this compound was 1.5 μ M. At its IC₂₀ (0.2 μ M) it was inactive as an antagonist toward DADLE. All of the compounds were inactive at 1 μ M as antagonists against morphine in the MVD. They were also inactive as antagonists in the GPI at 1 μ M against both morphine and EK, and their agonist activity in this tissue was minimal.

Discussion

These results demonstrate that, for *N,N*-dialkyl leucine enkephalins, the constitution as well as the number of substituents on the amine terminus is important in determining the type of activity observed (agonist vs. antagonist) and the compound's potency. A π -electron system, although contained in two of the more potent δ receptor antagonists (1 and 3), was not required for δ receptor antagonism nor was it sufficient to guarantee antagonist activity. The poor antagonist activity but significant agonist activity of the *N,N*-dioctyl derivative 6 indicates that the maximum length of the alkyl chain that is tolerated by the receptor is different for agonists and antagonists.

These analogues, like several *N,N*-diallyl leucine enkephalin analogues,¹⁴ were not as potent antagonists at the

(19) Reaction of 12 with benzyl bromide in refluxing toluene did not yield any of the desired product.

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δ receptor as naloxone ($K_e = 24$ nM against [Leu⁵]enkephalin in the MVD²⁶). But unlike naloxone, they were selective for the δ receptor. While this work was in progress, Cotton et al.²⁶ reported the activity of *N,N*-diallyl[Aib²,Aib³,Leu⁵]enkephalin,²⁷ which was a δ selective antagonist with a potency ($K_e = 30$ nM against [Leu⁵]enkephalin) similar to that of naloxone.

These results indicate that the nature of the peptide chain also influences the antagonist potency of different *N,N*-dialkyl leucine enkephalin analogues. The effects of the *N*-alkyl substitution and peptide chain modification are not additive. For the Gly-containing peptides, the *N,N*-dibenzyl derivative was a more potent δ receptor antagonist than the *N,N*-diallyl analogue, while the reverse was found for the Aib-containing peptides.¹⁵

In conclusion, substitution of different *N*-alkyl groups yielded *N,N*-dibenzyl leucine enkephalin (3), which is a more potent δ receptor antagonist than *N,N*-diallyl leucine enkephalin (1).

Experimental Section

¹H NMR spectra were recorded on either a JEOL FX-90 FT in CDCl₃ or a Nicolet NT 300-MHz spectrophotometer in Me₂SO-*d*₆; all compounds gave the expected spectra. Chemical-ionization mass spectra, using NH₃ as the reagent gas, were recorded on a Finnigan 4000 spectrophotometer. Optical rotations were recorded on either a Perkin-Elmer 141 or a Rudolph Autopol III polarimeter, using a 10-cm, 1-mL polarimeter cell. Melting points were determined with a Thomas-Hoover capillary melting point apparatus and are uncorrected. Elemental analyses were performed by MHW Laboratories, Phoenix, AZ.

Analytical silica gel TLC was performed on either glass-backed plates (silica gel GF, 0.25-mm thickness, Analtech, Newark, DE) or plastic-backed plates (silica gel 60 F-254, 0.20-mm thickness, E. Merck, obtained from American Scientific Products). Octadecyl (C₁₈) reverse-phase (RP) TLC plates (KC₁₈F, 200- μ m thickness) were obtained from Whatman, Clifton, NJ. Silica gel chromatography was performed with either Davisil silica gel, grade 633, 200–425 mesh, or Merck silica gel, grade 60, 230–400 mesh, 60A, both from Aldrich Chemical Co., Milwaukee, WI, and reverse-phase chromatography was performed with C₈, 40- μ m reverse-phase resin from Analytichem International, Harbor City, CA. Unless otherwise noted, all column chromatography was performed with a medium-pressure liquid chromatography system consisting of Michel-Miller columns (Ace Glass, Inc., Vineland, NJ) and either a Lab Pump or Lab Pump, Jr. (Fluid Metering, Inc., Oyster Bar, NY). High-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) was performed on an Altex 110A system equipped with a programmable controller, UV detector (280 nm), and a recorder/integrator (Hewlett Packard 3390A). The column was an Altex Lichrosorb C₈, 5- μ m reverse-phase column (4.6 \times 250 mm) fitted with a 3.0 \times 50 mm C₈, 5- μ m precolumn, and the solvent system was a mixture of 0.01 M NH₄OAc buffer, pH 4.0, and MeOH (both HPLC grade) used at a flow rate of 1 mL/min; *t*_m = 3.35 min.

All solvents and chemicals were reagent grade, unless otherwise specified. THF was freshly distilled from sodium and benzophenone under N₂; dioxane and toluene were distilled in a like manner and stored until use under N₂ over alumina (activity 1) and 4A molecular sieves, respectively. Acetonitrile was distilled from CaH₂ and stored under N₂ over 3A sieves. DMF (Gold Seal) was obtained from Aldrich. Amino acids were obtained from Sigma Chemical Co., St. Louis, MO; all are the L configuration. Isobutylene gas was obtained from Matheson, East Rutherford, NJ. Other reagents were obtained from Aldrich.

Alkyl tosylates were generally prepared by Tipson's procedure²⁸ and except for 2-phenethyl tosylate, which was recrystallized from Et₂O/30–60 °C petroleum ether, were vacuum distilled.

Mixed Carbonic Anhydride Coupling (Method A). Peptide bonds were formed by the mixed carbonic anhydride coupling procedure, using isobutyl chloroformate and *N*-methylmorpholine under "Anderson conditions"²⁹ in either THF or, when the amine component was an HCl salt, a THF/DMF mixture; ref 30 describes an illustrative procedure. When the peptide contained a *tert*-butyl protecting group, cold 10% citric acid was used to wash the organic extract rather than 1 N HCl.

Catalytic Transfer Hydrogenation (Method B). The *N*-benzyloxycarbonyl protecting group was removed with ammonium formate (4.0 equiv) and 10% palladium on carbon (0.25–0.50 wt/wt peptide) in MeOH (5 mL/mmol of peptide) for 30–40 min essentially according to the procedure of Anwer and Spatola.¹⁷ After filtration and evaporation of the reaction mixture, the residue was dissolved in EtOAc and washed twice with saturated NaCl, 5% NaHCO₃, and again twice with saturated NaCl. The extract was then dried (Na₂SO₄) and evaporated to yield the amine.

Alkaline Hydrolysis of Esters (Method C). Amino acid or peptide esters were hydrolyzed with a mixture of 0.25 N NaOH (1.1–1.2 equiv) and THF (3/7, v/v), starting at 0–5 °C and then at 25 °C for 1.5–4 h. After neutralization with 1 N HCl, concentration in vacuo, and dilution with H₂O, the reaction mixture was extracted with Et₂O. The aqueous layer was then cooled, acidified to ca. pH 3 with cold 10% citric acid, and extracted with EtOAc. The extract was washed with H₂O until neutral and then with saturated NaCl, dried (Na₂SO₄), and evaporated to give the desired acid.

Deprotection with Trifluoroacetic Acid (Method D). Cold trifluoroacetic acid (1.5 mL/mmol of peptide) was added to a cold solution of the protected peptide and anisole in CH₂Cl₂ (1.5 mL/mmol of peptide) and the reaction mixture stirred under N₂ at 0–5 °C for 5–10 min and then at 25 °C for 2.5–3.5 h. After evaporation, the peptide was purified by column chromatography.

***N*-(Benzyloxycarbonyl)-*O*-*tert*-butyltyrosylglycylglycine Ethyl Ester (8).** *N*-(Benzyloxycarbonyl)-*O*-*tert*-butyltyrosine ethyl ester, which was prepared from *N*-(benzyloxycarbonyl)-tyrosine ethyl ester³¹ with condensed isobutylene and concentrated H₂SO₄ in CH₂Cl₂³² and purified by silica gel column chromatography (Waters 500A preparative LC system, hexane/20% EtOAc), was hydrolyzed (method C) to give *N*-(benzyloxycarbonyl)-*O*-*tert*-butyltyrosine³² (89.7%). *N*-(Benzyloxycarbonyl)-*O*-*tert*-butyltyrosine (7.07 g, 19.0 mmol) was coupled (method A) to glycylglycine ethyl ester hydrochloride (3.74 g, 19.0 mmol) to give tripeptide 8 (9.02 g, 92.3%) as a glass. A sample was crystallized from Et₂O/hexane: mp 103.5–105 °C; [α]_D²⁵ –18.5° (c 1.0, DMF); *R*_f (CH₂Cl₂/4% MeOH) 0.27. Anal. (C₂₇H₃₅N₃O₇) C, H, N.

***O*-*tert*-Butyltyrosylglycylglycine Ethyl Ester (9).** The tripeptide 8 (103 mg, 0.200 mmol) was deprotected according to method B to give 9 (66 mg, 86.5%): mp 112.5–115 °C; [α]_D²⁵ –26.1° (c 0.63, DMF); *R*_f (CH₂Cl₂/10% MeOH) 0.48, (RP, MeOH/25% H₂O) 0.54. Anal. (C₁₉H₂₉N₃O₅) C, H, N.

***N,N*-Diallyl-*O*-*tert*-butyltyrosylglycylglycine Ethyl Ester (10a).** Compound 9 (500 mg, 1.32 mmol) was dissolved with heating in dry toluene (2.75 mL) under N₂, the solution was cooled to 0 °C, and *N,N*-diisopropylethylamine (445 mg, 3.44 mmol) followed by allyl bromide (1.40 g, 11.6 mmol) was added dropwise. The reaction mixture was warmed to 25 °C and then refluxed under N₂ for 3.25 h. The reaction mixture was cooled and the amine salt that precipitated upon cooling was filtered and washed well with toluene (~10 mL). After evaporation of the solvent in vacuo, the residue was applied to a silica gel column and eluted with CH₂Cl₂/2.5% MeOH to give pure 10a as an oil (525 mg, 86.7%): [α]_D²⁶ –21.0° (c 1.0, DMF); *R*_f (CH₂Cl₂/5% MeOH) 0.59; CI-MS, *m/e* 460 (M⁺ + 1), 462 (M⁺ + 3). Anal. (C₂₅H₃₇N₃O₅)

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C, H, N.

***N,N*-Bis(cyclopropylmethyl)-*O*-*tert*-butyltyrosylglycylglycine Ethyl Ester (10b).** Compound 9 (500 mg, 1.32 mmol), *N,N*-diisopropylethylamine (445 mg, 3.44 mmol), (bromomethyl)cyclopropane (1.56 g, 11.6 mmol), and dry toluene (2.75 mL) were combined as described for 10a and refluxed under N₂ for 2.25 h. Isolation and purification as described above gave 10b as an oil (576 mg, 89.7%): $[\alpha]_D^{25.5} +0.49^\circ$ (c 1.1, DMF); *R_f* (CH₂Cl₂/5% MeOH) 0.57; CI-MS, *m/e* 488 (M⁺ + 1). Anal. (C₂₇H₄₁N₃O₅) C, H, N.

***N,N*-Diallyl-*O*-*tert*-butyltyrosylglycylglycine (11a).** Ester 10a (320 mg, 0.70 mmol) was hydrolyzed (method C) and the reaction mixture then diluted with H₂O (7 mL) and most of the THF removed in vacuo at 25 °C. The aqueous layer was then extracted with Et₂O (2 × 10 mL), neutralized to pH 6.0, saturated with NaCl, and extracted exhaustively with CHCl₃ (5 × 20 mL). The combined CHCl₃ extracts were dried (Na₂SO₄), filtered through a fine sintered glass funnel, and evaporated to give 11a as a glass (240 mg, 80.0%), which resisted crystallization: $[\alpha]_D^{29} -18.0^\circ$ (c 1.0, DMF); *R_f* (RP, MeOH/30% H₂O) 0.55; CI-MS, *m/e* 432 (M⁺ + 1). Anal. Calcd for C₂₃H₃₃N₃O₅: C, 64.02; H, 7.71; N, 9.74. Found: C, 61.35; H, 7.37; N, 9.07 (95.7% organic).

***N,N*-Bis(cyclopropylmethyl)-*O*-*tert*-butyltyrosylglycylglycine (11b).** Ethyl ester 10b (425 mg, 0.87 mmol) was hydrolyzed (method C) and isolated as described for 11a to give 11b as a glass (395 mg, 98.6%), which was crystallized from CH₂Cl₂/Et₂O (yield 262 mg, 85.9%): mp 97–99 °C; $[\alpha]_D^{31} +1.0^\circ$ (c 1.0, DMF); *R_f* (RP, MeOH/30% H₂O) 0.54. Anal. (C₂₅H₃₇N₃O₅) C, H, N.

Phenylalanyl-leucine *tert*-Butyl Ester (12). A cooled solution of phenylalanyl-leucine (1.00 g, 3.59 mmol) in dry dioxane (7.0 mL) in a thick-walled pressure reaction bottle fitted with a crown cap and gasket was treated with concentrated H₂SO₄ (0.70 mL, 13 mmol) and condensed isobutylene (~7 mL) according to the procedure described by Roeske.³³ After shaking at 25 °C for 5.25 h, the reaction mixture was poured into a cold (0 °C) mixture of 1 N NaOH (40 mL) and Et₂O (70 mL). The layers were separated, the aqueous layer was extracted further with Et₂O (3 × 25 mL), and the combined organic layers were washed with saturated NaCl (4 × 25 mL), dried (Na₂SO₄), and evaporated to give 12 as an oil (1.014 g, 84.4%); $[\alpha]_D^{25} -35.2^\circ$ (c 1.0, DMF); *R_f* (CH₂Cl₂/2% MeOH/2% NH₄OH) 0.43, (RP, MeOH/25% H₂O) 0.38; CI-MS, *m/e* 335 (M⁺ + 1). Anal. (C₁₉H₃₀N₂O₃) C, H, N.

***N,N*-Diallyl-*O*-*tert*-butyltyrosylglycylglycylphenylalanyl-leucine *tert*-Butyl Ester (13a).** Tripeptide 11a (30.0 mg, 0.0695 mmol) was reacted with dipeptide 12 (23.2 mg, 0.0694 mmol) according to method A. After 1 h at -15 to -20 °C and an additional 1 h at 25 °C, the reaction mixture was evaporated in vacuo. The residue was dissolved in EtOAc (20 mL) and the organic solution washed with saturated NaHCO₃ (5 mL), H₂O (5 mL), and saturated NaCl (5 mL), dried (Na₂SO₄), and evaporated to give 13a as a glass (48 mg, 92.3%): $[\alpha]_D^{26} -23.4^\circ$ (c 0.50, DMF); *R_f* (CH₂Cl₂/5% MeOH) 0.43, (EtOAc/5% EtOH) 0.68. Anal. (C₄₂H₆₁N₅O₇) C, H, N.

***N,N*-Bis(cyclopropylmethyl)-*O*-*tert*-butyltyrosylglycylglycylphenylalanyl-leucine *tert*-Butyl Ester (13b).** Pentapeptide 13b (67 mg, 86.2%) was obtained as a glass from tripeptide 11b (46.0 mg, 0.100 mmol) and dipeptide 12 (33.4 mg, 0.100 mmol) by the procedure described above for compound 13a: $[\alpha]_D^{26} -11.2^\circ$ (c 0.50, DMF); *R_f* (CH₂Cl₂/5% MeOH) 0.30. Anal. (C₄₄H₆₅N₅O₇) C, H, N.

***N,N*-Diallyltyrosylglycylglycylphenylalanyl-leucine ([*N,N*-Diallyl,Leu⁵]enkephalin, 1).** Protected peptide 13a (48.6 mg, 0.065 mmol) was treated with 50% trifluoroacetic acid in CH₂Cl₂ (2.0 mL total volume) containing anisole (70 μL, 0.64 mmol) for 3.25 h at 25 °C, as described in method D. Purification by silica gel column chromatography (CH₂Cl₂/20% MeOH) and washing with Et₂O and hexane gave 1 trifluoroacetate (44 mg, 86.1%): mp 150–152 °C; $[\alpha]_D^{28} -22.0^\circ$ (c 0.48, MeOH); *R_f* (CH₂Cl₂/10% MeOH) 0.26; HPLC (MeOH/30% buffer) *k'* = 1.59 (*t_r* = 6.6 min), (MeOH/50–30% buffer gradient over 20 min) *k'* = 8.59 (*t_r* = 24.4 min). Anal. (C₃₄H₄₅N₅O₇·CF₃CO₂H·2H₂O) C, H, N.

***N,N*-Bis(cyclopropylmethyl)tyrosylglycylphenylalanyl-leucine ([*N,N*-Bis(cyclopropylmethyl),Leu⁵]enkephalin, 2).** Protected pentapeptide 13b (62 mg, 0.080 mmol) was deprotected in 50% trifluoroacetic acid in CH₂Cl₂ (2.5 mL total volume) containing anisole (85 μL, 0.78 mmol) for 3.25 h at 25 °C and purified as described for 1 above to give 2 trifluoroacetate (57.5 mg, 88.3%): mp 136.5–138.5 °C; $[\alpha]_D^{27} +18.2^\circ$ (c 0.52, MeOH); *R_f* (CH₂Cl₂/10% MeOH) 0.38; HPLC (MeOH/30% buffer) *k'* = 1.59 (*t_r* = 6.6 min), (MeOH/50–30% buffer gradient over 20 min) *k'* = 7.24 (*t_r* = 21.0 min). Anal. (C₃₆H₄₉N₅O₇·CF₃CO₂H·2H₂O) C, H, N.

***N*-(Benzyloxycarbonyl)-*O*-*tert*-butyltyrosylglycylglycylphenylalanyl-leucine Methyl Ester (17).** Tripeptide 8 (8.73 g, 17.0 mmol) was hydrolyzed (method C) to give the acid 14 (6.66 g, 80.7%) as a solid; a sample was recrystallized from EtOAc/hexane: mp 118–121 °C (lit.³⁴ mp 109–111 °C); $[\alpha]_D^{25} -20.4^\circ$ (c 1.0, DMF) (lit.³⁴ $[\alpha]_D^{25} -17.1^\circ$ (c 1, DMF)); *R_f* (RP, MeOH/H₂O, 2/1) 0.59. The C-terminal dipeptide 16 was prepared by coupling (method A) *N*-(benzyloxycarbonyl)phenylalanine and leucine methyl ester hydrochloride to give 15^{35–37} (97.7%), which was crystallized from EtOAc/hexane (95.1%). Deprotection (method B)³⁸ gave 16 as the HCl salt³⁹ (4.20 g, 90.8%), which was recrystallized from EtOAc/Et₂O (3.88 g, 78.7%). Tripeptide 14 (5.08 g, 10.5 mmol) was then coupled to dipeptide 16 (3.44 g, 10.5 mmol) by method A to give pentapeptide 17 (7.35 g, 92.4%), which was crystallized from EtOAc/hexane (6.74 g, 84.8%): mp 178–180.5 °C; $[\alpha]_D^{25} -17.8^\circ$ (c 1.0, MeOH); *R_f* (CH₂Cl₂/5% MeOH) 0.32, (EtOAc) 0.43. Anal. (C₄₁H₅₃N₅O₉) C, H, N.

***O*-*tert*-Butyltyrosylglycylglycylphenylalanyl-leucine Methyl Ester (18).** Pentapeptide 17 (6.50 g, 8.55 mmol) was deprotected according to method B to give 18 (5.12 g, 95.6%) as a glass, which was crystallized from EtOAc/hexane (4.91 g, 91.9%): mp 76–80.5 °C; $[\alpha]_D^{25} -3.2^\circ$ (c 1.0, MeOH); *R_f* (CH₂Cl₂/5% MeOH) 0.17. Anal. (C₃₃H₄₇N₅O₇) C, H, N.

***N,N*-Dibenzyl-*O*-*tert*-butyltyrosylglycylglycylphenylalanyl-leucine Methyl Ester (19a).** *N,N*-Diisopropylethylamine (186 mg, 1.44 mmol) followed by benzyl bromide (0.863 g, 5.04 mmol) was added to a cold (5 °C) solution of 18 (325 mg, 0.519 mmol) in dry AcCN (1.0 mL), and the reaction mixture was stirred at 25 °C under N₂ overnight. The reaction mixture was diluted with EtOAc (100 mL) and the extract washed with H₂O (50 mL) and saturated NaCl, dried (Na₂SO₄), and evaporated. The residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (CH₂Cl₂/0–5% MeOH gradient) to give 376 mg (89.8%) of 19a. Crystallization from EtOAc/petroleum ether gave 330 mg (78.8%) of 19a: mp 167.5–169.5 °C; $[\alpha]_D^{25} -14.9^\circ$ (c 1.0, MeOH); *R_f* (CH₂Cl₂/10% MeOH) 0.60, (EtOAc) 0.40. Anal. (C₄₇H₅₉N₅O₇) C, H, N.

***N,N*-Dipentyl-*O*-*tert*-butyltyrosylglycylglycylphenylalanyl-leucine Methyl Ester (19c).** *N,N*-Diisopropylethylamine (186 mg, 1.44 mmol) followed by pentyl tosylate (0.660 g, 2.72 mmol) was added to a cold (5 °C) solution of 18 (325 mg, 0.519 mmol) in dry toluene (1.25 mL). The reaction mixture was refluxed for 4 h; additional toluene (0.2 mL) was added to the reaction mixture after 3 h to maintain the original volume. After cooling, the reaction mixture was diluted with EtOAc (100 mL) and the extract washed with H₂O (25 mL) and saturated NaCl, dried (Na₂SO₄), and evaporated. The residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography (CH₂Cl₂/0–10% MeOH gradient) to give 146 mg (36.8%) of 19c, which was triturated with hexane: mp 144.5–149.5 °C; $[\alpha]_D^{25} -10.4^\circ$ (c 1.0, MeOH); *R_f* (CH₂Cl₂/10% MeOH) 0.46, (EtOAc) 0.47. Anal. (C₄₃H₆₇N₅O₇) C, H, N.

Also obtained from the column was *N*-pentyl-*O*-*tert*-butyltyrosylglycylglycylphenylalanyl-leucine methyl ester (140 mg, 38.7%) as a glass: $[\alpha]_D^{25} -14.9^\circ$ (c 1.0, MeOH); *R_f* (CH₂Cl₂/10%

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MeOH) 0.36, (EtOAc) 0.20. Anal. (C₃₈H₅₇N₅O₇) C, H, N.

***N,N*-Dipropyl-*O*-*tert*-butyltyrosylglycylglycylphenylalanyl-leucine Methyl Ester (19b).** Compound 18 (325 mg, 0.519 mmol), *N,N*-diisopropylethylamine (186 mg, 1.44 mmol), and propyl tosylate (1.12 g, 5.20 mmol) in dry toluene (1.00 mL) were combined as described for 19c and refluxed under N₂ for 6.5 h; no additional toluene was added during the course of the reaction. After cooling and evaporation of the solvent, the residue was applied directly to a silica gel column and eluted with a CH₂Cl₂/0–100% EtOAc gradient to give 160 mg (43.3%) of 19b, which was crystallized from EtOAc/petroleum ether: mp 71.5–74 °C; [α]_D²⁵ –8.0° (c 1.1, MeOH); R_f (CH₂Cl₂/10% MeOH) 0.47, (EtOAc) 0.36. Anal. (C₃₉H₅₉N₅O₇) C, H, N.

***N,N*-Diocetyl-*O*-*tert*-butyltyrosylglycylglycylphenylalanyl-leucine Methyl Ester (19d).** Compound 18 (325 mg, 0.519 mmol), *N,N*-diisopropylethylamine (186 mg, 1.44 mmol), and octyl tosylate⁴⁰ (0.765 g, 2.69 mmol) in dry toluene (1.25 mL) were combined as described for 19c and refluxed under N₂ for 4 h. Isolation and column chromatography as described above yielded 169 mg (32.8%) of 19d as a glass: [α]_D²⁵ –11.9° (c 1.0, MeOH); R_f (CH₂Cl₂/10% MeOH) 0.61, (EtOAc) 0.50. Anal. (C₄₉H₇₉N₅O₇) C, H, N.

Also obtained from the column was *N*-octyl-*O*-*tert*-butyltyrosylglycylglycylphenylalanyl-leucine methyl ester (110 mg, 28.7%) as a glass: [α]_D²⁵ –13.4° (c 0.94, MeOH); R_f (CH₂Cl₂/10% MeOH) 0.51, (EtOAc) 0.21. Anal. (C₄₁H₆₃N₅O₇·1/2H₂O) C, H, N.

***N,N*-Di-2-phenethyl-*O*-*tert*-butyltyrosylglycylglycylphenylalanyl-leucine Methyl Ester (19e).** Compound 18 (325 mg, 0.519 mmol), *N,N*-diisopropylethylamine (186 mg, 1.44 mmol), and 2-phenethyl tosylate (0.725 g, 2.62 mmol) in dry toluene (1.25 mL) were combined as described for 19c and refluxed under N₂ for 4 h. Isolation and column chromatography as described above yielded 108 mg (24.9%) of 19e, which was crystallized from EtOAc/petroleum ether: mp 86–88 °C; [α]_D²⁵ –1.1° (c 0.56, MeOH); R_f (CH₂Cl₂/10% MeOH) 0.58, (EtOAc) 0.40. Anal. (C₄₉H₆₃N₅O₇) C, H, N.

Also obtained from the column was *N*-2-phenethyl-*O*-*tert*-butyltyrosylglycylglycylphenylalanyl-leucine methyl ester (195 mg, 51.3%) as a glass: [α]_D²⁵ –18.9° (c 1.0, MeOH); R_f (CH₂Cl₂/10% MeOH) 0.49, (EtOAc) 0.20. Anal. (C₄₁H₅₅N₅O₇·1/2H₂O) C, H, N.

***N,N*-Dibenzyltyrosylglycylglycylphenylalanyl-leucine ([*N,N*-Dibenzyl,Leu⁵]enkephalin, 3).** The methyl ester 19a (100 mg, 0.124 mmol) was hydrolyzed at 25 °C in 0.25 N NaOH (0.60 mL, 0.15 mmol) and THF (1.25 mL) for 5.75 h according to method C. After dilution with H₂O (30–40 mL), the basic solution was extracted with Et₂O (3 × 10 mL). The Et₂O extracts were back-extracted with 0.25 N NaOH (2 × 2 mL) and the combined aqueous layers neutralized to pH 6 with 1 N HCl and extracted exhaustively with CHCl₃ (5 × 20 mL). The CHCl₃ extracts were dried (Na₂SO₄) and evaporated to give the free acid [*N,N*-dibenzyl-*O*-*tert*-butyl,Leu⁵]enkephalin (72 mg, 73.2%): R_f (CH₂Cl₂/10% MeOH) 0.28. This compound was then deprotected with 50% trifluoroacetic acid and 10% anisole in CH₂Cl₂ (1.5 mL total volume) at 25 °C for 2.75 h, as described in method D. Purification by reverse-phase column chromatography (H₂O/50–100% MeOH gradient) gave 60 mg (89.7%) of 3 as a solid: [α]_D²⁵ –23.2° (c 0.50, MeOH); HPLC (MeOH/30% buffer) k' = 2.22 (t_r = 10.7 min), (MeOH/40–20% buffer over 10 min) k' = 3.64 (t_r = 16.9 min). Anal. (C₄₂H₄₉N₅O₇·1/2H₂O) C, H, N.

***N,N*-Dipropyltyrosylglycylglycylphenylalanyl-leucine ([*N,N*-Dipropyl,Leu⁵]enkephalin, 4).** The methyl ester 19b (87.5 mg, 0.123 mmol) was hydrolyzed at 25 °C for 7.5 h and the free acid [*N,N*-dipropyl-*O*-*tert*-butyl,Leu⁵]enkephalin (67.5 mg, 78.7%) isolated as described above under compound 3: R_f (CH₂Cl₂/10% MeOH) 0.22. The acid was treated with 50% trifluoroacetic acid and 10% anisole in CH₂Cl₂ (1.5 mL total volume) at 25 °C for 2.5 h and purified first by silica gel column chromatography (CH₂Cl₂/0–20% MeOH gradient) and then by C₈ reverse-phase column chromatography (MeOH/50% H₂O) to give 42.5 mg (68.4%) of 4 as a solid: [α]_D²⁵ +20.1° (c 0.50, MeOH); R_f (CH₂Cl₂/20% MeOH) 0.25, (RP, MeOH/30% H₂O) 0.38;

HPLC (MeOH/40% buffer) k' = 1.24 (t_r = 7.9 min), (MeOH/50–30% buffer over 10 min) k' = 2.97 (t_r = 15.5 min). Anal. (C₃₄H₄₉N₅O₇·H₂O) C, H, N.

***N,N*-Dipentyltyrosylglycylglycylphenylalanyl-leucine ([*N,N*-Dipentyl,Leu⁵]enkephalin, 5).** The methyl ester 19c (95 mg, 0.124 mmol) was hydrolyzed at 25 °C for 6 h and the acid (43.5 mg, 46.7%) isolated as described under compound 3: R_f (CH₂Cl₂/10% MeOH) 0.25. Treatment with 50% trifluoroacetic acid and 10% anisole in CH₂Cl₂ (1.1 mL total volume) at 25 °C for 3 h and purification by C₈ reverse-phase column chromatography (H₂O/50–100% MeOH gradient) gave 22.5 mg (56.0%) of 5 as a solid: [α]_D²⁵ +5.3° (c 0.50, MeOH); R_f (RP, MeOH/15% H₂O) 0.68; HPLC (MeOH/30% buffer) k' = 1.90 (t_r = 9.6 min), (MeOH/40–20% buffer over 10 min) k' = 3.44 (t_r = 15.2 min). Anal. Calcd for C₃₈H₅₇N₅O₇: C, 65.59; H, 8.26; N, 10.06. Found: 62.04; H, 7.77; N, 9.41 (94.1% organic).

***N,N*-Diocetyltyrosylglycylglycylphenylalanyl-leucine ([*N,N*-Diocetyl,Leu⁵]enkephalin, 6).** The methyl ester 19d (104 mg, 0.127 mmol) was hydrolyzed at 25 °C for 5.75 h and the acid (68.5 mg, 67.2%) isolated as described above under compound 3: R_f (CH₂Cl₂/10% MeOH) 0.32. Treatment with 50% trifluoroacetic acid and 10% anisole in CH₂Cl₂ (1.65 mL total volume) at 25 °C for 3 h and purification by C₈ reverse-phase column chromatography (H₂O/50–100% MeOH gradient) gave 38.5 mg (60.2%) of 6 as a solid: [α]_D²⁵ +8.3° (c 0.50, MeOH); HPLC (MeOH/20% buffer) k' = 3.58 (t_r = 14.9 min), (MeOH/30–10% buffer over 10 min) k' = 4.49 (t_r = 18.5 min). Anal. (C₄₄H₆₉N₅O₇) C, H, N.

***N,N*-Di-2-phenethyltyrosylglycylglycylphenylalanyl-leucine ([*N,N*-Diphenethyl,Leu⁵]enkephalin, 7).** The methyl ester 19e (53 mg, 0.064 mmol) was hydrolyzed at 25 °C for 5.5 h as described above. The reaction mixture was neutralized with 1 N HCl to pH 6, the THF evaporated, and the crude product purified by C₈ reverse-phase column chromatography (H₂O/50–100% MeOH gradient) to give 43 mg (82.5%) of the acid: R_f (CH₂Cl₂/10% MeOH) 0.20. Deprotection with 50% trifluoroacetic acid and 10% anisole in CH₂Cl₂ (1.1 mL total volume) at 25 °C for 3 h as described above and purification by C₈ reverse-phase column chromatography (H₂O/50–100% MeOH gradient) gave 35.5 mg (88.5%) of 7 as a solid: [α]_D²⁵ +3.1° (c 0.50, MeOH); HPLC (MeOH/30% buffer) k' = 2.56 (t_r = 12.2 min), (MeOH/40–20% buffer over 10 min) k' = 3.85 (t_r = 17.3 min). Anal. (C₄₄H₅₃N₅O₇·1/2H₂O) C, H, N.

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Registry No. 1, 85835-41-2; 1-TFA, 107941-88-8; 2, 107941-75-3; 2-TFA, 107959-99-9; 3, 107941-76-4; 4, 107941-77-5; 5, 107941-78-6; 6, 107941-79-7; 7, 107941-80-0; 8, 107941-81-1; 9, 107941-82-2; 10a, 107941-83-3; 10b, 107941-89-9; 11a, 88282-65-9; 11b, 107941-90-2; 12, 28635-78-1; 13a, 107941-84-4; 13b, 107960-00-9; 14, 62565-7-7; 15, 3850-45-1; 16-HCl, 38155-45-2; 17, 107941-85-5; 18, 107941-86-6; 19a, 107941-87-7; 19a (hydrolyzed), 107941-98-0; 19b, 107941-91-3; 19b (hydrolyzed), 107941-99-1; 19c, 107941-92-4; 19c (hydrolyzed), 107942-00-7; 19d, 107941-93-5; 19d (hydrolyzed), 107942-01-8; 19e, 107941-94-6; 19e (hydrolyzed), 107942-02-9; *N*-(benzyloxycarbonyl)-*O*-*tert*-butyltyrosine ethyl ester, 66328-78-7; *N*-(benzyloxycarbonyl)-*O*-*tert*-butyltyrosine, 5545-54-0; glycylglycine ethyl ester hydrochloride, 2087-41-4; allyl bromide, 106-95-6; (bromomethyl)cyclopropane, 7051-34-5; phenylalanyl-leucine, 3303-55-7; isobutylene, 115-11-7; *N*-(benzyloxycarbonyl)phenylalanine, 1161-13-3; leucine methyl ester hydrochloride, 7517-19-3; benzyl bromide, 100-39-0; pentyl tosylate, 4450-76-4; *N*-pentyl-*O*-*tert*-butyltyrosylglycylglycylphenylalanyl-leucine methyl ester, 107941-95-7; propyl tosylate, 599-91-7; octyl tosylate, 3386-35-4; *N*-octyl-*O*-*tert*-butyltyrosylglycylglycylphenylalanyl-leucine methyl ester, 107941-96-8; 2-phenethyl tosylate, 4455-09-8; *N*-2-phenethyl-*O*-*tert*-butyltyrosylglycylglycylphenylalanyl-leucine methyl ester, 107941-97-9.

(40) Bp 188–192 °C (1.13 mmHg).