CO<sub>2</sub>Et

CO<sub>2</sub>Et

**OR** 

NHBn

NHBn

 $\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{H}$ 

15 R = Ac

12

10

## **Transannular Cyclization in Cyclohexanes** by Michael Addition of an Amine onto an $\alpha,\beta$ -Unsaturated Ester: Synthesis of 8-Benzyl-8-azatricyclo[4.2.1.0<sup>3,7</sup>]nonane-7-acetic Acid Ethyl Ester and 7-Benzyl-7-azabicyclo[2.2.1]heptane-1-acetic Acid Ethyl Ester

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Intramolecular cyclization by amine displacement of a leaving group is a key reaction in many syntheses of the 7-azabicyclo[2.2.1]heptane ring system,<sup>1</sup> particularly those directed toward preparing epibatidine.<sup>2,3</sup> While the transannular Michael addition of amines has been utilized in the preparation of tropinones from cyclohepta-2,6-dienone<sup>4,5</sup> and azabicyclo[3.3.1]nonan-3-ones from cycloocta-3,7-dienone,6 no similar reaction has been reported in the cyclohexane ring system.

When the  $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated ester 5 was prepared by Wadsworth-Emmons reaction,<sup>7</sup> it was found that the amine underwent Michael addition onto the double bond of the unsaturated ester. The unsaturated ester 5 was evident in the NMR of the crude product mixture, and it could be precipitated as a salt. However, the free base of 5 cyclized to 8-azatricyclo[4.2.1.0<sup>3,7</sup>]nonane 6 slowly on standing at room temperature, typically reacting at a rate of 10-15% conversion per day when concentrated and more rapidly when diluted. Unsaturated ester 5 could not be purified by chromatography on silica gel, and it gave 95% conversion to azatricyclononane 6 when Kugelrohr distilled (130 °C, 1 Torr).



It seemed that the cyclization to azatricyclononane 6 might be something of a special case because the twocarbon bridge stabilizes the boat conformation of the cyclohexane ring and brings the 1- and 4-"flag-pole" substituents closer together in 5 than in unconstrained cyclohexanes. Since this type of transannular Michael

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1) H<sub>2</sub>, Pd/C Ac<sub>2</sub>O 13 It was then discovered that the cyclization could be

Catalyst

(Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> or SiO<sub>2</sub>)

10

catalyzed by neutral alumina.8 With this catalyst, a maximum conversion of around 45% to cyclized product 11 could be achieved in ethyl ether, dioxane, or toluene heated under reflux. After prolonged reaction, the deconjugated ester 12 began to build at the expense of the azabicycloheptane 11 and starting ester 10. In refluxing toluene, ester 10 and an equal weight of neutral alumina gave a 29:42:28 mixture of 10:11:12 after 4 h of reflux. Using 10-fold more catalyst for only 1 h gave a 17:33:46 mixture, but only 36% of the material could be recovered.

addition was unprecedented in cyclohexanes, the reaction

was attempted with the simple cyclohexane analog. In this case, the cyclization did not occur spontaneously and

the unsaturated ester 10 could be easily isolated. The

first hint that cyclization could be induced was the

formation of the 7-azabicyclo[2.2.1]heptane 11, to the

extent of about 10% conversion, when the unsaturated

amino ester 10 was Kugelrohr distilled. Repeated distillation or flash vacuum pyrolysis ultimately produced

mixtures with up to 45% azabicycloheptane 11, but substantial amounts of material were lost as nonvolatile

byproducts. There was also a buildup of unconjugated

ester 12, and results were highly variable. Heating the unsaturated ester 10 alone tended to cause deconjugation

rather than cyclization. Heating 10 in toluene under

1) BnNH<sub>2</sub>, NaBH<sub>3</sub>CN

3) (EtO)2POCH2CO2Et

11

CO<sub>2</sub>Et

HOAC, MeOH

NaH, THF

reflux for 3 h caused no detectable reaction.

2) HCI, H<sub>2</sub>O

To avoid the base-catalyzed double bond isomerization of 10 to 12, more acidic catalysts were investigated. Both acidic alumina and silica gel proved to be effective catalysts that minimized the amount of double bond deconjugation during the equilibration of 10 and 11. Chromatography grade silica gel was the more active catalyst by weight. The amino ester 10 and an equal weight of silica gel heated in toluene under reflux afforded a 44:56 equilibrium mixture of 10 and the azabicycloheptane 11 in less than 38 min. The same equilibrium ratio was obtained starting from azabicycloheptane 11. There was less than 1% conversion to deconjugated ester 12.

The cyclized tertiary amine 11 is less polar than the secondary amine starting material 10. Consequently,

<sup>(1)</sup> Hassner, A.; Belostotskii, A. M. Tetrahedron Lett. 1995, 36, 1709. (2) Corey, E. J.; Loh, T.-P.; AchyuthaRao, S.; Daley, D. C.; Sarshar,

<sup>(</sup>a) Fletcher, S. R.; Baker, R.; Chambers, M. S.; Herbert, R. H.;
(b) Hobbs, S. C.; Thomas, S. R.; Verrier, H. M.; Watt, A. P.; Ball, R. G. J.
(c) Org. Chem. 1994, 59, 1771.

<sup>(6)</sup> Wiseman, J. R.; Krabbenhoft, H. O.; Lee, R. E. J. Org. Chem. 1977, 42, 629.

<sup>(8)</sup> Danishefsky, S. J.; Pearson, W. H. J. Org. Chem. 1983, 48, 3865.

there should be a shift in equilibrium toward 11 as the reaction solvent becomes less polar. Indeed, equilibration in refluxing heptane afforded a 34:66 mixture of 10 and 11.

The amount of catalyst employed had a direct effect on the reaction rate. The reaction of amino ester 10 in the presence of 10% by weight of silica gel in heptane heated under reflux took about 14 h to equilibrate. Despite the slower reaction rate, using a minimum amount of catalyst had the advantage of higher material recovery after filtration.

Convenient isolation of azabicycloheptane 11 was achieved after first reacting the crude product mixture with acetic anhydride. When the acetylation of secondary amines 10 and 12 was complete, the azabicycloheptane 11 was selectively extracted into aqueous acid and recovered after treatment with base. This typically gave product 11 of >95% purity without any chromatography during the four-step synthesis, in an overall yield of 35– 45% from cyclohexane-1,4-dione monoketal (7). Some samples of azabicycloheptane 11 showed partial conversion back to 10 upon storage as the free base, possibly due to catalysis by glass. Storage in the cold or as a salt is advisable.

The cyclization of 5 to 6 was reexamined under conditions that equilibrated 10 and 11. A freshly prepared sample of 5 underwent complete conversion to azatricyclononane 6 when heated in heptane under reflux with 10% by weight of silica gel. No uncyclized starting material 5 could be detected by <sup>1</sup>H NMR after 45 min. Even without added catalyst, about 20% cyclization occurred after 45 min under these conditions. This facile silica gel catalyzed cyclization explains the earlier failure to isolate 5 by chromatography.

The NMR spectra of the cyclized amines **6** and **11** showed evidence of slow inversion at the pyramidal nitrogen, as is typical with this ring system.<sup>9</sup> The signal due to the *N*-benzyl CH<sub>2</sub> was broadened in the <sup>1</sup>H NMR at room temperature, as were several signals in the <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum. The NMR spectra of salts of **6** and **11** in some cases showed evidence of asymmetry due to slow proton exchange at the nitrogen chiral center while in others proton exchange was fast enough that the symmetry appeared to be preserved. The <sup>1</sup>H-COSY of **6** showed coupling entirely consistent with the conformation of the azatricyclo[4.2.1.0<sup>3,7</sup>]nonane ring system.

The fact that the azabicycloheptane 11 is thermodynamically favored over the unsaturated ester 10 is not easily predictable from simple calculations of steric strain and bond energies. Modified MM2 calculations<sup>10</sup> suggest that the azabicycloheptane 11 is more sterically strained than 10 by around 16 kcal/mol, while bond energy estimates<sup>11</sup> indicate addition of the amine to the double bond could provide between 7 and 20 kcal/mol. Evidently, the change in bond energy is sufficient to compensate for the increased steric strain.

The azabicycloheptane 11 has a new, easily accessible, achiral structural motif that may be viewed as a homoproline derivative or a nortropane. The ester is easily reduced with LAH to the alcohol 13 which may be elaborated without ring-opening of the azabicycloheptane. The amine may be deprotected (e.g., 13 to 14) and then further derivatized (e.g., 14 to 15). The synthetic route also allows the incorporation of different N-alkyl side chains by starting with primary amines other than benzylamine. The azabicycloheptane 11 should find a wide range of uses as a unique entity for exploitation in medicinal chemistry.

## **Experimental Section**

**General.** MS (CI) were obtained with ionization by 1% NH<sub>3</sub> in CH<sub>4</sub>. Elemental analyses were performed by the Analytical Section at Parke-Davis or by Robertson Labs. GC's were obtained on a 2 m 10% SE-30 column at 140 °C for 1 min and then heated to 240 °C over 10 min with He carrier gas (flow rate: 4 m/min) and flame ionization detection. Salts were prepared from the base and a slight excess of the acid in Et<sub>2</sub>O or EtOH and were then triturated with anhydrous Et<sub>2</sub>O. Salts were converted to amine free bases by dissolution in water, addition of 1 equiv of K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, and extraction into Et<sub>2</sub>O. Starting materials were purchased from Aldrich Chemical Co. or prepared by cited methods.

4-Methylphenylsulfonic Acid  $(1\alpha,3\alpha,5\alpha)$ -Spiro[bicyclo-[3.2.1]octane-8,2'-[1,3]dioxolan]-3-yl Ester (2).  $(1\alpha,3\alpha,5\alpha)$ -Spiro[bicyclo[3.2.1]octane-8,2'-[1,3]dioxolan]-3-ol (1)<sup>12</sup> (11.5 g, 72.7 mmol) in pyridine (80 mL) was stirred with *p*-toluenesulfonyl chloride (20.5 g, 106 mmol) at rt for 6 d. Water (10 mL) was added over 30 min with cooling on ice. After 1 h, water (60 mL) was added, and the separated oil was stirred or seeded) to induce crystallization. The solid was filtered off, washed with water, and air dried to afford pure tosylate 2 (17.96 g, 85% yield), mp 93-94.5 °C: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.74 (d, J = 8 Hz, 2 H), 7.29 (d, J = 8 Hz, 2 H), 4.72 (t, J = 5.1 Hz, 1 H), 3.84 (m, 4 H), 2.40 (s, 3 H), 2.15 (dd, J = 15.6, 4.9 Hz, 2 H), 1.8 (m, 8 H); MS (CI) m/z (relative intensity) 339 (2.5, MH<sup>+</sup>), 167 (100, M – OTs + H<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup>). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>22</sub>O<sub>5</sub>S<sub>1</sub>: C, 60.34; H, 6.55. Found: C, 60.12; H, 6.54.

 $(1\alpha, 3\beta, 5\alpha)$ -N-(Phenylmethyl)spiro[bicyclo[3.2.1]octane-8,2'-[1,3]dioxolan]-3-amine (3). The tosylate 2 (5.11 g, 15.1 mmol) and benzylamine (20 mL) were stirred and heated at 60 °C for 24 h. Most of the remaining benzylamine was distilled off at up to 70 °C under vacuum (1 Torr). The residue was treated with aqueous Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O, and column chromatographed on silica gel with i-PrOH/CHCl<sub>3</sub> (1:40 to 1:6 gradient) to afford the amine 3 (1.64 g, 39% yield) as an oil: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.29 (m, 4 H), 7.22 (m, 1 H), 3.89 (s, 4 H), 3.75 (s, 2 H), 2.82 (m, 1 H), 1.83 (m, 6 H), 1.62 (t, J = 11.5 Hz, 2 H),1.40 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2 H), 1.3 (br s, 1H, NH); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  140.3, 128.4 (2 C), 128.2 (2 C), 126.6, 116.6, 64.7, 63.8, 51.3, 48.6, 38.8 (2 C), 36.4 (2 C), 25.4 (2 C); MS (CI) m/z (relative intensity) 274 (100, MH<sup>+</sup>). Note: Benzylamine must be removed before the ketal hydrolysis to avoid problems with imine formation during the isolation of ketone 4.

 $(1\alpha, 3\beta, 5\alpha)$ -3-[(Phenylmethyl)amino]bicyclo[3.2.1]octan-8-one (4). The ketal 3 (1.63 g, 6 mmol) was heated in 1 M aqueous HCl (20 mL) at 70 °C for 8 h. The solution was treated with  $K_2CO_3$  (3 g) and extracted with  $Et_2O$  (2 × 30 mL). The extract was dried and concentrated to give crude product (1.23 g, 95% pure by GC). Recrystallization from hexane-Et<sub>2</sub>O gave pure ketone 4 (1.05 g, 77% yield) as colorless crystals, mp 86–87.5 °C:  $^{1}$ H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.29 (m, 4 H), 7.22 (m, 1 H), 3.76 (s, 2 H), 3.21 (m, 1 H), 2.20 (m, 4 H), 1.93 (m, 2 H), 1.73 (m, 4 H), 1.7 (br s, 1 H, NH);  $^{13}$ C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  139.8 (br s), 128.5 (2 C), 128.1 (2 C), 127.1, 51.6, 49.2 (br s), 42.8 (2 C), 42.2 (br s), 23.3 (br s) (no peak due the ketone C was observed, possibly due to broadening caused by reversible hemiaminal formation); IR (KBr) no significant carbonyl absorption peak, possibly due to hemiaminal formation in the solid state;  $\overline{\mathrm{MS}}$  (CI) m/z (relative intensity) 230 (100, MH<sup>+</sup>). Anal. Calcd for  $C_{15}H_{19}N_1O_1$ : C, 78.56; H, 8.35; N, 6.11. Found: C, 78.29; H, 8.39; N, 6.08.

[ $(1\alpha, 3\beta, 5\alpha)$ -3-[(Phenylmethyl)amino]bicyclo[3.2.1]oct-8ylidene]acetic Acid Ethyl Ester (5). Sodium hydride (60% dispersion in oil, 0.156 g, 3.9 mmol) was washed with hexanes  $(2 \times 3 \text{ mL})$  and stirred in THF (5 mL) with cooling on ice while triethyl phosphonoacetate (0.77 mL, 0.87 g, 3.9 mmol) was added

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<sup>(10)</sup> CSC Chem3D Plus, V3.1; Cambridge Scientific Computing: Cambridge, 1993.

<sup>(11)</sup> March, J. Advanced Organic Chemistry, 3rd ed.; John Wiley & Sons: New York, 1985.

<sup>(12)</sup> Povarny, M.; Scheibner, P.; Kraiss, G.; Nador, K. Tetrahedron Lett. 1984, 25, 1311.

dropwise. After 5 min, ketone 4 (0.638g, 2.79 mmol) was added as a solid under a stream of N2. The solution was stirred at rt for 45 min, and then 5% aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (15 mL) and Et<sub>2</sub>O (35 mL) were added. The Et<sub>2</sub>O layer was washed with water (5 mL) and saturated NaCl (5 mL), dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and concentrated to an oil (0.97 g) containing mainly 5 and (EtO)<sub>2</sub>POCH<sub>2</sub>-CO<sub>2</sub>Et (approximately 0.3 equiv) by <sup>1</sup>H NMR. The peaks ascribed to 5 are: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) & 7.29 (m, 4 H), 7.22 (m, 1 H), 5.59 (s, 1 H), 4.12 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2 H), 3.77 (br s, 1 H), 3.73 (s, 2 H), 3.02 (m, 1 H), 2.56 (br s, 1 H), 2.12 (m, 2 H), 1.75-1.35 (m's, 7 H), 1.23 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3 H). Hydrochloride salt of 5: mp 193–196 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  9.2 (br s, 2 H, NH<sub>2</sub>), 7.52 (m, 2 H), 7.35 (m, 3 H), 4.05 (br s, 2 H), 4.04 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 2 H), 3.89 (m, 1 H), 3.47 (m, 1 H), 2.69 (m, 1 H), 2.21 (m, 2 H), 1.75-1.5 (m's, 6 H), 1.15 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (DMSO - d<sub>6</sub>) 171.2, 166.2, 132.8, 130.5 (2 C), 129.3, 129.0 (2 C), 107.8, 59.8, 50.8, 48.3, 41.8, 38.3, 37.0, 35.7, 26.4, 25.2, 14.6; IR (KBr) 1711, 1670 cm<sup>-1</sup>; MS (CI) m/z (relative intensity) 300 (100, MH<sup>+</sup>). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>25</sub>N<sub>1</sub>O<sub>2</sub>·HCl: C, 67.94; H, 7.80; N, 4.17; Cl, 10.56. Found: C, 67.57; H, 7.92; N, 4.09; Cl, 10.56.

8-Benzyl-8-azatricyclo[4.2.1.0<sup>3,7</sup>]nonane-7-acetic Acid Ethyl Ester (6). The crude mixture containing 5 (0.97 g) was stirred with silica gel (0.098 g, 230-400 mesh for chromatography) in heptane (20 mL) and heated under reflux overnight. The solution was filtered, the residue was rinsed with Et<sub>2</sub>O, and the filtrate was concentrated to an oil (0.95 g) containing 6 and (EtO)<sub>2</sub>POCH<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>Et (approximately 0.3 equiv) and no trace of 5 by <sup>1</sup>H NMR. The crude product in  $Et_2O$  (5 mL) was added to oxalic acid (0.26 g) in Et<sub>2</sub>O. The gummy oxalate salt was triturated with Et<sub>2</sub>O but showed no signs of crystallization after 3 d. The oxalate salt was dissolved in water (20 mL), excess NaHCO3 was added, and the mixture was extracted with Et2O (2  $\times$  30 mL). The extract was dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated to afford 6 as an oil (0.687 g, 82% yield from 4). Kugelrohr distillation (120-140 °C, 1 Torr) of 0.303 g afforded 0.298 g of 6 (pure by GC):  ${}^{1}H$  NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.30 (d, 2 H), 7.25 (t, 2), 7.18 (t, 1 H), 4.11 (q, 2 H), 3.57 (br s, 2 H, PhCH<sub>2</sub>N), 2.91 (t, 1H, 1-H), 2.56 (s, 2H, 7-CH<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>Et), 2.28 (m, 2 H, 3-H, 6-H), 2.13 (m, 2 H, 2b-H, 9b-H), 1.86 (m, 2 H, 4b-H, 5b-H), 1.60 (d, J = 8Hz, 2 H, 4a-H, 5a-H), 1.20 (t, 3 H), 0.93 (d, J = 11.7 Hz, 2 H, 2a-H, 9a-H); <sup>1</sup>H COSY shows coupling of  $\delta$  2.91 with 2.13, 2.28 with 2.13, 2.28 with 1.86, 2.13 with 0.93, 1.86 with 1.60, 4.11 with 1.20; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  171.5, 140.4, 128.7 (2 C), 128.1 (2 C), 126.5, 78.1, 60.3, 56.7, 41.9, 39.1 (br s), 35.0, 28.7, 14.2; MS (CI) m/z (relative intensity) 300 (100, MH<sup>+</sup>); IR (LF) 1732 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Anal. Calcd for  $C_{19}H_{25}N_1O_2$ : C, 76.22; H, 8.42; N, 4.68. Found: C, 76.10; H, 8.53; N, 4.59.

N-(Phenylmethyl)-1,4-dioxaspiro[4.5]decan-8-amine (8).<sup>13</sup> Cyclohexane-1,4-dione monoethylene glycol ketal (29.3 g, 0.188 mol) in MeOH (200 mL) was stirred with benzylamine (22.1 g, 24.8 mL, 0.206 mol) and acetic acid (12.4 g, 11.8 mL, 0.206 mol) with cooling on ice while sodium cyanoborohydride (11.4 g, 0.188 mol) was added in portions over 15 min. The solution was stirred at rt overnight, and then 1 M aqueous NaOH (30 mL) was added and most of the MeOH was removed under vacuum. Additional 1 M NaOH (200 mL) was added, and the mixture was extracted with  $Et_2O$  (150 mL then 3  $\times$  50 mL). The combined extracts were washed with 1 M NaOH (50 mL), dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and concentrated under vacuum to afford the crude amino ketal 8 as an oil: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) & 7.29 (m, 4 H), 7.22 (m, 1 H), 3.90 (s, 4 H), 3.85 (s, 2H) 2.58 (m, 1 H), 1.88 (m, 2 H), 1.76 (m, 2 H), 1.48 (m, 4 H), 1.3 (br s, 1 H, NH); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 140.9, 128.4 (2 C), 128.0 (2 C), 126.8, 108.7, 64.3, 64.2, 54.4, 51.26, 32.8 (2 C), 30.1 (2 C).

4-[(Phenylmethyl)amino]cyclohexanone (9).<sup>14</sup> The crude amino ketal 8 was extracted into 1 M aqueous HCl (250 mL). After 15 min, GC of a basified aliquot showed 93% deprotection, and this was unchanged after 1 h. The solution was treated slowly with K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (100 g) and extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (150 mL then  $3 \times 50$  mL). The combined Et<sub>2</sub>O extract was washed with water (2 × 50 mL) and then extracted with 1 M HCl (150 mL then 3 × 50 mL). After 25 min, the HCl extract was treated with K<sub>2</sub>-CO<sub>3</sub> and extracted as above, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, and concentrated under vacuum to afford the amino ketone (9) (26.5 g, 69% yield from 6, 99% pure by GC): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.29 (m, 4 H), 7.22 (m, 1 H), 3.78 (s, 2 H), 2.95 (m, 1 H), 2.45 (m, 2 H), 2.24 (m, 2 H), 2.03 (m, 2 H), 1.69 (m, 2 H), 1.3 (br s, 1 H, NH); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  211.5, 140.4, 128.5 (2 C), 128.0 (2 C), 127.1, 52.9, 51.5, 38.37 (2 C), 31.9 (2 C); IR (LF) 1712 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Hydrochloride salt, mp 230–235 °C dec: MS (CI) m/z (relative intensity) 204 (97, MH<sup>+</sup>), 146 (100); IR (KBr) 1727 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>17</sub>-N<sub>1</sub>O<sub>1</sub>-HCl: C, 65.13; H, 7.57; N, 5.84; Cl, 14.79. Found: C, 64.89; H, 7.47; N, 5.99; Cl, 15.01.

[4-[(Phenylmethyl)amino]cyclohexylidene]acetic Acid Ethyl Ester (10). Triethyl phosphonoacetate (25.8 mL, 29.1 mL, 0.13 mol) was added to NaH (5.20 g of 60% dispersion in oil, washed with hexanes, 0.13 mol) stirred in THF (200 mL) with cooling on ice. After 20 min, the aminoketone 9 (20.2 g, 0.1 mol) in THF (20 mL) was added, and the solution was stirred in the cold for 30 min and at rt for 1 h. Saturated NaHCO3 (200 mL) was added, and the THF was removed under vacuum. The residue was extracted with  $Et_2O$  (200 mL then 2  $\times$  100 mL). The combined extracts were dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>) and treated with HCl gas until precipitation of solid was complete. The solid was filtered off, washed thoroughly with Et<sub>2</sub>O, and vacuum dried to afford the hydrochloride salt of 10 (28.45 g, 91% yield), mp 189-191 °C (softens above 183 °C): MS (CI) m/z (relative intensity) 174 (100, MH<sup>+</sup>); IR (KBr) 1711, 1650 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Anal. Calcd for  $C_{17}H_{23}N_1O_2$ ·HCl: C, 65.90; H, 7.81; N, 4.52; Cl, 11.44. Found: C, 65.62; H, 7.77; N, 4.68; Cl, 11.85. Free base: <sup>1</sup>H NMR & 7.29 (m, 4 H), 7.22 (m, 1 H), 5.59 (s, 1 H), 4.10 (q, J = 7 Hz, 2 H), 3.79 (s, 2 H), 3.57 (d t, J = 15, 3 Hz, 1 H), 2.74 (m, 1 H), 2.32 (d H)t, J = 14, 4 Hz, 1 H), 2.14 (m, 2 H), 1.99 (m, 2 H), 1.4 (br s, 1 H, NH), 1.33 (m, 2 H), 1.23 (t, J = 7 Hz, 3 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ 166.7, 161.9, 140.7, 128.4 (2 C), 128.0 (2 C), 126.9, 113.6, 59.5, 54.8, 51.2, 35.3, 34.1, 33.4, 26.9, 14.3.

7-Benzyl-7-azabicyclo[2.2.1]heptane-1-acetic Acid Ethyl Ester (11). The amino ester 10 (24.5 g, 89.7 mmol) and silica gel (2.5 g, 230-400 mesh) were stirred in heptane (500 mL) heated under reflux for 16 h. The solution was filtered and concentrated under vacuum. Acetic anhydride (5 mL, 53 mmol) was added to the residue (24.5 g) in  $Et_2O$  (100 mL), and the solution was heated under reflux for 3 h. The cooled solution was diluted with  $Et_2O(150 \text{ mL})$  and then extracted with water (100 mL) and 0.3 M aqueous HCl ( $2 \times 75$  mL). The combined extracts were washed with  $Et_2O(25 \text{ mL})$  and then treated with  $K_2CO_3$  (18 g) portionwise. The mixture was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O  $(3 \times 100 \text{ mL})$ , and the extract was dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated under vacuum to give azabicycloheptane 11 (14.9 g, 61% yield) as an oil: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.31 (d, J = 7 Hz, 2 H), 7.26 (t, J = 7 Hz, 2 H), 7.19 (t, J = 7 Hz, 1 H), 4.10 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2 H), 3.44 (br s, 2 H), 3.11 (t, J = 4.5 Hz, 1 H), 2.61 (s, 2 H),  $1.81-1.66 \text{ (m, 4 H)}, 1.59 \text{ (m, 2 H)}, 1.28 \text{ (m, 2 H)}, 1.21 \text{ (t, } J = 7.1 \text{ (m, 2 H)}, 1.21 \text{ (t, } J = 7.1 \text{ (m, 2 H)}, 1.21 \text{ (t, } J = 7.1 \text{ (m, 2 H)}, 1.21 \text{ (m,$ Hz, 3 H);  $^{13}\mathrm{C}$  NMR (CDCl\_3)  $\delta$  171.6, 140.4, 128.6 (2 C), 128.1 (2 C), 126.6, 65.6, 60.3, 59.0 (CH by APT), 49.1, 39.3, 33.5 (br s), 28.4 (br s), 14.2; MS (CI) 274 (100, MH<sup>+</sup>); IR (LF) 1735  $\rm cm^{-1}$ (C=O). Oxalate salt, mp 123-125 °C: MS (CI) m/z (relative intensity) 274 (100, MH<sup>+</sup>), 273 (56, M<sup>+</sup>); IR (KBr) 1733 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>23</sub>N<sub>1</sub>O<sub>2</sub>·C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>: C, 62.8; H, 6.93; N, 3.85. Found: C, 62.41; H, 6.77; N, 3.74. Fumarate salt, mp 110-112 °C: IR (KBr) 1731 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Anal. Calcd for  $C_{17}H_{23}N_1O_2 \cdot C_4H_4O_4$ : C, 64.77; H, 6.99; N, 3.60. Found: C, 64.56; H 6.95; N, 3.47. Benzenesulfonate salt: mp 73-76 °C. Anal. Calcd for  $C_{17}H_{23}N_1O_2.C_6H_6S_1O_3:\ C,\ \hat{6}4.01;\ H,\ 6.77;\ N,\ 3.25;\ S,\ 7.43.$ Found: C, 64.01; H, 6.77; N, 3.17; S, 7.27.

[4-[(Phenylmethyl)amino]-1-cyclohexene]-1-acetic Acid Ethyl Ester (12). Chromatography (silica gel, 20:1 CHCl<sub>3</sub>/*i*-PrOH) of a mixture containing 10, 11, and 12 produced by reaction of 10 with neutral alumina catalyst in dioxane heated under reflux gave a pure sample of 12: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.29 (m, 4 H), 7.22 (m, 1 H), 5.45 (m, 1H), 4.08 (q, J = 7.4 Hz, 2 H), 3.78 (s, 2 H) 2.91 (s, 2 H), 2.76 (m, 1 H), 2.30 (m, 1 H), 2.06 (m, 2 H), 1.89 (m, 2 H), 1.58 (br s, 1 H, NH), 1.47 (m, 1 H), 1.20 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  171.8, 140.6, 131.1, 128.4 (2 C), 128.0 (2 C), 126.9, 123.6, 60.5, 51.8, 51.1, 43.0, 32.6, 29.0, 27.5, 14.2. Hydrochloride salt: mp 167–168.5 °C; MS (CI) m/z(relative intensity) 274 (100, MH<sup>+</sup>); IR (KBr) 1729 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>23</sub>N<sub>1</sub>O<sub>2</sub>.HCl: C, 65.90; H, 7.81; N, 4.52; Cl, 11.44. Found: C, 65.68; H, 7.87; N, 4.39; Cl, 11.49.

**7-Benzyl-7-azabicyclo[2.2.1]heptane-1-ethanol (13).** The ester 11 (1.95 g, 7.1 mmol) was stirred in  $Et_2O$  (20 mL) while 1

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<sup>(14)</sup> Boyer, F.-D.; Ducrot, P.-H.; Henryon, V.; Soulie, J.; Lallemand, J.-Y. Synlett 1992, 357.

M LiAlH<sub>4</sub> in THF (7 mL, 7 mmol) was added over several minutes. A mild exotherm caused the Et<sub>2</sub>O to boil. The mixture was stirred without heating for 2.5 h, and then 1 M aqueous NaOH (0.5 mL) and satd aqueous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> (1 mL) were added dropwise. After vigorous stirring for 20 min, the mixture was filtered, the residue washed with THF, and the combined filtrate concentrated to give the alcohol 13 (1.64 g) as an oil:  $^{13}\mathrm{C}\ NMR$  $(CDCl_3) \delta 139.7, 128.7 (2C), 128.3 (2C), 67.4, 60.3, 58.9, 48.6.$ 32.7 (br s), 31.6, 27.5 (br s). Conversion to the hydrochloride salt gave a hygroscopic, glassy solid (1.73 g, 91% yield), mp 225-230 °C dec; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>) δ 10.77 (br s, 1 H, NH), 7.69 (m, 2 H), 7.37 (m, 3 H), 5.8 (br m, 1 H, OH), 4.28 (dd, J = 13.4, 3.4 Hz, reduced to d, J = 13 Hz by D<sub>2</sub>O exchange, 1 H), 3.80 (dd, J = 13.4, 9.6 Hz, reduced to d, J = 13 Hz by D<sub>2</sub>O exchange, 1 H), 3.52 (m, 2 H), 3.31 (t, J = 4.5 Hz, 1 H), 2.2-1.78 (m's, 8 H), 1.61 (m, 1 H), 1.52 (m, 1H); MS (CI) m/z (relative intensity) 232 (100, MH<sup>+</sup>). Anal. Calcd for  $C_{15}H_{21}N_1O_1 \cdot HCl - 0.38 H_2O$ : C, 65.60; H, 8.38; N, 5.10; Cl, 12.90; H<sub>2</sub>O, 2.05. Found: C, 65.22; H, 8.58; N, 5.09; Cl, 12.80; H<sub>2</sub>O, 2.49%.

**7-Azabicyclo[2.2.1]heptane-1-ethanol** (14). The hydrochloride salt of 13 (1.00 g) in ethanol (75 mL) was shaken with 20% Pd on carbon (0.2 g) under H<sub>2</sub> (4 atm) for 72 h. The mixture was filtered and concentrated under vacuum. The residue was triturated with Et<sub>2</sub>O to afford the solid, hygroscopic hydrochloride salt of 14 (0.615 g, 92% yield), mp 120–126 °C: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  8.8 (br s, 2 H, NH<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup>), 4.78 (t, J = 5 Hz, 1 H, OH), 3.93 (t, J = 5.7 Hz, 1 H), 3.50 (m, reduced to t, J = 6.5 Hz by D<sub>2</sub>O exchange, 2 H), 1.94 (t, J = 6.5 Hz, 2 H), 1.84 (m, 2 H), 1.65 (m, 4 H), 1.57 (m, 2 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  69.8, 57.0, 56.9, 35.0, 31.4 (2 C), 27.5 (2 C); MS (CI) m/z (relative intensity) 142 (100, MH<sup>+</sup>). Anal. Calcd for  $C_8H_{15}N_1O_1$  - 1.04 HCl - 0.19 H<sub>2</sub>O: C, 52.64; H, 9.07; N, 7.67; Cl, 20.20; H<sub>2</sub>O, 1.88. Found: C, 52.62; H, 9.11; N, 7.61; Cl, 20.22; H<sub>2</sub>O, 1.99. Because of the somethat unsatisfactory elemental analysis of this hygroscopic compound, it was further characterized by derivatization to the acetate-acetamide 15.

7-Acetyl-7-azabicyclo[2.2.1]heptane-1-ethanol Acetate Ester (15). The hydrochloride salt of 14 (0.10 g) was stirred with acetic anhydride (0.5 mL) and Et<sub>3</sub>N (0.2 mL) at 65 °C for 35 min. Water (5 mL) was added, and after 10 min the mixture was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (30 mL). The extract was washed with saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (5 mL) and concentrated to afford 15 as an oil (0.085 g, 66% yield) that was >99% pure by GC and analyzed correctly after Kugelrohr distillation (100 °C, 1 Torr): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  4.17 (t, J = 7 Hz, 2 H), 4.05 (br s, 1 H), 2.56 (t, J = 7 Hz, 2 H), 1.97 (s, 3 H), 1.95 (t, 3 H), 1.7 (m, 4 H), 1.5 (m, 2 H), 1.4 (m, 2 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  171.0, 169.0, 66.5, 58.5 (br s), 34.8 (2 C), 33.1, 29.5 (2 C), 23.6, 21.0; IR (KBr) 1649, 1737 cm<sup>-1</sup>; MS (CI) m/z (relative intensity) 226 (32, MH<sup>+</sup>), 166 (100). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>19</sub>N<sub>1</sub>O<sub>3</sub>: C, 63.98; H, 8.50; N, 6.22. Found: C, 63.68; H, 8.62; N, 6.01.

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