

Conformationally Constrained Nicotines. 1-Pyridinyl-7-azabicyclo[2.2.1]heptane and 1-Pyridinyl-8-azabicyclo[3.2.1]octane Analogues

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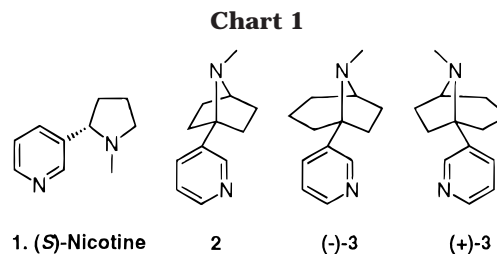
Received January 25, 1999

Conformationally constrained bicyclo analogues of natural (–)-nicotine and unnatural (+)-nicotine have been synthesized from D- and L-glutamic acid, respectively. Regioselective addition of 3-lithiopyridine to the γ -carbonyl of a protected glutamate was followed by intramolecular imine formation and stereospecific catalytic hydrogenation of the resultant pyrroline to give *cis*-5-pyridinylproline. A sequence of transformations to convert the ester to bromide was followed by the key intramolecular anionic cyclization at the benzylic position to form the 1-pyridinyl-7-azabicyclo[2.2.1]heptane analogue. Alternatively, homologation of the ester of *cis*-5-pyridinylproline and conversion to bromide allowed cyclization to the 1-pyridinyl-7-azabicyclo[3.2.1]octane analogues.

Introduction

Nicotinic acetylcholine receptors are a group of ion channel receptors¹ that play an important role in many biological processes related to a number of nervous system disorders. As ligands for the nicotinic acetylcholine receptor,^{2,3} many groups of compounds have been isolated from natural sources or synthesized, of which (–)-nicotine (**1**, Chart 1) and its analogues represent an important class. In particular, nicotine analogues with rigid structures have become interesting targets stimulated by the isolation of the very active but highly toxic epibatidine⁴ from the skin of a South American frog.

The targets in the work we are now reporting have been to synthesize nicotine analogues **2** and **3**, which possess azabicyclo ring systems with an apical nitrogen. The synthetic plan involves coupling of glutamic acid derivatives with 3-metallated pyridine, followed by cyclization to form proline **A**. By subsequent side-chain manipulation, **A** can afford bromide **B** or **C** (Figure 1). The key step then becomes generation of the carbanion at the benzylic position α to the pyridine followed by intramolecular cyclization to construct the bridged system. Depending on the number of carbons in the side chain of the bromide, either a [2.2.1]- or [3.2.1]azabicyclonicotinic analogue will result. Although Beak's pioneering work has presented many examples of metalation and electrophilic substitution at the α -position of an amine derivative^{5,6} (e.g., Boc-protected secondary amines), there were certain unexplored factors introduced by our system. Thus, there has been no report of application of this method to pyridines or to the deprotonation of a tertiary carbon α to the nitrogen. Also, after deprotonation, although an intramolecular cyclization seems to be preferred judging from the ring size, steric effects at the quaternary carbon in forming the bicyclo system might



lead to competitive intermolecular reaction, including quaternization of the pyridine.

Results and Discussion

Synthesis of the Pyridinyl Ketone. Using a number of glutamic acid derivatives and 3-metallopyridines, a variety of conditions and combinations were examined for pyridinyl ketone formation. The first substrate was *N*-*tert*-butyloxycarbonyl-L-glutamic acid α -*tert*-butyl ester (**4**)⁷ as its tetrahydrofuran ester.⁸ In its reaction with the original Grignard reagent derived from 3-bromopyridine, a disappointing 30% yield of pyridinyl ketone **8** was obtained.

Since a quite satisfactory yield of the corresponding anisoyl ketone had resulted when the isoxazolidide **5** was treated with anisoyllithium,⁷ this combination was applied to the preparation of the pyridinyl ketone. With 3-pyridinyl lithium^{9,10} and isoxazolidide **5**, an improved yield of 69% of ketone **8** was realized. Substitution of the 3-pyridinyl Grignard reagent led to a decreased yield of 50%.

The most convenient and efficacious process was found to be the coupling of 3-pyridinyl lithium with the readily available *N*-Boc pyroglutamate esters¹¹ **6** and **7**. With *tert*-butyl ester **6**, a 73% yield of pyridinyl ketone **8** was realized, while methyl ester **7** gave the corresponding

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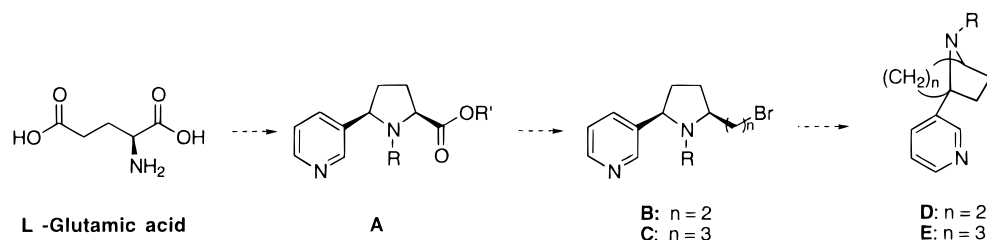
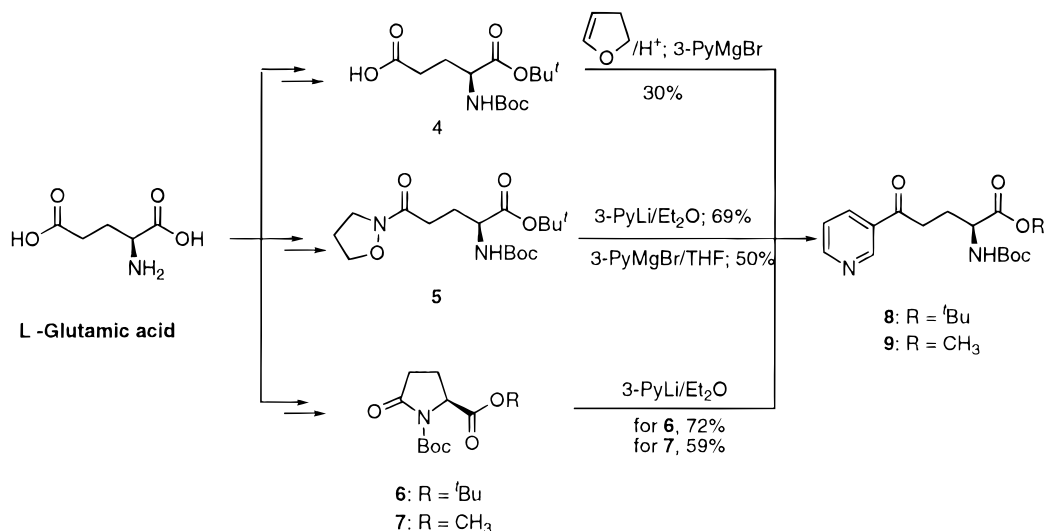


Figure 1. Proposed synthesis of the [2.2.1] and [3.2.1] azabicyclonicotine analogues.

Scheme 1. Synthesis of Pyridinyl Ketones



ketone **9** in 59% yield. These results are collated in Scheme 1.

Intramolecular Cyclization to the Proline Derivatives. Our initial intention was to selectively remove the *N*-Boc group without affecting the *tert*-butyl ester of **8**.¹² The free amine and the ketone functionalities thus could undergo intramolecular condensation to form the pyrroline under treatment with mild base, and subsequent reduction would produce the proline derivative. Removal of the *N*-Boc group, however, was not sufficiently selective and a partial removal of the *tert*-butyl ester was observed under various conditions. As a result, the plan was to remove both the *N*-Boc and *tert*-butyl ester groups under more strongly acidic conditions, then to re-esterify the acid. This was accomplished by treatment of **8** with saturated HCl in MeOH from which a 75% yield of keto-methyl ester **10** was obtained. A major side product was the ketal-methyl ester **11**, which could be easily hydrolyzed to ketone **10** at pH 1–2 with aqueous HCl. On the other hand, when methyl ester **9** was used, treatment with 3 M HCl in EtOAc afforded the single product **10**. After isolation using base, the pyrroline **12** was obtained in 87% yield. Catalytic hydrogenation of the imine gave the *cis*-proline derivative **13** as the sole product in 95% yield. In another experiment, with NaCNBH₃ as the reducing agent, a mixture of both diastereoisomers with a *cis* to *trans* ratio of 5/4 was isolated, as determined by ¹H NMR. These experiments are summarized in Scheme 2.

Side Chain Extension. With pyridinyl proline **13** in hand, the next task was to extend the carboxylate side chain at the 5-position. For this purpose, the nitrogen was protected as its Boc derivative and the methyl ester was hydrolyzed with LiOH to the acid **16**. A stepwise route utilizing the Arndt–Eistert synthesis^{13,14} was applied to obtain the homologated ester **18**. In this sequence, a mixed anhydride intermediate¹⁵ was superior to the acid chloride for diazoketone formation. Reduction of the ester with Ca(BH₄)₂ afforded both the desired alcohol **19** plus the borane complex of **19**. Use of a large amount of EtOH as solvent instead of a mixture of THF/EtOH¹⁶ suppressed formation of this complex, which can also be broken up by refluxing in EtOH with 400 mol % of diethanolamine.

Our intention was to obtain bromide **21** directly from alcohol **19** using carbon tetrabromide and triphenylphosphine;¹⁷ however, only poor yields of **21** were isolated. An alternative was to prepare the mesylate **20** and to use it directly in the alkylation step or convert it to bromide **21** as the alkylation reagent. All attempts at standard mesylate formation, requiring base, failed; elimination was the major product. A milder way to effect mesylation under essentially neutral conditions is to use the very active mesylating reagent 2-mesyl-5-methylimidazonium triflate.¹⁸ When this reagent was used mesylate **20** was the sole product and treatment with LiBr in acetone afforded bromide **21** in 73% yield. A minor and

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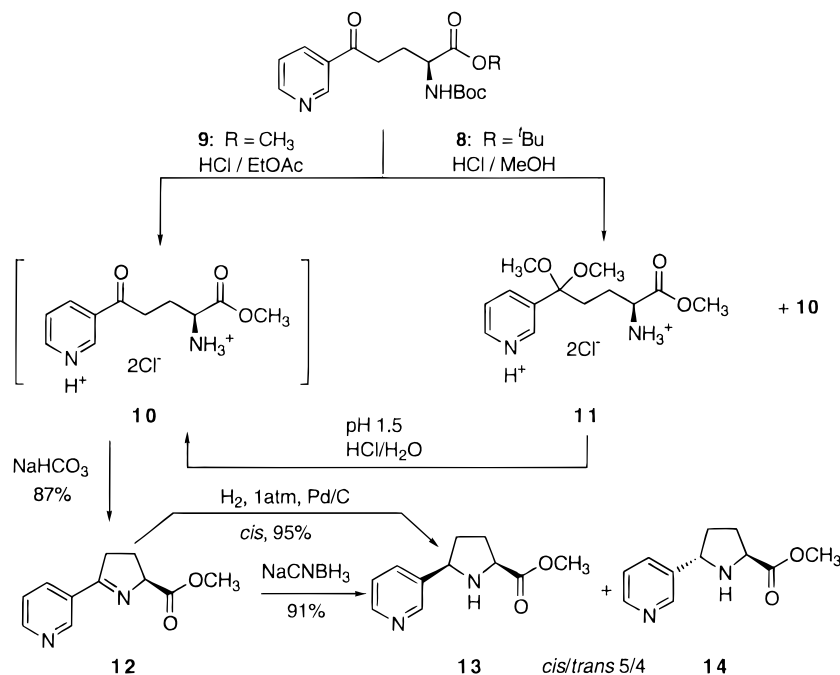
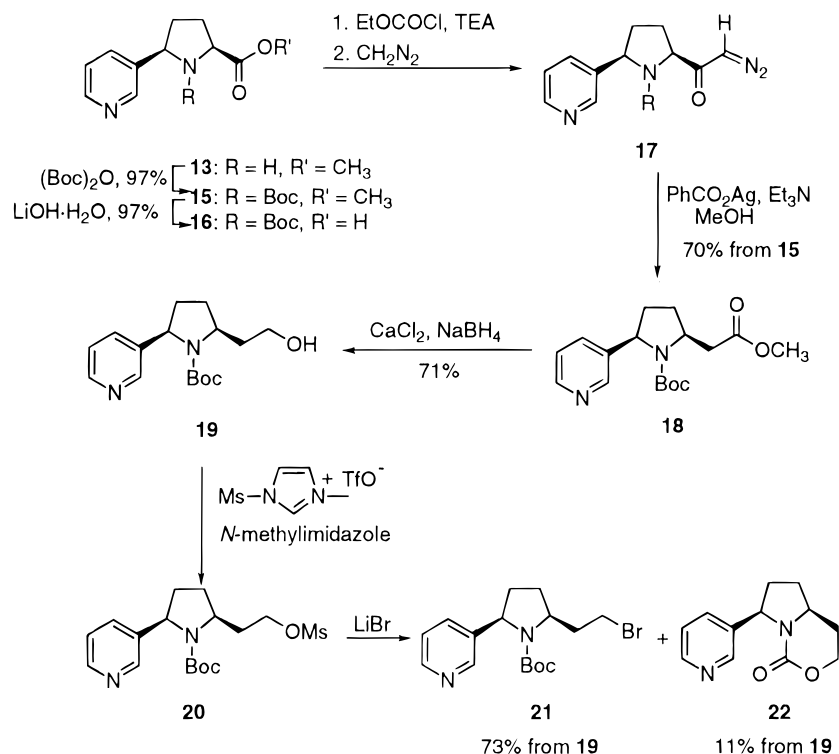
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Scheme 2. Synthesis of 5-Substituted Proline Derivatives

Scheme 3. Synthesis of 5-Pyridinyl-2-bromoethylpyrrolidine **21**

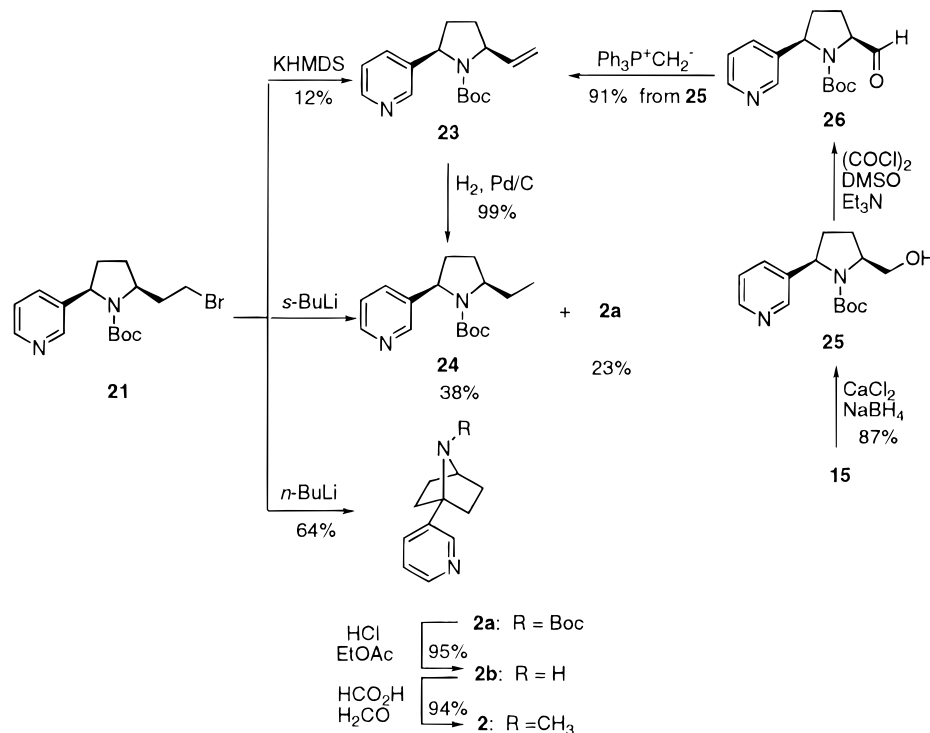
unexpected product was cyclic carbamate **22**, resulting from attack at the carbonyl oxygen of the Boc group by the very active mesylated side chain during bromide formation. Bromide **21** was not stable, due to alkylation of the pyridine nitrogen by the side chain bromide. This is probably an intermolecular process since dilution with solvent significantly slows this process. These reactions are depicted in Scheme 3.

Construction of the Bicyclo [2.2.1] Ring System.

Anion formation and closure of bromide **21** to the bicyclo [2.2.1] ring system was surprisingly sensitive to the specific base, as shown in Scheme 4. When KHMDS was

used, a small amount of olefin **23** was isolated together with recovered starting material **21**. The structure of the olefin was confirmed by an alternative synthesis: methyl ester **15** was reduced with Ca(BH₄)₂, and the resulting alcohol **25** was oxidized to the aldehyde **26** and treated with methyltriphenylphosphonium bromide/*n*-BuLi to afford the olefin **23**. When *s*-BuLi was used, two products were obtained, the desired [2.2.1] structure **2a** and **24**, in which the bromine had been replaced by hydrogen. The structure of **24** was established by catalytic hydrogenation (Pd/C) of olefin **23** to **24**. Apparently, under the reaction conditions, metal-halogen exchange and α -depro-

Scheme 4. Synthesis of the [2.2.1] Azabicyclo Nicotine Analogue



tonation are competitive processes, one leading to formation of the ethyl analogue **24** (after quenching and isolation) and the other yielding the desired bicyclo[2.2.1] product **2a**.

Although *n*-BuLi is known to add to the 1,2 double bond of pyridine,¹⁹ the intramolecular cyclization of **21** to **2a** proceeded very rapidly at -78°C , thus avoiding this potential addition. Under these conditions, metal-halogen exchange was not observed and **2a** was the only product, isolated in 55% yield. Treatment of **2a** with 3 M HCl in EtOAc removed the Boc group, and the amine **2b** was methylated (formic acid/formaldehyde)²⁰ to the target nicotine analogue **2**. Since **2** is a symmetric molecule it was unnecessary to carry out a parallel sequence from D-glutamic acid.

Construction of the Bicyclo [3.2.1] Ring System.

From ester **15**, the intermediate needed for cyclization to the [3.2.1] system was constructed. Reduction of this ester and oxidation of the resulting alcohol **25** gave aldehyde **26**. Treatment with the sodium salt of trimethyl phosphonoacetate afforded olefin **27** as a mixture of the *E* and *Z* isomers (Scheme 5). This mixture of isomers was reduced to propionic ester **28**. Following the same procedure used for the formation of bromide **21**, ester **28** was reduced to the alcohol **29**, which was treated with the imidazolium mesylating reagent followed by LiBr to yield the desired bromide **31**.

Employing the same conditions used for formation of the [2.2.1] system, **31** was treated with *n*-BuLi at -78°C in THF. Only a small amount of the desired [3.2.1] structure **3a** (<10%) was formed; the major products consisted of unidentified polar material. A possible explanation for this difference in behavior is that deprotonation at the α -carbon to the pyridine in **31** did occur but that the intramolecular cyclization to the [3.2.1]

system is less favorable than formation of the [2.2.1] system, thus permitting intermolecular side reactions to occur. To reduce the extent of any competing intermolecular reactions, higher dilution conditions were applied. Bromide **31** was added to the solution of *n*-BuLi in THF via a syringe pump over a period of 1 h. Indeed, an improved yield of 48% was obtained. When the same technique was applied to bromide **21**, the yield of the [2.2.1] system product **2a** was improved from 55% to 64%. Deprotection and methylation gave the final [3.2.1] azabicyclo (-)-**3** analogue. To obtain the enantiomer (+)-**3**, exactly the same sequence of reactions was applied to D-glutamic acid.

Conclusion

We report a process for the enantiospecific synthesis of nicotine analogues in which the pyrrolidine ring is conformationally constrained into an azabicyclo ring system. The specific systems prepared are the 1-(3-pyridinyl)-7-azabicyclo[2.2.1]heptanes and the 1-(3-pyridinyl)-8-azabicyclo[3.2.1]octanes. Enantiospecificity is achieved by basing the synthetic sequence on L- or D-glutamic acid to which the metallopyridine is attached. Conceivably, the method could be extrapolated to other substitution patterns and structural types.

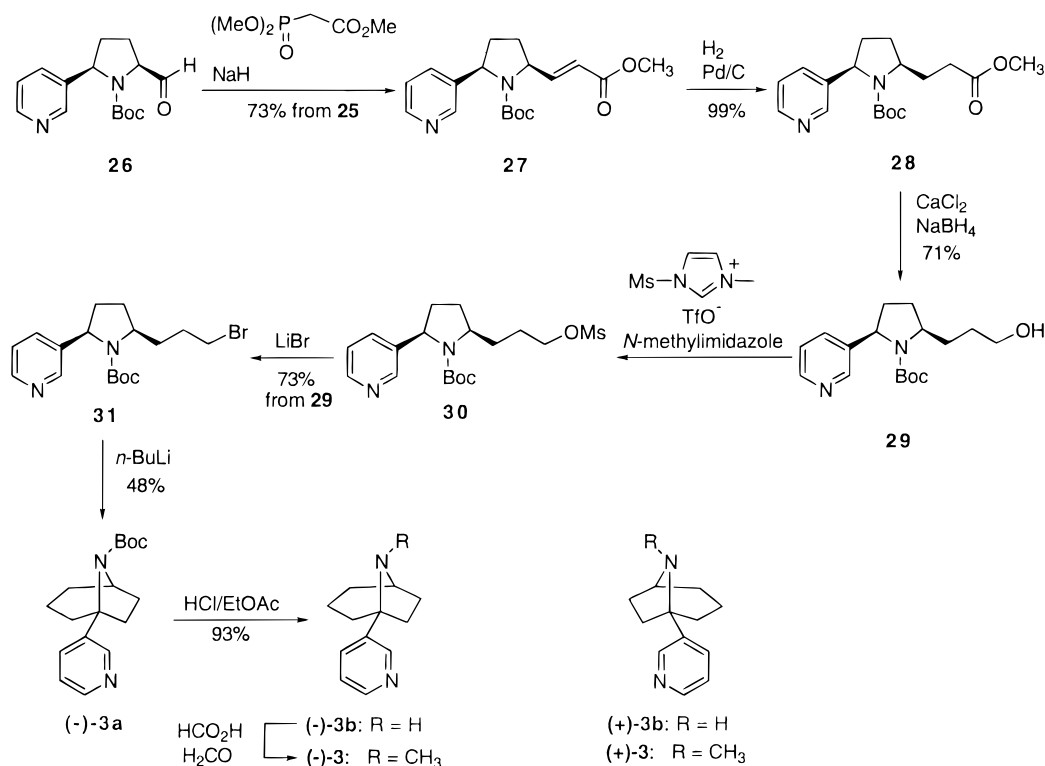
Experimental Section

General Procedures. All melting points are uncorrected. ¹H NMR and ¹³C spectra were recorded in CDCl₃ unless otherwise specified, and chemical shifts are reported in ppm from internal tetramethylsilane; ¹³C chemical shifts are reported in ppm from CDCl₃ or CD₃OD, followed by multiplicity as determined from DEPT; *J* values are given in Hz. Reagents and solvents were dried and purified by distillation before use: CH₂Cl₂ from CaH₂; THF and Et₂O from Na; MeOH from Mg. Reactions were conducted under N₂ and organic extracts were dried over Na₂SO₄ prior to evaporation. Chromatography

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Scheme 5. Synthesis of the (+)- and (-)-[3.2.1] azabicyclonicotine Analogues



was carried out on gravity-grade SiO₂. Elemental analyses were determined by Microanalytical Laboratory, University of California at Berkeley.

tert-Butyl (2*S*)-2-(*N*-(*tert*-butyloxycarbonyl)amino)-5-oxo-5-(3-pyridinyl)pentanoate ((+)-8**).** **Method A.** To a solution of 3-iodopyridine (123 mg, 0.6 mmol) in THF (5 mL) was added EtMgBr (0.72 mL of a 1.0 M THF solution, 0.72 mmol) at room temperature, and the mixture was stirred for 25 min. To a solution of *N*-(*tert*-butyloxycarbonyl)-L-glutamic acid α -*tert*-butyl ester (**4**, 152 mg, 0.5 mmol) in dichloromethane (2 mL) at -20 °C were added 2,3-dihydrofuran (38.5 mg, 0.55 mmol) and a solution of methanesulfonic acid in dichloromethane (5 μ L, 0.5 M solution, 2.5 μ mol). The mixture was allowed to warm to 0 °C over 4 h and then recooled to -20 °C, and to this mixture was added the 3-pyridinyl Grignard reagent dropwise over 5 min to yield a clear, colored solution. After 30 min at -20 °C, the mixture was very slowly warmed to room temperature over 18 h and then recooled to 0 °C and added dropwise to aqueous 1 M K₂CO₃. The mixture was extracted with dichloromethane (3 \times 20 mL), and the combined organic layer was dried, filtered, and evaporated to a residue that was chromatographed (CH₂Cl₂/EtOAc, 7/3) to afford **8** (55 mg, 30% yield) as a white solid: mp 89–90 °C; [α]_D²⁵ +8.7 (c 1, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR δ 1.42 (s, 9H), 1.48 (s, 9H), 2.01–2.13 (m, 1H), 2.28–2.40 (m, 1H), 3.01–3.30 (m, 2H), 4.28 (m, 1H), 5.26 (d, *J* = 7.5, 1H), 7.43 (dd, *J* = 7.9, 4.8, 1H), 8.24 (dt, *J* = 7.9, 1.7, 1H), 8.79 (d, *J* = 4.8, 1H), 9.17 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR δ 27.0, 27.9, 28.1, 34.7, 53.3, 79.7, 82.1, 123.5, 131.9, 135.2, 149.4, 153.4, 155.4, 171.3, 197.7. Anal. Calcd for C₁₉H₂₈N₂O₅: C, 62.6; H, 7.7; N, 7.7. Found: C, 62.8; H, 7.8; N, 7.6.

Method B. 3-Bromopyridine (0.241 mL, 2.5 mmol) in ether (3.5 mL) was added dropwise to a solution of *n*-BuLi (1.56 mL of a 1.6 M solution in hexane, 2.5 mmol) in ether (10 mL) at -78 °C in 5 min. The resulting yellow slurry was stirred at -78 °C for 30 min, and a solution of *N*-(*tert*-butoxycarbonyl)-L-glutamic acid α -*tert*-butyl ester β -isoxazolide (**5**, 354 mg, 1 mmol) in THF (5 mL) was added over 5 min. The resulting mixture was warmed to room temperature over 6 h, stirred at room temperature for 12 h, diluted with ether (30 mL), and quenched with H₂O (40 mL). The aqueous layer was extracted with ether (3 \times 30 mL), and the combined organic layer was

dried, filtered, and evaporated to a residue, which was chromatographed (SiO₂, CH₂Cl₂/EtOAc, 7/3), yielding a mixture of **8** and **5** (85/15, 293 mg); 69% yield of **8**.

Method C. To a solution of isoxazolide **5** (177 mg, 0.5 mmol) in THF (2 mL) at room temperature was added the 3-pyridinyl Grignard reagent (0.72 mmol) dropwise over 5 min to yield a clear, colored solution (0.72 mmol) that was stirred for 9 h at room temperature. Aqueous K₂CO₃ was added, the mixture was extracted with dichloromethane (3 \times 20 mL), and the combined organic layer was dried, filtered, and evaporated. Chromatography (CH₂Cl₂/EtOAc, 7/3) of the residue afforded a mixture of **8** and **5** (63/37, 143 mg); 50% yield of **8**.

Method D. 3-Bromopyridine (7.23 mL, 74.7 mmol) in Et₂O (57 mL) was added dropwise to a solution of *n*-BuLi (1.6 M solution in hexane, 47 mL, 74.7 mmol) in Et₂O (167 mL) at -78 °C over 30 min. The resulting yellow slurry was stirred at -78 °C for 30 min, and a solution of *tert*-butyl *N*-(*tert*-butyloxycarbonyl)-L-pyroglytamate (**6**, 14.3 g, 50 mmol) in Et₂O/THF (70 mL, 1/1) was added over 10 min. The resulting mixture was stirred at -78 °C for 1 h, poured into H₂O (60 mL), and extracted with Et₂O (50 mL). The combined organic layer was dried, filtered, and evaporated, and the residue was chromatographed (CH₂Cl₂/EtOAc, 7/3) to afford **8** (13.1 g, 72%).

Methyl (2*S*)-2-(*N*-(*tert*-butyloxycarbonyl)amino)-5-oxo-5-(3-pyridinyl)pentanoate ((+)-9**).** 3-Bromopyridine (7.23 mL, 74.7 mmol) in Et₂O (57 mL) was added dropwise to a solution of *n*-BuLi (1.6 M solution in hexane, 47 mL, 74.7 mmol) in Et₂O (167 mL) at -78 °C over 30 min. The resulting yellow slurry was stirred at -78 °C for 30 min, and a solution of methyl *N*-(*tert*-butyloxycarbonyl)-L-pyroglytamate (**7**, 16.4 g, 67.3 mmol) in THF/Et₂O (80 mL, 1/1) was added over 20 min. The resulting mixture was stirred at -78 °C for 1 h and then poured into H₂O (60 mL), the aqueous layer was extracted with Et₂O (50 mL), and the combined organic layer was dried, filtered, and evaporated. The residue was chromatographed (CH₂Cl₂/EtOAc, 7/3) to afford **9** (12.9 g, 59%) as a white solid: mp 90–92 °C; [α]_D²⁵ +13.5 (c 1, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR δ 1.40 (s, 9H), 2.06 (m, 1H), 2.34 (m, 1H), 3.01–3.19 (m, 2H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 4.40 (m, 1H), 5.22 (d, *J* = 7.5, 1H), 7.41 (dd, *J* = 7.7, 4.9, 1H), 8.22 (dt, *J* = 7.7, 1.7, 1H), 8.77 (d, *J* = 4.9, 1H), 9.15 (d, *J* = 1.7, 1H); ¹³C NMR δ 26.6, 28.1, 34.6, 52.3, 52.7, 80.0, 123.5,

major), 7.22 (m, 1H major, 1H minor), 7.53 (m, 1H major, 1H minor), 8.45 (m, 1H major, 1H minor), 8.49 (s, 1H major), 8.51 (s, 1H minor); $^1\text{H NMR}$ (328 K) δ 1.27 (s, 9H major), 1.28 (s, 9H minor), 1.68 (m, 1H minor), 1.90 (m, 2H major, 1H minor), 2.15 (m, 1H major), 2.31 (m, 1H major, 2H minor), 3.69 (s, 3H minor), 3.72 (s, 3H major), 4.55 (br, 1H major), 4.85 (br, 1H major), 4.96 (br, 1H minor), 5.44 (bq, $J = 7.2$, 1H minor), 5.80 (dd, $J = 11.5$, 1.2, 1H minor), 6.00 (d, $J = 15.7$, 1H major), 6.37 (bt, $J = 9.6$, 1H minor), 6.96 (dd, $J = 15.7$, 6.5, 1H major), 7.21 (m, 1H major, 1H minor), 7.53 (m, 1H major, 1H minor), 8.44 (d, $J = 4.7$, 1H major, 1H minor), 8.51 (s, 1H major), 8.53 (s, 1H minor); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (328 K) δ 28.1 \times 2, 30.4, 30.5, 33.6, 33.9, 51.0, 51.4, 57.4, 59.5, 60.4, 60.8, 80.2, 80.4, 118.5, 121.5, 123.1, 123.2, 133.2, 138.8, 139.1, 147.8, 148.1 \times 2, 148.2 \times 2, 152.2, 154.6, 154.8, 166.1, 166.5. Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{24}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4$: C, 65.0; H, 7.3; N, 8.4. Found: C, 64.7; H, 7.5; N, 8.2.

(2S,5R)-1-(tert-Butyloxycarbonyl)-2-(2- β -methoxycarbonylethyl)-5-(3-pyridinyl)pyrrolidine (28). Unsaturated ester **27** (1.0 g, 3.0 mmol) in MeOH (10 mL) was treated with H_2 at 1 atm in the presence of 10% Pd/C (100 mg, 10% w/w) at room temperature for 4 h. The resulting mixture was filtered through Celite and evaporated to give **28** (1.0 g, 99%) as a colorless oil: $^1\text{H NMR}$ (298 K, rotamers) δ 1.00–1.50 (br, 9H), 1.65 (m, 1H), 1.70–1.92 (m, 2H), 2.00 (m, 1H), 2.13–2.37 (m, 2H), 2.41 (br, 1H), 3.64 (s, 3H), 3.97 (br, 1H), 4.60–5.20 (br, 1H), 7.21 (dd, $J = 7.8$, 4.7, 1H), 7.51 (d, $J = 7.8$, 1H), 8.43 (d, $J = 4.8$, 1H), 8.45 (s, 1H); $^1\text{H NMR}$ (328 K) δ 1.26 (s, 9H), 1.68 (m, 1H), 1.80 (m, 1H), 1.88 (m, 1H), 2.07 (m, 1H), 2.15–2.35 (m, 2H), 2.41 (t, $J = 7.8$, 2H), 3.65 (s, 3H), 4.00 (m, 1H), 4.77 (t, $J = 7.6$, 1H), 7.19 (dd, $J = 7.8$, 4.8, 1H), 7.52 (dt, $J = 7.8$, 1.8, 1H), 8.43 (d, $J = 4.8$, 1H), 8.48 (d, $J = 1.8$, 1H); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (328 K) δ 28.2, 29.8, 31.0, 31.5, 33.9, 51.3, 58.6, 60.8, 79.9, 123.1, 133.1, 139.6, 147.9, 148.0, 154.9, 173.4.

(2S,5R)-1-(tert-Butyloxycarbonyl)-2-(3-hydroxypropyl)-5-(3-pyridinyl)pyrrolidine ((+)-29). To a solution of ester **28** (1 g, 3 mmol) in EtOH (30 mL) at 0 $^\circ\text{C}$ was added CaCl_2 (1 g, 9 mmol) followed by NaBH_4 (0.68 g, 18 mmol). The mixture was stirred overnight as it warmed to room temperature, aqueous K_2CO_3 (2 M, 20 mL) was added, and the mixture was evaporated. The residue was partitioned between EtOAc (100 mL) and H_2O (50 mL), the aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc (2 \times 100 mL), and the combined organic layer was dried, filtered, and evaporated. The residue was chromatographed (EtOAc) to afford alcohol **29** (0.65 g, 71%) as a colorless oil: $[\alpha]_D^{25} +16.5$ (c 1, CHCl_3); $^1\text{H NMR}$ (298 K) δ 1.18–1.45 (br s, 9H), 1.45–1.76 (m, 4H), 1.87 (m, 1H), 2.00 (m, 2H), 2.26 (m, 1H), 2.40–3.50 (br, 1H), 3.67 (bs, 2H), 3.98 (br, 1H), 4.69 (br, 1H), 7.19 (dd, $J = 7.8$, 4.8, 1H), 7.51 (dt, $J = 7.8$, 1.8, 1H), 8.41 (d, $J = 4.8$, 1H), 8.45 (d, $J = 1.8$, 1H); $^1\text{H NMR}$ (328 K) δ 1.23 (s, 9H), 1.48–1.72 (m, 4H), 1.87 (m, 1H), 2.01 (m, 2H), 2.28 (m, 1H), 2.66 (br, 1H), 3.69 (bs, 2H), 4.02 (br, 1H), 4.74 (dt, $J = 7.2$, 1H), 7.18 (dd, $J = 7.9$, 4.7, 1H), 7.51 (d, $J = 7.9$, 1.8, 1H), 8.42 (dd, $J = 4.7$, 1.8, 1H), 8.47 (d, $J = 1.8$, 1H); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (328 K) δ 28.2, 29.7, 29.8, 32.1, 34.1, 58.9, 60.7, 62.4, 79.7, 123.1, 133.1, 140.0, 147.9, 154.9. Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{26}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3$: C, 66.6; H, 8.6; N, 9.1. Found: C, 66.4; H, 8.8; N, 9.0.

(2R,5S)-1-(tert-Butyloxycarbonyl)-2-(3-hydroxypropyl)-5-(3-pyridinyl)pyrrolidine (–)-29, structure not shown) was prepared in the same manner from ester (–)-**28**: $[\alpha]_D^{25} -17.0$ (c 1.2, CHCl_3); spectral and chromatographic properties identical with (+)-**29**.

(2S,5R)-1-(tert-Butyloxycarbonyl)-2-(3-methylsulfonyloxypropyl)-5-(3-pyridinyl)pyrrolidine (30) and (2S,5R)-1-(tert-Butyloxycarbonyl)-2-(3-bromopropyl)-5-(3-pyridinyl)pyrrolidine (31). To a solution of 1-methansulfonylimidazolide (180 mg, 1.2 mmol) in THF (12 mL) at 0 $^\circ\text{C}$ was added methyl triflate (127 μL , 1.2 mmol) dropwise, and the mixture was stirred at 0 $^\circ\text{C}$ for 30 min followed by the dropwise addition at 0 $^\circ\text{C}$ of a mixture of **29** (315 mg, 1.03 mmol) and 1-methylimidazole (84 μL , 1.03 mmol) in THF (3 mL). After the addition, the ice bath was removed, the mixture was stirred

overnight and then evaporated, and the residue was partitioned between EtOAc (2 \times 20 mL) and H_2O (20 mL). The organic layer was dried, filtered, and evaporated to afford crude mesylate **30** containing a small amount of mesylimidazolide: $^1\text{H NMR}$ (298 K, rotamers) δ 1.00–2.40 (m, 17H), 2.98 (s, 3H), 3.95 (bs, 1H), 4.28 (bs, 2H), 4.75 (br, 1H), 7.20 (br, 1H), 7.49 (bd, $J = 7.9$, 1H), 8.48 (bs, 2H). Crude **30** was dissolved in acetone (12 mL), LiBr (358 mg, 4.12 mmol) was added, and the mixture was refluxed for 1 h. Evaporation left a residue that was partitioned between EtOAc (10 mL) and H_2O (5 mL). The aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc (2 \times 10 mL), and the combined organic layer was dried, filtered, and evaporated. The residue was chromatographed ($\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2/\text{EtOAc}$, 4/6) to afford bromide **31** (270 mg, 73%) as a colorless oil: $^1\text{H NMR}$ (298 K, rotamers) δ 1.00–1.50 (br, 9H), 1.55–1.78 (br, 2H), 1.85–2.10 (m, 5H), 2.20–2.28 (m, 1H), 3.44 (m, 2H), 4.02 (br, 1H), 4.60–5.00 (br, 1H), 7.27 (dd, $J = 7.9$, 4.7, 1H), 7.57 (d, $J = 7.9$, 1H), 8.47 (d, $J = 4.7$, 1H), 8.57 (s, 1H); $^1\text{H NMR}$ (323 K) δ 1.28 (bs, 9H), 1.55–1.78 (m, 2H), 1.85–2.10 (m, 5H), 2.20–2.28 (m, 1H), 3.44 (m, 2H), 4.02 (br, 1H), 4.79 (bt, 1H), 7.23 (dd, $J = 7.9$, 4.7, 1H), 7.54 (d, $J = 7.9$, 1H), 8.47 (d, $J = 4.7$, 1H), 8.54 (s, 1H); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (328 K) δ 28.2, 30.1, 30.3, 33.3, 34.0, 34.5, 58.4, 61.8, 79.9, 123.1, 133.2, 139.6, 147.8, 147.9, 154.8. Bromide **31** is unstable and was used immediately after a short period of drying under vacuum.

8-tert-Butyloxycarbonyl-1-(3-pyridinyl)-8-azabicyclo[3.2.1]octane ((–)-3a). To a solution of *n*-BuLi (0.21 mmol, 1.6 M in hexane, 0.13 mL) in THF (15 mL) at -78 $^\circ\text{C}$ was added bromide **31** (27 mg, 0.083 mmol) in THF (2 mL) slowly (syringe pump) over 1 h. The mixture was stirred at -78 $^\circ\text{C}$ for 30 min, and then pH 7 phosphate buffer (20 mL) was added and the reaction mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature. The mixture was extracted with EtOAc (2 \times 20 mL), and the combined organic layer was dried, filtered, and evaporated. The residue was chromatographed (hexanes/EtOAc, 1/1) to afford **3a** (10 mg, 48%) as a white solid: mp 104–106 $^\circ\text{C}$; $[\alpha]_D^{25} -46.1$ (c 1, CHCl_3); $^1\text{H NMR}$ δ 1.50–2.40 (m, 10H), 3.49 (s, 3H), 4.47 (bs, 1H), 7.22 (dd, $J = 7.8$, 4.8, 1H), 7.63 (d, $J = 7.8$, 1H), 8.43 (bs, 1H), 8.60 (s, 1H); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ δ 17.6, 26.7, 27.9, 29.0, 30.9, 41.9, 57.8, 63.7, 79.4, 122.7, 132.9, 141.9, 147.0, 154.4. Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{24}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2$: C, 70.8; H, 8.4; N, 9.7. Found: C, 70.4; H, 8.8; N, 9.7.

8-(tert-Butoxycarbonyl)-1-(3-pyridinyl)-8-azabicyclo[3.2.1]octane ((+)-3a) was prepared from the enantiomeric substrate in the same manner: $[\alpha]_D^{25} +45.8$ (c 0.93, CHCl_3); spectral and chromatographic properties identical with those of (–)-**3a**.

1-(3-Pyridinyl)-8-azabicyclo[3.2.1]octane ((–)-3b). To **3a** (39 mg, 0.14 mmol) was added HCl in EtOAc (3 M, 2 mL), and the resulting mixture was stirred at room temperature for 30 min. After evaporation, the residue was partitioned between saturated aqueous Na_2CO_3 (10 mL) and EtOAc (2 \times 10 mL). The combined organic layer was dried, filtered, and evaporated to afford (–)-**3b** (23 mg, 93%) as a colorless oil: $[\alpha]_D^{25} -7.0$ (c 1.1, CHCl_3); $^1\text{H NMR}$ δ 1.50–2.10 (m, 10H), 2.20–2.32 (m, 1H), 3.72 (m, 1H), 7.24 (dd, $J = 7.9$, 4.8, 1H), 7.73 (dt, $J = 7.9$, 1.7, 1H), 8.46 (dd, $J = 4.8$, 1.6, 1H), 8.65 (d, $J = 1.6$, 1H); $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ δ 18.7, 30.1, 31.6, 35.8, 41.1, 55.5, 64.1, 123.1, 132.8, 143.7, 146.3, 147.6. Anal. Calcd for $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{16}\text{N}_2 \cdot 1/4\text{H}_2\text{O}$: C, 74.8; H, 8.6; N, 14.5. Found: C, 75.1; H, 8.8; N, 14.7.

1-(3-Pyridinyl)-8-azabicyclo[3.2.1]octane ((+)-3b) was prepared from the enantiomeric substrate in the same manner: $[\alpha]_D^{25} +6.8$ (c 0.96, CHCl_3); spectral and chromatographic properties identical with those of (–)-**3b**.

7-Methyl-1-(3-pyridinyl)-8-azabicyclo[3.2.1]octane ((–)-3). A mixture of (–)-**3b** (50 mg) in H_2O (0.5 mL), formic acid (0.25 mL), and formaldehyde (0.25 mL) was heated at reflux for 14 h and then evaporated, and the residue was partitioned between EtOAc (5 mL) and 2 M K_2CO_3 (5 mL). The aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc (2 \times 5 mL), and the combined organic layer was dried and evaporated. The residue was chromatographed ($\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2/\text{MeOH}$ saturated with NH_3 , 97/3) to afford (–)-**3** (48 mg, 90%) as a colorless oil: $[\alpha]_D^{25} -10.9$

(*c* 1, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR δ 1.20–1.35 (m, 1H), 1.55–2.20 (m, 13H, with singlet at 2.10), 3.39 (m, 1H), 7.24 (dd, *J* = 7.9, 4.8, 1H), 7.75 (dt, *J* = 7.9, 1.7, 1H), 8.45 (dd, *J* = 4.8, 1.6, 1H), 8.65 (d, *J* = 1.6, 1H); ¹³C NMR (328 K) δ 18.3, 26.4, 27.3, 33.0, 34.2, 35.4, 61.9, 66.0, 123.0, 134.5, 141.8, 147.7, 148.7. Anal. Calcd. for C₁₃H₁₈N₂·¹/₄H₂O: C, 75.5; H, 9.0; N, 13.6. Found: C, 75.6; H, 9.0; N, 13.8.

7-Methyl-1-(3-pyridinyl)-8-azabicyclo[3.2.1]octane ((+)-3**)** was prepared from the enantiomeric substrate in the same

manner: [α]_D²² +11.2 (*c* 1.3, CHCl₃); spectral and chromatographic properties identical with those of (–)-**3**.

Acknowledgment. J. Choi thanks the Korea Science and Engineering Foundation for partial fellowship support. M.I.C. is grateful to the Xunta de Galicia for an internship.

JO990130U