



Electroreductive intramolecular coupling of aliphatic cyclic imides with ketones and *O*-methyloximes

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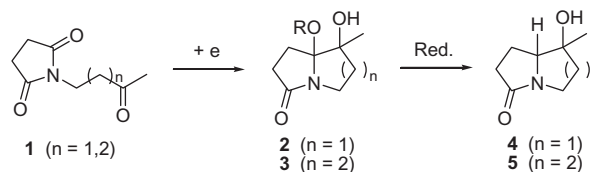
ABSTRACT

The electroreductive intramolecular coupling of aliphatic cyclic imides with ketones in isopropanol gave five- and six-membered cyclized products. Similarly, the electroreductive intramolecular coupling of aliphatic cyclic imides with *O*-methyloximes afforded five-, six-, and seven-membered cyclized products. These reactions provide a useful method to synthesize azabicyclo[*n.m.0*] compounds. The bicyclic products were stereoselectively transformed to the corresponding deoxygenated compounds by reduction with NaB(CN)H₃ or Et₃SiH/BF₃·Et₂O.

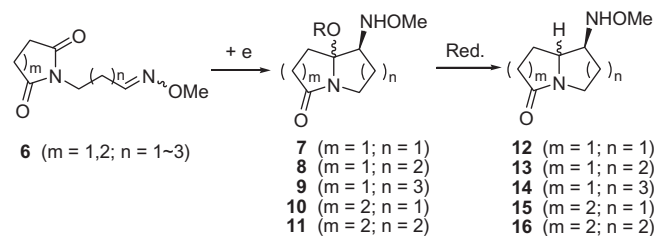
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The reductive intramolecular coupling of cyclic imides with unsaturated functional groups provides a useful synthetic route to azabicyclo[*n.m.0*] skeletons, of which pyrrolizidine, indolizidine, isoindolinone, and related alkaloids are comprised. For this purpose, the reductive intramolecular coupling of aliphatic cyclic imides with alkenes using low-valent titanium reagents¹ and that of phthalimides with carbonyl compounds using samarium(II) iodide² have been reported. Recently, we disclosed that the electroreduction in the presence of chlorotrimethylsilane is also an effective tool for the reductive intramolecular coupling of phthalimides with α,β -unsaturated esters³ and ketones.⁴ Unfortunately, these electroreductive conditions could not be applicable to reductive coupling of aliphatic cyclic imides, such as succinimides and glutarimides, with carbonyl compounds. Therefore, we investigated the conditions to realize the electroreductive intramolecular coupling of *N*-(oxoalkyl)succinimides **1** ($n = 1, 2$) in isopropanol gave azabicyclic products, pyrrolizidines **2** ($n = 1$) and indolizidines **3** ($n = 2$) (Scheme 1). The obtained bicyclic *N,O*-acetals **2** and **3** could be deoxygenated at the bridgehead carbon to give **4** and **5** stereoselectively. Furthermore, this electroreductive method was found to be more versatile for the intramolecular coupling of aliphatic cyclic imides with

O-methyloximes (Scheme 2). From *N*-(*N*-methoxyiminoalkyl)-imides **6** ($m = 1, 2$; $n = 1-3$), pyrroloazepins **9** and quinolizidines **11** were also accessible in addition to pyrrolizidines **7** and indolizidines **8**, **10**. Similarly, the bicyclic *N,O*-acetals **7–11** could be reduced to deoxygenated **12–16**.



Scheme 1.



Scheme 2.

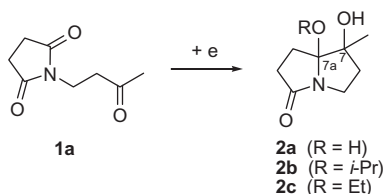
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The electroreduction of 1-(3-oxobutyl)pyrrolidine-2,5-dione (**1a**) was carried out in isopropanol employing an undivided cell, according to our reported methods for the electroreductive cross-coupling of ketones⁶ (Table 1). Five-membered cyclized product **2** was obtained as a mixture of 7,7a-diol **2a** and its 7a-isopropoxy analog **2b** (**2a/2b** = 20/80). The best combined yield of **2a** and **2b** (86%) was effected using Et₄NOTs/isopropanol as an electrolyte and a Pb cathode (run 1).⁷ The use of a divided cell considerably decreased the yield of **2**, probably due to side reactions of **1a** caused by an electrogenetic base (run 2). On the other hand, when an undivided cell was employed, the pH value of the electrolyte was kept neutral. Since **2a** and **2b** are *N,O*-acetals, they were mutually convertible.⁸ The use of ethanol and *t*-butanol in place of isopropanol decreased the yield of **2** to some extent (runs 7 and 8). While 7a-ethoxy analog **2c** was obtained as a major product (**2a/2c** = 15/85) in the case of ethanol solvent (run 7),⁹ **2a** was the only product in the case of *t*-butanol solvent (run 8). The electroreduction of **1a** did not progressed in methanol, since hydrogen evolution exclusively proceeded. Next, the electroreduction of 1-(4-oxopentyl)pyrrolidine-2,5-dione (**1b**) under the same conditions as run 1 in Table 1 afforded six-membered cyclized product **3** as a 65/35 mixture of 8,8a-diol **3a** and its 8a-isopropoxy analog **3b** in 79% combined yield (Scheme 3). These azabicyclic products **2a,b** and **3a,b** were seemed to be obtained diastereospecifically (>99%) by ¹H and ¹³C NMR analyses.¹⁰ Although their stereostructures could not be determined absolutely, 2D-NMR (COSY and NOESY) analysis of **3a** suggests its 8,8a-*cis* configuration, which is supposed to be the thermodynamically more stable diastereomer.

The bicyclic *N,O*-acetals **2** and **3** were stereoselectively reduced to 7a- and 8a-deoxy analogs **4** and **5**, respectively (Table 2).¹¹ The reduction with NaB(CN)H₃ in TFA–methanol gave *cis*-isomers of **4**

Table 1
Electroreductive intramolecular coupling of **1a**



| Run | Solvent | Electrolyte | Cathode | % Yield of 2 ^a |
|-----|----------------|-----------------------------------|---------|----------------------------------|
| 1 | <i>i</i> -PrOH | Et ₄ NOTs | Pb | 86 ^b |
| 2 | <i>i</i> -PrOH | Et ₄ NOTs | Pb | 21 ^{b,c} |
| 3 | <i>i</i> -PrOH | Et ₄ NOTs | Sn | 46 ^b |
| 4 | <i>i</i> -PrOH | Et ₄ NOTs | Zn | 26 ^b |
| 5 | <i>i</i> -PrOH | Et ₄ NBF ₄ | Pb | 57 ^b |
| 6 | <i>i</i> -PrOH | Et ₄ NClO ₄ | Pb | 45 ^b |
| 7 | EtOH | Et ₄ NOTs | Pb | 54 ^d |
| 8 | <i>t</i> -BuOH | Et ₄ NOTs | Pb | 40 ^e |

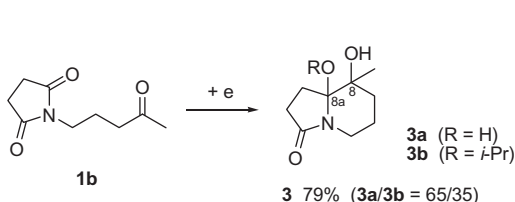
^a Isolated yields.

^b Combined yield of **2a** and **2b** (**2a/2b** = 20/80).

^c Using a divided cell.

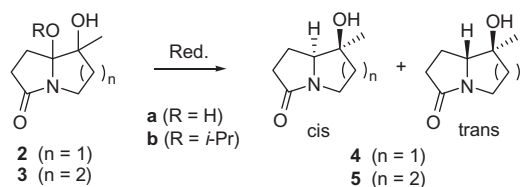
^d Combined yield of **2a** and **2c** (**2a/2c** = 15/85).

^e Yield of **2a**.



Scheme 3.

Table 2
Reduction of **2** and **3** to **4** and **5**



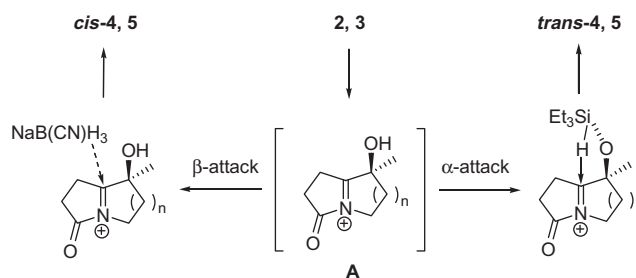
| Run | Substrate | Reductant | Product | % Yield ^a (<i>cis/trans</i>) ^b |
|-----|-----------|-----------------------|----------|--|
| 1 | 2a | NaB(CN)H ₃ | 4 | 72 (87/13) |
| 2 | 2b | NaB(CN)H ₃ | 4 | 70 (88/12) |
| 3 | 3a | NaB(CN)H ₃ | 5 | 68 (95/5) |
| 4 | 3b | NaB(CN)H ₃ | 5 | 62 (95/5) |
| 5 | 2a | Et ₃ SiH | 4 | 87 (5/95) |
| 6 | 2b | Et ₃ SiH | 4 | 82 (5/95) |
| 7 | 2a | Et ₃ SiH | 5 | 93 (2/98) |
| 8 | 2b | Et ₃ SiH | 5 | 85 (1/99) |

^a Isolated yields.

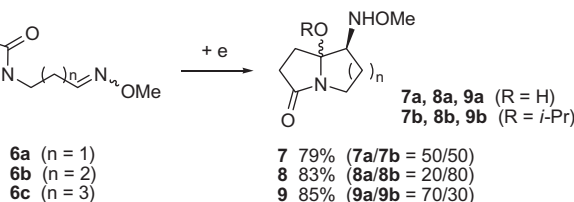
^b Determined by ¹H NMR.

and **5** selectively (runs 1–4),¹² whereas that with Et₃SiH/BF₃·Et₂O in dichloromethane produced their *trans*-isomers predominantly (runs 5–8).¹³ The stereostructure of each isomer of **4** and **5** was assumed by 2D-NMR (COSY and NOESY) analysis. The stereoselectivity in the reduction of **2** and **3** may be explained as shown in Scheme 4. In both cases, iminium ion **A** is the intermediate. In the reduction with NaB(CN)H₃, hydride ion attacks **A** selectively from the opposite side of the hydroxy group. On the other hand, Et₃SiH attacks **A** predominantly from the same side as the hydroxy group due to the chelation of Et₃SiH to the hydroxy oxygen atom.

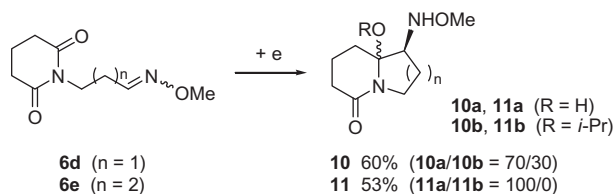
The electroreduction of 3-(2,5-dioxopyrrolidin-1-yl)propanal *O*-methyl oxime **6a**, 4-(2,5-dioxopyrrolidin-1-yl)butanal *O*-methyl oxime **6b**, and 5-(2,5-dioxopyrrolidin-1-yl)pentanal *O*-methyl oxime **6c** under the same conditions as run 1 in Table 1 gave five-, six-, and seven-membered cyclized products **7**, **8**, and **9** as mixtures of diols (**7a**, **8a**, and **9a**) and their isopropoxy analogs (**7b**, **8b**, and **9b**): The combined yields of **7**, **8**, and **9** were 79%, 83%, and 85%, respectively (Scheme 5). This electroreductive method was also effective to the reductive cyclization of glutarimide derivatives, 3-(2,6-dioxopiperidin-1-yl)propanal *O*-methyl oxime **6d** and 4-(2,6-dioxopiperidin-1-yl)butanal *O*-methyl oxime **6e**. As



Scheme 4.



Scheme 5.



Scheme 6.

shown in Scheme 6, five- and six-membered cyclized products **10** and **11** were obtained in 60% and 53% yields, respectively. In the case of **11**, 9a-isopropoxy analog **11b** could not be detected. The bicyclic *N,O*-acetals **7–11** were obtained as mixtures of two diastereomers (*cis* and *trans*).

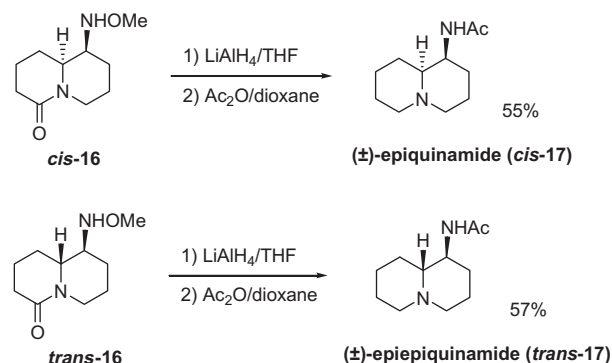
The bicyclic *N,O*-acetals **7–11** were reduced with $\text{NaB}(\text{CN})\text{H}_3$ in TFA-methanol to give deoxygenated compounds **12–16**¹⁴ with moderate to good *cis* selectivity (Table 3).¹² The stereoconfiguration of the major isomers of **12–16** was presumed to be *cis* by 1D-NMR (difNOE) and 2D-NMR (COSY) analyses. In the case of **16**, each isomer of **16** could be separated and transformed to the known quinolizidine alkaloids, (\pm)-epiquinamide¹⁵ (*cis*-**17**) and (\pm)-epiepinamide (*trans*-**17**), in 55% and 57% yields, respectively (Scheme 7).¹⁶ Since ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of the obtained *cis*-

Table 3
Reduction of **7–11** to **12–16** with $\text{NaB}(\text{CN})\text{H}_3$

| Run | Substrate | Product | % Yield ^a (<i>cis/trans</i>) ^b |
|-----|------------|-----------|--|
| 1 | 7a | 12 | 69 (75/25) |
| 2 | 7b | 12 | 64 (73/27) |
| 3 | 8a | 13 | 65 (75/25) |
| 4 | 8b | 13 | 63 (72/28) |
| 5 | 9a | 14 | 81 (85/15) |
| 6 | 9b | 14 | 65 (84/16) |
| 7 | 10a | 15 | 64 (80/20) |
| 8 | 10b | 15 | 53 (78/22) |
| 9 | 11a | 16 | 83 (60/40) |

^a Isolated yields.

^b Determined by ¹H NMR.



Scheme 7.

and *trans*-**17** completely agreed with the reported data,^{15f} it was confirmed that the major isomer of **16** is *cis* and the minor one is *trans*.

In conclusion, the electroreduction of *N*-(oxoalkyl)succinimides **1a,b** in isopropanol gave five- and six-membered cyclized products **2** and **3**. The bicyclic *N,O*-acetals **2** and **3** were *cis*- or *trans*-stereoselectively reduced to 7a- and 8a-deoxygenated analogs **4** and **5** by treatment with $\text{NaB}(\text{CN})\text{H}_3$ or $\text{Et}_3\text{SiH}/\text{BF}_3 \cdot \text{Et}_2\text{O}$. The electroreduction of *N*-(*N*-methoxyiminoalkyl)imides **6** afforded five-, six-, and seven-membered cyclized products **7–11**. The bicyclic *N,O*-acetals **7–11** were *cis*-stereoselectively transformed to deoxygenated **12–16** by reduction with $\text{NaB}(\text{CN})\text{H}_3$.

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- Typical procedure for electroreduction (Table 1, run 1) is as follows. A 0.3 M solution of Et_4NOTf in isopropanol (20 mL) was placed in an undivided cell (40-mL beaker, 3-cm diameter, 6-cm height) equipped with a lead cathode ($5 \times 5 \text{ cm}^2$) and a platinum anode ($2 \times 1 \text{ cm}^2$). 1-(3-oxobutyl)pyrrolidine-2,5-dione (**1a**) (169 mg, 1 mmol) was added to the electrolyte. After 400 C of electricity was passed at a constant current of 50 mA at room temperature, the electrolyte was evaporated in vacuo. The residue was dissolved in ethyl acetate (20 mL) and insoluble salts were filtered off. After the filtrate was evaporated in vacuo, the crude mixture was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (hexanes–ethyl acetate) to give **2a** and **2b** in 71% combined yield.
- The treatment of **2a** with excess amount of isopropanol at room temperature for 24 h gave **2b** (>95%). This result supports that equilibrium is established between **2a** and **2b**.
- The treatment of **2a** and **2b** with excess amount of ethanol at room temperature for 24 h gave **2c** quantitatively (>99%).
- Compound **2a**: ¹H NMR (CDCl_3) δ 1.37 (s, 3H), 1.80–1.87 (m, 1H), 2.00–2.05 (m, 1H), 2.35–2.47 (m, 2H), 2.53–2.60 (m, 1H), 2.77–2.85 (m, 1H), 3.13–3.19 (m, 1H), 3.51–3.57 (m, 1H), 4.15 (br s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl_3) δ 20.2 (q), 26.0 (t), 33.4 (t), 38.9 (t), 39.4 (t), 77.7 (s), 100.6 (s), 176.8 (s). Compound **2b**: ¹H NMR (CDCl_3) δ 1.07 (d, 3H, $J = 6.0 \text{ Hz}$), 1.17 (d, 3H, $J = 6.4 \text{ Hz}$), 1.30 (s, 3H), 1.78–1.87 (m, 1H), 1.92–1.98 (m, 1H), 2.32–2.47 (m, 3H), 2.68–2.78 (m, 1H), 3.04–3.11 (m, 1H), 3.62–3.70 (m, 1H), 3.75–3.83 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl_3) δ 19.6 (q), 20.9 (t), 23.7 (q), 24.3 (q), 33.7 (t), 38.3 (t), 40.1 (t), 64.9 (q), 77.9 (s), 104.3 (s), 177.2 (s). Compound **2c**: ¹H NMR (CDCl_3) δ 1.17 (t, 3H, $J = 6.8 \text{ Hz}$), 1.32 (s, 3H), 1.85–1.91 (m, 1H), 1.94–2.00 (m, 1H), 2.20 (br s, 1H), 2.34–2.49 (m, 3H), 2.67–2.77 (m, 1H), 3.02–3.08 (m, 1H), 3.44 (q, 2H, $J = 6.8 \text{ Hz}$), 3.62–3.68 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl_3) δ 15.3 (q), 19.7 (q), 19.9 (t), 33.8 (t), 38.6 (t), 39.4 (t), 57.0 (t), 77.8 (s), 104.1 (s), 176.8 (s). Compound **3a**: mp 159–161 °C; ¹H NMR (CDCl_3) δ 1.07 (s, 3H), 1.26–1.33 (m, 1H), 1.34–1.41 (m, 1H), 1.53–1.68 (m, 2H), 1.83 (dt, 1H, $J = 4.2, 13.4 \text{ Hz}$), 2.03–2.11 (m, 1H), 2.21–2.29 (m, 1H), 2.37–2.44 (m, 1H), 2.72 (dt, 1H, $J = 3.4, 12.8 \text{ Hz}$), 3.62 (dd, 1H, $J = 5.2, 12.8 \text{ Hz}$), 4.47 (s, 1H), 5.68 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl_3) δ 19.6 (t), 24.4 (q), 26.9 (t), 29.9 (t), 33.0 (t), 35.0 (t), 70.3 (s), 91.7 (s), 172.3 (s). Compound **3b**: ¹H NMR (CDCl_3) δ 1.11 (d, 3H, $J = 6.0 \text{ Hz}$), 1.16 (d, 3H, $J = 6.0 \text{ Hz}$), 1.20 (s, 3H), 1.49–1.55 (m, 2H), 1.65–1.76 (m, 1H), 1.85–1.91 (m, 1H), 2.04–2.11 (m, 1H), 2.33–2.53 (m, 3H), 2.76–2.83 (m, 1H), 3.56–3.64 (m, 1H), 3.92–3.97 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl_3) δ 19.4 (t), 21.3 (t), 23.4 (q), 23.9 (q), 24.6 (q), 30.2 (t), 32.8 (t), 35.9 (t), 64.7 (d), 71.4 (s), 96.7 (s), 173.9 (s).
- cis*-**4**: ¹H NMR (CDCl_3) δ 1.31 (s, 3H), 1.96–2.13 (m, 4H), 2.42–2.50 (m, 1H), 2.60–2.69 (m, 1H), 3.12–3.18 (m, 1H), 3.63–3.70 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl_3) δ 17.3 (t), 22.8 (q), 34.0 (t), 40.1 (t), 41.3 (t), 69.9 (d), 74.9 (s), 177.0 (s). *trans*-**4**: ¹H NMR (CDCl_3) δ 1.22 (s, 3H), 1.79–1.89 (m, 1H), 1.96–2.02 (m, 1H), 2.11–2.19 (m, 2H), 2.40 (ddd, 1H, $J = 2.8, 9.7, 16.9 \text{ Hz}$), 2.62–2.70 (m, 1H), 3.21–3.27 (m, 1H), 3.51 (dt, 1H, $J = 7.8, 11.7 \text{ Hz}$), 3.89 (t, 1H, $J = 7.3 \text{ Hz}$); ¹³C NMR (CDCl_3) δ 20.6 (t), 21.4 (q), 33.9 (t), 40.0 (t), 41.5 (t), 69.3 (d), 75.4 (s), 175.4 (s). *cis*-**5**: ¹H NMR (CDCl_3) δ 1.16 (s, 3H), 1.49–1.60 (m, 2H), 1.67–1.78 (m, 1H), 1.82–1.87 (m, 1H), 1.93–2.01 (m, 1H), 2.04–2.12 (m, 2H), 2.29–2.45 (m, 2H), 2.56–2.63 (m, 1H), 3.30 (dd, 1H, $J = 6.0, 8.3 \text{ Hz}$), 4.10–4.15 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl_3) δ 17.3 (t), 19.5 (t), 25.3 (q), 30.3 (t), 37.3 (t), 39.4 (t), 64.6 (d), 68.4 (s), 174.4 (s). *trans*-**5**: ¹H NMR (CDCl_3) δ 1.14 (s, 3H), 1.47–1.62 (m, 2H), 1.66–1.72 (m, 1H),

- 1.86–1.92 (m, 1H), 1.95–2.03 (m, 1H), 2.04–2.14 (m, 1H), 2.37 (t, 2H, $J = 8.3$ Hz), 2.59–2.66 (m, 1H), 3.37 (dd, 1H, $J = 4.1, 8.7$ Hz), 4.10 (dd, 1H, $J = 4.6, 12.9$ Hz); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3) δ 17.5 (t), 18.9 (q), 22.1 (t), 30.2 (t), 39.2 (t), 39.6 (t), 65.4 (d), 70.2 (s), 173.7 (s).
12. The reduction of *N,O*-acetals was carried out with 3 molar equiv of $\text{NaB}(\text{CN})\text{H}_3$ in methanol at room temperature for 12 h. During the reaction, the pH value of the solution was maintained at 2–3 by addition of 3 molar TFA in methanol.
13. The reduction of *N,O*-acetals was carried out with 5 molar equiv of $\text{Et}_3\text{SiH}/\text{BF}_3 \cdot \text{Et}_2\text{O}$ in dichloromethane at room temperature for 12 h.
14. Compound **12** (75/25 mixture): ^1H NMR (CDCl_3) δ 1.75–2.74 (m, 6H), 3.01–3.08 (m, 0.75H), 3.13–3.20 (m, 0.25H), 3.50 (s, 2.25H), 3.55 (s, 0.75H), 3.57–3.71 (m, 1H), 3.76–3.82 (m, 0.25H), 3.96–4.01 (m, 0.75H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3) δ (major) 19.2 (t), 31.1 (t), 34.1 (t), 39.4 (t), 58.8 (d), 61.5 (q), 64.2 (d), 175.3 (s); (minor) 19.2 (t), 26.0 (t), 29.9 (t), 39.8 (t), 62.0 (q), 65.2 (d), 65.7 (d), 174.7 (s). Compound **13** (75/25 mixture): ^1H NMR (CDCl_3) δ 1.34–1.61 (m, 2H), 1.76–2.08 (m, 3H), 2.15–2.45 (m, 3H), 2.50–2.69 (m, 2H), 3.26–3.33 (m, 0.75H), 3.50 (s, 0.75H), 3.52 (s, 2.25H), 3.62–3.67 (m, 0.25H), 4.07–4.13 (m, 1H), 5.53 (br s, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3) δ (major) 23.3 (t), 23.7 (t), 28.1 (t), 30.22 (t), 39.4 (t), 59.9 (d), 62.4 (q), 63.3 (d), 173.7 (s); (minor) 18.2 (t), 19.5 (t), 26.7 (t), 30.17 (t), 39.9 (t), 56.0 (d), 59.4 (d), 61.5 (q), 174.1 (s). Compound **14** (85/15 mixture): ^1H NMR (CDCl_3) δ 1.32–1.91 (m, 7H), 1.99–2.08 (m, 0.85H), 2.11–2.19 (m, 0.15H), 2.29–2.52 (m, 2H), 2.86–3.02 (m, 1.15H), 3.33–3.40 (m, 0.85H), 3.51 (s, 2.55H), 3.56 (s, 0.45H), 3.63–3.68 (m, 0.15H), 3.74–3.81 (m, 0.85H), 3.93–3.99 (m, 0.15H), 4.00–4.06 (m, 0.85H), 5.38 (br s, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3) δ (major) 21.4 (t), 26.1 (t), 27.43 (t), 27.7 (t), 30.3 (t), 42.0 (t), 59.4 (d), 61.4 (q), 62.7 (d), 174.8 (s); (minor) 21.7 (t), 24.4 (t), 27.39 (t), 27.8 (t), 30.0 (t), 41.6 (t), 61.3 (d), 62.0 (q), 63.8 (d), 170.0 (s). Compound **15** (80/20 mixture): ^1H NMR (CDCl_3) δ 1.30–1.38 (m, 0.2H), 1.48–1.58 (m, 0.8H), 1.61–1.75 (m, 1H), 1.87–2.11 (s, 3.8H), 2.23–2.33 (m, 1.2H), 2.40–2.47 (m, 1H), 3.20–3.33 (m, 0.4H), 3.43–3.49 (m, 1H), 3.50 (s, 2.4H), 3.54 (s, 0.6H), 3.53–3.59 (m, 0.8H), 3.60–3.75 (m, 1.8H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3) δ (major) 21.2 (t), 23.7 (t), 26.4 (t), 31.0 (t), 43.0 (t), 61.7 (d), 61.8 (d), 61.9 (q), 169.3 (s); (minor) 20.8 (t), 25.8 (t), 28.1 (t), 30.9 (t), 42.8 (t), 62.1 (d), 62.3 (q), 65.9 (d), 169.1 (s). *cis*-**16**: ^1H NMR (CDCl_3) δ 1.42–1.50 (m, 1H), 1.52–1.70 (m, 3H), 1.83–1.94 (m, 2H), 2.04–2.13 (m, 1H), 2.17–2.24 (m, 1H), 2.25–2.47 (m, 3H), 3.09–3.12 (m, 1H), 3.40–3.45 (m, 1H), 3.50 (s, 3H), 4.72–4.77 (m, 1H), 5.56 (br s, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3) δ 19.3 (t), 19.7 (t), 26.3 (t), 27.1 (t), 33.0 (t), 42.2 (t), 57.7 (d), 58.8 (d), 61.5 (q), 170.7 (s). *trans*-**16**: ^1H NMR (CDCl_3) δ 1.46–1.69 (m, 3H), 1.73–1.87 (m, 3H), 2.01–2.07 (m, 1H), 2.10–2.18 (m, 1H), 2.27–2.45 (m, 3H), 2.59–2.65 (m, 1H), 3.22–3.28 (m, 1H), 3.51 (s, 3H), 4.75–4.80 (m, 1H), 5.54 (br s, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3) δ 18.6 (t), 24.0 (t), 26.3 (t), 29.4 (t), 32.8 (t), 42.3 (t), 59.3 (d), 62.4 (q), 62.5 (d), 169.6 (s).
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16. The reduction of **16** was carried out with 4 molar equiv of LAH in THF under reflux for 2 h. After usual work up, the crude diamine was acetylated by treatment with 5 molar equiv of Ac_2O in dioxane at room temperature for 12 h to give **17**.