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## 5-Phenylthio-1,3-oxazinan-4-ones via hetero Diels–Alder reactions: synthesis of (*R*)- and (*S*)-Duloxetines and Fluoxetines

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Abstract—The synthesis of 5-phenylthio-1,3-oxazinan-4-ones, through a hetero Diels–Alder strategy, is described. The cycloadducts thus prepared have been shown to be useful intermediates for the synthesis of 1,3-aminoalcohols, valuable intermediates in the preparation of biologically significant molecules, e.g., optically active Duloxetines and Fluoxetines. In the course of this elaboration a novel microwave assisted desulfurization reaction is reported.

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### 1. Introduction

Hetero Diels-Alder cycloaddition is a versatile strategy for the synthesis of natural compounds containing sixmembered heterocyclic rings.<sup>1–9</sup> Moreover, this strategy has found important applications through the elaboration of the cyclic adducts thus obtained to acyclic compounds with a well-defined stereo- and regio-control of the present functionalities. Reported herein is the application of hetero Diels-Alder methodology to the synthesis of open-chain compounds containing the 1,3-hydroxy-amino moiety, which is present in a large class of pharmaceutically important com-pounds such as Duloxetine (Cymbalta<sup>®</sup>)<sup>10–12</sup> and Fluoxetine (Prozac<sup>®</sup>).<sup>13,14</sup> Prozac and Cymbalta have been chosen as target compounds being potent and highly selective inhibitors of neutral serotonin-reuptake and among the most important drugs for the treatment of psychiatric disorders and metabolic problems. Last but not the least, their market is very interesting from an industrial point of view.<sup>15</sup> As a matter of fact the establishment of new synthetic protocols, which allow the building-up of small libraries, with an easily obtainable different substitution pattern on the scaffold, is of primary importance for researchers involved in the preparation and the study of this class of compounds. Recent disclosure from these laboratories<sup>16</sup> have demonstrated that 5-unsubstituted perhydrooxazinan-4-ones, obtained via

a hetero Diels-Alder strategy, may be adopted as useful intermediates for the preparation of 1,3-aminoalcohols. In continuation of our studies on the use of hetero Diels-Alder strategy in the synthesis of heterocyclic compounds with different substitution pattern and their use for the preparation of acyclic derivatives we would like to present here our recent results on the synthesis and use of the 5-phenylthioperhydrooxazinan-4-ones in the preparation of racemic and optically active 1,3-aminoalcohols. Compared to the previously reported studies in the same field, we anticipated that the synthesis of the 5-phenylthio-substituted oxazinan-4ones may have its importance if the position five of the heterocyclic adduct is substituted by an easily removable group, as the thiophenyl one. Moreover, the intrinsic important reactivity of this functionality would allow further elaborations, e.g., introduction of an extra group and/or functionalities. As an example, the parent acyclic  $\beta$ -hydroxy- $\alpha$ -phenylthio-carboxy derivatives<sup>17–20</sup> have been shown to be useful intermediates for the synthesis of 1,3-aminoalcohols.<sup>21,22</sup>

## 2. Results and discussion

# 2.1. Synthesis of racemic 5-thiophenyl-1,3-oxazinan-4-ones

5-Phenylthio-1,3-oxazinan-4-ones have been obtained from the easily available 1,3-azadienes,<sup>23–28</sup> prepared from silylimines and ketenes, and using aldehydes as dienophiles. In the present study, the starting azadiene is a neutral

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3-trimethylsilyloxy-4-thioaryl-2-aza-1,3-diene, already used in a previous study for the preparation of a  $\beta$ -lactam ring by a  $4\pi$ -conrotatory electrocyclization.<sup>29</sup>

In detail, reaction of the neutral azadiene 1 with an aldehvde  $R^1CHO 2$ , in the presence of a stoichiometric amount of boron trifluoride etherate in dichloromethane (DCM) at -78 °C, gives rise to the formation of the expected 5-phenylthio-1,3-oxazinan-4-ones 3 and 4 with various substitution patterns at the C<sub>2</sub> and the C<sub>6</sub> carbon atoms (Scheme 1 and Table 1).<sup>30-35</sup> The results shown in Scheme 1 and Table 1 warrant some comments. (1) No traces of azedinones. arising from a  $4\pi$ -conrotatory electrocyclization, have been detected in the crude reaction mixtures.<sup>29,36</sup> (2) All the reactions are completely regioselective. (3) The use of an excess of Lewis acid does not influence the reaction course since the value of the diastereomeric ratio as well as that of the yield remains substantially untouched (Table 1 entry 2). (4) In all the experiments performed, irrespective of the starting azadiene and the dienophilic aldehyde used, a cis-relationship between the C<sub>5</sub>H and C<sub>6</sub>H is established, shown by the relative coupling constants  $(J_{cis}=2-4 \text{ Hz})$ and NOE experiments. Careful analysis of the results reported in Table 1 clearly allows to allocate, from the stereochemical relationship of C<sub>2</sub>H–C<sub>5</sub>H–C<sub>6</sub>H, two groups of cycloadducts: one (compounds 3a-3f) presenting the three ring-protons in a basket conformation and an other group (compounds 4a-4f) presenting the same cis-configuration between the C<sub>5</sub>H and C<sub>6</sub>H but a trans-relationship between C<sub>2</sub>H and C<sub>5</sub>H as pointed out by the combined analysis of coupling constants and NOEs. In order to ascertain if this stereo-difference originates from a different cyclization



Scheme 1. Reagents and conditions: (i) Ref. 29; (ii)  $R^1$ CHO (2), DCM,  $BF_3 \cdot Et_2O$ .

Table 1. Synthesis of perhydrooxazinan-2-ones 3 and 4

Exps.	R	$R^1$	Azadiene	Products	Ratio	Ys, % <sup>a</sup>
1	Ph	Ph	1a	3a/4a	90/10	35
2	Ph	Ph	1a	3a/4a	74/26	33 <sup>b</sup>
3	Ph	√ <sup>s</sup> ∕∕	1a	3b/4b	40/60	38
4	p-MeO-Ph	Ph	1b	3c/4c	80/20	55
5	o-TIPSO-Ph	Ph	1c	3d/4d	85/15	48
6	Ph	Me	1a	3e/4e	50/50	51
7	Ph	Boc / N	1a	3f/4f	40/60	41

<sup>a</sup> The yields have been calculated on the dienophilic aldehyde.

<sup>b</sup> BF<sub>3</sub>·Et<sub>2</sub>O (5 equiv) has been used.

mechanism (hetero Diels-Alder vs a competitive open-chain Mukaiyama mechanism<sup>37</sup>) and taking into account that, as already known,<sup>38–40</sup> an equilibrium between the cyclic perhydrooxazinan-4-ones and the open-chain derivatives may exist (Scheme 2), extra experiments were performed. Treatment of pure 3a with an excess of BF<sub>3</sub> etherate in methylene chloride for 4 h at room temperature gives rise to a mixture of **3a** and **4a** in 90/10 diastereomeric ratio as evaluated by <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectroscopic analysis. This is, in our opinion, a clear evidence that some degree of isomerization could take place after the formation of the Diels-Alder adduct thus suggesting the exclusion of a different reaction mechanism (e.g., a competitive Mukaivama type addition-cyclization two-step mechanism). A further confirmation of this working hypothesis comes out from the results obtained when a hydroxyalkyl group, which should not favor the formation of a positive charge, is present on the C<sub>2</sub> stereocenter (heterocyclic numbering). As a matter of fact in this case only two products were obtained (vide infra): they have the same basket conformation for the C<sub>2</sub>, C<sub>5</sub>, and C<sub>6</sub> hydrogen atoms and differ for opposite absolute configuration of these centers. Nevertheless, it must be pointed out that these speculations are interesting from a mechanistic point of view but useless from a practical one since this isomerization is immaterial in our strategic plan because of the loss of the  $C_2$  stereogenic center in the final products (see Schemes 3 and 4). For this reason no more investigations, so far, have been undertaken.



Scheme 2.



**Scheme 3.** Reagents and conditions: (i) MW, Nickel-Raney/EtOH; (ii) LiHMDS, CICOOMe, THF; (iii) LiAlH<sub>4</sub>/THF; (iv) Ref. 40; (v) Ref. 41.



**Scheme 4.** Reagents and conditions. (i) aluminum amalgam, *i*-PrOH; (ii) LiHMDS, MeI, THF; (iii) Ph<sub>2</sub>SiH<sub>2</sub>, RhH(CO)(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>, THF; (iv) HCl<sub>aq</sub>; (v) Ref. 49.

#### 2.2. Synthesis of racemic (±)-Prozac and (±)-Duloxetine

Having the desired perhydrooxazinones in hand, we followed our strategic plan by elaboration of the diastereomeric mixture of compounds 3a/4a and 3b/4b to the racemic ( $\pm$ )-Prozac and ( $\pm$ )-Duloxetine, respectively.

The synthetic protocols are outlined in Schemes 3 and 4.

Compounds **3a** and **4a** were easily desulfurated by the use of Nickel-Raney in a novel microwave-mediated<sup>41-45</sup> desulfur-ization reaction.<sup>18,46–49</sup> Thus treatment of adducts **3a** and **4a** with Raney-Nickel in a microwave oven allows to obtain, in a very short time (2 min) and high yields (80% and 92%, respectively), the corresponding desulfurated derivatives 5a and 6a. N-Carboxymethyl derivatives 7a and 8a were obtained in quantitative yields by treatment of 5a and 6a with methyl chloroformate and LiHMDS in THF. Reduction of the amide and carboxymethyl functionalities with lithium aluminum hydride gave rise to open-chain N-benzyl derivative 9a. Following already known procedures, this intermediate was easily converted to the racemic Prozac via hydrogenolysis of the benzyl group and arylation of the hydroxy functionality.<sup>50</sup> It must be stressed that the same synthetic protocol, applied to the diastereomeric mixture of 3a and 4a, gave the same results in terms of yields of the overall process. By the same strategy, with slight modifications,  $(\pm)$ -Duloxetine was prepared. Desulfuration of oxazinan-4-ones 3b and 4b by the above reported microwave-mediated Nickel-Raney methodology partially failed when applied to these compounds giving rise to low yields of the desired 5-unsubstituted derivatives 5b and 6b, probably due to side reactions on the thienyl ring. Different procedures, known in the literature to give good results, failed partially or completely. Finally we have found that desulfuration with aluminum amalgam<sup>51</sup> was the method of choice. Once we prepared the derivatives 5b and 6b, their elaboration to the final  $(\pm)$ -Duloxetine was a straightforward task. Methylation by LiHMDS and methyl iodide gave rise, in quantitative yields, to the N-methyl intermediates 7b and

**8b.** Reduction of the amide functionality by means of  $Ph_2SiH_2$ , in the presence of 1 mol %  $RhH(CO)(PPh_3)_3$  in THF,<sup>52</sup> resulted in the production of the partially unstable intermediates **9b** and **10b**. Ring opening by aqueous hydrochloric acid furnished the corresponding aminol **11b**. ( $\pm$ )-Duloxetine was obtained by means arylation of **11b** according to a literature procedure (Scheme 4).<sup>50</sup>

## 2.3. Synthesis of optically active 5-thiophenylsubstituted oxazinan-4-ones

Owing to the different biological activity exhibited by individual enantiomers of Prozac and Duloxetine, a number of enantioselective syntheses of these important compounds have been developed in recent years.<sup>53–55,50,56</sup> In this section we report the results obtained by our group in the synthesis of optically active aminoalcohols 10a and 11b and, therefore, of optically active (R)- and (S)-Fluoxetines and Duloxetines [(R)-11a, (S)-11a and (R)-12b, (S)-12b, respectively]. To reach this task and taking advantage of our experience on the synthesis of optically active perhydrooxazinan-4-ones by hetero Diels-Alder strategy, we prepared optically active azadiene 1d using, in its preparation, the trimethylsilylimine derived from optically active (S)lactic aldehyde and the 2-phenylthioacetylchloride as source of the ketene (Scheme 5). Reaction of the optically active azadiene 1d with a range of aldehydes furnished two oxazinan-4-ones 13 and 14 in diastereomeric ratios and yields reported in Table 2. The two diastereoisomers presented the same basket conformation for the protons on the heterocyclic ring *but* an opposite absolute configuration of the  $C_2$ ,  $C_5$ , and  $C_6$  stereocenters.



Scheme 5. Reagents and conditions: (i) Ref. 29; (ii) RCHO (2), DCM,  $BF_3 \cdot Et_2O$ .

Table 2. Synthesis of oxazinan-4-ones 13 and 14

Exps.	R	Products	Ratio <sup>a</sup>	Ys, % <sup>b</sup>
1	Ph	13a/14a	50/50	81
2	<b>S</b> ∕	13b/14b	60/40	90
3	Me	13c/14c	50/50	32
4		13d/14d	50/50	41
5	Boc	13e/14e	63/37	55

<sup>a</sup> Diastereomeric ratios have been determined on the crude reaction mix-

tures to avoid enrichments in the course of purification processes.

<sup>b</sup> The yields have been calculated on the dienophilic aldehyde.

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# **2.4.** Synthesis of (*R*)- and (*S*)-Fluoxetines and (*R*)- and (*S*)-Duloxetines

Once again, having in hand the desired heterocyclic compounds, we followed our strategic plan, aimed to obtain enantiomerically pure (S)- and (R)-Fluoxetines and (S)- and (R)-Duloxetines by elaboration of compounds **13a** and **14a** and compounds **13b** and **14b** to optically active aminoalcohols (1S)-**10a**, (1R)-**10a** and (1S)-**11b**, (1R)-**11b**, respectively. Conversion of compounds **13a** and **14a** to the (S)- and (R)-Fluoxetines proved to be an easy task. Accordingly, compounds **15a** and **16a** were easily obtained in quantitative yields by desulfuration of **13a** and **14a** as already described for the racemic derivatives by means of microwave assisted Raney-Nickel delsufuration. Elaboration of **15a** and **16a** 



Scheme 6. Reagents and conditions: (i) MW, Nickel-Raney/EtOH; (ii) Ref. 16.



**Scheme 7**. Reagents and conditions. (i) aluminum amalgam, *i*-PrOH; (ii) LiHMDS, MeI, THF; (iii) Ph<sub>2</sub>SiH<sub>2</sub>, RhH(CO)(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>, THF; (iv) HCl<sub>aq</sub>; (v) Ref. 50.

to the target (*S*)- and (*R*)-Fluoxetines has been already described in a previous paper (Scheme 6).<sup>16</sup> On the other hand elaboration of compounds **13b** and **14b** to the (*S*)- and (*R*)-Duloxetines was performed according to the protocol described for the racemic compound. Thus, desulfuration by means of aluminum amalgam followed by N-methylation (LiHMDS, CH<sub>3</sub>I), amide functionality reduction, and final arylation with fluoronaphthalene furnished the (*S*)- and (*R*)-Duloxetines (Scheme 7).

#### 3. Conclusions

In conclusion we have reported an extra contribution to the applications of azadienes of type **1** in the synthesis of valuable intermediates for the preparation of biologically significant molecules. Moreover, the 5-thio-substituted cyclic adducts thus obtained may be considered as cyclic form of  $\alpha$ -thio-carboxylic acid derivatives and, accordingly, may undergo further elaborations. Studies in this vein are currently in progress. Finally, the novel microwave assisted desulfuration herein described, represents a valuable method, alternative to those available for this task (e.g., use of expensive and toxic tributyltin hydride). Its application to other significant classes of compounds is in progress.

#### 4. Experimental

#### 4.1. General procedures

All starting compounds, unless otherwise stated, were purchased. Reactions were run under an atmosphere of dry nitrogen or argon. FT-IR spectra were recorded on a Perkin–Elmer infrared spectrometer, mass spectra on Finnigan MAT instrument, and NMR spectra on a Varian Mercury 400 MHz spectrometer using the residual signal of the solvent as internal standard. Chemical shifts are reported in the  $\delta$  scale and coupling constants (*J*) in hertz. Optical rotations were recorded on a Perkin–Elmer Polarimeter 343. Solvents were distilled and dried according to standard procedures. All the reactions were performed under a nitrogen atmosphere.

# **4.2.** General procedure (GP1) for the preparation of 1,3-oxazinan-4-ones 3a–3f and 4a–4f

Compound 1 (2 mmol), prepared according to literature,<sup>29</sup> was dissolved in anhydrous  $CH_2Cl_2$  (20 mL) and cooled at -78 °C. Aldehyde 2 (1 mmol), dissolved in methylene chloride (2 mL), was added followed by a slow addition of BF<sub>3</sub> etherate (1 mmol) in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (10 mL). The solution was stirred overnight while the temperature was allowed to reach room temperature. The mixture was poured into saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and extracted with  $CH_2Cl_2$ . The organic layers were dried and the solvent was removed in vacuum. The reaction mixture was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel. 5-Phenylthio-perhydrooxazin-4ones **3a–3f** and **4a–4f** were isolated in combined yields and diastereomeric ratios reported in Table 1.

4.2.1.  $(2S^*,5S^*,6R^*)$ -2,6-Diphenyl-5-phenylthio-[1,3]oxazinan-4-one 3a;  $(2R^*,5S^*,6R^*)$ -2,6-diphenyl-5-phenylthio-[1,3]oxazinan-4-one 4a. The crude reaction mixture obtained from azadiene **1a** (2 mmol) and benzaldehyde (0.1 mL, 1 mmol) according to GP1 was subjected to column chromatography (1:1 *EtOAc*/cyclohexane) to give **3a** and **4a** in 90/10 diastereomeric ratio and 35% overall yield.

Compound **3a**: pale yellow solid. Y=32%. Mp 173–174 °C. IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 1674 cm<sup>-1</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =7.60–7.10 (m, 15H), 6.30 (br s, 1H), 5.92 (s, 1H), 5.41 (d, *J*=2.4 Hz, 1H), 3.82 (d, *J*=2.4 Hz, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =169.1, 137.5, 136.9, 134.6, 133.2, 130.0, 128.8, 128.7, 128.1, 127.9, 127.8, 127.1, 125.9, 86.1, 78.6, 55.4. MS (*m*/*z*): 361, 255, 106, 91, 77. E.A. Calcd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>19</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>S: C, 73.10; H, 5.30; N, 3.88. Found: C, 73.29; H, 5.33.

Compound **4a**: Pale yellow oil. Y=3%. IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 1667 cm<sup>-1</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =7.78–7.00 (m, 15H), 6.53 (br s, 1H), 6.03 (s, 1H), 5.37 (d, *J*=3.6 Hz, 1H), 4.03 (d, *J*=3.6 Hz, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =169.4, 138.0, 136.1, 134.3, 132.9, 129.4, 128.8, 128.7, 128.3, 128.2, 127.7, 126.7, 126.6, 82.0, 73.6, 53.9. MS (*m*/*z*): 361, 255, 106, 91, 77. E.A. Calcd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>19</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>S: C, 73.10; H, 5.30; N, 3.88. Found: C, 73.32; H, 5.31.

**4.2.2.**  $(2S^*,5S^*,6S^*)$ -2-Phenyl-6-(thiophen-2-yl)-5-phenylthio-[1,3]oxazinan-4-one 3b;  $(2R^*,5S^*,6S^*)$ -2-phenyl-6-(thiophen-2-yl)-5-phenylthio-[1,3]oxazinan-4-one 4b. The crude reaction mixture obtained from azadiene 1a (2 mmol) and 2-thiophenecarboxaldehyde (0.093 mL, 1 mmol) according to GP1 was subjected to column chromatography (4:6 *EtOAc/*cyclohexane) to give 3b and 4b in 40/ 60 diastereomeric ratio and 38% overall yield.

Compound **3b**: pale yellow oil. Y=15%. IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 1676 cm<sup>-1</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =7.43 (m, 7H), 7.33 (dd,  $J_1$ =1.0 Hz,  $J_2$ =5.0 Hz, 1H), 7.24 (m, 3H), 7.06 (m, 1H), 7.01 (dd,  $J_1$ =3.4 Hz,  $J_2$ =5.0 Hz, 1H), 6.54 (br s, 1H), 5.93 (s, 1H), 5.60 (dd,  $J_1$ =0.6 Hz,  $J_2$ =2.4 Hz, 1H), 3.82 (d, J=2.4 Hz, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =168.8, 139.3, 137.1, 134.6, 132.9, 130.0, 128.9, 128.8, 127.8, 127.1, 126.37, 125.9, 125.5, 86.0, 76.3, 55.3. MS (*m*/*z*): 368 (M<sup>+</sup>+1), 323, 255, 212, 184, 152, 121, 106, 91, 77. E.A. Calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>19</sub>NOS<sub>2</sub>: C, 69.01; H, 5.24; N, 3.83. Found: C, 70.39; H, 5.34.

Compound **4b**: pale yellow oil. Y=23%. IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>):  $1675 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ . <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =7.50–7.38 (m, 8H), 7.33 (br s, 1H), 7.26 (m, 4H), 7.14 (m, 1H), 7.05 (dd,  $J_1$ =3.2 Hz,  $J_2$ =5.2 Hz, 1H), 5.83 (s, 1H), 5.57 (d, J=4.8 Hz, 1H), 4.23 (dd,  $J_1$ =3.6 Hz,  $J_2$ =4.8 Hz, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =168.6, 137.6, 137.5, 134.4, 133.5, 129.7, 129.0, 128.8, 127.2, 126.8, 126.7, 81.6, 72.1, 53.4. MS (m/z): 366 (M<sup>+</sup>-1), 322, 255, 212, 186, 152, 121, 106, 77. E.A. Calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>19</sub>NOS<sub>2</sub>: C, 69.01; H, 5.24; N, 3.83. Found: C, 70.39; H, 5.34.

**4.2.3.** (2*S*\*,5*S*\*,6*R*\*)-2-(4-Methoxy-phenyl)-6-phenyl-5phenylthio-[1,3]oxazinan-4-one 3c; (2*R*\*,5*S*\*,6*R*\*)-2-(4methoxy-phenyl)-6-phenyl-5-phenylthio-[1,3]oxazinan-4-one 4c. The crude reaction mixture obtained from azadiene 1b (2 mmol) and benzaldehyde (0.1 mL, 1 mmol) according to GP1 was subjected to column chromatography (1:1 *EtOAc*/cyclohexane) to give 3c and 4c in 80/20 diastereomeric ratio and 55% overall yield.

Compound **3c**: pale yellow solid. Y=44%. Mp 181–183 °C. IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 1672 cm<sup>-1</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =7.46–7.16 (m, 12H), 6.93 (d, *J*=8.8 Hz, 2H), 6.45 (br s, 1H), 5.86 (s, 1H), 5.38 (d, *J*=2.0 Hz, 1H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 3.80 (d, *J*=2.0 Hz, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =169.5, 160.8, 140.3, 136.9, 134.6, 133.2, 129.2, 128.8, 128.6, 128.1, 126.4, 125.9, 114.1, 85.8, 78.4, 55.4. MS (*m/z*): 392 (M<sup>+</sup>+1), 334, 316, 299, 285, 187, 162, 136, 105, 91, 77. E.A. Calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>S: C, 74.00; H, 5.95. Found: C, 75.48; H, 6.07.

Compound **4c**: pale yellow solid. Y=11%. IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 1673 cm<sup>-1</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =7.40–7.20 (m, 12H), 6.90 (d, *J*=8.6 Hz, 2H), 6.27 (br s, 1H), 5.96 (s, 1H), 5.38 (d, *J*=3.8 Hz, 1H), 4.08 (d, *J*=3.8 Hz, 1H), 3.80 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =169.7, 160.7, 136.4, 134.6, 133.1, 130.3, 129.1, 128.5, 128.4, 128.0, 127.9, 127.1, 114.4, 82.1, 73.9, 55.6, 54.1. MS (*m/z*): 392 (M<sup>+</sup>+1), 316, 299, 285, 281, 210, 136, 105, 91, 77. E.A. Calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>S: C, 74.00; H, 5.95. Found: C, 75.48; H, 6.07.

**4.2.4.** (2*S*\*,5*S*\*,6*R*\*)-2-(2-Triisopropylsilyloxyphenyl)-6-phenyl-5-(phenylthio)-[1,3]oxazinan-4-one 3d; (2*R*\*,5*S*\*,6*R*\*)-2-(2-triisopropylsilyloxyphenyl)-6-phenyl-5-(phenylthio)-[1,3]oxazinan-4-one 4d. The crude reaction mixture obtained from azadiene 1c (2 mmol) and benzaldehyde (0.1 mL, 1 mmol) according to GP1 was subjected to column chromatography (4:6 *EtOAc*/cyclohexane) to give 3d and 4d in 85/15 diastereomeric ratio and 48% overall yield.

Compound **3d**: pale yellow oil. Y=41%. IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>):  $1674 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ . <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =7.62–6.85 (m, 14H), 6.36 (s, 1H), 6.22 (br s, 1H), 5.42 (d, *J*=2.4 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (d, *J*=2.4 Hz, 1H), 1.10 (m, 21H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =168.8, 153.0, 137.1, 134.6, 133.2, 130.3, 128.7, 128.1, 127.8, 127.6, 127.5, 127.2, 125.9, 121.5, 118.0, 80.5, 78.5, 55.5, 18.0, 12.9. MS (*m*/*z*): 534, 427, 385, 279, 234. E.A. Calcd for C<sub>32</sub>H<sub>41</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>SSi: C, 72.27; H, 7.77. Found: C, 74.44; H, 8.00.

Compound **4d**: pale yellow oil. Y=7%. IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>):  $1672 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ . <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =7.45–7.05 (m, 14H), 6.33 (br s, 1H), 6.21 (s, 1H), 5.50 (d, *J*=4.0 Hz, 1H), 4.10 (d, *J*=4.0 Hz, 1H), 1.05 (m, 21H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =168.4, 153.4, 135.6, 134.4, 132.9, 130.1, 128.8, 128.5, 128.3, 127.7, 127.4, 126.6, 121.1, 118.5, 77.6, 75.1, 53.4, 18.0, 13.0. MS (*m*/*z*): 534, 427, 385, 279, 234. E.A. Calcd for C<sub>32</sub>H<sub>41</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>SSi: C, 72.27; H, 7.77. Found: C, 74.44; H, 8.00.

**4.2.5.** (2*S*\*,5*S*\*,6*R*\*)-6-Methyl-2-phenyl-5-phenylthio-[1,3]oxazinan-4-one 3e; (2*R*\*,5*S*\*,6*R*\*)-6-methyl-2-phenyl-5-phenylthio-[1,3]oxazinan-4-one 4e. The crude reaction mixture obtained from azadiene 1a (2 mmol) and acetaldehyde (0.056 mL, 1 mmol) according to GP1 was subjected to column chromatography (6:4 *EtOAc/*cyclohexane) to give 3e and 4e in 50/50 diastereomeric ratio and 51% overall yield.

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Compound **3e**: pale yellow oil. Y=25%. IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 1672 cm<sup>-1</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =7.70 (m, 2H), 7.45–7.23 (m, 8H), 6.69 (br s, 1H), 5.74 (s, 1H), 4.34 (dq,  $J_1$ =6.4 Hz,  $J_2$ =2.8 Hz, 1H), 3.51 (d, J=2.8 Hz, 1H), 1.57 (d, J=6.4 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =169.7, 137.8, 135.1, 133.3, 130.2, 129.3, 129.0, 128.0, 127.3, 86.2, 74.2, 54.6, 18.6. MS (*m*/*z*): 299, 255, 122, 106. E.A. Calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>17</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>S: C, 68.20; H, 5.72; N, 4.68. Found: C, 68.34; H, 5.73.

Compound **4e**: yellow solid. Y=26%. Mp 147–148 °C. IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 1677 cm<sup>-1</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =7.61 (m, 2H), 7.50–7.15 (m, 8H), 6.67 (br s, 1H), 5.97 (s, 1H), 4.34 (m, 1H), 3.82 (d, *J*=3.6 Hz, 1H), 1.48 (d, *J*=6.8 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =169.0, 138.7, 134.4, 132.8, 129.7, 129.3, 129.1, 128.0, 126.8, 82.0, 69.0, 54.1, 16.8. MS (*m*/*z*): 299, 255, 122, 105, 91, 77. E.A. Calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>17</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>S: C, 68.20; H, 5.72; N, 4.68. Found: C, 68.30; H, 5.71.

**4.2.6.** *tert*-Butyl-3-[(2*S*\*,5*S*\*,6*R*\*)-4-oxo-2-phenyl-5-(phenylthio)-[1,3]oxazinan-6-yl]-1*H*-indole-1-carboxylate 3f; *tert*-butyl-3-[(2*R*\*,5*S*\*,6*R*\*)-4-oxo-2-phenyl-5-(phenylthio)-[1,3]oxazinan-6-yl]-1*H*-indole-1-carboxylate 4f. The crude reaction mixture obtained from azadiene 1a (2 mmol) and *tert*-butyl-3-formyl-1*H*-indole-1-carboxylate (245 mg, 1 mmol) according to GP1 was subjected to column chromatography (4:6 *EtOAc/*cyclohexane) to give 3f and 4f in 40/60 diastereomeric ratio and 41% overall yield.

Compound **3f**: yellow oil. Y=16%. IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 1737, 1673 cm<sup>-1</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =7.75 (s, 1H), 7.60–7.05 (m, 14H), 6.21 (br s, 1H), 6.00 (s, 1H), 5.63 (dd,  $J_1$ =2.0 Hz,  $J_2$ =0.8 Hz, 1H), 4.04 (d, J=2.0 Hz, 1H), 1.66 (s, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =169.2, 149.8, 137.7, 134.5, 133.2, 130.3, 129.1, 128.9, 128.0, 127.9, 127.4, 124.8, 124.7, 123.0, 119.0, 118.1, 116.9, 115.7, 86.5, 84.2, 74.7, 54.1, 28.4. MS (*m*/*z*): 399 (M<sup>+</sup>–*t*-Boc), 334, 255, 202, 106, 91, 77. E.A. Calcd for C<sub>29</sub>H<sub>28</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>S: C, 69.58; H, 5.64; N, 5.60. Found: C, 69.75; H, 5.62.

Compound **4f**: pale yellow solid. Y=25%. Mp 102–104 °C. IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 1738, 1673 cm<sup>-1</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =7.84 (s, 1H), 7.50–7.15 (m, 14H), 6.83 (br s, 1H), 5.78 (s, 1H), 5.67 (dd,  $J_1$ =4.8 Hz,  $J_2$ =0.8 Hz, 1H), 4.41 (d, J=4.8 Hz, 1H), 1.71 (s, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =168.7, 149.4, 137.7, 135.4, 134.2, 132.4, 129.6, 128.9, 128.8, 128.7, 127.6, 126.8, 125.2, 124.9, 122.9, 119.1, 115.4, 114.4, 84.3, 81.7, 70.0, 52.4, 28.1. MS (*m*/*z*): 456, 422, 399, 334, 255, 202, 186, 131, 107, 91, 77. E.A. Calcd for C<sub>29</sub>H<sub>28</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>S: C, 69.58; H, 5.64; N, 5.60. Found: C, 69.77; H, 5.62.

# **4.3.** MW-mediated desulfurization reaction: preparation of 5a as general procedure (GP2)

5-Phenylsulfanyl-perhydrooxazinone **3a** (87 mg, 0.24 mmol), Nickel-Raney (0.6 g), and EtOH (6 mL) were mixed in a 30 mL reaction tube. The tube was sealed and positioned in the reaction cavity. The sealed reaction was irradiated at 150 W for 2 min. The reaction mixture was filtered on Celite, and the solvent evaporated. The crude

reaction mixture was purified by flash chromatography (3:7 *EtOAc*/cyclohexane) to give the desired product **5a** in 80% yield.

**4.3.1.** (2*S*\*,6*S*\*)-2,6-Diphenyl-[1,3]oxazinan-4-one 5a. Pale yellow oil. IR (Nujol): 1653 cm<sup>-1</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =7.51 (m, 2H), 7.43–7.30 (m, 8H), 6.57 (br s, 1H), 5.92 (s, 1H), 5.02 (m, 1H), 2.75 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =168.8, 139.6, 137.7, 129.9, 128.8, 128.7, 128.3, 126.9, 125.6, 85.7, 76.6, 39.1. MS (*m*/*z*): 253, 175, 147, 131, 118, 104, 78. E.A. Calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>15</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>: C, 75.87; H, 5.97. Found: C, 75.96; H, 5.98.

**4.3.2.** (2*R*\*,6*S*\*)-2,6-Diphenyl-[1,3]oxazinan-4-one 6a. The crude reaction mixture obtained from 5-phenylsul-fanyl-perhydrooxazinone 4a, according to GP2, was subjected to a short column chromatography (3:7 *EtOAc/* cyclohexane) to give 6a in 92% overall yield.

Pale yellow oil. IR (Nujol):  $1653 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ . <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =7.60–7.30 (m, 10H), 6.54 (br s, 1H), 5.95 (s, 1H), 5.05 (dd, 1H,  $J_1$ =7.2 Hz,  $J_2$ =5.8 Hz), 2.86 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =169.6, 139.2, 138.4, 129.2, 128.7, 128.6, 128.3, 126.7, 126.1, 81.8, 70.2, 37.6. MS (*m*/*z*): 253, 175, 147, 131, 118, 104, 78. E.A. Calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>15</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>: C, 75.87; H, 5.97. Found: C, 75.99; H, 5.60.

**4.3.3.** (2*S*\*,6*S*\*)-Methyl 4-oxo-2,6-diphenyl-1,3-oxazinane-3-carboxylate 7a. To a solution of 5a (253 mg, 1.0 mmol) in THF (10 ml) at 0 °C was added LiHMDS (1 M in THF, 1.0 mmol, 1.0 ml). The reaction mixture was stirred for 20 min, then methyl chloroformate (8 mmol, 0.62 ml) was added. Stirring was maintained for 2 h at the same temperature. A saturated solution of NH<sub>4</sub>Cl was added and the mixture was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The organic phases were dried on Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated in vacuum. The carbamate 7a was obtained in quantitative yield and used as such for the next step.

Compound **7a**: pale yellow oil. IR (Nujol): 1731, 1702 cm<sup>-1</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =7.50–7.20 (m, 10H), 6.41 (s, 1H), 5.06 (dd, 1H,  $J_1$ =7.2 Hz,  $J_2$ =5.8 Hz), 3.67 (s, 3H), 2.97 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =167.4, 152.8, 138.4, 138.2, 129.3, 128.5, 128.4, 128.3, 126.8, 125.5, 89.5, 75.2, 53.5, 41.5. MS (*m*/*z*): 311, 234, 223. E.A. Calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>17</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>: C, 69.44; H, 5.50. Found: C, 70.83; H, 5.61.

**4.3.4.** (2*R*\*,6*R*\*)-Methyl 4-oxo-2,6-diphenyl-1,3-oxazinane-3-carboxylate 8a. The crude reaction mixture obtained from product 6a according to the procedure used for 7a gave 8a in quantitative yield, which was used as such for the next step.

Compound **8a**: pale yellow oil. IR (Nujol): 1731, 1702 cm<sup>-1</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =7.50–7.20 (m, 10H), 6.96 (s, 1H), 4.83 (m, 1H), 3.91 (s, 3H), 2.87 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =167.4, 153.0, 139.4, 137.3, 129.13, 128.9, 128.7, 128.4, 126.5, 125.6, 86.1, 69.7, 54.1, 40.9. MS (*m*/*z*): 311, 234, 223. E.A. Calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>17</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>: C, 69.44; H, 5.50. Found: C, 70.83; H, 5.61.

### 4.3.5. Procedure for the preparation of aminol 10a.

**4.3.5.1.** Step 1: **3**-(*N*-benzyl-*N*-methylamino)-1phenyl-propan-1-ol 9a. Carbamate 7a and/or 8a (1 mmol) were dissolved in anhydrous  $Et_2O$  (10 mL) at 0 °C. Lithium aluminum hydride (LAH, 1 M in  $Et_2O$ , 4 mmol) was added and the mixture was stirred for 2 h. NaOH (10 mL, 5 N) was added and the aqueous phase was washed with ethyl acetate. The extracts were treated with HCl 1 N; aqueous phase was neutralized with NaOH 5 N (pH=10–12) and extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The organic phase was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and the solvent evaporated. Product **9a** so obtained was used without purification for the next step of the synthesis.

Pale yellow oil. IR (Nujol): 3243, 2946, 2843, 1602 cm<sup>-1</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =7.0–7.6 (m, 10H), 4.97 (dd,  $J_1$ =3.9 Hz,  $J_2$ =7.5 Hz, 1H), 3.70 (d, J=12.7 Hz, 1H), 3.53 (d, J=12.7 Hz, 1H), 2.87 (m, 1H), 2.66 (m, 1H), 2.32 (s, 3H), 1.94 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =144.8, 137.6, 129.0, 128.1, 128.0, 127.2, 126.7, 125.4, 75.4, 62.6, 56.2, 41.6, 34.4. MS (m/z): 255, 134, 120, 91. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>21</sub>NO: C, 79.96; H, 8.29. Found: C, 80.01; H, 8.31.

**4.3.5.2. Step 2: hydrogenolysis of 9a.** Hydrogenolysis of compound **9a** according to literature procedure furnished aminol **10a** in 78% yield. Spectra are just similar to the literature data.<sup>50</sup>

## **4.4.** Desulfurization reaction by Al/HgCl<sub>2</sub> amalgam: preparation of 5b as general procedure (GP3)

Aluminum (4.0 g) and 50 mL of a solution of HgCl<sub>2</sub> (1% in H<sub>2</sub>O) were stirred for 1 min, the mixture was decanted and the residue was washed with water. The amalgam so prepared was added to a solution of compound **3b** (335 mg, 0.9 mmol) in *i*-PrOH (50 ml) under inert atmosphere. The reaction was stirred overnight until the disappearance of starting materials (TLC test). The mixture was filtered through Celite and the solvent was removed in vacuo. Product **5b** so obtained was used for the next step without any purification. An aliquot of the crude reaction mixture was utilized for identification of **5b** after purification by a short flash chromatography on silica gel (5:3:2 CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/cyclohexane/*EtOAc*).

**4.4.1.** (2*S*\*,6*S*\*)-2-Phenyl-6-(thiophen-2-yl)-[1,3]oxazinan-4-one 5b. Pale yellow oil. IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 1670 cm<sup>-1</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =7.50–6.95 (m, 8H), 6.37 (br s, 1H), 5.93 (s, 1H), 5.27 (dd, *J*<sub>1</sub>=4.0 Hz, *J*<sub>2</sub>=11.2 Hz, 1H), 2.95 (dd, *J*<sub>1</sub>=11.2 Hz, *J*<sub>2</sub>=17.2 Hz, 1H), 2.86 (dd, *J*<sub>1</sub>=4.0 Hz, *J*<sub>2</sub>=11.2 Hz, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =168.2, 142.1, 137.3, 130.1, 128.9, 126.9, 126.7, 125.9, 125.0, 85.7, 72.7, 38.9. MS (*m*/*z*): 259, 181, 154, 147, 137, 118, 106, 85, 77. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>13</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>S: C, 64.84; H, 5.05. Found: C, 64.96; H, 5.06.

**4.4.2.** (2*S*\*,6*S*\*)-*N*-Methyl-2-phenyl-6-(thiophen-2-yl)-[1,3]oxazinan-4-one 7b. To a solution of crude 5b (0.9 mmol) in THF (10 mL) at 0 °C was added LHMDSA (1 M in THF, 0.9 mL). The reaction was stirred for 20 min, MeI (0.45 mL, 7.2 mmol) was added and the solution warmed to room temperature. Stirring was maintained for 1.5 h at the same temperature. A saturated solution of NH<sub>4</sub>Cl was added, the organic solvent removed in vacuo, and the obtained aqueous solution extracted with *EtOAc*. The organic phases were collected, dried on Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, and concentrated in vacuo. The reaction mixture was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel, eluting with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/ cyclohexane/*EtOAc* 50/30/20. Compound **7b** was obtained in 55% overall yield calculated from product **3b**.

Pale yellow oil. IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 1644 cm<sup>-1</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =7.4 (m, 5H), 7.29 (dd,  $J_1$ =1.2 Hz,  $J_2$ =5.2 Hz, 1H), 7.05 (dd,  $J_1$ =1.2 Hz,  $J_2$ =4.4 Hz, 1H), 6.97 (dd,  $J_1$ =4.4 Hz,  $J_2$ =5.2 Hz, 1H), 5.78 (s, 1H), 5.23 (dd,  $J_1$ =2.8 Hz,  $J_2$ =12.0 Hz, 1H), 3.05 (dd,  $J_1$ =12.0 Hz,  $J_2$ =16.8 Hz, 1H), 2.90 (dd,  $J_1$ =2.8 Hz,  $J_2$ =16.8 Hz, 1H), 2.90 (dd,  $J_1$ =2.8 Hz,  $J_2$ =16.8 Hz, 1H), 2.63 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =171.1, 142.0, 136.9, 129.8, 128.8, 127.6, 126.7, 125.9, 125.0, 91.0, 71.9, 39.8, 29.8. MS (m/z): 273, 259, 196, 167, 137, 118, 110, 91, 77. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>15</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>S: C, 65.91; H, 5.53. Found: C, 65.81; H, 5.52.

**4.4.3. Synthesis of**  $(2R^*,6S^*)$ **-2-phenyl-6-(thiophen-2-yl)-**[**1,3]oxazinan-4-one 6b.** Product **6b**, obtained from **4b** according to GP3, was used for the methylation step without any purification. Identification was performed on an aliquot of the crude reaction mixture prior to purification by a short flash chromatography on silica gel (5:3:2 CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/cyclohexane/*EtOAc*).

Pale yellow oil. IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>):  $1671 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ . <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =7.45–7.00 (m, 8H), 6.72 (br s, 1H), 5.84 (s, 1H), 5.34 (t, *J*=6.0 Hz, 1H), 2.96 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =168.5, 142.0, 137.8, 129.6, 128.9, 126.9, 126.8, 126.5, 125.8, 81.0, 67.8, 37.0. MS (*m*/*z*): 259, 181, 154, 147, 137, 118, 106, 85, 77. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>13</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>S: C, 64.84; H, 5.05. Found: C, 65.01; H, 5.07.

**4.4.4. Synthesis of (2***R***\*,6***S***\*)-***N***-methyl-2-phenyl-6-(thiophen-2-yl)-[1,3]oxazinan-4-one 8b. Crude 6b was methylated, following the procedure used for 7b, to give 8b, after a short column chromatography (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/cyclohexane/***EtOAc* **50/30/20) in 58% overall yield calculated from product 4b.** 

Pale yellow oil. IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>):  $1645 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ . <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =7.42 (m, 3H), 7.37 (d, *J*=2.0 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (dd, *J*<sub>1</sub>=1.6 Hz, *J*<sub>2</sub>=5.2 Hz, 1H), 6.95 (dd, *J*<sub>1</sub>=3.2 Hz, *J*<sub>2</sub>=5.2 Hz, 1H), 6.90 (m, 1H), 6.72 (br s, 1H), 5.78 (s, 1H), 5.12 (dd, *J*<sub>1</sub>=6.0 Hz, *J*<sub>2</sub>=8.4 Hz, 1H), 2.94 (m, 2H), 2.85 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =166.6, 142.1, 136.4, 129.5, 128.6, 127.4, 126.7, 125.94, 125.13, 87.6, 66.6, 38.3, 31.1. MS (*m*/*z*): 273, 196, 188, 168, 137, 118, 110, 97, 77. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>15</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>S: C, 65.91; H, 5.53. Found: C, 68.82; H, 5.51.

**4.4.5.** Synthesis of aminol *rac*-11b.  $Ph_2SiH_2$  (0.46 mL, 2.5 mmol) and RhH(CO)(PPh\_3)\_3 (1%) were added to a solution of **7b** or **8b** (273 mg, 1.0 mmol) in THF (10 mL) at room temperature and the stirring maintained for 15 h. Disappearance of starting material was verified by TLC (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/ cyclohexane/*EtOAc* 50/30/20). Aqueous HCl (1 M, 2.50 mL) was added to the crude reaction mixture and the stirring maintained at the same temperature for 4 h. The organic solvent was removed in vacuo and the obtained aqueous

solution extracted with  $Et_2O$ . The aqueous phase was basified with  $NH_4OH$  (pH=10) and then extracted with  $CH_2Cl_2$ . The organic phases were dried over  $Na_2SO_4$  and the solvent evaporated.

Compound *rac*-11b was obtained in 95% yield calculated from product 7b. Spectral data are identical to the product obtained from 19b or 20b (see below).

# **4.5.** General procedure (GP5) for the preparation of 1,3-oxazinan-4-ones 13a–13e and 14a–14e

Azadiene **1d** (2 mmol), prepared according to literature from (2*S*)-triisopropylsilyloxy-propanal and 2-(phenylthio)acetyl chloride<sup>28</sup> **5**, was dissolved in anhydrous CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (20 mL) and cooled at -78 °C. Aldehyde **2** (1 mmol) in methylene chloride (2 mL) was added followed by a slow addition of BF<sub>3</sub> etherate (1 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (10 mL). The solution was stirred overnight while the temperature was allowed to reach room temperature. The mixture was poured into saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The organic layers were dried and the solvent was removed in vacuum. The reaction mixture was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel. 5-Phenylthio-perhydrooxazin-40nes **13a–13e** and **14a–14e** were isolated in combined yields and diastereomeric ratios reported in Table 2.

**4.5.1.** (2*R*,5*R*,6*S*)-2-[(*S*)-1-Triisopropylsilyloxyethyl]-6phenyl-5-(phenylthio)-[1,3]oxazinan-4-one 13a; (2*S*,5*S*,6*R*)-2-[(*S*)-1-triisopropylsilyloxyethyl]-6-phenyl-5-(phenylthio)-[1,3]oxazinan-4-one 14a. The crude reaction mixture obtained from azadiene 1f (2 mmol) and benzaldehyde (0.1 mL, 1 mmol) according to GP5 was subjected to column chromatography (3:7 *EtOAc/*cyclohexane) to give 13a and 14a in 50/50 diastereomeric ratio and 81% overall yield.

Compound **13a**: colorless oil. Y=41%.  $[\alpha]_{20}^{20}$  13.0 (*c* 0.7, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 1677 cm<sup>-1</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =7.45–7.05 (m, 10H), 6.22 (br s, 1H), 5.25 (d, *J*=2.0 Hz, 1H), 5.08 (d, *J*=2.8 Hz, 1H), 4.23 (m, 1H), 3.69 (d, *J*=2.8 Hz, 1H), 1.31 (d, *J*=7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.05 (s, 21H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =169.1, 136.7, 135.0, 132.8, 128.7, 128.0, 127.9, 127.6, 126.0, 85.3, 77.8, 68.8, 56.3, 18.0, 17.9, 15.9, 12.1. MS (*m*/*z*): 486, 442, 399, 379, 336, 239, 211, 188, 135, 77. E.A. Calcd for C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>39</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>SSi: C, 66.76; H, 8.09; N, 2.88. Found: C, 66.86; H, 8.11.

Compound **14a**: colorless oil. Y=40%.  $[\alpha]_D^{20}$  -41.5 (*c* 2.0, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 1676 cm<sup>-1</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =7.40–7.07 (m, 10H), 6.35 (br s, 1H), 5.22 (d, *J*=2.4 Hz, 1H), 4.58 (d, *J*=8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.77 (m, 1H), 3.76 (d, *J*=2.4 Hz, 1H), 1.35 (d, *J*=5.6 Hz, 3H), 1.05 (s, 21H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =168.2, 145.4, 137.0, 133.7, 128.9, 128.6, 128.2, 127.8, 125.7, 87.6, 78.0, 71.5, 55.2, 19.5, 18.1, 18.0, 12.6. MS (*m*/*z*): 486, 442, 379, 336, 284, 239, 211, 188, 135, 77. E.A. Calcd for C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>39</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>SSi: C, 66.76; H, 8.09; N, 2.88. Found: C, 66.82; H, 8.10.

**4.5.2.** (2*R*,5*R*,6*R*)-2-[(*S*)-1-Triisopropylsilyloxyethyl]-6-(thiophen-2-yl)-5-(phenylthio)-[1,3]oxazinan-4-one 13b; (2*S*,5*S*,6*S*)-2-[(*S*)-1-triisopropylsilyloxyethyl]-6-(thiophen-2-yl)-5-(phenylthio)-[1,3]oxazinan-4-one 14b. The crude reaction mixture obtained from azadiene **1d** (2 mmol) and 2-thiophenecarboxaldehyde (0.093 mL, 1 mmol) according to GP5 was subjected to column chromatography (2:8 *EtOAc*/cyclohexane) to give **13b** and **14b** in 60/40 diastereomeric ratio and 90% overall yield.

Compound **13b**: pale yellow oil. Y=54%.  $[\alpha]_{20}^{20}$ +33.5 (*c* 2.9, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 1672 cm<sup>-1</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =7.36 (m, 3H), 7.20 (m, 3H), 7.01 (m, 2H), 6.20 (br s, 1H, NH), 5.46 (d, *J*=2.0 Hz, 1H), 5.09 (d, *J*=3.6 Hz, 1H), 4.19 (dq, *J*<sub>1</sub>=3.6 Hz, *J*<sub>2</sub>=6.0 Hz, 1H), 3.71 (d, *J*=2.0 Hz, 1H), 1.26 (d, *J*=6.0 Hz, 3H), 1.07 (m, 21H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =168.80, 139.61, 135.80, 132.32, 128.84, 127.60, 126.28, 126.03, 125.52, 85.51, 75.69, 68.72, 56.16, 18.02, 15.88, 12.14. MS (*m*/*z*): 492, 448, 379, 336, 187. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>37</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>S<sub>2</sub>Si: C, 61.06; H, 7.58. Found: C, 61.20; H, 7.63.

Compound **14b**: pale yellow oil. Y=36%.  $[\alpha]_{20}^{20}$  -58.6 (*c* 2.5, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 1685 cm<sup>-1</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =7.42–7.20 (m, 6H), 7.02–6.98 (m, 2H), 6.33 (br s, 1H, NH), 5.41 (dd,  $J_1$ =1.2 Hz,  $J_2$ =2.4 Hz, 1H), 4.60 (d, J=8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.77 (d, J=2.4 Hz, 1H), 3.68 (m, 1H), 1.31 (d, J=6.4 Hz, 3H), 1.08 (m, 21H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =167.68, 139.66, 134.16, 133.56, 128.71, 127.96, 126.51, 125.54, 124.75, 87.66, 76.07, 71.35, 55.16, 19.43, 18.12, 12.58. MS (*m*/*z*): 491, 446, 379, 336, 217, 186. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>37</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>S<sub>2</sub>Si: C, 61.06; H, 7.58. Found: C, 61.18; H, 7.60.

**4.5.3.** (2*R*,5*R*,6*S*)-2-[(*S*)-1-Triisopropylsilyloxyethyl]-6-methyl-5-(phenylthio)-[1,3]oxazinan-4-one 13c; (2*S*,5*S*,6*R*)-2-[(*S*)-1-triisopropylsilyloxyethyl]-6-methyl-5-(phenylthio)-[1,3]oxazinan-4-one 14c. The crude reaction mixture obtained from azadiene 1f (2 mmol) and acetaldehyde (0.056 mL, 1 mmol) according to GP5 was subjected to column chromatography (2:8 *EtOAc*/cyclohexane) to give 13c and 14c in 50/50 diastereomeric ratio and 32% overall yield.

Compound **13c**: pale yellow oil. Y=16%.  $[\alpha]_{D}^{20}$  40.0 (*c* 2.1, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 1670 cm<sup>-1</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =7.65 (m, 2H), 7.40–7.18 (m, 3H), 6.10 (br s, 1H), 4.90 (d, *J*=3.2 Hz, 1H), 4.20 (dq, *J*<sub>1</sub>=6.0 Hz, *J*<sub>2</sub>=1.8 Hz, 1H), 4.06 (dq, *J*<sub>1</sub>=6.4 Hz, *J*<sub>2</sub>=3.2 Hz, 1H), 3.46 (d, *J*=1.8 Hz, 1H), 1.50 (d, *J*=6.0 Hz, 3H), 1.11 (d, *J*=6.4 Hz, 3H), 1.05 (s, 21H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =169.4, 135.6, 132.4, 129.0, 127.5, 85.4, 73.2, 68.8, 55.1, 18.0, 17.9, 15.7, 12.1. MS (*m*/*z*): 423, 408, 380, 362, 336, 223, 187, 149, 77. E.A. Calcd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>37</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>SSi: C, 62.37; H, 8.80; N, 3.31. Found: C, 62.40; H, 8.83.

Compound **14c**: pale yellow oil. Y=16%.  $[\alpha]_{D}^{20}$  -40.7 (*c* 1.35, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 1667 cm<sup>-1</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =7.65 (m, 2H), 7.25 (m, 3H), 6.25 (br s, 1H), 4.39 (d, *J*=7.2 Hz, 1H), 4.14 (dq, *J*<sub>1</sub>=6.4 Hz, *J*<sub>2</sub>=2.4 Hz, 1H), 3.50 (m, 1H), 3.45 (d, *J*=2.4 Hz, 1H), 1.50 (d, *J*=6.4 Hz, 3H), 1.21 (d, *J*=6.0 Hz, 3H), 1.05 (s, 21H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =168.3, 134.5, 133.4, 128.8, 127.7, 87.5, 73.4, 71.3, 54.5, 19.3, 18.1, 18.0, 12.6. MS (*m*/*z*): 423, 408, 380, 362, 336, 222, 186, 149, 77. E.A. Calcd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>37</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>SSi: C, 62.37; H, 8.80; N, 3.31. Found: C, 62.42; H, 8.84.

**4.5.4.** (2*R*,5*R*,6*S*)-2-[(*S*)-1-Triisopropylsilyloxyethyl]-6-(naphthalen-2-yl)-5-(phenylthio)-[1,3]oxazinan-4-one 13d; (2*S*,5*S*,6*R*)-2-[(*S*)-1-triisopropylsilyloxyethyl]-6-(naphthalen-2-yl)-5-(phenylthio)-[1,3]oxazinan-4-one 14d. The crude reaction mixture obtained from azadiene 1f (2 mmol) and 2-naphthaldehyde (156 mg, 1 mmol) according to GP5 was subjected to column chromatography (3:7 *EtOAc*/cyclohexane) to give 13d and 14d in 50/50 diastereomeric ratio and 41% overall yield.

Compound **13d**: pale yellow oil. Y=20%.  $[\alpha]_{D}^{20} -39.7$ (*c* 1.40, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 1678 cm<sup>-1</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =7.82 (m, 5H), 7.50 (m, 2H), 7.38 (m, 1H), 7.05 (m, 5H), 6.26 (br s, 1H), 5.41 (d, *J*=2.6 Hz, 1H), 5.15 (d, *J*=3.6 Hz, 1H), 4.29 (dq, *J*<sub>1</sub>=6.4 Hz, *J*<sub>2</sub>=3.6 Hz, 1H), 3.83 (d, *J*=2.6 Hz, 1H), 1.36 (d, *J*=6.4 Hz, 3H), 1.08 (s, 21H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =169.1, 134.8, 134.1, 132.9, 132.8, 132.7, 128.6, 128.1, 127.8, 127.7, 127.6, 126.2, 126.1, 125.2, 123.4, 85.5, 78.0, 68.8, 56.0, 18.1, 18.0, 16.0, 12.1. MS (*m*/*z*): 535, 379, 336, 289, 261, 187. E.A. Calcd for C<sub>31</sub>H<sub>41</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>SSi: C, 69.49; H, 7.71; N, 2.61. Found: C, 69.63; H, 7.73.

Compound **14d**: pale yellow oil. Y=21%.  $[\alpha]_{D}^{20} - 14.2$ (*c* 1.70, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 1677 cm<sup>-1</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =7.85 (m, 5H), 7.55 (m, 2H), 7.38 (m, 1H), 7.22–7.05 (m, 5H), 6.42 (br s, 1H), 5.37 (d, *J*=2.2 Hz, 1H), 4.65 (d, *J*=7.6 Hz, 1H), 3.90 (d, *J*=2.2 Hz, 1H), 3.85 (m, 1H), 1.43 (d, *J*=6.4 Hz, 3H), 1.12 (s, 21H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =168.1, 134.3, 134.1, 133.7, 132.9, 132.8, 128.5, 128.1, 127.9, 127.8, 127.7, 127.6, 126.2, 126.1, 124.9, 123.2, 87.6, 78.2, 71.5, 55.0, 19.6, 18.1, 18.0, 12.6. MS (*m*/*z*): 535, 379, 336, 289, 261, 187. E.A. Calcd for C<sub>31</sub>H<sub>41</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>SSi: C, 69.49; H, 7.71; N, 2.61. Found: C, 69.62; H, 7.71.

**4.5.5.** *tert*-Butyl-3-[(*2R*,5*R*,6*S*)-2-[(*S*)-1-triisopropylsilyloxyethyl]-4-oxo-5-(phenylthio)-[1,3]oxazinan-6-yl]-1*H*indole-1-carboxylate 13e; *tert*-butyl-3-[(*2S*,5*S*,6*R*)-2-[(*S*)-1-triisopropylsilyloxyethyl]-4-oxo-5-(phenylthio)-[1,3]oxazinan-6-yl]-1*H*-indole-1-carboxylate 14e. The crude reaction mixture obtained from azadiene 1d (2 mmol) and *tert*-butyl-3-formyl-1*H*-indole-1-carboxylate (245 mg, 1 mmol) according to GP2 was subjected to column chromatography (3:7 *EtOAc/*cyclohexane) to give 13e and 14e in 63/37 diastereomeric ratio and 55% overall yield.

Compound **13e**: pale yellow oil. Y=35%.  $[\alpha]_{D}^{20}$ +24 (*c* 0.5, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 1738, 1674 cm<sup>-1</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =7.70 (s, 1H), 7.42–6.98 (m, 9H), 6.23 (br s, 1H), 5.46 (dd,  $J_1$ =2.2 Hz,  $J_2$ =1.2 Hz, 1H), 5.14 (d, J=3.2 Hz, 1H), 4.23 (dq,  $J_1$ =3.2 Hz,  $J_2$ =6.4 Hz, 1H), 3.92 (d, J=2.2 Hz, 1H), 1.68 (s, 9H), 1.30 (d, J=6.4 Hz, 3H), 1.08 (s, 21H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =168.7, 149.5, 135.2, 134.4, 132.4, 128.5, 127.4, 124.6, 122.6, 118.6, 116.5, 115.4, 85.6, 83.9, 73.7, 68.8, 54.5, 28.1, 18.0, 17.9, 15.9, 12.1. MS (*m*/*z*): 567 (M<sup>+</sup>–*t*-Bu), 525, 473, 379, 336, 230, 188, 77. E.A. Calcd for C<sub>34</sub>H<sub>50</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>SSi: C, 65.14; H, 8.04; N, 4.47. Found: C, 65.41; H, 8.07.

Compound **14e**: pale yellow oil. Y=20%.  $[\alpha]_D^{20}$  -42.8 (*c* 1.12, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 1737, 1671 cm<sup>-1</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR

(400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =7.65 (s, 1H), 7.40–7.00 (m, 9H), 6.38 (br s, 1H), 5.41 (dd,  $J_1$ =2.4 Hz,  $J_2$ =1.2 Hz, 1H), 4.66 (d, J=7.2 Hz, 1H), 3.97 (d, J=2.4 Hz, 1H), 3.76 (m, 1H), 1.68 (s, 9H), 1.35 (d, J=6.4 Hz, 1H), 1.11 (s, 21H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =167.8, 149.6, 135.3, 133.8, 133.5, 132.5, 128.5, 127.8, 127.7, 124.6, 124.1, 122.7, 118.7, 116.8, 115.4, 87.8, 83.9, 74.1, 71.4, 53.6, 28.2, 19.5, 18.1, 18.0, 12.6. MS (m/z): 567 (M<sup>+</sup>–t-Bu), 379, 336, 230, 188, 77. E.A. Calcd for C<sub>34</sub>H<sub>50</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>SSi: C, 65.14; H, 8.04; N, 4.47. Found: C, 65.41; H, 8.07.

**4.5.6.** (2*R*,6*R*)-2-[(*S*)-1-Triisopropylsilyloxyethyl]-6phenyl-[1,3]oxazinan-4-one 15a. The crude reaction mixture obtained from desulfurization of 13a, according to GP2, was subjected to column chromatography (3:7 *EtOAc*/cyclohexane) to give 15a in 98% overall yield. Spectroscopic data are superimposable with the published ones.<sup>16</sup>

**4.5.7.** (2*S*,6*S*,)-2-[(*S*)-1-Triisopropylsilyloxyethyl]-6phenyl-[1,3]oxazinan-4-one 16a. The crude product obtained from desulfurization of 14a according to GP2 was subjected to column chromatography (3:7 *EtOAc*/cyclohexane) to give 16a in 90% overall yield. Spectra are just similar to literature data.<sup>16</sup>

**4.5.8.** (2*R*,6*R*)-2-[(*S*)-1-Triisopropylsilyloxyethyl]-6-(thiophen-2-yl)-[1,3]oxazinan-4-one 15b. Product 15b, obtained from 13b according to GP3 was used for the next step without any purification. An aliquot of the crude reaction mixture was utilized for identification of 15b after purification by flash chromatography on silica gel (2:8 *EtOAc*/cyclohexane).

Compound **15b**: pale yellow oil.  $[\alpha]_{D}^{20}$  +1.9 (*c* 1.3, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 1666 cm<sup>-1</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =7.33 (d, *J*=5.2 Hz, 1H), 7.05 (d, *J*=3.6 Hz, 1H), 7.00 (dd, *J*<sub>1</sub>=3.6 Hz, *J*<sub>2</sub>=5.2 Hz, 1H), 6.38 (br s, 1H, NH), 5.11 (dd, *J*<sub>1</sub>=6.0 Hz, *J*<sub>2</sub>=9.6 Hz, 1H), 5.07 (d, *J* =3.6 Hz, 1H), 4.19 (dq, *J*=3.6 Hz, 6.4 Hz, 1H), 2.77 (m, 2H), 1.19 (d, *J*=6.4 Hz, 3H), 1.07 (m, 21H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =168.18, 142.26, 126.77, 125.88, 124.88, 84.91, 72.13, 68.61, 39.66, 18.01, 15.69, 12.14. MS (*m*/*z*): 384, 340, 322, 202, 187. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>33</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>SSi: C, 59.49; H, 8.67. Found: C, 60.68; H, 8.84.

**4.5.9.** (2S,6S)-2-[(S)-1-Triisopropylsilyloxyethyl]-6-(thiophen-2-yl)-[1,3]oxazinan-4-one 16b. Product 16b, obtained from 14b according to GP3 was used for the next step without any purification. An aliquot of the crude reaction mixture was utilized for identification of 16b after purification by flash chromatography on silica gel (2:8 *EtOAcl* cyclohexane).

Compound **16b**: pale yellow oil.  $[\alpha]_D^{20} - 1.3$  (*c* 2.1, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 1666 cm<sup>-1</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =7.32 (dd,  $J_1$ =1.6 Hz,  $J_2$ =4.8 Hz, 1H), 6.99 (m, 2H), 6.53 (br s, NH), 5.05 (dd,  $J_1$ =6.4 Hz,  $J_2$ =8.4 Hz, 1H), 4.62 (d, J=6.4 Hz, 1H), 3.87 (m, 1H), 2.78 (m, 2H), 1.32 (d, J=6.0 Hz, 3H), 1.07 (m, 21H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =167.52, 142.48, 126.70, 125.72, 124.36, 87.33, 72.32, 71.20, 38.95, 19.61, 18.06, 12.59. MS (*m*/*z*): 384, 340, 322, 202, 187. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>33</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>SSi: C, 59.49; H, 8.67. Found: C, 60.68; H, 8.84. **4.5.10.** (*2R*,6*R*)-*N*-Methyl-2-[(*S*)-1-triisopropylsilyloxyethyl]-6-(thiophen-2-yl)-[1,3]oxazinan-4-one 17b. Crude 15b was methylated according to the procedure described for 7b. After column chromatography (3:7 *EtOAc*/cyclohexane) 17b was obtained in 65% overall yield calculated from product 13b.

Compound **17b**: pale yellow oil.  $[\alpha]_{2}^{20}$  +36.3 (*c* 2.7, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 1644 cm<sup>-1</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =7.31 (dd,  $J_1$ =1.6 Hz,  $J_2$ =4.8 Hz, 1H), 7.00 (m, 2H), 5.03 (dd,  $J_1$ =5.6 Hz,  $J_2$ =8.4 Hz, 1H), 4.96 (d, J=0.8 Hz, 1H), 4.16 (dq,  $J_1$ =0.8 Hz,  $J_2$ =6.4 Hz, 1H), 3.06 (s, 3H), 2.76 (m, 2H), 1.17 (d, J=6.4 Hz, 3H), 1.06 (m, 21H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =167.45, 142.42, 126.66, 125.63, 124.53, 90.83, 71.14, 70.44, 40.26, 29.65, 18.03, 16.70, 12.19. MS (*m*/*z*): 397, 354, 216, 137. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>35</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>SSi: C, 60.41; H, 8.87. Found: C, 62.22; H, 9.14.

**4.5.11.** (2*S*,6*S*)-*N*-Methyl-2-[(*S*)-1-triisopropylsilyloxyethyl]-6-(thiophen-2-yl)-[1,3]oxazinan-4-one 18b. Crude 16b was methylated according to the procedure described for 7b. After column chromatography (3:7 *EtOAc*/cyclohexane) 18b was obtained in 54% overall yield calculated from product 14b.

Compound **18b**: pale yellow oil.  $[\alpha]_D^{20} - 67.4$  (*c* 2.2, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 1646 cm<sup>-1</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =7.29 (dd,  $J_1$ =2.4 Hz,  $J_2$ =3.6 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (m, 2H), 5.02 (dd,  $J_1$ =3.6 Hz,  $J_2$ =10.0 Hz, 1H), 4.87 (d, J=2.4 Hz, 1H), 4.25 (dq,  $J_1$ =2.4 Hz,  $J_2$ =6.4 Hz, 1H), 2.94 (s, 3H), 2.81 (m, 2H), 1.19 (d, J=6.4 Hz, 3H), 1.08 (m, 21H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =167.32, 142.87, 126.60, 125.48, 123.93, 90.84, 70.56, 68.87, 39.90, 29.43, 18.05, 16.57, 12.46. MS (*m*/*z*): 397, 354, 216, 137. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>41</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>SSi: C, 62.82; H, 9.40. Found: C, 62.70; H, 9.38.

## **4.5.12.** Synthesis of optically pure aminoalcohols (*R*)-11b and (*S*)-11b.

**4.5.12.1.** Step 1: (2R,6R)-[(*S*)-1-(triisopropylsilyloxy)ethyl]-3-methyl-6-(thiophen-2-yl)-1,3-oxazinane 19b. Ph<sub>2</sub>SiH<sub>2</sub> (0.46 mL, 2.5 mmol) and RhH(CO)(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub> (1%) were added to a solution of **17b** (1.0 mmol) in THF (10 mL) at room temperature and the stirring maintained for 15 h. Disappearance of starting material was verified by TLC (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/cyclohexane/ethyl acetate 50/30/20). An aliquot of the solution was utilized for identification of the reduction product **19b** after removing the solvent and fast purification by a short flash chromatography eluting with cyclohexane/ethyl acetate 90:10 (saturated with NH<sub>3</sub> (g)).

Compound **19b**: pale yellow oil.  $[\alpha]_D^{20}$  +35.7 (*c* 1.0, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 2944, 2865, 1463 cm<sup>-1</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =7.23 (dd,  $J_1$ =1.6 Hz,  $J_2$ =4.8 Hz, 1H), 6.96 (m, 2H), 4.75 (dd,  $J_1$ =2.0 Hz,  $J_2$ =11.2 Hz, 1H), 3.99 (m, 1H), 3.92 (d, J=5.2 Hz, 1H), 3.06 (ddd,  $J_1$ =2.0 Hz,  $J_2$ =4.4 Hz,  $J_3$ =12.8 Hz, 1H), 2.88 (dt,  $J_1$ =2.8 Hz,  $J_2$ =12.8 Hz, 1H), 2.40 (s, 3H), 2.13 (m, 1H), 1.64 (m, 1H), 1.28 (d, J=6.8 Hz, 3H), 1.06 (m, 21H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =145.80, 126.12, 124.35, 123.43, 97.06, 75.38, 70.46, 54.80, 36.62, 30.51, 18.78, 18.12, 12.27. MS (*m*/*z*): 383, 340, 235, 182, 123. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>37</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>SSi: C, 62.61; H, 9.72. Found: C, 64.49; H, 9.99. **4.5.12.2.** Step 2: (*R*)-3-(methylamino)-1-(thiophen-2yl)propan-1-ol (*R*)-11b. Aqueous HCl (1 M, 2.50 mL) was added to the crude THF solution of **19b** and the stirring maintained at the same temperature for 4 h. The organic solvent was removed in vacuo and the obtained aqueous solution extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O. The aqueous phase was basified with NH<sub>4</sub>OH (pH=10) and then extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The organic phases were dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and the solvent evaporated.

The crude reaction mixture was subjected to column chromatography (ethyl acetate/MeOH/NH<sub>4</sub>OH 80/19/1) to give (S)-**11b** in 68% overall yield calculated on **17b**.

Compound (*R*)-**11b**: pale yellow oil.  $[\alpha]_{20}^{20}$  +13.7 (*c* 2.5, EtOH) [lit.  $[\alpha]_D$  +13.3 (*c* 1.05, MeOH)<sup>57</sup>]. IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 3302, 3103, 2939, 2853, 2793, 1473, 1315 cm<sup>-1</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =7.20 (dd,  $J_1$ =1.2 Hz,  $J_2$ =4.8 Hz, 1H), 6.96 (dd,  $J_1$ =4.0 Hz,  $J_2$ =5.2 Hz, 1H), 6.91 (d, J=1.2 Hz, 1H), 5.19 (dd,  $J_1$ =2.8 Hz,  $J_2$ =8.4 Hz, 1H), 2.94 (m, 1H), 2.89 (m, 1H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 1.95 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =149.64, 126.53, 123.70, 122.31, 71.92, 50.12, 36.73, 35.88. MS (*m*/*z*): 170, 153, 138, 127, 110, 97, 88. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>13</sub>NOS: C, 56.11; H, 7.65. Found: C, 56.21; H, 7.66.

The same procedure was applied for the preparation of (S)-**11b** via reduction product **20b**. (S)-**11b** was obtained in 60% overall yield from **18b**.

**4.5.12.3.** Step 1: (2*S*,6*S*)-[(*S*)-1-(triisopropylsilyloxy)ethyl]-3-methyl-6-(thiophen-2-yl)-1,3-oxazinane 20b. Compound 20b: pale yellow oil.  $[\alpha]_D^{20}$  –17.8 (*c* 2.3, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 2944, 2865, 1463 cm<sup>-1</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =7.23 (dd,  $J_1$ =2.8 Hz,  $J_2$ =3.6 Hz, 1H), 6.96 (m, 2H), 4.73 (dd,  $J_1$ =2.8 Hz,  $J_2$ =11.6 Hz, 1H), 4.15 (m, 1H), 3.92 (d, *J*=4.0 Hz, 1H), 3.07 (ddd,  $J_1$ =1.6 Hz,  $J_2$ =4.4 Hz,  $J_3$ =14.4 Hz, 1H), 2.88 (dt,  $J_1$ =3.2 Hz,  $J_2$ =13.2 Hz, 1H), 2.37 (s, 3H), 2.13 (m, 1H), 1.71 (m, 1H), 1.28 (d, *J*=6.0 Hz, 3H), 1.06 (m, 21H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =146.17, 126.24, 124.31, 122.89, 96.83, 75.32, 68.14, 54.65, 37.22, 29.81, 18.77, 18.17, 12.60. MS (*m*/*z*): 383, 340, 235, 182, 123. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>37</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>SSi: C, 62.61; H, 9.72. Found: C, 64.49; H, 9.99.

**4.5.12.4.** Step 2: (*S*)-3-(methylamino)-1-(thiophen-2yl)propan-1-ol (*S*)-11b.  $[\alpha]_D^{20}$  -12.0 (*c* 3.0, EtOH). IR (CHCl<sub>3</sub>): 3302, 3103, 2939, 2853, 2793, 1473, 1315 cm<sup>-1</sup>. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =7.20 (dd,  $J_1$ =1.2 Hz,  $J_2$ =4.8 Hz, 1H), 6.96 (dd,  $J_1$ =4.0 Hz,  $J_2$ =5.2 Hz, 1H), 6.91 (d, J=1.2 Hz, 1H), 5.19 (dd,  $J_1$ =2.8 Hz,  $J_2$ =8.4 Hz, 1H), 2.94 (m, 1H), 2.89 (m, 1H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 1.95 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ =149.64, 126.53, 123.70, 122.31, 71.92, 50.12, 36.73, 35.88. MS (*m*/*z*): 170, 153, 138, 127, 110, 97, 88. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>13</sub>NOS: C, 56.11; H, 7.65. Found: C, 57.23; H, 7.88.

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