Supporting Information

Preparation of useful building blocks, α-iodo- and bromoalkanols from cyclic ethers using the Dowex H⁺/NaX (X=I, Br) approach

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EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

General

¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded on a 500 MHz spectrometer operating at 500.1 and 125.8 MHz, respectively. The solvent residual peak was used as a standard in the ¹H and ¹³C NMR measurements of CDCl₃ and CD₃OD (7.26 ppm or 77.16 ppm for CDCl₃ and 3.31 ppm or 49.00 ppm for CD₃OD, respectively)¹, in D₂O 4.79 ppm in the ¹H NMR measurements and trimethylsilyl propionic acid sodium salt (TSP) in the ¹³C measurements (0.00 ppm). The ${}^{3}J_{HH}$ couplings were calculated from proton spectra and all J values are given in Hz. The Dowex H⁺ resin was first washed with water and then oven dried for approx. 20 hours at 120°C before use. NaI was also dried in an oven at 120°C and then stored there until use. Mass spectra were recorded with a Finnigan LCQ quadrupole ion trap mass spectrometer (Finnigan MAT, San Jose, CA, USA) equipped with an electrospray ionization source and elemental analysis (C, H, N) with a Perkin Elmer 2400 Series II CHNS/O organic elemental analyzer (Perkin Elmer Inc., Waltham, MA, USA). The purity of the products was determined from ¹H NMR spectra and was \geq 95 % unless stated otherwise. NOTE: Compounds 18, 20 and 22 were collected from the silica after elution using EtOAc:MeOH (8:2), since if DCM had been used, then it proved impossible to collect the compounds from the silica and yields were 0-1%. We were unable to measure reasonable mass spectra for the compounds 12a-b. Reasons for this might be the lack of ionization or degradation of the compounds before reaching the detector.

Preparation of 1-iodobutan-2-ol (2): Oven dried NaI (348 mg, 2.32 mmol), oven dried Dowex 50W-X8 ion exchange resin (H⁺-form, 1.5 g) and dry acetone (8 ml) were stirred for 15 minutes at room temperature before 1,2-epoxybutane (200 µl, 167 mg, 2.32 mmol) was added in 4 portions and the reaction mixture was stirred for overnight at 50°C. The Dowex was filtered off and washed with DCM and the combined DCM fractions evaporated *in vacuo*. The crude product was dissolved in DCM (5 ml) and washed with 10% Na₂S₂O₃ (sodium thiosulfate, 3 ml), the DCM layer was separated, aqueous phase was extracted with DCM (5ml), DCM was separated and the combined DCM layers dried with MgSO₄ and removed by evaporation *in vacuo*. 1-Iodobutan-2-ol (253 mg, 55%) was obtained as a crude product with \geq 90% purity. The crude product (92 mg) was purified by TLC using ethyl acetate/hexane (15:85) as eluent. 1-Iodobutan-2-ol (45 mg, 27%) was obtained as a colorless oil with R_f 0.50. All ¹H NMR data were comparable with those reported elsewhere.² ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 3.48-3.41 (m, 1H), 3.41-3.37 (m, 1H), 3.27-3.21 (m, 1H), 1.98 (br, -OH) 1.66-1.54 (m, 2H) 0.97 (t, 3H, ³J_{HH} = 7.5). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 72.5, 29.7, 16.3, 10.1.

Preparation of 3-iodopropan-1-ol (4a): Oven dried NaI (414 mg, 2.76 mmol), oven dried Dowex 50W-X8 ion exchange resin (H⁺-form, 1.5 g) and dry acetonitrile (6 ml) were stirred for 15 minutes at room temperature before trimethylene oxide (180 µl, 161 mg, 2.76 mmol) was added and the reaction mixture were stirred overnight at 50°C. The Dowex was filtered off and washed with DCM which was combined with the reaction mixture and evaporated *in vacuo*. The crude product was dissolved in DCM (10 ml) and washed with 10% Na₂S₂O₃ (sodium thiosulfate, 3 ml), DCM layer was separated, aqueous phase was extracted with DCM, DCM was separated and combined DCM layers dried with MgSO₄ and removed by evaporation *in vacuo*. The residue was purified by silica column chromatography using ethyl acetate/hexane (3:2) as eluent. 3-Iodopropan-1-ol (267 mg, 53%) was obtained as a colorless oil. All ¹H NMR data were comparable with those reported elsewhere.^{3 1}H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 3.74 (t, 2H, ³*J*_{HH} = 6.0), 3.30 (t, 2H, ³*J*_{HH} = 7.0), 2.05 (qv, 2H), 1.45 (br, -OH). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 62.5, 35.7, 3.1.

Preparation of 3-bromopropan-1-ol (4b): Oven dried NaBr (285 mg, 2.77 mmol), oven dried Dowex 50W-X8 ion exchange resin (H⁺-form, 1.0 g) and dry 2-propanol (6 ml) were stirred 15 minutes at room temperature before trimethylene oxide (180 µl, 161 mg, 2.76 mmol) was added and the reaction mixture were stirred for overnight at 50°C. The Dowex was filtered off and washed with DCM which was combined with the reaction mixture and evaporated *in vacuo*. The crude product was dissolved in DCM (10 ml) and washed with 10% Na₂S₂O₃ (sodium thiosulfate, 3 ml), the DCM layer was separated, aqueous phase was extracted with DCM, DCM was separated and combined DCM layers dried with MgSO₄ and removed by evaporation *in vacuo*. The residue was purified by silica column chromatography using ethyl acetate/hexane (2:1) as eluent. 3-Bromopropan-1-ol (110 mg, 29%) was obtained as a colorless oil. All ¹H and ¹³C NMR data were comparable with those reported elsewhere.⁴ ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 3.80 (t, 2H, ³*J*_{HH} = 5.5), 3.54 (t, 2H, ³*J*_{HH} = 6.5), 2.10 (qv, 2H), 1.50 (br, - OH). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 60.6, 35.2, 30.4.

Preparation of 4-iodobutan-1-ol (6a): Oven dried NaI (173 mg, 1.15 mmol), oven dried Dowex 50W-X8 ion exchange resin (H⁺-form, 600 mg) and dry THF (5 ml) were refluxed overnight. The Dowex was filtered off and the filtrate evaporated to dryness *in vacuo*. The

residue was dissolved in EtOAc (10 ml) and washed with 10% Na₂S₂O₃ (sodium thiosulfate, 3 ml), The EtOAc layer was separated, dried with MgSO₄ and removed by evaporation *in vacuo*. 4-Iodobutan-1-ol (198 mg, 86%) was obtained without further purifications as a slightly yellow oil. All ¹H NMR data were comparable with those reported elsewhere.⁵ ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 3.69 (t, 2H, ³*J*_{HH} = 6.5), 3.24 (t, 2H, ³*J*_{HH} = 6.5), 1.94 (qv, 2H), 1.68 (qv, 2H), 1.41 (br, 1H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 61.8, 33.5, 29.9, 6.6.

Preparation of 4-bromobutan-1-ol (6b): Oven dried NaBr (400 mg, 2.76 mmol), oven dried Dowex 50W-X8 ion exchange resin (H⁺-form, 2.0 g) and dry THF (5 ml) were refluxed over the weekend. The Dowex was filtered off and washed with DCM which was combined with the reaction mixture and evaporated *in vacuo*. The residue was purified by silica column chromatography using ethyl acetate/hexane (1:1) as the eluent. 4-Bromobutan-1-ol (202 mg, 34%) was obtained as a colorless oil. All ¹H NMR data were comparable with those reported elsewhere.⁶ ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 3.69 (t, 2H, ³*J*_{HH} = 6.5), 3.46 (t, 2H, ³*J*_{HH} = 7.0), 2.01-1.93 (m, 2H), 1.75-1.68 (m, 2H) 1.39 (br, -OH). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 62.1, 33.7, 31.3, 29.4.

Preparation of 5-iodopentan-1-ol (8): Oven dried NaI (400 mg, 2.67 mmol), tetrahydropyran (15 ml), and oven dried Dowex 50W-X8 ion exchange resin (H⁺-form, 2 g) were refluxed overnight in the dark. The Dowex was filtered off and washed with DCM which was combined with the reaction mixture and evaporated *in vacuo*. The crude product was dissolved in DCM (10 ml) and washed with 10% Na₂S₂O₃ (sodium thiosulfate, 3 ml), the DCM layer was separated, dried with MgSO₄ and removed by evaporation *in vacuo*. The residue was purified by silica column chromatography using ethyl acetate/hexane (1:1) as eluent. 5-Iodopentan-1-ol (269 mg, 47%) was obtained as a very slightly yellow oil. All ¹H and ¹³C NMR data were comparable with those that we have reported elsewhere.^{7 1}H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 3.66 (t, 2H, ³*J*_{HH} = 7.0), 3.20 (t, 2H, ³*J*_{HH} = 7.0), 1.86 (qv, 2H), 1.63-1.56 (m, 2H), 1.52-1.45 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 62.9, 33.5, 31.8, 27.0, 7.0.

Preparation of 2-(2-iodo-ethoxy)-ethanol (10): Prepared as we have reported elsewhere.⁷ Oven dried NaI (1 g, 6.67 mmol), distilled 1,4-dioxane (20 ml), and oven dried Dowex 50W-X8 ion exchange resin (H⁺-form, 4 g) were refluxed overnight. The Dowex was filtered off, washed with DCM and the reaction mixture with DCM was evaporated *in vacuo*. The crude product was dissolved in DCM (20 ml) and washed with 10% Na₂S₂O₃ (sodium thiosulfate, 6 ml), the DCM layer was separated, dried with MgSO₄ and removed by evaporation *in vacuo*. The residue was purified by silica column chromatography using ethyl acetate as eluent. 2-(2-Iodo-ethoxy)-ethanol (980 mg, 68%) was obtained as a very slightly yellow oil. All ¹H and ¹³C NMR data were comparable with those that we have reported elsewhere.⁷ ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 3.79-3.73 (m, 4H), 3.62 (virtual t, 2H), 3.29 (t, 2H, ³J_{HH} = 6.5) 2.00 (t, -OH, ³J_{HH} = 6.5). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 71.7, 71.5, 61.9, 3.1.

Preparation of 4-iodocyclohexanol (12a): Oven dried NaI (222 mg, 1.48 mmol), oven dried Dowex 50W-X8 ion exchange resin (H⁺-form, 800 mg), 7-oxabicyclo(2,2,1)heptane (150 μl, 145 mg, 1.48 mmol) and dry acetone (5ml) were refluxed overnight. The Dowex was filtered off and washed with DCM which was combined with the reaction mixture and evaporated *in vacuo*. The crude product was dissolved in DCM (10 ml) and washed with 10% Na₂S₂O₃ (sodium thiosulfate, 3 ml), DCM layer was separated, aqueous phase was extracted with DCM, DCM was separated and combined DCM layers dried with MgSO₄ and removed by evaporation *in vacuo*. The residue was purified by silica column chromatography using ethyl acetate/hexane (1:1) as eluent. 4-Iodocyclohexanol (248 mg, 75%) was obtained as a colorless oil which solidified in the freezer to become a white solid. Mp. 75 °C. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500.1 MHz) δ 4.20 (m, 1H), 3.71 (m, 1H), 2.32-2.27 (m, 2H), 1.99-1.90 (m, 2H), 1.88-1.84 (m, 2H), 1.43-1.34 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 125.8 MHz) δ 67.9, 36.7 (2C), 35.8 (2C), 29.2. Anal. Calcd for C₆H₁₁IO·0.03 HI: C, 33.69; H, 5.20. Found: C, 33.56; H, 5.21.

Preparation of 4-bromocyclohexanol (12b): Oven dried NaBr (153 mg, 1.48 mmol), oven dried Dowex 50W-X8 ion exchange resin (H⁺-form, 800 mg), 7-oxabicyclo(2,2,1)heptane (150 μ l, 145 mg, 1.48 mmol) and dry acetone (5ml) were refluxed for overnight. The Dowex was filtered off and washed with DCM which was combined with the reaction mixture and evaporated *in vacuo*. The crude product was purified by silica column chromatography using ethyl acetate/hexane (1:1) as eluent. 4-Bromocyclohexanol (154 mg, 59%) was obtained as a white solid. Mp. 85 °C. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500.1 MHz) δ 4.14 (m, 1H), 3.78 (m, 1H), 2.31-2.27 (m, 2H), 2.04-1.98 (m, 2H), 1.88-1.80 (m, 2H), 1.47-1.39 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃,

125.8 MHz) δ 68.1, 51.2, 34.3 (2C), 34.0 (2C). Anal. Calcd for C₆H₁₁BrO·0.17 HBr: C, 37.38; H, 5.84. Found: C, 37.45; H, 5.80.

Preparation of 2-(2-iodoethyl)phenol (14): Oven dried NaI (320 mg, 2.13 mmol), oven dried Dowex 50W-X8 ion exchange resin (H⁺-form, 2.0 g), 2,3-dihydrobenzofuran and butyronitrile (8 ml) were refluxed overnight (ca. 18 h) before the NMR-sample was taken and dried *in vacuo*. The ¹H NMR spectrum demonstrated that there had been 100% conversion to the desired product. Subsequently, the Dowex was filtered off and washed with a small amount of butyronitrile and the filtrates were evaporated to dryness *in vacuo* to give 454 mg of expected product. Surprisingly, the measured ¹H NMR spectrum revealed that ca. 30% of product had in some way reacted back to the starting material (2,3-dihydrobenzofuran). The crude product (89 mg) was purified by TLC using ethyl acetate/hexane (1:9) as the eluent. 2-(2-iodoethyl)phenol (31 mg, 36%) was obtained as a colorless oil with R_f 0.39. All ¹H and ¹³C NMR data were comparable with those reported elsewhere.⁸ ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500.1 MHz) δ 7.19-7.11 (m, 2H), 6.91 (t, 1H, ³*J*_{HH} = 7.0), 6.74 (d, 1H, ³*J*_{HH} = 8.0), 4.80 (s, -OH), 3.41 (t, 2H, ³*J*_{HH} = 8.0) 3.22 (t, 2H, ³*J*_{HH} = 8.0). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 125.8 MHz) δ 153.4, 130.8, 128.4, 127.2, 121.2, 115.6, 35.3, 5.0.

Preparation of 4-Iodobutanoic acid (16): Oven dried NaI (588 mg, 3.92 mmol), oven dried Dowex 50W-X8 ion exchange resin (H⁺-form, 3 g), γ -butyrolactone (200 µl, 224 mg, 2.60 mmol) and xylene (8 ml) were refluxed for 24 h before the NMR-sample was taken and dried *in vacuo*. The ¹H NMR spectrum showed ca. 95% conversion to desired product. The Dowex was filtered off and washed with DCM which was combined with the reaction mixture and evaporated *in vacuo*. The crude product was purified by silica column chromatography using EtOAc/hexane (3:1) as the eluent. 4-Iodobutanoic acid (182 mg, 33%) was obtained as a white translucent solid. All ¹H NMR data were comparable with those reported elsewhere.⁹ ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 3.26 (t, 2H, ³*J*_{HH} = 6.8), 2.52 (t, 2H, ³*J*_{HH} = 7.3), 2.15 (qv, 2H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 177.5, 34.5, 28.3, 5.1.

Preparation of 2-{2-[2-(2-Iodo-ethoxy)-ethoxy]-ethoxy}-ethanol (18): Oven dried NaI (224 mg, 1.49 mmol), oven dried Dowex 50W-X8 ion exchange resin (H⁺-form, 1.6 g), 12-

Crown-4 ether (200 µl, 218 mg, 1.24 mmol) and xylene (8 ml) were refluxed for 24 h. The Dowex was filtered off and washed with DCM which was combined with the reaction mixture and evaporated *in vacuo*. The residue was dissolved in 10% Na₂S₂O₃ (sodium thiosulfate, 2-3 ml) and evaporated to dryness. The residue was dissolved in DCM (5 ml) and all the solids were filtered off and DCM evaporated *in vacuo* to give crude product (321 mg). The crude product (83 mg) was purified by TLC using EtOAc/MeOH (98:2) as eluent. Product **18** (30.9 mg, 32%) was obtained as a colorless viscous oil with R_f 0.51. All ¹H and ¹³C NMR data were comparable with those reported elsewhere.¹⁰ ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500.1 MHz) δ 3.75 (t, 2H, ³J_{HH} = 7.0), 3.73-3.70 (m, 2H), 3.69-3.63 (m, 8H), 3.62-3.59 (m, 2H) 3.25 (t, 2H, ³J_{HH} = 7.0) 2.46 (br, 1H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 125.8 MHz) δ 72.6, 72.1, 70.8, 70.7, 70.5, 70.3, 61.9, 2.9.

Preparation of 14-iodo-3,6,9,12-tetraoxatetradecan-1-ol (20): Oven dried NaI (182 mg, 1.21 mmol), oven dried Dowex 50W-X8 ion exchange resin (H⁺-form, 1.6 g), 15-Crown-5 ether (200 µl, 223 mg, 1.01 mmol) and xylene (8 ml) were refluxed for 24 h. The Dowex was filtered off and washed with DCM which was combined with the reaction mixture and evaporated *in vacuo*. The residue was dissolved in 10% Na₂S₂O₃ (sodium thiosulfate, 2-3 ml) and evaporated to dryness. The residue was dissolved in DCM (5 ml) and any solids were filtered off and DCM evaporated *in vacuo* to give crude product (329 mg). The crude product (85 mg) was purified by TLC using EtOAc/MeOH (98:2) as eluent. Product **20** (20.1 mg, 22%) was obtained as a colorless viscous oil with R_f 0.32. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500.1 MHz) δ 3.76 (t, 2H, ³*J*_{HH} = 7.0), 3.73-3.70 (m, 2H), 3.69-3.64 (m, 12H), 3.63-3.60 (m, 2H) 3.26 (t, 2H, ³*J*_{HH} = 7.0) 2.51 (br, 1H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 125.8 MHz) δ 72.7, 72.2, 70.82, 70.81 (2C), 70.77, 70.5, 70.4, 61.9, 3.0. MS (ESI⁺) calcd. for C₁₀H₂₂IO₅ [M+H]⁺ 349.0512, found: 349.0516.

17-iodo-3,6,9,12,15-pentaoxaheptadecan-1-ol (22): Oven dried NaI (137 mg, 0.91 mmol), oven dried Dowex 50W-X8 ion exchange resin (H⁺-form, 1.6 g), 18-Crown-6 ether (200 mg, 0.76 mmol) and xylene (5 ml) were refluxed for 24 h. The Dowex was filtered off and washed with DCM and the combined DCM fractions were evaporated *in vacuo*. The residue

was dissolved in 10% Na₂S₂O₃ (sodium thiosulfate, 2-3 ml) and evaporated to dryness. The residue was dissolved in DCM (5 ml) and all the solids were filtered off and DCM evaporated *in vacuo* to give crude product (260 mg). The crude product (100 mg) was purified by TLC using EtOAc/MeOH (95:5) as eluent. Product **18** (15.5 mg, 14%) was obtained as a colorless viscous oil with R_f 0.32. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500.1 MHz) δ 3.75 (t, 2H, ³*J*_{HH} = 7.0), 3.73-3.70 (m, 2H), 3.69-3.63 (m, 16H), 3.62-3.59 (m, 2H) 3.26 (t, 2H, ³*J*_{HH} = 7.0) 2.60 (t, 1H, ³*J*_{HH} = 7.0). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 125.8 MHz) δ 72.6, 72.1, 70.8, 70.74, 70.72 (3C), 70.69, 70.5, 70.4, 61.9, 3.1. MS (ESI⁺) calcd. for C₁₂H₂₅IO₆Na [M+Na]⁺ 415.0594, found: 415.0597.

2-(2-(2-iodoethoxy)ethanol (23): Isolated from the reaction mixture of **19**. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500.1 MHz) δ 3.79-3.72 (m, 4H), 3.71-3.65 (m, 4H), 3.65-3.60 (m, 2H), 3.27 (t, 2H, ³*J*_{HH} = 6.5), 2.19 (br, 1H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 125.8 MHz) δ 72.6, 72.1, 70.6, 70.4, 62.0, 2.8. MS (ESI⁺) calcd. for C₆H₁₄IO₃ [M+H]⁺ 260.9988, found: 260.9984.

1,14-diiodo-3,6,9,12-tetraoxatetradecane (24): Isolated from the reaction mixture of **19**. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 500.1 MHz) δ 3.76 (t, 4H, ³*J*_{HH} = 7.0), 3.74-3.61 (m, 12H), 3.26 (t, 4H, ³*J*_{HH} = 7.0). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 125.8 MHz) δ 72.2, 70.9, 70.8, 70.4, 3.0. MS (ESI⁺) calcd. for C₁₀H₂₀I₂O₄Na [M+Na]⁺ 480.9349, found: 480.9350.



compd. 2 conversion -see the ¹H NMR characterization data for compound **2** in page 2.





.OH









compd. 14 conversion; peaks at 2.45, 1.76 and 1.04 ppm belongs to used solvent: butyronitrile





compd. 16 conversion





Т

17



















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