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# Asymmetric synthesis of *trans*-4,5-disubstituted $\gamma$ -butyrolactones involving a key allylboration step. First access to (-)-nicotlactone B and (-)-galbacin.

S. Henrion,<sup>a</sup> A. Macé,<sup>a</sup> M.M. Vallejos,<sup>b</sup> T. Roisnel,<sup>a</sup> B. Carboni,<sup>a</sup> José Manuel Villalgordo<sup>c</sup> and F. Carreaux <sup>a\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Institut des Sciences Chimiques de Rennes, UMR 6226 CNRS-Université de Rennes 1, Campus de Beaulieu, 35042 Rennes Cedex.

<sup>b</sup> Laboratorio de Químíca Organica, Universidad Nacional del nordeste, CONICET, FACENA, Avenida Libertad 5460, Corrientes, 3400, Argentina.

<sup>C</sup> VillaPharma Research, Parque Tecnológico de Fuente Alamo, Ctra El Estrecho-Lobosillo, Av. Azul, 30320 Murcia, Spain.

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# I. General information

Tetrahydrofuran (THF) was distilled over sodium/benzophenone, dichloromethane (DCM) was distilled over  $P_2O_5$ . Amines including triethyamine were distilled over potassium hydroxide and trifluoroacetic anhydride was distilled over  $P_2O_5$ . Alcohols were distilled over calcium hydride (CaH<sub>2</sub>). All aldehydes were distilled prior to their used.

NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker apparatus at 300, 400 or 500 MHz for <sup>1</sup>H and 75, 101 or 126 MHz for <sup>13</sup>C. Chemical shifts of <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR were referenced to Me<sub>4</sub>Si as internal reference. Data are represented as follows: chemical shift (ppm), multiplicity (s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet, br = broad), coupling constant J (Hz) and integration. Assignments are made with the aid of DEPT 135, COSY and HMQC experiments.

All high-resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were recorded on a Bruker Micro-Tof-Q II or on a Waters Q-Tof 2 at the CRMPO (Centre Régional de Mesures de Physiques de l'Ouest – Rennes- France) using positive ion electrospray.

Purifications on a silica gel were carried out on Acros silica gel 0.006-0.200 mm, 60 A. Analytical thin layer chromatography was performed on Merck Silica gel 60  $F_{254}$  plates.

X-ray crystallographic data were collected on an APEXII crystal diffractometer.

The optical rotations were measured on a Perkin Elmer Model 341 polarimeter (sodium D-line : 589 nm and mercury I-line : 365 nm).

Melting points were measured on a melting point apparatus Stuart SMP10.

All analytical high-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) were performed on an Agilent Technologies equipped with diode array UV detectors, using Chiralcel OD-H column.

Enantioenriched compounds 6 were prepared according to a literature procedure.<sup>1</sup>

II. General procedure for acyclic enecarbamate synthesis



To a solution of boronate (1eq.) in dry dichloromethane (0.1M), under argon atmosphere, were added trifluoroacetic anhydride (3 eq.) and triethylamine (4.5 eq.). The solution was stirred at 0° C for an hour then aldehyde (1.2 eq.) was added. The resulting solution was stirred at 0° C for an hour and then at 25° C for 16 hours.

Methanol was added and the solution was stirred at 25 ° C for 24 hours. The reaction medium was concentrated under *vacuo*. The crude product was purified by silica gel chromatography to give the desired compound.

(Z)-Methyl ((3S,4S)-4-hydroxy-3-methyl-4-(4-nitrophenyl)but-1-en-1-yl)carbamate (8aa)



Prepared starting from **6a** (0.42 mmol, 100 mg) using *p*-nitrobenzaldehyde (0.50 mmol, 76 mg). The crude was purified by chromatography (silica gel, eluent: cyclohexane/AcOEt, 7/3) to give **8aa** (105 mg, 89%) as a yellow oil.

$$\begin{split} & \mathsf{R}_f = 0.13 \; (\text{cyclohexane/AcOEt, 7/3}) \\ & [\alpha]_{\mathrm{I}}^{20} = -34 \; (\text{c} \; 2.50, \, \mathrm{CH}_2\mathrm{Cl}_2) \\ & ^{1}\mathrm{H} \; \mathrm{NMR} \; (400 \; \mathrm{MHz}, \, \mathrm{Acetone-d6}, \, \delta \; \mathrm{ppm}) \; 8.20 \; (\mathrm{d}, \; J = 8.8 \; \mathrm{Hz}, \; 2\mathrm{H}), \; 7.92 \; (\mathrm{d}, \; J = 10.0 \; \mathrm{Hz}, \; 1\mathrm{H}), \; 7.69 \; (\mathrm{d}, \; J = 8.3 \; \mathrm{Hz}, \; 2\mathrm{H}), \; 6.41 \; (\mathrm{dd}, \; J = 10.0 \; \mathrm{Hz}, \; 1\mathrm{H}), \; 7.69 \; (\mathrm{d}, \; J = 8.3 \; \mathrm{Hz}, \; 2\mathrm{H}), \; 6.41 \; (\mathrm{dd}, \; J = 10.0 \; \mathrm{Hz}, \; 1\mathrm{H}), \; 4.77 \; - \; 4.72 \; (\mathrm{m}, \; 1\mathrm{H}), \; 4.62 \; - \; 4.52 \; (\mathrm{dd}, \; J = 10.0, \; 9.0 \; \mathrm{Hz}, \; 1\mathrm{H}), \; 3.62 \; (\mathrm{s}, \; 3\mathrm{H}), \; 2.99 \; (\mathrm{m}, \; 1\mathrm{H}), \; 0.96 \; (\mathrm{d}, \; J = 6.8 \; \mathrm{Hz}, \; 3\mathrm{H}). \\ & ^{13}\mathrm{C} \; \mathrm{NMR} \; (101 \; \mathrm{MHz}, \; \mathrm{Acetone-d6}, \; \delta \; \mathrm{ppm}) \; 155.3, \; 153.0, \; 147.9, \; 128.5, \; 124.5, \; 123.7, \; 111.2, \; 77.7, \; 52.3, \; 39.0, \; 17.9. \\ & \mathrm{HRMS} \; (\mathrm{ESI}) \; m/z \; \mathrm{calcd}. \; \mathrm{for} \; \mathrm{C}_{13}\mathrm{H}_{16}\mathrm{N}_2\mathrm{O}_5\mathrm{Na} \; [\mathrm{M+Na}]^+ \; 303.0951; \; \mathrm{found} \; 303.0951. \end{split}$$

(Z)-Methyl ((3S,4S)-4-hydroxy-3-methyl-4-(4-fluorophenyl)but-1-en-1-yl)carbamate (8ab)



Prepared starting from **6a** (0.42 mmol, 100 mg) using *p*-trifluoromethylbenzaldehyde (0.50 mmol, 76 mg). The crude was purified by chromatography (silica gel, eluent: cyclohexane/AcOEt, 7/3) to give a mixture of **8ab** and **9ab** as a yellow oil for which the ratio was estimated around to 16/84 (60 mg, 56%) based on <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum.



 $R_f = 0.25$  (cyclohexane/AcOEt, 7/3)

<sup>1</sup>Å NMR (400 MHz, Acetone-d6,  $\delta$  ppm) 7.99 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 0.16H), 7.48-7.37 (m, 2H), 7.15-7.06 (m, 2.504H), 6.98 (br s, 0.336H), 6.45 (dd, *J* = 10.0, 10.0 Hz, 0.16H), 5.85-5.76 (m, 0.336H), 5.69 - 5.62 (m, 0.504H), 4.56 (dd, *J* = 9.9, 9.9 Hz, 0.16H), 4.52-4.48 (dd, *J* = 6.8, 3.9 Hz, 0.16 H), 4.44 (d, *J* = 3.9 Hz, 0.16H), 4.43 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 0.336H), 4.33 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 0.504H), 3.65 (s, 0.48H), 3.63 (s, 1.51H), 3.61 (s, 1.01H), 2.99-2.82 (m, 0.16H), 2.61-2.52 (m, 0.336H), 2.32-2.19 (m, 0.504H), 2.15 (ddd, *J* = 12.8, 7.2, 2.8 Hz, 0.504H), 2.10-1.99 (m, 0.84H), 1.80-1.70 (m, 0.336H), 1.08 (d, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 0.1.51H), 1.01 (d, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 1.01H), 0.86 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 0.48H).

### III. General procedure for hemiaminals synthesis



To a solution of pure enecarbamate **8** or a mixture of **8** and **9** (1 eq.) in dry dichloromethane (0.05M), under argon atmosphere, was added HCl 4N in dioxane (0.2 eq.). The mixture was stirred at room temperature for one hour. After completion, the reaction media is evaprated under *vacuo*. The crude product was purified by silica gel chromatography to give the desired compound. **9**.

#### Methyl ((4S,5S)-4-methyl-5-(4-nitrophenyl)tetrahydrofuran-2-yl)carbamate (9aa)



Prepared starting from **8aa** (0.36 mmol, 100 mg). The crude product was purified by chromatography (silica gel, eluent: cyclohexane/AcOEt, 6/4) to give **9aa** (94 mg, 93%) as an orange solid (mixture of diastereoisomers, 59/41).

 $R_f = 0.28$  (cyclohexane/AcOEt, 6/4)

m.p. = 96-98 ° C

 $[\alpha]_{I}^{20} = -35 (c 2.70, CH_2Cl_2)$ 

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, Acetone-d6,  $\delta$  ppm) 8.21 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1,18H), 8.20 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 0.82H), 7.67 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1.18H), 7.66 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 0.82H), 7.10 (br s, 0.41H), 7.04 (br s, 0.59H), 5.92 – 5.77 (m, 0.59H), 5.70 (m, 0.41H), 4.59 (d, J = 9.5 Hz, 0.59H), 4.50 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 0.41H), 3.64 (s, 1.77H), 3.61 (s, 1.23H), 2.59 (m, 0.59H), 2.30 (m, 0.41H), 2.22 – 2.12 (m, 0.59H), 2.21 – 2.11 (m, 0.41H), 2.09 – 2.01 (m, 0.41H), 1.79 (m, 0.59H), 1.10 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 1.23H), 1.07 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 1.77H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, Acetone-d6, δ ppm) 157.1, 156.9, 150.8, 150.2, 148.4, 148.3, 128.1, 128.0, 124.2, 124.1, 87.4, 85.7, 83.7, 83.3, 52.0, 44.4, 42.3, 41.0, 40.8, 16.0, 15.1.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>Na [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 303.0951; found 303.0951.

Methyl ((4S,5S)-4-methyl-5-(4-trifluoromethylphenyl)tetrahydrofuran-2-yl)carbamate (9ab)



Prepared starting from a mixture of **8ab and 9ab** (0.40 mmol, 100 mg). The crude product was purified by chromatography (silica gel, eluent: cyclohexane/AcOEt, 6/4) to give **9ab** (96 mg, 95%) as a colourless oil (mixture of diastereoisomers, 57/43).

 $R_f = 0.25$  (Cyclohexane/AcOEt 7/3).

 $[\alpha]_{I}^{20} = -79 \text{ (c } 2.60, \text{CH}_{2}\text{Cl}_{2}\text{)}.$ 

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, Acetone- $d_6$ ,  $\delta$  ppm) 7.48 – 7.34 (m, 2H), 7.15 – 7.05 (m, 2.57H), 7.00 (br s, 0.43H), 5.85 – 5.73 (m, 0.57H), 5.69 – 5.60 (m, 0.43H), 4.43 (d, J = 9.5 Hz, 0.57H), 4.32 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 0.43H), 3.63 (s, 1.29H), 3.61 (s, 1.71H), 2.61 – 2.50 (m, 0.57H), 2.32 – 2.16 (m, 0.43H), 2.21 – 2.01 (m, 0.43H), 2.05 – 1.99 (m, 1H), 1.80-1.67 (m, 0.57H), 1.03 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 1.29H), 1.00 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 1.71H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, Acetone-d6, δ ppm) 162.2 (d, J = 243.2 Hz), 156.3, 156.1, 137.9 (d, J = 3.0 Hz), 137.5, 128.3 (d, J = 8.1 Hz), 114.8 (d, J = 21.4 Hz), 87.1, 85.2, 82.3, 81.9, 51.0, 43.2, 41.1, 40.1, 14.9, 14.2.

<sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, Acetone-d6, δ ppm) -117.0

HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd. for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>16</sub>FNO<sub>3</sub>Na [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 276.1006; found 276.1006.

### VI. General procedure for lactones synthesis



To a solution of boronate **6** (1eq.) in dry dichloromethane (0.1M), under argon atmosphere were added trifluoroacetic anhydride (3 eq.) and triethylamine (4.5 eq.). The solution was stirred at 0  $^{\circ}$  C for an hour and then, aldehyde (1.2 eq.) was added. The resulting solution was stirred at room temperature for 12 hours.

Methanol (1 eq.) was added and the solution was stirred at room temperature for 12 hours. To the reaction medium was added methanol (20 eq.) and HCl 4N in dioxane (10 eq.). The solution was stirred at room temperature for additionally 2 hours. The reaction media was diluted with dichloromethane and neutralized with NaOH 2M. The aqueous layer was extracted with dichloromethane. Organic layers were dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated under *vacuo*.

To a solution of the crude in dry dichloromethane (0.15M), cooled at 0  $^{\circ}$  C, were added Et<sub>2</sub>OBF<sub>3</sub> (3 eq.) and a solution of m-CPBA (3 eq.) in dry dichloromethane (0.5M). The mixture was stirred at 0  $^{\circ}$  C for 1 hour and quenched with a saturated solution of NaHCO<sub>3</sub>. The aqueous phase was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O. The combined organic layers were dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered, and concentrated under *vacuo*. The crude product was purified by silica gel chromatography to give the desired lactones **11**.



Prepared starting from (S,E)-**6a** (0.42 mmol, 100 mg) using *p*-nitrobenzaldehyde (0.50 mmol, 76 mg). The crude product was purified by chromatography (silica gel, eluent: pentane/Et<sub>2</sub>O, 7/3 to 0/10) to give **11aa** (81 mg, 87%) as an orange oil.

Rf = 0.12 (pentane/Et<sub>2</sub>O, 1/1) [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>20</sup> = + 13 (c 1.60, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Acetone-d6, δ ppm) 8.29 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.73 (d, J = 8.7 Hz 2H), 5.21 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 2.78 (dd, J = 16.3, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 2.61 – 2.52 (m, 1H), 2.47 (dd, J = 16.3, 10.5 Hz, 1H), 1.23 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, Acetone-d6, δ ppm) 175.8, 148.9, 147.2, 128.1, 124.5, 86.8, 40.7, 37.2, 16.1. Chiral HPLC : Chiralcel OD-H, hexane/i-PrOH = 90/10, flow rate = 1.0 mL/min, 230 nm, t<sub>(S,S)</sub> = 59.6 min, , t<sub>(R,R)</sub> = 64.9 min. (see afterward the chromatogram at page S33) ee = 98%.

HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd. for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>11</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>Na [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 244.0580; found 244.0579.

(4S,5S)-5-(4-fluorophenyl)-4-methyldihydrofuran-2(3H)-one (11ab)



Prepared starting from (*S*,*E*)-**6a** (0.42 mmol, 100 mg) using *p*-fluorobenzaldehyde (0.50 mmol, 54  $\mu$ L). The crude product was purified by chromatography (silica gel, eluent: pentane/Et<sub>2</sub>O, 9/1 to 7/3) to give **11ab** (47 mg, 58%) as a yellow oil.

R<sub>f</sub> = 0.14 (pentane/Et<sub>2</sub>O, 7/3) [α]<sub>1</sub><sup>20</sup> = + 30 (c 1.05, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, Acetone-d6, δ ppm) 7.56-7.44 (m, 2H), 7.23-7.14 (m, 2H), 5.02 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 2.74 (dd, J = 16.0, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 2.55-2.53 (m, 1H), 2.41 (dd, J = 16.0, 10.7 Hz, 1H), 1.15 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 3H). <sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, Acetone-d6, δ ppm) -115.2. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, Acetone-d6, δ ppm) 176.0, 163.6 (d, J = 245.0 Hz), 135.8 (d, J = 3.1 Hz), 129.4 (d, J = 8.5 Hz), 116.2 (d, J = 21.8 Hz), 87.7, 40.6, 37.5, 16.0.

HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd. for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>11</sub>FO<sub>2</sub>Na [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 217.0635; found 217.0636.



Prepared starting from (S,E)-**6a** (0.42 mmol, 100 mg) using benzaldehyde (0.50 mmol, 52 µL). The crude product was purified by chromatography (silica gel, eluent: cyclohexane/AcOEt, 8/2) to give **11ac** (34 mg, 46%) as a colourless oil.

 $R_{f} = 0.33 \text{ (cyclohexane/AcOEt, 8/2)}$ [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>20</sup> = -9 (c 0.75, CHCl<sub>3</sub>) <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, δ ppm) 7.45 – 7.34 (m, 5H), 5.01 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 2.74 (dd, *J* = 16.0, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 2.60 – 2.46 (m, 1H), 2.40 (dd, *J* = 16.0, 10.6 Hz, 1H), 1.16 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, Acetone-d6, δ ppm) 176.1, 139.7, 129.4, 129.3, 127.2, 88.4, 40.6, 37.6, 16.1.

HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd. for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>12</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Na [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 199.0729; found 199.0729.

(4S,5S)-4-methyl-5-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)dihydrofuran-2(3H)-one (11ad)



Prepared starting from (*S*,*E*)-**6a** (0.21 mmol, 51 mg) using *p*-(trifluoromethyl)benzaldehyde (0.25 mmol, 34  $\mu$ L). The crude product was purified by chromatography (silica gel, eluent: cyclohexane/AcOEt, 8/2) to give **11ad** (41 mg, 81%) as an orange oil.

Rf = 0.21 (cyclohexane/AcOEt, 8/2)

 $[\alpha]_{I}^{20} = +15 (c \ 0.40, CH_2Cl_2)$ 

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, Acetone-d6,  $\delta$  ppm) 7.78 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.68 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 5.15 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H), 2.77 (dd, J = 15.9, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 2.64 – 2.50 (m, 1H), 2.45 (dd, J = 15.9, 10.4 Hz, 1H), 1.21 (d, J = 6.3 Hz, 3H).

<sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, Acetone-d6, δ ppm) -63.1.

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, Acetone-d6, δ ppm) 175.9, 144.5 (q, *J* = 1.3 Hz), 130.9 (q, *J* = 32.2 Hz), 127.8, 126.4 (q, *J* = 3.9 Hz), 125.2 (q, *J* = 271.3 Hz), 123.4, 87.3, 40.7, 37.3, 16.2.

HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd. for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>11</sub>F<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Na [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 267.0603; found 267.0604.



Prepared starting from (S,E)-6a (0.42 mmol, 100 mg) using 4-bromobenzaldehyde (0.50 mmol, 92 mg). The crude product was purified by chromatography (silica gel, eluent: pentane/Et<sub>2</sub>O, 10/0 to 8/2) to give **11ae** (69 mg, 64%) as a slight yellow oil.

Rf = 0.27 (cyclohexane/AcOEt, 8/2) [α]<sub>I</sub><sup>20</sup> = + 41 (c 1.45, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, Acetone-d6, δ ppm) 7.60 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.40 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 5.02 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 2.74 (dd, J = 15.7, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 2.58 – 2.46 (m, 1H), 2.41 (dd, J = 15.7, 10.7 Hz, 1H), 1.16 (d, J = 6.3 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, Acetone-d6, δ ppm) 175.9, 139.1, 132.5, 129.3, 122.8, 87.5, 40.6, 37.4, 16.0. HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd. for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>11</sub>BrO<sub>2</sub>Na [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 276.9835; found 276.9837.





Prepared starting from (*S*,*E*)-**6a** (0.42 mmol, 100 mg) using 4-methylaldehyde (0.50 mmol, 60  $\mu$ L). The crude product was purified by chromatography (silica gel, eluent: pentane/Et<sub>2</sub>O, 9/1 to 8/2) to give **11af** (32 mg, 40%) as a orange oil.

$$\begin{split} & R_f = 0.27 \text{ (pentane/Et}_2\text{O}, 9/1, 5\% \text{ Et}_3\text{N}) \\ & [\alpha]_1^{20} = + 30 \text{ (c} \ 0.35, \text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2) \\ & {}^1\text{H} \text{ NMR} \ (400 \text{ MHz}, \text{CDCl}_3, \delta \text{ ppm}) \ 7.25 - 7.14 \ (\text{m}, 4\text{H}), 4.91 \ (\text{d}, J = 8.3 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}), 2.78 \ (\text{dd}, J = 16.9, 7.6 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}), 2.56 - 2.39 \ (\text{m}, 1\text{H}), 2.36 \ (\text{s}, 3\text{H}), 2.33 \ (\text{dd}, J = 16.9, 10.5, 1\text{H}), 1.18 \ (\text{d}, J = 6.6 \text{ Hz}, 3\text{H}). \\ & {}^{13}\text{C} \text{ NMR} \ (101 \text{ MHz}, \text{CDCl}_3, \delta \text{ ppm}) \ 176.3, 138.8, 135.0, 129.5, 126.1, 88.4, 39.9, 37.5, 21.3, 16.6. \\ & \text{HRMS} \ (\text{ESI}) \ m/z \ \text{calcd. for } \text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{14}\text{O}_2\text{Na} \ [\text{M+Na}]^+ 213.0886; \ \text{found} \ 213.0887. \end{split}$$



Prepared starting from (*S*,*E*)-**6a** (0.42 mmol, 100 mg) using 4-methoxybenzaldehyde (0.50 mmol, 60  $\mu$ L). The crude product was purified by chromatography (silica gel, eluent: cyclohexane/AcOEt, 8/2 to 7/3) to give **11ag** (41 mg, 47%) as an orange oil.

 $[\alpha]_{D}^{20} = + 13 (c \ 0.75, CHCl_{3}); litt : [\alpha]_{D}^{25} = + 12 (c \ 1.00, CHCl_{3})$ <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl\_{3},  $\delta$  ppm) 7.26 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.91 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 4.88 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 2.78 (dd, *J* = 16.9, 7.7 Hz, 1H), 2.54 - 2.43 (m, 1H), 2.33 (dd, *J* = 16.9, 10.7 Hz, 1H), 1.16 (d, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 3H). 
<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  ppm) 176.2, 160.1, 129.8, 127.7, 114.2, 88.3, 55.5, 39.8, 37.6, 16.4. HRMS (EI) *m/z* calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>14</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Na [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 229.0835; found 229.0836.





Prepared starting from (*S*,*E*)-**6a** (0.42 mmol, 100 mg) using 3,4-dimethoxybenzaldehyde (0.50 mmol, 84 mg). The crude product was purified by chromatography (silica gel, eluent: cyclohexane/AcOEt, 7/3) to give **11ah** (30 mg, 30%) as a green oil.

$$\begin{split} & \mathsf{R}_f = 0.20 \; (\text{cyclohexane/AcOEt}, \; 7/3) \\ & [\alpha]_1^{20} = + \; 37 \; (\text{c} \; \; 0.33, \; \mathrm{CH}_2\mathrm{Cl}_2) \\ & ^1\mathrm{H} \; \mathrm{NMR} \; (400 \; \mathrm{MHz}, \; \mathrm{CDCl}_3, \; \delta \; \mathrm{ppm}) \; 6.90 - 6.81 \; (\mathrm{m}, \; 3\mathrm{H}), \; 4.88 \; (\mathrm{d}, \; J = 8.6 \; \mathrm{Hz}, \; 1\mathrm{H}), \; 3.90 \; (\mathrm{s}, \; 3\mathrm{H}), \; 3.89 \; (\mathrm{s}, \; 3\mathrm{H}), \; 2.80 \; (\mathrm{dd}, \; J = 16.9, \; 7.6 \; \mathrm{Hz}, \\ & 1\mathrm{H}), \; 2.53 - 2.43 \; (\mathrm{m}, \; 1\mathrm{H}), \; 2.34 \; (\mathrm{dd}, \; J = 16.9, \; 10.8 \; \mathrm{Hz}, \; 1\mathrm{H}), \; 1.18 \; (\mathrm{d}, \; J = 6.6 \; \mathrm{Hz}, \; 3\mathrm{H}). \\ & ^{13}\mathrm{C} \; \mathrm{NMR} \; (101 \; \mathrm{MHz}, \; \mathrm{CDCl}_3, \; \delta \; \mathrm{ppm}) \; 176.3, \; 149.6, \; 149.5, \; 130.3, \; 119.0, \; 111.1, \; 109.1, \; 88.5, \; 56.2, \; 56.1, \; 39.9, \; 37.6, \; 16.5. \\ & \mathrm{HRMS} \; (\mathrm{ESI}) \; m/z \; \mathrm{calcd}. \; \mathrm{for} \; \mathrm{C}_{13}\mathrm{H}_1\mathrm{GO}_4\mathrm{Na} \; [\mathrm{M+Na}]^+ \; 259.0940; \; \mathrm{found} \; 259.0940. \end{split}$$



Prepared starting from (S,E)-**6a** (0.42 mmol, 100 mg) using piperonal (0.50 mmol, 76 mg). The crude product was purified by chromatography (silica gel, eluent: cyclohexane/AcOEt, 9/1 to 8/2) to give **11ai** (39 mg, 42%) as a colourless oil.

$$\begin{split} & \mathsf{R}_{f} = 0.19 \; (\text{cyclohexane/AcOEt, 8/2}) \\ & [\alpha]_{I}^{20} = + 94 \; (\text{c} \ \ 0.35, \text{CH}_{2}\text{Cl}_{2}) \\ & ^{1}\text{H NMR} \; (400 \; \text{MHz}, \text{CDCl}_{3}, \delta \; \text{ppm}) \; 6.86 - 6.77 \; (\text{m}, 3\text{H}), \; 5.98 \; (\text{s}, 2\text{H}), \; 4.84 \; (\text{d}, \textit{J} = 8.5 \; \text{Hz}, 1\text{H}), \; 2.78 \; (\text{dd}, \textit{J} = 16.8, \; 7.6 \; \text{Hz}, 1\text{H}), \; 2.51 - 2.40 \\ & (\text{m}, 1\text{H}), \; 2.32 \; (\text{dd}, \textit{J} = 16.8, \; 10.8 \; \text{Hz}, 1\text{H}), \; 1.16 \; (\text{d}, \textit{J} = 6.5 \; \text{Hz}, \; 3\text{H}). \\ & ^{13}\text{C NMR} \; (101 \; \text{MHz}, \; \text{CDCl}_{3}, \; \delta \; \text{ppm}) \; 176.0, \; 148.3, \; 148.2, \; 131.7, \; 120.2, \; 108.4, \; 106.5, \; 101.5, \; 88.4, \; 39.9, \; 37.5, \; 16.5. \\ & \text{HRMS} \; (\text{ESI}) \; \textit{m/z} \; \text{calcd. for } \text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{12}\text{O}_{4}\text{Na} \; [\text{M+Na}]^{+} \; 243.0628; \; \text{found} \; 243.0628. \end{split}$$

(4*S*,5*R*)-5-butyl-4-methyldihydrofuran-2(3H)-one (11aj)<sup>2</sup> (+)-trans-whiskey lactone (2)



Prepared starting from (*S*,*E*)-**6a** (0.42 mmol, 100 mg) using pentanal (0.64 mmol, 68  $\mu$ L). The crude product was purified by chromatography (silica gel, eluent: pentane/Et<sub>2</sub>O, 10/0 to 8/2) to give (+)-whiskey lactone **2** (26 mg, 40%) as a colourless liquid.

 $\begin{aligned} & [\alpha]_{D}^{20} = +50 \text{ (c } 0.6, \text{ CHCl}_3); \text{ litt} : [\alpha]_{D}^{25} = +59.6 \text{ (c } 0.71, \text{ CHCl}_3) \\ & ^{1}\text{H NMR} (400 \text{ MHz}, \text{CDCl}_3, \delta \text{ ppm}) \ 4.00 \text{ (ddd}, J = 8.2, 7.3, 4.1 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}), 2.71 - 2.61 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 2.25 - 2.12 \text{ (m, 2H)}, 1.73 - 1.54 \text{ (m, 3H)}, \\ & 1.41 - 1.31 \text{ (m, 3H)}, 1.13 \text{ (d, } J = 6.4 \text{ Hz}, 3\text{H}), 0.91 \text{ (t, } J = 7.2 \text{ Hz}, 3\text{H}). \\ & ^{13}\text{C NMR} (101 \text{ MHz}, \text{CDCl}_3, \delta \text{ ppm}) \ 176.7, 87.6, 37.3, 36.2, 33.8, 28.0, 22.6, 17.6, 14.0. \\ & \text{HRMS} \text{ (ESI) } m/z \text{ calcd. for } \text{C}_9\text{H}_{16}\text{O}_2\text{Na} \text{ [M+Na]}^+ \ 179.1042; \text{ found } 179.1043. \end{aligned}$ 

(4*S*,5*R*)-4-methyl-5-pentyldihydrofuran-2(3H)-one (11ak)<sup>4</sup> (+)-*trans*-cognac lactone (3)



Prepared starting from (*S*,*E*)-**6a** (0.42 mmol, 100 mg) using hexanal (0.50 mmol, 60  $\mu$ L). The crude product was purified by chromatography (silica gel, eluent: cyclohexane/AcOEt, 8/2) to give (+)-cognac lactone **3** (28.6 mg, 40%) as a colourless oil.

$$\begin{split} & \mathsf{R}_{f} = 0.19 \; (\text{cyclohexane/AcOEt, 8/2}) \\ & [\alpha]_{D}^{20} = + \; 70 \; (\text{c} \; \; 0.27, \, \text{CHCl}_{3}); \; \text{litt} : \; [\alpha]_{D}^{25} = + \; 72 \; (\text{c} \; \; 1.00, \, \text{CHCl}_{3}) \\ & ^{1}\text{H} \; \text{NMR} \; (300 \; \text{MHz}, \; \text{CDCl}_{3}, \; \delta \; \text{ppm}) \; 4.03 \; (\text{td}, \; J = \; 7.6, \; 4.0 \; \text{Hz}, \; 1\text{H}), \; 2.75 - 2.61 \; (\text{m}, \; 1\text{H}), \; 2.31 - 2.13 \; (\text{m}, \; 2\text{H}), \; 1.73 - 1.60 \; (\text{m}, \; 4\text{H}), \; 1.38 \\ & - \; 1.28 \; (\text{m}, \; 4\text{H}), \; 1.15 \; (\text{d}, \; J = \; 6.4 \; \text{Hz}, \; 3\text{H}), \; 0.92 \; (\text{t}, \; J = \; 5.8 \; \text{Hz}, \; 3\text{H}). \\ & ^{13}\text{C} \; \text{NMR} \; (75 \; \text{MHz}, \; \text{CDCl}_{3}, \; \delta \; \text{ppm}) \; 176.6, \; 87.5, \; 37.2, \; 36.1, \; 34.0, \; 31.6, \; 25.4, \; 22.5, \; 17.5, \; 14.0. \\ & \text{HRMS} \; (\text{ESI}) \; m/z \; \text{calcd. for } \; \text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{18}\text{O}_2\text{Na} \; [\text{M+Na}]^{+} \; 193.1198; \; \text{found} \; 193.1199. \end{split}$$

#### (4R,5R)-4-methyl-5-(4-nitrophenyl)dihydrofuran-2(3H)-one (11ba)



Prepared starting from (*R*,*E*)-**6a** (0.42 mmol, 100 mg) using *p*-nitrobenzaldehyde (xx mmol, xx mg). The crude product was purified by chromatography (silica gel, eluent: pentane/Et<sub>2</sub>O, 7/3 to 0/10) to give **11ba** (68 mg, 73%) as an orange oil.

Rf = 0.12 (pentane/Et<sub>2</sub>O, 1/1)  $[α]_D^{20}$  = -12 (c 1.60, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Acetone-d6, δ ppm) 8.29 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.73 (d, J = 8.8 Hz 2H), 5.21 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 2.78 (dd, J = 16.3, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 2.61 – 2.52 (m, 1H), 2.47 (dd, J = 16.3, 10.5 Hz, 1H), 1.23 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, Acetone-d6, δ ppm) 175.8, 148.9, 147.2, 128.1, 124.5, 86.8, 40.7, 37.2, 16.1. Chiral HPLC : Chiralcel OD-H, hexane/i-PrOH = 90/10, flow rate = 1.0 mL/min, 230 nm, **6ba** 64.9 min. HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd. for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>11</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>Na [M+Na]+ 244.0580; found 244.0581. (4*R*,5*R*)-5-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)-4-methyldihydrofuran-2(3H)-one (11bh)



Prepared starting from (R,E)-6a (0.42 mmol, 100 mg) using 3,4-dimethoxybenzaldehyde (0.50 mmol, 84 mg). The crude product was purified by chromatography (silica gel, eluent: cyclohexane/AcOEt, 7/3) to give 11bh (32 mg, 32%) as a green oil.

$$\begin{split} & \mathsf{R}_{f} = 0.20 \; (\text{cyclohexane/AcOEt, 7/3}) \\ & [\alpha]_{I}^{\ 20} = -35 \; (\text{c} \ 0.33, \text{CH}_{2}\text{Cl}_{2}) \\ & ^{1}\text{H NMR} \; (400 \; \text{MHz}, \text{CDCl}_{3}, \delta \; \text{ppm}) \; 6.90 - 6.81 \; (\text{m}, 3\text{H}), \; 4.88 \; (\text{d}, \textit{J} = 8.6 \; \text{Hz}, 1\text{H}), \; 3.90 \; (\text{s}, 3\text{H}), \; 3.89 \; (\text{s}, 3\text{H}), \; 2.80 \; (\text{dd}, \textit{J} = 16.9, \; 7.6 \; \text{Hz}, \\ & 1\text{H}), \; 2.53 - 2.43 \; (\text{m}, 1\text{H}), \; 2.34 \; (\text{dd}, \textit{J} = 16.9, \; 10.8 \; \text{Hz}, 1\text{H}), \; 1.18 \; (\text{d}, \textit{J} = 6.6 \; \text{Hz}, 3\text{H}). \\ & ^{13}\text{C NMR} \; (101 \; \text{MHz}, \; \text{CDCl}_{3}, \; \delta \; \text{ppm}) \; 176.3, \; 149.6, \; 149.5, \; 130.3, \; 119.0, \; 111.1, \; 109.1, \; 88.5, \; 56.2, \; 56.1, \; 39.9, \; 37.6, \; 16.5. \\ & \text{HRMS} \; (\text{ESI}) \; \textit{m/z} \; \text{calcd. for } \text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{16}\text{O}_{4}\text{Na} \; [\text{M+Na}]^{+} \; 259.0940; \; \text{found} \; 259.0941. \end{split}$$





Prepared starting from (S,E)-**6b** (0.37 mmol, 110 mg) using 4-nitrobenzaldehyde (0.44 mmol, 67 mg). The crude product was purified by chromatography (silica gel, eluent: cyclohexane/AcOEt, 9/1) to give **11ca** (68 mg, 66%) as an orange oil.

$$\begin{split} & R_f = 0.26 \text{ (cyclohexane/AcOEt, 8/2)} \\ & [\alpha]_D^{\ 20} = +\ 15 \text{ (c} \ 0.50, \ CH_2 Cl_2) \\ & ^1 \text{H} \ \text{NMR} \ (300 \ \text{MHz}, \ \text{CDCl}_3, \ \delta \ \text{ppm}) \ 8.26 \ (\text{d}, \ J = 8.8 \ \text{Hz}, 2\text{H}), \ 7.51 \ (\text{d}, \ J = 8.8 \ \text{Hz}, 2\text{H}), \ 5.10 \ (\text{d}, \ J = 7.3 \ \text{Hz}, 1\text{H}), \ 2.89 - 2.71 \ (\text{m}, 1\text{H}), \ 2.48 - 2.28 \ (\text{m}, 2\text{H}), \ 1.71 - 1.55 \ (\text{m}, 1\text{H}), \ 1.55 - 1.42 \ (\text{m}, 1\text{H}), \ 1.39 - 1.17 \ (\text{m}, 6\text{H}), \ 0.92 - 0.80 \ (\text{m}, 3\text{H}). \\ & ^{13}\text{C} \ \text{NMR} \ (101 \ \text{MHz}, \ \text{CDCl}_3, \ \delta \ \text{ppm}) \ 175.3, \ 148.1, \ 145.7, \ 126.7, \ 124.1, \ 85.2, \ 53.4, \ 45.1, \ 34.9, \ 32.1, \ 31.6, \ 30.9, \ 22.4, \ 14.2, \ 13.9. \\ & \text{HRMS} \ (\text{ESI}) \ m/z \ \text{calcd. for} \ C_{13}\text{H}_{19}\text{NO}_4\text{Na} \ [\text{M+Na}]^+ \ 300.1206; \ \text{found} \ 300.1207. \end{split}$$

## V. Synthesis of (-)-galbacin



To a solution of lactone **11ai** (0.672 mmol, 148 mg, 1.0eq) in dry tetrahydrofurane (0.19 M), under argon atmosphere and cooled at -78° C, was added a solution of 1M LiHMDS in THF (1.4eq). The solution was stirred at -78° C during 30 minutes. Then, MeI (6 eq.) was added and the solution was left to warm up to -20° C in 3 hours. The mixture was quenched with a saturated solution of ammonium chloride and diluted with AcOEt. Two phases were separated and 3 extractions were realized with AcOEt on the aqueous phase. The organic phases were washed with saturated NaCl solution , combined, dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and concentrated under *vacuo*. The crude product was purified by chromatography (silica gel, eluent : cyclohexane/AcOEt 9/1 to 8/2) to give **12** (*d.e* 78%) as a yellow oil (92 mg, 72% yield).

#### (3R,4S,5S)-5-(benzo[d][1,3]dioxol-5-yl)-3,4-dimethyldihydrofuran-2(3H)-one (12)<sup>5</sup>



 $R_f = 0.30$  (cyclohexane/AcOEt, 8/2)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  ppm) 6.85 – 6.73 (m, 3H), 5.96 (s, 2H), 4.94 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 0.89HH), 4.72 (d, *J* = 9.9 Hz, 0.11H), 2.77 (qd, *J* = 7.7, 7.7 Hz, 0.89H), 2.51-2.47 (m, 0.89H), 2.33 (qd, *J* = 11.9, 7.0 Hz, 0.11H), 2.06 – 1.86 (m, 0.11H), 1.29 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 0.33H), 1.21 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2.67H), 1.11 (d, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 0.33H). 1.06 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2.67H), .

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, δ ppm) 179.6, 178.5, 148.2, 148.1, 147.9, 132.2, 131.3, 120.5, 119.5, 108.3, 108.2, 106.7, 106.2, 101.4, 86.4, 85.8, 47.9, 43.5, 42.3, 38.5, 14.4, 13.1, 12.5, 10.4.

HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd. for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>14</sub>NaO<sub>4</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>257.0784; found 257.0785.



To a solution of lactone **12** (0.39 mmol, 1 eq.) in MeOH (0.25M) was added dropwise a solution of MeONa 1M (2.5 eq.). The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 18 hours. The reaction media was quenched with saturated NaCl solution. The aqueous phase was extracted with 3x4mL Et<sub>2</sub>O. The combined organic layers were dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and concentrated under *vacuo*. The crude product was purified by chromatography (silica gel, eluent : cyclohexane/AcOEt 9/1 to 8/2) to give **13** (*d.e* 84%) as a yellow oil (77 mg, 85% yield)





$$\begin{split} & R_f = 0.30 \text{ (cyclohexane/AcOEt, 8/2)} \\ & [\alpha]_D{}^{20} = -27 \text{ (c} \ 0.45, \text{ MeOH); litt : } [\alpha]_D{}^{25} = -18 \text{ (c} \ 0.03, \text{ MeOH)} \\ & ^1\text{H} \text{ NMR} \ (400 \text{ MHz, CDCl}_3, \delta \text{ ppm}) \ 6.85 - 6.73 \ (\text{m}, 3\text{H}), 5.96 \ (\text{s}, 2\text{H}), 4.94 \ (\text{d}, J = 6.8 \text{ Hz}, 0.08\text{H}), 4.72 \ (\text{d}, J = 9.9 \text{ Hz}, 0.92\text{H}), 2.77 \\ & (\text{qd}, J = 7.7, 7.7 \text{ Hz}, 0.08\text{H}), 2.51\text{-}2.47 \ (\text{m}, 0.08\text{H}), 2.33 \ (\text{qd}, J = 11.9, 7.0 \text{ Hz}, 0.92\text{H}), 2.06 - 1.86 \ (\text{m}, 0.92\text{H}), 1.29 \ (\text{d}, J = 7.0 \text{ Hz}, 2.76\text{H}), 1.21 \ (\text{d}, J = 7.6 \text{ Hz}, 0.24\text{H}), 1.11 \ (\text{d}, J = 6.5 \text{ Hz}, 2;76\text{H}). 1.06 \ (\text{d}, J = 7.0 \text{ Hz}, 0.24\text{H}), . \\ & ^{13}\text{C} \text{ NMR} \ (101 \text{ MHz}, \text{CDCl}_3, \delta \text{ ppm}) \ 178.5, 148.2, 148.1, 131.3, 120.5, 108.3, 106.7, 101.5, 86.4, 85.8, 47.9, 43.5, 14.5, 13.1. \\ & \text{HRMS} \ (\text{ESI}) \ m/z \ \text{calcd. for } \text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{14}\text{NaO}_4 \ [\text{M+Na}]^+257.0784; \text{ found } 257.0785. \end{split}$$



A solution of alkylated lactone **13** (0.30 mmol, 1 eq.) in dichloromethane (0.32M), under argon atmosphere, was cold at -78 ° C. A solution of DIBALH 1M (1.6 eq.) in hexane was added and the mixture was stirred at -78 ° C for one hour. Then, methanol (0.1M), trimethyl orthoformate (3.7 eq.) and APTS.H<sub>2</sub>O (3.4 eq.) were added. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 5 hours. The reaction media was cold at 0 ° C and saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> was added. The aqueous phase was extracted with 3x2mL AcOEt. The combined organic layers were dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and concentrated under *vacuo*. The crude product was purified by chromatography (silica gel, eluent : cyclohexane/AcOEt 10/0 to 9/1) to give **14** (50 mg, 67%) as a yellow oil (mixture of diastereoisomers, 1/1).

5-((2S,3S,4S)-5-methoxy-3,4-dimethyltetrahydrofuran-2-yl)benzo[d][1,3]dioxole (14)



 $R_f = 0.39$  (cyclohexane/AcOEt, 9/1)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  ppm) 6.90-6.87 (m, 1H), 6.81 – 6.73 (m, 2H), 5.94 (s, 2H), 4.83 (d, *J* = 4.3 Hz, 0.5H), 4.76 (d, *J* = 4.1 Hz, 0.5H), 4.45 (d, *J* = 9.6 Hz, 0.5H), 4.36 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 0.5H), 3.47 (s, 1.5H), 3.43 (s, 1.5H), 1.89 – 1.76 (m, 1H), 1.62 – 1.50 (m, 1H), 1.15 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1.5H), 1.03 (d, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 1.5H), 0.95 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  ppm) 148.0, 147.4, 147.2, 136.5, 134.5, 120.6, 120.5, 111.5, 108.1, 107.9, 107.4, 107.1, 106.6, 101.1, 101.1, 89.6, 86.7, 56.0, 55.3, 50.2, 48.9, 46.8, 46.4, 16.1, 14.1, 14.1, 11.2. HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd. for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>18</sub>NaO<sub>4</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 273.1097; found 273.1098.



A solution of acetal **14** (0.16 mmol, 1 eq.) in dichloromethane (0.06M) was cold at  $-78^{\circ}$  C. Then, 1,3-benzodioxole (6.9 eq.) and SnCl<sub>4</sub> (1.5 eq.) were added and the mixture was stirred at  $-78^{\circ}$  C for 2 hours. A saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl solution was added and the aqueous phase was extracted with 3x2mL CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The combined organic layers were dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and concentrated under *vacuo*. The crude product was purified by chromatography (silica gel, eluent : pentane/ CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> 7/3 to 5/5) to give (-)-galbacin (46 mg, 85%) as a colourless oil.

5,5'-((2*S*,3*S*,4*S*,5*S*)-3,4-dimethyltetrahydrofuran-2,5-diyl)bis(benzo[d][1,3]dioxole) (5)<sup>7</sup> (-)-galbacin



$$\begin{split} & R_f = 0.12 \text{ (pentane/ CH}_2\text{Cl}_2 \text{ 5/5}) \\ & [\alpha]_D^{20} = -103 \text{ (c} \ 0.88, \text{CHCl}_3); \text{ litt} : [\alpha]_D^{25} = -119 \text{ (c} \ 0.02, \text{CHCl}_3) \\ & ^1\text{H} \text{ NMR} (300 \text{ MHz}, \text{CDCl}_3, \delta \text{ ppm}) \ 6.91 \text{ (d}, J = 1.6 \text{ Hz}, 2\text{H}), \ 6.83 \text{ (dd}, J = 8.0, 1.6 \text{ Hz}, 2\text{H}), \ 6.77 \text{ (d}, J = 7.9 \text{ Hz}, 2\text{H}), \ 5.94 \text{ (s}, 4\text{H}), \\ & 4.59 \text{ (d}, J = 9.2 \text{ Hz}, 2\text{H}), \ 1.83 - 1.67 \text{ (m}, 2\text{H}), \ 1.02 \text{ (d}, J = 6.1 \text{ Hz}, 6\text{H}). \\ & ^{13}\text{C} \text{ NMR} (101 \text{ MHz}, \text{CDCl}_3, \delta \text{ ppm}) \ 147.9, \ 147.1, \ 136.5, \ 119.9, \ 108.1, \ 106.7, \ 101.1, \ 88.4, \ 51.2, \ 13.9 \\ & \text{HRMS} \text{ (ESI) m/z. calcd. for } \text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{20}\text{NaO}_5 \ [\text{M+Na]}^+ \ 363.1202; \ found \ 363.1203. \end{split}$$

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Racemic mixture

HPLC



(4*S*,5*S*)-**11aa**, 98 % *ee* 



Signal 1: VWD1 A, Wavelength=230 nm

Peak	RetTime	Type	Width	Area		Height		Area
#	[min]		[min]	mAU	*s	[mAU	1	8
1	50.597	BB	1.6213	1.28	998e4	122.	10625	56.4091
2	64.910	BB	1.9201	9968	.53223	73.	23064	43.5909
Totals :			2.28	584e4	195.	33690		

Signal 1: VWD1 A, Wavelength=230 nm

Peak	RetTime	Type	Width	Area		Height		Area
#	[min]		[min]	mAU	*8	[mAU	1	8
1	52.367	BB	1.7738	2.409	999e4	187.	07767	99.1196
2	72.169	MM	2.3863	214	05952	1.	49503	0.8804
Totals :				2.431	140e4	188.	57270	












S39

























































S67


















S76



Table xxx. Selected crystal parameters and refinement metrics

## ORTEP plot of the crystal structure of **5** (at 50% probability level)

**Crystal structure determination:** The data were collected using graphite-monochromated Mo-K $\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda = 0.71073$  Å). The structure was solved by dual-space algorithm using the *SHELXT* program [1], and then refined with full-matrix least-square methods based on  $F^2$  (*SHELXL*) [2]. All non-hydrogen atoms were refined with anisotropic atomic displacement parameters. H atoms were finally included in their calculated positions.

Empirical formula	C20 H20 O5	Theta range for data collection	2.980 to 27.485 °
Formula weight	340.36	h_min, h_max	-22, 23
Temperature	150 K	k_min, k_max	-8, 9
Wavelength	0.71073 Å	I_min, I_max	-36, 36
Crystal system, space	groupmonoclinic, C 2	Reflections collected / unique	18156 / 7721 [R(int) = 0.0510]
Unit cell dimensions	a = 17.823(2) Å, alpha = 90 °	Reflections [I>2sigma(I)]	5875
	b = 6.9975(7) Å, beta = 100.799(5)	Completeness to theta_max	0.997
	0	Absorption correction type	multi-scan
	c = 27.834(4) Å, gamma = 90 °	Max. and min. transmission	0.995 , 0.903
Volume	3409.9(7) Å3	Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squares on F^2
Z, Calculated density	8, 1.326 (g.cm-3)	Data / restraints / parameters	7721/1/455
Absorption coefficient	0.095 mm-1	Goodness-of-fit	1.024
F(000)	1440	Final R indices [I>2sigma(I)]	R1= 0.0468, wR2= 0.1010
Crystal size	0.550 x 0.080 x 0.050 mm	R indices (all data)	R1= 0.0723, wR2= 0.1107
Crystal color	colourless	Largest diff. peak and hole	0.180 and -0.233e.Å-3
			-

## VIII. Computational data analysis regarding the methylation step

The alkylation of lithium enolate derived from lactone 11ai with MeI was studied using density functional theory (DFT). B3LYP1 hybrid DFT functional was used for geometry optimizations. The 6-31+G\*\* basis set was applied to all atoms except for iodine, for which the LANL2DZ2 basis set was used. The combination of the B3LYP with the LANL2DZ basis set has been shown to effectively model the geometries and energies of iodo compounds.3 Frequency calculations were performed to determine the nature of the stationary points. Gibbs free energies were computed at -20 ° C (253.15 K) and 1 atm. Intrinsic reaction coordinates (IRCs) were computed to verify the connectivity between reactants, TSs and products.4 The structures of reactants and products were obtained by the optimization of the last structures on both sides of the IRC calculations. All computations were carried out with the Gaussian 09 suite of programs. The profile reaction for the alkylation of lithium enolate 11aiLi with MeI is shown in the Figure S1. The reactivecomplex 11aiLi+MeI undergoes anti and syn attack through the transition structures TS-anti and TS-syn yielding the products P-12+LiI and P-13+LiI, respectively. The formation of the products is exergonic and P-13+LiI is more stable than P-12+LiI by 1.0 kcal/mol.



**TS**-anti is 0.6 kcal/mol more favorable than **TS**-syn in Gibbs free energy which correspond to the product ratio anti:syn = 76:24,6 in good agreement with the experimental result (Figure S2). The Newman projections from the direction along the C3-C4 bond show that **TS**-anti has a staggered arrangement, while **TS**-syn has a nearly eclipsed arrangement. In **TS**-syn there is a small repulsive interaction between H on the incoming methyl group and H on the bulky substituent at C5 which are separated by 2.37 Å, less than the sum of their van der Waals radii (2.4 Å). In **TS**-anti there is also a contact between H on methyl iodine and H on the methyl group at C4 that is slightly larger than the sum of the Van der Waal radii.



**Figure S2.** Transition structures for the *anti-* and *syn-*attacks of MeI on the lithium enolate derived from lactone **11ai**. Selected distances are in Å. DD*G*# is the relative Gibbs free energies. Newman projections are viewed from the direction along the C3-C4 bond.

The results reveal that the alkylation of lithium enolate **11aiLi** with MeI is kinetically controlled and that the experimentally observed selectivity is mainly attributed to torsional effects in the transition structures, although the steric effects are also significant which is consistent with previous theoretical studies.

Cartesian coordinates, absolute electronic energies (including zero-point energy -ZPE- corrections) and free energies calculated at 253.15 K and 1atm of the stationary points. Imaginary frequencies of transition structures.

11aiLi+MeI			
С	0.087232	3.150848	0.867487
0	-0.007244	1.116116	-0.208376
С	1.278560	1.672615	-0.578948
С	1.492724	2.883124	0.384845
С	-0.741235	2.128116	0.561679
0	-1.954822	1.765064	0.741960
С	2.189123	4.057298	-0.317097
С	2.338409	0.598136	-0.549622
Li	-1.667960	0.229900	-0.217243
С	-4.883810	0.438948	0.927124
Ι	-4.073010	-1.211380	-0.289089
С	2.534681	-0.164927	0.626089
С	3.538076	-1.110042	0.605258
С	4.339819	-1.321359	-0.517906
С	4.167167	-0.595315	-1.678475
С	3.141551	0.372576	-1.672485
0	5.222515	-2.349051	-0.265535
0	3.895091	-2.001518	1.594729
С	5.125455	-2.584538	1.145987
Н	-0.206258	4.003710	1.464280
Н	1.180402	2.053997	-1.604705
Н	2.147200	2.564817	1.214232
Н	3.181696	3.771322	-0.688122
Н	1.589043	4.416963	-1.161245
Н	2.323442	4.893680	0.377341
Н	-4.052461	1.124713	1.084175
Н	-5.242627	-0.014194	1.847498
Н	-5.689149	0.875641	0.342401
Н	1.916101	-0.016026	1.504491
Н	4.784350	-0.767626	-2.553377
Н	2.974266	0.962581	-2.569216
Н	5.108595	-3.659434	1.334420
Н	5.967992	-2.094478	1.655421

Sum of electronic and zero-point Energies = -823.439193 au. Sum of electronic and thermal Free Energies = -823.481921 au.

## TS-anti

1 imaginary	frequency ·	-454 15 cm <sup>-1</sup>
1 magma y	mequency.	10 1.10 0111

1 magin			
С	2.623079	0.577027	0.495114
Н	2.155110	-0.070626	-0.224157
Н	3.037717	1.519831	0.179002
Н	2.799268	0.220263	1.494823
Ι	4.940612	-0.647098	-0.230177
Ο	-0.510955	1.292002	-0.793484
С	-0.802527	0.085188	-0.004737
С	-0.318378	0.448162	1.427085
С	0.728643	1.518001	1.143561
С	0.415295	2.108816	-0.074477
0	0.800187	3.104283	-0.742531
С	0.129502	-0.782551	2.223882
С	-2.247848	-0.305017	-0.166718
Li	-0.084470	2.498626	-2.224779
С	-3.275276	0.607971	0.173210
С	-4.575914	0.173382	0.032419
С	-4.886694	-1.110408	-0.422972
С	-3.904269	-2.017169	-0.765660
С	-2.569629	-1.584639	-0.631849
Ο	-6.251086	-1.252432	-0.497202
Ο	-5.738547	0.874003	0.253561
С	-6.789712	-0.100272	0.168649
Н	-0.165393	-0.708790	-0.410527
Н	-1.161748	0.900322	1.972873
Н	1.160407	2.118367	1.935409
Н	0.490380	-0.486371	3.214178
Н	-0.708886	-1.472459	2.370836
Н	0.935467	-1.326236	1.721395
Н	-3.055276	1.610011	0.525554
Н	-4.148281	-3.010232	-1.125956
Н	-1.769196	-2.271756	-0.890909
Н	-7.614941	0.305774	-0.418608
Η	-7.108057	-0.381584	1.181971

Sum of electronic and zero-point Energies = -823.399020 au. Sum of electronic and thermal Free Energies = -823.439382 au.

TS-syn			
1 imaginary frequency : -472.54 cm <sup>-1</sup>			
С	-0.940355	2.559427	0.451563
0	0.658242	2.204150	-1.177175
С	1.406150	2.092128	0.085629
С	0.305860	2.096336	1.193846
С	-0.640398	2.725605	-0.895426
0	-1.254419	3.087715	-1.932838
С	0.706777	2.968763	2.390604
С	2.343108	0.914501	0.032889
Li	0.102657	2.463892	-2.993019
С	1.841680	-0.400407	-0.129278
С	2.762526	-1.426200	-0.155189
С	4.135228	-1.199945	-0.020270
C	4.649370	0.070923	0.138057
С	3.720260	1.130541	0.157140
0	4.807969	-2.392418	-0.113065
0	2.537069	-2.767276	-0.342155
C	3.791204	-3.408609	-0.072525
Н	-1.698771	3.172253	0.922836
Н	1.995630	3.013495	0.162046
Н	0.173830	1.069400	1.562399
Н	1.635769	2.608392	2.847766
Н	0.850641	4.012917	2.089066
Н	-0.071274	2.944824	3.160270
Н	0.781782	-0.605971	-0.230692
Н	5.715081	0.244432	0.236790
Н	4.088877	2.145163	0.279331
Н	3.992233	-4.153435	-0.844391
Н	3.765017	-3.855853	0.930333
C	-2.218671	0.817423	0.244857
Н	-2.932504	1.313476	-0.391222
Н	-1.444763	0.211107	-0.192414
Н	-2.367567	0.788903	1.311593
Ι	-3.772817	-1.415114	0.096714

Sum of electronic and zero-point Energies = -823.397849 au. Sum of electronic and thermal Free Energies = -823.438457 au.

P-12+LiI			
С	-0.219266	4.268965	-0.086311
Ι	-5.030157	-1.187934	-0.109319
0	0.161196	0.989876	-0.387963
С	1.537887	1.518576	-0.529696
С	1.646297	2.552619	0.614811
С	0.186131	3.047037	0.765097
С	-0.597763	1.829602	0.312019
0	-1.785253	1.604287	0.514440
С	2.723306	3.611894	0.383089
С	2.522995	0.383319	-0.526892
Li	-3.159222	0.405615	0.225938
С	2.552317	-0.532618	0.551892
С	3.498499	-1.533349	0.499994
С	4.400369	-1.649881	-0.560806
С	4.389378	-0.771024	-1.625023
С	3.421616	0.252122	-1.590350
0	5.199417	-2.746171	-0.367145
0	3.702519	-2.555720	1.391492
С	4.888657	-3.234389	0.948812
Н	-0.000248	4.123837	-1.149348
Н	-1.291444	4.456696	0.015962
Н	0.316699	5.159303	0.252688
Н	1.564065	2.019390	-1.503716
Η	1.899493	1.998011	1.527349
Н	-0.070112	3.252570	1.809227
Η	2.758542	4.320246	1.216988
Н	3.708634	3.141976	0.304961
Н	2.547985	4.179839	-0.536258
Н	1.847374	-0.475925	1.374111
Н	5.081167	-0.873777	-2.453294
Н	3.374409	0.953944	-2.418074
Н	4.695783	-4.308282	0.900752
Н	5.718068	-2.999603	1.628319

Sum of electronic and zero-point Energies = -823.514719 au.

Sum of electronic and thermal Free Energies = -823.556966 au.

P-13+LiI			
С	-1.593863	2.744183	0.283086
0	-0.409995	1.619956	-1.409591
С	0.612820	2.157278	-0.479611
С	-0.181770	2.425446	0.817189
С	-1.632804	1.914827	-0.985341
0	-2.628778	1.520397	-1.591469
С	0.444822	3.501419	1.702220
С	1.772188	1.204977	-0.391541
Li	-3.071273	-0.272829	-1.582515
С	-2.765066	2.474476	1.229288
Ι	-2.536177	-2.024013	0.133939
С	1.557878	-0.149543	-0.037040
С	2.678395	-0.947068	0.064058
С	3.968292	-0.458689	-0.163530
С	4.197840	0.855765	-0.516842
С	3.064470	1.683973	-0.632387
0	4.877424	-1.476594	-0.024701
0	2.742943	-2.288641	0.347500
С	4.134245	-2.584127	0.514658
Н	-1.622279	3.795943	-0.048267
Н	0.945598	3.103368	-0.922504
Н	-0.239057	1.483467	1.377892
Н	1.456431	3.215524	2.007402
Н	0.506170	4.462179	1.176500
Н	-0.145284	3.650891	2.611633
Н	-3.717204	2.705322	0.743604
Н	-2.783496	1.423830	1.535739
Н	-2.679653	3.098787	2.123766
Н	0.564582	-0.560452	0.122802
Н	5.198599	1.226861	-0.707038
Н	3.203773	2.723153	-0.917124
Н	4.383453	-3.491129	-0.039472
Н	4.362136	-2.685001	1.584673

Sum of electronic and zero-point Energies = -823.517336 au. Sum of electronic and thermal Free Energies = -823.568879 au.

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