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## **Supporting Information**

# Boronic Acid-Catalysed Regioselective Ring-Opening of 3,4-Epoxy Alcohols with Thiols and Thiophenols

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#### **General Methods and Materials**

<sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker Advance 400M NMR spectrometers at ambient temperature in CDCl<sub>3</sub>, CD<sub>3</sub>OD, benzene-d<sub>6</sub> or acetone-d<sub>6</sub> at 400 and 101 MHz. The chemical shifts are given in ppm relative to tetramethylsilane [<sup>1</sup>H:  $\delta$ = (SiMe<sub>4</sub>)= 0.00 ppm] as an internal standard or relative to the resonance of the solvent [<sup>1</sup>H:  $\delta$ =(CDCl<sub>3</sub>)= 7.26, <sup>13</sup>C:  $\delta$ = (CDCl<sub>3</sub>)= 77.16 ppm]. Multiplicities were given as: s (singlet); d (doublet); t (triplet); q (quartet); dd (doublet of doublets); dt (doublet of triplets); m (multiplets), etc. Coupling constants are reported as *J* values in Hz. High resolution mass spectral analysis (HRMS) was performed on Waters XEVO G2 Q-TOF. HPLC was performed on Thermo UltiMate 3000. Flash chromatography was performed using 300-400 mesh silica gel with the indicated solvent system.

All racemic epoxides precursors were prepared by *m*-CPBA-mediated epoxidation. All other reagents and starting materials, unless otherwise noted, were purchased from commercial vendors and used without further purification.

### General Procedure for the Boronic Acid-catalyzed Regioselective Ring-opening of

## **3,4-Epoxy Alcohols.**



To a suspension of the 3-nitrophenyl boronic acid (5-25 mol%, see below)<sup>[a]</sup> in 1,1,1,3,3,3-Hexafluoro-2-propanol (0.3 mL) were added 3,4-epoxy alcohols **1** (0.4 mmol) and S-nucleophiles **2** (0.6 mmol, 1.5 equiv) at room temperature. The resulting mixture was heated to 50°C and stirred at this temperature for 24 h. Then the reaction was cooled to room temperature and the solvent was removed in vacuum.<sup>[b]</sup> The residue was purified through column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate) affording the corresponding products **3**.

[a] Catalyst loading: 5 mol% for **3a-g**, **3i**, **3j**, **3l**, **3r-t** and **3v**; 10 mol% for **3h**, **3k**, **3m-q**, **3u**, **3w**, **3x** and **3y**; 25 mol% for **3z-ad**.

[b] In the case of **3ac**, ethylenediamine (0.4 equiv) was added to the reaction mixture after completion of the reaction and stirred for 30 min before further working up.



(±)-erythro-3-((4-Methoxyphenyl)thio)hexane-1,4-diol (**3a**) was isolated through column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether: EtOAc= 1:1) as a colorless syrup (100 mg, 98%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$ = 7.38-7.30 (m, 2H), 6.88-6.67 (m, 2H), 3.92-3.80 (m, 1H), 3.78-3.67 (m, 1H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 3.50 (dt, *J*= 8.4, 4.2 Hz, 1H), 3.14 (dt, *J*= 7.9, 3.9 Hz, 1H), 1.92-1.83 (m, 1H), 1.82-1.71 (m, 1H), 1.59-1.37 (m, 2H), 0.86 (t, *J*= 7.4 Hz, 3H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz,

Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$ = 159.6, 135.2 (2C), 124.5, 114.8 (2C), 73.5, 60.0, 55.4, 54.8, 31.5, 26.6, 10.6 ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>20</sub>NaO<sub>3</sub>S [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 279.1025, found: 279.1028.



(±)-*erythro-3-(Phenylthio)hexane-1,4-diol* (**3b**) was isolated through column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether: EtOAc= 1:1) as a colorless syrup (86 mg, 95%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$ = 7.44-7.31 (m, 2H), 7.27-7.12 (m, 3H), 3.95-3.79 (m, 1H), 3.79-3.68 (m, 1H), 3.59-3.49 (m, 1H), 3.35 (dt, *J*= 8.1, 4.0 Hz, 1H), 1.96-1.86 (m, 1H), 1.86-1.76 (m, 1H), 1.57-1.45 (m, 2H), 0.88 (t, *J*= 7.4 Hz, 3H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$ = 134.6, 131.9 (2C), 129.1, 127.2

(2C), 73.9, 59.9, 53.4, 31.7, 26.7, 10.5 ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for  $C_{12}H_{18}NaO_2S$  [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 249.0920, found: 249.0920.



 $(\pm)$ -*erythro-3-(m-Tolylthio)hexane-1,4-diol* (**3c**) was isolated through column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether: EtOAc= 1:1) as a colorless syrup (89

mg, 93%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$ = 7.26-7.22 (m, 1H), 7.22-7.20 (m, 1H), 7.20-7.15 (m, 1H), 7.06-7.01 (m, 1H), 3.96-3.85 (m, 1H), 3.77 (ddd, J= 11.0, 7.3, 4.6 Hz, 1H), 3.62 (td, J= 6.5, 4.0 Hz, 1H), 3.39 (dt, J= 8.1, 4.1 Hz, 1H), 2.31 (s, 3H), 2.02-1.92 (m, 1H), 1.91-1.82 (m, 1H), 1.63-1.53 (m, 2H), 0.95 (t, J=7.4 Hz, 3H) ppm.<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-d)  $\delta=138.9$ , 134.4, 132.4, 129.0, 128.8, 128.1,74.0, 59.7, 53.1, 31.8, 26.8, 21.3, 10.6 ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>20</sub>NaO<sub>2</sub>S [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 263.1076, found: 263.1078.



(±)-erythro-3-(p-Polylthio)hexane-1,4-diol (3d) was isolated through column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether: EtOAc= 1:1) as a colorless syrup (90 mg, 93%).<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d)  $\delta$ = 7.25 (d, J= 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.02 (d, J= 7.9 Hz, 2H), 3.90-3.78 (m, 1H), 3.75-3.65 (m, 1H), 3.56-3.47 (m, 1H), 3.28 - 3.19 (m, 1H), 2.24 (s, 3H), 1.95-1.82 (m, 1H), 1.82-1.71 (m, 1H), 1.56-1.44 (m, 2H), 0.86 (t, J= 7.8, 6.9 Hz, 3H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-d)  $\delta$ = 137.5, 132.5 (2C), 130.8, 129.9 (2C), 73.8, 59.8, 53.8, 31.7, 26.7, 21.1, 10.5 ppm.

HRMS (ESI): calcd. for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>20</sub>NaO<sub>2</sub>S [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 263.1076, found: 263.1078.



3e

(±)-erythro-3-((2-Methoxyphenyl)thio)hexane-1,4-diol (3e) was isolated through column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether: EtOAc= 1:1) as a colorless syrup (100 mg, 98%).<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d)  $\delta$ = 7.50-7.45 (m, 1H), 7.34-7.27 (m, 1H), 6.95-6.89 (m, 2H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 3.89-3.80 (m, 2H), 3.53-3.45 (m, 1H), 3.38-3.31 (m, 1H), 2.02-1.90 (m, 1H), 1.90-1.78 (m, 1H), 1.67-1.54 (m, 1H), 1.53-1.41 (m, 1H), 0.92 (t, J= 7.4 Hz, 3H) ppm.<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ= 159.3, 135.5, 129.8, 121.5, 121.3, 111.2, 73.6, 60.0, 55.9, 52.3, 31.2, 26.3, 10.6

ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>20</sub>NaO<sub>3</sub>S [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 279.1025,found:279.1029.



 $(\pm)$ -erythro-3-((3,4-Dimethoxyphenyl)thio)hexane-1,4-diol (3f) was isolated through column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether: EtOAc= 1:1) as a colorless syrup (100 mg, 87%).<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d)  $\delta =$ 7.08-7.00 (m, 1H), 6.99 (t, J= 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.79 (dd, J= 8.3, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 3.92 (d, J= 6.4 Hz, 1H), 3.87 (s, 3H) 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.80 (d, J= 4.0 Hz, 1H), 3.29-3.11 (m, 2H), 2.01-1.90 (m, 1H), 1.89-1.75 (m, 1H), 1.66-1.50 (m, 2H), 0.94 (t, J= 7.4, 2.1 Hz, 3H) ppm.<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-d)  $\delta$ = 149.0, 149.0, 126.2,

125.1, 116.3, 111.5, 73.8, 59.6, 56.0, 55.9, 54.3, 31.6, 26.8, 10.6 ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for C14H22NaO4S [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 309.1131, found: 309.1140.



 $(\pm)$ -erythro-3-((2-Fluorophenyl)thio)hexane-1,4-diol (**3g**) was isolated through column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether: EtOAc= 1:1) as a colorless syrup (86 mg, 88%).<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$ = 7.45-7.38 (m, 1H), 7.25-7.17 (m, 1H), 7.06-6.97 (m, 2H), 3.91-3.83 (m, 1H), 3.78-3.70 (m, 1H), 3.54-3.47 (m, 1H), 3.36-3.29 (m, 1H), 1.94-1.74 (m, 2H), 1.60-1.42 (m, 2H), 0.86 (t, 3H) ppm.<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$ = 162.5 (d, *J*= 245.5 Hz), 135.3 (d,

J= 1.1 Hz), 129.9 (d, J= 8.0 Hz), 124.7 (d, J= 3.8 Hz), 121.2 (d, J= 17.8 Hz), 116.0 (d, J= 23.2 Hz), 74.0, 59.7, 52.9 (d, J= 1.8 Hz), 31.6, 26.7, 10.5 ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>17</sub>FNaO<sub>2</sub>S [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 267.0825, found: 267.0829.



(±)-erythro-3--((3-Fluorophenyl)thio)hexane-1,4-diol (3h) was isolated through column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether: EtOAc= 1:1) as a colorless syrup (88 mg, 90%).<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$ = 7.29-7.21 (m, 1H), 7.20-7.16 (m, 1H), 7.16-7.11 (m, 1H), 6.95-6.88 (m, 1H), 3.96-3.88 (m, 1H), 3.82-3.75 (m, 1H), 3.68-3.61 (m, 1H), 3.46 (dt, J= 8.1, 4.2 Hz, 1H), 2.03-1.83 (m, 2H), 1.65-1.55 (m, 2H), 0.97 (t, J= 7.4 Hz, 3H) ppm.<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ= 162.7 (d, *J*= 248.7 Hz), 137.4 (d, *J*= 7.7 Hz), 130.4 (d, *J*= 8.5 Hz), 126.6 (d, *J*= 3.0 Hz), 117.8 (d, J= 22.5 Hz), 113.9 (d, J= 21.1 Hz), 74.2, 59.5, 52.8, 31.7, 26.9, 10.6 ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for

C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>17</sub>FNaO<sub>2</sub>S [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 267.0825, found: 267.0829.



3i

 $(\pm)$ -erythro-3-((4-Fluorophenyl)thio)hexane-1,4-diol (3i) was isolated through column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether: EtOAc= 1:1) as a colorless syrup (80 mg, 82%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$ = 7.48-7.40 (m, 2H), 7.05-6.96 (m, 2H), 3.97-3.88 (m, 1H), 3.84-3.74 (m, 1H), 3.62-3.56 (m, 1H), 3.29 (dt, J= 8.1, 4.1 Hz, 1H), 2.00-1.80 (m, 2H), 1.63-1.53 (m, 2H), 0.94 (t, J= 7.4 Hz, 3H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-d)  $\delta$ = 162.4 (d, J= 247.9 Hz), 134.7 (d, J= 8.2 Hz) (2C), 129.59 (d, J= 3.5 Hz), 116.27 (d, J= 21.8 Hz) (2C). 73.8, 59.6, 54.3,

31.6, 26.8, 10.5 ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>17</sub>FNaO<sub>2</sub>S [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 267.0825, found: 267.0817.



(±)-erythro-3-((2-Chlorophenyl)thio)hexane-1,4-diol (**3j**) was isolated through column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether: EtOAc= 1:1) as a colorless syrup (84 mg, 81%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$ = 7.44-7.39 (m, 1H), 7.33 (dd, J= 7.5, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.17-7.08 (m, 2H), 3.91-3.83 (m, 1H), 3.76-3.68 (m, 1H), 3.57-3.50 (m, 1H), 3.45-3.39 (m, 1H), 1.97-1.77 (m, 2H), 1.60-1.44 (m, 2H), 0.87 (t, J=7.4 Hz, 3H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-d)  $\delta = 136.3, 133.8, 133.1,$ 130.1, 128.3, 127.3, 74.0, 59.6, 52.1, 31.5, 26.8, 10.6 ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for

C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>17</sub>ClNaO<sub>2</sub>S [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 283.0530, found: 283.0537.



 $(\pm)$ -erythro-3-((3-Chlorophenyl)thio)hexane-1,4-diol (3k) was isolated through column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether: EtOAc= 1:1) as a colorless syrup (80 mg, 77%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$ = 7.41 (dt, *J*= 2.4, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.33-7.26 (m, 1H), 7.27-7.16 (m, 2H), 3.92 (ddd, J= 11.0, 6.5, 4.5 Hz, 1H), 3.85–3.75 (m, 1H), 3.64 (td, J= 6.5, 4.0 Hz, 1H), 3.45 (dt, J = 8.1, 4.2 Hz, 1H), 2.04– 1.82 (m, 2H), 1.66-1.54 (m, 2H), 0.97 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H) ppm.<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-d)  $\delta$ = 137.13, 134.7, 130.9, 130.1, 129.3, 127.2, 74.1, 59.6, 53.1, 31.7, 26.8, 10.6 ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>17</sub>ClNaO<sub>2</sub>S [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 283.0530, found:



(±)-*erythro-3*-((4-Chlorophenyl)thio)hexane-1,4-diol (**3**I) was isolated through column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether: EtOAc= 1:1) as a colorless syrup (78 mg, 75%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$ = 7.36 (d, *J*= 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.26 (d, *J*= 8.6 Hz, 2H), 4.00-3.85 (m, 1H), 3.83-3.71 (m, 1H), 3.67-3.54 (m, 1H), 3.44-3.32 (m, 1H), 2.02-1.78 (m, 2H), 1.63-1.51 (m, 2H), 0.95 (t, *J*= 7.4 Hz, 3H) ppm.<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$ = 133.3, 133.3, 133.2 (2C), 129.3 (2C), 73.9, 59.7, 53.7, 31.7, 26.7, 10.6 ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>17</sub>ClNaO<sub>2</sub>S [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 283.0530, found: 283.0526.



3m

(±)-*erythro-3-((2-Bromophenyl)thio)hexane-1,4-diol* (**3m**) was isolated through column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether: EtOAc= 1:1) as a colorless syrup (106 mg, 87%).<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$ = 7.48 (dd, *J*= 8.0, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (dd, *J*= 7.9, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (td, *J*= 7.6, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 6.99 (td, *J*= 7.7, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 3.89-3.80 (m, 1H), 3.73-3.64 (m, 1H), 3.54 (m, 2H), 3.53 (brs,1H) 3.45-3.36 (m, 1H), 1.95-1.75 (m, 2H), 1.59-1.43 (m, 2H), 0.86 (t, *J*= 7.4 Hz, 3H) ppm.<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$ = 136.0, 133.4, 132.5, 128.2, 128.0, 126.7, 74.0, 59.5, 52.2, 31.45, 26.9, 10.6 ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for

 $C_{12}H_{17}BrNaO_{2}S$  [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 327.0025, found: 327.0028.



(±)-*erythro-3-((3-Bromophenyl)thio)hexane-1,4-diol* (**3n**) was isolated through column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether: EtOAc= 1:1) as a colorless syrup (81 mg, 67%).<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$ = 7.57 (t, *J*= 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.38-7.31 (m, 2H), 7.15 (t, *J*= 7.9 Hz, 1H), 3.95-3.87 (m, 1H), 3.82-3.75 (m, 1H), 3.67-3.61 (m, 1H), 3.47-3.41 (m, 1H), 2.04-.82 (m, 2H), 1.66-1.54 (m, 2H), 0.97 (t, *J*= 7.4 Hz, 3H) ppm.<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$ = 137.5, 133.7, 130.4, 130.0, 129.8, 122.9, 74.1, 59.5, 53.1, 31.7, 26.9, 10.6 ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>17</sub>BrNaO<sub>2</sub>S [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 327.0025, found: 327.0016.



(±)-*erythro-3-((4-Bromophenyl)thio)hexane-1,4-diol* (**3o**) was isolated through column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether: EtOAc= 1:1) as a colorless syrup (85 mg, 70%).<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$ = 7.42 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.30 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 3.96-3.87 (m, 1H), 3.84-3.75 (m, 1H), 3.65-3.58 (m, 1H), 3.42-3.36 (m, 1H), 2.03-1.81 (m, 2H), 1.64-1.52 (m, 2H), 0.96 (t, *J*= 7.4 Hz, 3H) ppm.<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$ = 134.1, 133.2 (2C), 132.2 (2C), 121.2 74.1 50.5 52.4 21.0 26.0 10.5

<sup>30</sup> 121.2, 74.1, 59.5, 53.4, 31.8, 26.9, 10.5 ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for  $C_{12}H_{17}BrNaO_2S$  [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 327.0025, found: 327.0011.



3p

 $(\pm)$ -erythro-3-((4-(Trifluoromethyl)phenyl)thio)hexane-1,4-diol (**3p**) was isolated through column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether: EtOAc= 1:1) as a colorless syrup (87 mg, 74%).<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$ = 7.49-7.38 (m, 4H), 3.89-3.82 (m, 1H), 3.77-3.69 (m, 1H), 3.64-3.57 (m, 1H), 3.53-3.47 (m, 1H), 1.97-1.78 (m, 2H), 1.61-1.47 (m, 2H), 0.91 (t, *J*= 7.4 Hz, 3H).<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$ = 140.7, 130.0 (2C), 128.53 (q, *J*= 32.8 Hz), 125.83 (q, *J*= 3.7 Hz, 2C), 126.7 (q, *J*=272.7 Hz), 74.3, 59.5, 52.1, 31.8, 26.9,

10.5 ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for  $C_{13}H_{17}F_3NaO_2S$  [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 317.0794, found: 317.0793.



3q

(±)-*erythro-3-((4-Nitrophenyl)thio)hexane-1,4-diol* (**3q**) was isolated through column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether: EtOAc= 1:1) as a colorless syrup (93 mg, 86%).<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$ = 8.13-8.08 (m, 2H), 7.49-7.43 (m, 2H), 3.96-3.88 (m, 1H), 3.83-3.66 (m, 3H), 2.10-1.89 (m, 2H), 1.72-1.54 (m, 2H), 1.00 (t, *J*= 7.4 Hz, 3H) ppm.<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$ = 146.4, 145.5, 128.3, 124.0, 74.7, 59.2, 51.1, 32.0, 27.0, 10.5 ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>17</sub>NNaO<sub>4</sub>S [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 294.0770, found:





(±)-*erythro-3-(Naphthalen-1-ylthio)hexane-1,4-diol* (**3r**) was isolated through column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether: EtOAc= 1:1) as a colorless syrup (84 mg, 76%).<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$ = 8.49 (d, *J*= 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.89-7.83 (m, 1H), 7.79 (d, *J*= 8.3 Hz, 1H), 7.71 (dd, *J*= 7.2, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.60-7.55 (m, 1H), 7.54-7.49 (m, 1H), 7.42-7.38 (m, 1H), 4.05-3.97 (m, 1H), 3.87-3.80 (m, 1H), 3.64-3.58 (m, 1H), 3.48-3.42 (m, 1H), 2.01-1.92 (m, 2H), 1.69-1.47 (m, 2H), 0.89 (t, *J*= 7.4 Hz, 3H) ppm.<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$ = 134.2, 134.0, 132.0,

131.5, 128.8, 128.7, 126.9, 126.4, 125.6, 125.3, 73.8, 59.8, 53.3, 31.6, 26.8, 10.6 ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for  $C_{16}H_{20}NaO_{2}S$  [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 299.1076, found: 299.1085.



(±)-*erythro-3*-(*Naphthalen-2-ylthio*)*hexane-1,4-diol* (**3s**) was isolated through column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether: EtOAc= 1:1) as a colorless syrup (100 mg, 91%).<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$ = 7.80 (t, *J*= 2.8 Hz, 1H), 7.72-7.57 (m, 3H), 7.44-7.30 (m, 3H), 3.90-3.80 (m, 1H), 3.77-3.65 (m, 1H), 3.61-3.52 (m, 1H), 3.47-3.38 (m, 1H), 1.98-1.74 (m, 2H), 1.56-1.44 (m, 2H), 0.85 (t, *J*= 7.5 Hz, 3H) ppm.<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$ = 133.7, 132.3, 132.1, 130.4, 129.2, 128.8, 127.7, 127.3, 126.7, 126.2, 74.1, 59.8, 53.1, 31.9, 26.9, 10.6

ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>20</sub>NaO<sub>2</sub>S [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 299.1076, found: 299.1079.



 $(\pm)$ -*erythro-3-(Benzylthio)hexane-1,4-diol* (**3t**) was isolated through column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether: EtOAc= 1:1) as a colorless syrup (84

mg, 88%).<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$ = 7.34-7.28 (m, 4H), 7.27-7.22 (m, 1H), 3.73 (s, 2H), 3.73-3.67 (m, 1H), 3.66-3.54 (m, 2H), 2.82-2.76 (m, 1H), 1.85-1.76 (m, 1H), 1.74-1.64 (m, 1H), 1.57-1.46 (m, 2H), 0.92 (t, *J*= 7.4 Hz, 3H) ppm.<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$ = 138.3, 128.9(2C), 128.6(2C), 127.3, 74.3, 59.9, 48.6, 36.0, 31.9, 26.4, 10.5 ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>20</sub>NaO<sub>2</sub>S [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 263.1076, found: 263.1084.



(±)-*erythro-3-(Phenethylthio)hexane-1,4-diol* (**3u**) was isolated through column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether: EtOAc= 1:1) as a colorless syrup (96 mg, 94%).<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$ = 7.32-7.26 (m, 2H), 7.24-7.16 (m, 3H), 3.83-3.75 (m, 1H), 3.75-3.67 (m, 1H), 3.58 (d, *J*= 4.3 Hz, 1H), 2.91-2.83 (m, 3H), 2.83-2.75 (m, 2H), 1.92-1.81 (m, 1H), 1.79-1.68 (m, 1H), 1.58-1.48 (m, 2H), 0.96 (t, *J*= 7.4 Hz, 3H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$ = 140.3, 128.5 (4C), 126.5, 74.2, 60.0, 50.1, 36.5, 33.2, 32.2, 26.5, 10.7 ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>22</sub>NaO<sub>2</sub>S [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 277.1233, found: 277.1230.

H<sub>3</sub>C CH<sub>3</sub>  $(\pm)$ -erythro-3-(Propylthio)hexane-1,4-diol (**3v**) was isolated through column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether: EtOAc= 1:1) as a colorless syrup (69 mg, 90%).<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$ = 3.88-3.81 (m, 1H), 3.79-3.72 (m, 1H), 3.65-3.58 (m, 1H), 2.88 (dt, *J*= 8.3, 4.1 Hz, 1H), 2.56-2.49 (m, 2H), 1.96-1.85 (m, 1H), 1.82-1.73 (m, 1H), 1.66-1.52 (m, 4H), 0.93 (t, *J*= 4.0 Hz, 3H), 0.92 (t, *J*= 8.0 Hz, 3H) ppm.<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$ = 74.0, 60.2, 50.0, 33.8, 32.2, 26.4, 23.2, 13.5, 10.6 ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>20</sub>NaO<sub>2</sub>S [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 1078.

215.1076, found: 215.1078.

3v



(±)-*erythro-3-(Cyclohexylthio)hexane-1,4*-diol (**3w**) was isolated through column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether: EtOAc= 1:1) as a colorless syrup (84 mg, 91%).<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$ = 3.89-3.73 (m, 2H), 3.63-3.57 (m, 1H), 3.00 (dt, *J*= 8.8, 3.9 Hz, 1H), 2.74-2.62 (m, 1H), 2.05-1.92 (m, 1H), 1.94 (brs, 1H), 1.91-1.83 (m, 1H), 1.82-1.72 (m, 2H), 1.76 (brs, 1H), 1.61-1.48 (m, 2H), 1.42-1.20 (m, 6H), 1.00 (t, *J*= 7.4 Hz, 3H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$ = 74.5, 60.4, 48.4, 43.8, 34.3, 34.1, 32.5, 26.2, 26.1, 26.0, 25.7, 10.7 ppm. HRMS

(ESI): calcd. for  $C_{12}H_{24}NaO_2S$  [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>:255.1389, found: 255.1388.



 $(\pm)$ -erythro-3-((3,4-Dimethoxyphenyl)thio)nonane-1,4-diol (**3x**) was isolated through column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether: EtOAc= 1:1) as a colorless syrup (112 mg, 85%).<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$ = 6.98 (dd, *J* = 8.3, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 6.92 (d, *J*= 2.1 Hz, 1H), 6.73 (d, *J*= 8.3 Hz, 1H), 3.89-3.82 (m, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.78-3.71 (m, 1H), 3.64-3.56 (m, 1H), 3.19 (dt, *J*= 8.0, 3.9 Hz, 1H), 1.95-1.84 (m, 1H), 1.84-1.73 (m, 1H), 1.74-1.56 (m, 1H), 1.55-1.31 (m, 3H), 1.28-1.19 (m, 4H), 0.79 (t, *J*= 4.0 Hz, 3H) ppm.<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101

MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$ = 149.1, 126.3, 124.9, 116.4, 111.6 (2C), 72.2, 59.9, 56.0, 55.9, 55.0, 33.6, 31.8, 31.6, 25.9, 22.6, 14.0. ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>28</sub>NaO<sub>4</sub>S [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 351.1601, found: 351.1608.



(±)-*erythro*-2-((3,4-Dimethoxyphenyl)thio)-2-(2-hydroxyethyl)cyclohexan-1-ol (**3y**) was isolated through column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether: EtOAc= 1:1) as a colorless syrup (76 mg, 61%).<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$ = 7.05 (dd, *J*= 8.2, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 6.96 (d, *J*= 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.83 (d, *J*= 8.2 Hz, 1H), 4.21-4.12 (m, 1H), 3.89 (s, 6H), 3.82-3.73 (m, 1H), 3.56 (dd, *J*= 9.2, 4.0 Hz, 1H), 2.15-2.04 (m, 1H), 1.96-1.85 (m, 1H), 1.81-1.54 (m, 6H), 1.52-1.39 (m, 1H), 1.37-1.19 (m, 3H) ppm.<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$ = 150.2, 148.6, 130.9, 120.4, 120.3, 111.1, 72.4, 58.7, 58.2, 56.1, 55.9, 35.3, 35.1, 29.2, 23.5, 21.8 ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for

 $C_{16}H_{24}NaO_4S$  [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 335.1288, found: 335.1288.



2-((3,4-Dimethoxyphenyl)thio)-2-(3-methylbut-3-en-1-yl)butane-1,4-diol (**3z**) was isolated through column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether: EtOAc= 1:1) as a colorless syrup (67 mg, 51%).<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$ = 7.01-6.97 (m, 1H), 6.89 (d, *J*= 2.1 Hz, 1H), 6.74 (d, *J*= 8.3 Hz, 1H), 4.67-4.60 (m, 2H), 3.90-3.83 (m, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 3.74-3.64 (m, 1H), 3.52-3.31 (m, 3H), 2.37-2.25 (m, 1H), 2.13-2.02 (m, 1H), 1.77-1.71 (m, 1H), 1.74 (brs, 1H) 1.67 (s, 3H), 1.57 (ddd, *J*= 14.2, 12.1, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 1.50-1.39 (m, 1H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$ = 150.2, 148.6, 145.5, 130.6, 120.5, 119.9,

111.1, 109.9, 66.4, 58.6, 56.8, 56.0, 55.9, 37.5, 31.9, 31.5, 23.0 ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for  $C_{17}H_{26}NaO_4S$  [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 349.1444, found: 349.1453.



2-*Cyclohexyl*-2-((3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)thio)butane-1,4-diol (**3aa**) was isolated through column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether: EtOAc= 1:1) as a colorless syrup (73 mg, 54%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$ = 6.99 (dd, *J*= 8.3, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 6.92 (d, *J*= 2.1 Hz, 1H), 6.75 (d, *J*= 8.3 Hz, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.80-3.76 (m, 1H), 3.70-3.61 (m, 2H), 3.38 (d, *J*= 11.6 Hz, 1H), 2.10 -2.02 (m, 1H), 1.96-1.87 (m, 1H), 1.78-1.71 (m, 1H), 1.72-1.60 (m, 2H), 1.60-1.50 (m, 2H), 1.45-.34 (m, 1H), 1.23-1.15 (m, 2H), 1.13-1.01 (m, 3H) ppm.<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$ = 150.1, 148.7, 130.5, 120.6, 120.0, 111.2, 66.0,

61.0, 58.6, 56.0 , 55.9, 42.2, 37.3, 28.0, 27.4, 27.0, 26.8, 26.6. ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for  $C_{18}H_{28}NaO_4S$  [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 363.1601, found: 363.1602.



2-((3,4-Dimethoxyphenyl)thio)-2-propylbutane-1,4-diol (3ab) was isolated through column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether: EtOAc= 1:1) as a yellow syrup (94 mg, 78%).<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$ = 6.98 (dt, *J*= 8.3, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 6.91 (t, *J*= 1.7 Hz, 1H), 6.74 (dd, *J*= 8.2, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 3.88-3.82 (m, 1H), 3.81 (d, 6H), 3.71-3.62 (m, 1H), 3.38 (qd, *J*= 11.6, 1.2 Hz, 2H), 1.76-1.64 (m, 2H), 1.61-1.49 (m, 1H), 1.44-1.32 (m, 2H), 1.24 (ddd, *J*= 13.8, 11.8, 4.0 Hz, 1H), 0.84 (t, *J*= 7.2, 1.4 Hz, 3H) ppm.<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$ = 150.1, 148.6, 130.5, 120.7, 120.0, 111.2, 66.4, 58.6, 57.2, 56.0, 55.9, 37.7,



 $(\pm)$ -erythro-3-((3,4-Dimethoxyphenyl)thio)hexane-1,4-diol (3ac) was isolated through column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether: EtOAc= 1:1) as a yellow syrup (58 mg, 51%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (Mixture of two regioisomers, 400 MHz, Chloroform-d)  $\delta$ = 7.05 (dt, J= 8.3, 1.9 Hz, 2H), 6.99 (dt, J= 6.8, 1.8 Hz, 2H), 6.82-6.76 (m, 2H), 3.99-3.89 (m, 2H), 3.86 (s, 12H), 3.83-3.71 (m, 2H), 3.62-3.44 (m, 2H), 3.25-3.19 (m, 2H), 2.88-2.78 (m, 2H), 2.01-1.82 (m, 2H), 1.82-1.66 (m, 2H), 1.64-1.34 (m, 2H), 1.17-0.87 (m, 6H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR

(Mixture of two regioisomers, 101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$ = 149.1(2C), 149.0 (2C), 126.7, 126.2, 125.2, 124.5, 116.9, 116.6, 111.6, 115.5, 74.8, 72.6, 61.4, 60.3, 60.2, 56.0 (2 C), 55.9 (2C), 54.7, 35.2, 34.3, 26.7, 23.6, 12.0, 10.5 ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>22</sub>NaO<sub>4</sub>S [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>:309.1131, found: 309.1136.



 $(\pm)$ -erythro-5-((tert-Butyldimethylsilyl)oxy)-3-((3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)thio)pent ane-1,4-diol (**3ad**) was isolated through column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether: EtOAc= 1:1) as a colorless syrup (32 mg, 19 %).<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d)  $\delta$ = 6.99 (dd, J= 8.0, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.96 (d, J= 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.75 (d, J= 8.3 Hz, 1H), 3.91-3.84 (m, 2H), 3.83 (s, 6H), 3.82-3.71 (m, 3H), 3.18-3.11 (m, 1H), 1.92-1.85 (m, 1H), 1.81-1.75 (m, 1H), 1.75-1.65 (m,

2H), 0.82 (s, 9H), 0.00 (s, 6H) ppm.<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$ = 149.09 (2C), 126.3, 125.2, 116.6, 111.6, 72.3, 62.0, 60.2, 55.9 (2C), 54.5, 36.0, 32.9, 25.8 (3C), 18.1, -5.55 (2C). HRMS (ESI): calcd. for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>36</sub>NaO<sub>5</sub>SSi [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 439.1945, found: 439.1940.

#### Experimental Procedure for Synthesis of trans-furans 4 and 5



**Step 1**: To a solution of  $(\pm)$ -*erythro*-3-((3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)thio)hexane-1,4-diol (**3f**) (2.44 mmol, 700 mg) in CPME(12 mL) was added NaH at room temperature. After stirring for 10 min, trimethyl phosphate (0.7 mL, 2.5 equiv) was added. After further stirring for 6h, the mixture was quenched with H<sub>2</sub>O, and the aqueous layer was extracted with diethyl ether. The organic layers were combined and dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and evaporated under reduced pressure. The crude product was purified through column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether: EtOAc= 4:1) to give the product **4** (353mg, 54%) as a yellow syrup.

**Step 2**: To a solution of **4** (295 mg, 1.1 mmol) in methylene chloride (30 mL) was added *m*-chloroperbenzonic acid (3.0 equiv) and the resulting mixture was stirred for 2 h at room temperature, before it was quenched by adding 5% aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution (50 mL). After stirring for 1h, the organic layer was separated and the aqueous phase was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The combined organic layers were dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and evaporated in vacuo. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether: EtOAc= 2:1) affording the product **5** (297 mg, 90%) as a colorless syrup.



(2R,3S)-3-((3,4-Dimethoxyphenyl)thio)-2-ethyltetrahydrofuran (4) was isolated through column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether: EtOAc= 4:1) as a yellow solid (320 mg, 54%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$ = 6.99-6.93 (m, 1H), 6.90 (dt, *J*= 4.4, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 6.75-6.69 (m, 1H), 3.84-3.66 (m, 2H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.54 (d, *J*= 3.0 Hz, 1H), 3.12 (dd, *J*= 5.5, 2.9 Hz, 1H), 2.25-2.11 (m, 1H), 1.90-1.78 (m, 1H), 1.57-1.44

(m, 1H), 1.44-1.32 (m, 1H), 0.84 (t, J= 7.2, 3.0 Hz, 3H) ppm.<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-d)  $\delta$ = 149.1, 148.9, 126.3, 125.2, 116.6, 111.5, 85.5, 66.5, 55.9 (2C), 50.9, 33.8, 27.3, 10.3 ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>20</sub>NaO<sub>3</sub>S [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 291.1025, found: 291.1029.



7.4 Hz, 3H) ppm.<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-*d*)  $\delta$ = 153.5, 149.2, 129.8, 122.7, 110.9, 110.5, 80.0, 68.0, 67.0, 56.2 (2C), 28.5, 28.0, 9.8 ppm. HRMS (ESI): calcd. for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>20</sub>NaO<sub>5</sub>S [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 323.0924, found: 323.0932.



















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![](_page_34_Figure_0.jpeg)

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![](_page_35_Figure_0.jpeg)


3m

















3p



210	200	190	180	170	160	150	140	130	120	110	100	9	0	80	70	60	50	40	30	20	10	0	-1



























3w

. 5













## DEPT 135° spectrum of 3y



50	150	140	130	120	110	100	90	80	70	60	50	40	30	20	10	C













## DEPT 135° spectrum of 3aa




















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### COSY spectrum of 3ad



# HSQC spectrum of 5



## COSY spectrum of 5



## 2D-NOE spectrum of 5



## HPLC Data and Spectra

Product	conditions						
OH H <sub>3</sub> C S OMe OMe	HPLC (Chiralpak IB): Condition: 80:20 Hexanes/2-Propanol, flow rate 0.75mL/min; result: 12.7 min (minor), 14.0 min (major).						
Et	HPLC (Chiralcel OJ-H): Condition: 99:1 Hexanes/2-Propanol, flow rate 0.75 mL/min; result: 19.9 min (major), 22.1 min (minor)						















