Supporting Information

First Total Synthesis of *ent*-Asperparaline C and Assignment of the Absolute Configuration of Asperparaline C

Irena Dokli, Radek Pohl, Blanka Klepetářová, Ullrich Jahn*

Institute of Organic Chemistry and Biochemistry, Czech Academy of Sciences, Flemingovo náměstí 2, 16610 Prague 6, Czech Republic, E-mail: jahn@uochb.cas.cz.

Table of Contents

Attempted approach to asperparaline C using the PMB protecting group	S2
General information	S4
Experimental procedures and analytical data of all compounds	S 4
X-ray crystallography	S26
References	S27
Copies of ¹ H and ¹³ C NMR spectra	S28

Attempted approach to asperparaline C using the PMB protecting group

Initially, a synthetic sequence using the *p*-methoxybenzyl (PMB) as protecting group was explored (Scheme S1). Oxazolidinone 10 was reacted with *p*-methoxybenzyl amine to provide an inseparable mixture of amide S2 and *N*-formylated byproduct S1 in a ratio of 1:2.6 respectively. The best results were obtained by heating the neat mixture at 80 °C for 6.5 h. The S1/S2 mixture was subjected to saponification of the formyl group using a 50% aqueous NaOH in ethanol, and pure amide S2 was obtained in 84% overall yield. Amide S2 was converted to diketopiperazine S4 by a two-step/one-pot protocol via bromoacetamide intermediate S3, which was without isolation immediately cyclized under phase-transfer catalytic conditions to provide S4 in 75% yield. DKP S4 was alkylated with 3-(bromomethyl)furan in THF using *n*BuLi at -78 °C providing radical cyclization precursor **S5** in up to 78% yield as a *trans* stereoisomer. The reaction also yielded compound **S6** in up to 31% yield depending on the amount of base that was used (Scheme S1). With 1.3 equiv. of *n*BuLi, 56% of the product S5 was isolated together with 31% of S6. With 1.1 equiv. of *n*BuLi 58% of **S5** and 21% of **S6** were obtained. Lowering the amount of *n*BuLi to 1.05 equiv. gave S5 in 78% yield, and no S6 was observed in the mixture. Other bases were also tested: with LHDMS no conversion was observed and the starting material was recovered; with LDA a mixture of alkylated DKP S5 and recovered starting material S4 was obtained. With 1.4 equiv. of LiTMP unselective alkylation was observed giving 56% of S5 and 24% of S6. Compound S6 was identified to be a 2:3 mixture of diastereoisomers resulting from the reaction at the benzylic position of the PMB group. The subsequent oxidative cyclization reaction was performed by deprotonation of the compound S5 with *n*BuLi at -78 °C, followed by oxygenation with ferrocenium hexafluorophosphate and TEMPO at -40 °C. The resulting solution was directly subjected to radical cyclization at 100 °C giving an inseparable 5:1 mixture of S7 with starting S5 in 68% yield under optimized conditions. The reaction optimization proved to be difficult. If less than 1.5 equiv. of base were used, starting material was recovered in up to 40% yield; if a larger excess of base was applied, side products presumably resulting from deprotonation at the benzylic positions of the PMB group of both S5 and product S7 formed. The subsequent deprotection of the PMB group failed under a variety of conditions. Deprotection with CAN led to fast decomposition of S7, whereas no reaction was observed with DDQ, and partial addition to the double bond occurred with TFA in CHCl₃ at room temperature. Therefore, this approach was not further investigated and a different protecting group was employed (s. Scheme 3).





General Information

All reactions were conducted in flame or oven dried glassware under a nitrogen atmosphere. DME, THF, toluene and CH₂Cl₂ were dried following standard methods under an argon atmosphere. TLC plates POLYGRAM SIL G/UV₂₅₄ (Macherey-Nagel) were used for monitoring reactions. Flash column chromatographic separations were performed on silica gel 60 (Fluka, 230-400 mesh). ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker Avance instruments at 400.1 MHz, 500.1 MHz and 600.1 MHz for ¹H NMR or 100.6 MHz, 125.8 MHz and 150.9 MHz for ¹³C NMR, respectively. Connectivity was determined by ¹H-¹H COSY and HMBC experiments. ¹³C NMR assignments were obtained from APT and HSQC experiments. The stereochemistry of critical intermediates of the total synthesis was assigned using ¹H-¹H ROESY experiments. IR spectra were taken on a Bruker ALPHA FT-IR spectrometer as neat samples using an ATR device. EI mass spectra were recorded on a Waters GCT Premier spectrometer, sample concentration approx. 1 μ g/mL, spray voltage pos. mode: 3.3 kV. HRMS spectra were measured on a Waters Q-Tof micro spectrometer, resolution: 100000. Optical rotations were measured on an Autopol IV instrument (Rudolf Research Analytical, Flanders, USA).

Experimental procedures and analytical data of all compounds

(*3R*,7a*S*)-7a-(3-Methylbut-2-en-1-yl)-3-(trichloromethyl)tetrahydropyrrolo[1,2-c]oxazol-1(*3H*)-one (9)



To a suspension of L-proline **8** (10 g, 86.8 mmol) in chloroform (120 mL), chloral hydrate (21.6 g, 0.130 mol) was added. A reverse Dean–Stark trap and a reflux condenser were attached to the reaction vessel and the reaction mixture was heated

Cl' Cl at reflux until L-proline was no longer visibly suspended (approx. 6 h). The reaction mixture was washed with water, the combined organic extracts were dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered and evaporated under reduced pressure. The resulting brown solid was recrystallized from ethanol (90 mL) to give **9** (14.6 g, 69%) as colorless crystals. **M.p.** 110–111 °C. $[\alpha]^{20}D = -2.5$ (*c* 2.246, CHCl₃), $[\alpha]^{20}D = +33.3$ (*c* 2.011, C₆H₆), lit.^[1] $[\alpha]D = +33$ (*c* 2, C₆H₆). **IR:** ν (cm⁻¹) 2962, 2920, 2853, 1800, 1784, 1322, 1176, 1108, 1083, 1002, 959, 899, 839, 814. **MS ESI+** *m/z*, (%): 265

(100, $[M+Na]^+$), 244 (42, $[M+H]^+$). **HRMS ESI**+ *m/z*, ($[M+H]^+$): calcd. for C₇H₉O₂NCl₃: 243.9693, found: 243.9692. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 1.68-1.80$ (m, 1H, NCH₂<u>CH</u>₂CH₂), 1.87-2.00 (m, 1H, NCH₂<u>CH</u>₂CH₂), 2.06-2.15 (m, 1H, NCH₂CH₂<u>CH</u>₂), 2.17-2.29 (m, 1H, NCH₂CH₂<u>CH</u>₂), 3.10-3.16 (m, 1H, N<u>CH</u>₂CH₂CH₂), 3.39-3.44 (m, 1H, N<u>CH</u>₂CH₂CH₂), 4.12 (dd, J = 8.8, 4.6 Hz, 1H, NCHCO), 5.16 (s, 1H, NCHO). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 25.4$ (t, NCH₂<u>CH</u>₂CH₂), 29.9 (t, NCH₂CH₂<u>CH</u>₂), 57.9 (t, N<u>C</u>H₂CH₂CH₂), 62.4 (d, N<u>C</u>HCO), 100.7 (s, CCl₃), 103.7 (d, NCHO), 175.5 (s, C=O).

(3*R*,7a*R*)-7a-(3-Methylbut-2-en-1-yl)-3-(trichloromethyl)tetrahydro-1*H*,3*H*-pyrrolo[1,2c]oxazol-1-one (10)



N,*N*-Diisopropylamine (2.27 mL, 16.2 mmol) was dissolved in THF (30 mL) under an N₂ atmosphere and cooled to -78 °C. *n*BuLi (10.1 mL, 16.2 mmol, 1.6M in hexanes) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred at -78 °C for 30 min. In a separate flask under N₂, oxazolidinone **9** (3.0 g, 12.3 mmol) was dissolved in THF (10 mL). This solution was added via cannula to the above LDA solution at -78 °C. The resulting brown solution was stirred at -78 °C for 30 min and prenyl bromide

(1.87 mL, 16.2 mmol) was added in a single portion. The reaction mixture was warmed to $-40 \,^{\circ}$ C over 1 h, where it was maintained for additional 30 min. The reaction mixture was poured into a separation funnel containing 50 mL of water. The layers were separated and the aqueous was extracted with chloroform (3 x 50 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated to give a brown oil, which was purified by column chromatography (hexane/EtOAc = 15/1) to give **10** (2.72 g, 79%) as colorless oil. **R***f* = 0.5 (hexane/EtOAc = 5/1); **[a**]²⁰**b** = +30.2 (*c* 0.926, CHCl₃); lit.^[2] **[a**]²⁰**b** = +31.5 (c 1.586, CHCl₃), **IR**: *v* (cm⁻¹) 2916, 1796, 1449, 1377, 1352, 1322, 1276, 1249, 1190, 1130, 1101, 1076, 1019, 983, 835. **MS ESI**+ *m*/*z*, (%): 334 (100, [M+Na]⁺), 312 (47, [M+H]⁺). **HRMS ESI**+ *m*/*z*, ([M+H]⁺): calcd. for C₁₂H₁₇³⁵Cl₃NO₂: 312.0319, found: 312.0321. ¹**H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl**₃): δ = 1.60-1.67 (m, 1H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 1.65 (s, 3H, CH₃), 1.74 (s, 3H, CH₃), 1.83-1.92 (m, 1H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 1.92-1.99 (m, 1H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 2.06-2.15 (m, 1H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 2.54 (dd, *J* = 14.4, 6.6 Hz, 1H, <u>CH₂CH=</u>), 2.60 (dd, *J* = 14.4, 8.5 Hz, 1H, <u>CH₂CH=</u>), 3.14-3.25 (m, 2H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 4.96 (s, 1H, NCH0), 5.25 (ddt, *J* = 8.2, 6.7, 1.5 Hz, 1H, CH₂CH=); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 18.3 (q, CH₃), 25.4 (t, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 26.2 (q, CH₃), 35.4 (t, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 35.8 (t, <u>CH₂CH=)</u>, 58.5 (t,

N<u>C</u>H₂CH₂CH₂), 72.2 (s, C_{Pro}), 100.7 (s, CCl₃), 102.5 (d, NCHO), 117.8 (d, CH₂<u>C</u>H=), 136.4 (s, =C(CH₃)₂), 176.7 (s, C=O).

(*R*)-*N*-(4-Methoxybenzyl)-2-(3-methylbut-2-en-1-yl)pyrrolidine-2-carboxamide (S2)



Oxazolidinone **10** (860 mg, 2.75 mmol) was mixed with *p*-methoxybenzylamine (0.75 mL, 5.78 mmol) and the reaction was stirred at 80 °C for 6.5 h. After cooling, the reaction mixture was purified by column chromatography (EtOAc) to give an inseparable 1:2.6 mixture of **S2** and *N*-formylpyrrolidine **S1** (820 mg). The mixture

was dissolved in EtOH (4.5 mL), 50% aq. NaOH solution (1.5 mL) was added, and the reaction mixture was heated at reflux for 24 h. The solvent was evaporated, water was added (20 mL) and the mixture was extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (3 x 15 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated to give 698 mg (84 %) of S2 as colorless oil. $\mathbf{R}\mathbf{f} = 0.2$ (EtOAc). $[\alpha]^{20}$ = -21.1 (c 0.971, CHCl₃). **IR:** v (cm⁻¹) 3328, 2916, 1654, 1612, 1510, 1457, 1244, 1174, 1033, 817. MS ESI+ m/z, (%): 303 (100, [M+H]⁺). HRMS ESI+ m/z, ([M+H]⁺): calcd. for $C_{18}H_{27}O_2N_2$: 303.2067, found: 303.2068. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 1.62$ (s, 3H, CH₃), 1.70 (s, 3H, CH₃), 1.66-1.80 (m, 4H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂, NCH₂CH₂CH₂, NH_{Pro}), 2.14-2.22 (m, 1H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 2.32 (dd, J = 14.4, 8.3 Hz, 1H, CH₂CH=), 2.69 (ddt, J = 14.4, 6.7, 1.2 Hz, 1H, CH₂CH=), 2.81 (dt, J = 10.4, 6.2 Hz, 1H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 3.00 (dt, J = 10.5, 6.4 Hz, 1H, $NCH_2CH_2CH_2$, 3.79 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 4.31 (dd, J = 14.7, 5.8 Hz, 1H, $NHCH_2Ar$), 4.40 (dd, J = 14.7, 5.8 Hz, 1H, 5.8, 5.8 Hz, 1H, 5.8, 5.8 Hz, 5.8 Hz, 1H, 5.8, 5.8 Hz, 5.8 Hz, 5.8, 5.8 Hz, 5.8, 5.8 Hz, 5.8, 5.8 Hz, 5.8, 5.8 Hz, 5.8 Hz, 5.8, 5.8 Hz, 14.7, 6.2 Hz, 1H, NH<u>CH</u>₂Ar), 5.06 (ddt, *J* = 8.2, 6.7, 1.4 Hz, 1H, CH₂<u>CH</u>=), 6.85 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H, CH_{Ar}), 7.18 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H, CH_{Ar}), 8.17 (bs, 1H, CONH). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 18.1$ (q, CH₃), 26.2 (q, CH₃), 26.4 (t, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 36.2 (t, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 36.8 (t, <u>CH</u>₂CH=), 42.7 (t, NH<u>C</u>H₂Ar), 47.2 (t, N<u>C</u>H₂CH₂CH₂), 55.4 (q, OCH₃), 69.7 (s, C_{Pro}), 114.1 (d, CH_{Ar}), 119.2 (d, CH₂<u>C</u>H=), 128.9 (d, CH_{Ar}), 131.3 (s, C_{Ar}), 135.9 (s, =<u>C</u>(CH₃)₂), 158.9 (s, C_{Ar}), 176.8 (s, C=O).

(*R*)-2-(4-Methoxybenzyl)-8a-(3-methylbut-2-en-1-yl)hexahydropyrrolo[1,2-a]pyrazine-1,4dione (S4)



Amide **S2** (300 mg, 0.99 mmol) was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ (10 mL), a 0.5 M K₂CO₃ solution (2.6 mL, 1.29 mmol) was added and the mixture was cooled to 0 °C. Bromoacetyl bromide (112 μ L, 1.29 mmol) was added in one portion to the vigorously stirred biphasic solution. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature until the starting material disappeared as indicated by TLC

(ca. 2 h, $\mathbf{R}f(\mathbf{S3}) = 0.8$ (EtOAc)). The layers were separated and the aqueous

was extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (3 x 10 mL). The combined organic layers were evaporated and the residue was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ (5 mL). A 50% NaOH solution (0.23 mL, 4.4 mmol) was added followed by benzyl(triethyl)ammonium chloride (3 mg, 1.4 mol%) and the reaction mixture was vigorously stirred for 20 h. The mixture was diluted with water (10 mL) and extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (3 x 10 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered and evaporated. Purification of the residue by column chromatography (EtOAc) gave 254 mg (75%) S4 as a colorless solid. **R**f = 0.3 (EtOAc). **M.p.** 138-139 °C. $[\alpha]^{20}$ D = -39.8 (c 0.646, CHCl₃). **IR:** v (cm⁻) ¹) 2982, 2899, 1646, 1611, 1511, 1451, 1338, 1304, 1241, 1176, 1032, 816. **MS ESI**+ m/z, (%): 381 (7, [M+K]⁺), 365 (100, [M+Na]⁺), 343 (20 [M+H]⁺). **HRMS ESI**+ *m/z*, ([M+Na]⁺): calcd. for $C_{20}H_{26}O_{3}N_{2}Na: 365.1836$, found: 365.1836. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 1.51$ (s, 3H, CH₃), 1.52 (s, 3H, CH₃), 1.93-2.07 (m, 2H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 2.13-2.25 (m, 2H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 2.39 (dd, J = 14.1, 8.4 Hz, 1H, <u>CH</u>₂CH=), 2.51 (dd, J = 14.0, 7.8 Hz, 1H, <u>CH</u>₂CH=), 3.47 (ddd, J = 12.5, 8.6, 4.4 Hz, 1H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 3.66 (d, J = 16.9 Hz, 1H, NCH₂Ar), 3.76-3.85 (m, 1H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 3.79 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.84 (d, *J* = 17.0 Hz, 1H, NCH₂Ar), 4.18 (d, *J* = 14.1 Hz, 1H, NCH₂CO), 4.81 (d, J = 14.2 Hz, 1H, NCH₂CO), 4.90-4.96 (m, 1H, CH₂CH=), 6.86 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H, CH_{Ar}), 7.20 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H, CH_{Ar}). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 17.8$ (q, CH₃), 20.5 (t, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 25.9 (q, CH₃), 35.5 (t, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 36.8 (t, CH₂CH=), 44.9 (t, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 49.1 (t, NCH₂CO), 51.0 (t, NCH₂Ar), 55.5 (q, OCH₃), 68.3 (s, C_{Pro}), 114.3 (d, CH_{Ar}), 117.2 (d, CH₂CH=), 127.8 (s, C_{Ar}), 130.3 (d, CH_{Ar}), 137.8 (s, =C(CH₃)₂), 159.6 (s, C_{Ar}), 163.1 (s, C=O), 169.4 (s, C=O).

S7

(3*S*,8a*R*)-3-(Furan-3-ylmethyl)-2-(4-methoxybenzyl)-8a-(3-methylbut-2-en-1yl)hexahydropyrrolo[1,2-a]pyrazine-1,4-dione (S5)



Diketopiperazine **S3** (182 mg, 0.53 mmol) was dissolved in dry THF (14 mL) and cooled to -78 °C. *n*BuLi (0.37 mL, 0.55 mmol, 1.6 M in hexane) was added dropwise and the resulting pale yellow solution was stirred at -78 °C for 1 h. 3-(Bromomethyl)furan^[3] (102 mg, 0.637 mmol) was added, the temperature was raised to -50 °C over 2 h and the mixture was stirred at -50 °C for another 1.5 h. The reaction mixture was quenched

with saturated NH₄Cl solution and extracted with ethyl acetate (3x). The combined organic layers were dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered and evaporated. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane/EtOAc = 1/1) to give 174 mg (78%) of S5 as a colorless solid. $\mathbf{R}f = 0.3$ (hexane/EtOAc = 1/1). M.p. 127-129 °C. $[\alpha]^{20}\mathbf{p} = -20.3$ (c 1.003, CHCl₃). IR: v (cm^{-1}) 2931, 1646, 1512, 1438, 1247, 1176, 1024, 874. MS ESI+ m/z, (%): 445 (100, [M+Na]⁺), 423 (14 $[M+H]^+$). **HRMS ESI+** m/z, ($[M+Na]^+$): calcd. for C₂₅H₃₀O₄N₂Na: 445.2098; found: 445.2098. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 1.43$ (dt, J = 12.3, 10.1 Hz, 1H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 1.52 (s, 6H, CH₃), 1.66-1.79 (m, 1H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 1.82-1.93 (m, 1H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 2.01 (ddd, J = 12.5, 8.1, 1.8 Hz, 1H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 2.27 (dd, J = 14.2, 7.9 Hz, 1H, CH₂CH=), 2.51 (dd, J = 14.2, 7.5 Hz, 1H, CH₂CH=), 3.05 (dd, J = 14.9, 4.4 Hz, 1H, CH₂Fur), 3.24 (dd, J = 14.9, 2.7 Hz, 1H, CH₂Fur), 3.31 (ddd, J = 12.4, 10.2, 4.5 Hz, 1H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 3.76 (ddd, J = 12.5, 9.5, 6.4 4.4, 2.7 Hz, 1H, NCHCO), 4.78–4.83 (m, 1H, CH₂CH=), 5.62 (d, J = 14.6 Hz, 1H, NCH₂Ar), 6.17 (dd, J = 1.8, 0.9 Hz, 1H, CH_{Fur}), 6.88 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H, CH_{Ar}), 7.17-7.19 (m, 1H, CH_{Fur}), 7.24-7.28 (m, 2H, CH_{Ar}), 7.32 (t, J = 1.7 Hz, 1H, CH_{Fur}). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 18.1$ (q, CH₃), 19.8 (t, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 26.0 (q, CH₃), 26.2 (t, CH₂Fur), 35.3 (t, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 36.8 (t, <u>CH</u>₂CH=), 44.2 (t, N<u>C</u>H₂CH₂CH₂), 45.4 (t, N<u>C</u>H₂Ar), 55.5 (q, OCH₃), 58.7 (d, N<u>C</u>HCO), 67.7 (s, CPro), 111.6 (d, CH_{Fur}), 114.4 (d, CH_{Ar}), 117.3 (d, CH₂CH=), 118.0 (s, C_{Fur}), 127.3 (s, C_{Ar}), 130.4 (d, CH_{Ar}), 137.4 (s, =C(CH₃)₂), 141.0 (d, CH_{Fur}), 143.0 (d, CH_{Fur}), 159.6 (s, C_{Ar}), 164.1 (s, C=O), 169.0 (s, C=O).

S8

(*R*)-2-(2-(Furan-3-yl)-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)ethyl)-8a-(3-methylbut-2enyl)hexahydropyrrolo[1,2-a]pyrazine-1,4-dione (S6)



Following the above procedure for preparation of **S5** but using 1.3 equiv of *n*BuLi, **S5** was isolated in 52% yield together with 31% of **S6** as a 2:3 mixture of unassigned diasteroisomers as a colorless foam. **R**f = 0.2 (hexane/EtOAc = 1/1). **IR:** v (cm⁻¹) 2935, 1646, 1510, 1430, 1247, 1175, 1032, 870. **MS ESI**+ m/z, (%): 445 (100, [M+Na]⁺), 423 (15, [M+H]⁺), **HRMS ESI**+ m/z, ([M+Na]⁺): calcd. for C₂₅H₃₀O₄N₂Na:

445.2098; found: 445.2096. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 1.38$ (s, 3H, CH₃*), 1.48 (s, 3H, CH₃*), 1.52 (s, 3H, CH₃), 1.60 (s, 3H, CH₃), 1.84-2.01 (m, 5H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂, NCH₂CH₂CH₂*, NCH₂CH₂CH₂*), 2.01-2.18 (m, 3H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂, NCH₂CH₂*), 2.23-2.28 (m, 2H, CH₂CH=), 2.32 (dd, *J* = 14.0, 8.6 Hz, 1H, CH₂CH=*), 2.45 (dd, *J* = 14.0, 7.5 Hz, 1H, CH₂CH=*), 3.00 (dd, J = 15.3, 10.9 Hz, 1H, <u>CH</u>₂Fur), 3.03 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H, <u>CH</u>₂Fur*), 3.08 (ddd, J = 15.2, 5.9, 1.4 Hz, 1H, CH₂Fur), 3.37-3.43 (m, 2H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂, NCH₂CH₂CH₂*), 3.43 (d, J = 16.9 Hz, 1H, NCH₂CO*), 3.57 (d, J = 16.7 Hz, 1H, NCH₂CO), 3.62 (d, J = 16.9 Hz, 1H, NCH₂CO*), 3.65-6.74 (m, 2H, N<u>CH</u>₂CH₂CH₂, N<u>CH</u>₂CH₂CH₂*), 3.77 (d, *J* = 16.7 Hz, 1H, N<u>CH</u>₂CO), 3.79 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.80 (s, 3H, OCH₃*), 4.55-4.60 (m, 1H, CH₂CH=), 4.79-4.84 (m, 1H, CH₂CH=*), 6.07 (t, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H, FurCH₂CHN*), 6.14 (dd, *J* = 10.8, 5.9 Hz, 1H, FurCH₂CHN), 6.27 (dd, *J* $= 1.8, 0.9 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}, \text{CH}_{\text{Fur}}^*), 6.42 \text{ (dd, } J = 1.8, 0.9 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}, \text{CH}_{\text{Fur}}), 6.86 \text{ (d, } J = 8.8 \text{ Hz}, 2\text{H}, \text{CH}_{\text{Ar}}),$ 6.89 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H, CH_{Ar}*), 7.19-7.21 (m, 1H, CH_{Fur}*), 7.22-7.25 (m, 2H, CH_{Ar}), 7.26-7.28 (m, 2H, CH_{Ar}^*), 7.29 (t, J = 1.7 Hz, 1H, CH_{Fur}^*), 7.33-7.35 (m, 1H, CH_{Fur}), 7.36 (t, J = 1.7 Hz, 1H, CH_{Fur}). The minor diastereomer is marked by an *. ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 17.79$ (q, CH₃), 17.81 (q, CH₃*), 20.5 (t, NCH₂<u>C</u>H₂CH₂*), 20.7 (t, NCH₂<u>C</u>H₂CH₂), 25.2 (t, <u>C</u>H₂Fur*), 25.7 (t, <u>CH</u>₂Fur), 25.8 (q, CH₃*), 25.9 (q, CH₃), 35.2 (t, NCH₂CH₂<u>C</u>H₂), 35.7 (t, NCH₂CH₂<u>C</u>H₂*), 36.4 (t, <u>CH</u>₂CH=), 36.6 (t, <u>CH</u>₂CH=*), 44.8 (t, N<u>C</u>H₂CH₂CH₂*), 45.1 (t, N<u>C</u>H₂CH₂CH₂), 45.7 (t, NCH₂CO), 46.1 (t, NCH₂CO*), 53.4 (d, FurCH₂CHN*), 54.1 (d, FurCH₂CHN), 55.4 (q, OCH₃), 55.5 (q, OCH₃*), 68.3 (s, C_{Pro}), 68.5 (s, C_{Pro}*), 111.2 (d, CH_{Fur}), 111.3 (d, CH_{Fur}*), 114.2 (d, CH_{Ar}*), 114.4 (d, CH_{Ar}), 117.1 (d, CH₂<u>C</u>H=), 117.2 (d, CH₂<u>C</u>H=*), 120.5 (s, C_{Fur}*), 120.9 (s, C_{Fur}), 128.9 (d, CH_{Ar}), 129.3 (d, CH_{Ar}*), 129.5 (s, C_{Ar}*), 129.9 (s, C_{Ar}), 137.5 (s, =<u>C</u>(CH₃)₂), 137.6 $(s, =\underline{C}(CH_3)_2^*)$, 139.9 (d, CH_{Fur}), 140.2 (d, CH_{Fur}*), 143.0 (d, CH_{Fur}*), 143.3 (d, CH_{Fur}), 159.5 (s, C_{Ar}), 159.6 (s, C_{Ar}*), 163.1 (s, C=O), 163.5 (s, C=O*), 169.6 (s, C=O), 169.7 (s, C=O*).

(6*R*,7*R*,8a*R*)-6-(Furan-3-ylmethyl)-10-(4-methoxybenzyl)-7-(prop-1-en-2-yl)tetrahydro-1*H*-6,8a-(epiminomethano)indolizine-5,9(6*H*)-dione (S7)



Compound **S5** (100 mg, 0.24 mmol) was dissolved in dry DME (8 mL) and cooled to -78 °C. *n*BuLi (0.24 mL, 0.38 mmol, 1.6 M in hexane) was added dropwise, the resulting pale yellow solution was stirred at -78 °C for 1.5 h, and warmed to -40 °C over 30 min. TEMPO (47 mg, 0.3 mmol) was added to the reaction mixture followed by portionwise addition of Cp₂Fe⁺PF₆⁻ until

the color of the oxidant persisted (ca 126 mg, 0.38 mmol) and stirring was continued for 10 min. The cooling bath was removed, the reaction flask was equipped with a reflux condenser and immersed to an oil bath preheated to 100 °C and the mixture was refluxed for 1.5 h. After cooling, the mixture was evaporated and the residue was immediately passed through a short column of silica gel eluting with EtOAc. The eluate was evaporated and further purified by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane/EtOAc = 1/1) to give 68 mg (68%) of an inseparable 5:1 mixture of S7 and S5 as a colorless solid. $\mathbf{R}f = 0.3$ (hexane/EtOAc = 1/1). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, **CDCl**₃): $\delta = 1.57$ (s, 1H, CH₃), 1.77 (dd, J = 13.4, 5.4 Hz, 1H, CH_{2bridge}), 1.86-1.93 (m, 1H, $NCH_2CH_2CH_2$, 2.01-2.09 (m, 2H, $NCH_2CH_2CH_2$), 2.20 (dd, J = 13.4, 10.4 Hz, 1H, $CH_{2bridge}$), 2.76 (dd, J = 10.3, 5.4 Hz, 1H, CH_{bridge}), 2.88 (dt, J = 13.0, 7.0 Hz, 1H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 2.96 (d, J = 17.0 Hz, 1H, <u>CH</u>₂Fur), 3.20 (dd, J = 17.3, 1.5 Hz, 1H, <u>CH</u>₂Fur), 3.58 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H, $NCH_2CH_2CH_2$), 3.78 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 4.43 (d, J = 15.5 Hz, 1H, NCH_2Ar), 4.53 (bs, 1H, CH₂=), 4.73-4.82 (m, 2H, N<u>CH</u>₂Ar, <u>CH</u>₂=), 6.37 (dd, *J* = 1.9, 0.9 Hz, 1H, CH_{Fur}), 6.80 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H, CH_{Ar} , 7.05 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H, CH_{Ar}), 7.33-7.36 (m, 1H, CH_{Fur}), 7.37 (t, J = 1.7 Hz, 1H, CH_{Fur}). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 19.1 (q, CH₃), 24.2 (t, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 25.6 (t, CH₂Fur), 29.9 (t, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 36.4 (t, CH_{2bridge}), 44.4 (t, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 45.2 (t, NCH₂Ar), 51.9 (d, CH_{bridge}), 55.3 (q, OCH₃), 66.1 (s, C_{Pro}), 68.6 (s, C_{bridgehead}), 112.4 (d, CH_{Fur}), 114.0 (d, CH_{Ar}), 116.1 (t, <u>CH</u>₂=), 119.8 (s, C_{Fur}), 128.5 (d, CH_{Ar}), 130.4 (s, C_{Ar}), 140.9 (d, CH_{Fur}), 142.5 (d, CH_{Fur}), 142.9 (s, =CCH₃), 158.9 (s, C_{Ar}), 167.5 (s, C=O), 173.6 (s, C=O).



(R)-8a-(3-Methylbut-2-en-1-yl)hexahydropyrrolo[1,2-a]pyrazine-1,4-dione (16)

Oxazolidinone **10** (4.32 g, 13.8 mmol) was dissolved in 4M ammonia solution in methanol (34.5 mL, 138 mmol) and the mixture was stirred for 5 h. The solvent was evaporated and the crude mixture was used directly in the next step. In one experiment, the mixture was purified by column chromatography on silica gel with EtOAc providing ester **11** in 76% yield, followed by elution with EtOAc/MeOH = 95/5 giving an inseparable mixture of amide **12** and formylated compound **13** in 15% yield.

(*R*)-Methyl 2-(3-methylbut-2-en-1-yl)pyrrolidine-2-carboxylate (11): $[\alpha]^{20}_{D} = -59.8$ (c 0.403, CHCl₃,); **IR:** ν (cm⁻¹) 3350, 2951, 2915, 2873, 1728, 1435, 1376, 1223, 1192, 1172, 1097, 1044, 789. **MS ESI+ m/z, (%)**: 198 (100, [M+H]⁺); **HRMS ESI+** *m/z*, ([M+H]⁺): calcd. for C₁₁H₂₀O₂N: 198.1488, found: 198.1488. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 1.60$ (s, 3H, CH₃), 1.68 (d, J = 1.4 Hz, 3H, CH₃), 1.68-1.82 (m, 3H, NCH₂<u>CH₂CH₂</u>, NCH₂CH₂<u>CH₂</u>), 2.12-2.19 (m, 1H, NCH₂CH₂<u>CH₂</u>), 2.27-2.33 (m, 2H, <u>CH₂CH=</u>, NH), 2.53 (ddd, J = 14.2, 7.6, 3.7 Hz, 1H, <u>CH</u>₂CH=), 2.95-2.99 (m, 2H, N<u>CH₂CH₂CH₂), 3.69 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 5.08 (ddq, J = 7.5, 7.0, 1.4 Hz, 1H, CH=). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 17.9$ (q, CH₃), 25.0 (t, NCH₂<u>CH</u>₂CH₂), 25.9 (q, CH₃), 35.2 (t, NCH₂CH₂<u>CH₂</u>), 38.1 (t, <u>CH</u>₂CH=), 46.4 (t, N<u>C</u>H₂CH₂CH₂), 52.1 (q, OCH₃), 69.6 (s, C_{Pro}), 119.2 (d, CH₂<u>C</u>H=), 134.8 (s, =<u>C</u>(CH₃)₂), 177.4 (s, C=O).</u>

The crude mixture of the previous step was dissolved in dichloromethane (60 mL), a 1M K_2CO_3 solution (18 mL, 17.9 mmol) was added and the mixture was cooled to 0 °C. Bromoacetyl bromide (1.56 mL, 17.9 mmol) was added in one portion to the vigorously stirred biphasic solution. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature until the starting material was consumed as indicated by TLC (ca. 5 h). The organic layer was separated and the aqueous extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (2 x 30 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered, and evaporated. The crude mixture was redissolved in 4M ammonia solution in methanol (17 mL, 68 mmol) and stirred at room temperature for 20 h. The volatiles were removed under reduced pressure, the residue was suspended in CHCl₃ and filtered. The filtrate was evaporated and purified by column chromatography (EtOAc/acetone = 1/1 gradient to 1/2) to obtain 2.34 g (76% from 10) of 16 as a colorless oil. $\mathbf{R}f = 0.4$ (EtOAc/acetone = 1/2). $[\alpha]^{20}\mathbf{p} = -98.3$ (*c* 0.901, CHCl₃); **IR**: *v* (cm⁻¹) 3230, 3053, 2981, 1652, 1446, 1324, 1265, 1107, 730. MS ESI+ m/z, (%): 223 (100, [M+H]⁺). HRMS **EI** *m*/*z*, ([M]⁺): calcd. for C₁₂H₁₈O₂N₂: 222.1368, found: 222.1366. ¹**H** NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 1.61$ (s, 3H, CH₃), 1.71 (s, 3H, CH₃), 1.95-2.05 (m, 2H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 2.13-2.22 (m, 2H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 2.43 (dd, J = 14.2, 8.2 Hz, 1H, CH₂CH=), 2.52 (dd, J = 14.3, 7.7 Hz, 1H, <u>CH</u>₂CH=), 3.52 (ddd, J = 12.8, 8.7, 4.6 Hz, 1H, N<u>CH</u>₂CH₂CH₂), 3.75-3.89 (m, 2H, N<u>CH</u>₂CO, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 4.03 (d, *J* = 16.8 Hz, 1H, NCH₂CO), 5.16 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H, CH₂CH=), 6.61 (br. s, 1H, NH). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 17.8$ (q, CH₃), 20.2 (t, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 26.0 (q, CH₃), 34.6 (t, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 36.2 (t, CH₂CH=), 45.0 (t, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 46.6 (t, CH₂NH), 67.8 (s, C_{Pro}), 116.9 (d, $CH_2CH=$), 138.0 (s, $=C(CH_3)_2$), 163.2 (s, C=O), 171.9 (s, C=O).

(*R*)-2-(Methoxymethyl)-8a-(3-methylbut-2-en-1-yl)hexahydropyrrolo[1,2-a]pyrazine-1,4dione (17)



Diketopiperazine **16** (1.02 g, 4.6 mmol) was dissolved in dry THF (30 mL) under an N_2 atmosphere and the solution was cooled to 0 °C. NaH (257 mg, 6.4 mmol, 60% suspension in mineral oil) was added and stirring was continued at 0 °C for 1 h. Chloromethyl methyl ether (0.7 mL, 9.2 mmol)

was added dropwise at 0 °C and the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 20 h. The reaction mixture was quenched with saturated NH₄Cl solution and extracted with EtOAc (3 x 30 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated. The residue was purified by column chromatography (EtOAc/acetone = 1/1) to obtain 1.08 g (89%)

of compound **17** as a colorless oil. **R**f = 0.6 (EtOAc/acetone = 1/1). [α]²⁰ $_{D}$ = -72.8 (c 0.589, CHCl₃); **IR**: ν (cm⁻¹) 2922, 1655, 1442, 1385, 1327, 1283, 1176, 1093, 1047, 912. **MS ESI+ m/z, (%)**: 289 (100, [M+Na]⁺). **HRMS ESI+** m/z, ([M+Na]⁺): calcd. for C₁₄H₂₂O₃N₂Na: 289.1522, found: 289.1523. ¹**H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl**₃): δ = 1.60 (s, 3H, =C<u>C</u>H₃), 1.71 (s, 3H, =C<u>C</u>H₃), 1.92-2.05 (m, 2H, NCH₂<u>CH</u>₂CH₂), 2.10-2.23 (m, 2H, NCH₂CH₂<u>CH</u>₂), 2.43 (dd, J = 14.2, 8.0 Hz, 1H, <u>CH</u>₂CH=), 2.54 (dd, J = 14.2, 7.8 Hz, 1H, <u>CH</u>₂CH=), 3.46-3.56 (m, 1H, N<u>CH</u>₂CH₂CH₂), 3.51 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.80-3.85 (m, 1H, N<u>CH</u>₂CH₂CH₂), 3.87 (d, J = 17.0 Hz, 1H, N<u>CH</u>₂CO), 4.09 (d, J = 17.1 Hz, 1H, N<u>CH</u>₂CO), 4.67 (d, J = 10.0 Hz, 1H, N<u>CH</u>₂O), 4.93 (d, J = 10.0 Hz, 1H, N<u>CH</u>₂O), 5.13 (tdt, J = 7.6, 2.6, 1.2 Hz, 1H, CH=). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 17.8 (q, =<u>C</u>CH₃), 20.5 (t, NCH₂<u>CH</u>₂CH₂), 26.0 (q, =CCH₃), 35.0 (t, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 36.4 (t, <u>C</u>H₂CH=), 45.0 (t, N<u>C</u>H₂CH₂CH₂), 50.0 (t, N<u>C</u>H₂CO), 56.4 (q, OCH₃), 68.4 (s, C_{Pro}), 76.6 (t, NCH₂O), 116.9 (d, CH₂<u>C</u>H=), 137.8 (s, =<u>C</u>(CH₃)₂), 163.1 (s, C=O), 170.6 (s, C=O).

(3*S*,8a*R*)-3-(Furan-3-ylmethyl)-2-(methoxymethyl)-8a-(3-methylbut-2-en-1yl)hexahydropyrrolo[1,2-a]pyrazine-1,4-dione (7)



Compound **17** (0.63 g, 2.38 mmol) was dissolved in dry THF (40 mL) and cooled to -78 °C. *n*BuLi (1.9 mL, 3.1 mmol, 1.6 M in hexane) was added dropwise and the resulting pale yellow solution was stirred at -78 °C for 1 h. 3-(Bromomethyl)furan³ (575 mg, 3.6 mmol) was added, the temperature was raised to -50 °C over 2 h and the mixture was stirred for another 1.5 h at -50

°C. The reaction mixture was quenched with saturated NH₄Cl solution (30 mL) and extracted with ethyl acetate (3 x 30 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered and evaporated. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane/EtOAc = 1/1) to give 0.67 g (82%) of **7** as a colorless solid. **R***f* = 0.3 (hexane/EtOAc = 1/1). **M.p.** 94-95 °C. $[\alpha]^{20}\mathbf{p} = -24.1$ (*c* 0.536, CHCl₃). **IR**: ν (**cm**⁻¹) 2930, 1649, 1431, 1384, 1094, 1022, 873, 782. **MS ESI**+ **m/z**, (%): 369 (100, [M+Na]⁺). **HRMS ESI**+ *m/z*, ([M+Na]⁺): calcd. for C₁₉H₂₆O₄N₂Na: 369.1784, found: 369.1785. ¹**H** NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 1.53-1.60 (m, 1H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 1.56 (s, 3H, =CCH₃), 1.66 (s, 3H, =CCH₃), 1.73-1.82 (m, 1H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 1.87-1.95 (m, 1H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 2.03 (ddd, *J* = 12.4, 8.0, 1.9 Hz, 1H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 2.31 (dd, *J* = 14.2, 7.5 Hz, 1H, <u>CH₂CH=</u>), 2.53 (dd, *J* = 14.2, 8.1 Hz, 1H, <u>CH₂CH=</u>), 3.06 (dd, *J* = 15.0, 4.4 Hz, 1H, <u>CH₂Fur), 3.35-3.43 (m, 2H, <u>CH₂Fur, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 3.38 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.79 (ddd, *J* = 12.5, 9.5, 6.8 Hz,</u></u>

1H, N<u>CH</u>₂CH₂CH₂), 4.23-4.31 (m, 1H, NCH), 4.64 (d, J = 10.2 Hz, 1H, N<u>CH</u>₂O), 4.97-5.04 (m, 1H, <u>CH</u>=), 5.23 (d, J = 10.1 Hz, 1H, N<u>CH</u>₂O), 6.16 (dd, J = 1.8, 0.9 Hz, 1H, CH_{Fur}), 7.13-7.17 (m, 1H, CH_{Fur}), 7.28 (t, J = 1.7 Hz, 1H, CH_{Fur}). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 18.1$ (q, =C<u>C</u>H₃), 19.9 (t, NCH₂<u>C</u>H₂CH₂), 26.2 (t+q, CH₂Fur, =C<u>C</u>H₃), 35.2 (t, NCH₂CH₂<u>C</u>H₂), 36.7 (t, <u>C</u>H₂CH=), 44.4 (t, N<u>C</u>H₂CH₂CH₂), 57.0 (q, OCH₃), 58.8 (d, NCH), 68.0 (s, C_{Pro}), 75.1 (t, NCH₂O), 111.8 (d, CH_{Fur}), 117.2 (d, CH₂<u>C</u>H=), 118.5 (s, C_{Fur}), 137.7 (s, =<u>C</u>(CH₃)₂), 141.1 (d, CH_{Fur}), 142.7 (d, CH_{Fur}), 164.2 (s, C=O), 170.4 (s, C=O).

(6*R*,7*R*,8a*R*)-6-(Furan-3-ylmethyl)-10-(methoxymethyl)-7-(prop-1-en-2-yl)tetrahydro-1*H*-6,8a-(epiminomethano)indolizine-5,9(6*H*)-dione (6)



Compound 7 (340 mg, 0.98 mmol) was dissolved in dry DME (20 mL) and cooled to -78 °C. *n*BuLi (0.98 mL, 1.57 mmol, 1.6 M in hexane) was added dropwise, the resulting pale yellow solution was stirred at -78 °C for 1.5 h, and warmed to -40 °C over 30 min. TEMPO (192 mg, 1.23 mmol) was added

to the reaction mixture followed by portionwise addition of $Cp_2Fe^+PF_6^-$ until the color of the oxidant persisted (ca 520 mg, 1.57 mmol) and stirring was continued for 10 min. The cooling bath was removed, the reaction flask was equipped with a reflux condenser and immersed to an oil bath preheated to 100 °C and refluxed for 1.5 h. The reaction mixture was cooled, evaporated and the residue was immediately passed through a short column of silica gel eluting with EtOAc. The eluate was evaporated and further purified by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane/EtOAc = 1/1) to give 295 mg (87%) of **6** as a colorless solid. The compound was crystallized from DCM for X-ray analysis. $\mathbf{R}f = 0.3$ (hexane/EtOAc = 1/1). M.p. 137-138 °C. $[\alpha]^{20}$ = -10.2 (c 0.609, CHCl₃); **IR**: v (cm⁻¹) 2931, 1694, 1674, 1644, 1363, 1304, 1142, 1082, 1045, 901, 874. MS ESI+ m/z, (%): 367 (100, [M+Na]⁺). HRMS ESI+ m/z, ([M+Na]⁺): calcd. for C₁₉H₂₄O₄N₂Na: 367.1628, found: 367.1629. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 1.65$ (s, 3H, =CCH₃), 1.78-1.90 (m, 2H, <u>CH₂bridge</u>, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 1.97-2.08 (m, 2H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 2.27 (dd, J = 13.5, 10.4 Hz, 1H, CH_{2bridge}), 2.79-2.86 (m, 1H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 3.05-3.12 (m, 1H, CH_{bridge}), 3.12 (d, J = 16.9 Hz, 1H, <u>CH</u>₂Fur), 3.23 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.36 (dd, J = 17.1, 1.3 Hz, 1H, <u>CH</u>₂Fur), 3.53-3.63 (m, 2H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 4.72-4.82 (m, 2H, =CH₂, NCH₂O), 4.84-4.86 (m, 1H, =CH₂), 4.92 (d, J = 10.7 Hz, 1H, NCH₂O), 6.34-6.36 (m, 1H, CH_{Fur}), 7.32-7.36 (m, 2H, CH_{Fur}). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 19.3$ (q, =CCH₃), 24.2 (t, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 24.8 (t, CH₂Fur), 29.8 (t,

NCH₂CH₂<u>C</u>H₂), 36.5 (t, <u>C</u>H_{2bridge}), 44.3 (t, N<u>C</u>H₂CH₂CH₂), 51.8 (d, CH_{bridge}), 56.6 (q, OCH₃), 66.0 (s, C_{Pro}), 67.6 (s, C_{bridgehead}), 73.4 (t, NCH₂O), 112.5 (d, CH_{Fur}), 116.0 (t, =<u>C</u>H₂), 119.8 (s, C_{Fur}), 141.0 (d, CH_{Fur}), 142.3 (d, CH_{Fur}), 143.2 (s, CH₃<u>C</u>=), 167.6 (s, C=O), 174.2 (s, C=O).

(6*R*,7*R*,8a*R*)-6-(Furan-3-ylmethyl)-7-(prop-1-en-2-yl)tetrahydro-1*H*-6,8a-(epiminomethano)indolizine-5,9(6*H*)-dione (19)



Compound **6** (180 mg, 0.52 mmol) was dissolved in dry CH_2Cl_2 (20 mL) under N₂ and cooled to -20 °C. A solution of *B*-bromocatecholborane (135 mg, 0.68 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (3 mL) was added dropwise. The mixture was stirred allowing the temperature to rise to 0 °C over 1 h. NaOH (20 mL, 2M

in H₂O) was added and the mixture was stirred for 1 h. The layers were separated and the aqueous was extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (3 x 20 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated. The residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (EtOAc) to obtain 151 mg (96%) of **19** as a colorless oil. $\mathbf{R}f = 0.3$ (EtOAc). IR: v (cm⁻¹) 3250, 2977, 1674, 1440, 1396, 1161, 1024, 908, 872. MS ESI+ m/z, (%): 323 (100, [M+Na]⁺). HRMS **ESI**+ m/z, ([M+Na]⁺): calcd. for C₁₇H₂₀O₂N₂Na: 323.1366, found: 323.1367. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, **CDCl**₃): $\delta = 1.71$ (s, 3H, CH₃), 1.78-1.86 (m, 2H, CH_{2bridge}, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 2.00-2.09 (m, 2H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 2.30 (dd, J = 13.5, 10.3 Hz, 1H, CH_{2bridge}), 2.69-2.78 (m, 1H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 2.72 (d, J = 15.3 Hz, 1H, CH₂Fur), 2.90 (dd, J = 10.3, 5.5 Hz, 1H, CH_{bridge}), 3.30 (d, J = 15.3 Hz, 1H, <u>CH</u>₂Fur), 3.49-3.63 (m, 2H, N<u>CH</u>₂CH₂CH₂), 4.93-4.95 (m, 1H, =CH₂), 4.96-4.99 (m, 1H, =CH₂), 5.82 (bs, 1H, NH), 6.43 (dd, J = 1.8, 0.9 Hz, 1H, CH_{Fur}), 7.37-7.40 (m, 1H, CH_{Fur}), 7.42 (t, J = 1.7 Hz, 1H, CH_{Fur}). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 19.2$ (q, CH₃), 24.5 (t, NCH2CH2CH2), 25.0 (t, CH2Fur), 29.1 (t, NCH2CH2CH2), 36.6 (t, CH2bridge), 44.1 (t, NCH2CH2CH2), 52.7 (d, CHbridge), 62.8 (s, CPro), 66.7 (s, Cbridgehead), 112.3 (d, CHFur), 116.2 (t, =<u>C</u>H₂), 118.1 (s, C_{Fur}), 141.5 (d, CH_{Fur}), 142.8 (s, CH₃C=), 143.8 (d, CH_{Fur}), 168.3 (s, C=O), 172.7 (s, C=O).

(6*R*,7*R*,8a*R*)-6-(Furan-3-ylmethyl)-7-(prop-1-en-2-yl)hexahydro-1*H*-6,8a-(epiminomethano)indolizin-9-one (20)



DIBAL-H (1.62 mL, 1.62 mmol, 1M in toluene) was added dropwise to a solution of **19** (128 mg, 0.43 mmol) in dry toluene (10 mL) at 0 °C. The mixture was stirred at r.t. for 5 h, cooled to 0 °C and quenched with H₂O (70 μ L) and 15% NaOH (70 μ L). Na₂SO₄ was added, the mixture was stirred for 30 min, and filtered over celite, which was thoroughly washed

with EtOAc. The filtrate was concentrated and purified by column chromatography on silica gel (EtOAc) to obtain 96 mg (79%) of **20** as a colorless oil. **R**f = 0.25 (EtOAc). [α]²⁰ $_{D}$ = -15.0 (c 0.409, CHCl₃). **IR:** ν (cm⁻¹) 3200, 3068, 2978, 1672, 1505, 1456, 1374, 1318, 1242, 1164, 1025, 908, 897, 873. **MS ESI+** m/z, (%): 309 (35, [M+Na]⁺), 287 (100, [M+H]⁺). **HRMS ESI+** m/z, ([M+H]⁺): calcd. for C₁₇H₂₃O₂N₂: 287.1754, found: 287.1752. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 1.38 (dt, J = 12.5, 8.7 Hz, 1H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂D₂), 1.79-1.91 (m, 3H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂, CH₂D_{bridge}), 1.92 (s, 3H, CH₃), 2.09-2.18 (m, 2H, <u>CH₂Dridge</u>, NCH₂CH₂CH₂D₂), 2.30 (dd, J = 10.2, 1.9 Hz, 1H, CCH₂N), 2.44-2.54 (m, 2H, CH_{bridge}, NCH₂CH₂CH₂D₂D₁), 2.58 (d, J = 15.0 Hz, 1H, <u>CH₂Fur</u>), 2.66 (d, J = 15.1 Hz, 1H, <u>CH₂Fur</u>), 3.08 (dt, J = 8.9, 5.5 Hz, 1H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂D₂), 3.41 (d, J = 10.2 Hz, 1H, CCH₂N), 5.03 (s, 1H, =CH₂), 5.07 (s, 1H,=CH₂), 5.98 (bs, 1H, NH), 6.23-6.26 (m, 1H, CH_{Fur}), 7.31 (s, 1H, CH_{Fur}), 7.41 (t, J = 1.7 Hz, 1H, CH_{Fur}). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 21.7 (q, CH₃), 22.5 (t, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 27.1 (t, NCH₂CH₂CH₂D₂), 29.5 (t, CH₂Fur), 37.4 (t, <u>CH₂Dridge</sub>), 50.2 (d, CH_{bridge}), 54.2 (t, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 56.9 (t, CCH₂N), 58.3 (s, C_{Pro}), 65.4 (s, C_{bridgehead}), 111.9 (d, CH_{Fur}), 115.9 (t, =CH₂), 118.1 (s, C_{Fur}), 140.8 (d, CH_{Fur}), 143.8 (d, CH_{Fur}), 144.2 (s, CH₃<u>C</u>=), 174.2 (s, C=O).</u>

(6*R*,7*R*,8a*R*)-6-(Furan-3-ylmethyl)-10-methyl-7-(prop-1-en-2-yl)hexahydro-1*H*-6,8a-(epiminomethano)indolizin-9-one (21)



Compound **20** (95 mg, 0.33 mmol) was dissolved in dry THF (8 mL) under N_2 and the solution was cooled to 0 °C. NaH (23 mg, 0.56 mmol, 60% suspension in mineral oil) was added and stirring was continued at 0 °C for 1 h. Iodomethane (62 µL, 0.99 mmol) was added dropwise at 0 °C and the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 20 h. The reaction

mixture was quenched with H₂O (10 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (3 x 10 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated. The residue was

purified by column chromatography (EtOAc) to obtain 80 mg (80%) of compound **21** as a colorless oil. **R***f* = 0.25 (EtOAc). $[\alpha]^{20}D = +18.6$ (*c* 0.263, CHCl₃). **IR:** ν (cm⁻¹) 2979, 2927, 1664, 1457, 1419, 1391, 1323, 1166, 1072, 1026, 902, 873. **MS ESI+** *m/z*, (%): 301 (100, [M+H]⁺). **HRMS ESI+** *m/z*, ([M+H]⁺): Calcd. for C₁₈H₂₅O₂N₂: 323.1730, found: 323.1730. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, **CDCl**₃): $\delta = 1.32 \cdot 1.45$ (m, 1H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 1.74-1.90 (m, 3H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂, CH_{2bridge}), 1.86 (s, 3H, =CCH₃), 2.05 (dd, *J* = 13.2, 11.4 Hz, 1H, <u>CH_{2bridge}</u>), 2.15 (q, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 2.43-2.52 (m, 2H, C<u>CH</u>₂N, CH_{bridge}), 2.54-2.67 (m, 1H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 2.75 (d, *J* = 16.3 Hz, 1H, <u>CH</u>₂Fur), 2.83 (d, *J* = 16.5 Hz, 1H, <u>CH</u>₂Fur), 3.04 (s, 3H, CH₃N), 3.04-3.13 (m, 1H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 3.35 (d, *J* = 10.7 Hz, 1H, C<u>CH</u>₂N), 4.96 (s, 1H, =CH₂), 5.00 (s, 1H, =CH₂), 6.27 (dd, *J* = 1.9, 0.9 Hz, 1H, CH_{Fur}), 7.28 (dd, *J* = 1.6, 0.9 Hz, 1H, CH_{Fur}), 7.37 (t, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H, CH_{Fur}). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 21.2$ (q, =C<u>C</u>H₃), 22.4 (t, NCH₂<u>C</u>H₂CH₂), 27.3 (q, CH₃N), 27.9 (t, NCH₂<u>C</u>H₂<u>C</u>H₂), 28.6 (t, CH₂Fur), 37.6 (t, <u>C</u>H₂_{bridge}), 49.4 (d, CH_{bridge}), 54.8 (t, N<u>C</u>H₂CH₂CH₂), 56.4 (t, C<u>C</u>H₂N), 62.5 (s, C_{Pro}), 64.9 (s, C_{bridgehad}), 112.3 (d, CH_{Fur}), 115.9 (t, CH₂=), 118.9 (s, C_{Fur}), 141.1 (d, CH_{Fur}), 142.7 (d, CH_{Fur}), 144.7 (s, CH₃<u>C</u>=), 175.4 (s, C=O).

(6*R*,7*R*,8a*R*)-6-((2-Hydroxy-5-oxo-2,5-dihydrofuran-3-yl)methyl)-10-methyl-7-(prop-1-en-2-yl)hexahydro-1*H*-6,8a-(epiminomethano)indolizin-9-one (5)



Furan **21** (30 mg, 0.10 mmol) was dissolved in dry CH₂Cl₂ (10 mL) and cooled to -78 °C. Rose bengal (5 mg, 0.005 mmol) and *i*Pr₂NEt (35 µL, 0.20 mmol) were added. Oxygen gas was bubbled through the solution at -78 °C for 20 min and the mixture was subsequently irradiated with a tungsten flood light at -78 °C under constant bubbling of oxygen gas for

6 h until full consumption of **27** as indicated by TLC. The reaction mixture was warmed to r.t. and evaporated. The residue was purified by column chromatography (CH₂Cl₂/MeOH = 95/5) to give 28 mg (85%) of γ-hydroxybutenolide **5** as an inseparable diastereomeric mixture as a pale red oil, contaminated with rose bengal residues, which was directly used in the next step. The ratio could not be determined because of signal averaging by the present amine function.^[4] **R***f* = 0.2 (CH₂Cl₂/MeOH = 95/5). **IR**: *v* (**cm**⁻¹) 3280 (br.), 2956, 2926, 1759, 1650, 1456, 1394, 1133, 952, 907, 727. **MS ESI**+ *m*/*z*, (%): 355 (65, [M+Na]⁺), 333 (100, [M+H]⁺). **HRMS ESI**+ *m*/*z*, ([M+Na]⁺): calcd. for C₁₈H₂₄O₄N₂Na: 355.1628, found: 355.1630. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 1.34-1.51$ (m, 1H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 1.75-1.94 (m, 3H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂, <u>CH₂bridge</u>), 1.88 (s, 3H,

=CCH₃), 1.98-2.12 (m, 1H, <u>CH_{2bridge}</u>), 2.14-2.27 (m, 1H, N<u>CH₂</u>CH₂CH₂CH₂), 2.49-2.83 (m, 5H, C<u>CH₂</u>N, CH_{bridge}, =C<u>CH₂</u>, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 2.96 (s, 3H, NCH₃), 3.07-3.18 (m, 1H, N<u>CH₂</u>CH₂CH₂CH₂), 3.27-3.38 (m, 1H, C<u>CH</u>₂N), 4.99 (s, 2H, =CH₂), 5.97 (s, 1H, <u>CH</u>OH), 6.05 (s, 1H, =CH). The signals of the OH protons are not visible. ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): δ = 20.8 (q, =C<u>C</u>H₃), 22.4 (t, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 27.8 (t, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 27.9 (q, CH₃N), 31.2 (t, <u>C</u>H₂C=), 36.5 (t, <u>C</u>H₂bridge</sub>), 48.5 (d, CH_{bridge}), 54.7 (t, N<u>C</u>H₂CH₂CH₂), 55.9 (t, C<u>C</u>H₂N), 61.9 (s, C_{Pro}), 65.0 (s, C_{bridgehead}), 99.7 (d, <u>C</u>HOH), 116.9 (t, CH₂=), 120.4 (d, =CH), 143.7 (s, CH₃<u>C</u>=), 163.6 (s, =<u>C</u>CH₂), 170.5 (s, NC=O), 176.1 (s, COO).

(6*R*,7*R*,8a*R*)-6-((2-Methoxy-5-oxo-2,5-dihydrofuran-3-yl)methyl)-10-methyl-7-(prop-1-en-2-yl)hexahydro-1*H*-6,8a-(epiminomethano)indolizin-9-one (22)



 γ -Hydroxybutenolide **5** (54 mg, 0.162 mmol) was dissolved in dry methanol (3 mL). (+)-CSA (42 mg, 0.178 mmol) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred at reflux for 20 h. The reaction mixture was cooled to r.t., evaporated and the residue was redissolved in CH₂Cl₂ (10 mL). Saturated NaHCO₃ solution (10 mL) was added, the mixture was

stirred for 15 min and extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (3 x 10 mL) The combined organic layers were dried over MgSO₄, filtered and evaporated. The residue was purified by column chromatography (CH₂Cl₂/MeOH = 95/5) to give 42 mg (75%) of **22** as an inseparable 1:1 mixture as a colorless oil. **R***f* = 0.3 (CH₂Cl₂/MeOH = 95/5) **IR**: *ν* (**cm**⁻¹) 2940, 1765, 1665, 1456, 1362, 1325, 1203, 1119, 972, 940, 902. **MS ESI+ m/z**, (%): 347 (100, [M+H]⁺). **HRMS ESI+***m/z*, ([M+H]⁺): calcd. for C₁₉H₂₇O₄N₂: 347.1965, found: 347.1966. ¹**H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl**₃), mixture of epimers: δ = 1.35-1.45 (m, 2H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂, NCH₂CH₂CH₂*), 1.77-1.94 (m, 6H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂, CH_{2bridge}, NCH₂CH₂CH₂*, <u>CH_{2bridge}*</u>), 1.87 (s, 6H, =CCH₃, =CCH₃*), 2.04-2.10 (m, 2H, CH_{2bridge}, CH_{2bridge}*), 2.15-2.22 (m, 2H, N<u>CH₂CH₂CH₂CH₂, N<u>CH₂CH₂CH₂*</u>, CH_{2bridge}*, CCH₂N, =C<u>CH₂*</u>, NCH₂CH₂CH₂*, CH_{2bridge}*, CCH₂N, 3.294 (s, 3H, NCH₃*), 3.09-3.12 (m, 2H, N<u>CH₂CH₂CH₂, N<u>CH₂CH₂CH₂, NCH₂CH₂CH₂, N₂+3.280 (m, 10H, =CH₂), 5.01 (s, 1H, =CH₂*), 5.04 (s, 1H, =CH₂*), 5.57 (s, 1H, <u>CHOCH₃</u>), 5.58 (s, 1H, <u>CHOCH₃*), 6.06 (s, 1H, =CH₂*), 5.04 (c, 1H, =CH₂*), 1.77-1.81 (m, 6H, NCH₂<u>CH₂CH₂</u>, CH_{2bridge}, NCH₂<u>CH₂CH₂*</u>, CH₂+2*), 5.07 (s, 1H, <u>CHOCH₃), 5.58 (S, 1H, <u>CHOCH₃*), 4.94 (S, 2H, SH</u>, NCH₂CH₂CH₂*), 1.72-1.81 (m, 6H, NCH₂<u>CH₂CH₂CH₂, CH₂_{Dridge}, NCH₂<u>CH₂CH₂*</u>, CH₂_{Dridge}, CH₂*), 1.72-1.81 (m, 6H, NCH₂<u>CH₂</u>CH₂, <u>CH₂_{Dridge}, NCH₂<u>CH₂CH₂*</u>, CH₂_{Dridge}, NCH₂<u>CH₂CH₂*, CH₂_{Dridge}, NCH₂<u>CH₂CH₂*</u>, CH₂_{Dridge}, NCH₂<u>CH₂CH₂*</u>, CH₂_{Dridge}, NCH₂<u>CH₂CH₂*}, 1.72-1.81 (m, 6H, NCH₂<u>CH₂</u>CH₂, <u>CH₂_{Dridge}, NCH₂<u>CH₂CH₂*</u>, 2CH₂</u></u></u></u></u></u></u></u></u></u>

CH_{2bridge}*), 1.84 (s, 3H, =CCH₃), 1.85 (s, 3H, =CCH₃*), 1.98-2.00 (m, 1H, CH_{2bridge}), 2.01-2.02 (m, 1H, CH_{2bridge}*), 2.11-2.16 (m, 2H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂, NCH₂CH₂CH₂*), 2.45-2.57 (m, 5H, =CCH₂, NCH₂CH₂CH₂, CH_{bridge}, CCH₂N, NCH₂CH₂CH₂*, CH_{bridge}*, CCH₂N*), 2.64 (d, J = 1.9Hz, 2H, =CCH₂*), 2.69-2.80 (m, 3H, =CCH₂, CH_{bridge}, CH_{bridge}*), 2.86 (s, 3H, NCH₃), 2.87 (s, 3H, NCH₃*), 3.00-3.07 (m, 2H, N<u>CH</u>₂CH₂CH₂, N<u>CH</u>₂CH₂CH₂*), 3.24 (d, *J* = 10.8 Hz, 1H, C<u>CH</u>₂N), 3.30 (d, J = 10.7 Hz, 1H, CCH₂N*), 3.51 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.52 (s, 3H, OCH₃*), 4.92-5.04 (m, 4H, =CH₂, =CH₂*), 5.69 (s, 1H, CHOCH₃), 5.71 (s, 1H, CHOCH₃*), 6.13 (td, J = 1.9, 0.9 Hz, 1H, =CH), 6.16 (td, J = 1.9, 1.0 Hz, 1H, =CH). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, CD₃CN): $\delta = 20.6$ (q, =C<u>C</u>H₃), 20.8 (q, =CCH₃*), 23.11 (t, NCH₂CH₂CH₂*), 23.13 (t, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 27.9 (q, CH₃N), 28.0 (q, CH₃N*), 28.5 (t, NCH₂CH₂CH₂, NCH₂CH₂*), 31.7 (t, =CCH₂), 32.1 (t, =CCH₂*), 37.5 (t, CH_{2bridge}), 37.9 (t, CH_{2bridge}*), 48.6 (d, CH_{bridge}), 48.8 (d, CH_{bridge}*), 55.0 (t, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 55.1 (t, NCH₂CH₂CH₂*), 56.76 (t, CCH₂N), 56.79 (t, CCH₂N*), 57.3 (q, OCH₃), 57.6 (q, OCH₃*), 62.37 (s, CPro), 62.43 (s, CPro*), 65.4 (s, Cbridgehead), 65.5 (s, Cbridgehead*), 105.8 (d, CHOCH₃), 106.1 (d, CHOCH₃*), 116.71 (t, CH₂=), 116.73 (t, CH₂=*), 121.3 (d, =CH), 121.4 (d, =CH*), 145.6 (s, CH₃C=, CH₃C=*), 163.2 (s, =CCH₂), 163.6 (s, =CCH₂*), 171.10 (s, NC=O), 171.11 (s, NC=O*), 175.7 (s, COO), 175.9 (s, COO*).

(2*S*,3*R*,5a'*R*,8a'*R*,9a'*R*)-2-Methoxy-8',8',11'-trimethyltetrahydro-1'*H*,2*H*,5'*H*,6'*H*,8'*H*-spiro[furan-3,7'-[5a,9a](epiminomethano)cyclopenta[*f*]indolizine]-5,10'(4*H*)-dione (23a)



Compound **22** (30 mg, 0.087 mmol) was dissolved in dry methanol (4 mL). Fe(acac)₃ (30 mg, 0.087 mmol) was added followed by PhSiH₃ (27 μ L, 0.097 mmol) at r.t. Vigorous gas evolution was observed. The reaction mixture was immersed to an oil bath preheated to 65 °C and refluxed

for 2 h. The reaction mixture was cooled to r.t., evaporated to dryness and the residue was purified by column chromatography (CH₂Cl₂/MeOH = 50/1 gradient to 20/1) to obtain first 13 mg (43%) of **23b** as colorless oil, 3 mg (10%) of a 4:1 mixure of **23a** and **23b**, followed by 9 mg (30%) of **23a** as colorless oil. Overall yield 83%.

Compound 23a: Rf = 0.4 (CH₂Cl₂/MeOH = 8/1). IR: v (cm⁻¹) 2950, 2840, 1785, 1647, 1457, 1380, 1201, 1145, 940, 722. MS ESI+ m/z, (%): 371 (30, [M+Na]⁺), 349 (100, [M+H]⁺). HRMS ESI+ *m/z*, ([M+Na]⁺): calcd. for C₁₉H₂₈O₄N₂Na: 371.1941, found: 371.1941. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 0.97$ (s, 3H, CCH₃), 1.02 (s, 3H, CCH₃), 1.34-1.45 (m, 2H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂, <u>CH</u>₂cyclopentane), 1.57-1.67 (m, 1H, <u>CH</u>₂bridge), 1.82-1.91 (m, 3H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂, <u>CH</u>₂bridge), 2.04-2.17 (m, 2H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂, CH₂bridge), 2.41 (d, *J* = 17.0 Hz, 1H, <u>CH</u>₂C=O), 2.48 (d, 1H, *J* = 11.0 Hz, C<u>CH</u>₂N), 2.50-2.57 (m, 1H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 2.63 (d, *J* = 17.0 Hz, 1H, <u>CH</u>₂C=O), 2.94 (d, 1H, *J* = 15.0 Hz, <u>CH</u>₂cyclopentane), 2.96 (s, 3H, NCH₃), 3.00-3.08 (m, 1H, N<u>CH</u>₂CH₂CH₂), 3.30 (d, *J* = 11.1 Hz, 1H, C<u>CH</u>₂N), 3.57 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 5.24 (s, 1H, O<u>CH</u>OCH₃). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 20.3$ (q, C<u>C</u>H₃), 22.2 (t, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 24.4 (q, C<u>C</u>H₃), 25.7 (q, NCH₃), 28.1 (t, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 28.9 (t, <u>C</u>H₂bridge), 34.5 (t, CH₂cyclopentane), 38.0 (t, <u>C</u>H₂C=O), 41.3 (s, <u>C</u>(CH₃)), 53.8 (t, N<u>C</u>H₂CH₂CH₂), 55.9 (d, CH_{bridge}), 57.7 (q, OCH₃), 57.8 (s, C_{spiro}), 58.2 (t, C<u>C</u>H₂N), 63.9 (s, C_{Pro}), 66.9 (s, C_{bridgehad}), 108.1 (d, OCHOCH₃), 173.02 (s, NC=O), 173.05 (s, OC=O).

Compound 23b: $\mathbf{R}f = 0.45$ (CH₂Cl₂/MeOH = 8/1). **MS ESI+** m/z, (%): 371 (30, [M+Na]⁺), 349 (100, [M+H]⁺). **HRMS ESI+** m/z, ([M+Na]⁺): calcd. for C₁₉H₂₈O₄N₂Na: 371.1941, found: 371.1938. **IR:** \mathbf{v} (cm⁻¹) 2946, 2843, 1785, 1657, 1457, 1390, 1205, 1132, 946, 732. ¹H NMR (400 **MHz, CDCl**₃): $\delta = 0.93$ (s, 3H, CCH₃), 1.11 (s, 3H, CCH₃), 1.33-1.42 (m, 1H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 1.63 (dd, J = 12.2, 8.8 Hz, 1H, <u>CH₂bridge</u>), 1.83-1.93 (m, 4H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂, CH_{bridge}, <u>CH₂bridge</sub>), 1.95 (d, J = 15.4 Hz, 1H, <u>CH₂cyclopentane</u>), 2.06-2.15 (m, 1H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 2.26 (d, J = 15.4 Hz, 1H, <u>CH₂cyclopentane</u>), 2.06-2.15 (m, 1H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 2.71 (d, J = 17.0 Hz, 1H, <u>CH₂CH₂CH₂), 3.53 (s, 3H, NCH₃), 2.99-3.07 (m, 1H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 3.29 (d, J = 11.3 Hz, 1H, C<u>CH₂N</u>), 3.53 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 5.24 (s, 1H, O<u>CH</u>OCH₃). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃): $\delta = 19.4$ (q, CCH₃), 22.2 (t, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 24.9 (q, CCH₃), 26.0 (q, NCH₃), 28.1 (t, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 28.4 (t, <u>CH₂bridge</u>), 35.5 (t, CH₂cyclopentane), 40.0 (t, <u>CH₂C=O</u>), 41.8 (s, <u>C</u>(CH₃)₂), 53.7 (t, N<u>CH₂CH₂CH₂), 28.4 (t, <u>CH₂bridge</sub>), 57.1 (q, OCH₃), 57.2 (s, C_{spiro}), 57.6 (t, C<u>CH₂N), 63.5 (s, C_{Pro}), 66.9 (s, C_{bridgehead}), 107.2 (d, O<u>C</u>HOCH₃), 173.5 (s, NC=O), 174.2 (s, OC=O).</u></u></u></u></u>



Scheme S2. Excerpt from ROESY spectra of compound 23a

(3'*R*,5a*R*,8a*R*,9a*R*)-Tetrahydro-1',8,8,11-tetramethylspiro[5*H*,6*H*-5a,9a-(iminomethano)-1*H*-cyclopenta[*f*]indolizine-7(8*H*),3'-pyrrolidine]-2',5',10-trione (*ent*-4)

(+)-ent-Asperparaline C



Compound **23a** (9.0 mg, 0.026 mmol) was dissolved in dry methanol (1 mL) and MeNH₂ solution (129 μ L, 0.26 mmol, 2M in MeOH) was added at r.t. under Ar. The reaction mixture was stirred for 3 h and evaporated. The residue was dissolved in dry CH₂Cl₂ (1 mL), PCC was added (0.08

mmol, 17 mg), and the mixture was stirred at r.t. for 1 h. The reaction mixture was filtered through a pad of Celite[®], which was thoroughly washed with CH_2Cl_2 . The filtrates were evaporated to dryness and the residue was purified first by column chromatography ($CH_2Cl_2/MeOH = 19/1$

gradient to 10/1) followed by passing through a pad of Amberlite IRN-78 eluting with MeOH to obtain 5.9 mg (66%) of *ent*-4 as colorless oil. $\mathbf{R}f = 0.4$ (CH₂Cl₂/MeOH = 10/1). $[\alpha]^{20}\mathbf{p} = +26.3$ (c 0.316, MeOH). Lit.^[4] $[\alpha]^{20}_{D} = -20$ (c 0.05, MeOH). **IR:** v (cm⁻¹) 2942, 1772, 1697, 1656, 1435, 1384, 1283, 1114, 696. **MS ESI+ m/z, (%)**: 713 (15, [2M+Na]⁺), 368 (65, [M+Na]⁺), 346 (100, $[M+H]^+$). HRMS ESI+ m/z, $([M+H]^+)$: calcd. for $C_{19}H_{28}O_3N_3 = 346.2125$, found: 346.2126. MS EI m/z, (%): 345 (M⁺, 8), 317 ([M–CO]⁺, 10), 302 ([M–CH₃–CO]⁺, 25), 286 ([M–CONHCH₃– H]⁺, 90), 285 (100), 273 ([M–CH₃–CH₃NCO]⁺, 221 (5), 163 (5), 149 (10), 133 (80). ¹H NMR (600 MHz, C₅D₅N): $\delta = 0.80$ (s, 3H, CCH₃), 1.01 (s, 3H, CCH₃), 1.39-1.47 (m, 1H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 1.59-1.62 (m, 1H, CH_{2bridge}), 1.65 (d, J = 15.5 Hz, 1H, CH_{2cyclopentane}), 1.65-1.71 (m, 1H, CH_{2 bridge}), 1.76-1.85 (m, 1H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 1.88-1.96 (m, 1H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 2.18-2.25 (m, 1H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 2.47 (d, J = 11.0 Hz, 1H, CCH₂N), 2.71 (d, J = 18.2 Hz, 1H, <u>CH</u>₂C=O), 2.78 (d, J = 15.5 Hz, 1H, <u>CH</u>_{2cyclopentane}), 2.78-2.85 (m, 1H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 2.92-2.96 (m, 1H, CH_{bridge}), 2.97 (s, 3H, N_{imide}CH₃), 2.97-3.04 (m, 1H, N<u>CH</u>₂CH₂CH₂), 3.09 (d, *J* = 18.2 Hz, 1H, CH₂C=O), 3.19 (s, 3H, NCH₃), 3.33 (d, J = 11.0 Hz, 1H, CCH₂N). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, C_5D_5N): $\delta = 19.7$ (q, CCH₃), 22.9 (t, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 23.6 (q, CCH₃), 24.6 (q, N_{imide}CH₃), 26.1 (q, NCH₃), 28.6 (t, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 29.4 (t, CH_{2bridge}), 38.5 (t, CH_{2succinimide}), 38.8 (t, CH_{2cyclopentane}), 44.6 (s, C(CH₃)₂), 53.8 (t, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 54.7 (d, CH_{bridge}), 58.3 (s, C_{spiro}), 58.8 (t, CCH₂N), 65.0 (s, C_{Pro}), 67.1 (s, C_{bridgehead}), 173.0 (s, NC=O), 175.8 (s, CH₂C=O_{imide}), 182.3 (s, CC=O_{imide}).

(3'S,5aR,8aR,9aR)-Tetrahydro-1',8,8,11-tetramethylspiro[5*H*,6*H*-5a,9a-(iminomethano)-1*H*-cyclopenta[*f*]indolizine-7(8*H*),3'-pyrrolidine]-2',5',10-trione (25)



Prepared according to the procedure for *ent*-**4** from **23b** (12.0 mg, 0.034 mmol). Purification by column chromatography (CH₂Cl₂/MeOH = 95/5 gradient to 10/1) followed by passing through a pad of Amberlite IRN-78 eluting with MeOH gave 9.1 mg (77%) of compound **25** as a colorless oil.

R*f* = 0.4 (CH₂Cl₂/MeOH = 10/1). [*α*]²⁰_D = + 1.5 (*c* 0.340, MeOH). **IR**: *ν* (cm⁻¹) 2933, 1773, 1699, 1655, 1434, 1381, 1320, 1278, 1153, 1106. **MS ESI+ m/z, (%)**: 346 (100, [M+H]⁺). **MS EI m/z, (%)**: 345 (M⁺, 5), 317 ([M–CO]⁺, 8), 302 ([M–HNCO]⁺, 15), 286 ([M–CONHCH₃–H]⁺, 100), 285 (98), 273 ([M–CH₃–CH₃NCO]⁺, 10), 221 (18), 163 (5), 149 (8), 133 (65). **HRMS ESI+** *m/z*, ([M+H]⁺): Calcd. for C₁₉H₂₈O₃N₃ = 346.2125, found: 346.2124. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, C₅D₅N): δ

= 0.85 (s, 3H, CCH₃), 1.16 (s, 3H, CCH₃), 1.40-1.47 (m, 1H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 1.61-1.72 (m, 2H, <u>CH₂bridge</u>), 1.75-1.84 (m, 1H, NCH₂<u>CH₂</u>CH₂), 1.86-1.93 (m, 1H, NCH₂<u>CH₂</u>CH₂), 1.96-2.03 (m, 1H, CH_{bridge}), 2.15-2.22 (m, 2H, <u>CH₂</u>C=O, N<u>CH₂</u>CH₂CH₂), 2.46 (d, J = 11.0 Hz, 1H, C<u>CH₂</u>N), 2.51 (d, J = 14.7 Hz, 1H, <u>CH₂</u>C=O), 2.70 (d, J = 17.4 Hz, 1H, <u>CH₂</u>cyclopentane), 2.77-2.83 (m, 1H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 2.89-3.02 (m, 1H, N<u>CH₂</u>CH₂CH₂), 3.01 (s, 6H, NCH₃, N_{imide}CH₃), 3.22 (d, J = 17.4 Hz, 1H, <u>CH₂</u>cyclopentane), 3.69 (d, J = 11.0 Hz, 1H, C<u>CH₂</u>N). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CsDsN): $\delta = 20.9$ (q, <u>CH₃</u>), 23.4 (t, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 24.6 (q, <u>CH₃</u>), 25.2 (q, N_{imide}CH₃), 26.4 (q, NCH₃), 29.0 (t, NCH₂CH₂<u>CH₂</u>), 29.3 (t, <u>CH₂bridge</sub>), 38.7 (t, CH₂succinimide</sub>), 42.9 (t, CH₂cyclopentane), 45.9 (s, <u>C</u>(CH₃)₂), 54.2 (t, N<u>C</u>H₂CH₂CH₂), 56.6 (d, CH_{bridge}), 58.1 (s, C_{spiro}), 58.2 (t, C<u>C</u>H₂N), 65.3 (s, C_{Pro}), 67.6 (s, C_{bridgehead}), 173.8 (s, NC=O), 176.0 (s, CH₂C=Oimide), 180.2 (s, C<u>C</u>=Oimide).</u>

Comparison of NMR data for isolated asperparaline C and synthesized *ent*-asperparaline C (*ent-*4) (numbering according to Hayashi *et al.*^[5])



Table S1. ¹H NMR data in C₅D₅N

Position	asperparaline C/ppm	ent-asperparaline (ent-4)/ppm
1	2.21 (1H, m)	2.22 (1H, m)
	3.00 (1H, m)	3.01 (1H,m)
2	1.80 (1H, m)	1.80 (1H, m)
	1.92 (1H, m)	1.92 (1H, m)
3	1.42 (1H, m)	1.42 (1H, m)
	2.81 (1H, m)	2.81 (1H, m)
5	1.60 (1H, dd, 12.5 Hz, 9.5 Hz)	1.60 (1H, m)
	1.76 (1H, dd, 12.5 Hz, 11.0 Hz)	1.69 (1H, m)
6	2.94 (1H, ddd, 11.0 Hz, 9.5 Hz, 1.5 Hz)	2.94 (1H, m)
8	2.47 (1H, dd, 11.0 Hz, 1.5 Hz)	2.47 (1H, d, 11.0 Hz)
	3.32 (1H, d, 11.0 Hz)	3.33 (1H, d, 11.0 Hz)
12	1.65 (1H, d, 15.0 Hz)	1.65 (1H, d, 15.5 Hz)
	2.78 (1H, d, 15.0 Hz)	2.78 (1H, d, 15.5 Hz)
16	1.00 (3H, s)	1.01 (3H, s)
17	0.80 (3H, s)	0.80 (3H, s)
18	2.70 (1H, d, 18.3 Hz)	2.71 (1H, d, 18.2 Hz)
	3.08 (1H, d, 18.3 Hz)	3.09 (1H, d, 18.2 Hz)
22	3.18 (3H, s)	3.19 (3H, s)
23	2.97 (3H, s)	2.97 (3H, s)

Position	asperparaline C/ppm	ent-asperparaline C (ent-4)/ppm
1	53.8 (t)	53.8 (t)
2	22.9 (t)	22.9 (t)
3	28.6 (t)	28.6 (t)
4	67.1 (s)	67.1 (s)
5	29.4 (t)	29.4 (t)
6	54.7 (d)	54.7 (d)
7	65.0 (s)	65.0 (s)
8	58.8 (t)	58.8 (t)
10	44.6 (s)	44.6 (s)
11	58.3 (s)	58.3 (s)
12	38.8 (t)	38.8 (t)
14	173.0 (s)	173.0 (s)
16	19.7 (q)	19.7 (q)
17	23.6 (q)	23.6 (q)
18	38.5 (t)	38.5 (t)
19	175.8 (s)	175.8 (s)
21	182.3 (s)	182.3 (s)
22	26.1 (q)	26.1 (q)
23	24.6 (q)	24.6 (q)

Table S2. ¹³C NMR data in C₅D₅N

X-ray crystallography

Single-crystal diffraction data of **6** were collected on an Xcalibur X-ray diffractometer with $Cu_{K\alpha}$ ($\lambda = 1.54180$ Å) at 180 K. CrysAlisProCCD^[6] was used for data collection, cell refinement and data reduction. The structure was solved by direct methods with SIR92^[7] and refined by full-matrix least-squares on F with CRYSTALS.^[8] The hydrogen atoms were located on a difference Fourier map; they were recalculated into idealized positions and refined with riding constraints. All non-hydrogen atoms were refined with anisotropic displacement parameters.

Crystal data for compound 6 (dimension 0.09 x 0.26 x 0.42 mm):

C₁₉H₂₄N₂O₄, orthorhombic, space group $P2_12_12_1$, a = 8.2195(2) Å, b = 11.0955(3) Å, c = 18.8126(5) Å, V = 1715.70(8) Å³, Z = 4, M = 344.41, 27100 reflections measured, 3244 independent reflections. Final R = 0.025, wR = 0.027, GoF = 1.073 for 3196 reflections with $I > 2\sigma(I)$ and 228 parameters, Flack parameter x = 0.09(13). The structure has been deposited at the Cambridge Crystallographic Database under the number CCDC 1875571.



Figure S1: ORTEP^[9] view of 6, displacement ellipsoids shown at 50 % probability level.

References

- [1] P. W. R. Harris, M. A. Brimble, V. J. Muir, M. Y. H. Lai, N. S. Trotter, D. J. Callis, *Tetrahedron* 2005, **61**, 10018-10035.
- [2] T. Amatov, R. Pohl, I. Cisařová, U. Jahn, Org.Lett. 2017, 19, 1152-1155.
- [3] V. K. Aggarwal, J.-L. Vasse, Org. Lett. 2003, 5, 3987-3990.
- [4] W. H. Miles, D. G. Duca, B. R. Selfridge, C. A. P. De Sousa, K. B. Hamman, E. O. Goodzeit, J. T. Freedman, *Tetrahedron Lett.* 2007, 48, 7809–7812.
- [5] H. Hayashi, Y. Nishimoto, K. Akiyama, H. Nozaki, *Biosci. Biotechnol. Biochem.* 2000, 64, 111-115.
- [6] CrysAlisPro, Oxford Diffraction, 2002.
- [7] A. Altomare, G. Cascarano, G. Giacovazzo, A. Guagliardi, M. C. Burla, G. Polidori, M. Camalli, *J. Appl. Cryst.* 1994, 27, 435-436.
- [8] P. W. Betteridge, J. R. Carruthers, R. I. Cooper, K. Prout, D. J. Watkin, *J. Appl. Cryst.* 2003, 36, 1487-1487.
- [9] L. J. Farrugia, J. Appl. Cryst. 2012, 45, 849-854.

Copies of ¹H NMR and ¹³C NMR spectra

(*3R*,7a*S*)-7a-(3-Methylbut-2-en-1-yl)-3-(trichloromethyl)tetrahydropyrrolo[1,2-c]oxazol-1(*3H*)-one (9)







(*R*)-*N*-(4-methoxybenzyl)-2-(3-methylbut-2-en-1-yl)pyrrolidine-2-carboxamide (S2)



(*R*)-2-(4-Methoxybenzyl)-8a-(3-methylbut-2-en-1-yl)hexahydropyrrolo[1,2-a]pyrazine-1,4-dione (S4)



77,28 77,28 77,28 77,28 77,28 77,28 77,28 77,28 77,28 77,28 74,44 74,449
74,449 74,449 74,449
74,449 74,449 74,449
74,449 74,449 74,449
74,449 74,449
74,449 74,449
74,449 74,449
74,449 74,449
74,449 74,449
74,449 74,449
74,449 74,449
74,449 74,449
74,449 74,449
74,449 74,449
74,449 74,449
74,449 74,449
74,449 74,449
74,449 74,449
74,449 74,449
74,449 74,449
74,449 74,449
74,449 74,449
74,449 74,449
7 (3*S*,8a*R*)-3-(Furan-3-ylmethyl)-2-(4-methoxybenzyl)-8a-(3-methylbut-2-en-1yl)hexahydropyrrolo[1,2-a]pyrazine-1,4-dione (S5)



(R)-2-(2-(Furan-3-yl)-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)ethyl)-8a-(3-methylbut-2-





(6*R*,7*R*,8a*R*)-6-(Furan-3-ylmethyl)-10-(4-methoxybenzyl)-7-(prop-1-en-2-yl)tetrahydro-1*H*-6,8a-(epiminomethano)indolizine-5,9(6*H*)-dione (S7)







(R)-Methyl 2-(3-methylbut-2-en-1-yl)pyrrolidine-2-carboxylate (11)





(*R*)-2-(Methoxymethyl)-8a-(3-methylbut-2-en-1-yl)hexahydropyrrolo[1,2-a]pyrazine-1,4dione (17)



(3*S*,8a*R*)-3-(Furan-3-ylmethyl)-2-(methoxymethyl)-8a-(3-methylbut-2-en-1yl)hexahydropyrrolo[1,2-a]pyrazine-1,4-dione (7)



(6*R*,7*R*,8a*R*)-6-(Furan-3-ylmethyl)-10-(methoxymethyl)-7-(prop-1-en-2-yl)tetrahydro-1*H*-6,8a-(epiminomethano)indolizine-5,9(6*H*)-dione (6)



(6*R*,7*R*,8a*R*)-6-(Furan-3-ylmethyl)-7-(prop-1-en-2-yl)tetrahydro-1*H*-6,8a-(epiminomethano)indolizine-5,9(6*H*)-dione (19)



(6*R*,7*R*,8a*R*)-6-(Furan-3-ylmethyl)-7-(prop-1-en-2-yl)hexahydro-1*H*-6,8a-(epiminomethano)indolizin-9-one (20)



(6*R*,7*R*,8a*R*)-6-(Furan-3-ylmethyl)-10-methyl-7-(prop-1-en-2-yl)hexahydro-1*H*-6,8a-(epiminomethano)indolizin-9-one (21)



(6*R*,7*R*,8a*R*)-6-((2-Hydroxy-5-oxo-2,5-dihydrofuran-3-yl)methyl)-10-methyl-7-(prop-1-en-2-yl)hexahydro-1*H*-6,8a-(epiminomethano)indolizin-9-one (5)



(6*R*,7*R*,8a*R*)-6-((2-Methoxy-5-oxo-2,5-dihydrofuran-3-yl)methyl)-10-methyl-7-(prop-1-en-2-yl)hexahydro-1*H*-6,8a-(epiminomethano)indolizin-9-one (22)











(3'S,5aR,8aR,9aR)-Tetrahydro-1',8,8,11-tetramethylspiro[5H,6H-5a,9a-(iminomethano)-1H-cyclopenta[f]indolizine-7(8H),3'-pyrrolidine]-2',5',10-trione (25)

