Supplementary Material for

'Reverse Biomimetic' Synthesis of L-Arogenate and its Stabilized Analogues from L-Tyrosine

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1. General Information

Unless stated, all reagents and chemicals were bought from commercial suppliers and used without further purification.

When anhydrous conditions were necessary, reactions were carried out under nitrogen in flame-dried glassware using standard Schlenk syringe-septa techniques.

Anhydrous dichloromethane, THF, MeCN and toluene were dried by passing through a modified Grubbs system of alumina columns, manufactured by Anhydrous Engineering. Petrol Ether indicates fractions of petroleum ether boiling at 40-60 °C.

Thin layer chromatography (TLC) was performed with aluminium backed silica TLC plates (Merck-Keiselgel 60 F254) with a suitable solvent system. Visualisation was *via* UV light (at 254 nm) or by staining with potassium permanganate solution or 'Seebach' dip and heat.

Flash column chromatography was performed on a Biotage Isolera[™] four system using 10, 25, 50 or 100 g silica or C18 Biotage[®] SNAP columns and a variable 200-400 nm wavelength detector scanning all wavelengths.

Preparative HPLC purification was performed with a Waters AutoPurification System with a Waters System Fluidics Organizer, a Waters 2545 Binary Gradient Module, a Waters 2767 Sample Manager and a Waters 2998 Photodiode Array Detector on a Hypercarb[™] column.

Infrared spectra were recorded on a Perkin Elmer Spectrum (Spectrum One) FT-IR with an ATR accessory and frequencies are reported in wavenumbers (cm⁻¹).

¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded in CDCl₃ solutions (unless otherwise stated) on Jeol-ECS 400, Varian 400/500, Bruker 400 and Bruker 500 (cryo-enhanced ¹³C probe) spectrometers at ambient temperature, and were referenced to the residual deuterated solvent peak for CDCl₃ (7.26 ppm for 1H and 77.16 ppm for 13C) or D₂O (4.79 ppm for 1H). Chemical shifts (δ) are reported in parts per million (ppm) and coupling constants (*J*) in hertz (Hz). Multiplicities are denoted as singlet (s), doublet (d), triplet (t), quartet (q) or multiplet (m). COSY, HMBC and HSQC NMR spectra were routinely used to definitively assign the signals of ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra. Electrospray (ESI) mass spectra were recorded on a Bruker Daltronics MicrOTOF 2 mass spectrometer. Nanospray mass spectra were recorded on a UHPLC-MS (Dionex RS3000 LC system).

Melting points were measured on a Stuart Scientific melting point SMP 10 apparatus and are uncorrected.

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Optical rotations ($[\alpha]^D$) were measured on a Bellingham and Stanley Ltd. ADP220 polarimeter where c is given in g/100 mL.

Suitable X-ray crystallography samples were grown by slow diffusion technique.

2. Experimental

2.1 Synthesis of arogenate



(S)-2-amino-3-(4-(benzyloxy)phenyl)-N-methylpropanamide (3)

To a solution of *O*-Benzyl-L-tyrosine methyl ester hydrochloride (5 g, 15.5 mmol) in EtOH (31 mL), methylamine (33 % wt. in EtOH)(27 mL, 217.6 mmol) was added. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2 days. The solution was concentrated *in vacuo*, redissolved in dichloromethane (80 mL) and washed with a saturated aqueous solution of NaHCO₃ (50 mL). The aqueous phase was extracted with dichloromethane (3 x 30 mL). The combined organics were washed with brine (30 mL), dried over MgSO₄ and concentrated in *vacuo* to yield **3** (4.06 g, 92 %) as a white powder.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.46 – 7.27 (m, 5H, H_{11,12,13}), 7.12 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H, H₆), 6.92 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H, H₇), 5.04 (s, 2H, H₉), 3.55 (dd, *J* = 9.3, 4.0 Hz, 1H, H₃), 3.19 (dd, *J* = 13.9, 4.0 Hz, 1H, H₄), 2.80 (d, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 3H, H₁), 2.63 (dd, *J* = 13.9, 9.3 Hz, 1H, H₄) ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 174.86 (C₂), 157.74 (C₈), 137.01 (C₁₀), 130.28 (C₆), 130.21 (C₅), 128.59 (C₁₂), 127.97 (C₁₃), 127.45 (C₁₁), 115.07 (C₇), 70.06 (C₉), 56.57 (C₃), 40.19 (C₄), 25.81 (C₁) HRMS-ESI (*m*/*z*) [M+H]⁺ calc. for C₁₇H₂₁N₂O₂ 285.1597, found 285.1584 **R**_f - 0.13 in 2% MeOH in EtOAc **mp** 123-125 °C

20

[α] *D* = -60

Data in agreement with reported values¹

(S,E)-2-(benzylideneamino)-3-(4-(benzyloxy)phenyl)-N-methylpropanamide (4)

To a solution of **3** (4.06 g, 14.3 mmol) in dichloromethane (14 mL), $MgSO_4$ (4 g, 100% wt.) and pivaldehyde (1.87 mL, 17.2 mmol) was added. The mixture was stirred at room temperature overnight. The solution was filtered and washed with dichloromethane (10 mL). The filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo* to yield **4** (4.62 g, 99 %) as a white powder.

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.45 – 7.29 (m, 5H, H_{11,12,13}), 6.98 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H, H₆), 6.88 – 6.83 (m, 3H, H₁₄, H₇), 5.04 (s, 2H, H₉), 3.65 (dd, *J* = 10.4, 3.1 Hz, 1H, H₃), 3.28 (dd, *J* = 13.5, 3.1 Hz, 1H, H₄), 2.86 (d, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 3H, H₁), 2.69 (dd, *J* = 13.5, 10.4 Hz, 1H, H₄), 0.89 (s, 9H, H₁₆) ¹³**C NMR** (100 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 174.24 (C₁₄), 173.44 (C₂), 157.31 (C₈), 137.07 (C₁₀), 131.01 (C₆), 130.00 (C₅), 128.52 (C₁₂), 127.85 (C₁₃), 127.32 (C₁₁), 114.58 (C₇), 74.49 (C₃), 69.95 (C₉), 40.06 (C₄), 36.21 (C₁₅), 26.63 (C₁₆),

25.86 (C₁)

HRMS-ESI (*m*/*z*) [M+H]⁺ calc. for C₂₂H₂₉N₂O₂ 353.2224, found 353.2225

IR vmax – 3370, 3349, 2892 (C-H), 1636 (C=O)

Data in agreement with reported values¹



(2S,5S)-5-(4-(benzyloxy)benzyl)-2-(tert-butyl)-3-methyl-4-oxoimidazolidine-1-carbonyl chloride (5)

To a solution of **4** (3.1 g, 9.45 mmol) in THF (19 mL), phosgene (10.15 mL, 15%, 14.2 mmol) was added. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2 hours. Pyridine (1.5 mL, 18.9 mmol) was then added and the mixture stirred for a further 1 hour. The solution was concentrated *in vacuo* and redissolved in dichloromethane (30 mL). The organic phase was washed with HCl (1M, 50 mL) and extracted with dichloromethane (3 x 30 mL). The combined organics were washed with brine (20 mL), dried over MgSO₄ and concentrated in *vacuo*. Purification was carried out by trituration using diethyl ether to yield **5** (2.85 g, 72 %) as a pale-yellow powder.

NMR reported as a rotameric mixture

¹**H NMR** (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.45 – 7.36 (m, 5H, H_{11,12,13}), 7.09 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H, H₆), 6.86 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2H, H₇), 5.03 (s, 2H, H₉), 4.73 (s, 0.55H, H₁₄), 4.62 (s, 0.45H, H₁₄), 4.42 (s, 0.55H, H₃), 4.39 (s, 0.45H, H₃), 3.80 (d, *J* = 14.6 Hz, 0.45H, H₄), 3.69 (d, *J* = 14.6 Hz, 0.55H, H₄), 3.29 (d, *J* = 14.5 Hz, 0.45H, H₄), 3.21 (d, *J* = 14.5 Hz, 0.55H, H₄) 2.87 (s, 1.65H, H₁), 2.73 (s, 1.35H, H₁), 1.01 (s, 4.65H, H₁₆), 0.94 (s, 4.35H, H₁₆)

¹³**C NMR** (125 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 169.82 (C₂), 169.32 (C₂), 158.07 (C₈), 157.88 (C₈), 147.30 (C₁₇), 146.06 (C₁₇), 136.97 (C₁₀), 136.89 (C₁₀), 131.21 (C₆), 131.05 (C₆), 128.55 (C₁₂), 127.96 (C₁₃), 127.56 (C₁₁), 126.50 (C₅), 126.10

(C₅), 114.75 (C₇), 114.58 (C₇), 83.40 (C₁₄), 82.79 (C₁₄), 69.92 (C₉), 63.71 (C₃), 62.79 (C₃), 41.71 (C₁₅), 41.57 (C₁₅), 35.77 (C₄), 32.05 (C₁), 31.93 (C₄), 26.70 (C₁₆), 26.44 (C₁₆) **HRMS-ESI** (m/z) [M+H]⁺ calc. for C₂₃H₂₈ClN₂O₃ 415.1783, found 415.1782 **IR** vmax – 2965 (C-H), 1710 (C=O) **R**_f - 0.36 in 100% dichloromethane Data in agreement with reported values¹



(2S,5S)-2-(tert-butyl)-5-(4-hydroxybenzyl)-3-methyl-4-oxoimidazolidine-1-carbonyl chloride (6)

To a solution of **5** (1.25 g, 3.02 mmol) in THF (30 mL) under N₂, palladium on active carbon (10 wt. %) (250 mg, 20 % wt.) was added. The mixture was then stirred at room temperature for 4 hours under hydrogen atmosphere. The reaction mixture was filtered over a pad of celite and concentrated in *vacuo* to yield **6** (978 mg, 95 %) as a white powder.

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 7.04 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H, H₆), 6.72 (m, 2H, H₇), 4.75 (s, 0.53H, H₉), 4.64 (s, 0.47H, H₉), 4.40 (d, J = 11.9 Hz, 1H, H₃), 3.81 (d, J = 14.6 Hz, 0.47H, H₄), 3.68 (d, J = 14.6 Hz, 0.53H, H₄), 3.29 (d, J = 14.6 Hz, 0.47H, H₄), 3.20 (d, J = 14.6 Hz, 0.53H, H₄), 2.89 (s, 1.61H, H₁), 2.76 (s, 1.38H, H₁), 1.01 (s, 4.82H, H₁₁), 0.94 (s, 4.18H, H₁₁).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 170.13 (C₂), 169.61 (C₂), 155.33 (C₈), 154.99 (C₈), 147.56 (C₁₂), 146.23 (C₁₂), 131.50 (C₆), 131.33 (C₆), 126.23 (C₅), 125.79 (C₅), 115.47 (C₇), 115.28 (C₇), 83.62 (C₉), 83.02 (C₉), 63.88 (C₃), 62.99 (C₃), 41.84 (C₁₀), 41.70 (C₁₀), 35.84 (C₄), 32.23 (C₁), 32.00 (C₄), 26.83 (C₁₁), 26.56 (C₁₁).

HRMS-ESI (*m/z*) [M+H]⁺ calc. for C₁₆H₂₂ClN₂O₃ 325.1313, found 325.1311

IR vmax - 3375 (O-H), 2924 (C-H), 1742, 1694 (C=O)

R_f - 0.63 in 100% EtOAc

mp 150-151 °C

20

[α] *D* = -28

Table 1 Crystal data and structure refinement for 6.

CCDC deposition number	2070018
Empirical formula	C ₁₆ H ₂₁ ClN ₂ O ₃
Formula weight	324.80
Temperature/K	100(2)
Crystal system	orthorhombic
Space group	P2 ₁ 2 ₁ 2 ₁
a/Å	10.8233(2)
b/Å	11.9161(3)
c/Å	12.3076(3)
α/°	90
	90
β/°	
γ/°	90
Volume/Å ³	1587.33(6)
Z	4
$\rho_{calc}g/cm^3$	1.359
µ/mm⁻¹	0.255
F(000)	688.0
Crystal size/mm ³	0.426 × 0.396 × 0.166
Radiation	ΜοΚα (λ = 0.71073)
20 range for data collection/°	4.758 to 55.812
Index ranges	-8 ≤ h ≤ 14, -15 ≤ k ≤ 15, -16 ≤ l ≤ 16
Reflections collected	14647
Independent reflections	3800 [R _{int} = 0.0395, R _{sigma} = 0.0362]
Data/restraints/parameters	3800/0/207
Goodness-of-fit on F ²	1.023
Final R indexes [I>=2σ (I)]	$R_1 = 0.0298$, $wR_2 = 0.0669$
Final R indexes [all data]	$R_1 = 0.0347$, $wR_2 = 0.0691$
Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å ⁻³	0.22/-0.21
Flack parameter	0.01(3)



(7a'S)-3'-(*tert*-butyl)-2'-methyl-2',3',7',7a'-tetrahydro-1'H,5'H-spiro[cyclohexane-1,6'-pyrrolo[1,2-c]imidazole]-2,5-diene-1',4,5'-trione (7)

To a solution of **6** (5.2 g, 15.2 mmol) in MeCN (24 mL), triethylamine (2.7 mL, 19.1 mmol) was added. The mixture was then heated under microwave irradiation at 150 °C for 10 minutes. The reaction mixture was concentrated *in vacuo*, redissolved in dichloromethane (40 mL) and washed with water (20 mL). The aqueous phase was extracted with dichloromethane (3 x 30 mL). The combined organics were washed with brine (30 mL), dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated *in vacuo* to yield **7** (4.37 g, Quant.) as a yellow powder.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 6.92 (dd, *J* = 10.1, 3.0 Hz, 1H, H₆), 6.71 (dd, *J* = 10.1, 3.0 Hz, 1H, H₆), 6.47 (dd, *J* = 10.1, 1.8 Hz, 1H, H₇), 6.40 (dd, *J* = 10.1, 1.8 Hz, 1H, H₇), 4.85 (d, *J* = 1.1 Hz, 1H, H₁), 4.45 (t, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H, H₃), 3.03 (s, 3H, H₁₂), 2.61 (dd, *J* = 13.3, 7.4 Hz, 1H, H₄), 2.46 (dd, *J* = 13.3, 9.0 Hz, 1H, H₄), 1.04 (s, 9H, H₁₁) ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 184.63 (C₈), 173.86 (C₂), 171.32 (C₉), 146.11 (C₆), 143.51 (C₆), 132.24 (C₇), 130.86 (C₇), 81.87 (C₁), 56.85 (C₃), 53.89 (C₅), 38.35 (C₁₀), 37.29 (C₄), 31.44 (C₁₂), 25.77 (C₁₁) HRMS-ESI (*m*/*z*) [M+Na]⁺ calc. for C₁₆H₂₁N₂NaO₃ 311.1366, found 311.1365 IR vmax – 2966 (C–H), 1698 (C=O) **R**_f - 0.31 in 100% EtOAc **mp** 193-195 °C 26 [**α**] D = 8 ° (*c* = 1 in CHCl₃)



(7a'*S*)-3'-(*tert*-butyl)-4-hydroxy-2'-methyl-2',3',7',7a'-tetrahydro-1'H,5'H-spiro[cyclohexane-1,6'-pyrrolo[1,2c]imidazole]-2,5-diene-1',5'-dione (8)

To a solution of **7** (480 mg, 1.67 mmol) in dry methanol (17 mL) under N₂, cerium(III) chloride heptahydrate (95 mg, 2.5 mmol) was added and stirred for 15 minutes at room temperature. The reaction mixture was then cooled to -78 °C and sodium borohydride (930 mg, 2.5 mmol) was added. The resultant mixture was left to stir for a further 30 minutes and then quenched with water (10 mL). The mixture was then diluted with EtOAc (50 mL) and washed with water (30 mL). The aqueous phase was extracted with EtOAc (3 x 30 mL) and brine (30 mL). The organic phase was dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated *in vacuo*. Purification was carried out by column chromatography on silica gel eluting with 0-10% MeOH in dichloromethane to yield **8** (463 mg, 95 %, d.r. = 3.1:1) as white powders.

<u>Major - 8a</u>

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 6.23 (ddd, J = 9.9, 3.9, 1.7 Hz, 1H, H₆), 6.14 (ddd, J = 9.9, 3.9, 1.7 Hz, 1H, H₆), 5.95 (ddd, J = 9.9, 2.3, 1.0 Hz, 1H, H₇), 5.66 (ddd, J = 9.9, 2.3, 1.1 Hz, 1H, H₇), 4.80 (d, J = 1.1 Hz, 1H, H₁), 4.48 (dtt, J = 11.0, 3.9, 1.1 Hz, 1H, H₈), 4.41 – 4.32 (m, 1H, H₃), 3.00 (s, 3H, H₁₂), 2.49 (dd, J = 13.2, 7.7 Hz, 1H, H₄), 2.16 (dd, J = 13.2, 8.7 Hz, 1H, H₄), 1.03 (s, 9H, H₁₁)

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 177.84 (C₂), 172.27 (C₉), 131.56 (C₆), 130.72 (C₆), 129.74 (C₇), 128.50 (C₇), 81.82 (C₁), 61.45 (C₈), 56.78 (C₃), 50.62 (C₅), 38.90 (C₄), 38.38 (C₁₀), 31.37 (C₁₂), 25.85 (C₁₁) HRMS-ESI (m/z) [M+Na]⁺ calc. for C₁₆H₂₂N₂NaO₃ 313.1522, found 313.1521 IR vmax – 3392 (O-H), 3029, 2964, 2871 (C-H), 1695 (C=O)

R_f - 0.23 in 5% MeOH in dichloromethane

mp 58-59 °C

26 [**\alpha**] D = -4 ° (c = 1 in CHCl₃)

<u>Minor – 8b</u>

¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 6.19 (ddd, *J* = 9.9, 3.1, 2.0 Hz, 1H, H₆), 6.07 (ddd, *J* = 9.9, 3.1, 2.0 Hz, 1H, H₆), 5.92 (dt, *J* = 9.9, 2.0 Hz, 1H, H₇), 5.63 (dt, *J* = 9.9, 2.0 Hz, 1H, H₇), 4.82 (d, *J* = 1.2 Hz, 1H, H₁), 4.71 (dtt, *J* = 8.9, 3.2, 1.7 Hz, 1H, H₈), 4.38 (t, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H, H₃), 3.03 (d, *J* = 0.6 Hz, 3H, H₁₂), 2.51 (dd, *J* = 13.2, 7.5 Hz, 1H, H₄), 2.23 (dd, *J* = 13.2, 8.9 Hz, 1H, H₄), 1.04 (s, 9H, H₁₁) **HRMS-ESI** (*m*/*z*) [M+Na]⁺ calc. for C₁₆H₂₂N₂NaO₃ 313.1522, found 313.1522 **IR** vmax – 3335 (O-H), 2922, 2851 (C-H), 1692 (C=O) **R**_f - 0.15 in 5% MeOH in dichloromethane **mp** >220 °C decomposition 26

 $[\alpha]^{D} = 8^{\circ} (c = 1 \text{ in CHCl}_{3})$



Crystal system	monoclinic
Space group	P2 ₁
a/Å	5.7583(3)
b/Å	13.5711(6)
c/Å	9.6541(5)
α/°	90
β/°	95.964(3)
γ/°	90
Volume/Å ³	750.35(6)
Z	2
$\rho_{calc}g/cm^3$	1.285
µ/mm ⁻¹	0.089
F(000)	312.0
Crystal size/mm ³	0.534 × 0.23 × 0.136
Radiation	ΜοΚα (λ = 0.71073)
20 range for data collection/°	4.242 to 55.984
Index ranges	-7 ≤ h ≤ 7, -17 ≤ k ≤ 15, -12 ≤ l ≤ 12
Reflections collected	10338
Independent reflections	3447 [R _{int} = 0.0447, R _{sigma} = 0.0519]
Data/restraints/parameters	3447/1/198
Goodness-of-fit on F ²	1.025
Final R indexes [I>=2σ (I)]	$R_1 = 0.0411$, $wR_2 = 0.0824$
Final R indexes [all data]	$R_1 = 0.0519$, w $R_2 = 0.0867$
Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å ⁻³	0.23/-0.21
Flack parameter	-0.6(7)



(35,5r,85)-8-hydroxy-1-oxo-2-azaspiro[4.5]deca-6,9-diene-3-carboxylic acid/Spiroarogenate (9)

To a solution of **8a** (120 mg, 0.41 mmol) in water (2 mL), barium hydroxide was added (213 mg, 1.24 mmol). The mixture was stirred at 30 °C overnight, then sodium carbonate anhydrous (263 mg, 2.48 mmol) and water (5 mL) were added. The resulting barium carbonate salt was separated by filtration and the aqueous layer was washed with dichloromethane (15 mL). The aqueous phase was then neutralised (approx. pH = 8) and lyophilized. The mixture was redissolved in ethanol and filtered to remove excess salt. The product was purified by Hypercarb HPLC with a gradient of 0-100% acetonitrile in 100 mM ammonium bicarbonate buffer to yield **9** (21 mg, 27 %) as a white powder.

¹**H NMR** (600 MHz, Deuterium Oxide) δ 6.12 – 6.06 (m, 2H, H₇), 5.90 (dt, J = 10.1, 2.0 Hz, 1H, H₆), 5.84 (dt, J = 10.1, 2.0 Hz, 1H, H₆), 4.59 (tt, J = 3.4, 1.5 Hz, 1H, H₈), 4.27 (dd, J = 8.7, 6.3 Hz, 1H, H₃), 2.55 (dd, J = 13.3, 8.7 Hz, 1H, H₄), 2.15 (dd, J = 13.3, 6.3 Hz, 1H, H₄).

¹³**C NMR** (600 MHz, Deuterium Oxide) δ 180.49 (C₁), 180.16 (Br, C₂), 129.97 (C₆), 129.92 (C₇), 129.85 (C₇), 129.37 (C₆), 61.32 (C₈), 55.83 (Br, C₃) 48.54 (C₅), 40.26 (C₄)

HRMS-Nanospray (*m*/*z*) [M-H]⁻ calc. for C₁₁H₁₄NO₅, 208.0610; found 208.0612

CD spectra – Positive Cotton effect below 230 nm

23 [a] $D = -40^{\circ}$ (c = 0.1 in H₂O)



(1s,4R)-1-((S)-2-amino-2-carboxyethyl)-4-hydroxycyclohexa-2,5-diene-1-carboxylic acid/Arogenate (1)

To a solution of **8a** (32.2 mg, 0.11 mmol) in water (0.52 mL), barium hydroxide (52 mg, 0.32 mmol) and barium carbonate (20 mg, 0.11 mmol) were added. The mixture was stirred at 80 °C for 5 hours, then sodium carbonate anhydrous (70 mg, 0.63 mmol) and water (5 mL) were added. The resulting barium carbonate salt was filtered through a Whatman 0.45 μ m Nylon syringe filter. The aqueous phase was lyophilized. The solid was redissolved in water (3 mL), filtered through a Millipore Millex-HN 0.45 μ m Nylon syringe filter and purified by Hypercarb HPLC with a gradient of 0-80% acetonitrile in 10 mM sodium carbonate-bicarbonate buffer (pH 9.2) to yield **1** as the disodium salt (41 % by quantitative NMR using a stock solution of EtOH) as a white powder.

¹**H NMR** (500 MHz, Deuterium Oxide) δ 5.93 – 5.86 (m, 3H, H_{6&7}), 5.82 – 5.76 (m, 1H, H_{6&7}), 4.47 (d, *J* = 3.6 Hz, 1H, H₈), 3.66 (dd, *J* = 10.5, 3.0 Hz, 1H, H₃), 1.98 (dd, *J* = 14.3, 3.0 Hz, 1H, H₄), 1.89 (dd, *J* = 14.3, 10.5 Hz, 1H, H₄). ¹³C NMR (126 MHz, Deuterium Oxide) δ 188.13 (C₁), 186.94 (C₂), 168.88 (Na₂CO₃), 138.06 (C₇), 137.81 (C₆), 133.68 (C₆), 132.19 (C₇), 67.36 (C₈), 60.57 (C₃), 56.12 (C₅), 46.94 (C₄). **CD spectra** – Positive Cotton effect below 230 nm

HRMS-Nanospray (*m*/*z*) [M-H]⁻ calc. for C₁₀H₁₂NO₅, 226.0715; found 226.0717

23 [**a**] $D = -8 \circ (c = 0.5 \text{ in } H_2O)$

2.2. Arogenate derivatives

2.2.1. 3-Methyl Arogenate



(S)-2-((tert-butoxycarbonyl)amino)-3-(4-hydroxy-3-iodophenyl)propanoic acid (21)

To a solution of 3-iodo-L-tyrosine (5 g, 16.3 mmol) in dioxane:water (80 mL, 1:1) sodium hydrogen carbonate (4.1 g, 48.9 mmol) was added portionwise. To this mixture boc anhydride (4.3 g, 19.6 mmol) was added and stirred at room temperature overnight. The resulting mixture was concentrated *in vacuo* to approx. 40 mL and the residue was acidified with 2M HCl to pH 2. The aqueous was then extracted with ethyl acetate (3 x 50 mL) and the organics was washed with brine (30 mL), dried over MgSO₄, and concentrated *in vacuo* to yield **21** (6.63 g, quant.) as a white powder.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 7.48 (s, 1H, H₁₀), 7.06 (dd, J = 8.3, 2.1 Hz, 1H, H₆), 6.91 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H, H₇), 4.95 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H, N-H), 4.53 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H, H₃), 3.19 – 2.91 (m, 2H, H₄), 1.44 (s, 9H, H₁₂) ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 175.41 (C₂), 155.57 (C₁), 154.21 (C₈), 139.08 (C₁₀), 131.27 (C₆), 130.10 (C₅), 115.26 (C₇), 85.82 (C₉), 80.78 (C₁₁), 54.49 (C₃), 36.50 (C₄), 28.45 (C₁₂) IR vmax – 3326 (O-H), 2928 (C-H), 1715, 1684 (C=O) Data in agreement with reported values²



benzyl (S)-3-(4-(benzyloxy)-3-iodophenyl)-2-((tert-butoxycarbonyl)amino)propanoate (S1)

To a solution of **21** (6.3 g, 16.3 mmol) in DMF (65 mL), potassium carbonate (5.6 g, 40.75 mmol), benzyl bromide (4.85 mL, 40.75 mmol), and tetraethylammonium iodide (523 mg, 2.04 mmol) was added. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature overnight. The resultant mixture was diluted with ether (150 mL) and washed with water (50 mL). The aqueous phase was extracted with ether (3 x 50 mL) and the combined organics were washed with 1M HCl (50 mL) and brine (30 mL), dried over MgSO₄, and concentrated *in vacuo*. Purification was carried out by column chromatography on silica gel eluting with a gradient of 0-50% ethyl acetate in hexane to yield **S1** (8.89 g, 92 %) as a white powder.

¹**H NMR** (500 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 7.55 (s, 1H, H₁₀), 7.49 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H, H₁₅), 7.42 – 7.29 (m, 8H, H_{16,17,20,21,22}), 6.93 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H, H₆), 6.68 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H, H₇), 5.20 – 5.07 (m, 4H, H_{13,18}), 5.00 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H, NH), 4.57 (q, J = 6.5 Hz, 1H, H₃), 2.99 (qd, J = 13.9, 6.1 Hz, 2H, H₄), 1.43 (s, 9H, H₁₂)

¹³**C** NMR (125 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 171.64 (C₂), 156.47 (C₈), 155.12 (C₁), 140.42 (C₁₀), 136.63 (C₁₄), 135.19 (C₁₉), 130.57 (C₆), 130.38 (C₅), 128.78 (C₁₆), 128.70 (C_{20,21}), 128.66 (C₁₇), 128.03 (C₂₂), 127.09 (C₁₅), 112.63 (C₇), 86.89 (C₉), 80.19 (C₁₁), 71.03 (C₁₈), 67.37 (C₁₃), 54.63 (C₃), 37.06 (C₄), 28.46 (C₁₂) HRMS-ESI (*m/z*) [M+Na⁺] calc. for C₂₈H₃₀INO₅Na, 610.1061; found 610.1053 IR vmax – 3363 (N-H), 2975, 2931 (C–H), 1740, 1711 (C=O) R_f - 0.54 in 25% EtOAc in Hexane

Data in agreement with reported values³



tert-butyl (*S*)-(3-(4-(benzyloxy)-3-iodophenyl)-1-(methylamino)-1-oxopropan-2-yl)carbamate (S2)

To a solution of **S1** (8.7 g, 14.8 mmol) in EtOH (30 mL), methylamine (33 % wt. in EtOH)(12.9 mL, 103.6 mmol) was added. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2 days. The solution was concentrated *in vacuo*, redissolved in dichloromethane (80 mL) and washed with a saturated aqueous solution of NaHCO₃ (50 mL). The aqueous phase was extracted with dichloromethane (3 x 30 mL). The combined organics were washed with brine (30 mL), dried over MgSO₄ and concentrated in *vacuo* to yield **S2** (7.75 g, Quant.) as a white powder.

¹**H NMR** (500 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 7.63 (d, J = 2.2 Hz, 1H, H₁₀), 7.51 – 7.44 (m, 2H, H₁₅), 7.39 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H, H₁₆), 7.32 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H, H₁₇), 7.10 (dd, J = 8.4, 2.2 Hz, 1H, H₆), 6.77 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H, H₇), 5.78 (s, 1H, N-H), 5.12 (s, 2H, H₁₃), 5.07 – 4.96 (m, 1H, N-H), 4.21 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H, H₃), 2.95 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H, H₄), 2.74 (d, J = 4.8 Hz, 3H, H₁₈), 1.41 (s, 9H, H₁₂)

¹³C NMR (125 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 171.63 (C₁), 156.38 (C₂), 155.50 (C₈), 140.29 (C₁₀), 136.57 (C₁₄), 131.45 (C₅),
130.41 (C₆), 128.70 (C₁₆), 128.06 (C₁₇), 127.13 (C₁₅), 112.76 (C₇), 86.99 (C₉), 71.05 (C₁₃), 56.15 (C₃), 37.51 (C₄),
28.44 (C₁₂), 26.32 (C₁₈)

HRMS-ESI (*m*/*z*) [M+Na]⁺ calc. for C₂₂H₂₇IN₂O₄Na, 533.0908; found 533.0888

IR vmax - 3325 (N-H), 2970, 2921, 2851 (C-H), 1683, 1649 (C=O)

 \mathbf{R}_{f} - 0.51 in 10% MeOH in dichloromethane

mp 114-116 °C

26

 $[\alpha] D = 12^{\circ} (c = 1 \text{ in CHCl}_3)$



SI-12

tert-butyl(S)-(3-(4-(benzyloxy)-3-methylphenyl)-1-(methylamino)-1-oxopropan-2-yl)carbamate (S3)

To a solution of **S2** (7.75 g, 15.2 mmol) in Dry degassed dioxane (100 mL), cesium carbonate (24.9 g, 76.4 mmol), SPhos Pd G_2 (1.01 g, 1.52 mmol) and Methyl boronic acid (4.6 g, 76.4 mmol). The mixture was stirred at 90 °C overnight. The solution was diluted with dichloromethane (100 mL) and water (100 mL). The aqueous phase was extracted with dichloromethane (3 x 50 mL). The combined organic phases dried over MgSO₄ and concentrated in *vacuo*. Purification was carried out by column chromatography on silica gel eluting with 0-100% EtOAc in petroleum ether to yield **S3** (4.43 g, 73 %) as a yellow powder.

¹**H NMR** (500 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 7.45 – 7.41 (m, 2H, H₁₅), 7.38 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H, H₁₆), 7.35 – 7.28 (m, 1H, H₁₇), 7.11 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 0.25H, H₆), 6.99 (s, 1H, H₁₀), 6.95 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 0.75H, H₆), 6.91 (m, 0.25H, H₇), 6.80 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 0.75H, H₇), 5.66 (s, 1H, N-H), 5.05 (s, 2H, H₁₃), 4.21 (q, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H, H₃), 3.03 – 2.97 (m, 1H, H₄), 2.91 (dd, J = 13.7, 7.5 Hz, 1H, H₄), 2.72 (d, J = 4.9 Hz, 3H, H₁₈), 2.25 (s, 3H, H₁₉), 1.41 (s, 9H, H₁₂)

¹³C NMR (125 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 172.02 (C₂), 156.01 (C₈), 155.54 (C₁), 137.51 (C₁₄), 131.79 (C₁₀), 130.46 (C₆),
128.72 (C₅), 128.65 (C₁₆), 127.92 (C₁₇), 127.61 (C₉), 127.58 (C₆), 127.23 (C₁₅), 115.16 (C₇), 111.66 (C₇), 80.24 (C₁₁),
70.03 (C₁₃), 56.37 (C₃), 38.11 (C₄), 28.44 (C₁₂), 26.26 (C₁₈), 16.49 (C₁₉)

HRMS-ESI (*m*/*z*) [M+Na]⁺ calc. for C₂₃H₃₀N₂O₄Na, 421.2098; found 421.2101

IR vmax - 3317 (N-H), 3063, 3032 (Ar-H), 2973, 2929, 2856 (C-H), 1704, 1658 (C=O)

R_f - 0.65 in dichloromethane

mp 134-135 °C

26 $[\alpha]^{D} = 16^{\circ} (c = 1 \text{ in CHCl}_{3})$



(S)-2-amino-3-(4-(benzyloxy)-3-methylphenyl)-N-methylpropanamide (S4)

To a solution of **S3** (4,3 g, 10.8 mmol) in MeOH (43 mL) at 0 °C, acetyl chloride (4.15 mL, 58.3 mmol) was slowly added. The mixture was warmed to room temperature and stirred overnight. The solution was diluted with dichloromethane (200 mL) and washed with saturated NaHCO₃ (50 mL) and brine (30 mL). The organic phase was dried over MgSO₄ and concentrated. Purification was carried out by column chromatography on silica gel eluting with a gradient of 0-10% methanol in dichloromethane to yield **S4** (3.11 g, 97%) as a yellow powder.

¹**H NMR** (500 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 7.46 – 7.41 (m, 2H, H₁₅), 7.41 – 7.36 (m, 2H, H₁₆), 7.34 – 7.29 (m, 1H, H₁₇), 7.02 (d, J = 2.2 Hz, 1H, H₁₀), 6.98 (dd, J = 8.2, 2.2 Hz, 1H, H₆), 6.82 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H, H₇), 5.06 (s, 2H, H₁₃), 3.57 (dd, J = 9.4, 4.1 Hz, 1H, H₃), 3.19 (dd, J = 13.8, 4.1 Hz, 1H, H₃), 2.82 (d, J = 5.0 Hz, 3H, H₁₂), 2.60 (dd, J = 13.8, 9.4 Hz, 1H, H₄), 2.27 (s, 3H, H₁₁)

¹³**C NMR** (125 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 175.01 (C₂), 155.97 (C₈), 137.56 (C₁₀), 131.79 (C₁₄), 129.86 (C₅), 128.65 (C₁₆), 127.90 (C₁₇), 127.55 (C₆), 127.53 (C₉), 127.21 (C₁₅), 111.69 (C₇), 70.05 (C₁₃), 56.72 (C₃), 40.26 (C₄), 25.95 (C₁₂), 16.55 (C₁₁)

HRMS-ESI (*m/z*) [M+H]⁺ calc. for C₁₈H₂₃N₂O₂, 299.1754; found 299.1747

IR vmax – 3366, 3299 (N-H), 3064, 3032 (Ar-H), 2921 (C-H), 1654 (C=O)

R_f - 0.25 in 10% MeOH in dichloromethane

mp 78-80 °C

26 [**a**] ^D = -64 ° (c = 1 in CHCl₃)



(S,E)-3-(4-(benzyloxy)-3-methylphenyl)-2-((2,2-dimethylpropylidene)amino)-N-methylpropanamide (S5)

To a solution of **S4** (3.00 g, 10.05 mmol) in dichloromethane (10 mL), $MgSO_4$ (3.00 g, 100% wt.) and pivaldehyde (1.31 mL, 12.07 mmol) was added. The mixture was stirred at room temperature overnight. The solution was filtered and washed with dichloromethane (3 x 30 mL). The filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo* to yield **S5** (3.68 g, Quant.) as a white powder.

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 7.45 – 7.40 (m, 2H, H₁₅), 7.40 – 7.34 (m, 2H, H₁₆), 7.33 – 7.28 (m, 1H, H₁₇), 6.91 (d, J = 5.0 Hz, 1H, N-H), 6.86-6.79 (m, 3H, H_{1,7,10}), 6.75 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H, H₆), 5.05 (s, 2H, H₁₃), 3.63 (dd, J = 10.5, 3.0 Hz, 1H, H₃), 3.26 (dd, J = 13.5, 3.0 Hz, 1H, H₄), 2.84 (d, J = 5.0 Hz, 3H, H₁₈), 2.64 (dd, J = 13.5, 10.5 Hz, 1H, H₄), 2.23 (s, 3H, H₁₉), 0.89 (s, 9H, H₁₂)

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 174.26 (C₁), 173.72 (C₂), 155.52 (C₈), 137.64 (C₁₄), 132.76 (C₁₀), 129.73 (C₅),
128.60 (C₁₆), 128.23 (C_{7,1}), 127.81 (C₁₇), 127.12 (C₁₅), 126.71 (C₉), 111.44 (C₆), 74.67 (C₃), 70.00 (C₁₃), 40.23 (C₄),
36.38 (C₁₁), 26.79 (C₁₂), 26.01 (C₁₈), 16.49 (C₁₉)

HRMS-ESI (*m/z*) [M+H]⁺ calc. for C₂₃H₃₁N₂O₂, 367.2380; found 367.2396



(5S)-5-(4-(benzyloxy)-3-methylbenzyl)-2-(tert-butyl)-3-methyl-4-oxoimidazolidine-1-carbonyl chloride (S6)

To a solution of **S5** (3.68 g, 10.05 mmol) in THF (20 mL), phosgene (10.78 mL, 15%, 15.08 mmol) was added. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2 hours. Pyridine (1.63 mL, 20.10 mmol) was then added and the mixture stirred for a further 2 hour. The solution was concentrated *in vacuo* and redissolved in dichloromethane (50 mL). The organic phase was washed with HCl (1M, 3 x 30 mL) and brine (20 mL), then dried over MgSO₄ and concentrated in *vacuo*. Purification was carried out by column chromatography on silica gel eluting with a gradient of 0-100% EtOAc in hexane to yield **S6** (3.46 g, 80 %) as a yellow oil.

NMR reported as a rotameric mixture

¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 7.43 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H, H₁₅), 7.41 – 7.35 (m, 2H, H₁₆), 7.33 – 7.29 (m, 1H, H₁₇), 7.00-6.90 (m, 2H, H_{6&10}), 6.76 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H, H₇), 5.04 (s, 2H, H₁₃), 4.72 (s, 0.54H, H₁), 4.60 (s, 0.46H, H₁), 4.41 (d, J = 5.0 Hz, 0.54H, H₃), 4.37 (d, J = 5.0 Hz, 0.46H, H₃), 3.78 (dd, J = 14.6, 5.0 Hz, 0.46H, H₄), 3.65 (dd, J = 14.6, 5.0 Hz, 0.54H, H₄), 3.27 (d, J = 14.6 Hz, 0.46H, H₄), 3.18 (d, J = 14.6 Hz, 0.54H, H₄), 2.86 (s, 1.62H, H₁₉), 2.75 (s, 1.38H, H₁₉), 2.23 (s, 3H, H₂₀), 1.00 (s, 4.86H, H₁₂), 0.93 (s, 4.14H, H₁₂) ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 170.05 (C₂), 169.64 (C₂), 156.24 (C₈), 156.02 (C₈), 147.42 (C₁₈), 146.24 (C₁₈), 137.55 (C₁₄), 137.46 (C₁₄), 132.48 (C₁₀), 132.26 (C₁₀), 128.58 (C_{16&6}), 127.85 (C₁₇), 127.27 (C₁₅), 126.19 (C₅), 125.80 (C₅), 111.31 (C₇), 83.49 (C₁), 82.90 (C₁), 69.89 (C₁₃), 63.89 (C₃), 62.87 (C₃), 41.80 (C₁₁), 41.70 (C₁₁), 35.92 (C₄), 32.14

 $(\mathsf{C}_{19}),\,32.09\;(\mathsf{C}_{4}),\,26.79\;(\mathsf{C}_{12}),\,26.54\;(\mathsf{C}_{12}),\,16.34\;(\mathsf{C}_{20})$

HRMS-ESI (*m*/*z*) [M+H]⁺ calc. for C₂₄H₂₉N₂O₃Cl, 429.1939; found 429.1924

IR vmax - 2963, 2931 (C-H), 1739, 1708 (C=O)

R_f - 0.59 in 50% EtOAc in Hexane

mp 92-94 °C

 $[\alpha]$ $D = 4 \circ (c = 1 \text{ in CHCl}_3)$



(5S)-2-(tert-butyl)-5-(4-hydroxy-3-methylbenzyl)-3-methyl-4-oxoimidazolidine-1-carbonyl chloride (22)

To a solution of **S6** (3.35 g, 7.82 mmol) in THF (39 mL) under N₂, palladium on active carbon (10 wt. %) (670 mg, 20 % wt.) was added. The mixture was then stirred at room temperature for 2 hours under hydrogen atmosphere. The reaction mixture was filtered over a pad of celite and concentrated in *vacuo* to yield **22** (2.61 g, 94 %) as a white powder.

¹**H NMR** (500 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 6.93 (s, 1H, H₁₀), 6.87 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H, H_{6/7}), 6.65 (t, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H, H_{6/7}), 4.73 (s, 0.55H, H₁), 4.62 (s, 0.45H, H₁) 4.44 – 4.34 (m, 1H, H₃), 3.84 – 3.72 (m, 0.55H, H₄), 3.64 (dd, J = 14.6, 5.2 Hz, 0.45H, H₄) 3.26 (d, J = 14.6 Hz, 0.45H, H₄), 3.15 (d, J = 14.6 Hz, 0.55H, H₄), 2.88 (s, 1.65H, H₁₃), 2.77 (s, 1.35H, H₁₃), 2.19 (s, 3H, H₁₅), 1.00 (s, 4.95H, H₁₂), 0.93 (s, 4.05H, H₁₂).

¹³C NMR (126 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 170.19 (C₂), 169.77 (C₂), 153.47 (C₈), 153.14 (C₈), 147.54 (C₁₄), 146.31 (C₁₄), 132.83 (C₁₀), 132.61 (C₁₀), 128.88 (C_{6/7}), 128.73 (C_{6/7}), 126.16 (C₅), 125.77 (C₅), 124.02 (C₉), 123.71 (C₉), 114.95 (C_{6/7}), 114.82 (C_{6/7}), 83.59 (C₁), 82.99 (C₁), 63.95 (C₃), 62.95 (C₃), 41.83 (C₁₁), 41.71 (C₁₁), 35.87 (C₄), 32.19 (C₄), 32.04 (C₁₃), 26.80 (C₁₂), 26.55 (C₁₂), 15.75 (C₁₅).

HRMS-ESI (*m/z*) [M+H-H₂O]⁺ calc. for C₁₇H₂₃N₂O₃, 303.1703; found 303.1703

IR vmax – 3363 (O-H), 2968, 2875 (C-H), 1738, 1691 (C=O)

R_f - 0.46 in 10% MeOH in Dichloromethane

mp 134-135 °C

26

 $[\alpha]^{D} = -12^{\circ} (c = 1 \text{ in CHCl}_{3})$



(7a'S)-3'-(tert-butyl)-2',3-dimethyl-2',3',7',7a'-tetrahydro-1'H,5'H-spiro[cyclohexane-1,6'-pyrrolo[1,2-

c]imidazole]-2,5-diene-1',4,5'-trione (23)

To a solution of **22** (1.1 g, 3.08 mmol) in MeCN (4.4 mL), triethylamine (0.46 mL, 3.39 mmol) was added. The mixture was then heated under microwave irradiation at 150 °C for 10 minutes. The reaction mixture was concentrated *in vacuo*, redissolved in dichloromethane (20 mL) and washed with water (20 mL). The aqueous phase was extracted with dichloromethane (3 x 20 mL). The organic layer was washed with brine (10 mL), dried over MgSO₄ and concentrated in *vacuo* to yield **23** (926 mg, Quant., 1:1) as a white powder.

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 6.90 (dd, J = 9.8, 3.0 Hz, 0.5H, H₆), 6.71 – 6.65 (m, 1H, H_{6&10}), 6.52 – 6.44 (m, 1H, H_{7&10}), 6.40 (d, J = 9.8 Hz, 0.5H, H₇), 4.85 (t, J = 1.4 Hz, 1H, H₁), 4.45 (q, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H, H₃), 3.04 (d, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H, H₁), 4.45 (q, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H, H₃), 3.04 (d, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H, H₁), 4.45 (q, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H, H₃), 3.04 (d, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H, H₁), 4.45 (q, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H, H₃), 3.04 (d, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H, H₁), 4.45 (q, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H, H₃), 3.04 (d, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H, H₁), 4.45 (q, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H, H₃), 3.04 (d, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H, H₁), 4.45 (q, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H, H₃), 3.04 (d, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H, H₁), 4.45 (q, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H, H₃), 3.04 (d, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H, H₁), 4.45 (q, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H, H₃), 3.04 (d, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H, H₁), 4.45 (q, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H, H₃), 3.04 (d, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H, H₁), 4.45 (q, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H, H₃), 3.04 (d, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H, H₁), 4.45 (q, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H, H₃), 3.04 (d, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H, H₁), 4.45 (q, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H, H₃), 3.04 (d, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H, H₁), 4.45 (q, J = 1.2 Hz), 4.45 (q, J = 1.2 H

3H, H₁₅), 2.59 (ddd, J = 13.2, 7.4, 3.5 Hz, 1H, H₄), 2.44 (ddd, J = 13.2, 9.0, 1.1 Hz, 1H, H₄), 1.96 (t, J = 1.4 Hz, 3H, H₁₃), 1.05 (s, 4.5H, H₁₂), 1.04 (s, 4.5H, H₁₂) - as 1:1 mix of diastereomers

¹³**C NMR** (100 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 185.60 (C₈), 185.50 (C₈), 174.87 (C₂), 174.72 (C₂), 171.70 (C₁₄), 171.68 (C₄), 146.08 (C_{6/10}), 143.37 (C₆), 141.70 (C_{7/10}), 139.22 (C₉), 138.81 (C_{6/10}), 137.97 (C₉), 132.08 (C_{7/10}), 130.73 (C₇), 82.03 (C₁), 82.01 (C₁), 57.13 (C₃), 56.94 (C₃), 54.16 (C₅), 54.05 (C₅), 38.53 (C₁₁), 37.65 (C₄), 37.58 (C₄), 31.61 (C₁₅), 31.60 (C₁₅), 25.98 (C₁₂), 25.95 (C₁₂), 16.34 (C₁₃), 16.31 (C₁₃).

HRMS-ESI (*m*/*z*) [M+Na]⁺ calc. for C₁₇H₂₂N₂O₃Na, 325.1523; found 325.1515.

 \mathbf{R}_{f} – 0.28/0.34 in 5% MeOH in dichloromethane.

The diastereomers could be separated by column chromatography on silica gel eluting with a gradient of 0-30% Acetone in dichloromethane for testing purposes, otherwise material was taken through crude.



(1R,4S,7a'S)-3'-(tert-butyl)-4-hydroxy-2',3-dimethyl-2',3',7',7a'-tetrahydro-1'H,5'H-spiro[cyclohexane-1,6'pyrrolo[1,2-c]imidazole]-2,5-diene-1',5'-dione & diastereomers (24)

To a solution of **23** (0.93 g, 3.08 mmol) in dry methanol (30 mL) under N₂, cerium(III) chloride heptahydrate (175 mg, 4.62 mmol) was added and stirred for 15 minutes at room temperature. The reaction mixture was then cooled to -78 °C and sodium borohydride (1.72 g, 4.62 mmol) was added. The resultant mixture was left to stir for a further 30 minutes and then quenched with water (10 mL). The mixture was then diluted with EtOAc (50 mL) and washed with water (30 mL). The aqueous phase was extracted with EtOAc (3 x 30 mL). The combined organics were washed with brine (30 mL), dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated *in vacuo*. Purification was carried out by column chromatography on silica gel eluting with 0-10% MeOH in dichloromethane to yield **24** (615 mg, 66 %, d.r. = 1.5:1.5:1.2:1) white powders.

<u>24a</u>

(177 mg, 18%)

¹**H NMR** (500 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 6.12 (dd, J = 9.7, 4.2 Hz, 1H, H₇), 5.92 (dd, J = 9.7, 1.6 Hz, 1H, H₆), 5.34-5.30 (m, 1H, H₁₀), 4.77 (d, J = 1.1 Hz, 1H, H₁), 4.34 (t, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H, H₃), 4.27 (dd, J = 11.1, 4.2 Hz, 1H, H₈), 3.00 (s, 3H, H₁₅), 2.47 (dd, J = 13.2, 7.8 Hz, 1H, H₄), 2.13 (dd, J = 13.2, 8.6 Hz, 1H, H₄), 1.97 (d, J = 11.2 Hz, 3H, O-H), 1.93 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 1H, H₁₃), 1.01 (s, 9H, H₁₂)

¹³C NMR (125 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 178.52 (C₂), 172.58 (C₁₄), 139.69 (C₉), 130.70 (C₇), 128.86 (C₆), 125.25 (C₁₀), 82.05 (C₁), 65.29 (C₈), 56.92 (C₃), 51.71 (C₅), 38.98 (C₄), 38.50 (C₁₁), 31.49 (C₁₅), 25.99 (C₁₂), 20.43 (C₁₃) IR vmax – 3416 (O-H), 2965 (C-H), 1700 (C=O) HRMS-ESI (m/z) [M+Na]⁺ calc. for C₁₇H₂₄N₂O₃Na, 327.1679; found 327.1680 R_f – 0.38 in 10% MeOH in dichloromethane mp 173-175 °C 26 [α] D = -4 ° (c = 1 in CHCl₃)

Carbonyl down confirmed by NOE (Doublet 'sees' alpha)

Major isomer assumed as cis

<u>24b</u>

(181 mg, 18%)

¹**H NMR** (500 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 6.23 (dd, J = 9.7, 4.2 Hz, 1H, H₇), 5.66 – 5.57 (m, 2H, H_{6&9}), 4.78 (d, J = 1.1 Hz, 1H, H₁), 4.36 (t, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H, H₃), 4.27 (dd, J = 11.2, 4.2 Hz, 1H, H₈), 3.00 (d, J = 0.4 Hz, 3H, H₁₅), 2.46 (dd, J = 13.2, 7.8 Hz, 1H, H₄), 2.16 (dd, J = 13.2, 8.6 Hz, 1H, H₄), 1.92 (d, J = 1.2 Hz, 3H, H₁₃), 1.80 (d, J = 11.2 Hz, 1H, O-H) 1.03 (s, 9H, H₁₂)

¹³C NMR (125 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 178.66 (C₂), 172.59 (C₁₄), 138.65 (C₉), 131.71 (C₇), 129.86 (C₆), 123.34 (C₁₀),
 82.00 (C₁), 65.24 (C₈), 56.97 (C₃), 51.46 (C₅), 38.94 (C₄), 38.49 (C₁₁), 31.51 (C₁₅), 26.01 (C₁₂), 20.42 (C₁₃)

IR vmax – 3416 (O-H), 2966 (C-H), 1698 (C=O)

HRMS-ESI (*m*/*z*) [M+Na]⁺ calc. for C₁₇H₂₄N₂O₃Na, 327.1679; found 327.1683

 \mathbf{R}_{f} – 0.35 in 10% MeOH in dichloromethane

mp 56-58 °C

26

 $[\alpha]^{D} = -8^{\circ} (c = 1 \text{ in CHCl}_{3})$

Carbonyl up confirmed by NOE (Singlet 'sees' alpha)

Major isomer assumed as cis

<u>24c</u>

(137 mg, 14%)

¹**H NMR** (500 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 6.03 (dd, J = 9.8, 3.2 Hz, 1H, H₇), 5.88 (dt, J = 9.8, 1.9 Hz, 1H, H₆), 5.34 – 5.29 (m, 1H, H₁₀), 4.79 (d, J = 1.1 Hz, 1H, H₁), 4.49 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H, H₈), 4.33 (t, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H, H₃), 2.99 (s, 3H, H₁₅), 2.45 (dd, J = 13.1, 7.5 Hz, 1H, H₄), 2.17 (dd, J = 13.1, 9.0 Hz, 1H, H₄), 1.93 (s, 3H, H₁₃), 1.56 (d, J = 9.1 Hz, 1H, O-H), 1.01 (s, 9H, H₁₂)

¹³C NMR (125 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 178.31 (C₂), 172.59 (C₁₄), 138.27 (C₉), 129.98 (C₇), 126.70 (C₆), 123.73 (C₁₀), 81.73 (C₁), 65.31 (C₈), 56.81 (C₃), 51.32 (C₅), 38.95 (C₄), 38.49 (C₁₁), 31.48 (C₁₅), 25.96 (C₁₂), 20.15 (C₁₃)
IR vmax – 3417 (O-H), 2966 (C-H), 1697 (C=O)

HRMS-ESI (*m*/*z*) [M+Na]⁺ calc. for C₁₇H₂₄N₂O₃Na, 327.1679; found 327.1690

 R_{f} – 0.32 in 10% MeOH in dichloromethane

mp >200 °C decomposition

 $[\alpha] D = 20^{\circ} (c = 1 \text{ in CHCl}_3)$

Carbonyl down confirmed by NOE (Doublet 'sees' alpha)

Minor isomer assumed as trans

<u>24d</u>

(120 mg, 12%)

¹**H NMR** (500 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 6.14 (dd, J = 9.6, 3.3 Hz, 1H, H₇), 5.61 – 5.54 (m, 2H, H_{6&10}), 4.79 (d, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H, H₁), 4.48 (s, br, 1H, H₈), 4.35 (t, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H, H₃), 3.00 (s, 3H, H₁₅), 2.45 (dd, J = 13.0, 7.5 Hz, 1H, H₄), 2.16 (dd, J = 13.0, 8.9 Hz, 1H, H₄), 1.90 (s, 3H, H₁₃), 1.55 (s, 1H, O-H), 1.02 (s, 9H, H₁₂)

 $^{13}\textbf{C} \ \textbf{NMR} \ (125 \ \textbf{MHz}, \ \textbf{Chloroform-d}) \ \delta \ 178.42 \ (\texttt{C}_2), \ 172.62 \ (\texttt{C}_{14}), \ 136.82 \ (\texttt{C}_9), \ 131.55 \ (\texttt{C}_7), \ 128.42 \ (\texttt{C}_6), \ 121.92 \ (\texttt{C}_{10}), \ \textbf{C}_{10}), \ \textbf{C}_{10} \ \textbf$

 $81.72 \ (C_1), \ 65.26 \ (C_8), \ 57.05 \ (C_3), \ 51.35 \ (C_5), \ 39.09 \ (C_4), \ 38.48 \ (C_{11}), \ 31.50 \ (C_{15}), \ 25.99 \ (C_{12}), \ 20.17 \ (C_{13})$

IR vmax – 3425 (O-H), 2967 (C-H), 1698 (C=O)

HRMS-ESI (*m*/*z*) [M+Na]⁺ calc. for C₁₇H₂₄N₂O₃Na, 327.1679; found 327.1676

 \mathbf{R}_{f} – 0.30 in 10% MeOH in dichloromethane

mp 160-162 °C

26

 $[\alpha]^{D} = -20^{\circ} (c = 1 \text{ in CHCl}_{3})$

Carbonyl up confirmed by NOE (Singlet 'sees' alpha)

Major isomer assumed as trans & confirmed by crystal below





CCDC deposition number	2070024
Empirical formula	C ₁₇ H ₂₄ N ₂ O ₃
Formula weight	304.38
Temperature/K	100(2)
Crystal system	monoclinic
Space group	P21
a/Å	5.7444(2)
b/Å	12.0901(5)
c/Å	12.1546(6)
α/°	90
β/°	95.471(3)
γ/°	90
Volume/ų	840.30(6)
Z	2
ρ _{calc} g/cm ³	1.203
µ/mm⁻¹	0.083
F(000)	328.0
Crystal size/mm ³	$0.32 \times 0.24 \times 0.2$
Radiation	ΜοΚα (λ = 0.71073)
20 range for data collection/°	4.762 to 54.164
Index ranges	-7 ≤ h ≤ 7, -8 ≤ k ≤ 15, -15 ≤ l ≤ 15
Reflections collected	6822
Independent reflections	3061 [R _{int} = 0.0355, R _{sigma} = 0.0476]
Data/restraints/parameters	3061/1/205
Goodness-of-fit on F ²	1.021
Final R indexes [I>=2σ (I)]	$R_1 = 0.0417$, $wR_2 = 0.0841$
Final R indexes [all data]	$R_1 = 0.0544$, $wR_2 = 0.0903$
Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å ⁻³	0.21/-0.21



(1s,4*R*)-1-((*S*)-2-amino-2-carboxyethyl)-4-hydroxy-3-methylcyclohexa-2,5-diene-1-carboxylic acid (26) & (3*S*,5r,8*S*)-8-hydroxy-7-methyl-1-oxo-2-azaspiro[4.5]deca-6,9-diene-3-carboxylic acid (25)

To a solution of **24a** (150.9 mg, 0.50 mmol) in water (2.5 mL), barium hydroxide (255 mg, 1.49 mmol) and barium carbonate (98 mg, 0.50 mmol) was added. The mixture was stirred at 40 °C for 16 hours, then sodium carbonate anhydrous (315 mg, 2.98 mmol) and water (15 mL) were added. The resulting barium carbonate salt was filtered through a Whatman 0.45 µm Nylon syringe filter. The aqueous phase was lyophilized. The solid was

redissolved in water (15 mL), filtered through a Millipore Millex-HN 0.45 μm Nylon syringe filter and purified by Hypercarb HPLC with a gradient of 0-80% acetonitrile in 10 mM sodium carbonate-bicarbonate buffer (pH 9.2) to yield:

26 as a mixture of salts (14 % by quantitative NMR using a stock solution of EtOH) as a white powder.

25 as the sodium salt (29 % by quantitative NMR using a stock solution of EtOH) as a white powder.



(1s,4R)-1-((S)-2-amino-2-carboxyethyl)-4-hydroxy-3-methylcyclohexa-2,5-diene-1-carboxylic acid (26)

¹**H NMR** (500 MHz, Deuterium Oxide) δ 5.86 – 5.63 (m, 2H, H_{6&7}), 5.46 (s, 0.8H, H₁₀), 5.41 (s, 0.2H, H₁₀), 4.27 – 4.25 (m, 0.2H, H₈), 4.25 – 4.21 (m, 0.8H, H₈), 3.55 (dd, J = 10.4, 3.1 Hz, 0.8H, H₃), 2.88 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 0.2H, H₃), 1.89 – 1.70 (m, 2H, H₄), 1.67 (s, 2.4H, H₁₁), 1.64 (s, 0.6H, H₁₁). 80:20 mixture of salts.

¹³**C NMR** (126 MHz, Deuterium Oxide) δ 188.83 (C₁), 188.09 (C₂), 141.15 (C₈), 138.52 (C_{6/7}), 133.68 (C_{6/7}), 132.91 (C₁₀), 71.43 (C₈), 61.21 (C₃), 57.54 (C₅), 47.79 (C₄), 25.85 (C₁₁).

HRMS-Nanospray (*m/z*) [M-H]⁻ calc. for C₁₁H₁₄NO₅, 240.0872; found 240.0879.

23

 $[\alpha] D = -80 \circ (c = 0.1 \text{ in } H_2O)$

CD spectra – Positive Cotton effect below 230 nm



(35,5r,85)-8-hydroxy-7-methyl-1-oxo-2-azaspiro[4.5]deca-6,9-diene-3-carboxylic acid (25)

¹**H NMR** (500 MHz, Deuterium Oxide) δ 5.98 (dd, J = 9.9, 3.3 Hz, 1H, H₇), 5.79 (m, 1H, H₆), 5.48 – 5.41 (m, 1H, H₁₀), 4.34 (d, J = 3.3 Hz, 1H, H₈), 4.17 (dd, J = 8.6, 6.5 Hz, 1H, H₃), 2.43 (dd, J = 13.3, 8.6 Hz, 1H, H₄), 2.01 (dd, J = 13.3, 6.5 Hz, 1H, H₄), 1.82 – 1.69 (m, 3H, H₁₁).

¹³**C NMR** (126 MHz, Deuterium Oxide) δ 188.31 (C_{1/2}), 187.72 (C_{1/2}), 145.06 (C₉), 137.33 (C₇), 136.60 (C₆), 132.74 (C₁₀) 72.24 (C₈), 63.11 (C₃), 56.94 (C₅), 47.79 (C₄), 27.22 (C₁₁).

HRMS-ESI (*m*/*z*) [M+Na+H]⁺ calc. for C₁₁H₁₃NO₄, 246.0737; found 246.0739.

23

 $[\alpha] D = 40 \circ (c = 0.1 \text{ in } H_2O)$

CD spectra – Positive Cotton effect below 230 nm

2.2.2. Grignard addition



General procedure for Grignard addition

To a solution of **7** (1 eq.) in dry THF (0.1 M) under N₂ at -78 °C, the relevant Grignard reagent (2M in THF, 1.5 eq.) was slowly added and stirred for 2 hours at room temperature. The reaction mixture was then cooled to 0 °C and quenched slowly with water. The mixture was concentrated *in vacuo*, diluted with water and extracted with ether. Purification was carried out by column chromatography on silica gel eluting with 0-100% EtOAc in Hexane to yield the corresponding alkylated product.

(7a'S)-3'-(tert-butyl)-4-butyl-4-hydroxy-2'-methyl-2',3',7',7a'-tetrahydro-1'H,5'H-spiro[cyclohexane-1,6'-

pyrrolo[1,2-c]imidazole]-2,5-diene-1',5'-dione (16)

Only one diastereomer isolated (crude NMR d.r. = >9:1)

Major isolated diastereomer (441 mg, 75 %) as a pale yellow oil

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 6.00 (dd, J = 10.0, 1.5 Hz, 1H, H₆), 5.94 – 5.85 (m, 2H, H₇), 5.62 (dd, J = 10.0, 1.5 Hz, 1H, H₆), 4.79 (d, J = 1.1 Hz, 1H, H₁), 4.35 (t, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H, H₃), 3.00 (s, 3H, H₁₂), 2.42 (dd, J = 13.2, 7.7 Hz, 1H, H₄), 2.25 – 2.13 (m, 2H, H₄ & O-H), 1.66 – 1.56 (m, 2H, H₁₃), 1.36 – 1.24 (m, 2H, H₁₅), 1.15 – 1.05 (m, 2H, H₁₄), 1.02 (s, 9H, H₁₁), 0.87 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 3H, H₁₆)

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 178.21 (C₂), 172.46 (C₉), 135.63 (C₆), 134.79 (C₇), 128.70 (C₆), 127.33 (C₇), 81.90 (C₁), 67.69 (C₈), 56.99 (C₃), 50.86 (C₅), 39.93 (C₁₃), 38.97 (C₄), 38.52 (C₁₀), 31.51 (C₁₂), 26.69 (C₁₄), 25.99 (C₁₁), 23.09 (C₁₅), 14.16 (C₁₆)

HRMS-ESI (*m*/*z*) [M+Na⁺] calc. for C₂₀H₃₀N₂O₃Na, 369.2149; found 369.2164

IR vmax – 3416 (O-H), 2957, 2931 (C–H), 1697 (C=O)

R_f - 0.47 in 10% MeOH in dichloromethane

25 [**a**] $D = 8^{\circ}$ (*c* = 1 in CHCl₃)

(7a'S)-3'-(*tert*-butyl)-4-hydroxy-2'-methyl-4-phenethyl-2',3',7',7a'-tetrahydro-1'H,5'H-spiro[cyclohexane-1,6'pyrrolo[1,2-c]imidazole]-2,5-diene-1',5'-dione (17)

Only one diastereomer isolated (crude NMR d.r. = >9:1)

Major isolated diastereomer (202 mg, 74 %) as a colourless solid

¹**H NMR** (500 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 7.31 – 7.23 (m, 2H, H₁₇), 7.20 – 7.13 (m, 3H, H_{16,18}), 6.09 (dd, J = 9.9, 1.9 Hz, 1H, H₇), 6.00 (dd, J = 9.8, 1.9 Hz, 1H, H₇), 5.94 (dd, J = 9.8, 2.2 Hz, 1H, H₆), 5.68 (dd, J = 9.9, 2.2 Hz, 1H, H₆), 4.80 (s, 1H, H₁), 4.38 (t, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H, H₃), 3.01 (s, 3H, H₁₂), 2.54 – 2.38 (m, 4H, H_{4,14} & O-H), 2.21 (dd, J = 13.2, 8.7 Hz, 1H, H₄), 1.99 – 1.91 (m, 2H, H₁₃), 1.03 (s, 9H, H₁₁)

¹³C NMR (100 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 178.01 (C₂), 172.40 (C₉), 141.84 (C₁₅), 135.26 (C₇), 134.37 (C₇), 129.35 (C₆),
 128.53 (C₁₇), 128.40 (C₁₆), 127.92 (C₆), 126.02 (C₁₈), 81.97 (C₁), 67.46 (C₈), 57.00 (C₃), 50.99 (C₅), 41.79 (C₁₃), 38.81 (C₄), 38.81 (C₁₀), 31.53 (C₁₂), 30.77 (C₁₄), 26.01 (C₁₁)

HRMS-ESI (*m*/*z*) [M+Na⁺] calc. for C₂₄H₃₀N₂O₃Na, 417.2149; found 417.2152

IR vmax - 3405 (O-H), 2964, 2931 (C-H), 1693 (C=O)

R_f - 0.53 in 10% MeOH in dichloromethane

mp 139-141 °C

25

 $[\alpha]^{D} = 16^{\circ} (c = 1 \text{ in CHCl}_{3})$



(1s,4S)-1-((R)-2-amino-2-carboxyethyl)-4-hydroxy-4-butylcyclohexa-2,5-diene-1-carboxylic acid (17) & (3S,5s,8R)-8-hydroxy-1-oxo-8-butyl-2-azaspiro[4.5]deca-6,9-diene-3-carboxylic acid (S7)

To a solution of **16** (26.0 mg, 0.075 mmol), sodium hydroxide (18 mg, 0.45 mmol) and sodium carbonate (7.9 mg, 0.075 mmol) were dissolved in ethanol (0.167 mL) and H_2O (0.083 mL). The mixture was stirred at 70 °C for 20 hours and concentrated *in vacuo*. The solid was redissolved in water (1.2 mL), filtered through a Millipore Millex-HN 0.45 μ m Nylon syringe filter and purified by Hypercarb HPLC with a gradient of 0-80% acetonitrile in 10 mM sodium carbonate-bicarbonate buffer (pH 9.2) to yield:

18 as a mixture of salts (51 % by quantitative NMR using a stock solution of EtOH) as a white powder.

S7 as the sodium salt (26 % by quantitative NMR using a stock solution of EtOH) as a white powder.



(3S,5s,8R)-8-hydroxy-1-oxo-8-butyl-2-azaspiro[4.5]deca-6,9-diene-3-carboxylic acid (S7)

¹**H NMR** (500 MHz, Deuterium Oxide) δ 5.78 – 5.70 (m, 3H, H_{6/10}), 5.67 (dd, J = 10.2, 2.1 Hz, 1H), 4.13 (dd, J = 8.7, 6.2 Hz, 1H), 2.39 (dd, J = 13.3, 8.7 Hz, 1H), 1.99 (dd, J = 13.3, 6.2 Hz, 1H), 1.48 – 1.40 (m, 2H), 1.13 (h, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 0.98 – 0.88 (m, 2H), 0.70 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H).

¹³**C NMR** (126 MHz, Deuterium Oxide) δ 188.47 (C_{1/2}), 188.08 (C_{1/2}), 141.17 (C_{6/10}), 141.09 (C_{6/10}), 136.91 (C_{7/9}), 136.33 (C_{7/9}), 76.49 (C₈), 63.55 (C₃), 56.48 (C₅), 47.87 (C₁₁), 47.66 (C₄), 34.34 (C₁₂), 30.59 (C₁₂), 21.56 (C₁₃).

HRMS-Nanospray (*m*/*z*) [M-H]⁻ calc. for C₁₄H₁₈NO₄, 264.1236; found 264.1227

25

 $[\alpha]^{D} = 80^{\circ} (c = 0.1 \text{ in } H_2O)$

CD spectra – Positive Cotton effect below 230 nm



(1s,4S)-1-((R)-2-amino-2-carboxyethyl)-4-hydroxy-4-butylcyclohexa-2,5-diene-1-carboxylic acid (17)

¹**H NMR** (500 MHz, Deuterium Oxide) δ 6.09 (dd, J = 10.4, 2.3 Hz, 0.4H, H_{7/9}), 6.04 (dd, J = 10.2, 2.3 Hz, 0.6H, H_{7/9}), 5.98 – 5.92 (m, 1H, H_{7/9}), 5.91 – 5.76 (m, 2H, H_{6&10}), 3.78 (dd, J = 10.9, 3.1 Hz, 0.6H, H₃), 3.30 (dd, J = 8.7, 2.8 Hz, 0.4H, H₃), 2.19 (dd, J = 14.6, 2.8 Hz, 0.4H, H₄), 2.09 – 1.94 (m, 1.6H, H₄), 1.65 – 1.55 (m, 2H, H₁₁), 1.29 (h, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H, H₁₃), 1.25 – 1.14 (m, 2H, H₁₂), 0.86 (td, J = 7.2, 1.5 Hz, 3H, H₁₄).

¹³**C NMR** (126 MHz, Deuterium Oxide) δ 182.6(C₂), 181.1(C₁), 180.6(C₁), 179.5(C₂), 163.3(CO₃²⁻), 162.7(CO), 131.9 (C_{6/10}), 131.8 (C_{6/10}), 131.5 (C_{6/10}), 131.4 (C_{6/10}), 131.3 (C_{7/9}), 131.1 (C_{7/9}), 130.6 (C_{7/9}), 130.0 (C_{7/9}), 68.4 (C₈), 68.1 (C₈), 55.0 (C₃), 53.1 (C₃), 50.9 (C₅), 50.5 (C₅), 42.8 (C₄), 41.2 (C₄), 40.3 (2 × C₁₁), 25.9 (C₁₂), 25.5 (C₁₂), 22.4 (C₁₃), 22.4 (C₁₃), 13.2 (C₁₄), 13.2 (C₁₄).

HRMS-Nanospray (*m*/*z*) [M-H]⁻ calc. for C₁₄H₂₀NO₅, 282.1341; found 282.1336

24 [**a**] $D = 80 \circ (c = 0.1 \text{ in } H_2O)$

CD spectra – Positive Cotton effect below 230 nm



(1s,4S)-1-((R)-2-amino-2-carboxyethyl)-4-hydroxy-4-phenethylcyclohexa-2,5-diene-1-carboxylic acid (18) & (3S,5s,8R)-8-hydroxy-1-oxo-8-phenethyl-2-azaspiro[4.5]deca-6,9-diene-3-carboxylic acid (S8)

To a solution of **16** (26.0 mg, 0.075 mmol), sodium hydroxide (18 mg, 0.45 mmol) and sodium carbonate (7.9 mg, 0.075 mmol) were dissolved in ethanol (0.167 mL) and H_2O (0.083 mL). The mixture was stirred at 70 °C for 20 hours and concentrated *in vacuo*. The solid was redissolved in water (1.2 mL), filtered through a Millipore Millex-HN 0.45 μ m Nylon syringe filter and purified by Hypercarb HPLC with a gradient of 0-80% acetonitrile in 10 mM sodium carbonate-bicarbonate buffer (pH 9.2) to yield:

19 as a mixture of salts (57 % by quantitative NMR using a stock solution of EtOH) as a white powder.

S8 as the sodium salt (19 % by quantitative NMR using a stock solution of EtOH) as a white powder.



(3S,5s,8R)-8-hydroxy-1-oxo-8-phenethyl-2-azaspiro[4.5]deca-6,9-diene-3-carboxylic acid (S8)

¹**H NMR** (500 MHz, Deuterium Oxide) δ 7.38 – 7.31 (m, 2H, H₁₅), 7.28 – 7.20 (m, 3H, H_{14&16}), 5.99 – 5.88 (m, 3H, H_{9,7&6/10}), 5.84 (dd, J = 10.0, 2.3 Hz, 1H, H_{6/10}), 4.27 (dd, J = 8.7, 6.1 Hz, 1H, H₃), 2.56 (dd, J = 13.4, 8.7 Hz, 1H, H₄), 2.51 – 2.39 (m, 2H, H₁₂), 2.16 (dd, J = 13.4, 6.1 Hz, 1H, H₄), 1.95 – 1.85 (m, 2H, H₁₁).

¹³**C NMR** (126 MHz, Deuterium Oxide) δ 188.06 (C₁), 187.79 (C₂), 150.38 (C₁₃), 140.47 (C_{7/9}), 140.40 (C_{7/9}), 137.19 (C_{6/10}), 136.74 (C₁₅), 136.62 (C_{6/10}), 136.57 (C₁₄), 134.12 (C₁₆), 75.99 (C₈), 63.31 (C₃), 56.28 (C₅), 49.74 (C₁₁), 47.35 (C₄), 38.37 (C₁₂).

HRMS-Nanospray (*m*/*z*) [M-H]⁻ calc. for C₁₈H₁₈NO₄, 312.1236; found 312.1227

22

 $[\alpha] D = 40 \circ (c = 0.1 \text{ in } H_2O)$

(1s,4S)-1-((R)-2-amino-2-carboxyethyl)-4-hydroxy-4-phenethylcyclohexa-2,5-diene-1-carboxylic acid (18)

¹**H NMR** (500 MHz, Deuterium Oxide) δ 7.40 – 7.22 (m, 5H, H_{14,15&16}), 6.20 – 6.09 (m, 1H, H_{7/9}), 6.07 – 5.99 (m, 1H H_{7/9}), 5.98 – 5.82 (m, 2H H_{6&10}), 3.83 (dd, *J* = 10.9, 3.1 Hz, 0.6H, H₃), 3.27 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 2.9 Hz, 0.4H, H₃), 2.64 – 2.50 (m, 2H H₁₂), 2.21 (dd, *J* = 14.3, 3.1 Hz, 0.4H, H₄), 2.14 – 1.96 (m, 1.6H, H₄), 1.94 – 1.82 (m, 2H, H₁₁).

¹³**C** NMR (126 MHz, Deuterium Oxide) δ 182.5(C₂), 181.0(C₁), 180.6(C₂), 180.5(C₁), 163.8 (CO₃²⁻), 163.3(CO), 142.8(C₁₃), 142.5(C₁₃), 132.6(C_{7/9}), 132.5(C_{7/9}), 132.3(C_{7/9}), 132.1(C_{7/9}), 130.6(C_{6/10}), 130.5(C_{6/10}), 130.0(C_{6/10}), 129.5(C_{6/10}), 128.7(C_{Ar}), 128.6(C_{Ar}), 128.4(C_{Ar}), 128.4(C_{Ar}), 126.0(C₁₆), 125.9(C₁₆), 68.2(C₈), 67.9(C₈), 55.0(C₃), 53.4(C₃), 51.0(C₅), 50.5(C₅), 43.4(C₄), 42.8(C₁₁), 42.7(C₁₁), 41.2(C₄), 30.1(C₁₂), 30.0(C₁₂).

HRMS-Nanospray (*m*/*z*) [M-H]⁻ calc. for C₁₈H₂₀NO₅, 330.1341; found 330.1348

22 [**α**] ^D = 8 ° (c = 1 in H₂O)

2.2.3. Hydrogenation



(7a'S)-3'-(tert-butyl)-2'-methyltetrahydro-1'H,5'H-spiro[cyclohexane-1,6'-pyrrolo[1,2-c]imidazole]-1',4,5'trione (12) To a solution of **7** (300 g, 1.04 mmol) in (10 mL) under N_2 , palladium on active carbon (10 wt. %) (60 mg, 20 % wt.) was added. The mixture was then stirred at room temperature overnight under hydrogen atmosphere. The reaction mixture was filtered over a pad of celite and concentrated in *vacuo* to yield **12** (303 mg, Quant.) as a white powder.

¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 4.82 (d, *J* = 1.1 Hz, 1H, H₁), 4.30 (t, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H, H₃), 3.03 (s, 3H, H₁₂), 2.96 – 2.85 (m, 1H, H_{7/9}), 2.61 – 2.48 (m, 2H, H_{4&7/9}), 2.48 – 2.35 (m, 1H, H_{7/9}), 2.35 – 2.15 (m, 3H, H_{6/10&7/9}), 2.10 – 1.93 (m, 2H, H_{4&6/10}), 1.82 – 1.72 (m, 1H, H_{6/10}), 1.03 (s, 9H, H₁₃) ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 209.60 (C₈), 181.50 (C₂), 172.69 (C₁₁), 81.49 (C₁), 56.68 (C₃), 45.85 (C₅), 38.37 (C₁₂), 37.71 (C_{7/9}), 37.06 (C₄), 33.56 (C_{6/10}), 33.29 (C_{6/10}), 31.48 (C₁₂), 25.97 (C₁₄) HRMS-ESI (*m*/*z*) [M+Na⁺] calc. for C₁₆H₂₄N₂O₃Na, 315.1679; found 315.1689 IR vmax – 2962, 2871 (C–H), 1697 (C=O) **R**_f - 0.35 in 100% EtOAc **mp** 177-178 °C 26 [**α**] D = 4 ° (*c* = 1 in CHCl₃)



(3'R,7a'S)-3'-(tert-butyl)-4-hydroxy-2'-methyltetrahydro-1'H,5'H-spiro[cyclohexane-1,6'-pyrrolo[1,2c]imidazole]-1',5'-dione (13)

Method 1:

To a solution of **12** (1.082 g, 3.7 mmol) in dry THF (55 mL) under N₂ at -78 °C, K-selectride (1M solution in THF) (5.92 mL, 5.92 mmol) was slowly added. The reaction mixture was stirred at -78 °C for one hour. To the reaction mixture was added H₂O (5 mL), MeOH (5 mL), NaOH (1M aq. solution, 5 mL) and H₂O₂ (30 % solution, 5 mL). The aqueous phase was extracted with dichloromethane (3 x 30 mL). The combined organic phase was dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated *in vacuo*. Purification was carried out by column chromatography on silica gel eluting with 0-10% MeOH in dichloromethane to yield **13a** (1.01 g, 93 %) as a colourless solid.

Method 2:

To a solution of **12** (200 mg, 0.68 mmol) in dry methanol (7 mL) under N₂ at 0 °C, sodium borohydride (45 mg, 1.20 mmol) was slowly added. The resultant mixture was left to stir overnight and then quenched with water (20 mL). The mixture was then concentrated *in vacuo*, diluted with water (50 mL). The aqueous phase was extracted with dichloromethane (3 x 30 mL). The combined organic phase was dried over MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated *in vacuo*. Purification was carried out by column chromatography on silica gel eluting with 0-80% Acetone in dichloromethane to yield **13** (179 mg, 89 %, d.r. = 1:1.1 (**13a:13b**)) as white powders.

<u>13a (cis – desired)</u>

¹H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 4.77 (d, J = 1.1 Hz, 1H, H₁), 4.21 (t, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H, H₃), 3.83 (dh, J = 7.1, 3.6 Hz, 1H, H₈), 2.96 (s, 3H, H₁₄), 2.40 (dd, J = 13.0, 7.8 Hz, 1H, H₄), 2.11 – 1.95 (m, 3H, H_{6/10&7/9}), 1.87 – 1.74 (m, 2H, H_{4&7/9}), 1.71 – 1.60 (m, 2H, H_{7/9}), 1.54-1.44 (m, 2H, H_{6/10} & O-H), 1.32 – 1.23 (m, 1H, H_{6/10}), 1.00 (s, 9H, H₁₃) ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 182.66 (C₂), 173.29 (C₁₁), 81.31 (C₁), 67.48 (C₈), 56.77 (C₃), 46.18 (C₅), 38.39 (C₁₂), 37.59 (C₄), 31.45 (C₁₄), 30.40 (C_{7/9}), 30.40 (C_{7/9}), 30.08 (C_{6/10}), 29.32 (C_{6/10}), 25.97 (C₁₃) HRMS-ESI (*m/z*) [M+Na⁺] calc. for C₁₆H₂₆N₂O₃Na, 317.1836; found 317.1842 IR vmax – 3423 (O-H), 2955, 2929, 2870 (C–H), 1688 (C=O) R_f - 0.35 in 10% MeOH in dichloromethane mp 173-174 °C 26

 $[\alpha] D = -20^{\circ} (c = 1 \text{ in CHCl}_3)$

13b (trans)

¹H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 4.76 (d, J = 1.2 Hz, 1H, H₁), 4.21 (t, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H, H₃), 3.67 (ddt, J = 14.3, 9.9, 4.1 Hz, H₈), 2.96 (s, 3H, H₁₄), 2.59 (dd, J = 13.2, 8. Hz, 1H, H₄), 2.06 - 1.92 (m, 2H, H_{6/10&7/9}), 1.91 - 1.70 (m, 3H, H_{4,6/10&7/9}), 1.70-1.59 (m, 2H, H_{6/10} & O-H), 1.50 - 1.40 (m, 2H, H_{7/9}), 1.33 - 1.19 (m, 1H, H_{6/10}), 1.00 (s, 9H, H₁₃) ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 182.97 (C₂), 173.21 (C₁₁), 81.59 (C₁), 69.39 (C₈), 56.85 (C₃), 46.62 (C₅), 38.37 (C₁₂), 35.77 (C₄), 31.57 (C_{7/9}), 31.45 (C₁₄), 31.36 (C_{7/9}), 31.32 (C_{6/10}), 30.78 (C_{6/10}), 26.00 (C₁₃) HRMS-ESI (m/z) [M+Na⁺] calc. for C₁₆H₂₆N₂O₃Na, 317.1836; found 317.1828 IR vmax - 3405 (O-H), 2951, 2926, 2859 (C-H), 1685 (C=O) R_f - 0.32 in 10% MeOH in dichloromethane mp 197-198 °C 26 [α] D = -4 ° (c = 1 in CHCl₃)

X-Ray data - shows trans OH group at C8 to carbonyl at C11.

Table 4 Crystal data and structure	Table 4 Crystal data and structure refinement for 13b.								
	\rightarrow								
CCDC deposition number	2070023								
Empirical formula	C ₁₆ H ₂₆ N ₂ O ₃								
Formula weight	294.39								
Temperature/K	99.97								
Crystal system	monoclinic								
Space group	P2 ₁								
a/Å	5.94680(10)								
b/Å c/Å	13.2423(3) 10.0750(3)								
α/°	90								
β/°	97.9895(15)								
γ/°	90								
Volume/Å ³	785.70(3)								
Z	2								
ρ _{calc} g/cm ³	1.244								
μ/mm ⁻¹	0.086								
F(000)	320.0								
Crystal size/mm ³	0.424 × 0.266 × 0.074								
Radiation	MoKα (λ = 0.71073)								
20 range for data collection/°	4.082 to 55.932								
Index ranges Reflections collected	$-7 \le h \le 7, -17 \le k \le 17, -13 \le l \le 13$ 18866								
Independent reflections	3773 [R _{int} = 0.0301, R _{sigma} = 0.0227]								
Data/restraints/parameters	3773/1/198								
Goodness-of-fit on F ²	1.051								
Final R indexes [I>=2σ (I)]	R ₁ = 0.0318, wR ₂ = 0.0801								
Final R indexes [all data]	R ₁ = 0.0339, wR ₂ = 0.0812								
Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å-3	0.25/-0.17								



(3R,5s,8S)-8-hydroxy-1-oxo-2-azaspiro[4.5]decane-3-carboxylic acid (14)

To a solution of **13a** (30 mg, 0.10 mmol) in water (0.5 mL), sodium hydroxide (12 mg, 0.30 mmol) in a sealed tube. The mixture was stirred at 90 °C for 16 hours. The resulting mixture was then neutralised (approx. pH = 8) and lyophilized. The mixture was redissolved in ethanol and filtered to remove excess salt. The product was purified by Hypercarb HPLC with a gradient of 0-100% acetonitrile in 100 mM ammonium bicarbonate buffer to yield **14** (19.3 mg, 80%) as a white powder.

¹**H NMR** (500 MHz, Deuterium Oxide) δ 4.16 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H, H₃), 3.99 (s, 1H, H₈), 2.50 (t, J = 11.1 Hz, 1H, H₄), 2.01 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H, H₄), 1.96 – 1.81 (m, 2H, H_{6&10}), 1.81 – 1.59 (m, 4H, H_{7&9}), 1.43 – 1.24 (m, 2H, H_{6&10}). ¹³**C NMR** (125 MHz, Deuterium Oxide) δ 184.73 (C₁), 179.73 (C₂), 65.56 (C₈), 54.62 (C₃), 44.32 (C₅), 36.01 (C₄), 27.77 (C_{7/9}), 27.71 (C_{7/9}), 27.23 (C_{6/10}), 26.56 (C_{6/10}). **HRMS-Nanospray** (*m/z*) [M-H]⁻ calc. for C₁₀H₁₄NO₄, 212.0923; found 212.0928.

CD spectra - showed end absorption only.



(1s,4R)-1-((S)-2-amino-2-carboxyethyl)-4-hydroxycyclohexane-1-carboxylic acid (15)

To a solution of **13a** (236 mg, 0.8 mmol) in water (2 mL), barium hydroxide (1.645 g, 9.6 mmol) and barium carbonate (158 mg, 0.8 mmol) was added. The mixture was stirred at 80 °C for 20 hours. The mixture was diluted with H_2O (5 mL) and dry ice was added to precipitate barium hydroxide as barium carbonate. Any solids were removed by filtration and the solution was concentrated *in vacuo*. Purification was carried out by reversed phase column chromatography on C18 silica gel eluting with $H_2O + 0.1\%$ TFA to yield **15** as the TFA salt (207 mg, 75 %) as a colourless solid.

¹**H NMR** (400 MHz, Deuterium Oxide) δ 4.04 (dd, *J* = 7.1, 5.1 Hz, 1H, H₃), 3.61 (tt, *J* = 9.9, 4.2 Hz, 1H, H₈), 2.30 (dd, *J* = 15.1, 7.2 Hz, 1H, H₄), 2.23 – 2.02 (m, 2H, H_{6&10}), 1.87 (dd, *J* = 15.1, 5.2 Hz, 1H, H₄), 1.87 – 1.76 (m, 2H, H_{7&9}), 1.45 – 1.18 (m, 4H, H_{6,7,9&10}).

¹³**C NMR** (100 MHz, Deuterium Oxide) δ 179.2 (C₁), 171.7 (C₂), 162.9 (q, *J* = 35.7 Hz, CF₃COO⁻), 116.2 (q, *J* = 292.0

Hz, *C*F₃COO⁻), 117.7 (C₁), 114.8 (C₁), 111.9 (C₁), 68.8 (C₈), 49.5 (C₃), 44.4 (C₅), 39.5 (C₄), 32.0 (C_{6/10}), 30.5 (C_{7&9 and 6/10}).

HRMS-Nanospray (*m*/*z*) [M+H]⁺ calc. for C₁₀H₁₈NO₅, 232.1185; found 232.1176

IR vmax – 2941(C-H), 1665 (C=O)

22

 $[\alpha]^{D} = 8^{\circ} (c = 1 \text{ in } H_2O)$

3. Additional data

3.1 Hydrolysis optimization

		onditions??	$HN \rightarrow HN \rightarrow H_2N \rightarrow H_2N$				Aromatic impurities		
	SM 8a			A B 9 1				С	
	Base	Eq.	Solvent	Conc.	Ratio				Comment
	(eq.)			(M)	SM	Α	В	С	-
а	Ba(OH)₂	3	D_2O	0.2	52	39	-	9	Base added last
b	BaO	3	H ₂ O	0.2	63	31	-	6	Sonicated & Concentrated
С	NaOH	3	H ₂ O	0.2	27	40	-	33	Sonicated & Concentrated
d	LiOH	3	D_2O	0.2	-	-	-	-	Sonicated. Complex product mixture
е	КОН	3	D ₂ O	0.2	50	23	-	27	Sonicated
f	Ca(OH) ₂	3	D ₂ O	0.2	94	-	-	6	Sonicated
g	NaOH/NaCO₃	3	D_2O	0.2	42	22	-	36	Sonicated

Table 2 - Exploring various bases for the hydrolysis of 8a.

All reactions performed at 30 °C, overnight.

			Conditions??	HN NaO	NaC H ₂ N	D ₂ C,,, NaO	, "ОН	Aromatic impurities	
		SM 8a			B 1				C
	Base	Eq.	Solvent	Conc.		Ratio			Comment
	(eq.)			(M)	SM	Α	В	С	
а	Ba(OH)₂	3	D ₂ O	0.2	52	39	-	9	Base added last.
b	Ba(OH) ₂	3	$D_2O:dioxane$	0.2	99	t	-	t	Base added last.
C	Ba(OH) ₂	3	D ₂ O:MeOD	0.2	83	14	-	3	Base added last.
d	Ba(OH)₂	3	D_2O	0.4	62	32	-	6	Base added last.
е	Ba(OH)₂	3	H ₂ O	0.1	40	47	-	13	Sonicated & Concentrated.
f	Ba(OH)₂	12	H ₂ O	0.1	22	57	t	21	Sonicated & Concentrated.
g	Ba(OH) ₂	3	H ₂ O	0.05	61	32	-	7	Sonicated & Concentrated.
h	Ba(OH) ₂	12	D_2O	0.05	44	40	t	16	Sonicated & Concentrated.

All reactions performed at 30 °C, overnight. t – trace (<1%).

3.2 Spirocyclisation optimization

		→0 −N	onditions)	
Solvent	6 Time	Temp (°C)	Base	7 KI (eq.)	Yield (%)	Comments
DCM:toluene (4:1) ^a	72 h	60	TEA	1.1	82	Conventional heating
Acetonitrile ^b	5 min	150	Lutidine	1.1	NMR - full conversion	Microwave test
Acetonitrile ^b	5 min	150	TEA	1.1	NMR - full conversion	Microwave test
Acetonitrile ^b	5 min	150	TEA	0	NMR - full conversion	Microwave test
	DCM:toluene (4:1) ^a Acetonitrile ^b Acetonitrile ^b	Solvent Time DCM:toluene 72 h (4:1) ^a 72 h Acetonitrile ^b 5 min Acetonitrile ^b 5 min Acetonitrile ^b 5 min	$\frac{1}{6}$ Solvent Time Temp (°C) DCM:toluene 72 h 60 (4:1) ^a 5 min 150 Acetonitrile ^b 5 min 150 Acetonitrile ^b 5 min 150	6SolventTimeTemp (°C)BaseDCM:toluene (4:1)a72 h60TEAAcetonitrileb5 min150LutidineAcetonitrileb5 min150TEAAcetonitrileb5 min150TEAAcetonitrileb5 min150TEA		

Table 1 - Conditions for transferring the spirocyclisation reaction to the microwave.

^a 0.5M ^b 0.15M

4. NMR Spectra














Quantitative ¹H NMR of 9



¹³C NMR of 9







¹³C NMR of S2



¹³C NMR of S3



¹³C NMR of S4



¹³C NMR of S5



¹³C NMR of S6







¹³C NMR of 23



¹³C NMR of 24a



















¹³C NMR of 25 (referenced to sodium carbonate)⁴



¹³C NMR of 26 (referenced to sodium carbonate)⁴







Quantitative ¹H NMR of S7







¹³C NMR of S7 (referenced to sodium carbonate)⁴



SI-59



Quantitative ¹H NMR of S8







¹³C NMR of S8 (referenced to sodium carbonate)⁴







¹³C NMR of 13a







¹³C NMR of 14





5. CD data



6. References

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