

## Supporting information

# Thiolation of Symmetrical and Unsymmetrical Diketopiperazines

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## General

<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker Avance 300 (300 MHz), a Bruker AM 400 (400 MHz) or a Bruker Avance 600 (600 MHz) spectrometer as solutions. Chemical shifts are expressed in parts per million (ppm,  $\delta$ ) downfield from tetramethylsilane (TMS) and are referenced to chloroform (7.26 ppm) as internal standards. All couplings constants are absolute values and *J* values are expressed in Hertz (Hz). The spectra were analyzed according to first order and the descriptions of signals include: s = singlet, d = doublet, dd = doublet of doublets, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet. Diastereotopic methylene protons were assigned with H<sub>A</sub> and H<sub>B</sub>, where H<sub>A</sub> was used for the more downfield shifted proton. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker Avance 300 (75 MHz) or a Bruker AM 400 (100 MHz) spectrometer as solutions. Chemical shifts are expressed in parts per million (ppm,  $\delta$ ) downfield from tetramethylsilane (TMS) and are referenced to CDCl<sub>3</sub> (77.0 ppm) as internal standards. The signal structure was analyzed by DEPT and is described as follows: + = primary or tertiary C-atom (positive signal), - = secondary C-atom (negative signal) and C<sub>q</sub> = quaternary C-atom (no signal).

EI-MS (electron impact mass spectrometry) and FAB-MS (fast atom bombardment mass spectrometry) were performed by using a Finnigan MAT 90 (70 eV). The molecular fragments are quoted as the relation between mass and charge (*m/z*), the intensities as a percentaged value relative to the intensity of the base signal (100%). The abbreviation [M]<sup>+</sup> refers to the molecule ion. ESI-MS was performed by using an Agilent 6230 TOF LC/MS.

IR (infrared spectroscopy) data were recorded on FT-IR Bruker IFS 88 and are reported as follows: frequency of absorption (cm<sup>-1</sup>), intensity of absorption (s = strong, m = medium, w = weak, br = broad).

Elemental analysis was performed by using *Elementar* Vario Microcube. Descriptions were done at room temperature, and the following abbreviations were used: *calc.* (theoretical value), *found* (measured value). Information is given in mass percent.

Optical rotations were determined on a *Perkin Elmer* 241 polarimeter at 20 °C with a glass cuvette ( $l = 1$  dm) and the D line of sodium. The values were calculated according to the following formula:  $[\alpha]_D^{20} = \alpha/\beta \times d$  with D = sodium D line ( $\lambda = 589.3$  nm);  $\alpha$  = average of the obtained optical rotations;  $d$  = length of the cuvette (in dm,  $d = 1$ );  $\beta$  = concentration in g/ml. Information is given as, e.g.  $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -64.8$  ( $c = 0.58$ ,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ) with  $c$  = concentration in g/100 mL.

Reactions were monitored by silica gel coated aluminium plates (*Merck*, silica gel 60,  $F_{254}$ ). Detection was performed by examination under UV light (254 nm) and by staining with molybdate phosphate (5% phosphor molybdic acid in ethanol) or ninhydrine solution (3% ninhydrine in ethanol). Solvents, reagents and chemicals were purchased from *Aldrich*, *Fluka*, *ABCR* and *Acros*. Tetrahydrofuran was distilled from sodium/potassium prior to use. Dichloromethane was distilled from calcium hydride. Toluene was distilled from sodium. All reactions involving moisture sensitive reactants were executed under argon atmosphere using oven dried glassware. All other solvents, reagents and chemicals were used as purchased unless stated otherwise.

## Experimental

### General Procedures:

#### General Procedure (GP 1): Synthesis of *mono*-(methylthio)diketopiperazines

To a solution of DKP **1**{*xy*} (1.00 equiv.) in dry THF was added NaHMDS (1.0 M in THF, 6.00 equiv.) at  $-78$  °C. The mixture was allowed to stir for 1 h. Then, *S*-methyl methanesulfonylthioate (**12**, 2.50 equiv.) in dry THF was added and the mixture was stirred for 2 h while it was allowed to warm up to room temperature. Saturated  $\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$  solution was added, it was extracted with  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ . The combined organic extracts were dried over  $\text{MgSO}_4$  and the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure. Purification by column chromatography afforded the title compounds.

### **General Procedure (GP 2): Synthesis of *bis*-(methylthio)diketopiperazines**

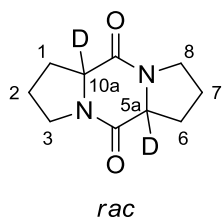
To a solution of sulfur (8.00 equiv.) in dry THF was added NaHMDS (1.0 M in THF, 3.00 equiv.) at room temperature. Then, DKP **1**{**xy**} (1.00 equiv.) in dry THF and more NaHMDS (1.0 M in THF, 3.00 equiv.) were added and the mixture was stirred for 0.5 h at room temperature. Saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl solution was added, it was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, the combined organic extracts were dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was dissolved in degassed THF/EtOH (1:1) and NaBH<sub>4</sub> (25.0 equiv.) was added. The mixture was stirred for 45 min at room temperature. Then, MeI (50.0 equiv.) was added and it was stirred overnight. Saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl solution was added, it was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, the combined organic extracts were dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure. Purification by column chromatography afforded the title compounds.

### **General Procedure (GP 3): Synthesis of epithiodiketopiperazines**

To a solution of sulfur (8.00 equiv.) in dry THF was added NaHMDS (1.0 M in THF, 3.00 equiv.) at room temperature. Then, DKP **1**{**xy**} (1.00 equiv.) in dry THF and more NaHMDS (1.0 M in THF, 3.00 equiv.) were added and the mixture was stirred for 0.5 h at room temperature. Saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl solution was added, it was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, the combined organic extracts were dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was dissolved in degassed THF/EtOH (1:1) and NaBH<sub>4</sub> (25.0 equiv.) was added. The mixture was stirred for 45 min at room temperature. Then, the mixture was cooled to 0 °C, quenched by the addition of saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl solution and extracted with EtOAc. The combined organic extracts were stirred with KI<sub>3</sub> solution for 10 min, Na<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> solution was added and it was extracted with EtOAc. The combined organic extracts were dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub> and the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure. Purification by column chromatography afforded the title compounds.

## Syntheses:

### (rac)-(5a,10a)-dideuterium-octahydrodipyrrolo[1,2-a:1',2'-d]pyrazine-5,10-dione

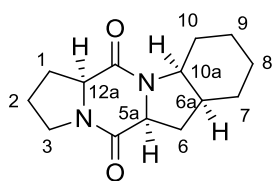


To a solution of DKP **1{aa}** (20.0 mg, 103  $\mu\text{mol}$ ) in dry THF (3 mL) was added NaHMDS (1.0 M in THF, 6.00 equiv.) or a freshly prepared LDA solution (472  $\mu\text{L}$ , 618  $\mu\text{mol}$ , 6.00 equiv.) at  $-78\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ . The mixture was allowed to stir for 1 h. Then  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$  (0.6 mL) was added at  $0\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  and the mixture was stirred for 2 h while it was allowed

to warm up to room temperature. Saturated  $\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$  solution was added, it was extracted with  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , the combined organic extracts were dried over  $\text{MgSO}_4$  and the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure. The title compound was obtained as colorless thick oil.

$R_f = 0.10$  (EtOAc). –  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (250 MHz,  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ):  $\delta = 1.37\text{--}2.11$  (m, 8H, 1- $\text{H}_2$ , 2- $\text{H}_2$ , 6- $\text{H}_2$ , 7- $\text{H}_2$ ), 3.21–3.45 (m, 4H, 3- $\text{H}_2$ , 8- $\text{H}_2$ ) ppm. – **IR** (ATR):  $\tilde{\nu} = 3374$  (m), 1624 (m), 1408 (m), 1085 (w), 860 (w), 665 (w), 470 (w) – **MS** (EI):  $m/z$  (%): 196 (81)  $[\text{M}]^+$ , 140 (17), 72 (100), 44 (98). – **HRMS** ( $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{12}\text{D}_2\text{N}_2\text{O}_2$ ): calc. 196.1181; found 196.1181.

### (5a*S*,6a*S*,10a*S*,12a*S*)-dodecahydropyrrolo[1',2':4,5]pyrazino[1,2-a]indole-5,12-dione (**1{ab}**)



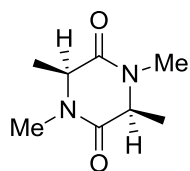
L-Proline (100 mg, 870  $\mu\text{mol}$ ) was suspended in toluene (3 mL). Triethylamine (482  $\mu\text{L}$ , 3.47 mmol, 4.00 equiv.) and methyl dichlorophosphite (82.5  $\mu\text{L}$ , 869  $\mu\text{mol}$ ) were added and the mixture was stirred at  $35\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  overnight. Then, L-octahydroindole-2-carboxylic acid (162 mg, 955  $\mu\text{mol}$ , 1.10 equiv.) and toluene

(2 mL) were added. After irradiation under closed-vessel microwave conditions at  $145\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  for 1 h, the solution was filtered, and the precipitate was washed with hot toluene (50 mL). The filtrate was evaporated under reduced pressure and the resulting crude product was purified by column chromatography (EtOAc). The title compound was obtained as colorless solid (54.0 mg, 25%).

$R_f = 0.16$  (EtOAc). – **mp**:  $137\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ . –  $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -37.1$  ( $c = 0.17$ ,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ). –  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 0.93\text{--}1.08$  (m, 1H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 1.10–1.39 (m, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 1.46–1.57 (m, 1H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 1.58–2.09 (m, 6H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 2.14–2.43 (m, 5H,  $\text{CH}_2$ , 6a-H), 3.46–3.60 (m, 2H, 3- $\text{H}_2$ ), 3.98 (dt,  $^3J = 10.6, 12.1$  Hz, 1H, 10a-H), 4.09 (t,  $^3J = 8.0$  Hz, 1H, 5a-H or 12a-H), 4.21 (t,  $^3J = 8.4$  Hz, 1H, 5a-H or 12a-H) ppm. –  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 20.8$  (–,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 23.4 (–,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 23.6 (–,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 25.9 (–,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 27.4 (–,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 27.5 (–,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 28.6 (–,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 36.1 (+, C-6a), 45.1 (–, C-3), 56.5 (+, C-10a), 60.6 (+, C-5a, C-12a), 166.7 ( $\text{C}_q$ , C=O), 167.2 ( $\text{C}_q$ , C=O) ppm. – **IR** (ATR):  $\tilde{\nu} = 3853$  (vs), 3442 (vs), 2925 (vs), 1653 (s), 1445 (vs), 1261 (vs), 1158 (vs), 1077 (vs), 800 (vs), 663 (vs), 611 (vs)  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . – **MS** (EI):  $m/z$  (%): 248 (95)  $[\text{M}]^+$ , 124 (42), 113

(22), 98 (21), 97 (38), 85 (65), 83 (17), 71 (33), 70 (100), 69 (44), 57 (94), 55 (35), 43 (31), 41 (23). –  
**HRMS** (C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>20</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>): calc. 248.1525; found 248.1522.

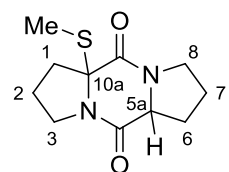
(3*R*,6*R*)-1,3,4,6-tetramethyl-3,6-bis(methylthio)piperazine-2,5-dione (**1{dd}**)



*N*-Methyl-L-Alanine (300 mg, 2.91 mmol) was suspended in toluene (8 mL). Triethylamine (1.64 mL, 11.6 mmol, 4.00 equiv.) and methyl dichlorophosphite (141  $\mu$ L, 1.45 mmol, 0.50 equiv.) were added and the mixture was stirred at 35 °C overnight. After irradiation under closed-vessel microwave conditions at 145 °C for 1 h, the solution was filtered, and the precipitate was washed with hot toluene (50 mL). The filtrate was evaporated under reduced pressure and the resulting crude product was purified by column chromatography (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH 98:2). The title compound was obtained as colorless solid (83.7 mg, 34 %).

**R<sub>f</sub>** = 0.14 (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH 98:2). – **mp**: 96 °C. – **[ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub><sup>20</sup>** = +62.6 (c = 0.38, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). – **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 1.49 (d, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 7.0 Hz, 6H, CHCH<sub>3</sub>), 2.89 (s, 6H, NCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.89 (q, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H, CH) ppm. – **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 19.0 (+, 2  $\times$  CHCH<sub>3</sub>), 32.0 (+, 2  $\times$  NCH<sub>3</sub>), 58.1 (+, 2  $\times$  CH), 166.8 (C<sub>q</sub>, 2  $\times$  C=O) ppm. – **IR** (ATR):  $\tilde{\nu}$  = 2984 (s), 2931 (s), 1650 (m), 1484 (m), 1450 (m), 1405 (m), 1369 (m), 1330 (m), 1298 (m), 1255 (m), 1172 (m), 1089 (m), 1063 (m), 1035 (m), 896 (s), 748 (m), 737 (m), 704 (m), 630 (s), 498 (m) cm<sup>-1</sup>. – **MS** (ED): *m/z* (%): 170 (100) [M]<sup>+</sup>, 127 (54), 85 (17), 58 (45), 42 (18). – **HRMS** (C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>20</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>): calc. 170.1055; found 170.1057.

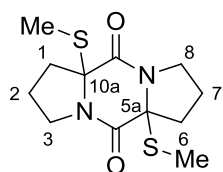
10a-(methylthio)octahydrodipyrrolo[1,2-a:1',2'-d]pyrazine-5,10-dione (**2{aa}**)



Prepared according to **GP 1**, starting from DKP **1{aa}** (50.0 mg, 257  $\mu$ mol). Column chromatography (cHex/EtOAc 1:5) afforded the title compound (10.3 mg, 17%, scalemic mixture) as yellow oil.

S-Me and  $\alpha$ -H = *cis* **R<sub>f</sub>** = 0.15 (cHex/EtOAc 1:5). – **<sup>1</sup>H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 1.91–2.13 (m, 4H, 2-H<sub>A</sub>, 6-H<sub>A</sub>, 7-H<sub>2</sub>), 2.16 (s, 3H, SCH<sub>3</sub>), 2.26–2.45 (m, 4H, 1-H<sub>2</sub>, 2-H<sub>B</sub>, 6-H<sub>B</sub>), 3.48–3.65 (m, 4H, 3-H<sub>2</sub>, 8-H<sub>2</sub>), 4.41–4.49 (m, 1H, H-5a) ppm. – **<sup>13</sup>C NMR** (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 13.9 (+, SCH<sub>3</sub>), 20.8 (–, C-2), 23.1 (–, C-7), 27.9 (–, C-6), 33.9 (–, C-1), 45.4 (–, C-3, C-8), 59.9 (+, C-5a), 59.9 (–, C-5a), 72.5 (C<sub>q</sub>, C-10a), 164.3 (C<sub>q</sub>, C=O), 167.2 (C<sub>q</sub>, C=O) ppm. – **IR** (film):  $\tilde{\nu}$  = 2956 (m), 2924 (m), 1664 (s), 1417 (s), 1340 (m), 1207 (m), 1158 (m), 1009 (w), 198 (w), 638 (w) cm<sup>-1</sup>. – **MS** (FAB, matrix: 3-NBA): *m/z* (%): 241(1) [M+H]<sup>+</sup>, 193 (8) [M<sup>+</sup>–SCH<sub>3</sub>], 165 (7), 133 (100). – **HRMS** (C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>13</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub><sup>+</sup>): calc. 193.0977; found 193.0979.

5a,10a-bis(methylthio)octahydrodipyrrolo[1,2-a:1',2'-d]pyrazine-5,10-dione (**3{aa}**)



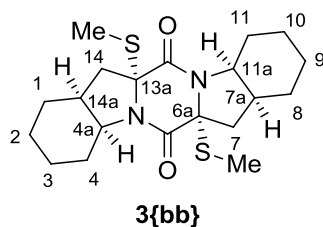
Prepared according to **GP 2**, starting from DKP **1{aa}** (200 mg, 1.03 mmol). Column chromatography (*c*Hex/EtOAc 1:5) afforded the title compound (153 mg, 52%, scalemic mixture) as colorless solid.

S-Me = *cis*

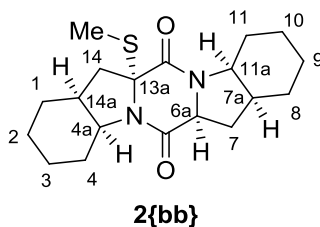
$R_f = 0.30$  (*c*Hex/EtOAc 1:5). – **mp**: 126 °C. –  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta =$

1.88–2.06 (m, 4H, 1- $\text{H}_A$ , 2- $\text{H}_A$ , 6- $\text{H}_A$ , 7- $\text{H}_A$ ), 2.10–2.19 (s, 6H,  $\text{SCH}_3$ ), 2.18–2.31 (m, 2H, 2- $\text{H}_B$ , 7- $\text{H}_B$ ), 2.35–2.47 (m, 2H, 1- $\text{H}_B$ , 6- $\text{H}_B$ ), 3.45–3.71 (m, 4H, 3- $\text{H}_2$ , 8- $\text{H}_2$ ) ppm. –  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta =$  14.3 (+, 2  $\times$   $\text{SCH}_3$ ), 19.7 (–, C-2, C-7), 33.9 (–, C-1, C-6), 45.1 (–, C-3, C-8), 71.1 ( $\text{C}_q$ , C-5a, C-10a), 164.6 ( $\text{C}_q$ , 2  $\times$  C=O) ppm. – **IR** (ATR):  $\tilde{\nu} =$  3499 (m), 2922 (s), 1660 (s), 1415 (m), 1340 (m), 1200 (m), 1150 (w), 1018 (w), 672 (w)  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . – **MS** (FAB, matrix: 3-NBA):  $m/z$  (%): 239 (100) [ $\text{M}^+ - \text{SCH}_3$ ], 211 (17), 192 (68) [ $\text{M}^+ - 2 \times \text{SCH}_3$ ], 164 (19), 133 (63), 95 (44), 81 (30). – **HRMS** ( $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{15}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2\text{S}^+$ ): calc. 239.0854; found 239.0853. – **elemental analysis** ( $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2\text{S}_2$ ): calc. C 50.32, H 6.33, N 9.78, S 22.39; found C 50.49, H 6.46, N 9.63, S 21.45.

(4a*S*,6a*R*,7a*S*,11a*S*,13a*R*,14a*S*)-6a,13a-bis(methylthio)hexadecahydropyrazino[1,2-a:4,5-a']diindol-6,13-dione (**3{bb}**) + (4a*S*,6a*S*,7a*S*,11a*S*,13a*R*,14a*S*)-13a-(methylthio)hexadecahydropyrazino[1,2-a:4,5-a']diindol-6,13-dione (**2{bb}**)



**3{bb}**



**2{bb}**

Prepared according to **GP 2**, starting from DKP **1{bb}** (50.0 mg, 165  $\mu\text{mol}$ ). Column chromatography (*c*Hex/EtOAc 7:1) afforded the title compounds (**3{bb}**: 19.7 mg, 30%; **2{bb}**: 28.5 mg, 50%) as colorless solid and colorless oil.

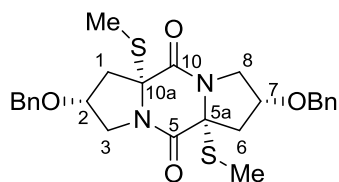
Alternative synthesis of **2{bb}**: Prepared according to **GP 1**, starting from DKP **1{bb}** (50.0 mg, 165  $\mu\text{mol}$ ). Column chromatography (*c*Hex/EtOAc 7:1) afforded the title compound (28.3 mg, 50%) as colorless oil.

**3{bb}**:  $R_f = 0.28$  (*c*Hex/EtOAc 7:1). – **mp**: 153 °C. –  $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -3.7$  ( $c = 0.46$ ,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ). –  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta =$  0.79–0.90 (m, 2H, 4- $\text{H}_A$ , 11- $\text{H}_A$ ), 2.27–2.36 (m, 4H, 2- $\text{H}_A$ , 3- $\text{H}_A$ , 9- $\text{H}_A$ , 10- $\text{H}_A$ ), 1.51–1.67 (m, 4H, 2- $\text{H}_B$ , 3- $\text{H}_B$ , 9- $\text{H}_B$ , 10- $\text{H}_B$ ), 1.67–1.80 (m, 4H, 1- $\text{H}_2$ , 8- $\text{H}_2$ ), 2.14–2.19 (m, 2H, 7- $\text{H}_A$ , 14- $\text{H}_A$ ), 2.20 (s, 6H, 2  $\times$   $\text{SCH}_3$ ), 2.27–2.35 (m, 2H, 7- $\text{H}_B$ , 14- $\text{H}_B$ ), 2.56–2.68 (m, 2H, 4- $\text{H}_B$ , 11- $\text{H}_B$ ), 2.87–3.04 (m, 2H, 7a-H, 14a-H), 4.01–4.12 (m, 2H, 4a-H, 11a-H) ppm. –  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta =$  15.0 (+,  $\text{SCH}_3$ ), 21.1 (–, C-2, C-9), 23.3 (–, C-3, C-10), 25.3 (–, C-1, C-8), 27.0 (–, C-4, C-11), 32.2 (+, C-7a, C-14a), 36.4 (–, C-7, C-14), 57.9 (+, C-4a, C-11a), 71.3 ( $\text{C}_q$ , C-6a, C-13a), 166.3 ( $\text{C}_q$ , 2  $\times$  C=O) ppm. – **IR**

(film):  $\tilde{\nu}$  = 3490 (w), 2924 (vs), 2855 (s), 1726 (m), 1666 (vs), 1390 (vs), 1346 (s), 1171 (m), 1067 (m), 726 (m)  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . – **MS** (EI):  $m/z$  (%): 394 (2.5)  $[\text{M}]^+$ , 347 (58), 300 (100), 279 (42), 250 (31), 167 (42), 149 (90), 96 (79), 82 (98), 55 (85), 43 (50). – **HRMS** ( $\text{C}_{20}\text{H}_{30}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2\text{S}_2$ ): calc. 394.1749; found 394.1752.

**2{bb}**:  $R_f$  = 0.11 (cHex/EtOAc 7:1). –  $[\alpha]_D^{20}$  = +5.7 ( $c$  = 0.43,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ). –  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 0.82–1.03 (m, 2H, 4- $\text{H}_A$ , 11- $\text{H}_A$ ), 1.08–1.84 (m, 12H, 1- $\text{H}_2$ , 2- $\text{H}_2$ , 3- $\text{H}_2$ , 8- $\text{H}_2$ , 9- $\text{H}_2$ , 10- $\text{H}_2$ ), 2.00–2.12 (m, 2H, 7- $\text{H}_A$ , 14- $\text{H}_A$ ), 2.13 (s, 3H,  $\text{SCH}_3$ ), 2.99–2.31 (m, 1H, 7- $\text{H}_B$ ), 2.33–2.46 (m, 3H, 4- $\text{H}_B$ , 7a-H, 11- $\text{H}_B$ ), 2.48–2.59 (m, 1H, 14- $\text{H}_B$ ), 2.77–2.89 (m, 1H, 14a-H), 3.95–4.05 (m, 2H, 4a-H, 11a-H), 4.67 (dd,  $^3J$  = 7.2, 10.6 Hz, 1H, 6a-H) ppm. –  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 14.1 (+,  $\text{SCH}_3$ ), 20.7, 21.0, 23.3, 23.4, 25.3, 25.8 (6  $\times$  –, C-1, C-2, C-3, C-8, C-9, C-10), 27.2, 27.3 (2  $\times$  –, C-4, C-11), 29.0 (–, C-7), 32.9 (+, C-14a), 35.3 (–, C-14), 35.9 (+, C-7a), 56.4, 57.0 (2  $\times$  +, C-4a, C-11a), 59.9 (+, C-6a), 72.6 ( $\text{C}_q$ , C-13a), 164.8 ( $\text{C}_q$ , C=O), 168.5 ( $\text{C}_q$ , C=O) ppm. – **IR** (film):  $\tilde{\nu}$  = 2922 (w), 2854 (w), 1657 (m), 1396 (m), 1346 (w), 1168 (w), 820 (w), 728 (w), 710 (w)  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . – **MS** (FAB, matrix: 3-NBA):  $m/z$  (%): 349 (15)  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ , 301 (100), 273 (28), 167 (25), 149 (57). – **HRMS** ( $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{28}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2\text{S}+\text{H}^+$ ): calc. 349.1944; found 349.1949.

(2*R*,5*aR*,7*R*,10*aR*)-2,7-Bis(benzyloxy)-5*a*,10*a*-bis(methylthio)octahydrodipyrrolo[1,2-*a*:1',2'-*d*]pyrazine-5,10-dione (**3{cc}**)

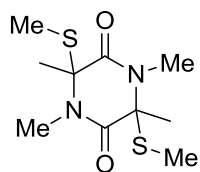


Prepared according to **GP 2**, starting from DKP **1{cc}** (100 mg, 246  $\mu\text{mol}$ ). Column chromatography (cHex/EtOAc 1:1) afforded the title compound (28.6 mg, 23%) as yellow oil.

$R_f$  = 0.29 (cHex/EtOAc 1:1). –  $[\alpha]_D^{20}$  = –40.1 ( $c$  = 0.22,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ). –  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 2.15 (s, 6H,  $\text{SCH}_3$ ), 2.30 (dd,  $^3J$  = 7.2 Hz,  $^2J$  = 15.0 Hz, 2H, 1- $\text{H}_A$ , 6- $\text{H}_A$ ), 2.63 (dd,  $^3J$  = 1.6 Hz,  $^2J$  = 15.0 Hz, 2H, 1- $\text{H}_B$ , 6- $\text{H}_B$ ), 3.47 (dd,  $^3J$  = 3.4 Hz,  $^2J$  = 12.8 Hz, 2H, 3- $\text{H}_A$ , 8- $\text{H}_A$ ), 4.02–4.08 (m, 2H, 2-H, 7-H), 4.12 (dd,  $^3J$  = 7.2 Hz,  $^2J$  = 12.8 Hz, 2H, 3- $\text{H}_B$ , 8- $\text{H}_B$ ), 4.37–4.46 (m, 4H, 2  $\times$   $\text{OCH}_2\text{Ph}$ ), 7.10–7.23 (m, 10H,  $H_{\text{Ph}}$ ) ppm. –  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 15.1 (+, 2  $\times$   $\text{SCH}_3$ ), 40.8 (–, C-1, C-6), 51.5 (–, C-3, C-8), 69.5 (q,  $\text{CSCH}_3$ ), 71.5 (–,  $\text{OCH}_2\text{Ph}$ ), 73.7 (+, C-2, C-7), 127.6 (+,  $\text{C}_{\text{Ar}}$ ), 127.8 (+,  $\text{C}_{\text{Ar}}$ ), 128.5 (+,  $\text{C}_{\text{Ar}}$ ), 137.5 ( $\text{C}_q$ ,  $\text{C}_{\text{Ar}}$ ), 164.3 ( $\text{C}_q$ , 2  $\times$  C=O) ppm. – **IR** (film):  $\tilde{\nu}$  = 3485 (w), 3031 (m), 2921 (s), 1667 (s), 1415 (s), 1362 (s), 1101 (s), 912 (m), 736 (s), 699 (s)  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . – **MS** (FAB, matrix: 3-NBA):  $m/z$  (%): 451 (16)  $[\text{M}^+-\text{SCH}_3]$ , 405 (19)  $[\text{M}+\text{H}^+-2\times\text{SCH}_3]$ , 297 (9), 189 (8), 91 (100). – **HRMS** ( $\text{C}_{25}\text{H}_{27}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4\text{S}^+$ ): calc. 451.1692; found 451.1695.



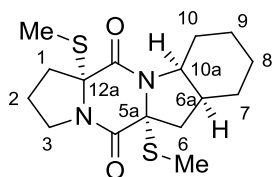
1,3,4,6-tetramethyl-3,6-bis(methylthio)piperazine-2,5-dione (**3{dd}**)



Prepared according to **GP 2**, starting from DKP **1{dd}** (34.2 mg, 201  $\mu\text{mol}$ ). Column chromatography (cHex/EtOAc 5:1) afforded the title compound (21.5 mg, 41%, scalemic mixture) as colorless solid.

S-Me = *cis*  $R_f = 0.05$  (cHex/EtOAc 5:1). – **mp**: 59 °C. –  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 1.84$  (s, 6H,  $\text{CCH}_3$ ), 2.21 (s, 6H,  $\text{SCH}_3$ ), 3.13 (s, 6H,  $\text{NCH}_3$ ) ppm. –  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 14.6$  (+, 2  $\times$   $\text{SCH}_3$ ), 25.3 (+, 2  $\times$   $\text{CCH}_3$ ), 30.0 (+, 2  $\times$   $\text{NCH}_3$ ), 68.0 ( $\text{C}_q$ , 2  $\times$   $\text{CC}=\text{O}$ ), 165.7 ( $\text{C}_q$ , 2  $\times$   $\text{C}=\text{O}$ ) ppm. – **IR** (ATR):  $\tilde{\nu} = 2990$  (vs), 2923 (vs), 1646 (s), 1413 (s), 1365 (s), 1239 (s), 1226 (s), 1112 (s), 1073 (s), 967 (s), 908 (s), 768 (s), 715 (vs), 699 (s), 666 (s), 571 (s), 524 (s), 439 (s)  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . – **MS** (EI):  $m/z$  (%): 262 (1)  $[\text{M}]^+$ , 215 (98), 178 (21), 168 (77), 141 (21), 140 (100), 139 (44), 56 (89). – **HRMS** ( $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2\text{S}_2$ ): calc. 262.0809; found 262.0807.

(5a*R*,6a*S*,10a*S*,12a*R*)-5a,12a-bis(methylthio)dodecahydropyrrolo[1',2':4,5]pyrazino[1,2-*a*]indole-5,12-dione (**3{ab}**)

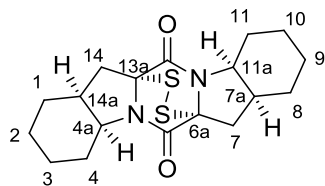


Prepared according to **GP 2**, starting from DKP **1{ab}** (54.9 mg, 221  $\mu\text{mol}$ ). Column chromatography (cHex/EtOAc 5:1) afforded the title compound (15.6 mg, 21%) as pink solid.

$R_f = 0.13$  (cHex/EtOAc 5:1). – **mp**: 147 °C. –  $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -31.5$  ( $c = 0.38$ ,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ). –  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 0.83$ – $0.94$  (m, 1H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 4.04– $4.12$  (m, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 1.49– $1.66$  (m, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 1.68– $1.80$  (m, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 1.94– $2.04$  (m, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 2.11– $2.17$  (m, 1H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 2.18 (s, 3H,  $\text{SCH}_3$ ), 2.25 (s, 3H,  $\text{SCH}_3$ ), 2.26– $2.39$  (m, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 2.48– $2.59$  (m, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 2.94– $3.04$  (m, 1H, 6a-H), 3.52– $3.60$  (m, 1H, 3- $\text{H}_A$ ), 3.70– $3.79$  (m, 1H, 3- $\text{H}_B$ ), 4.04– $4.12$  (m, 1H, 10a-H) ppm. –  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 14.6$  (–,  $\text{SCH}_3$ ), 14.9 (–,  $\text{SCH}_3$ ), 19.8 (+,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 21.2 (+,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 23.2 (+,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 25.3 (+,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 27.0 (+,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 32.3 (–, C-6a), 34.8 (+,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 35.5 (+,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 45.2 (+, C-3), 57.7 (–, C-10a), 71.1, 71.4 (2  $\times$   $\text{C}_q$ , C-5a, C-12a), 165.2 ( $\text{C}_q$ ,  $\text{C}=\text{O}$ ), 165.9 ( $\text{C}_q$ ,  $\text{C}=\text{O}$ ) ppm. – **IR** (ATR):  $\tilde{\nu} = 2924$  (vw), 2349 (vw), 1659 (w), 1398 (vw), 1260 (vw), 1156 (vw), 1015 (vw), 967 (vw), 712 (vw), 613 (vw)  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . – **MS** (FAB, matrix: 3-NBA):  $m/z$  (%): 341 (4)  $[\text{M}]^+$ , 293 (85)  $[\text{M}^+ - \text{SCH}_3]$ , 246 (100)  $[\text{M}^+ - 2 \times \text{SCH}_3]$ , 165 (31), 95 (41). – **HRMS** ( $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{21}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2\text{S}^+$ ): calc. 293.1324; found 293.1327.



(4a*S*,6a*R*,7a*S*,11a*S*,13a*R*,14a*S*)-dodecahydro-6a,13a-epidithiopyrazineo[1,2-*a*:4,5-*a'*]diindol-6,13(1*H*,7*H*)-dione (**4{bb}**)

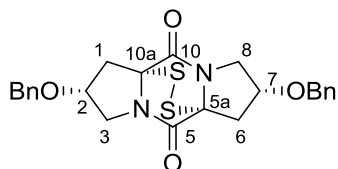


Prepared according to **GP 3**, starting from DKP **1{bb}** (150 mg, 496  $\mu\text{mol}$ ).

Column chromatography (*c*Hex/EtOAc 7:1) afforded the title compound (58.2 mg, 32%) as colorless solid.

$R_f = 0.34$  (*c*Hex/EtOAc 5:1). – **mp**: 172 °C. –  $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -130.3$  ( $c = 0.35$ ,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ). –  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 1.10\text{--}1.26$  (m, 4H, 2- $\text{H}_A$ , 3- $\text{H}_A$ , 9- $\text{H}_A$ , 10- $\text{H}_A$ ), 1.30–1.42 (m, 2H, 4- $\text{H}_A$ , 11- $\text{H}_A$ ), 1.52–1.65 (m, 4H, 2- $\text{H}_B$ , 3- $\text{H}_B$ , 9- $\text{H}_B$ , 10- $\text{H}_B$ ), 1.68–1.81 (m, 4H, 1- $\text{H}_2$ , 8- $\text{H}_2$ ), 2.02–2.10 (m, 2H, 7- $\text{H}_A$ , 14- $\text{H}_A$ ), 2.10–2.19 (m, 2H, 4- $\text{H}_B$ , 11- $\text{H}_B$ ), 2.80–2.94 (m, 2H, 7a-H, 14a-H), 2.95–3.05 (m, 2H, 7- $\text{H}_B$ , 14- $\text{H}_B$ ), 4.10–4.22 (m, 2H, 4a-H, 11a-H) ppm. –  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 20.7$  (–, C-3, C-10), 22.8 (–, C-2, C-9), 25.2 (–, C-1, C-8), 27.7 (–, C-4, C-11), 34.1 (–, C-7, C-14), 35.7 (+, C-7a, C-14a), 57.8 (+, C-4a, C-11a), 76.3 ( $\text{C}_q$ , C-6a, C-13a), 163.6 ( $\text{C}_q$ , 2  $\times$  C=O) ppm. – **IR** (ATR):  $\tilde{\nu} = 2921$  (w), 2854 (w), 1679 (m), 1377 (m), 1346 (w), 1179 (w), 716 (w), 621 (w)  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . – **MS** (EI):  $m/z$  (%): 364 (0.21)  $[\text{M}]^+$ , 300 (100), 219 (67), 139 (6), 81 (22). – **HRMS** ( $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{24}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2\text{S}_2$ ): calc. 364.1279; found 364.1278. – **Elemental analysis** ( $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{24}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2\text{S}_2$ ): calc. C 59.31, H 6.64, N 7.68, S 17.59; found C 58.55, H 6.56, N 7.45, S 17.43.

(2*R*,5a*R*,7*R*,10a*R*)-2,7-Bis(benzyloxy)tetrahydro-5a,10a-epidithiodipyrrolo[1,2-*a*:1',2'-*d*]pyrazine-5,10(1*H*,6*H*)-dione (**4{cc}**)

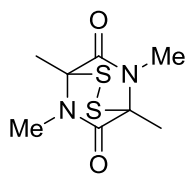


Prepared according to **GP 3**, starting from DKP **1{cc}** (150 mg, 369  $\mu\text{mol}$ ).

Column chromatography (*c*Hex/EtOAc 1:1) afforded the title compound (72.8 mg, 42%) as yellow solid.

$R_f = 0.23$  (*c*Hex/EtOAc 1:1). – **mp**: 105 °C. –  $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -250.7$  ( $c = 0.34$ ,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ). –  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 2.49$  (dd,  $^3J = 2.7$  Hz,  $^2J = 15.4$  Hz, 2H, 1- $\text{H}_A$ , 6- $\text{H}_A$ ), 3.21 (dd,  $^3J = 6.0$  Hz,  $^2J = 15.4$  Hz, 2H, 1- $\text{H}_B$ , 6- $\text{H}_B$ ), 3.80 (dd,  $^3J = 6.0$  Hz,  $^2J = 12.4$  Hz, 2H, 3- $\text{H}_A$ , 8- $\text{H}_A$ ), 3.90 (dd,  $^3J = 2.7$  Hz,  $^2J = 12.4$  Hz, 2H, 3- $\text{H}_B$ , 8- $\text{H}_B$ ), 4.35 (tt,  $^3J = 2.7$  Hz,  $^3J = 6.0$  Hz, 2H, 2- $\text{H}_2$ , 7- $\text{H}_2$ ), 4.56 (d,  $^2J = 2.4$  Hz, 4H, 2  $\times$   $\text{OCH}_2\text{Ph}$ ), 7.28–7.38 (m, 10H,  $H_{\text{Ph}}$ ) ppm. –  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 37.8$  (–, C-1, C-6), 51.0 (–, C-3, C-8), 71.6 (–,  $\text{OCH}_2\text{Ph}$ ), 75.0 ( $\text{C}_q$ , C-5a, C-10a), 75.3 (+, C-2, C-7), 127.7 (+,  $\text{C}_{\text{Ph}}$ ), 128.1 (+,  $\text{C}_{\text{Ph}}$ ), 128.6 (+,  $\text{C}_{\text{Ph}}$ ), 137.1 ( $\text{C}_q$ , 2  $\times$   $\text{C}_{\text{Ph}}$ ), 163.3 ( $\text{C}_q$ , 2  $\times$  C=O) ppm. – **IR** (ATR):  $\tilde{\nu} = 3029$  (vw), 2861 (vw), 1683 (m), 1379 (w), 1095 (w), 734 (w), 696 (w)  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . – **MS** (FAB, matrix: 3-NBA):  $m/z$  (%): 469 (4)  $[\text{M}]^+$ , 421 (4), 405 (43), 224 (15), 154 (30), 136 (36), 197 (16), 91 (100). – **HRMS** ( $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{24}\text{N}_2\text{O}_4\text{S}_2+\text{H}^+$ ): calc. 469.1256; found 469.1254.

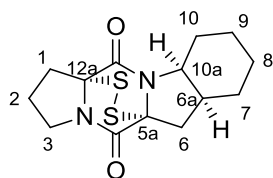
1,4,5,7-tetramethyl-2,3-dithia-5,7-diazabicyclo[2.2.2]octane-6,8-dione (**4{dd}**)



Prepared according to **GP 3**, starting from DKP **1{dd}** (83.7 mg, 492  $\mu\text{mol}$ ). Column chromatography (*c*Hex/EtOAc 3:1) afforded the title compound (35.1 mg, 31%, scalemic mixture) as colorless solid.

S-S = *cis*  $R_f = 0.35$  (*c*Hex/EtOAc 5:1). – **mp**: 135 °C. –  $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -14.3$  ( $c = 0.27$ ,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ). –  **$^1\text{H-NMR}$**  (300 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 2.01$  (s, 6H,  $c\text{CH}_3$ ), 3.08 (s, 6H,  $\text{NCH}_3$ ) ppm. –  **$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$**  (75 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 19.0$  (+,  $2 \times \text{CCH}_3$ ), 27.5 (+,  $2 \times \text{NCH}_3$ ), 71.8 ( $\text{C}_q$ ,  $2 \times \text{CC}=\text{O}$ ), 166.0 ( $\text{C}_q$ ,  $2 \times \text{C}=\text{O}$ ) ppm. – **IR** (ATR):  $\tilde{\nu} = 2920$  (m), 2852 (w), 1681 (w), 1613 (w), 1461 (w), 1415 (w), 1377 (w), 1072 (vw), 888 (vw), 634 (vw)  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . – **MS** (ESI):  $m/z$ : 169 [ $\text{M}^+ - \text{SS} + \text{H}^+$ ]. – **HRMS** (ESI,  $\text{C}_8\text{H}_{12}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2 + \text{H}^+$ ): calc. 169.0977; found 169.0802.

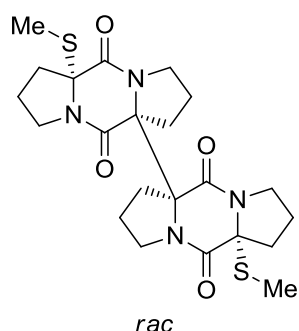
(5a*R*,6a*S*,10a*S*,12a*R*)-octahydro-5a,12a-epidithiopyrrolo[1',2':4,5]pyrazino[1,2-*a*]indole-5,12(1*H*,6*H*)-dione (**4{ab}**)



Prepared according to **GP 3**, starting from DKP **1{ab}** (27.1 mg, 109  $\mu\text{mol}$ ). Column chromatography (*c*Hex/EtOAc 5:1) afforded the title compound (5.4 mg, 16%) as colorless oil.

$R_f = 0.09$  (*c*Hex/EtOAc 5:1). –  $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -104.7$  ( $c = 0.26$ ,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ). –  **$^1\text{H-NMR}$**  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 1.14$ – $1.25$  (m, 3H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 1.69– $1.87$  (m, 3H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 2.07– $2.38$  (m, 6H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 2.85– $3.10$  (m, 3H,  $\text{CH}_2$ , 6a-H), 3.54– $3.66$  (m, 1H, 3- $\text{H}_A$ ), 3.81– $3.90$  (m, 1H, 3- $\text{H}_B$ ), 4.10– $4.24$  (m, 1H, 10a-H) ppm. –  **$^{13}\text{C-NMR}$**  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 20.8$  (–,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 22.8 (–,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 23.5 (–,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 25.2 (–,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 27.8 (–,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 32.3 (–,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 34.0 (–,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 35.8 (+, C-6a), 45.9 (–, C-3), 57.9 (+, C-10a), 77.2 ( $\text{C}_q$ , C-5a, C-12a), 163.0, 163.9 ( $2 \times \text{C}_q$ , C-5a, C-12a) ppm. – **IR** (ATR):  $\tilde{\nu} = 2923$  (m), 2853 (w), 1687 (m), 1444 (w), 1376 (m), 1346 (w), 1311 (w), 1182 (w), 752 (w), 697 (w), 667 (w)  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . – **MS** (ESI):  $m/z$ : 247 [ $\text{M}^+ - \text{SS} + \text{H}^+$ ]. – **HRMS** (ESI,  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{18}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2 + \text{H}^+$ ): calc. 247.1447; found 247.1222.

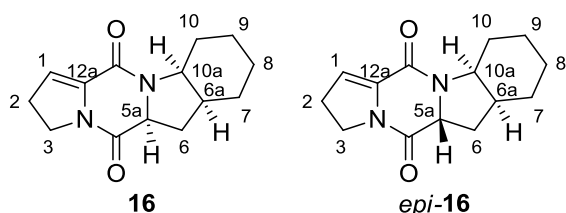
(*rac*)-10a,10'a-bis(methylthio)octahydro-1*H*,1'*H*-5a,5'a-bidipyrrolo[1,2-a:1',2'-d]pyrazine-5,5',10,10'(6*H*,6'*H*,10a*H*,10'a*H*)-tetraone (**14**)



Prepared according to **GP 1** starting from DKP **1{aa}** (50.0 mg, 257  $\mu\text{mol}$ ), using LDA (6.00 equiv.) as a base instead of NaHMDS. Column chromatography (*c*Hex/EtOAc 1:5) afforded the title compound (44.0 mg, 71%) as yellow solid.

$R_f = 0.20$  (*c*Hex/EtOAc 1:5). –  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 1.90$  (s, 6H, SCH<sub>3</sub>), 1.96–2.25 (m, 10H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.32–2.45 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.93–3.01 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.34–3.47 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.73–3.81 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>) ppm. –  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 12.9$  (+, 2  $\times$  SCH<sub>3</sub>), 19.0, 22.5 (–, 4  $\times$  NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 31.8, 31.9 (–, 4  $\times$  CCH<sub>2</sub>), 44.8, 49.3 (–, 4  $\times$  NCH<sub>2</sub>), 74.4, 75.9 (C<sub>q</sub>, 2  $\times$  CS, CC), 163.9, 165.5 (C<sub>q</sub>, 4  $\times$  C=O) ppm. – **IR** (drift):  $\tilde{\nu} = 3378$  (w), 2984 (w), 1650 (m), 1385 (m), 1240 (m), 1052 (m), 825 (w)  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . – **MS** (EI):  $m/z$  (%): 478 (0.27) [M]<sup>+</sup>, 192 (15), 169 (8), 84 (69), 66 (100). – **HRMS** (ESI, C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>30</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>4</sub>S<sub>2</sub>+H<sup>+</sup>): calc. 479.1787; found 479.1500.

(5a*S*,6a*S*,10a*S*)-2,3,5a,6,6a,7,8,9,10,10a-decahydropyrrolo[1',2':4,5]pyrazino[1,2-a]indole-5,12-dione (**16**) + (5a*R*,6a*S*,10a*S*)-2,3,5a,6,6a,7,8,9,10,10a-decahydropyrrolo[1',2':4,5]pyrazino[1,2-a]indole-5,12-dione (*epi*-**16**)



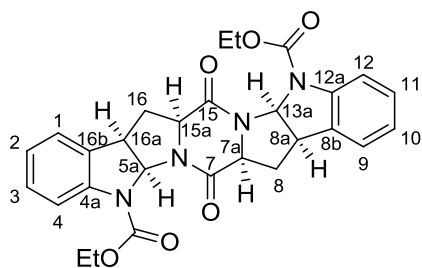
Prepared according to **GP 1**, starting from DKP **1{ab}** (29.7 mg, 120  $\mu\text{mol}$ ). Column chromatography (*c*Hex/EtOAc 1:5) afforded the title compounds (25.8 mg, 87%) as yellow oil (mixture of diastereomers 2:1).

$R_f = 0.14$  (*c*Hex/EtOAc 1:5). –  $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -36.2$  ( $c = 0.15$ ,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ). –  $^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )<sup>a</sup>:  $\delta = 0.78$ –2.26 (m, 13H, 2-H<sub>2</sub>, 6-H<sub>2</sub>, 6a-H, 7-H<sub>2</sub>, 8-H<sub>2</sub>, 9-H<sub>2</sub>, 10-H<sub>2</sub>), 3.83–3.94, 4.03–4.16, 4.24–4.39, 4.42–4.50 (4  $\times$  m, 4H, 3-H<sub>2</sub>, 5a-H, 10a-H), 6.10–6.15 (m, 1H, 1-H) ppm. –  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )<sup>b</sup>:  $\delta = 20.3$ , 21.1 (–, CH<sub>2</sub>), 22.4, 23.2 (–, CH<sub>2</sub>), 25.5, 26.0 (–, CH<sub>2</sub>), 25.8, 27.3 (–, CH<sub>2</sub>), 28.2, 28.5 (–, CH<sub>2</sub>), 30.1, 31.1 (–, CH<sub>2</sub>), 34.7, 35.8 (+, C-6a), 45.1, 45.3 (–, C-3), 56.5, 57.1 (+, C-10a), 58.3, 61.5 (+, C-5a), 118.2, 118.3 (+, C-1), 135.2, 136.1 (C<sub>q</sub>, C-12a), 155.0, 156.0, 163.3, 163.4 (2  $\times$  C<sub>q</sub>, C=O) ppm. – **IR** (film):  $\tilde{\nu} = 3473$  (m), 2927 (s), 2857 (m), 2241 (w), 1667 (s), 1433 (m), 1281 (m), 1186 (m), 915 (m), 730 (m)  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . – **MS** (EI):  $m/z$  (%): 246 (7) [M]<sup>+</sup>, 152 (9), 86 (74), 84 (100), 47 (27). – **HRMS** (C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>18</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>): calc. 246.1368; found 246.1367.

<sup>a</sup> Integrals do not match due to the mixture of epimers.

<sup>b</sup> Every carbon atom has two signals in a 2:1 ratio.

5a,8,8a,13,13a,15a,16,16a-octahydro-(5a*S*,7a*S*,8a*S*,13a*S*,15a*S*,16a*S*)-pyrazino[1'',2'':1,5;4'',5'':1',5']di-  
pyrrolo[2,3-*b*:2',3'-*b'*]diindole-7,15(5*H*,7a*H*)-dione (**23**)

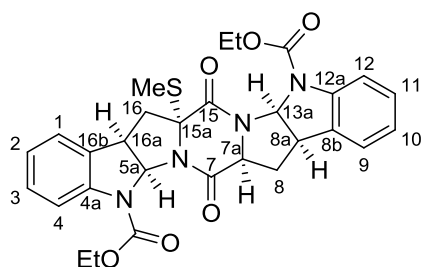


Amino acid **22** (220 mg, 796  $\mu\text{mol}$ ) was suspended in toluene (4 mL). Triethylamine (0.45  $\mu\text{L}$ , 3.19 mmol, 4.00 equiv.), methyl dichlorophosphite (54  $\mu\text{L}$ , 557  $\mu\text{mol}$ , 0.70 equiv.) and 1,3-dimethylimidazolium dimethylphosphate (5 drops) were added and the mixture was stirred at 30 °C overnight. After irradiation under closed-vessel microwave conditions at 145 °C for 1 h, the solution

was filtered, and the precipitate was washed with hot toluene (25 mL). The filtrate was evaporated under reduced pressure and the resulting crude product was purified by column chromatography ( $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2/\text{MeOH}$  98:2). The title compound was obtained as colorless solid (65.1 mg, 32%).

$R_f$  = 0.14 ( $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2/\text{MeOH}$  98:2). – **mp**: 215 °C. –  $[\alpha]_D^{20}$  = –53.1 ( $c$  = 0.36,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ). –  **$^1\text{H NMR}$**  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 1.32 (t,  $^3J$  = 7.1 Hz, 6H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$ ), 2.46 (ddd,  $^3J$  = 8.1,  $^3J$  = 10.2,  $^2J$  = 13.8 Hz, 2H, 8- $H_A$ , 16- $H_A$ ), 3.07 (ddd,  $^3J$  = 1.1,  $^3J$  = 2.5,  $^2J$  = 13.8 Hz, 2H, 8- $H_B$ , 16- $H_B$ ), 3.80 (t,  $^3J$  = 6.9 Hz, 2H, 8a-H, 16a-H), 4.13 (dd,  $^3J$  = 2.5,  $^3J$  = 10.2 Hz, 2H, 7a-H, 15a-H), 4.16–4.24, 4.29–4.37 ( $2 \times$  m, 4H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$ ), 6.08 (d,  $^3J$  = 6.1 Hz, 2H, 5a-H, 13a-H), 6.95–6.99 (m, 2H,  $H_{Ar}$ ), 7.08–7.14 (m, 6H,  $H_{Ar}$ ) ppm. –  **$^{13}\text{C NMR}$**  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  = 14.5 (+,  $\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$ ), 26.4 (–, C-8, C-16), 44.6 (+, C-8a, C-16a), 60.0 (+, C-7a, C-15a), 61.9 (–,  $\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$ ), 76.8 (+, C-5a, C-13a), 116.7, 123.3, 124.3, 128.4 ( $4 \times$  +, C-1, C-2, C-3, C-4, C-9, C-10, C-11, C-12), 130.6, 139.8 ( $2 \times$   $C_q$ , C-4a, C-8b, C-12a, C-16b), 152.8 ( $C_q$ ,  $2 \times$   $\text{CO}_2\text{Et}$ ), 165.9 ( $C_q$ , C-7, C-15) ppm. – **IR** (ATR):  $\tilde{\nu}$  = 2981 (vw), 1714 (w), 1606 (vw), 1483 (w), 1463 (vw), 1409 (w), 1374 (w), 1358 (vw), 1326 (w), 1263 (vw), 1225 (vw), 1176 (vw), 1143 (vw), 1098 (vw), 1051 (vw), 1022 (vw), 866 (vw), 741 (vw), 657 (vw), 555 (vw), 439 (vw)  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . – **MS** (EI):  $m/z$  (%): 516 (100)  $[\text{M}]^+$ , 472 (1), 426 (1), 327 (2), 314 (8), 258 (4), 242 (21), 231 (21), 202 (72), 158 (28), 130 (54), 117 (15). – **HRMS** ( $\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{28}\text{N}_4\text{O}_6$ ): calc. 516.2009; found 516.2010.

15a-(methylthio)-5a,8,8a,13,13a,15a,16,16a-octahydro-(5a*S*,7a*S*,8a*S*,13a*S*,15a*R*,16a*S*)-pyrazino-  
[1'',2'':1,5;4'',5'':1',5']dipyrrolo[2,3-*b*:2',3'-*b'*]diindole-7,15(5*H*,7a*H*)-dione (**24**)



Prepared according to **GP 2**, starting from DKP **23** (37.4 mg, 72.4  $\mu\text{mol}$ ). Column chromatography (*c*Hex/EtOAc 1:1) afforded the title compound (9.5 mg, 23%) as an orange oil.

$R_f = 0.27$  (*c*Hex/EtOAc 1:1). –  $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -23.9$  ( $c = 0.23$ ,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ ). –

$^1\text{H NMR}$  (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 1.33$  (t,  $^3J = 7.1$  Hz, 3H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$ ),

1.34 (t,  $^3J = 7.1$  Hz, 3H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$ ), 2.24 (s, 3H,  $\text{SCH}_3$ ), 2.59–2.71 (m, 1H, 8- $H_A$ ), 2.75 (ddd,  $^3J = 3.0$ ,  $^3J = 5.7$ ,  $^2J = 13.7$  Hz, 1H, 8- $H_B$ ), 2.88 (dd,  $^3J = 9.0$ ,  $^2J = 14.4$  Hz, 1H, 16- $H_A$ ), 3.01 (dd,  $^3J = 3.7$ ,  $^2J = 14.4$  Hz, 1H, 16- $H_B$ ), 3.83–3.88 (m, 1H, 8a-H), 3.92–3.97 (m, 1H, 16a-H), 4.20–4.42 (m, 4H,  $2 \times \text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$ ), 4.66 (dd,  $^3J = 5.7$ ,  $^3J = 9.9$  Hz, 1H, 7a-H), 6.17 (d,  $^3J = 6.6$  Hz, 1H, 13a-H), 6.28 (d,  $^3J = 6.9$  Hz, 1H, 5a-H), 6.93–6.99 (m, 2H,  $H_{Ar}$ ), 7.04–7.14 (m, 4H,  $H_{Ar}$ ), 7.26–7.32 (m, 2H,  $H_{Ar}$ ) ppm. –

$^{13}\text{C NMR}$  (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta = 13.5$  (+,  $\text{SCH}_3$ ), 14.5 (–,  $2 \times \text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$ ), 28.7 (–, C-8), 38.4 (–, C-16), 42.6 (+, C-16a), 43.5 (+, C-8a), 58.6 (+, C-7a), 62.1, 62.2 ( $2 \times$  –,  $2 \times \text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3$ ), 71.2 ( $C_q$ , C-15a), 77.4 (+, C-5a), 77.5 (+, C-13a), 116.3, 116.5, 123.5, 123.6, 124.0, 124.2 ( $6 \times$  +,  $6 \times \text{CH}_{Ar}$ ), 128.5 (+,  $2 \times \text{CH}_{Ar}$ ), 131.9, 132.1, 140.3, 140.4 ( $4 \times C_q$ , C-4a, C-8b, C-12a, C-16b), 153.1, 153.2 ( $2 \times C_q$ ,  $\text{CO}_2\text{Et}$ ), 163.1, 166.9 ( $2 \times C_q$ , C-7, C-15) ppm. – **IR** (ATR):  $\tilde{\nu} = 2923$  (w), 1682 (m), 1605 (vw), 1482 (m), 1462 (w), 1406 (m), 1374 (m), 1356 (w), 1318 (m), 1298 (w), 1262 (m), 1222 (w), 1176 (w), 1142 (m), 1098 (w), 1053 (m), 1022 (w), 909 (vw), 870 (vw), 743 (m), 647 (w), 613 (vw), 557 (vw), 444 (vw)  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . – **MS** (FAB, matrix: 3-NBA):  $m/z$  (%): 563 (6)  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ , 515 (13), 469 (3), 443 (1), 391 (2), 327 (4), 281 (7), 221 (11), 202 (47), 109 (82), 97 (88), 95 (100). – **HRMS** ( $\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{30}\text{SN}_4\text{O}_6+\text{H}^+$ ): calc. 563.1964; found 563.1963.

## Spectral data

