## Supporting Information

for

# Polarity effects in 4-fluoro- and 4-(trifluoromethyl)prolines 

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## Data on acid-base transition and amide bond isomerism and NMR characterization of compounds 1-7

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## Experimental description

## Sample preparation

Pure enantiomeric $(2 S, 4 S)$ - and ( $2 S, 4 R$ )-fluoroprolines were obtained from commercial sources and processed as described. ${ }^{S 1}$ The methyl ester of $N$-Boc-( $2 S, 4 S$ )-trifluoromethylproline was obtained as described. ${ }^{\mathrm{S} 2}$ Its partial epimerization at position 2 was received in an attempt to saponificate the material with an excess of 1 M NaOH in methanol under overexposure. The nonconverted methyl ester was recovered in about 0.33 g amount with the ratio of the $(2 S, 4 S)$ and $(2 R, 4 S)$ isomers of about 3:2. This material was processed towards the model compounds 3 , and 4 that were eventually separated on a silica gel column (ethyl acetate/methanol $40: 1$ to 20:1, 4 eluted first). Commercial (5-(tert-butoxycarbonyl)-1,1-difluoro-5-azaspiro[2.4]heptane-6carboxylic acid was purchased from a commercial supplier. The ratio of the diastereomers $(3 R, 6 S):(3 R, 6 R)$ was about $2: 1$ according to the report of their synthesis from the company. ${ }^{\text {s3 }}$ The diastereomers were separated using preparative reversed phase HPLC (C18 column) with water/acetonitrile gradient elution (no ion-pairing additives). Resulting species were enriched to about $80 \%$ of pure diastereomers. Their further assignment was achieved by ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}^{19} \mathrm{~F}$ HOESY experiments (mixing time 500 ms ). The compounds were processed towards the model compounds 5 and 6 . Final purification on a silica gel column (ethyl acetate/methanol 40:1 to 20:1) allowed complete separation of the diastereomers in pure forms, while compound 5 eluted first. Finally, (6S)-(5-(tert-butoxycarbonyl)-5-azaspiro[2.4]heptane-6-carboxylic acid was obtained from commercial sources.

The synthesis of the model compounds $3-7$ was performed on $0.2-0.1 \mathrm{~g}$ scales using the following general schemes:



All manipulations were performed at room temperature under air atmosphere. An N-Boc amino acid was treated with an excess of 4 M hydrogen chloride in dioxane for $90-120 \mathrm{~min}$. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure, the residue dissolved in water and freeze-dried. To the residue anhydrous dichloromethane was added, followed by acetic anhydride (2-5 equiv), and trimethylamine (2-5 equiv). The resulting mixture was stirred for about 1 hour. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure, the residue dissolved in water and freeze-dried. The resulting mixture was dissolved in water and filtered through a short cation exchange column. The acidic fractions were collected and freeze-dried. The $N$-acetylated compound obtained in this way was dissolved in methanol ( $\approx 1-2 \mathrm{~mL}$ ) and trimethylsilane ( $\approx 0.1-0.2 \mathrm{~mL}$ ) was added to acidify the mixture. The mixture was stirred for several hours, the solvent was removed under reduced
pressure, and the residue purified on a short silica gel column using ethyl acetate/methanol 40:1 to 20:1 gradient elution. The compounds 3-7 were obtained as colorless oils.

## NMR experiments

NMR experiments were performed with spectrometers operating at 500 and 700 MHz proton frequency. The variable temperature unit was calibrated according to conventional methanol standard. The $\mathrm{p} K_{\mathrm{a}}$ values were obtained from analytical samples according to the detailed protocols described earlier. ${ }^{51, S 4}$ The samples were titrated at $295-298 \mathrm{~K}$, and the measurements were performed at 298 K . The lipophilicity measurements were performed as described. ${ }^{\text {s1 }} \mathrm{A}$ compound ( $4-6 \mathrm{mg}$ ) was shaken with deionized water and octan-1-ol ( 1.00 mL each) for about 24 hours at 295-298 K. Then, 0.30 mL of each phase were taken in NMR tubes and diluted with 0.30 mL of acetonitrile- $d_{3}$. The measurements were performed with either ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ or ${ }^{19} \mathrm{~F}$ detection using datasets with identical settings. The equilibrium ratio $(P)$ was determined as the ratio between absolute integral values from the octanol and water samples. The measurements were performed in triplicate.

For the amide isomerism measurements $4-6 \mathrm{mg}$ of an analyte (1-7) was dissolved in a solvent $(0.53 \mathrm{~mL})$ in a standard 5 mm NMR tube. The ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ and ${ }^{19} \mathrm{~F}$ NMR measurements were performed manually in one scan in order to enable complete prerelaxation of the nuclei. The ratios between equivalent integrals originating from rotameric species were taken as the equilibrium constants $(K)$. The value was averaged from few different resonances, few different spectra, ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ and ${ }^{19} \mathrm{~F}$ measurements.

The rotation velocities were measured in 2D cross-relaxation pulse sequences with $z$ gradients: ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ EXSY (for all samples), ${ }^{19} \mathrm{~F}$ EXSY (for 3 and 4) and ${ }^{19} \mathrm{~F}\left\{{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}\right\}$ EXSY with proton decoupling during evolution, mixing and detection (for 1 and 2). The measurements in aqueous samples $\left(\mathrm{D}_{2} \mathrm{O}\right)$ were performed at 310 K , the measurements in benzene $\left(\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}\right)$, and dichloromethane $\left(\mathrm{CD}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}\right)$ were performed at 298 K . The frequency domains were zoomed to the regions of interest, and the experiments were performed with standard settings and prolonged recycling delays ( $\geq 3 \cdot t_{1}$ of the analyzed resonances). The frequency domain spectra were baseline corrected and integrated. The exchange rate matrices were calculated using EXSYCalc freeware (Mestrec). A detailed description is provided below.

## EXSY procedure description

For the compound/solvent combination $4 / \mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}$, first the $K_{\text {trans/cis }}$ was identified from the $1 \mathrm{D}{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ and ${ }^{19} \mathrm{~F}$ NMR spectra as $4.69 \pm 0.14$ :


Then, ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ EXSY were acquired with mixing times 0.5 and 1 s , with the parameters as outlined below:


Note prolonged recycling delay (d1). According to our experience, a prolonged recycling delay does not change the final exchange rate, but it substantially improves the agreement between the rate constants derived from analysis of individual resonances. Effectively, this helps to reduce the standard deviation in the final value.

There is also a relatively high number of data points in the indirect dimension (TD1 512). This enables suppression of truncation artifacts in the indirect dimension, and effectively the sharp $\mathrm{CH}_{3}$-group resonances could be integrated and analyzed.
${ }^{19} \mathrm{~F}$ EXSY spectra were acquired with mixing times $0.3,0.6$, and 0.9 s with the parameters as shown below:


Here, prolonged recycling was also applied. The $t_{1}$ value was estimated as $\approx 1.4 \mathrm{~s}$ according to an inversion recovery experiment. Hence, the spin recycling aq+d1 $=5.7 \mathrm{~s} \geq 4 \cdot t_{1}$. Interestingly, the inversion recovery showed that the $t_{1}$ for the $s$-cis resonance is slightly longer.

The frequency domain spectra were phased in direct and baseline corrected in both dimensions. In the ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ EXSY, the $\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{O}$ and acetyl $\mathrm{CH}_{3}$ resonances were integrated. In the ${ }^{19} \mathrm{~F}$ EXSY, the fluorine resonance was integrated. Relative integrals were input into EXSYcalc as shown:


The exchange rate matrix is defined as:

$$
\left[\begin{array}{cc}
-R_{1}-k_{1} & k_{-1} \\
k_{1} & -R_{2}-k_{-1}
\end{array}\right]
$$

The main diagonal elements contain the relaxation terms ( $\mathrm{R}_{1}$ and $\mathrm{R}_{2}$ ) that are incorrect in the current treatment. To obtain a fully correct exchange rate matrix, a reference EXSY spectrum with zero mixing time should be acquired, and absolute integral values should be inserted into the EXSYCalc. With the existed method, only the secondary diagonal elements that represent the exchange rates are correct.

In the current example $\left(4 / \mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}\right)$, the following exchange rates were obtained:

|  | ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ EXSY |  |  |  | ${ }^{19} \mathrm{~F}$ EXSY |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | mix 0.5 s |  | mix 1 s |  | mix 0.3 s | mix 0.6 s | mix 0.9 s |
|  | $\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{O}$ | Ac | $\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{O}$ | Ac |  |  |  |
| $k_{-1}, \mathrm{~Hz}$ | 0.829 | 0.872 | 0.823 | 0.811 | 0.889 | 0.879 | 0.886 |
| $k_{1}, \mathrm{~Hz}$ | 0.182 | 0.175 | 0.179 | 0.170 | 0.189 | 0.190 | 0.188 |

The rates were averaged to deliver the final value that is presented in Table S2. The standard deviation values were also calculated from the measured values.

Results: $k_{\text {trans-to-cis }}=0.182 \pm 0.007 \mathrm{~Hz} ; k_{\text {cis-to-trans }}=0.855 \pm 0.031 \mathrm{~Hz}$

## Molecular modeling

The molecular modeling was performed with compounds 1-4 using Scigress Modelling Suite (Fujitsu, Poland). Dipole calculations were performed after geometry optimization using the PM6 Hamiltonian included in the MOPAC package.

The $\mathrm{C}^{4}$-exo/endo conformations were extracted from dynamic simulations of potential energy map generated in MM3 force field. The dihedral angles $\mathrm{H}-\mathrm{C}^{2}-\mathrm{C}^{3}-\mathrm{H}$ were estimated from resulting conformations. The experimental ${ }^{2} \mathrm{~J}_{\mathrm{HCCH}}$ were then converted to dihedral angles using MestReJ freeware (Mestrec) with the following substitutes: $\mathrm{S} 1=\mathrm{NRC}(=\mathrm{O}) \mathrm{R}(\mathrm{s}-\mathrm{cis}), \mathrm{S} 2=\mathrm{COOR}$, $\mathrm{S} 3, \mathrm{~S} 4=\mathrm{H} / \mathrm{CHCIMe}$ as the closest ones from the existing list. The conformations were readjusted to fit both dihedral angles within $\pm 10^{\circ}$ accuracy. The ranges for the dihedral angles in the $\mathrm{C}^{4}-$ endo and $\mathrm{C}^{4}$-exo conformations were estimated from the ones obtained in the simulation run before and after the adjustments. The estimated dihedral angle ranges were then converted to the $J$ value ranges. These are shown in Figure 4.


Figure S1 Dipole size and orientation in methyl acetate and $N$-methyl and $N, N$ dimethylacetamides. The simulations were done using PM6 Hamiltonian from MOPAC package.

## Extended physicochemical data

Table S1 Acid-base transition

| compound | $\mathrm{p} K_{\mathrm{a}}$ | compound | $\mathrm{X}=\mathrm{OH}$ |  |  |  | $\mathrm{X}=\mathrm{O}^{-}$ | $\Delta \mathrm{p} K_{\mathrm{a}}{ }^{*}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | rotamer |  | $\Delta \mathrm{p} K_{\mathrm{a}}$ | $\mathrm{K}_{\text {trans/cis }}$ | $\mathrm{K}_{\text {trans/cis }}$ |  |
|  |  |  | s-cis | s-trans |  |  |  |  |
|  | $9.10 \pm 0.10$ |  | 2.87 | 3.39 | 0.52 | $2.27 \pm 0.02$ | $0.68 \pm 0.04$ | 0.52 |
|  | $9.10 \pm 0.10$ |  | 2.37 | 3.19 | 0.82 | $5.30 \pm 0.20$ | $0.91 \pm 0.02$ | 0.77 |
|  | $8.42 \pm 0.05$ |  | 2.60 | 3.18 | 0.58 | $3.53 \pm 0.06$ | $0.89 \pm 0.02$ | 0.60 |
|  | $8.43 \pm 0.05$ |  | 2.55 | 3.15 | 0.60 | $2.86 \pm 0.04$ | $0.75 \pm 0.02$ | 0.58 |
|  | $9.06 \pm 0.06$ |  | 2.64 | 3.18 | 0.54 | $3.13 \pm 0.09$ | $0.76 \pm 0.01$ | 0.61 |
|  | $9.05 \pm 0.12$ |  | 2.73 | 3.30 | 0.57 | $2.65 \pm 0.10$ | $0.67 \pm 0.02$ | 0.60 |
|  | $10.59 \pm 0.10$ |  | 2.96 | 3.57 | 0.61 | $3.14 \pm 0.15$ | $0.80 \pm 0.01$ | 0.59 |

The $\Delta \mathrm{p} K_{\mathrm{a}}$ values are obtained according to the equation:

$$
\Delta p K_{a}=p K_{a}(s-\text { trans })-p K_{a}(s-\text { cis })
$$

The $\Delta \mathrm{p} K_{\mathrm{a}}{ }^{*}$ values are obtained according to the equation ${ }^{\mathrm{S} 4}$ :

$$
\Delta p K_{a}^{*}=\log _{10} \frac{K_{\text {trans } / c i s}(X=O H)}{K_{\text {trans } / c i s}\left(X=O^{-}\right)}
$$

Thus, the first value is obtained from the titration experiments, while the second is obtained from equilibrium measurements at extreme pH . In principle, both values (columns highlighted in yellow) should be equal within the accuracy of the experimental determination.

The values for fluoroproline derivatives are from reference. ${ }^{54}$

Table S2 Amide bond isomerism


The equilibrium $K_{\text {trans/cis }}$ values were determined at 298 K . The rotation velocities $k$ were determined at 298 K for benzene and dichloromethane solutions, and at 310 K for aqueous solutions. The activation energies were calculated using the Eyring equation:
$E^{\neq}=-R T\left(\ln \frac{k}{T}-23.76\right)$,
where $R$ - gas constant, $T$ - absolute temperature. The standard deviation takes into account discrepancies between the measurements (different mixing times, ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H},{ }^{19} \mathrm{~F}$ detection), and do not take into account the temperature error.

For 4-methylproline derivatives ${ }^{S 1}$ the rotation velocities were determined in deuterium oxide buffered by a phosphate buffer to pH 7 , at 310 K :


$K_{\text {trans/cis }}(298 \mathrm{~K})=8.05 \pm 0.13$

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
k_{\text {cis-to-trans }}=0.041 \pm 0.011 & E^{\neq}=84.3 \pm 0.7 \mathrm{~kJ} \mathrm{~mol}^{-1} \\
k_{\text {trans-to-cis }}=0.004 \pm 0.001 & E^{\neq}=90.3 \pm 0.7 \mathrm{~kJ} \mathrm{~mol}^{-1}
\end{array}
$$


$K_{\text {trans/cis }}(298 \mathrm{~K})=4.67 \pm 0.14$

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
k_{\text {cis-to-trans }}=0.020 \pm 0.003 & E^{\neq}=86.1 \pm 0.4 \mathrm{~kJ} \mathrm{~mol}^{-1} \\
k_{\text {trans-to-cis }}=0.005 \pm 0.001 & E^{\neq}=89.7 \pm 0.6 \mathrm{~kJ} \mathrm{~mol}^{-1}
\end{array}
$$

Table S3 Chemical shifts for the 2-CH resonances in ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectra

| compound | in $\mathrm{D}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ |  | in $\mathrm{CD}_{2} \mathrm{Cl}_{2}$ |  | in $\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{D}_{6}$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | s-trans | s-cis | s-trans | s-cis | s-trans | s-cis |
|  | 4.36 | 4.62 | 4.42 | 4.40 | 4.34 | 3.68 |
|  | 4.68 | 4.84 | 4.72 | 4.54 | 4.64 | 3.72 |


4.50
4.84
4.52
4.60
4.62
4.04

4.49
4.81
4.49
4.52
4.25
3.65

4.56
4.82
4.63
4.56
4.45
3.69

4.58
4.87
4.62
4.59
4.57
3.77

4.64
4.82
4.67
4.55
4.66
3.84

4.55
4.75
4.58
4.52
4.70
3.93

Note that the chemical shifts were read out from the ${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR spectra acquired at 298 K . The spectra were referenced according to the conventional deuterium lock referencing (Bruker Avance III console, for solvent details see command 'edlock' in Topspin). No additional referencing was applied.

## NMR data for compounds 1-7

For earlier characterization of compounds see: $\mathbf{1 ,} \mathbf{2}^{51, \mathrm{S5}, \mathrm{S6}}, \mathbf{3}^{\mathrm{S} 1, \mathrm{~S} 2}$.
Methyl (2S,4S)-1-acetyl-4-fluoroprolinate (1)
${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR $\left(500 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{D}_{2} \mathrm{O}\right)$, two rotamers, $K_{\text {trans/cis }}=2.57 \pm 0.08$

s-trans: 5.35 (dtd, $J=52,3.2,1.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \gamma-\mathrm{CH}$ ), 4.67 (dd, $J=8.8,2.9 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \alpha-\mathrm{CH}), 3.91$ (ddd, $J=25,13.3,1.1 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \delta-\mathrm{CH}$ ), 3.85 (ddd, $J=39,13.1,3.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \delta-\mathrm{CH}$ ), $3.70\left(\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{O}\right.$ ), 2.46 (m, 2H, $\beta-\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ ), 2.07 ( $\mathrm{s}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Ac}$ );

s-cis: 5.32 (dt, $J=52,3.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \gamma-\mathrm{CH}$ ), 4.84 (d, $J=9.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \alpha-\mathrm{CH}$ ), $3.74\left(\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{O}\right), 3.70$ (ddd, $J=28,14.8,1.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \delta-\mathrm{CH}$ ), 3.67 (ddd, $J=38,14.5,4.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \delta-\mathrm{CH}$ ), 2.64 (tm, $J=$ $16.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \beta-\mathrm{CH}$ ), 2.51 (m, 1H, $\beta-\mathrm{CH}$ ), 2.00 (s, 3H, Ac).

${ }^{19} \mathrm{~F}\left\{{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}\right\}$ NMR (471 MHz, $\left.\mathrm{D}_{2} \mathrm{O}\right)$ :

s-trans: -173.27 (s);

s-cis: -173.25 (s).

19F\{1H\} zgig
Ac4cFlpOMe, in D2O, 298 K


Methyl (2S,4R)-1-acetyl-4-fluoroprolinate (2)
${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR $\left(500 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{D}_{2} \mathrm{O}\right)$, two rotamers, $K_{\text {trans } / \text { cis }}=7.08 \pm 0.27$

s-trans: 5.36 (dt, $J=52,3.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \gamma-\mathrm{CH}$ ), 4.50 (dd, $J=10.0,7.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \alpha-\mathrm{CH}), 3.94$ (ddd, $J=$ 22, 13.1, $2.3 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \delta-\mathrm{CH}$ ), 3.83 (ddd, $J=38,13.4,3.3 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \delta-\mathrm{CH}$ ), $3.70\left(\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{O}\right.$ ), 2.63 (m, 1H, $\beta-\mathrm{CH}$ ), 2.14 (dddd, J = 42, 14.2, 10.2, 3.8 Hz, 1H, $\beta-\mathrm{CH}$ ), 2.06 (s, 3H, Ac);

s-cis: 5.30 (dt, $J=52,3.9 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \gamma-\mathrm{CH}$ ), $4.84(\mathrm{t}, J=8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \alpha-\mathrm{CH}$ ), 4.03 (ddd, $J=21,13.6$, $2.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \delta-\mathrm{CH}), 3.75\left(\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{O}\right), 3.46$ (ddd, $\left.J=38,14.3,3.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \delta-\mathrm{CH}\right), 2.77(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}$, $\beta-C H), 2.36$ (m, 1H, $\beta-C H$ ), 1.95 (s, 3H, Ac).

${ }^{19} \mathrm{~F}\left\{{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}\right\}$ NMR (471 MHz, $\left.\mathrm{D}_{2} \mathrm{O}\right)$ :

s-trans: -177.86 (s);

s-cis: -177.80 (s).

19F\{1H\} zgig
Ac4tFlpOMe, in D2O, 298 K


Methyl (2S,4S)-1-acetyl-4-trifluoromethylprolinate (3)
${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $500 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{D}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ ), two rotamers, $K_{\text {trans/cis }}=4.36 \pm 0.11$

s-trans: $4.49(\mathrm{t}, J=8.3 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \alpha-\mathrm{CH}), 3.99(\mathrm{dd}, J=11.0,8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \delta-\mathrm{CH}), 3.70\left(\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{O}\right)$, 3.69 (dd, $J=11.0,9.1 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \delta-\mathrm{CH}), 3.27(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \gamma-\mathrm{CH}), 2.62(\mathrm{dt}, J=13.4,8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \beta-\mathrm{CH})$, 2.13 (dt, $J=13.4,8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \beta-\mathrm{CH}$ ), 2.06 ( $\mathrm{s}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Ac}$ );

s-cis: 4.81 (dd, $J=9.9,4.1 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \alpha-\mathrm{CH}$ ), 3.97 (m, 1H, $\delta-\mathrm{CH}$ ), 3.74 (s, 3H, CH3O), 3.43 (dd, $J=$ $12.8,6.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \delta-\mathrm{CH}), 3.16(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \gamma-\mathrm{CH}), 2.74(\mathrm{dt}, J=14.5,9.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \beta-\mathrm{CH}), 2.43(\mathrm{dt}, J=$ $14.3,4.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \beta-\mathrm{CH}), 1.96$ (s, 3H, Ac).

${ }^{19}$ F NMR ( $471 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{D}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ ):

s-trans: -71.01 (d, J=8 Hz);

s-cis: -71.35 (d, J= 10 Hz ).

19F zg
Ac4cTfmProOMe, in D2O, 298 K


Methyl (2R,4S)-1-acetyl-4-trifluoromethylprolinate (4)
${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $500 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{D}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ ), two rotamers, $K_{\text {trans/cis }}=3.57 \pm 0.13$

s-trans: $4.56 \mathrm{~d}, J=9.2,4.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \alpha-\mathrm{CH}$ ), 3.93 (dd, $J=11.1,8.3 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \delta-\mathrm{CH}$ ), $3.70(\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}$, $\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{O}$ ), $3.69(\mathrm{dd}, J=11.1,9.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \delta-\mathrm{CH}), 3.27(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \gamma-\mathrm{CH}), 2.62(\mathrm{dt}, J=13.4,8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}$, $\beta-\mathrm{CH}$ ), 2.12 (dt, $J=13.4,8.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \beta-\mathrm{CH}$ ), 2.06 ( $\mathrm{s}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Ac}$ );

s-cis: 4.81 (dd, J=8.6, 2.6 Hz, 1H, $\alpha-\mathrm{CH}$ ), 3.75 ( $\mathrm{s}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{O}$ ), 3.66 ( $\mathrm{m}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \delta-\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ ), $3.19(\mathrm{~m}, 1 \mathrm{H}$, $\gamma-\mathrm{CH}), 2.50\left(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \beta-\mathrm{CH}_{2}\right), 1.97$ (s, 3H, Ac).

${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}\left\{{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}\right\}$ NMR ( $126 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{D}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ ):

s-trans: 173.8 (s, $\mathrm{CO}_{2} \mathrm{Me}$ ), 173.1 (s, C(=O)N), 126.3 ( $\mathrm{q}, J=278 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{CF}_{3}$ ), 58.4 (s, $\alpha-\mathrm{CH}$ ), 53.1 (s, $\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{O}$ ), $47.0\left(\mathrm{~d}, J=4 \mathrm{~Hz}, \delta-\mathrm{CH}_{2}\right), 41.2(\mathrm{q}, J=29 \mathrm{~Hz}, \gamma-\mathrm{CH}), 28.2\left(\mathrm{~s}, \beta-\mathrm{CH}_{2}\right), 21.1(\mathrm{~s}, \mathrm{Ac})$;

s-cis: 173.4 (s, C(=O)N), 173.3 (s, $\mathrm{CO}_{2} \mathrm{Me}$ ), 126.4 (q, $J=276 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{CF}_{3}$ ), 60.1 (s, $\alpha-\mathrm{CH}$ ), 53.4 (s, $\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{O}$ ), $45.5\left(\mathrm{~d}, J=4 \mathrm{~Hz}, \delta-\mathrm{CH}_{2}\right), 39.5(\mathrm{q}, J=29 \mathrm{~Hz}, \gamma-\mathrm{CH}), 29.6\left(\mathrm{~s}, \beta-\mathrm{CH}_{2}\right), 20.9(\mathrm{~s}, \mathrm{Ac})$.

${ }^{19}$ F NMR ( $471 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{D}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ ):

s-trans: -71.44 (d, J= 9 Hz );

s-cis: -71.48 (d, J=8 Hz).

19 Fzg
Ac4tTfmProOMe, in D2O, 298 K



| -68.5 | -69.0 | -69.5 | -70.0 | -70.5 | -71.0 | -71.5 | -72.0 | -72.5 | -73.0 | -73.5 | -74.0 | -74.5 | ppm |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |



Methyl (3r,6s)-5-acetyl-1,1-difluoro-5-azaspiro[2.4]heptane-6-carboxylate (5)
${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $500 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{D}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ ), two rotamers, $K_{\text {trans/cis }}=3.94 \pm 0.03$

s-trans: 4.57 (dd, $J=8.8 .5 .0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \alpha-\mathrm{CH}$ ), 3.84 (dd, $J=11.1,1.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \delta-\mathrm{CH}$ ), 3.71 (s, 3H, $\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{O}$ ), 3.68 (dd, $J=11.1,4.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \delta-\mathrm{CH}$ ), 2.56 (ddd, $J=13.6,9.0,1.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \beta-\mathrm{CH}$ ), 2.06 (dt, $J=13.9,4.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, \beta-\mathrm{CH}$ ), 2.04 ( $\mathrm{s}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Ac}$ ), $1.50\left(\mathrm{~m}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right)$;

s-cis: 4.86 (dd, J= $8.7,2.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \alpha-\mathrm{CH}$ ), 3.81 (dd, $J=12.3,2.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, \delta-\mathrm{CH}$ ), 3.76 (s, $3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{O}$ ), 3.37 (dd, $J=12.2,4.3 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \delta-\mathrm{CH}$ ), 2.73 (ddd, $J=13.7,8.8,2.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \beta-\mathrm{CH}$ ), 2.12 (dt, $J=$ $13.6,2.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \beta-\mathrm{CH}$ ), 1.97 (s, 3H, Ac), 1.45 (m, 2H, CH $)^{2}$.

${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}\left\{{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}\right\}$ NMR ( $126 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{D}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ ):

s-trans: 174.1 (s, $\mathrm{CO}_{2} \mathrm{Me}$ ), 173.0 (s, C(=O)N), 112.7 (t, CF ${ }_{2}, J=287 \mathrm{~Hz}$ ), 59.0 (s, $\left.\alpha-\mathrm{CH}\right), 53.1$ (s, $\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{O}$ ), 50.3 (d, $J=6 \mathrm{~Hz}, \delta-\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ ), 31.6 (d, $J=4 \mathrm{~Hz}, \beta-\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ ), $29.5(\mathrm{t}, J=10 \mathrm{~Hz}, \gamma-\mathrm{C}), 21.0(\mathrm{~s}, \mathrm{Ac})$, 19.3 (t, J=10 Hz, CH ${ }_{2}$ );

s-cis: 173.8 (s, $\mathrm{CO}_{2} \mathrm{Me}$ ), 173.3 (s, C(=O)N), 112.6 (t, CF ${ }_{2}, J=287 \mathrm{~Hz}$ ), 60.7 (s, $\alpha-\mathrm{CH}$ ), 53.4 (s, $\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{O}$ ), $49.4\left(\mathrm{~d}, J=4 \mathrm{~Hz}, \delta-\mathrm{CH}_{2}\right), 33.5\left(\mathrm{~s}, \beta-\mathrm{CH}_{2}\right), 28.2(\mathrm{t}, J=12 \mathrm{~Hz}, \gamma-\mathrm{C}), 20.8(\mathrm{~s}, \mathrm{Ac}), 20.8(\mathrm{~m}$, $\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ ).


[^0]${ }^{19} \mathrm{~F}\left\{{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}\right\}$ NMR (471 MHz, $\left.\mathrm{D}_{2} \mathrm{O}\right):$

s-trans: -137.6 (d, J=157 Hz), -138.5 (d, J=157 Hz);

s-cis: -136.6 (d, J= 159 Hz$),-137.3(\mathrm{~d}, J=159 \mathrm{~Hz})$.


Methyl (3r,6r)-5-acetyl-1,1-difluoro-5-azaspiro[2.4]heptane-6-carboxylate (6)
${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $500 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{D}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ ), two rotamers, $K_{\text {trans/cis }}=3.15 \pm 0.05$

s-trans: 4.63 (dd, $J=9.1 .1 .2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \alpha-\mathrm{CH}$ ), 3.75 (ddd, $J=10.9,3.8,2.3 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \delta-\mathrm{CH}$ ), 3.70 (s, $3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{O}$ ), 3.69 (d, $J=10.5 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \delta-\mathrm{CH}$ ), 2.52 (ddm, $J=13.9,9.2 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \beta-\mathrm{CH}$ ), 2.06 (d, $J=$ $14.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \beta-\mathrm{CH}$ ), $2.05(\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Ac}), 1.54\left(\mathrm{t}, \mathrm{J}=9.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 2 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right)$;

s-cis: 4.81 (d, J = $8.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \alpha-\mathrm{CH}$ ), 3.75 (s, 3H, CH3O), 3.57 (d, $J=12.1 \mathrm{~Hz}, \delta-\mathrm{CH}$ ), 3.53 (d, J $=12.2,1 \mathrm{H}, \delta-\mathrm{CH}), 2.63$ (ddd, $J=13.7,8.8,6.0 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \beta-\mathrm{CH}), 2.16(\mathrm{~d}, J=13.9 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \beta-\mathrm{CH})$, 1.96 (s, 3H, Ac), 1.54 (m, 2H, CH ${ }_{2}$ ).

${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}\left\{{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}\right\}$ NMR ( $126 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{D}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ ):

s-trans: 174.0 (s, $\left.\mathrm{CO}_{2} \mathrm{Me}\right), 173.1$ (s, C(=O)N), 113.2 (t, CF ${ }_{2}, J=288 \mathrm{~Hz}$ ), 58.8 (s, $\left.\alpha-\mathrm{CH}\right), 53.1$ (s, $\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{O}$ ), $48.8\left(\mathrm{~d}, J=4 \mathrm{~Hz}, \delta-\mathrm{CH}_{2}\right), 30.9\left(\mathrm{~s}, \beta-\mathrm{CH}_{2}\right), 29.0(\mathrm{t}, J=10 \mathrm{~Hz}, \gamma-\mathrm{C}), 21.0(\mathrm{~s}, \mathrm{Ac}), 15.5(\mathrm{t}, J$ $=11 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}$ );

s-cis: 173.8 (s, $\mathrm{CO}_{2} \mathrm{Me}$ ), 173.2 (s, C(=O)N), 113.2 (t, $\mathrm{CF}_{2}, J=287 \mathrm{~Hz}$ ), 60.7 (s, $\alpha-\mathrm{CH}$ ), 53.5 (s, $\mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{O}$ ), $47.2\left(\mathrm{~d}, J=6 \mathrm{~Hz}, \delta-\mathrm{CH}_{2}\right), 32.5\left(\mathrm{~d}, J=5 \mathrm{~Hz}, \beta-\mathrm{CH}_{2}\right), 27.7(\mathrm{t}, J=10 \mathrm{~Hz}, \gamma-\mathrm{C}), 20.9(\mathrm{~s}, \mathrm{Ac})$, 15.2 ( $\mathrm{t}, \mathrm{J}=12 \mathrm{~Hz}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}$ ).


${ }^{19} \mathrm{~F}\left\{{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}\right\}$ NMR (471 MHz, $\left.\mathrm{D}_{2} \mathrm{O}\right)$ :

s-trans: -139.9 (d, J= 152 Hz$),-140.1(\mathrm{~d}, J=150 \mathrm{~Hz})$;

s-cis: -140.3 (d, J= 150 Hz$),-140.5(\mathrm{~d}, J=151 \mathrm{~Hz})$.


Methyl (6S)-5-acetyl-5-azaspiro[2.4]heptane-6-carboxylate (7)
${ }^{1} \mathrm{H}$ NMR ( $700 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{D}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ ), two rotamers, $K_{\text {trans/cis }}=3.92 \pm 0.04$

s-trans: 4.55 (dd, $J=8.8 .3 .6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \alpha-\mathrm{CH})$, $3.69\left(\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{O}\right), 3.59(\mathrm{~d}, J=10.3 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \delta-\mathrm{CH})$, 3.38 (d, J = $10.3 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \delta-\mathrm{CH}$ ), 2.32 (dd, $J=13.0,8.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \beta-\mathrm{CH}$ ), 2.01 (s, 3H, Ac), 1.78 (dd, $J=13.1,3.8 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \beta-\mathrm{CH}), 0.60-0.40\left(\mathrm{~m}, 4 \mathrm{H}, 2 \times \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right)$;

s-cis: 4.75 (d, J = $8.4 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \alpha-\mathrm{CH}$ ), 3.74 (s, 3H, CH3O), 3.53 (d, J=11.2 Hz, $\delta-\mathrm{CH}$ ), 3.11 (d, J $=11.5,1 \mathrm{H}, \delta-\mathrm{CH}), 2.53(\mathrm{dd}, J=12.9,8.6 \mathrm{~Hz}, 1 \mathrm{H}, \beta-\mathrm{CH}), 1.95(\mathrm{~s}, 3 \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{Ac}), 1.80(\mathrm{~d}, J=13.8 \mathrm{~Hz}$, $1 \mathrm{H}, \beta-\mathrm{CH}), 0.60-0.40\left(\mathrm{~m}, 4 \mathrm{H}, 2 \times \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right)$.

${ }^{13} \mathrm{C}\left\{{ }^{1} \mathrm{H}\right\}$ NMR ( $176 \mathrm{MHz}, \mathrm{D}_{2} \mathrm{O}$ ):

s-trans: 174.8 (s, $\mathrm{CO}_{2} \mathrm{Me}$ ), $173.0(\mathrm{~s}, \mathrm{C}(=\mathrm{O}) \mathrm{N}), 59.2(\mathrm{~s}, \alpha-\mathrm{CH}), 55.3\left(\mathrm{~s}, \delta-\mathrm{CH}_{2}\right), 52.9\left(\mathrm{~s}, \mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{O}\right)$, $36.9\left(\mathrm{~s}, \beta-\mathrm{CH}_{2}\right), 21.0(\mathrm{~s}, \mathrm{Ac}), 20.4(\mathrm{~s}, \gamma-\mathrm{C}), 11.6\left(\mathrm{~s}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right), 6.9\left(\mathrm{~s}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right)$;

s-cis: 174.7 (s, $\mathrm{CO}_{2} \mathrm{Me}$ ), 173.3 (s, $\mathrm{C}(=\mathrm{O}) \mathrm{N}$ ), 61.2 (s, $\alpha-\mathrm{CH}$ ), 53.6 ( $\mathrm{s}, \delta-\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ ), $53.2\left(\mathrm{~s}, \mathrm{CH}_{3} \mathrm{O}\right)$, 38.3 (s, $\beta-\mathrm{CH}_{2}$ ), 20.8 (s, Ac), 18.9 (s, $\left.\gamma-\mathrm{C}\right), 13.3\left(\mathrm{~s}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right), 5.1\left(\mathrm{~s}, \mathrm{CH}_{2}\right)$.



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| 190 | 180 | 170 | 160 | 150 | 140 | 130 | 120 | 110 | 100 | 90 | 80 | 70 | 60 | 50 | 4 |  |

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