

# Domino Imino-Aldol-Aza-Michael Reaction: One-Pot Diastereo- and **Enantioselective Synthesis of Piperidines**

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 $Ar^1 = Ph, (4-CN)-C_6H_4; Ar^2 = Ph, (2-CI)-C_6H_4, (3-Br)-C_6H_4, (4-CI)-C_6H_4, (4-NO_2)-C_6H_4, (4-OMe)-C_6H_4, (4-OMe)-C_6H_4$ 

cinnamyl, 2-furyl;  $Ar^3 = 4$ -Tol, Ph, n = 1, 2

Addition of  $\alpha$ -arylmethylidene- or  $\alpha$ -alkylidene- $\beta$ -keto ester enolate to N-activated aldimines via the imino aldol pathway followed by intramolecular aza-Michael reaction in a domino fashion has been developed, and a highly diastereoselective route to substituted piperidines is reported. Enantiopure piperidines are synthesized from chiral sulfinyl imines. Formation and the observed stereoselectivity of the products have been rationalized by mechanistic and computational studies.

### Introduction

Piperidine rings are prevalent in the core structure of many naturally occurring alkaloids and drugs. 1 Substituted piperidines, particularly, 2- and/or 2,6-disubstituted piperidines are synthetically very important<sup>2,3</sup> and exhibit a wide spectrum of biological activities such as antibacterial, antifungal,

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Toward this end, several efforts have been devoted 4-13 mostly from substituted pyridines, 5a amino alcohols, 5b-f imines, 5g-k aldol reaction, 1 reductive amination reactions, 5m-p ring expansion and heterocyclic rearrangements, 5q-u aza-conjugate additions, 4 various metal- and acid-catalyzed cyclizations, Mannich-type reactions, 6 olefin metathesis, 9 and hetero-Diels—Alder reactions, 10 etc. It is still challenging for organic chemists to develop more efficient synthetic routes toward functionalized piperidines with structural diversity and high diastereo- as well as enantioselectivity.

In this regard, Noller et al. and others have made significant contributions 11,12 via a multicomponent reaction

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protocol involving ketones or 1,3-dicarbonyl compounds, aldehydes, and amines. However, this approach has limitations in terms of the substrate scope and formation of racemic products. Previously, we reported the synthesis of racemic monosubstituted piperidines from the corresponding  $\delta$ -amino- $\beta$ -keto esters generated from the reaction of 1,3-dicarbonyl dianion of ethyl acetoacetate and imines. <sup>13</sup> In continuation of our research activity in enolate<sup>14</sup> and dianion<sup>13</sup> chemistry, we anticipated that a simple strategy involving a domino intermolecular imino-aldol followed by an intramolecular aza-Michael reaction would lead to the stereoselective formation of 2,6-disubstituted piperidines. In recent years, domino reactions<sup>15</sup> have become very fascinating and promising tools in synthetic organic chemistry over classical reactions considering reaction time, purification of the intermediates, and selectivity. We have successfully developed a simple one-pot, two-step strategy for the synthesis of highly funcionalized piperidines in diastereo- as well as enantiopure forms employing imino-aldol and aza-Michael reactions in a domino fashion (Scheme 1). Herein, we report our results in detail.

### **Results and Discussion**

Our strategy involves (i) the synthesis of  $\alpha$ -arylmethylidene- (1a,b) and  $\alpha$ -alkylidene- $\beta$ -keto ester (1c) as the precursor compounds and (ii) generation of the enolate from 1 followed by reaction with N-sulfonylaldimines. For this purpose, the precursors 1a-c have been synthesized on the basis of literature procedures. We have judiciously utilized these substrates as nucleophiles as well as electrophiles in the same reaction sequence, although 1a has been used earlier as a good Michael acceptor. To evaluate the feasibility of our approach, first the enolate was generated from compound (E)-1a by the treatment with LDA at -50 °C in THF and reaction with 2-phenyl-N-tosylaldimine 3a to afford the corresponding 2,6-disubstituted piperidine 6a in 65% yield as a single diastereomer (Scheme 1) with 2,6 cis-appendages as confirmed by X-ray crystallographic data.

Formation of *cis*-**6a** as the only diastereomer was confirmed by the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of the crude reaction mixture as it indicated the absence of other diastereomer. Presumably, the reaction followed a domino imino-aldol—aza-Michael reaction sequence. Interestingly, (*Z*)-**1a** produced the identical product (**6a**) under the same reaction conditions with lower yield. To generalize the methodology, a number of activated aldimines were reacted with compound

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#### SCHEME 1. Reaction of $\alpha$ -Arylmethylidene- $\beta$ -keto Ester with 2-Aryl-N-sulfonylaldimines via Domino Imino-Aldol—Aza-Michael Sequence

TABLE 1. Synthesis of 2,6-Disubstituted Piperidines

Imine 3	Piperidine <b>6</b> <sup><i>a,b</i></sup> , Yield (%) <sup>c</sup>	Imine 3	Piperidine $6^{a,b}$ , Yield $(\%)^{c}$
NTs 3a	OH OOEt N Ph Ts 6a, 65	NSO <sub>2</sub> Ph	OH OOEt NPh SO <sub>2</sub> Ph  6g, 64
CI NTs	OH O OEt N Ph Ts 6b, 66	NSO <sub>2</sub> Ph  MeO  3h	OH OOEt NPh SO <sub>2</sub> Ph 6h, 62
Br NTs	OH OOEt N Ph Ts 6c, 63	NTs 3i	OH O OEt N Ph Ts
CI NTs	OH OOEt OEt Ts 6d, 68	NTs 3j	OH OOEt NPh Ts 6j, 66
O <sub>2</sub> N NTs	$O_2$ N	NTs 3a	OH OOEt OEt OK, 62
MeO NTs	OH OOEt NPh Ts 6f, 58	<sup>a</sup> Product was obtained all the cases. <sup>b</sup> Ar <sup>1</sup> = Ph $C_6H_4$ for <b>6k</b> . <sup>c</sup> Yields of it chromatographic purification.	I as a single diastereomer in for <b>6a-6j</b> and Ar <sup>1</sup> = 4-CN-solated products after columnation.

## SCHEME 2. Synthesis of 2-Alkenyl-N-tosylaldimines<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Yields of isolated products after column chromatographic purification.

(*E*)-1a, and the results are shown in Table 1. The structures of other piperidines 6e and 6j as well as the *cis*-stereochemistry between the substituents at the 2 and 6 positions were confirmed by X-ray crystallographic data. <sup>18</sup> Furthermore, the piperidines 6 were found to exist in enol forms.

Next, the substrate scope of the strategy was explored by studying the reaction with aliphatic imines. To prepare such imines following an identical procedure used by us for aromatic imines, when aliphatic aldehyde 7 was treated with p-toluenesulfonamide in the presence of catalytic  $BF_3 \cdot OEt_2$  in refluxing benzene, interestingly, the expected imine 8 was not formed; instead the imine 11 from the corresponding aldehyde 10 arising from the aldol condensation of aldehyde 7 was formed in good yield (Scheme 2). Formation of such a type of imine was precedented using a stoichiometric amount of trifluoroacetic anhydride,  $\alpha$ -hydrogen-containing aliphatic aldehyde, and p-toluenesulfonamide.  $\alpha$ -

When the enolate of compound (E)-1a reacted with the imine 11a following identical reaction conditions as shown in Scheme 1, the corresponding piperidine 12a was obtained in 58% yield as a single diastereomer. Once again, the relative stereochemistry at the 2 and 6 positions was found to be cis from X-ray crystallographic data. <sup>15</sup> A similar result was obtained from (E)-1a and 11b in the same reaction sequence (Scheme 3).

To demonstrate the synthetic potential of the strategy, next the reaction was explored with sulfinyl imine as a chiral source. Earlier sulfinyl imines were utilized by Davis et al.  $^{2e-m,20}$  for the synthesis of nonracemic piperidines by an alternate strategy. Following our approach when the enolate generated from compound (*E*)-1a was treated with 2-phenyl-*N*-sulfinylaldimine 13a the corresponding 2,6-disubstituted piperidine 14a was obtained as a single diastereomer in enantiopure form (dr > 99:1, er > 99:1).

However, the reaction with sulfinyl imines takes a longer time and requires larger amounts of enolate (2.5 equiv) compared to sulfonyl imines. Further generalization to this approach was made with other sulfinylimines (Scheme 4, Table 2). Similar to previous cases, the *cis*-stereochemistry between the substituents at the 2- and 6-positions of piperidines 14a-d was confirmed by the crystal structure of  $14c^{18}$  as a representative example, and its absolute configuration was determined to be (2R,6R).

Furthermore, **14c** and **14d** were oxidized<sup>21</sup> to the corresponding tosyl derivatives (2R,6R)-**6d** and (2R,6R)-**6f**,

SCHEME 3. Reaction of  $\alpha$ -Benzylidene- $\beta$ -keto Ester with 2-Alkenyl-N-tosylaldimines<sup> $\alpha$ </sup>

"Product was obtained as a single diastereomer in both cases. "Yields of isolated products after column chromatographic purification.

# SCHEME 4. Reaction of $\alpha$ -Benzylidene- $\beta$ -keto Ester with 2-Aryl-N-sulfinylaldimines

**13a**: Ar = Ph; **13b**: Ar =  $4-NO_2-C_6H_4$ ; **13c**: Ar =  $4-CI-C_6H_4$ ; **13d**: Ar =  $4-OMe-C_6H_4$ 

respectively, in enantiopure forms (Scheme 5), and the er was determined by chiral HPLC analysis (see the Supporting Information). From these results, it is apparent that the compounds 14a-d were produced in enantiomerically pure forms.

Crystal structures reveal that the piperidine molecules 6a, 6e, 6j, 12a, and 14c exist in half-chair conformations where the 2,6-substituents occupy pseudoaxial and axial positions, respectively, and remain almost parallel to each other probably because of a favorable  $\pi-\pi$  stacking interaction between them.

On the basis of the experimental results, NMR studies, <sup>22</sup> and X-ray crystallographic data, <sup>18</sup> the proposed mechanism for the formation of N-tosyl-2,6-diphenylpiperidine **6a** is shown in Scheme 6. The enolate **2** reacts with 2-phenyl-N-tosylaldimine **3a** to form the adduct **15**, which undergoes intramolecular aza-Michael reaction through the more favorable transition state **16a** to furnish **6a** via the intermediate **17a**. However, because of allylic strain between the phenyl and the  $CO_2Et$  groups, **17a** becomes less stable and flips to the thermodynamically more stable diaxial isomer **6a**, which is stabilized by a strong  $\pi$ – $\pi$  stacking interaction <sup>23</sup> between the Ph groups. Since **16a**' is the less favorable transition state probably because of a 1,3-diaxial interaction between the phenyl and hydrogen groups, the *trans*-isomer **6a**' does not form at all.

The methodology was further extended to the alkylidene substrate **1c**. When  $\alpha$ -cyclohexylmethylidene- $\beta$ -keto ester (*E*)-**1c** was reacted with 2-phenyl-*N*-tosylaldimine **3a**, interestingly the corresponding piperidine **18a** was formed with

<sup>(18)</sup> For details of X-ray crystallographic analysis of **6a,e,j, 12a, 14c,** and **18a,b**, see the Supporting Information.

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<sup>(22)</sup> The equatorial protons at the 2,6-positions of piperidine are far apart; they did not show any NOE interaction although they are *cis* to each other.

<sup>(23)</sup> For a recent study on  $\pi - \pi$  stacking interaction supported by molecular modeling, see: Catak, S.; D'hooghe, M.; De Kimpe, N.; Waroquier, M.; Speybroeck, V. V. J. Org. Chem. **2010**, 75, 885.

TABLE 2. Synthesis of Chiral Piperidines from 2-Aryl-N-sulfinylaldimines

entry	Sulfinyl imine (13)	Chiral piperidine (14) <sup>a</sup>	Yield (%) <sup>b</sup>
1	4-Tol-S N	OH O OEt N Ph O···S (4-Tol)	55
	13a	14a	
2	4-Tol-S <sub>N</sub> H	OH OOEt  N Ph  O1S  (4-Tol)	58
	13b	14b	
3	Q H 4-Tol-S N	OH OOEt  N Ph  CI (4-Tol)	62
	13c	14c	
4	Q H 4-Tol-S N OMe	OH OOEt  N Ph  (4-Tol)	53°
	13d	14d	

"Product was obtained as a single diastereomer in all cases. "Yields of isolated products after column chromatographic purification. "Yield of the product was determined after oxidation of sulfinyl group to tosyl group.

# SCHEME 5. Oxidation of *N*-Sulfinyl 2,6-Disubstituted Piperidines to *N*-Tosyl 2,6-Disubstituted Piperidines

OH 
$$CO_2Et$$
  $m$ - $CPBA$ ,  $CH_2CI_2$   $Ar$   $N$   $Ph$   $Ts$   $Yield$   $er$   $14c$ :  $Ar = 4-CI-C_6H_4$   $(2R, 6R)$ - $6d$   $65\%$   $>99:1$   $14d$ :  $Ar = 4-OMe$ - $C_6H_4$   $(2R, 6R)$ - $6f$   $65\%$   $>99:1$ 

2,6 *cis*-appendages whereas (Z)-1c produced the corresponding piperidine 18b with *trans*-stereochemistry as observed in its crystal structure (Scheme 7). <sup>18</sup>

It is worth noting that the piperidine 6a has been formed as the sole product in the case of 1a (E and Z), whereas for 1c (E and Z), different diastereomeric products (18a and 18b) have been observed depending on the double-bond geometry of the substrate.

The mechanism for the formation of 18a,b from 1c is shown in Scheme 8. Compound 1c (E and E) follows a similar mechanism as described above for (E)-1a. The enolate

from (E)-1c reacts with 3a to form the adduct 19a, which undergoes intramolecular aza-Michael reaction through the more favorable transition state 20a to produce the *cis*-piperidine 18a via the intermediate 21a. Probably because of the allylic strain between the equatorial cyclohexyl and  $CO_2Et$  groups, 21a is less stable and it flips to the thermodynamically most stable diaxial isomer 18a, which is stabilized by a  $C-H-\pi$  stacking interaction between the axial hydrogen of the cyclohexyl ring and the axial phenyl group. The other possible TS 20a' is less stabilized than 20a probably because of 1,3-diaxial interaction between axial hydrogen and cyclohexyl groups; moreover, there is no  $\pi-\pi$  stacking interaction between the Ph and Ts groups as discussed below for TS 20b. Hence, the *trans*-piperidine 18b did not form.

In the case of (Z)-1c the *trans*-piperidine 18b was formed solely as the kinetically controlled product through the more favorable transition state 20b at lower temperature (-50 °C). Probably because of a weak  $\pi-\pi$  stacking interaction between the Ph and Ts groups, 20b is more stabilized than the other possible TS 20b'. Hence, the *cis*-piperidine 18a did not form at lower temperature.

SCHEME 6. Proposed Mechanism and Favorable Transition State for the Formation of 6a

SCHEME 7. Reaction of (E)- and (Z)- $\alpha$ -Cyclohexylmethylidene- $\beta$ -keto Ester with 2-Phenyl-N-tosylaldimine

These observations are further supported by the computational studies.<sup>24</sup> In the cases of both diaryl- and cyclohexylaryl-substituted piperidines, the cis-isomer is found to be thermodynamically more stable and remains in a diaxial conformation. But the energy difference between the cis- and trans-isomers of diaryl piperidines (1.71 kcal/mol for 6a) is found to be larger compared to the cyclohexyl-aryl analogue (0.66 kcal/mol for 18). For this reason, in the case of diarylpiperidines, the *cis*-product **18a** was always observed. In the case of substrate (Z)-1c, the *trans*-product 18b was observed as the only product at lower temperature (-50 °C). Since the energy difference between the cis- and transisomers of cyclohexylphenylpiperidines (18a and 18b) is very small, it is expected that at higher temperature the thermodynamically more stable cis-isomer will be formed along with the trans-isomer. This is, in fact, supported by experimental results. In a separate experiment when the temperature of the reaction mixture from (Z)-1c was raised to room temperature (25 °C), the thermodynamically more stable isomer **18a** started forming. After the same mixture was reacted at room temperature for 7 h both **18a** and **18b** were formed in  $\sim$ 1:1 ratio (Scheme 8).<sup>25</sup>

#### Conclusion

In conclusion, we have developed a simple diastereo- as well as enantioselective synthetic route to highly functionalized piperidines via a domino imino-aldol—aza-Michael reaction sequence. This strategy has been generalized for aromatic, heteroaromatic, aliphatic, as well as chiral sulfinyl imines. It is possible to obtain 2,6 cis- or trans-disubstituted piperidines depending on the substrates ( $\alpha$ -arylmethylidene-or  $\alpha$ -alkylidene- $\beta$ -keto ester) and their E/Z geometry. Formation and the observed stereoselectivity of the products have been explained by plausible mechanisms and further supported by computational studies. Further synthetic and mechanistic studies are in progress.

# **Experimental Section**

Procedure for the Synthesis of Ethyl 2-Benzylidene-3-oxobutanoate (1a). To a solution of L-proline (0.33 g, 2.83 mmol) in 15.0 mL of dry DMSO was added 0.95 mL of benzaldehyde (1.0 g, 9.42 mmol), the mixture was stirred for 8–10 min at room temperature, and then ethyl acetoacetate (1.44 mL, 11.31 mmol) was added slowly into it at the same temperature and stirred for 12–14 h. After completion of the reaction as monitored by TLC, 20.0 mL of ethyl acetate was added, the mixture was stirred for a few minutes, and then the reaction was quenched with cold water. The organic and aqueous layers were separated, and the aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate (3 × 15.0 mL), washed with brine, and dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate. After removal of the solvent under reduced pressure, the crude

<sup>(24)</sup> Computational study of the compounds **6a**, *trans***-6a**, and **18a**,**b** has been performed with the Gaussian 03 program using the B3LYP exchange corelation functional with a 6-31G\* basis set. For more details, see the Supporting Information.

<sup>(25)</sup> Following an identical procedure as described for 6a in the Experimental Section, after the addition of the imine at -50 °C, the reaction was warmed to room temperature and stirred at the same temperature for additional 7 h. After usual workup, the <sup>1</sup>H NMR of the crude reaction mixture indicated the formation of 18a and 18b in  $\sim$ 1:1 ratio. See the Supporting Information for the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of the crude reaction mixture containing 18a and 18b.

SCHEME 8. Proposed Mechanism and Favorable Transition States for the Formation of 18a and 18b

reaction mixture was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (230–400 mesh) using 5% ethyl acetate in petroleum ether to afford **1a** (1.54 g) in 75% yield as a mixture of two diastereomers (*E*)-**1a** (0.42 g) and (*Z*)-**1a** (1.12 g) in a ratio of 1:2.7 (determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of the crude product).

(*E*)-Ethyl 2-Benzylidene-3-oxobutanoate ((*E*)-1a). The general procedure described above was followed to afford (*E*)-1a as a light yellow solid: mp 45–46 °C;  $R_f$  0.46 (20% ethyl acetate in petroleum ether); IR  $\nu_{\rm max}$  (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3385, 3059, 3028, 2981, 2926, 2121, 1959, 1884, 1697, 1620, 1449, 1379, 1353, 1319, 1294, 1256, 1212, 1183, 1086, 1061, 1024, 969, 943, 862, 773, 755, 711, 693, 619, 528, 476, 446; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 1.34 (t, 3H, J = 7.1 Hz), 2.35 (s, 3H), 4.3 (q, 2H, J = 7.1 Hz), 7.39 (s, 5H), 7.67 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 14.1, 31.2, 61.5, 128.9, 129.6, 130.4, 132.9, 134.1, 140.5, 164.4, 203.3; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>15</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (M + H<sup>+</sup>) 219.1021, found 219.1021.

(*Z*)-Ethyl 2-Benzylidene-3-oxobutanoate ((*Z*)-1a). The general procedure described above was followed to afford (*Z*)-1a as a light yellow solid: mp 46–48 °C;  $R_f$  0.34 (20% ethyl acetate in petroleum ether); IR  $\nu_{\rm max}$  (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3432, 3089, 3051, 2985, 2935, 2873, 1974, 1905, 1724, 1658, 1616, 1572, 1494, 1450, 1399, 1347, 1330, 1315, 1291, 1243, 1222,1205, 1189, 1153, 1116, 1085, 1039, 1014, 948, 933, 899, 874, 861, 837, 812, 761, 693, 611, 588, 545, 465; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 1.28 (t, 3H, J = 7.1 Hz), 2.43 (s, 3H), 4.34 (q, 2H, J = 7.1 Hz), 7.39 – 7.47 (m, 5H), 7.58 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 13.8, 26.4, 61.6, 128.8, 129.4, 130.6, 132.8, 134.5, 141.2, 167.7, 194.6; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>15</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (M + H<sup>+</sup>) 219.1021, found 219.1029.

**Procedure for the Synthesis of Ethyl 2-(4-Cyanobenzylidene) 3-oxobutanoate** (**1b**)<sup>16c</sup>. To a suspension of Mg(ClO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (0.64 mmol) and MgSO<sub>4</sub> (1.27 mmol) in 10.0 mL of THF were added 4-cyanobenzaldehyde (1.0 g, 7.63 mmol) and ethyl acetoacetate (0.81 mL, 6.35 mmol) at room temperature, and the mixture was stirred at the same temperature for 70 h. After completion of the reaction, as monitored by TLC, 15.0 mL of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> was added, and the reaction mixture was filtered through Celite. The solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure to afford the crude reaction mixture as a mixture of two diastereomers which was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (230–400 mesh) using 8% ethyl acetate in petroleum ether to afford **1b** (1.42 g) in 76% yield as a mixture of two diastereomers (*E*)-**1b** (0.41 g) and (*Z*)-**1b** (1.01 g) in a ratio of 1:2.5 (determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of the crude product).

(*E*)-Ethyl 2-(4-Cyanobenzylidene)-3-oxobutanoate ((*E*)-1b). The general procedure described above was followed to afford (*E*)-1b as a white solid: mp 64–65 °C;  $R_f$  0.44 (30% ethyl acetate in petroleum ether); IR  $\nu_{\rm max}$  (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3442, 2984, 2229, 1730, 1669, 1504, 1383, 1297, 1244, 1042, 828, 559; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 1.28 (t, 3H, J = 7.1 Hz), 2.29 (s, 3H), 4.20–4.30 (m, 2H), 7.19 (s, 1H), 7.52–7.63 (m, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 14.1, 31.2, 61.9, 113.6, 118.0, 129.9, 132.5, 136.9, 138.0, 138.5, 163.8, 202.1; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>14</sub>NO<sub>3</sub> (M + H<sup>+</sup>) 244.0973, found 244.0972.

(*Z*)-Ethyl 2-(4-Cyanobenzylidene)-3-oxobutanoate ((*Z*)-1b). The general procedure described above was followed to afford (*Z*)-1b as a white solid: mp 66-68 °C;  $R_f$ 0.37 (30% ethyl acetate

in petroleum ether); IR  $\nu_{\rm max}$  (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3443, 2983, 2226, 1732, 1661, 1627, 1385, 1298, 1249, 1224, 1206, 1043, 923, 828, 560;  $^{\rm l}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.19 (t, 3H, J=7.1 Hz), 2.37 (s, 3H), 4.22–4.28 (m, 2H), 7.41–7.62 (m, 4H);  $^{\rm l3}$ C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  13.8, 26.8, 62.0, 113.7, 118.0, 129.6, 132.4, 137.6, 138.5, 166.8, 193.8; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>14</sub>NO<sub>3</sub> (M + H<sup>+</sup>) 244.0973, found 244.0975.

Procedure for the Synthesis of Ethyl 2-(Cyclohexylmethylene)-**3-oxobutanoate** (1c)<sup>16b</sup>. To a solution of L-proline (0.31 g, 2.7 mmol) in 15.0 mL of dry DMSO was added 1.08 mL of cyclohexyl carboxaldehyde (1.0 g, 8.92 mmol), the resulting solution was stirred for 8-10 min at room temperature, and then ethyl acetoacetate (1.36 mL, 10.7 mmol) was added slowly at the same temperature followed by stirred for 12-14 h. After completion of the reaction as monitored by TLC, 20.0 mL ethyl acetate was added, the mixture was stirred for a few minutes, and then the reaction was quenched with cold water. The organic and aqueous layers were separated, and the aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate (3  $\times$  15.0 mL), washed with brine, and dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate. After removal of the solvent under reduced pressure, the crude reaction mixture was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (230–400 mesh) using 5% ethyl acetate in petroleum ether to afford 1c (1.56 g) in 78% yield as a mixture of two diastereomers (E)-1c (0.58 g) and (Z)-1c (0.98 g) in a ratio of 1:1.7 (determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of the crude product).

(*E*)-Ethyl 2-(Cyclohexylmethylene)-3-oxobutanoate ((*E*)-1c). The general procedure described above was followed to afford (*E*)-1c as a colorless liquid:  $R_f$  0.56 (15% ethyl acetate in petroleum ether); IR  $\nu_{\rm max}$  (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3386, 2981, 2929, 2854, 1706, 1634, 1449, 1373, 1303, 1273, 1253, 1226, 1148, 1101, 1054, 966, 863, 762, 619, 565; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 1.09–1.24 (m, 3H), 1.28 (t, 3H, J=7.1 Hz), 1.64–1.73 (m, 6H), 2.29–2.33 (m, 1H), 2.35 (s, 3H), 4.17–4.30 (m, 2H), 6.69 (d, 1H, J=10.5 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 14.1, 25.2, 25.6, 26.9, 31.8, 39.3, 61.1, 135.3, 152.5, 166.7, 201.3; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>21</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (M + H<sup>+</sup>) 225.1490, found 225.1499.

(*Z*)-Ethyl 2-(Cyclohexylmethylene)-3-oxobutanoate ((*Z*)-1c). The general procedure described above was followed to afford (*Z*)-1c as a colorless liquid:  $R_f$  0.48 (15% ethyl acetate in petroleum ether); IR  $\nu_{\rm max}$  (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3331, 2981, 2930, 2853, 1732, 1697, 1672, 1634, 1449, 1380, 1305, 1273, 1260, 1210, 1150, 1104, 1035, 967, 947, 909, 854, 792, 620, 564, 543; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.06–1.24 (m, 6H), 1.27 (t, 3H, J = 7.3 Hz), 1.60–1.69 (m, 4H), 2.24 (s, 1H), 2.28–2.34 (m, 1H), 4.24 (q, 2H, J = 7.3 Hz), 6.56 (d, 1H, J = 10.3 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  14.1, 25.1, 25.6, 26.8, 31.7, 39.2, 60.1, 135.2, 152.6, 166.6, 195.4; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>21</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (M + H<sup>+</sup>) 225.1490, found 225.1496.

Procedure for the Synthesis of N-Tosyl 2,6-Disubstituted Piperidines. To a solution of diisopropylamine (0.08 mL, 0.55 mmol) in 2.0 mL of dry THF was added 2.0 M n-BuLi (0.28 mL, 0.55 mmol) at 0 °C and the mixture stirred for 30 min under argon atmosphere. The color of the solution changed to yellow, the temperature was dropped to -50 °C, compound (*E*)-1a (100 mg, 0.46 mmol) dissolved in 1.0 mL of dry THF was added slowly, and the resulting mixture was stirred for 1 h to allow the formation of enolate. Then 2-aryl-N-sulfonylaldimine 3a-j (0.46 mmol) dissolved in 1.5 mL of dry THF was added and the mixture stirred for an additional 2-4 h at the same temperature. After completion of the reaction as monitored by TLC, the reaction was quenched with saturated aqueous ammonium chloride solution. The organic and aqueous layers were separated, and the aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate (3 × 5.0 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with brine and dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate. After removal of the solvent under reduced pressure, the crude reaction mixture was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (230–400 mesh) using 4% ethyl acetate in petroleum ether to afford the pure piperidines 6a-k as a white solid. All these compounds exist in enol form as indicated by  $^1H$  NMR spectra and crystal structure.

Compound (*E*)-1a and compound (*Z*)-1a were two diastereomers when separately reacted with 2-phenyl-*N*-tosylaldimine 3a. Following same procedure described above, compound 6a was obtained as the only product, and the relative stereochemistry in both cases was confirmed by  $^{1}$ H NMR spectra and X-ray crystallographic analysis. The yield of product 6a was different in both the cases (starting from of (*E*)-1a, the yield was 65% but from (*Z*)-1a it was only 40%).

4-Hydroxy-2,6-diphenyl-1-(toluene-4-sulfonyl)-1,2,5,6-tetrahydropyridine-3-carboxylic Acid Ethyl Ester (6a). The general procedure described above was followed when the enolate of (E)-1a (100.0 mg, 0.46 mmol) was reacted with 119.0 mg (0.46 mmol) of 3a (0.46 mmol) at -50 °C for 3.0 h to afford 6a (142.8 mg, 65% yield) as a white solid: mp 162-164 °C;  $R_f$  0.5 (20%) ethyl acetate in petroleum ether); IR  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3423, 3058, 2925, 1650, 1621, 1494, 1451, 1427, 1406, 1379, 1360, 1343, 1295, 1261, 1223, 1186, 1162, 1096, 1076, 1027, 992, 954, 917, 848, 814, 779, 753, 726, 696, 683, 656, 626, 578, 560, 531; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.05 (t, 3H, J = 7.3 Hz), 2.34 (dd, 1H, J = 6.9, 17.6 Hz), 2.45 (s, 3H), 2.62 (dd, 1H, J = 5.4, 17.6 Hz), 4.02–4.14 (m, 2H), 5.06-5.10 (m, 1H), 6.13 (s, 1H), 6.96-7.02 (m, 5H), 7.03-7.06 (m, 3H), 7.10-7.14 (m, 2H), 7.30 (d, 2H, J = 8.0 Hz), 7.78 (d, 2H, J = 8.4 Hz), 12.27 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  13.9, 21.6, 31.2, 54.1, 55.3, 60.8, 98.1, 126.7, 127.2, 127.3, 127.6, 127.7, 127.9, 129.8, 136.6, 139.3, 139.7, 143.8, 170.0, 170.7; HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $C_{27}H_{28}NO_5S$  (M + H<sup>+</sup>) 478.1688, found 478.1686.

6-(2-Chlorophenyl)-4-hydroxy-2-phenyl-1-(toluene-4-sulfonyl)-1,2,5,6-tetrahydropyridine-3-carboxylic Acid Ethyl Ester (6b). The general procedure described above was followed when the enolate of (E)-1a (100.0 mg, 0.46 mmol) was reacted with 135.0 mg of 3b  $(0.46 \,\mathrm{mmol})\,\mathrm{at} - 50\,^{\circ}\mathrm{C}\,\mathrm{for}\,3.5\,\mathrm{h}\,\mathrm{to}\,\mathrm{afford}\,\mathbf{6b}\,(155.4\,\mathrm{mg}, 66\%\,\mathrm{yield})$ as a white solid: mp 175–178 °C;  $R_f$  0.45 (20% ethyl acetate in petroleum ether); IR  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3425, 3065, 2924, 2855, 1662, 1632, 1597, 1493, 1451, 1411, 1356, 1290, 1262, 1230, 1164, 1090, 1042, 954, 817, 756, 734, 701, 661, 622, 564, 544, 470; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.29 (t, 3H, J = 7.1 Hz), 2.28 (dd, 1H, J = 11.2, 16.4 Hz), 2.44 (s, 3H), 2.59 (dd, 1H, J = 5.8, 16.4 Hz),4.10-4.30 (m, 2H), 5.13-5.21 (m, 1H), 6.25 (s, 1H), 6.90-7.11 (m, 3H), 7.15-7.32 (m, 4H), 7.33-7.41 (m, 2H), 7.53 (d, 2H, J =7.3 Hz), 7.79 (d, 2H, J = 8.3 Hz), 11.97 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 14.3, 21.6, 34.4, 55.4, 56.7, 60.9, 98.7, 127.2, 127.6, 127.9, 128.4, 128.5, 128.7, 129.2, 129.6, 131.5, 134.6, 139.5, 139.9, 144.0, 169.3, 172.2; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>27</sub>ClNO<sub>5</sub>S  $(M + H^{+})$  512.1298, found 512.1296.

6-(3-Bromophenyl)-4-hydroxy-2-phenyl-1-(toluene-4-sulfonyl)-1,2,5,6-tetrahydropyridine-3-carboxylic Acid Ethyl Ester (6c). The general procedure described above was followed when the enolate of (E)-1a (100.0 mg, 0.46 mmol) was reacted with 155.0 mg of 3c (0.46 mmol) at -50 °C for 3.5 h to afford 6c(161.0 mg, 63% yield) as a white solid: mp  $128-130 \,^{\circ}\text{C}$ ;  $R_f 0.47$ (20% ethyl acetate in petroleum ether); IR  $\nu_{\rm max}$  (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3424, 3056, 2924, 2854, 1667, 1624, 1432, 1403, 1372, 1346, 1301, 1224, 1158, 1094, 1075, 1026, 993, 958, 902, 813, 774, 741, 704, 660, 625, 561, 462; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 1.06 (t, 3H, J = 7.3 Hz, 2.33 (dd, 1H, J = 7.3, 17.9 Hz), 2.44 (s, 3H), 2.55 (dd, 1H, J = 5.4, 17.9 Hz), 4.03-4.15 (m, 2H), 5.04-5.07(m, 1H), 6.11 (s, 1H), 6.83-6.89 (m, 1H), 6.94 (d, 1H, J = 7.7)Hz), 7.02-7.14 (m, 7H), 7.30 (d, 2H, J = 8.0 Hz), 7.75 (d, 2H, J = 8.0 Hz, 12.25 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  13.9, 21.6, 30.7, 54.0, 54.7, 60.9, 98.1, 122.2, 125.8, 127.1, 127.2, 127.5, 127.8, 129.5, 129.9, 130.4, 130.6, 136.5, 139.3, 141.5, 144.0, 169.9, 170.2; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>27</sub>BrNO<sub>5</sub>S  $(M + H^{+})$  556.0793, found 556.0794.

6-(4-Chlorophenyl)-4-hydroxy-2-phenyl-1-(toluene-4-sulfonyl)-1,2,5,6-tetrahydropyridine-3-carboxylic Acid Ethyl Ester (6d). The general procedure described above was followed when the enolate of (E)-1a (100.0 mg, 0.46 mmol) reacted with 135.0 mg of 3d (0.46 mmol) at -50 °C for 3.0 h to afford 6d (160.0 mg, 68%) yield) as a white solid: mp 145-148 °C;  $R_f$  0.45 (20% ethyl acetate in petroleum ether); IR  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3444, 3063, 2924, 1656, 1621, 1494, 1433, 1405, 1343, 1298, 1222, 1162, 1095, 1029, 993, 957, 884, 825, 751, 715, 686, 657, 578, 541; <sup>1</sup>H NMR  $(400 \text{ MHz}, \text{CDCl}_3) \delta 1.05 \text{ (t, 3H, } J = 7.1 \text{ Hz)}, 2.32 \text{ (dd, 1H, } J =$ 7.1, 17.6 Hz), 2.45 (s, 3H), 2.57 (dd, 1H, J = 5.1, 17.8 Hz), 4.02-4.14 (m, 2H), 5.06-5.09 (m, 1H), 6.11 (s, 1H), 6.86-6.97 (m, 4H), 7.04-7.13 (m, 5H), 7.31 (d, 2H, J = 8.1 Hz), 7.76 (d, 2H, J = 8.1 Hz)2H, J = 8.3 Hz), 12.27 (s, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ 13.9, 21.6, 30.8, 54.0, 54.5, 60.9, 98.1, 126.8, 127.2, 127.5, 127.8, 128.0, 128.7, 129.9, 136.5, 137.8, 139.5, 144.0, 169.9, 170.3; HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $C_{27}H_{27}CINO_5S$  (M + H<sup>+</sup>) 512.1298, found 512.1296.

4-Hydroxy-6-(4-nitrophenyl)-2-phenyl-1-(toluene-4-sulfonyl)-1,2,5,6-tetrahydropyridine-3-carboxylic Acid Ethyl Ester (6e). The general procedure described above was followed when the enolate of (*E*)-1a (100.0 mg, 0.46 mmol) reacted with 140.0 mg of **3e** (0.46 mmol) at −50 °C for 3.0 h to afford **6e** (168.2 mg, 70% yield) as a white solid: mp 175–179 °C;  $R_f$  0.33 (20% ethyl acetate in petroleum ether); ÎR  $\nu_{\rm max}$  (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3447, 2981, 1659, 1628, 1600, 1517, 1494, 1435, 1404, 1345, 1307, 1267, 1227, 1186, 1162, 1092, 1024, 1007, 987, 923, 890, 851, 802, 741, 700, 679, 654, 619,564, 547, 464; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 1.07 (t, 3H, J = 7.1 Hz), 2.38 (dd, 1H, J = 7.1, 17.8 Hz), 2.46 (s, 1.07 (t, 3H, J = 7.1 Hz), 2.46 (t, 3H, J =3H), 2.61 (dd, 1H, J = 5.4, 17.8 Hz), 4.02–4.19 (m, 2H), 5.14-5.18 (m, 1H), 6.14 (s, 1H), 7.03-7.08 (m, 3H), 7.09-7.20 (m, 4H), 7.33 (d, 2H, J = 8.0 Hz), 7.77 (d, 2H, J = 8.0 Hz), 7.84 (d, 2H, J = 8.8 Hz), 12.27 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  13.9, 21.6, 30.7, 54.2, 54.8, 61.0, 98.2, 123.1, 127.2, 127.6, 127.9, 128.2, 130.0, 136.1, 139.2, 144.3, 146.8, 169.7; HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $C_{27}H_{26}N_2O_7SNa~(M + Na^+)$  545.1358, found 545.1357.

4-Hydroxy-6-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-phenyl-1-(toluene-4-sulfonyl)-1,2,5,6-tetrahydropyridine-3-carboxylic Acid Ethyl Ester (6f). The general procedure described above was followed when the enolate of (E)-1a (100.0 mg, 0.46 mmol) reacted with 133.0 mg of 3f (0.46 mmol) at -50 °C for 4.0 h to afford 6f (135.4 mg, 58% yield) as a white solid: mp 148–152 °C;  $R_f$  0.4 (20% ethyl acetate in petroleum ether); IR  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3448, 2924, 2854, 1741, 1657, 1513, 1458, 1426, 1403, 1376, 1343, 1300, 1256, 1232, 1160, 1097, 1031, 883, 813, 752, 731, 702, 686, 655, 623, 557, 465; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.97 (t, 3H, J =7.1 Hz), 2.25 (dd, 1H, J = 6.6, 17.3 Hz), 2.38 (s, 3H), 2.53 (dd, 1H, J = 4.9, 17.6 Hz), 3.61 (s, 3H), 3.92–4.09 (m, 2H), 4.99-5.02 (m, 1H), 6.03 (s, 1H), 6.43(d, 2H, J = 8.8 Hz), 6.80 (d, 2H, J = 8.8 Hz), 6.93-7.04 (m, 4H), 7.19 -7.27 (m, 4H)3H), 7.70 (d, 2H, J = 8.3 Hz), 12.20 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125) MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 13.9, 21.6, 30.9, 53.9, 54.5, 55.2, 60.7, 98.0, 113.3, 126.5, 127.2, 127.5, 127.6 128.5, 129.8, 131.1, 136.8, 139.9, 143.7, 158.6, 170.1, 170.7; HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $C_{28}H_{29}NO_6SNa (M + Na^+) 530.1613$ , found 530.1618.

**1-Benzenesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-2,6-diphenyl-1,2,5,6-tetrahydropyridine-3-carboxylic Acid Ethyl Ester (6g).** The general procedure described above was followed when the enolate of (*E*)-**1a** (100.0 mg, 0.46 mmol) reacted with 113.0 mg of **3g** (0.46 mmol) at -50 °C for 2.5 h to afford **6g** (136.4 mg, 64% yield) as a white solid: mp 184–186 °C;  $R_f$  0.43 (20% ethyl acetate in petroleum ether); IR  $\nu_{\rm max}$  (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3447, 3034, 2925, 2855, 1963, 1663, 1630, 1496, 1451, 1425, 1402, 1370, 1341, 1302, 1233, 1163, 1096, 1026, 987, 925, 882, 782, 747, 692, 629, 578, 552, 464; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 0.99, (t, 3H, J = 7.1 Hz), 2.27 (dd, 1H, J = 7.1, 17.6 Hz), 2.56 (dd, 1H, J = 5.6, 17.8 Hz), 3.93–4.09 (m, 2H), 5.01–5.05 (m, 1H), 6.07

(s, 1H), 6.90–6.99 (m, 8H), 7.05–7.08 (m, 2H), 7.42–7.48 (m, 2H), 7.52–7.57 (m, 1H), 7.83 (d, 2H, J=8.6 Hz), 12.16 (s, 1H);  $^{13}$ C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  13.9, 31.2, 54.3, 55.5, 60.8, 98.1, 127.3, 127.6, 127.7, 127.8, 128.0, 129.2, 133.0, 139.3, 139.5, 169.9, 170.8; HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $C_{26}H_{26}NO_{5}S$  (M + H<sup>+</sup>) 464.1531, found 464.1533.

1-Benzenesulfonyl-4-hydroxy-6-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-phenyl-1,2,5,6-tetrahydropyridine-3-carboxylic Acid Ethyl Ester (6h). The general procedure described above was followed when the enolate of (E)-1a (100.0 mg, 0.46 mmol) reacted with 126.0 mg of **3h** (0.46 mmol) at -50 °C for 3.5 h to afford **6h** (140.8 mg, 62% yield) as a white solid: mp 144–146 °C;  $R_f$  0.32; (20%) ethyl acetate in petroleum ether); IR  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3448, 2929, 1654, 1618, 1513, 1448, 1404, 1348, 1301, 1253, 1226, 1162, 1096, 1077, 1029, 990, 880, 829, 802, 753, 738, 695, 628, 576, 551, 465.; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.98 (t, 3H, J =7.1 Hz), 2.24 (dd, 1H, J = 7.1, 17.8 Hz), 2.53 (dd, 1H, J = 5.1, 17.8 Hz), 3.62 (s, 3H), 3.92-4.09 (m, 2H), 5.00-5.04 (m, 1H), 6.05 (s, 1H), 6.44 (d, 2H, J = 8.8 Hz), 6.80 (d, 2H, J = 8.3 Hz), 6.95-7.06 (m, 5H), 7.42-7.49 (m, 2H), 7.52-7.58 (m, 1H),  $7.82 \text{ (d, 2H, } J = 8.3 \text{ Hz)}, 12.18 \text{ (s, 1H)}; ^{13}\text{C NMR (100 MHz,}$ CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 13.9, 31.1, 54.1, 54.7, 55.2, 60.8, 98.0, 113.3, 127.2, 127.5, 127.6, 128.5, 128.6, 129.2, 131.1, 132.9, 139.7, 158.7, 170.0, 170.8; HRMS (ESI) for calcd  $C_{27}H_{28}NO_6S$  (M + H<sup>+</sup>) 494.1637, found 494.1633.

4-Hydroxy-2-phenyl-6-styryl-1-(toluene-4-sulfonyl)-1,2,5,6tetrahydropyridine-3-carboxylic Acid Ethyl Ester (6i). The general procedure described above was followed when the enolate of (E)-1a (100.0 mg, 0.46 mmol) reacted with 131.0 mg of 3i (0.46 mmol) at  $-50 \,^{\circ}\text{C}$  for 3.0 h to afford **6i** (145.9 mg, 63%)yield) as a white solid: mp 122-124 °C;  $R_f$  0.48 (20% ethyl acetate in petroleum ether); IR  $\nu_{\rm max}$  (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3448, 3030, 2925, 1653, 1623, 1493, 1450, 1425, 1404, 1342, 1304, 1260, 1219, 1184, 1160, 1092, 1021, 975, 917, 818, 801, 731, 695, 673, 613, 576, 551, 473; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 1.08 (t, 3H, J = 7.1 Hz), 2.34–2.39 (m, 2H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 4.03–4.20 (m, 2H), 4.78-4.82 (m, 1H), 5.53-5.61 (m, 1H), 6.12 (s, 1H), 6.20 (d, 1H, J = 16.1 Hz), 6.83-6.91 (m, 2H), 7.12-7.23 (m, 5H),7.25-7.30 (m, 3H), 7.37 (d, 2H, J = 7.3 Hz), 7.74 (d, 2H, J8.3 Hz), 12.31 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 14.0, 21.5, 30.2, 53.0, 53.3, 60.8, 97.9, 126.4, 127.0, 127.1, 127.6, 128.0, 128.1, 128.2, 129.7, 129.8, 130.6, 136.0, 137.1, 140.6, 143.8, 170.3; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C<sub>29</sub>H<sub>29</sub>NO<sub>5</sub>SNa (M + Na<sup>+</sup>) 526.1664, found 526.1667.

6-Furan-2-yl-4-hydroxy-2-phenyl-1-(toluene-4-sulfonyl)-1,2,5,6tetrahydropyridine-3-carboxylic Acid Ethyl Ester (6j). The general procedure described above was followed when the enolate of (E)-1a (100.0 mg, 0.46 mmol) reacted with 115.0 mg of 3j (0.46 mmol) at −50 °C for 3.0 h to afford 6j (141.9 mg, 66% yield) as a white solid: mp 172-176 °C;  $R_f$  0.46 (20% ethyl acetate in petroleum ether); IR  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3449, 2979, 2924, 1656, 1495, 1452, 1409, 1379, 1350, 1302, 1227, 1185, 1163, 1093, 1028, 966, 913, 886, 810, 733, 701, 672, 621, 595, 570, 549; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.92 (t, 3H, J = 7.1Hz), 2.37 (s, 3H), 2.43 (dd, 1H, J = 7.6, 18.1 Hz), 2.55 (dd, 1H, J = 2.7, 18.3 Hz), 3.91–4.08 (m, 2H), 5.21 (d, 1H, J = 5.8 Hz), 5.78 (d, 1H, J = 3.2 Hz), 5.84 - 5.87 (m, 1H), 6.0 (s, 1H), 6.77 (s, 1.84 - 1.84 + 11H), 6.92–7.01 (m, 4H), 7.19–7.24 (m, 3H), 7.70 (d, 2H, J = 8.3 Hz) 12.34 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  13.9, 21.7, 28.9, 47.9, 53.1, 60.8, 97.5, 108.6, 110.2, 126.4, 127.3, 127.5, 127.6, 129.9, 137.2, 139.7, 142.2, 143.9, 150.7, 169.9, 170.4; HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $C_{25}H_{25}NO_6SNa$  (M +  $Na^+$ ) 490.1300, found 490.1306.

Ethyl 2-(4-Cyanophenyl)-4-hydroxy-6-phenyl-1-tosyl-1,2,5,6-tetrahydropyridine-3-carboxylate (6k). The general procedure described above was followed when the enolate of 1b (100.0 mg, 0.41 mmol) reacted with 106.0 mg of 3a (0.41 mmol) at  $-50\,^{\circ}$ C for 3.5 h to afford 6k (128 mg, 62% yield) as a white solid: mp

163–165 °C;  $R_f$ 0.32 (20% ethyl acetate in petroleum ether); IR  $\nu_{\rm max}$  (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 2924, 2853, 2228, 1737, 1658, 1602, 1498, 1453, 1409, 1351, 1303, 1259, 1230, 1161, 1093, 1020, 954, 812, 756, 692, 659, 606, 554; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.87 (t, 3H, J = 7.1 Hz), 2.1 (dd, 1H, J = 7.3, 18.3 Hz), 2.40 (s, 3H), 2.62 (dd, 1H, J = 2.0, 18.6 Hz), 3.90–4.06 (m, 2H), 5.20–5.22 (m, 1H), 6.0 (s, 1H), 6.82–6.95 (m, 5H), 6.99 (d, 2H, J = 8.3 Hz), 7.12 (d, 2H, J = 8.0 Hz), 7.28 (d, 2H, J = 7.8 Hz), 7.72 (d, 2H, J = 8.0 Hz), 12.39 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  13.9, 21.8, 28.5, 52.9, 53.2, 61.1, 96.4, 109.9, 119.1, 127.1, 127.7, 127.8, 128.1, 128.3, 128.8, 130.3, 131.1, 136.9, 137.2, 144.4, 145.8, 170.0, 170.9; HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $C_{28}H_{27}N_2O_5S$  (M + H<sup>+</sup>) 503.1640, found 503.1647.

**Procedure for the Synthesis of 2-Alkenyl-***N***-tosylaldimines.** *p*-Toluenesulfonamide (2.0 g, 11.68 mmol) and aliphatic aldehyde 7 (17.52 mmol) were taken in 15.0 mL of benzene, and then BF<sub>3</sub>·OEt<sub>2</sub> (0.15 mL, 1.2 mmol) was added at room temperature and heated to reflux at 85–90 °C with a Dean–Stark apparatus for 5–6 h. After completion of the reaction as monitored by TLC, the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure, and then the crude reaction mixture was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (230–400 mesh) using 10% ethyl acetate in petroleum ether as eluent to obtain pure aldimines **11a.b** as a white solid.

**4-Methyl-***N*-((*E*)-**2-methylpent-2-enylidene**)**benzenesulfonamide** (**11a**). The general procedure described above was followed when 1.3 mL of propionaldehyde **7a** (1.02 g, 17.52 mmol) was reacted with 2.0 g of *p*-toluene sulfonamide (11.68 mmol) to afford **11a** (1.9 g, 65% yield) as a white solid: mp 40–42 °C;  $R_f$  0.38 (20% ethyl acetate in petroleum ether); IR  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3437, 2968, 2930, 2875, 1922, 1631, 1569, 1493, 1450, 1402, 1317, 1262, 1229, 1156, 1088, 1042, 913, 883, 843, 810, 772, 675, 607, 550, 491, 466; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.09 (t, 3H, J = 7.6 Hz), 1.84 (s, 3H), 2.34–2.42 (m, 2H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 6.52 (t, 1H, J = 7.3 Hz), 7.33 (d, 2H, J = 8.1 Hz), 7.83 (d, 2H, J = 8.3 Hz), 8.51 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  10.8, 12.7, 21.6, 23.0, 127.8, 129.6, 134.7, 135.6, 144.2, 158.4, 174.1; HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $C_{13}H_{18}NO_2S$  (M + H<sup>+</sup>) 252.1058, found 252.1059.

N-((E)-2-Ethylhex-2-enylidene)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide (11b). The general procedure described above was followed when 1.6 mL of butyraldehyde 7b (1.3 g, 17.52 mmol) was reacted with 2.0 g of p-toluenesulfonamide (11.68 mmol) to afford 11b (2.18 g, 67% yield) as a white solid: mp 53–55 °C;  $R_f$  0.42 (20% ethyl acetate in petroleum ether); IR  $\nu_{\rm max}$  (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3439, 2958, 2870, 1631, 1570, 1462, 1398, 1317, 1288, 1237, 1210, 1164, 1085, 1042, 915, 863, 815, 778, 707, 673, 628, 584, 561, 543, 467; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 0.86–0.93 (m, 6H), 1.45 (q, 2H, J = 7.3 Hz), 2.24–2.32 (m, 4H), 2.36 (s, 3H), 6.40 (t, 1H, J = 7.3 Hz), 7.20–7.29 (m, 2H), 7.74–7.77 (m, 2H), 8.4 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 13.1, 13.8, 18.6, 21.6, 21.9, 31.3, 127.7, 129.6, 135.8, 141.2, 144.1, 156.8, 173.6; HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $C_{15}H_{22}NO_2S$  (M + H<sup>+</sup>) 280.1371, found 280.1370.

**Procedure for the Synthesis of** *N***-Tosylalkenyl-Substituted Piperidines.** To a solution of diisopropylamine (0.08 mL, 0.55 mmol) in 2.0 mL of dry THF was added 2.0 M *n*-BuLi (0.28 mL, 0.55 mmol) at 0 °C and the mixture stirred for 30 min. The color of the solution changed to yellow, the temperature was dropped to -50 °C, compound (*E*)-**1a** (100.0 mg, 0.46 mmol) dissolved in 1.0 mL of dry THF was added slowly, and the mixture was stirred for 1 h to allow the formation of enolate. Then 2-alkenyl-*N*-tosylaldimine **11a,b** (0.46 mmol), dissolved in 1.0 mL of dry THF, was added, and the mixture was stirred for an additional 6–6.5 h at the same temperature. After completion of the reaction as monitored by TLC, the reaction was quenched with saturated aqueous ammonium chloride solution. The organic and aqueous layers were separated, and the aqueous layer was

extracted with ethyl acetate ( $3 \times 5.0 \,\mathrm{mL}$ ). The combined organic extract was washed with brine and dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate. After removal of the solvent under reduced pressure, the crude reaction mixture was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel ( $230-400 \,\mathrm{mesh}$ ) using 3-4% ethyl acetate in petroleum ether as eluent to afford the pure piperidines 12a,b as a white solid. All these compounds exist in enol form as indicated by  $^1H \,\mathrm{NMR}$  spectra and crystal structure.

Ethyl 4-Hydroxy-6(*E*)-(pent-2-en-2-yl)-2-phenyl-1-tosyl-1,2,5,6tetrahydropyridine-3-carboxylate (12a). The general procedure described above was followed when the enolate of (E)-1a (100.0)mg, 0.46 mmol) reacted with 115.0 mg of **11a** (0.46 mmol) at -50 °C for 6 h to afford **12a** (125.0 mg, 58% yield) as a white solid: mp 154–156 °C;  $R_f$  0.43 (20% ethyl acetate in petroleum ether); IR  $\nu_{\rm max}$  (KBr, cm $^{-1}$ ) 3443, 3059, 2960, 2930, 2872, 1656, 1621, 1492, 1451, 1408, 1344, 1297, 1233, 1184, 1162, 1094, 1026, 993, 963, 894, 809, 749, 701, 687, 655, 627, 561; <sup>1</sup>H NMR  $(500 \text{ MHz}, \text{CDCl}_3) \delta 0.82 \text{ (t, 3H, } J = 7.6 \text{ Hz)}, 0.95-1.01 \text{ (m,}$ 6H), 1.48-1.55 (m, 1H), 1.63-1.71 (m, 1H), 2.07 (dd, 1H, J =7.3, 18.4 Hz), 2.39-2.46 (m, 4H), 4.01-4.16 (m, 2H), 4.38 (d, 1H, J = 6.9 Hz), 4.95-5.01 (m, 1H), 6.07 (s, 1H), 7.13-7.21(m, 3H), 7.25-7.29 (m, 4H), 7.73 (d, 2H, J = 8.5 Hz), 12.38 (s, 2H, 3H), 12.38 (s, 3H), 12.381H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 13.4, 14.0, 14.2, 21.3, 21.7, 28.4, 53.5, 56.0, 60.7, 96.4, 126.8, 127.1, 127.3, 128.7, 129.7, 129.9, 132.4, 137.4, 140.0, 143.8, 170.6, 170.9; HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $C_{26}H_{32}NO_5S$  (M + H<sup>+</sup>) 470.2001, found 470.2004.

Ethyl 6-(*E*)-Hept-3-en-3-yl)-4-hydroxy-2-phenyl-1-tosyl-1,2,5,6tetrahydropyridine-3-carboxylate (12b). The general procedure described above was followed when the enolate of (E)-1a (100.0 mg, 0.46 mmol) reacted with 128.0 mg of **11b** (0.46 mmol) at -50 °C for 6.5 h to afford **12b** (128.0 mg, 56% yield) as a white solid: mp 142–144 °C;  $R_f$  0.46 (20% ethyl acetate in petroleum ether); IR  $\nu_{\rm max}$  (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3426, 3059, 2963, 2929, 1660, 1606, 1495, 1459, 1427, 1403, 1368, 1344, 1295, 1223, 1161, 1095, 1029, 987, 812, 751, 703, 656, 590, 560, 536, 457; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.70 (t, 3H, J = 7.5 Hz), 0.82 (t, 3H, J = 7.5Hz), 0.99 (t, 3H, J = 7.8 Hz), 1.10-1.31 (m, 3H), 1.43-1.54 (m, 2H), 1.59-1.68 (m, 1H), 2.15 (dd, 1H, J = 7.4, 18.3 Hz), 2.34-2.40 (m, 1H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 4.01-4.16 (m, 2H), 4.52 (d, 1H, J = 7.5 Hz, 4.90-4.96 (m, 1H), 6.04 (s, 1H), 7.11 - 7.20(m, 3H), 7.23-7.32 (m, 4H), 7.74 (d, 2H, J = 8.0 Hz), 12.40 (s, 3H)1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 12.8, 13.9, 14.0, 20.1, 21.6, 22.2, 28.4, 29.7, 52.6, 53.1, 53.2, 60.6, 96.3, 126.5, 127.0, 128.0, 128.1, 128.6, 129.8, 137.3, 138.7, 139.7, 143.7, 170.5, 170.9; HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $C_{28}H_{36}NO_5S$  (M + H<sup>+</sup>) 498.2314, found 498,2315.

Procedure for the Synthesis of N-Sulfinyl 2,6-Disubstituted **Piperidines.** To a solution of diisopropylamine (0.08 mL, 0.55 mmol) in 2.0 mL of dry THF was added n-BuLi 2.0 M) (0.28 mL, 0.55 mmol) at 0 °C and the mixture stirred for 30 min. The color of the solution changed to yellow, the temperature was dropped to -50 °C, compound (E)-1a (100.0 mg, 0.46 mmol) dissolved in 1.0 mL of dry THF was added, and the mixture was stirred for 1 h to allow the formation of enolate. Then 2-aryl-N-sulfinylaldimine 13a-d (0.183 mmol) dissolved in 1.0 mL of dry THF was added and the mixture stirred for an additional 8-10 h at the same temperature. After completion of the reaction as monitored by TLC, the reaction was quenched with saturated aqueous ammonium chloride solution. The organic and aqueous layers were separated, and the aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate (3  $\times$  5.0 mL). The combined organic extract was washed with brine and dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate. After removal of the solvent under reduced pressure, the crude reaction mixture was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (230-400 mesh) using 8% ethyl acetate in petroleum ether to afford the pure piperidines 14a-d. All these compounds exist in enol form as indicated by 'H NMR spectra and crystal structure.

4-Hydroxy-2,6-diphenyl-1-(toluene-4-sulfinyl)-1,2,5,6-tetrahydropyridine-3-carboxylic Acid Ethyl Ester (14a). The general procedure described above was followed when the enolate of (E)-1a (100.0 mg, 0.46 mmol) reacted with 44.6 mg of 13a (0.18 mmol) at -50 °C for 8.0 h to afford 14a (47.0 mg, 55% yield) as a white solid: mp 120–122 °C;  $R_f$  0.58 (30% ethyl acetate in petroleum ether);  $[\alpha]^{25}_{D} = -73.3$  (c 0.685 in CHCl<sub>3</sub>); IR  $\nu_{max}$ (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3446, 2922, 2853, 1655, 1493, 1453, 1404, 1301, 1264, 1225, 1182, 1071, 1018, 910, 813, 754, 695, 570, 469, 432; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.05 (t, 3H, J = 7.3 Hz), 2.37 (s, 3H), 2.73 (dd, 1H, J = 5.4, 17.2 Hz), 2.97 (dd, 1H, J = 7.3, 17.2 Hz), 4.02-4.15 (m, 2H), 4.95-5.0 (m, 1H), 5.58 (s, 1H), 6.51 (d, 2H, J = 7.3 Hz), 6.80-6.84 (m, 2H), 6.87-6.92 (m, 1H), 7.14–7.24 (m, 5H), 7.29 (d, 2H, J = 6.9 Hz), 7.46 (d, 2H, J = 8.0 Hz), 12.36 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ 13.8, 21.3, 34.8, 51.5, 59.1, 60.6, 101.2, 125.8, 125.9, 127.2, 127.3, 127.6, 127.8, 128.4, 129.3, 140.1, 140.4, 141.6, 142.6, 170.2, 170.3; HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $C_{27}H_{28}NO_4S$  (M + H<sup>+</sup>) 462.1739, found 462.1735.

4-Hydroxy-6-(4-nitrophenyl)-2-phenyl-1-(toluene-4-sulfinyl)-1,2,5,6-tetrahydropyridine-3-carboxylic Acid Ethyl Ester (14b). The general procedure described above was followed when the enolate of (E)-1a (100.0 mg, 0.46 mmol) reacted with 52.8 mg of **13b** (0.183 mmol) at −50 °C for 8.5 h to afford **14b** (53.0 mg, 58% yield) as a light yellow solid: mp 148-152 °C;  $R_f$  0.44 (30% ethyl acetate in petroleum ether);  $[\alpha]^{25}_{D} = +23.3$  (c 0.85 in CHCl<sub>3</sub>);  $IR \nu_{max}$  (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3446, 2922, 1656, 1518, 1449, 1403, 1382, 1347, 1298, 1224, 1169, 1094, 1075, 988, 889, 850, 814, 752, 702, 461; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 0.99 (t, 3H, J = 7.1 Hz), 2.44 (s, 3H), 2.65 (dd, 1H, J = 6.4, 17.8 Hz), 2.86 (dd, 1H, J = 4.6, 17.8 Hz), 4.0-4.16 (m, 2H), 4.97-5.03 (m, 4.97-5.03)1H), 5.64 (s, 1H), 6.5 (d, 2H, J = 7.6 Hz), 6.75–6.93 (m, 3H), 7.25-7.35 (m, 4H), 7.58 (d, 2H, J = 7.8 Hz), 7.89 (d, 2H, J =8.5 Hz), 12.50 (s, 1H);  $^{13}$ C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  13.8, 21.5, 32.2, 53.2, 55.9, 60.8, 100.2, 123.2, 125.6, 126.4, 127.1, 127.3, 128.8, 129.8, 140.2, 141.0, 142.3, 146.9, 147.0, 169.5, 170.1; HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $C_{27}H_{27}N_2O_6S$  (M + H<sup>+</sup>) 507.1589, found 507.1595.

6-(4-Chlorophenyl)-4-hydroxy-2-phenyl-1-(toluene-4-sulfinyl)-1,2,5,6-tetrahydropyridine-3-carboxylic Acid Ethyl Ester (14c). The general procedure described above was followed when the enolate of (E)-1a (100 mg, 0.46 mmol) reacted with 50.8 mg of 13c (0.183 mmol) at -50 °C for 10 h to afford 14c (56 mg, 62% yield) as a white solid: mp 164–168 °C;  $R_f$  0.52 (30% ethyl acetate in petroleum ether);  $\left[\alpha\right]^{25}_{D} = -32.8 \ (c\ 0.75\ in\ CHCl_{3});$ IR  $\nu_{\text{max}}$  (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3421, 3030, 2977, 2925, 1958, 1717, 1658, 1492, 1453, 1404, 1368, 1301, 1260, 1227, 1180, 1089, 1015, 983, 910, 815, 701, 628, 518; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 0.95 (t, 3H, J = 7.1 Hz), 2.33 (s, 3H), 2.61 (dd, 1H, J = 5.8, 17.6 Hz),2.80 (dd, 1H, J = 6.1, 17.6 Hz), 3.93-4.08 (m, 2H), 4.83-4.89(m, 1H), 5.51 (s, 1H), 6.41 (d, 2H, J = 7.8 Hz), 6.74-6.80 (m, 1H)2H), 6.83-6.89 (m, 1H), 7.01-7.10 (m, 4H), 7.16 (d, 2H, J =8.1 Hz), 7.43 (d, 2H, J = 8.3 Hz), 12.34 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125) MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 13.9, 21.5, 33.8, 52.2, 57.5, 60.8, 100.8, 125.9, 126.1, 127.3, 127.4, 128.5, 129.3, 129.6, 133.4, 138.7, 140.2, 141.9, 142.0, 170.1, 170.3; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>27</sub>- $CINO_4S$  (M + H<sup>+</sup>) 496.1349, found 496.1349.

Procedure for the Synthesis of Chiral N-Tosyl 2,6-Disubstituted Piperidines from N-Sulfinyl 2,6-Disubstituted Piperidines. To a solution of 14c,d in 1.5 mL of dry  $CH_2Cl_2$  was added m-chloroperbenzoic acid and the mixture stirred at room temperature for 2-3 h. After completion of the reaction as monitored by TLC, the reaction was quenched with saturated aqueous sodium bicarbonate solution. The organic and aqueous layers were separated, and the aqueous layer was extracted with  $CH_2Cl_2$  (3  $\times$  2.0 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with brine and dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate. After removal of the solvent under reduced pressure, the crude

reaction mixture was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (230–400 mesh) using 8% ethyl acetate in petroleum ether to afford (2R,6R)-6d,f as a white solid.

(2*R*,6*R*)-Ethyl-6-(4-chlorophenyl)-4-hydroxy-2-phenyl-1-tosyl-1,2,5,6-tetrahydropyridine-3-carboxylate [(2*R*,6*R*)-6d]. The general procedure described above was followed when the piperidine 14c (25 mg 0.05 mmol) was reacted with *m*-chloroperbenzoic acid (17.5 mg, 0.1 mmol) at room temperature for 2.5 h to afford (2*R*,6*R*)-6d (16.8 mg, 65% yield) as a white solid: [α]<sup>25</sup><sub>D</sub> = -29.8 (*c* 0.275 in CHCl<sub>3</sub>). For detailed spectral data, see compound 6d.

(2*R*,6*R*)-Ethyl 4-Hydroxy-6-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-phenyl-1-to-syl-1,2,5,6-tetrahydropyridine-3-carboxylate [(2*R*,6*R*)-6*f*]. The general procedure described above was followed when the piperidine 14d (25 mg 0.05 mmol) was reacted with *m*-chloroperbenzoic acid (17.5 mg, 0.1 mmol) at room temperature for 3.0 h to afford (2*R*,6*R*)-6*f* (17 mg, 65% yield) as a white solid:  $[\alpha]^{25}_{D} = -12.9$  (*c* 0.255 in CHCl<sub>3</sub>). For detailed spectral data, see compound 6*f*.

Procedure for the Synthesis of N-Tosyl 2,6-Disubstituted **Piperidines from 1c.** To a solution of diisopropylamine (0.08 mL, 0.54 mmol) in 2.0 mL of dry THF was added 2.0 M n-BuLi (0.27 mL, 0.54 mmol) at 0 °C and the mixture stirred for 30 min under argon atmosphere. The color of the solution changed to yellow, the temperature was dropped to -50 °C, compound 1c (E-Z) (100.0 mg, 0.45 mmol) dissolved in 1.0 mL dry THF was added slowly, and the mixture was stirred for 1 h to allow the formation of enolate. Then 2-phenyl-N-tosylaldimine 3a 117.0 mg (0.45 mmol), dissolved in 1.5 mL of dry THF, was added and the mixture stirred for an additional 6 h at the same temperature. After completion of the reaction as monitored by TLC, the reaction was quenched with saturated aqueous ammonium chloride solution. The organic and aqueous layers were separated, and the aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate (3  $\times$  5.0 mL). The combined organic extract was washed with brine and dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate. After removal of the solvent under reduced pressure, the crude reaction mixture was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (230-400 mesh) using 5% ethyl acetate in petroleum ether to afford the pure piperidines 18a,b as a white solid. These compounds exist in enol form as indicated by the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum and crystal structure.

Ethyl 2-Cyclohexyl-4-hydroxy-6-phenyl-1-tosyl-1,2,5,6-tetrahydropyridine-3-carboxylate (18a). The general procedure described above was followed when the enolate of (E)-1c (100.0) mg, 0.45 mmol) reacted with 117.0 mg of 3a (0.45 mmol) at -50 °C for 6 h to afford **18a** (132.0 mg, 61% yield) as a white solid: mp 132–133 °C;  $R_f$  0.43 (20% ethyl acetate in petroleum ether); IR  $\nu_{\rm max}$  (KBr, cm $^{-1}$ ) 3432, 2922, 2852, 1649, 1619, 1494, 1451, 1428, 1408, 1332, 1277, 1222, 1163, 1090, 1074, 1026, 989, 947, 896, 877, 818, 750, 737, 675, 654, 607, 561, 544, 462; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.83–1.13 (m, 6H), 1.30 (t, 3H, J = 7.3 Hz), 1.52–1.65 (m, 4H), 1.73–1.79 (m, 1H), 2.32 (s, 3H),  $2.46 \, (dd, 1H, J = 6.9, 16.8 \, Hz), 2.66 \, (dd, 1H, J = 10.7, 16.8 \, Hz),$  $4.0-4.21 \,(\text{m}, 2\text{H}), 4.57 \,(\text{d}, 1\text{H}, J = 10.7 \,\text{Hz}), 4.64-4.69 \,(\text{m}, 1\text{H}),$ 7.13 (d, 2H, J = 8.1 Hz), 7.18-7.24 (m, 1H), 7.28-7.35 (m, 4H),7.57 (d, 2H, J = 8.4 Hz), 11.76 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  14.3, 21.5, 26.0, 26.2, 26.5, 30.0, 31.2, 34.9, 43.3, 58.3, 58.5, 60.6, 100.4, 126.4, 127.4, 127.6, 128.6, 129.3, 135.4, 143.2, 143.5, 169.9; HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $C_{27}H_{34}NO_5S$  (M + H<sup>+</sup>) 484.2157, found 484.2157.

Ethyl 2-Cyclohexyl-4-hydroxy-6-phenyl-1-tosyl-1,2,5,6-tetra-hydropyridine-3-carboxylate (18b). The general procedure described above was followed when the enolate of (Z)-1c (100.0 mg, 0.45 mmol) reacted with 117.0 mg of 3a (0.45 mmol) at -50 °C for 6 h to afford 18b (141.5 mg, 65% yield) as a white solid: mp 145–147 °C;  $R_f$ 0.45; (20% ethyl acetate in petroleum ether); IR  $\nu_{\rm max}$  (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3442, 2928, 2851, 1640, 1497, 1452, 1403, 1356, 1337, 1323, 1262, 1229, 1217, 1182, 1151, 1091, 1059,

1030, 1010, 937, 895, 862, 811, 766, 735, 724, 696, 659, 601, 584, 548;  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.01–1.19 (m, 6H), 1.32 (t, 3H, J = 7.1 Hz), 1.60–1.81 (m, 4H), 1.96–2.06 (m,1H), 2.25 (s, 3H), 2.62 (dd, 1H, J = 5.4, 17.4 Hz), 3.07 (dd, 1H, J = 9.3, 17.4 Hz), 4.17–4.32 (m, 2H), 4.85–4.95 (m, 2H), 6.88 (d, 2H, J = 8.5 Hz), 7.0–7.12 (m, 7H), 12.27 (s, 1H);  $^{13}$ C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  14.3, 21.3, 26.2, 26.5, 26.6, 30.0, 31.0, 33.0, 44.7, 54.5, 58.0, 60.8, 100.9, 126.7, 127.6, 127.9, 128.4, 128.6, 137.1, 139.4, 142.1, 170.8, 170.9; HRMS (ESI) calcd for  $C_{27}H_{34}NO_{5}S$  (M + H $^{+}$ ) 484.2157, found 484.2157.

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**Supporting Information Available:** X-ray crystallographic data of **6a,e,j, 12a, 14c**, and **18a,b**, copies of <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C spectra for all compounds, and HPLC chromatograms for er determination. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at http://pubs.acs.org