

## Serine carbonates

The present invention relates to serine carbonates and  
5 the use of serine carbonates as precursors for (a)  
organoleptic compounds, especially for fragrances,  
flavors and/or (b) masking agents, and/or (c)  
antimicrobial compounds and/or (d) alternative substrates  
for malodor producing enzymes.

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A principal strategy currently employed in imparting  
odors to consumer products is the admixing of a  
fragrance, masking agent or antimicrobial compound  
directly into the product to be treated. There are,  
15 however, several drawbacks to this strategy. The  
fragrance material can, for example, be too volatile  
and/or too soluble, resulting in fragrance loss during  
manufacturing, storage and use. Many fragrance materials  
are also unstable over time. This again results in loss  
20 during storage.

In many consumer products it is desirable for the  
fragrance to be released slowly over time.  
Microencapsulation and inclusion complexes, especially  
25 with cyclodextrins, have been used to help decrease  
volatility, improve stability and provide slow-release  
properties. However, these methods are for a number of  
reasons often not successful. In addition, cyclodextrins  
can be too expensive.

In consumer products such as deodorants, the aim is to mask malodor or to block its production and optionally also to provide a pleasant fragrance. Deodorants are generally of three types: odor maskers, antiperspirants, and germicides. Despite the many disclosures in the art pertaining to deodorant compositions, current products are not sufficient to suppress odor in a significant proportion of the population, particularly during periods of stress. There remains a need for new deodorant compositions and methods which are effective, safe and economical.

Carbonate-derived fragrance precursors having mercapto or ether groups useful for laundry, deodorant and other applications are described in EP 816 322.

WO 91/11988 refers to alternative enzyme substrates as deodorants. The substrates are amino acids containing an O-acyl or O-thio group.

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US 5,431,904 relates to a deodorant composition comprising a compound which is capable of serving as an alternative substrate. Disclosed is a deodorant composition comprising O-acylated serine derivatives which compete with the naturally occurring malodor producing precursor. In a preferred embodiment, the O-acylated serine may generate organoleptic acids in the axilla concomitant with suppressing the malodor.

An object of the present invention is to provide new precursors for organoleptic and/or antimicrobial compounds and/or alternative substrates for malodor producing enzymes.

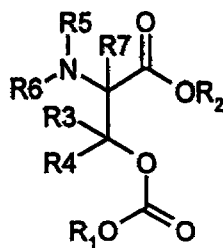
5

A further object of the invention is to provide such new precursors which are stable under usual transport and storage conditions. Optionally, the precursors of the present invention may release more than one active

10

component.

It has now been found that serine carbonates of formula I



or a salt thereof

15 wherein

$R^1$  is the residue of an organoleptic alcohol, phenol or of the enol form of an organoleptic aldehyde or ketone of formula  $R^1OH$ ,

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$R^2$  is hydrogen, metal, ammonium, straight or branched alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl, heterocycloalkyl, heterocycloalkenyl, aryl or heteroaryl, whereby all organic residues may contain heteroatoms and

may carry substituents and if  $R^2$  is hydrogen  $R^1$  is not the residue of benzyl alcohol,

$R^3$ ,  $R^4$  and  $R^7$  are independently hydrogen or lower alkyl  
5 and either  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  or  $R^3$  and  $R^7$  or  $R^4$  and  $R^7$  may form together a ring,

$R^5$  and  $R^6$  are independently hydrogen, straight or branched alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl,  
10 heterocycloalkyl, an aromatic or hetero aromatic residue, alkylcarbonyl, alkoxy carbonyl, arylcarbonyl, aryloxy carbonyl and  $R^5$  and  $R^6$  may together form a ring, whereby all organic residues may contain heteroatoms and may carry substituents, fulfill the aforementioned tasks  
15 and, hence, are useful for the aforementioned purposes.

The compounds of formula I are not limited to any particular stereoisomers, all possible stereoisomers (E/Z isomers, enantiomers, diastereomers) and all mixtures are  
20 thus included within the scope of the invention. Salts are also included in the general formula.

The compounds of formula I may be prepared as quaternary salts.

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$R^2$ ,  $R^5$  and/or  $R^6$  may contain heteroatoms selected of from the group O, N, S, P and Si.

$R^2$ ,  $R^5$  and/or  $R^6$  may also carry one or more of the  
30 following substituents -halogen, -aryl, -heteroaryl, -

cycloalkyl, -cycloalkenyl, -heterocycloalkenyl, -OH, -OR, -NCOON=CR<sub>2</sub>, -OCOON=CR<sub>2</sub>, -COON=CR<sub>2</sub> -NO<sub>2</sub>, -COR, -C(OR)<sub>2</sub>R, -COOR, -CONR<sub>2</sub>, OCOR, -OCOOR, OCONR<sub>2</sub>, -NR<sub>2</sub>, -SOR, -SO<sub>2</sub>R, -SO<sub>3</sub>R in which R is an organic residue.

5

R<sup>2</sup> is preferably the residue of an organoleptic alcohol, phenol or of the enol form of an organoleptic aldehyde or ketone. However, compounds of formula I in which R<sup>2</sup> is the residue of a non-organoleptic alcohol, phenol or of the enol form of a non-organoleptic aldehyde or ketone are also useful. R<sup>2</sup> contains generally 1 to 30, preferably 1 to 20 C-atoms.

In particular R<sup>1</sup> can be alkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl, alkylcycloalkyl or aralkyl; R<sup>2</sup> hydrogen, alkyl or aralkyl, R<sup>5</sup> and/or R<sup>6</sup> hydrogen, alkyloxycarbonyl, aryloxycarbonyl, arylalkoxycarbonyl or trialkylsilylalkoxycarbonyl.

Further preferred are compounds of formula I with R<sup>2</sup> to R<sup>7</sup> being hydrogen.

The compounds of formula I are mostly or nearly odorless at room temperature, atmospheric conditions and about 20 to 100 % relative humidity. However, under activating conditions, they are cleaved and one or more active compounds, alcohols, phenols, aldehydes, and/or ketones, optionally with organoleptic and/or antimicrobial properties are generated.

The activating conditions which lead to cleavage of the precursors and thereby to the liberating of the desired active compound(s) may comprise the presence of skin  
5 bacteria, especially axilla bacteria, or of an enzyme such as protease or lipase, or elevated temperature or acidic or alkaline pH-values or a combination of two or more of these activating conditions.

10 In the specific case of usage as alternative substrates, the mechanism may be quite complex. Axillary malodor is generated by certain skin bacteria in the presence of apocrine secretion. Two strains of bacteria which produce axillary malodor when incubated with human apocrine  
15 secretions are Staphylococcus and several Coryneform isolates. Production of human axillary malodor can be assayed from these strains of bacteria by incubating cells with apocrine secretions collected from human axilla that has been sterilized in a phosphate buffer at  
20 pH 6.8.

The conversion of the naturally occurring apocrine secretion to axillary malodor occurs within the bacterial cells. Extracts of bacteria are capable of converting the  
25 apocrine secretion to the malodor compound in an enzymatic process. One of the malodor forming enzymes has been found to be a pyridoxal phosphate dependent amino acid lyase. The enzyme acts to cleave amino acids with the general structure  $\text{HOOC-CH(NH}_2\text{)-CH}_2\text{-XR}$  where X is S or

O. The products of the reaction are pyruvate, ammonia, and RXH.

The naturally occurring precursor to axillary malodor in the apocrine secretion is a sulfur containing amino acid. The production of axillary malodor is blocked if an alternative substrate for the malodor forming enzyme is provided, so that the alternative substrate is cleaved instead of the apocrine precursor. The alternative substrates produce either a neutral odor or a pleasant odor upon cleavage.

The presence of alternative substrates (in the axilla) leads to competition with the natural precursor, which is present in low quantities, typically about one nanomole/axilla. Such competition almost completely prevents the malodor precursor from being converted. These compounds therefore serve as deodorants.

It has been surprisingly found that compounds of formula I are useful as alternative substrates competing with the naturally occurring malodor precursors.

Further the compounds of formula I, upon cleavage, provide at least one alcohol, phenol, aldehyde or ketone, all having organoleptic and/or antimicrobial activity and therefore permit the development of useful consumer products with enhanced organoleptic and/or antimicrobial properties. The organoleptic alcohols, phenols, aldehydes, and ketones obtained are useful as fragrances,

masking agents and/or antimicrobial agents. Therefore, the invention also relates to the use of all compounds of formula I as precursors for organoleptic compounds, e.g., fragrances, flavors, masking agents, and/or as precursors  
5 for antimicrobial agents.

The serine carbonates of formula I can act as precursors in personal care products such as deodorants, in laundry products, cleaning compositions such as all-purpose and  
10 hard surface cleaners, pet care products and environment scents such as air fresheners. They can also act as precursors for an odor masking agent and at the same time in the same product as fragrance precursor. They also can act as precursors for antimicrobial agents for these and  
15 further products. In deodorants the compounds of formula I act as alternative substrates to the naturally occurring malodor producing enzymes and as precursors for organoleptic and/or antimicrobial substances. The fragrance precursors and the precursors for odor masking  
20 agents of the invention may be used individually in an amount effective to enhance or to mask the characteristic odor of a fragrance or a material. More commonly, however, the compounds are mixed with other fragrance components in an amount sufficient to provide the desired  
25 odor characteristics. Any person skilled in the art will have knowledge how to make best use of the precursors of the invention.

Due to the in situ generation of the active compounds the  
30 desired effect is prolonged and the substantivity of

different substrates is enhanced. If two or more active compounds are provided, they can be generated, depending on the precursor and/or the activating conditions, simultaneously or successively. Further, the precursors  
5 of the invention provide slow release of the active compounds.

Examples of organoleptic alcohols and phenols include:

- 10 amyl alcohol
- hexyl alcohol\*
- 2-hexyl alcohol\*
- heptyl alcohol\*
- octyl alcohol\*
- 15 nonyl alcohol\*
- decyl alcohol\*
- undecyl alcohol\*
- lauryl alcohol\*
- myristic alcohol
- 20 3-methyl-but-2-en-1-ol\*
- 3-methyl-1-pentanol
- cis-3-hexenol\*
- cis-4-hexenol\*
- 3,5,5-trimethyl hexanol
- 25 3,4,5,6,6-pentamethylheptan-2-ol\*
- citronellol\*
- geraniol\*
- oct-1-en-3-ol
- 2,5,7-trimethyl-octan-3-ol

- 2-cis-3,7-dimethyl-2,6-octadien-1-ol  
6-ethyl-3-methyl-5-octen-1-ol\*  
3,7-dimethyl-octa-3,6-di-1-enol\*  
3,7-dimethyloctanol\*  
5 7-methoxy-3,7-dimethyl-octan-2-ol\*  
cis-6-nonenol\*  
5-ethyl-2-nonanol  
6,8-dimethyl-2-nonanol\*  
2,2,8-trimethyl-7-nonen-3-ol and 2,2,8-trimethyl-8-nonen-  
10 3-ol\*  
nona-2,6-dien-1-ol  
4-methyl-3-decen-5-ol\*  
dec-9-en-1-ol  
benzylalcohol  
15 2-methyl undecanol  
10-undecen-1-ol  
1-phenyl-ethanol\*  
2-phenyl-ethanol\*  
2-methyl-3-phenyl-3-propenol  
20 2-phenyl-propanol\*  
3-phenyl-propanol\*  
4-phenyl-2-butanol  
2-methyl-5-phenyl-pentanol\*  
2-methyl-4-phenyl-pentanol\*  
25 3-methyl-5-phenyl-pentanol\*  
2-(2-methylphenyl)-ethanol\*  
4-(1-methylethyl)-benzenemethanol  
4-(4-hydroxyphenyl)butan-2-one\*  
2-phenoxy-ethanol\*

- 4-(1-methylethyl)-2-hydroxy-1-methyl benzene  
2-methoxy-4-methyl phenol  
4-methyl-phenol  
anisic alcohol\*  
5 p-tolyl alcohol\*  
cinnamic alcohol\*  
vanillin\*  
ethyl vanillin\*  
eugenol\*  
10 isoeugenol\*  
thymol  
anethol\*  
decahydro-2-naphthalenol  
borneol\*  
15 cedrenol\*  
farnesol\*  
fenchyl alcohol\*  
menthol\*  
3,7,11-trimethyl-2,6,10-dodecatrien-1-ol  
20 alpha-ionol\*  
tetrahydro-ionol\*  
2-(1,1-dimethylethyl)cyclohexanol\*  
3-(1,1-dimethylethyl)cyclohexanol\*  
4-(1,1-dimethylethyl)cyclohexanol\*  
25 4-isopropyl-cyclohexanol  
6,6-dimethyl-bicyclo[3.3.1]hept-2-ene-2-ethanol  
6,6-dimethyl-bicyclo[3.1.1]hept-2-ene-methanol\*  
p-menth-8-en-3-ol\*  
3,3,5-trimethyl-cyclohexanol

- 2,4,6-trimethyl-3-cyclohexenyl-methanol\*  
4-(1-methylethyl)cyclohexyl-methanol\*  
4-(1,1-dimethylethyl)cyclohexanol  
2-(1,1-dimethylethyl)cyclohexanol  
5 2,2,6-trimethyl-alpha-propyl-cyclohexane propanol\*  
5-(2,2,3-trimethyl-3-cyclopentenyl)-3-methylpentan-2-ol\*  
3-methyl-5-(2,2,3-trimethylcyclopent-3-en-1-yl)pent-4-en-2-ol\*  
2-ethyl-4-(2,2,3-trimethylcyclopent-3-en-1-yl)but-2-en-1-ol\*\*  
10 4-(5,5,6-trimethylbicyclo[2.2.1]hept-2-yl)-cyclohexanol\*  
2-(2-methylpropyl)-4-hydroxy-4-methyl-tetrahydropyran\*  
2-cyclohexyl-propanol\*  
2-(1,1-dimethylethyl)-4-methyl-cyclohexanol\*  
15 1-(2-tert-butyl-cyclohexyloxy)-2-butanol\*  
1-(4-isopropyl-cyclohexyl)-ethanol\*  
2,6-dimethyl-oct-7-en-2-ol\*\*  
2,6-dimethyl-heptan-2-ol\*\*  
3,7-dimethyl-octa-1,6-dien-3-ol\*\*

20

whereby \* indicates the preferred organoleptic alcohols and phenols and \*\* indicate the more preferred organoleptic alcohols and phenols.

- 25 Examples of organoleptic aldehydes include:

2,6,10-trimethylundec-9-enal\*\*  
1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8-octahydro-8,8-dimethyl-2-naphthalenecarboxaldehyde

- 2-[4-(1-methylethyl)phenyl]-ethanal  
2,4-dimethyl-cyclohex-3-ene-1-carboxaldehyde\*  
4-carboxaldehyde-1,3,5-trimethyl-cyclohex-1-ene\*  
1-carboxaldehyde-2,4-dimethyl-cyclohex-3-ene\*  
5 1-carboxaldehyde-4-(4-hydroxy-4-methylpentyl)-cyclohex-3-ene\*  
3,5,5-trimethyl-hexanal  
heptanal\*  
2,6-dimethyl-hept-5-enal\*\*  
10 decanal\*\*  
dec-9-enal  
dec-4-enal  
2-methyldecanal\*  
undec-10-enal\*\*  
15 undecanal\*  
dodecanal\*\*  
2-methyl-undecanal\*\*  
tridecanal  
2-tridecenal  
20 octanal\*\*  
nonanal\*  
3,5,5-trimethylhexanal  
2-nonenal  
undec-9-enal\*\*  
25 2-phenyl-propanal\*  
4-methyl-phenyl-acetaldehyde\*  
3,7-dimethyl-octanal\*  
dihydrofarnesal\*\*  
7-hydroxy-3,7-dimethyl-octanal\*

- 2,6-dimethyl-oct-5-enal  
2-(4-(1-methylethyl)phenyl)-ethanal\*  
3-(3-isopropylphenyl)-butanal\*\*  
2-(3,7-dimethyloct-6-en-oxy)-ethanal  
5 1-carboxaldehyde-4-(4-methyl-3-penten-1-yl)-cyclohex-3-ene\*  
2,3,5,5,-tetramethyl-hexanal  
longifolic aldehyde  
2-methyl-4-(2,6,6-trimethylcyclohex-2-en-1-yl)-butanal\*  
10 2-methyl-3-(4-tert-butylphenyl)propanal\*\*  
4-(1,1-dimethylethyl)-benzenepropanal\*  
2-[4-(1-methylethyl)phenyl]-propanal  
alpha-methyl-1,3-benzodioxole-5-propanal\*  
3,7-dimethyl-oct-6-enal\*  
15 2-methyl-3-(p-isopropylphenyl)-propionaldehyde\*\*  
4-(4-hydroxy-4-methylpentyl)-cyclohex-3-en-1-carboxaldehyde\*\*  
alpha-methyl-1,3-benzodioxole-5-propanal\*  
1-carboxaldehyde-4-(1,1-dimethylethyl)-cyclohexane  
20 4-(octahydro-4,7-methano-5H-inden-5-ylidene)-butanal  
[(3,7-dimethyl-6-octenyl)oxy]-acetaldehyde\*\*

whereby \* indicates the preferred organoleptic aldehydes  
and \*\* indicate the more preferred organoleptic  
25 aldehydes.

Examples of organoleptic ketones include:

2-heptyl-cyclopentanone

- 2,2,6,10-tetramethyltricyclo[5.4.0.0(6,10)]-undecan-4-one  
benzylacetone\*  
octan-2-one\*  
heptan-2-one\*  
5 undecan-2-one\*  
carvone\*  
1,2,3,5,6,7-hexahydro-1,1,2,3,3,-pentamethyl-4H-inden-4-one\*  
methyl heptenone\*  
10 2,5-dimethyl-oct-2-en-6-one\*\*  
2-(butan-2-yl)-cyclohexanone\*  
2-hexyl-cyclopent-2-en-1-one\*  
2-(1-methylethyl)-5-methyl-cyclohexanone\*  
2-(2-methylethyl)-5-methyl-cyclohexanone\*  
15 3-methyl-cyclopentadecanone  
4-(1,1-dimethylpropyl)-cyclohexanone\*  
3-oxo-2-pentyl-cyclopentaneacetic acid methyl ester\*\*  
1-(1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8-octahydro-2,3,8,8-tetramethyl-2-naphthalenyl)-ethanone\*  
20 3-methyl-5-propyl-cyclohex-2-en-1-one\*  
1-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-butan-3-one

whereby \* indicates the preferred ketones and \*\* indicate the more preferred ketone.

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Compounds of formula I upon cleavage may also generate antimicrobial compounds. Examples of these compounds are e.g. presented by J.J. Kabara, Cosmet. Sci. Technol. Ser. (16) 1997, p 181-208, especially in Table 8.6.

Of course, the afore mentioned alcohols, phenols, aldehydes, ketones and antimicrobial compounds can serve mutually as fragrances, masking agents and/or  
5 antimicrobial compounds. A person of skill in the art is well aware of these interrelationships and can make use thereof to solve a specific problem by using the precursors of the present invention.

10 It is a matter of course, that it is not possible to give a complete list of the organoleptic and/or antimicrobial alcohols, phenols, aldehydes and ketones which are generated as a result of the desired cleavage of the compounds of formula I by skin bacteria, by enzymes, by  
15 elevated temperatures or by acidic and/or alkaline pH-values. The skilled person is, however, quite aware of those alcohols, phenols, aldehydes and ketones which provide the desired organoleptic properties, e.g. for being used as fragrance or for odor masking, and/or  
20 showing antimicrobial effects.

The compounds of formula I may preferably be used as sustained release odorants but also to mask or attenuate undesirable odors or to provide additional odors not  
25 initially present in consumer products, i.e. personal care products such as cosmetic products, underarm deodorants or antiperspirants or other deodorants contacting the body, or in hand lotions, hair care products such as shampoos and conditioners, baby powders,  
30 baby lotions, ointments, foot products, facial cleansers,

body wipes, facial makeup, colognes, after-shave lotions, shaving creams, etc. Additional applications include laundry detergents, fabric softeners, fabric softener sheets, (automatic) dishwasher detergents and all-purpose  
5 and hard surface cleaners. Further applications are air fresheners and odorants, odor masking agents and/or antimicrobial agents.

The amount required to produce the desired, overall  
10 effect varies depending upon the particular compounds of formula I chosen, the product in which it will be used, and the particular effect desired.

For example, depending upon the selection and  
15 concentration of the compound chosen, when a compound of the formula I is added either singly or as a mixture, e.g. to a deodorant or laundry product composition at levels ranging from about 0.1 to about 10 % by weight, or most preferred about 0.25 to about 4 % by weight, an  
20 odorant, i.e. one or more odoriferous compounds in an „organoleptically effective amount“ is released when the product is used. This newly formed odorant serves to enhance the odor of the product itself or of a fragrance present in the product.

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Although deodorancy is the most important concern for the consumer of underarm products, many also choose a product with antiperspirant activity. Current antiperspirant compounds, which are aluminum salts, also function as  
30 deodorants by virtue of their germicidal properties.

Thus, if desired, the deodorants of the present invention can be employed with the antiperspirant salts well known in the art. In such formulations, the serine carbonates can be incorporated into a deodorant or antiperspirant  
5 formulation along with an antiperspirant salt wherein the antiperspirant salt may be employed in a perspiration reducing effective concentration, e.g., 6 to 30% or in a deodorant effective concentration, e.g., 1 to 6%.

10 The antiperspirant salt used in the present invention may be any of those which contain aluminum, either alone or in combination with other materials such as zirconium. Typical aluminum salts, although not all-inclusive, include:

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aluminum chlorohydrate;

aluminum sesquichlorohydrate;

aluminum dichlorohydrate;

aluminum chlorohydrate PG or PEG;

20 aluminum sesquichlorohydrate PG or PEG;

aluminum dichlorohydrate PG or PEG;

aluminum zirconium trichlorohydrate;

aluminum zirconium tetrachlorohydrate;

aluminum zirconium tetrachlorohydrate PG or PEG;

25 aluminum zirconium pentachlorohydrate;

aluminum zirconium octachlorohydrate;

aluminum zirconium trichlorohydrate-gly;

aluminum zirconium tetrachlorohydrate-gly;

aluminum zirconium pentachlorohydrate-gly;

aluminum zirconium octachlorohydrate-gly;  
aluminum zirconium chloride;  
aluminum zirconium sulfate;  
potassium aluminum sulfate;  
5 sodium aluminum chlorohydroxyacetate;  
aluminum bromohydrate.

In general, the active antiperspirant salt is present in the same amounts at which such materials are employed in prior art compositions. As a general rule, such  
10 compositions contain from about 3% to about 30% preferably from about 10% to about 25%, of the active antiperspirant salt component.

15 As is evident from the above compilation of alcohols, phenols, aldehydes and ketones, a broad range of known odorants can be generated from precursors of the invention. While manufacturing compositions the precursors of the invention may be used according to  
20 methods known to the perfumer, such as e.g. from W.A. Poucher, *Perfumes, Cosmetics, Soaps*, 2, 7th Edition, Chapman and Hall, London 1974.

Compounds of the formula I can be synthesized in a  
25 variety of ways known to those skilled in the art. Convenient methods are outlined in the Examples without limiting the invention thereto.

Compounds of formula I can be prepared by using a wide  
30 variety of methods known to the skilled chemist.

For example, for the synthesis of esters see Comprehensive Organic Chemistry, vol. 2, D. Barton, W. D. Ollis, Pergamon Press, p. 871 - 909

- 5 For example, for the synthesis of carbamates see Comprehensive Organic Chemistry, vol. 2, D. Barton, W. D. Ollis, Pergamon Press, p. 1083 - 1084

- For example, for the synthesis of chloroformates see  
10 Comprehensive Organic Chemistry, vol. 2, D. Barton, W. D. Ollis, Pergamon Press, p. 1074 - 1078

- For example, for the synthesis of carbonates see  
Comprehensive Organic Chemistry, vol. 2, D. Barton, W. D.  
15 Ollis, Pergamon Press, p. 1070 - 1072

- For example, for the conversion of carbamates to amines  
and esters to acids see Protective Groups in Organic  
Synthesis, 2. edition, T. W. Greene, Peter G. M. Wuts,  
20 John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 1991

#### Example 1

- 25 a) 3-Hydroxy-2-(2-trimethylsilanyl-ethoxycarbonylamino)-  
propionic acid methyl ester

To a mixture of 1.25 g serine methyl ester hydrochloride,  
2.25 ml triethylamine and 10 ml dichloromethane was added  
at 0°C a solution of 2.22 g carbonic acid 2,5-dioxo-  
pyrrolidin-1-yl ester 2-trimethylsilanyl-ethyl ester [R.

E. Shute, D. H. Rich, *Synthesis*, 1987, 346]. After stirring for 24 h at rt the reaction mixture was washed two times with 1N potassium hydrogen sulfate, once with saturated sodium bicarbonate solution and once with  
5 brine. The organic phase was dried over magnesium sulfate, filtered and evaporated to give 2.29 g of a colorless liquid.

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (200 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 0.00 (s, 9 H); 0.90-1.02 (m, 2  
10 H); 2.39 (br s, 1 H); 3.77 (s, 3 H); 3.83 - 4.02 (m, 2 H); 4.35 - 4.57 (m, 1 H); 5.55 (d, 1 H)

#### Example 2

15 a) 2-Benzyloxycarbonylamino-3-(1,5,7-trimethyl-octyloxycarbonyloxy)-propionic acid benzyl ester

To a mixture of 10 g 2-benzyloxycarbonylamino-3-hydroxy-propionic acid benzyl ester [C. G. Skinner, T. J. McCord, J. M. Ravel, W. Shive, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 78, 1956, 2412]  
20 and 10 g 6,8-dimethyl-non-2-yl chloroformate in 80 ml of THF was added a solution of 3.4 ml of pyridine in 40 ml THF at 0°C. The reaction mixture was stirred for 25 h at rt, diluted with ether and washed with 2N hydrochloric acid, saturated sodium bicarbonate and brine. The organic  
25 phase was dried and evaporated to dryness. The resulting oil was purified by chromatography on silica gel to yield 14.3 g of a colorless liquid.

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (200 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 0.80 - 1.70 (m, 22 H); 4.35 - 4.80 (m, 4 H); 5.13 (s, 2 H); 5.20 (s, 2 H); 5.67 (d, 1 H); 7.34 (s, 10 H)

5 b) 2-Benzyloxycarbonylamino-3-decyloxycarbonyloxy-propionic acid benzyl ester

According to the same procedure 2-benzyloxycarbonylamino-3-decyloxycarbonyloxy-propionic acid benzyl ester was prepared from 2-benzyloxycarbonylamino-3-hydroxy-propionic acid benzyl ester, decyl chloroformate and pyridine.

c) 2-Benzyloxycarbonylamino-3-phenethyloxycarbonyloxy-propionic acid benzyl ester

15 According to the same procedure 2-benzyloxycarbonylamino-3-phenethyloxycarbonyloxy-propionic acid benzyl ester was prepared from 2-benzyloxycarbonylamino-3-hydroxy-propionic acid benzyl ester, 2-phenyl-ethyl chloroformate and pyridine.

20

d) 2-Benzyloxycarbonylamino-3-(4-isopropyl-cyclohexyloxycarbonyloxy)-propionic acid benzyl ester

According to the same procedure 2-benzyloxycarbonylamino-3-(4-isopropyl-cyclohexyloxycarbonyloxy)-propionic acid benzyl ester was prepared from 2-benzyloxycarbonylamino-3-hydroxy-propionic acid benzyl ester, 4-isopropyl-cyclohex-1-yl chloroformate and pyridine.

25 e) 2-Benzyloxycarbonylamino-3-dec-9-enyloxycarbonyloxy-propionic acid benzyl ester

30

According to the same procedure 2-benzyloxycarbonylamino-3-dec-9-enyloxycarbonyloxy-propionic acid benzyl ester was prepared from 2-benzyloxycarbonylamino-3-hydroxy-propionic acid benzyl ester, dec-9-enyl chloroformate and  
5 pyridine.

f) 2-Benzyloxycarbonylamino-3-(3-methyl-5-phenyl-pentyloxycarbonyloxy)-propionic acid benzyl ester

According to the same procedure 2-benzyloxycarbonylamino-3-(3-methyl-5-phenyl-pentyloxycarbonyloxy)-propionic acid benzyl ester was prepared from 2-benzyloxycarbonylamino-3-hydroxy-propionic acid benzyl ester, 3-methyl-5-phenyl-pentyl chloroformate and pyridine.  
10

15 g) 2-Benzyloxycarbonylamino-3-hex-3-enyloxycarbonyloxy-propionic acid benzyl ester

According to the same procedure 2-benzyloxycarbonylamino-3-hex-3-enyloxycarbonyloxy-propionic acid benzyl ester was prepared from 2-benzyloxycarbonylamino-3-hydroxy-propionic acid benzyl ester, hex-3-en-1-yl chloroformate  
20 and pyridine.

h) 3-(1,5,7-trimethyl-octylcarbonyloxy)-2-(2-trimethylsilanyl-ethoxycarbonylamino)-propionic acid methyl ester  
25

According to the same procedure 3-(1,5,7-trimethyl-octylcarbonyloxy)-2-(2-trimethylsilanyl-ethoxycarbonylamino)-propionic acid methyl ester was prepared from 3-hydroxy-2-(2-trimethylsilanyl-

ethoxycarbonylamino)-propionic acid methyl ester, 6,8-dimethyl-non-2-yl chloroformate and pyridine.

5 i) 2-tert.-Butoxycarbonylamino-3-(1,5,7-trimethyl-octyloxycarbonyloxy)-propionic acid methyl ester

According to the same procedure 2-tert.-butoxycarbonylamino-3-(1,5,7-trimethyl-octyloxycarbonyloxy)-propionic acid methyl ester was prepared from 2-tert.-butyloxycarbonylamino-3-hydroxy-propionic acid methyl ester [M. C. Pirrung, S. W. Shuey, 10 *J. Org. Chem.*, 1994, 59, 3890], 6,8-dimethyl-non-2-yl chloroformate and pyridine.

15 j) 2-Acetylamino-3-(3-methyl-5-phenyl-pentyloxycarbonyloxy)-propionic acid methyl ester

According to the same procedure 2-acetylamino-3-(3-methyl-5-phenyl-pentyloxycarbonyloxy)-propionic acid methyl ester was prepared from 2-acetylamino-3-hydroxy-propionic acid methyl ester, [K. Maruyama, M. Hashimoto, 20 *H. Tamiaki, J. Org. Chem.*, 1992, 57, 6143], 3-methyl-5-phenyl-pentyl chloroformate and pyridine.

k) 2-Acetylamino-3-(1,5,7-trimethyl-octyloxycarbonyloxy)-propionic acid methyl ester

25 According to the same procedure 2-acetylamino-3-(1,5,7-trimethyl-octyloxycarbonyloxy)-propionic acid methyl ester was prepared from 2-acetylamino-3-hydroxy-propionic acid methyl ester, 6,8-dimethyl-non-2-yl chloroformate and pyridine.

l) 2-Acetylamino-3-(3,8-dimethyl-oct-6-enyloxycarbonyloxy)-propionic acid methyl ester

According to the same procedure 2-acetylamino-3-(3,8-dimethyl-oct-6-enyloxycarbonyloxy)-propionic acid methyl ester was prepared from 2-acetylamino-3-hydroxy-propionic acid methyl ester, 3,7-dimethyl-oct-6-en-1-yl chloroformate and pyridine.

m) 2-Benzyloxycarbonylamino-3-[17-(1,5-dimethyl-hexyl)-10,13-dimethyl-2,3,4,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-tetradecahydro-1H-cyclopenta[a]phenantren-3-yloxycarbonyloxy]-propionic acid benzyl ester

According to the same procedure 2-benzyloxycarbonylamino-3-[17-(1,5-dimethyl-hexyl)-10,13-dimethyl-2,3,4,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-tetradecahydro-1H-cyclopenta[a]phenantren-3-yloxycarbonyloxy]-propionic acid benzyl ester was prepared from 2-benzyloxycarbonylamino-3-hydroxy-propionic acid benzyl ester, 17-(1,6-dimethyl-heptyl)-10,13-dimethyl-hexadecahydro-cyclopenta[a]phenantren-3-yl chloroformate and pyridine.

n) 2-tert.-Butoxycarbonylamino-3-[17-(1,5-dimethyl-hexyl)-10,13-dimethyl-2,3,4,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-tetradecahydro-1H-cyclopenta[a]phenantren-3-yloxycarbonyloxy]-propionic acid benzyl ester

According to the same procedure 2-tert.-Butoxycarbonylamino-3-[17-(1,5-dimethyl-hexyl)-10,13-dimethyl-2,3,4,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-tetradecahydro-1H-cyclopenta[a]phenantren-3-

ylloxycarbonyloxy]-propionic acid benzyl ester, 17-(1,6-dimethyl-heptyl)-10,13-dimethyl-hexadecahydro-cyclopenta[a]phenantren-3-yl chloroformate and pyridine.

5 Example 3

a) 2-Amino-3-(1,5,7-trimethyl-octyloxycarbonyloxy)-propionic acid

10 A mixture of 4.81 g 2-benzyloxycarbonylamino-3-(1,5,7-trimethyl-octyloxycarbonyloxy)-propionic acid benzyl ester, 250 ml methanol and a catalytic amount of 10% Pd/C was stirred six hours under an atmosphere of hydrogen. Filtration over Celite and evaporation under reduced pressure gave 2.69 g of colorless crystals.

15

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (200 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 0.80 - 1.75 (m, 22 H); 3.82 - 3.90 (m, 1H); 4.35 - 4.85 (m, 3 H)

b) 2-Amino-3-decyloxycarbonyloxy-propionic acid

20 According to the same procedure 2-amino-3-decyloxycarbonyloxy-propionic acid was prepared from 2-benzyloxycarbonylamino-3-decyloxycarbonyloxy-propionic acid benzyl ester.

25 c) 2-Amino-3-phenethyloxycarbonyloxy-propionic acid

According to the same procedure 2-amino-3-phenethyloxycarbonyloxy-propionic acid was prepared from 2-benzyloxycarbonylamino-3-phenethyloxycarbonyloxy-propionic acid benzyl ester.

d) 2-Amino-3-(4-isopropyl-cyclohexyloxycarbonyloxy)-propionic acid

According to the same procedure 2-amino-3-(4-isopropyl-cyclohexyloxycarbonyloxy)-propionic acid was prepared  
5 from 2-benzyloxycarbonylamino-3-(4-isopropyl-cyclohexyloxycarbonyloxy)-propionic acid benzyl ester.

e) 2-Amino-3-(3-methyl-5-phenyl-pentyloxycarbonyloxy)-propionic acid

10 According to the same procedure 2-amino-3-(3-methyl-5-phenyl-pentyloxy-carbonyloxy)-propionic acid was prepared from 2-benzyloxycarbonylamino-3-(3-methyl-5-phenyl-pentyloxycarbonyloxy)-propionic acid benzyl ester.

15 Example 4

2-Amino-3-(1,5,7-trimethyl-octylcarbonyloxy)-propionic acid methyl ester hydro chloride

To a solution of 1.42 g 2-tert.-butoxycarbonylamino-3-  
20 (1,5,7-trimethyl-octyloxycarbonyloxy)-propionic acid methyl ester in 20 ml of diethyl ether was added 4 ml of an approximately 6.5M HCl/methanol/methyl acetate solution (This solution was prepared by adding 21 g acetylchloride dropwise to 17.5 g methanol, stirring at  
25 0°C followed by stirring at rt for 2 h.) The mixture was stirred at rt for 30 h. Evaporation of the solvent gave 1.09 g of a colorless oil.

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 0.82 - 0.90 (m, 6 H); 0.90-1.70 (m, 13 H); 3.86 (s, 3 H); 4.67 - 4.83 (m, 4 H); 5.68 (br s); 8.81 (br s)

5 Example 5

a) 2-Amino-3-[17-(1,5-dimethyl-hexyl)-10,13-dimethyl-2,3,4,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-tetradecahydro-1H-cyclopenta[a]phenanthren-3-yloxy-carbonyloxy]-propionic acid benzyl ester; compound with trifluoro-acetic acid

10 2-Amino-3-[17-(1,5-dimethyl-hexyl)-10,13-dimethyl-2,3,4,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-tetradecahydro-1H-cyclopenta[a]phenanthren-3-yloxy-carbonyloxy]-propionic acid benzyl ester trifluoro-acetic acid salt was prepared

15 by treatment of 2-tert.-butoxycarbonylamino-3-[17-(1,5-dimethyl-hexyl)-10,13-dimethyl-2,3,4,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-tetradecahydro-1H-cyclopenta[a]phenanthren-3-yloxy-carbonyloxy]-propionic acid benzyl ester with trifluoric acid to give colorless

20 crystals (mp: 115°C).

Example 6

a) 2-Amino-3-[17-(1,5-dimethyl-hexyl)-10,13-dimethyl-2,3,4,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-tetradecahydro-1H-cyclopenta[a]phenanthren-3-yloxy-carbonyloxy]-propionic acid

25 acid

Extraction of 2-amino-3-[17-(1,5-dimethyl-hexyl)-10,13-dimethyl-2,3,4,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-

tetradecahydro-1H-cyclopenta[a]phenanthren-3-yloxy-carbonyloxy]-propionic acid benzyl ester trifluoroacetic acid salt with saturated sodium bicarbonate solution followed by  
5 hydrogenation with Pd/C in a mixture of methanol and dioxane afforded 2-amino-3-[17-(1,5-dimethyl-hexyl)-10,13-dimethyl-2,3,4,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17-tetradecahydro-1H-cyclopenta[a]phenanthren-3-yloxy-carbonyloxy]-propionic acid as colorless crystals  
10 (mp: 147°C).

#### Example 7

To demonstrate the use of compounds of formula I as  
15 precursors of fragrances and as alternative substrates for malodor producing enzymes, various derivatives were synthesized and tested for cleavage by *Staphylococcus haemolyticus*, a bacterium commonly found on human skin, especially in the axilla. This example is meant to  
20 illustrate, not to limit, the invention.

#### Assay of the Amino Acid Derivatives for Cleavage by 25 Bacteria

The synthesized amino acid derivatives were tested for their ability to be cleaved by bacteria normally found in human axilla. A 100 ml culture of *Staphylococcus*  
30 *haemolyticus* was grown overnight at 37°C in TSB medium.

The cells were pelleted by centrifuging the culture at 5,000 rpm for 12 minutes, and the pelleted cells were resuspended in sterile saline. The cells were again pelleted and resuspended in sterile saline. After  
5 pelleting the cells once again, the cells were weighed and resuspended in sterile assay buffer (50 mM phosphate, pH 6.8, 1% glucose/dextran). The final concentration of cells was 0.05 g cells/ml (for the gas chromatography (GC) assay). These cell suspensions can be stored at  
10 4°C.

The serine carbonate was prepared as stock solution at a concentration of approximately 5 mg/ml in 50 mM potassium phosphate buffer (pH 6.8). If necessary, the pH can be  
15 adjusted to 6.8-7.0 with 1N NaOH. The serine carbonate stock solution was sterilized by filtering through 0.22 µm filters.

#### Gas Chromatography Assay

20 To demonstrate that the serine carbonates of the invention can be cleaved by bacteria normally found in axilla, a 100 µl aliquot of a stock solution of the carbonate of Example 3e was added to 100 µl of  
25 *Staphylococcus haemolyticus* cells in sterile tubes. For a negative control, the cells were incubated with 100 µl sterile phosphate buffer. To measure spontaneous cleavage of the compound, a blank containing 100 µl of the stock solution in 100 µl sterile phosphate buffer was incubated

in the absence of cells. The samples were incubated for 16-18 hours at 37°C, and the reactions were quenched with 10 µl of 10 N HCl. The samples then were extracted into 100 µl chloroform and analyzed by gas chromatography.

- 5 Data analysis indicated that 140 nmols of 3-methyl-5-phenyl-pentanol was produced by the cell incubation with 350 nmol of the compound from Example 3e indicating that 40% of the precursor was cleaved by the cells.

10 Example 8

Formulations

| a) <u>Deodorant Stick</u> |              |
|---------------------------|--------------|
|                           | <u>% w/w</u> |
| propylene glycol          | 70.300       |
| water                     | 20.500       |
| sodium stearate           | 7.000        |
| triclosan                 | 0.300        |
| fragrance                 | 1.400        |
| amino acid derivative     | 0.50         |
| total                     | 100.00       |

| b) <u>Aerosol Antiperspirant</u> |              |
|----------------------------------|--------------|
|                                  | <u>% w/w</u> |
| Cyclomethicone (DC-344)          | 27.13        |

|                        |        |
|------------------------|--------|
| aluminum chlorohydrate | 9.65   |
| talc                   | 2.03   |
| silica                 | 1.27   |
| amino acid derivative  | 1.0    |
| propellant             | 58.92  |
| total                  | 100.00 |

c) Solid Antiperspirant Stick

|                                              | <u>% w/w</u> |
|----------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Cyclomethicone (DC-345)                      | 44.12        |
| aluminum zirconium<br>tetrachlorohydrate-gly | 22.68        |
| Stearyl Alcohol                              | 15.53        |
| PPG-10 Butanediol                            | 4.80         |
| C <sub>12-15</sub> alcohols benzoate         | 3.84         |
| Hydrogenated Castor Oil                      | 2.84         |
| Myristyl myristate                           | 1.92         |
| PEG-8 distearate                             | 0.92         |
| Amino acid derivative                        | 0.50         |
| fragrance                                    | 2.85         |
| total                                        | 100.00       |

d) Anydrous Antiperspirant

|                | <u>% w/w</u> |
|----------------|--------------|
| Cyclomethicone | 74.5         |

|                                             |        |
|---------------------------------------------|--------|
| aluminum zirconium<br>tetrachlorohydrex-gly | 20.0   |
| Quaternium 18 Hectorite                     | 3.5    |
| propylene carbonate                         | 1.0    |
| amino acid derivative                       | 1.0    |
| fragrance oil                               | q.s.   |
| total                                       | 100.00 |

e) Transparent Antiperspirant Gel

|                                                |              |
|------------------------------------------------|--------------|
|                                                | <u>% w/w</u> |
| aluminum zirconium<br>tetrachlorohydrex-gly    | 23.50        |
| water                                          | 38.75        |
| ethyl alcohol w/20 ppm<br>Bitrex and 0.12% TBA | 9.98         |
| DC 225 fluid                                   | 9.72         |
| propylene glycol                               | 8.68         |
| Cyclomethicone and<br>Dimethicone copolyol     | 8.12         |
| amino acid derivative                          | 1.0          |
| fragrance                                      | 0.25         |
| total                                          | 100.00       |

f) Nonionic O/W, Emollient Cream

|                           |              |
|---------------------------|--------------|
|                           | <u>% w/w</u> |
| silicon latex (DC 2-9065) | 54.54        |

|                                             |        |
|---------------------------------------------|--------|
| Dimethicone (DC 225)                        | 10.00  |
| Cyclomethicone (DC 344)                     | 6.31   |
| aluminum zirconium<br>tetrachlorohydrex-gly | 25.00  |
| trihydroxystearin                           | 0.40   |
| hydrated silica (Sylox 2)                   | 1.00   |
| amino acid derivative                       | 1.50   |
| fragrance                                   | 1.25   |
| perfume                                     | 0.200  |
| total                                       | 100.00 |

#### Example 9

- 5 Test cloth was washed with a lipase-containing detergent to which one or more of the precursor compounds of Examples 2, 3 and 4 were added. Headspace analysis of the wet and dry laundry indicated the presence of the fragrances derived from the precursor. The fragrance
- 10 level was higher than when the test cloth was washed with a lipase-containing detergent to which one or more of the corresponding fragrance compounds but no precursor compounds were added.

#### 15 Example 10

Test cloth was washed with a lipase-containing detergent and then a fabric softener, containing one or more of the

precursor compounds of Examples 2, 3 and 4 were added to the rinse cycle. Headspace analysis of the wet and dry laundry indicated the presence of the fragrances derived from the precursors. The fragrance level was higher than  
5 when the test cloth was washed with a lipase-containing detergent and then a fabric softener, containing one or more of the corresponding fragrance compounds but no precursor compounds, was added to the rinse cycle.

10 Example 11

a) Fabric softener of the ester quat type concentrate:

15 PHASE A

|                                    |          |
|------------------------------------|----------|
| deionised water                    | to 100.0 |
| MgCl <sub>2</sub> (saturated sol.) | 1.0      |

20

PHASE B

|                   |                                                                            |      |
|-------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| REWOQUAT WE 18    | (di-(tallow carboxyethyl)<br>hydroxy ethyl methylammonium<br>methosulfate) | 15.0 |
| 25 GENAPOL O 100  | (ethoxylated fatty alcohol<br>C <sub>16</sub> -C <sub>18</sub> 10EO)       | 2.0  |
| 30 ANTIFOAM DB 31 |                                                                            | 0.5  |

PHASE C

|                      |  |      |
|----------------------|--|------|
| 35 isopropyl alcohol |  | 3.0  |
| preservative         |  | q.s. |
| perfume              |  | q.s. |

PROCESS:

While stirring and heating to 65° C, phase A, phase B preheated to 65° C, were added. After cooling to room temperature, phase C. was added. The pH value of the finished product was 2.60. Delayed precursor compounds of Examples 2,3 and 4 were added either to phase A, B or C in an amount of 1.0 % by weight.

b) Fabric softener of the ester quat type concentrate:

PHASE A

deionised water to 100.0

PHASE B

|                |                                                                            |      |
|----------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| REWOQUAT WE 18 | (di-(tallow carboxyethyl)<br>hydroxy ethyl methylammonium<br>methosulfate) | 6.0  |
| DOBANOL 25-9   | (ethoxylated fatty<br>alcohol C <sub>12</sub> -C <sub>15</sub> 9EO)        | 0.50 |
| ANTIFOAM DB 31 |                                                                            | 0.10 |

PHASE C

|               |                                    |      |
|---------------|------------------------------------|------|
| MYACIDE BT 30 | 2-bromo-2-nitropropane<br>1,3 diol | 0.03 |
| PROXEL GXL    | Benzisothiazolinone<br>sodium salt | 0.02 |
| perfume       |                                    | q.s. |

PROCESS:

While stirring and heating to 65° C, phase A, phase B preheated to 65° C were added. After cooling to room  
5 temperature, phase C. was added. The pH value of the finished product was 3.50. Precursor compounds of Examples 2,3 and 4 were added either to phase A, B or C in an amount of 1,0 % by weight.

10 Example 12

The serine carbonate 2-Amino-3-(1,5,7-trimethyl-octyl-oxycarbonyloxy)-propionic acid has been tested in a sniff assay to determine whether, in the presence of  
15 *Staphylococcus haemolyticus* and axillary malodor precursors, production of malodor is inhibited and production of fragrance can be detected. For this assay, axillary washes, which contain malodor precursors, were dried into vials at a concentration sufficient to produce  
20 a strong axillary malodor when incubated with *Staphylococcus haemolyticus* cells. Vials were incubated at 37° C with *Staphylococcus haemolyticus* cells. The vials contained either only malodor, or malodor precursors with 0.1% 2-amino-3-(1,5,7-trimethyl-octyl-  
25 oxycarbonyloxy)-propionic acid. Control precursor vials were not incubated with the cells. The mixtures were extracted with chloroform and about 10 µl of the chloroform layers were spotted on bibulous paper. After the chloroform had evaporated, the papers were evaluated  
30 for malodor level and fragrance level. Evaluations were

done by seven judges who rated malodor or fragrance strength on an 8-point scale from 0 (none) to 7 (extremely strong). Results were calculated as percent change from control malodor or precursor fragrance score.

5 Results from this assay are shown below:

Malodor drop 50%

Fragrance increase 30%

10 These results show that the serine carbonate 2-amino-3-(1,5,7-trimethyl-octyl-oxycarbonyloxy)-propionic acid is cleaved by the cells to produce fragrance and that the decrease in malodor is perceptible.

15

20

25

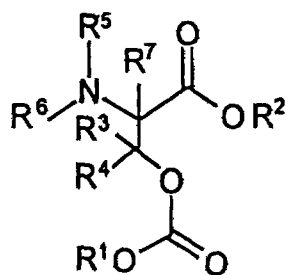
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## Claims

## 1. Serine carbonates of formula I



(I)



or a salt thereof  
wherein

10  $\text{R}^1$  is the residue of an organoleptic alcohol, phenol or of the enol form of an organoleptic aldehyde or ketone of formula  $\text{R}^1\text{OH}$ ,

15  $\text{R}^2$  is hydrogen, metal, ammonium, straight or branched alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl, heterocycloalkyl, heterocycloalkenyl, aryl or heteroaryl, whereby all organic residues may contain heteroatoms and may carry substituents and if  $\text{R}^2$  is hydrogen  $\text{R}^1$  is not the residue of benzyl alcohol,

20  $\text{R}^3$ ,  $\text{R}^4$  and  $\text{R}^7$  are independently hydrogen or lower alkyl and either  $\text{R}^3$  and  $\text{R}^4$  or  $\text{R}^3$  and  $\text{R}^7$  or  $\text{R}^4$  and  $\text{R}^7$  may form together a ring,

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R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> are independently hydrogen, straight or branched alkyl, alkenyl, alkinyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl, heterocycloalkyl, an aromatic or heteroaromatic residue, alkylcarbonyl, alkoxy carbonyl, arylcarbonyl, aryloxy carbonyl and R<sup>5</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> may together form a ring, whereby all organic residues may contain heteroatoms and may carry substituents.

2. Quaternary salts of the serine carbonates according to claim 1.
3. Serine carbonates according to claim 1 wherein R<sup>1</sup> is the residue of an organoleptic alcohol or phenol.
4. Serine carbonates according to any of the preceding claims wherein R<sup>2</sup> may contain heteroatoms selected from the group O, N, S, P and Si.
5. Serine carbonates according to any of the preceding claims wherein R<sup>2</sup> may carry one or more of the following substituents -halogen, -aryl, -heteroaryl, -cycloalkyl, -cycloalkenyl, -heterocycloalkenyl, -OH, -OR, -NCOON=CR<sub>2</sub>, -OCOON=CR<sub>2</sub>, -COON=CR<sub>2</sub>, -NO<sub>2</sub>, -COR, -C(OR)<sub>2</sub>R, -COOR, -CONR<sub>2</sub>, -OCOR, -OCOOR, -OCONR<sub>2</sub>, -NR<sub>2</sub>, -SOR, -SO<sub>2</sub>R, -SO<sub>3</sub>R in which R is an organic residue.
6. Serine carbonates according to any of the preceding claims wherein R<sup>2</sup> is the residue of an organoleptic alcohol, phenol or of the enol form of an organoleptic aldehyde or ketone.

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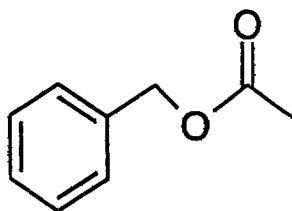
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7. Serine carbonates according to any of the preceding claims wherein the organic residue of  $R^2$  contains 1 to 30 C-atoms, preferably 1 to 20 C-atoms.
- 5 8. Serine carbonates according to any of the preceding claims wherein  $R^5$  and  $R^6$  may contain heteroatoms selected from the group O, N, B, S, P and Si.
- 10 9. Serine carbonates according to any of the preceding claims wherein  $R^5$  and/or  $R^6$  may carry one or more of the following -halogen, -aryl, -heteroaryl, -cycloalkyl, -cycloalkenyl, -heterocycloalkenyl, -OH, -OR, -NO<sub>2</sub>, -COR, -C(OR)<sub>2</sub>R, -COOR, -CONR<sub>2</sub>, -OCOR, -OCOOR, -OCONR<sub>2</sub>, -NR<sub>2</sub>, -SOR, -SO<sub>2</sub>R, -SO<sub>3</sub>R in which R is an
- 15 organic residue.
10. Serine carbonates according to any of the preceding claims wherein  $R^5$  and/or  $R^6$  stand for a carbonyl residue and/or a residue of formula

20



wherein the aryl ring may be substituted.

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11. Serine carbonates according to any of the preceding claims wherein  $R^1$  is alkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkyl, cycloalkenyl, alkylcycloalkyl or arylalkyl.
- 5 12. Serine carbonates according to any of the preceding claims wherein  $R^2$  is hydrogen, alkyl or arylalkyl.
13. Serine carbonates according to any of the preceding claims wherein  $R^5$  and/or  $R^6$  are hydrogen, alkyloxy-
- 10 carbonyl, aryloxy-carbonyl, arylalkyloxy-carbonyl or trialkylsilylalkyloxy-carbonyl.
14. Serine carbonates according to any of the preceding claims wherein  $R^2$  to  $R^7$  are hydrogen.
- 15 15. Use of the serine carbonates according to any of the preceding claims as precursors for organoleptic compounds.
- 20 16. Use of the serine carbonates according to any of the preceding claims as precursors for masking agents.
17. Use of the serine carbonates according to any of the preceding claims as precursors for antimicrobial
- 25 agents.
18. Use of the serine carbonates according to any of the preceding claims as alternative substrates for malodor producing enzymes.

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19. Use according to claim 18 in deodorants as alternative substrates for malodor producing enzymes.
20. Use according to claim 18 in laundry products, hair care products, cosmetics, cleaning products.
21. A topical deodorant composition comprising a dermatologically acceptable vehicle and a serine carbonate according to any claims 1 to 14.
22. The deodorant composition according to claim 21 additionally comprising an antimicrobial agent and/or an antiperspirant salt.
23. The deodorant composition according to claim 21 or 22 in the form of a liquid, cream, lotion, gel, stick, aerosol or pump spray.
24. A method of generating a neutral or pleasant odor on human skin which comprises applying to human skin a deodorant composition according to claim 21, 22 or 23.
25. A method of preventing or reducing malodor on human skin which comprises applying to human skin a deodorant composition according to claim 21, 22 or 23.
26. The method of claim 24 or 25 wherein said human skin is located in the axilla.

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