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Straightforward Synthesis of Enantiopure (*R*)- and (*S*)-trifluoroalaninol

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General informations

Unless otherwise mentioned, all the reagents were purchased from commercial source. All glassware was dried in an oven prior to use. Ether and THF were distilled under nitrogen from sodium/benzophenone prior to use. CH₂Cl₂ was distilled under nitrogen from CaH₂ prior to use. $^1\mathrm{H}$ NMR (400,00 MHz or 250.00 MHz), $^{13}\mathrm{C}$ NMR (100,50 MHz or 62.90 MHz) and $^{19}\mathrm{F}$ NMR (376,20 MHz or 235.36 MHz) were measured on a JEOL 400 spectrometer or a BRÜCKER ADVANCE 250 DPX. Chemical shifts of ¹H NMR were expressed in parts per million downfield from tetramethylsilane ($\delta = 0$ ppm) in CDCl₃. Chemical shifts of ¹³C NMR were expressed in parts per million downfield from CDCl₃ as internal standard ($\delta = 77.0$ ppm). Chemical shifts of ¹⁹F NMR were expressed in parts per million downfield from C₆F₆ as internal standard ($\delta = -164.9$ ppm). Coupling constants are reported in hertz. Column chromatography was performed on Merck Kieselgel 60 (0,040-0,063 mm), employing mixture of specified solvent as eluent. Thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was performed on Merck silica gel (Merck 60 PF₂₅₄) plates. Silica TLC plates were visualized under UV light, by a 10% solution of phosphomolybdic acid in ethanol followed by heating. Gas chromatography was performed on Agilent 6890 N (detector with ionization of flame) and with a polydimethylsiloxane column HP ultra I (25 m x 3.2 mm x 0.52 um thickness of layer). Mass spectra (MS) were obtained on a GC/MS apparatus HP 5973 MSD with an HP 6890 Series GC. Ionization was obtained by electronic impact (EI 70 eV). Infrared spectra (IR) were obtained by Fourier-transformation on BRÜCKER TENSOR 27, wave numbers are given in cm⁻¹. Elemental analyses were performed by the CNRS analysis central service. Optical rotations are reported as their specific rotations at 25 °C in g/100 mL, determined using a JASCO P1010 polarimeter. Melting points were obtained on a Büchi apparatus and are uncorrected.

Synthesis of α -Tfm-aminonitriles: α -Tfm-aminonitriles (*R*)-2 and (*S*)-2 were prepared according to our previously reported procedure.¹

2-((1R)-2-hydroxy-1-phenylethylamino)-3,3,3-trifluoromethylpropanoate (3): To a 83:17 mixture of aminonitriles (R)-2 and (S)-2 (4.07 g, 16.7 mmol, 1 equiv) was added dropwise a solution of saturated hydrochloric acid in methanol (200 mL) at 0°C. The reaction was refluxed for 5 days, cooled down to room temperature, poured into a saturated solution of sodium bicarbonate (250 mL) and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude material was purified by flash chromatography (80/20 cyclohexane/ethyl acetate) to afford a 67:33 diastereomeric mixture of (R)-3 and (S)-3 as a yellow oil (3.92 g, 85%). Pure (R)-3 and (S)-3 samples were isolated for analytical studies. Major diastereomer (*R*)-**3**: $[\alpha]_D$ –141.3 (*c* 1.3, CHCl₃). IR (neat): 3330, 1746, 1128, 701 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 2.26 (s, 1H, OH), 2.96 (s, 1H, NH), 3.47-3.72 (m, 4H), 3.74 (s, 3H, CH₃O), 7.18-7.29 (m, 5H, Ar) ppm. ¹³C NMR (62.9 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 52.3 (s, CH₃), 60.3 (q, J = 30.1 Hz, CH), 62.0 (s, CH), 66.7 (s, CH₂), 122.4 (q, J = 281.0 Hz, CF₃), 126.6 (s, Ar), 127.3 (s, Ar), 128.0 (s, Ar), 137.3 (s, Ar), 167.7 (s, CO) ppm. ¹⁹F NMR (235 MHz, CDCl₃): δ –73.2 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 3F, CF₃) ppm. MS (EI): m/z (%) = 246 [M⁺-OMe] (100), 186, 159, 118. Minor diastereomer (S)-3: $[\alpha]_D$ –24.8 (c 2.2, CHCl₃). IR (neat): 3348, 1747, 1122, 700 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 2.52 (s, 1H, OH), 2.72 (s, 1H, NH), 3.55-3.81 (m, 3H), 3.63 (s, 3H, CH₃O), 3.90 (dd, J = 8.4 Hz, J = 4.0 Hz, CH-Ph), 7.24-7.36 (m, 5H, Ar) ppm. ¹³C NMR (62.9 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 52.6 (s, CH₃), 60.3 (q, J = 29.8 Hz, CH), 63.5 (s, CH), 66.4 (s, CH₂), 123.6 (q, J = 283.4 Hz, CF₃), 127.2 (s, Ar), 127.8 (s, Ar), 128.6 (s, Ar),

⁽¹⁾ F. Huguenot and T. Brigaud, J. Org. Chem., 2006, 71, 7075–7078.

138.8 (s, Ar), 167.5 (s, CO) ppm. ¹⁹F NMR (235 MHz, CDCl₃): δ –72.8 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 3F, CF₃) ppm. MS (EI): m/z (%) = 246 [M⁺-OMe] (100), 186, 159, 118.

2-((1R)-2-hydroxy-1-phenylethylamino)-3,3,3-trifluoropropan-1-ol (4): To a 67:33 solution of (R)-3 and (S)-3 (1.38 g, 4.98 mmol) in anhydrous diethyl ether (75 mL) was added lithium aluminum hydride (754 mg, 19.9 mmol, 4 equiv) carefully at 0°C. The reaction was stirred under argon atmosphere at room temperature for 24 hours and quenched with successive addition of water (4 mL), sodium hydroxide (15% W, 4 mL) and water (8 mL). The white precipitate was filtered over a pad of celite and washed with diethyl ether (100 mL). The filtrate was dried over magnesium sulfate, concentrated under reduced pressure, purified by flash chromatography (70/30 cyclohexane/ethyl acetate) to afford pure (R)-4 (744 mg, 60%) and (S)-4 (310 mg, 25%) as white solids. Major diastereomer (*R*)-4: mp = 65-67°C. $[\alpha]_D$ –68.1 (*c* 2.0, CHCl₃). IR (neat): 3328 (b), 2248, 2163 (w), 1456, 1388, 1280, 1247, 1129, 1079, 1019, 923, 758, 727, 698, 603 cm^{-1} . ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 2.50 (s, 1H, NH), 3.08 (qdd, J = 7.9 Hz, J = 4.1 Hz, J = 3.7Hz, 1H, CH-CF₃), 3.61 (dd, J = 10.5 Hz, J = 9.1 Hz, 1H, CH₂-OH), 3.73 (dd, J = 12.0 Hz, J = 12.0 H 5.1 Hz, 1H, CH₂-OH), 3.80 (dd, J = 10.5 Hz, J = 3.7 Hz, 1H, CH₂-OH), 3.90 (dd, J = 12.0 Hz, J = 3.7 Hz, 1H, CH₂-OH), 4.03 (dd, J = 9.1 Hz, J = 3.7 Hz, 1H, CHPh-CH₂), 4.13 (bs, 1H, OH), 4.25 (bs, 1H, OH), 7.20-7.50 (m, 5H, Ar) ppm. ¹³C NMR (100.5 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 57.7 (s, CH₂), 57.8 (q, J = 26.8 Hz, CH-CF₃), 61.8 (s, CH), 67.3 (s, CH₂), 125.6 (q, J = 282.8 Hz, CF₃), 127.5 (s, Ar), 128.0 (s, Ar), 128.7 (s, Ar), 139.1 (s, Ar) ppm. ¹⁹F NMR (376.2 MHz, CDCl₃): δ-76.7 $(d, J = 7.9 \text{ Hz}, 3F, CF_3)$ ppm. Anal. Calcd for $C_{11}H_{14}F_3NO_2$ (249.10): C, 53.01; H, 5.66; N, 5.62. found: C, 52.82; H, 5.70; N, 5.49. Minor diastereomer (S)-4: mp = 75-80°C. $[\alpha]_D$ -77.0 (c 2.0, CHCl₃). IR (neat): 3234 (b), 2875, 2162 (w), 1455, 1365, 1284, 1237, 1123, 1080, 1031, 993, 924, 753, 727, 695, 632 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 2.20-2.60 (bs, 3H, NH, OH, OH), 3.08 (qdd, J = 7.3 Hz, J = 4.6 Hz, J = 2.7 Hz, 1H, CH-CF₃), 3.53-3.70 (m, 3H, CH2-OH), 3.72

(dd, J = 10.9 Hz, J = 4.0 Hz, 1H, CH₂-OH), 4.12 (dd, J = 8.7 Hz, J = 4.0 Hz, 1H, CHPh-CH₂), 7.20-7.40 (m, 5H, Ar) ppm. ¹³C NMR (62.9 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 57.8 (q, J = 26.4 Hz, CH-CF₃), 60.1 (s, 2C, CH₂, CH), 67.9 (s, CH₂), 126.6 (q, J = 282.1 Hz, CF₃), 128.0 (s, Ar), 128.7 (s, Ar), 129.3(s, Ar), 139.3 (s, Ar) ppm. ¹⁹F NMR (376.2 MHz, CDCl₃): δ -75.5 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 3F, CF₃) ppm.

(E)-1-Ethoxycarbonyl-2,2,2-trifluoroethylidene-((1R)-2-tert-butyldimethylsilyloxy-1-

phenylethylamine (5):

Multigram quantity of 5 was prepared using our already reported procedure.²

Synthesis of aminodiols (*R*)-4 and (*S*)-4 from the imine 5:

To a solution of imine **5** (403 mg, 1 mmol) in anhydrous diethyl ether (25 mL) was added lithium aluminum hydride (152 mg, 4 mmol, 4 equiv) carefully at 0°C. The reaction was stirred under argon atmosphere at reflux for 24 hours. The reaction mixture was cool down to room temperature and quenched with successive addition of water (0.16 mL), sodium hydroxide (15% W, 0.16 mL) and water (0.48 mL). The white precipitate was filtered over a pad of celite and washed with diethyl ether. The filtrate was dried over magnesium sulfate, concentrated under reduced pressure, purified by flash chromatography (70/30 cyclohexane/ethyl acetate) to afford a 72:28 diastereomeric mixture of (*S*)-4 and (*R*)-4 (179 mg, 73%).

(4*R*)-2-carboethoxy-2-trifluoromethyl-4-phenyl-1,3-oxazolidine (6):

Multigram quantity of (6) was prepared using our already reported procedure.^{2,3}

⁽²⁾ G. Chaume, M.-C. Van Severen, S. Marinkovic and T. Brigaud, *Org. Lett.*, 2006, **8**, 6123–6126.

^{(3) (}a) C. Caupene, G. Chaume, L. Ricard and T. Brigaud, *Org. Lett.*, 2009, **11**, 209–212, (b) G. Chaume, M.-C. Van Severen, L. Ricard and T. Brigaud, *J. Fluorine Chem.*, 2008, **129**, 1104–

Synthesis of aminodiols (*R*)-4 and (*S*)-4 from the oxazolidines 6:

To a 83:17 mixture of **6** (1.0 g, 3.45 mmol) in anhydrous diethyl ether (50 mL) was added lithium aluminum hydride (524 mg, 13.8 mmol, 4 equiv) carefully at 0°C. The reaction was stirred under argon atmosphere at room temperature for 18 hours and quenched with successive addition of water (0.6 mL), sodium hydroxide (15% W, 0.6 mL) and water (1.8 mL). The white precipitate was filtered over a pad of celite and washed with diethyl ether (80 mL). The filtrate was dried over magnesium sulfate, concentrated under reduced pressure, purified by flash chromatography (70/30 to 50/50 cyclohexane/ethyl acetate) to afford pure (*R*)-**4** (509 mg, 60%) and (*S*)-**4** (211 mg, 24%) as white solids.

(*R*)-Trifluoroalaninol hydrochloride salt ((*R*)-7):

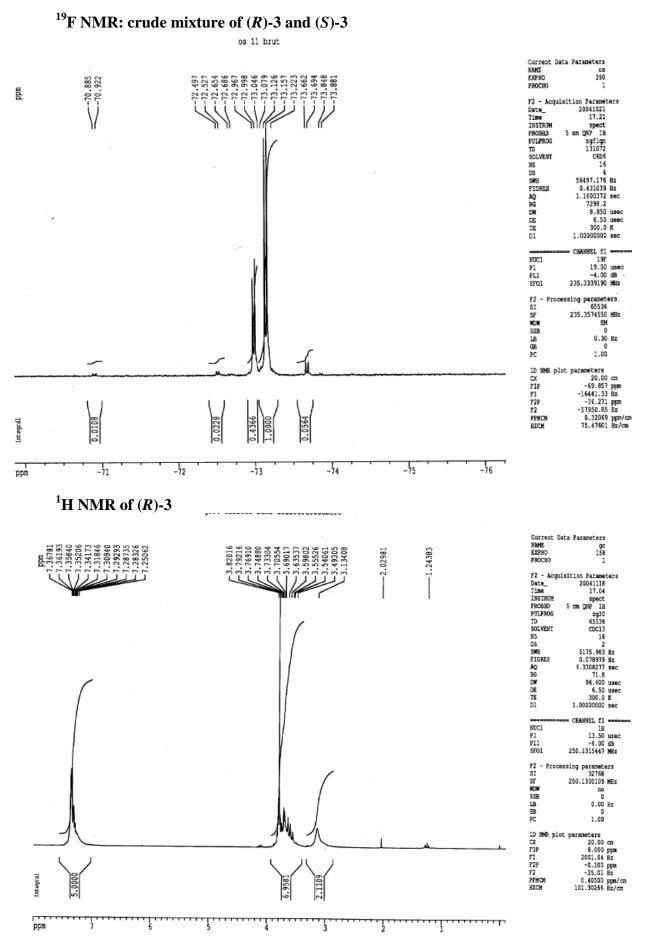
To a solution of (*R*)-4 (400 mg, 1.6 mmol) in methanol (4 mL) was added successively palladium hydroxide (63 mg, 20% W, 0.08 mmol, 5 mol%) and a 3N hydrochloride solution (2.4 mL). The mixture was placed in an autoclave under hydrogen pressure (5.5 bar) and vigorously stirred for 48 hours. The suspension was filtered and evaporated to dryness under reduced pressure. The solid was washed with diethyl ether (3x3 mL) to remove 2-phenylethanol and evaporated under reduced pressure to give pure hydrochloride salt of (*R*)-7 (202 mg, 76%). mp = 202°C. [α]_D +8.1 (*c* 0.8, EtOH). IR (neat): 3354, 2913, 2490, 1584, 1156, 1143 cm⁻¹. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, MeOH): δ 3.83 (A from ABX, J_{AB} = 13.5 Hz, J_{AX} = 5.0 Hz, 1H, CH₂-OH), 3.86 (B from ABX, J_{AB} = 13.5 Hz, J_{BX} = 4.6 Hz, 1H, CH-CF₃) ppm. ¹³C NMR (62.9 MHz, MeOH): δ 55.2 (q, J = 30.2 Hz, CH-CF₃), 58.0 (s, CH₂), 125.3 (q, J = 280.8 Hz, CF₃) ppm. ¹⁹F NMR (376.2 MHz, CDCl₃): δ -75.7

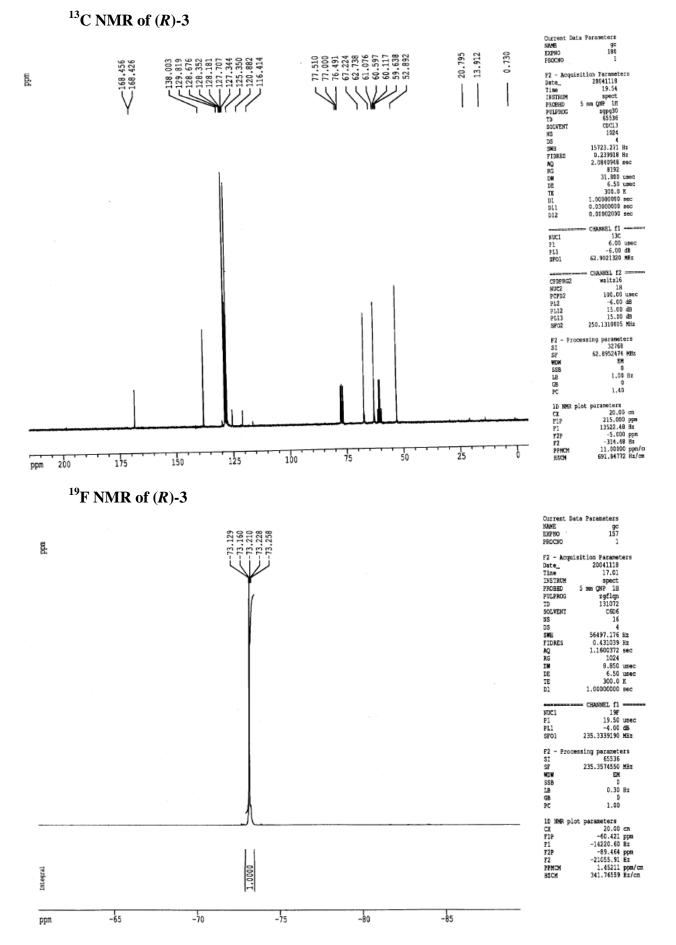
^{1109; (}c) G. Chaume, N. Lensen, C. Caupene and T. Brigaud, *Eur. J. Org. Chem.*, 2009, 5717–5724.

(d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 3F, CF₃) ppm. Anal. Calcd for C₃H₇ClF₃NO (165.02): C, 21.77; H, 4.26; N, 8.46. found: C, 21.35, H, 4.22, N, 7.85.

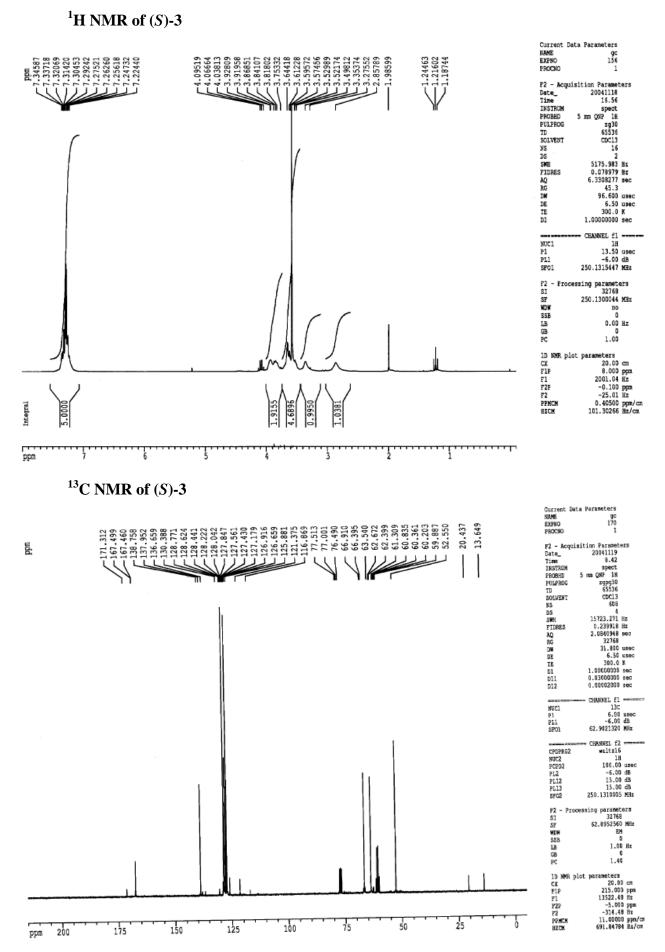
(S)-Trifluoroalaninol hydrochloride salt ((S)-7):

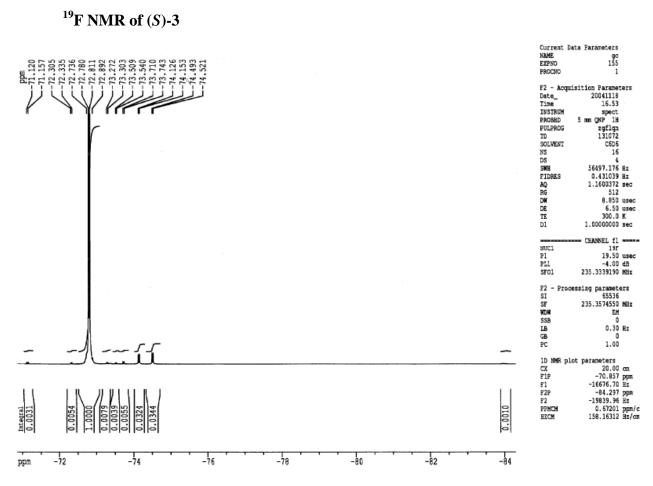
Obtained from (*S*)-4 (185 mg, 0.74 mmol), following the procedure used for (*R*)-7, as a white solid (110 mg, 90%). (*S*)-7: $[\alpha]_D$ –8.0 (*c* 0.6, EtOH). Other spectral and analytical properties are strictly identical to (*R*)-7.



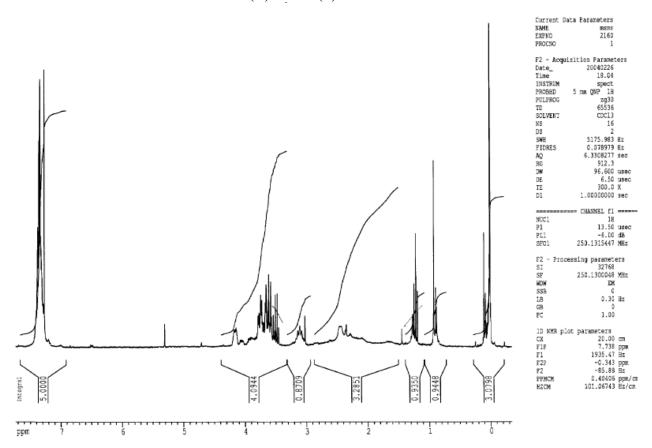


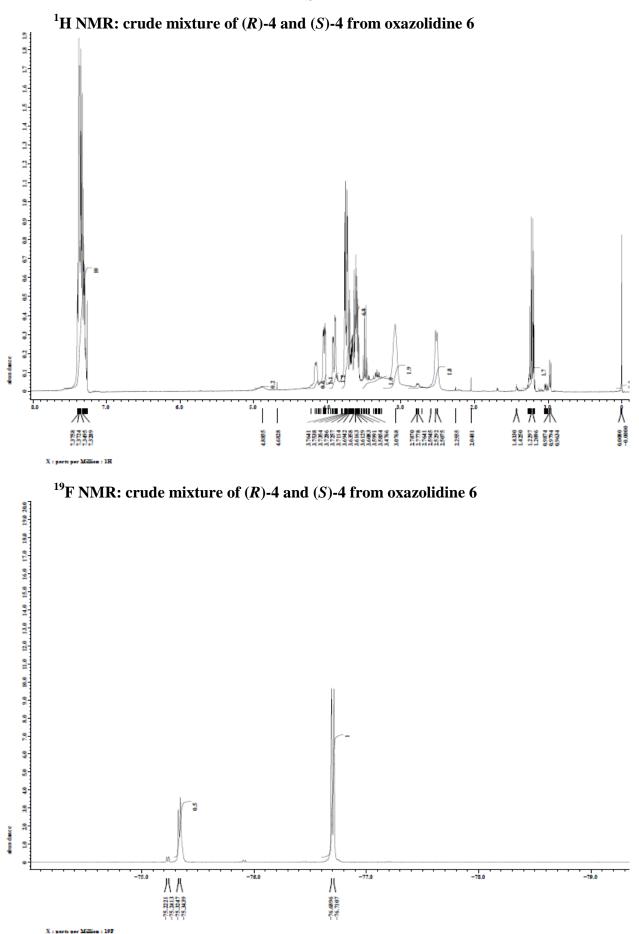
S9

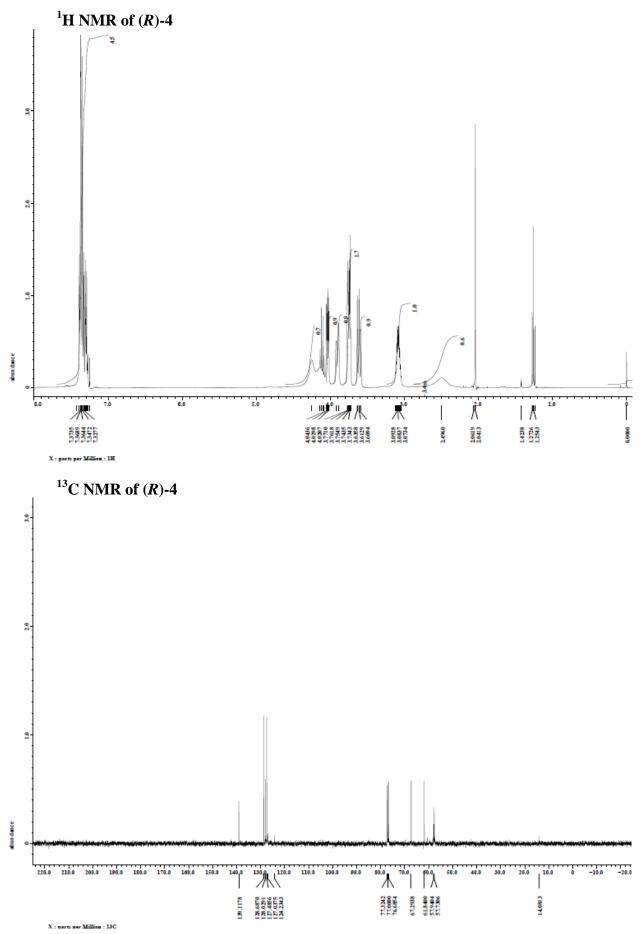


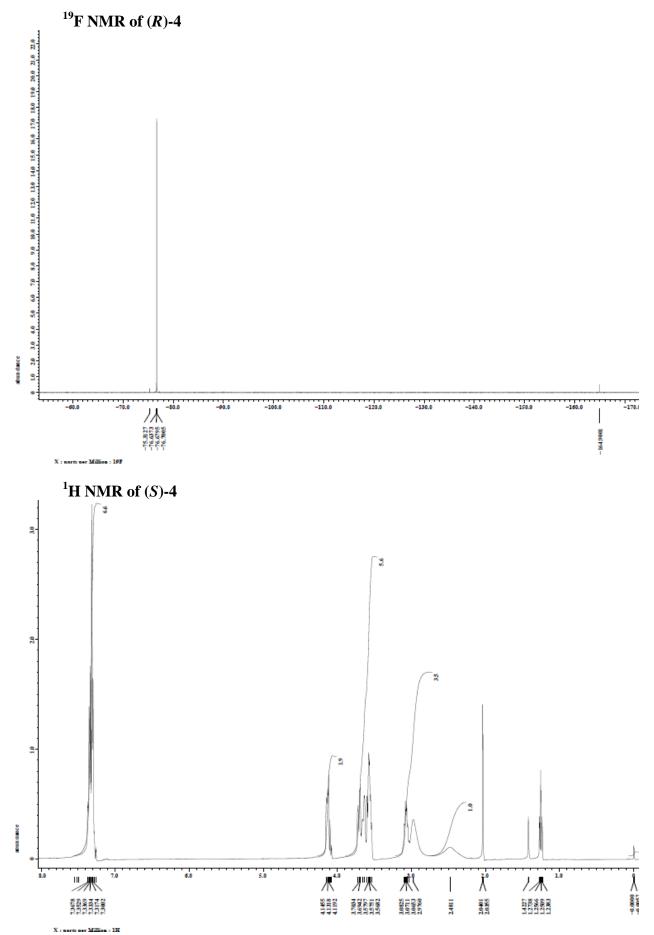


¹H NMR: crude mixture of (*R*)-4 and (*S*)-4 from imine 5

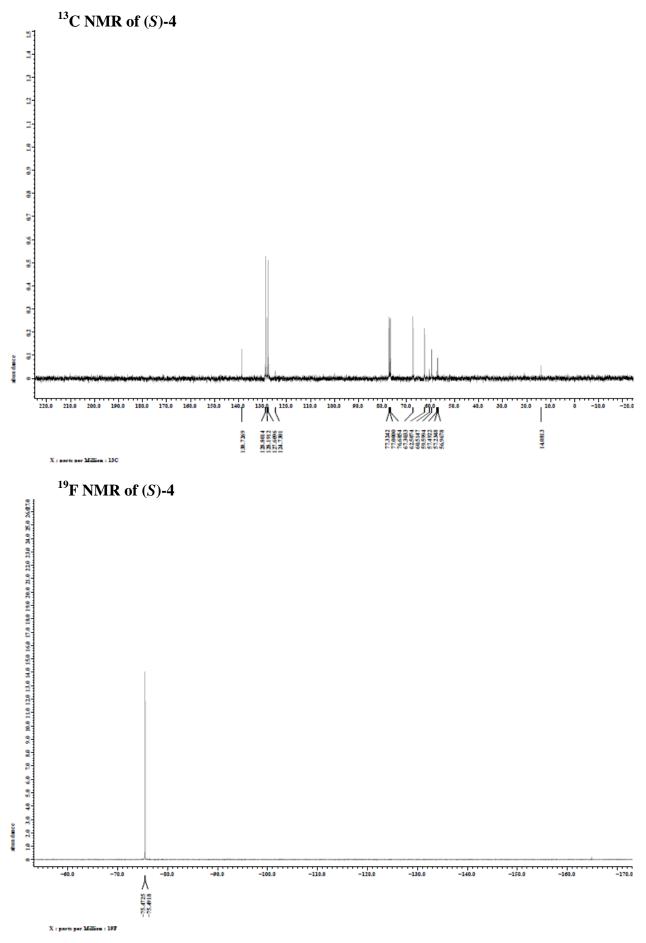


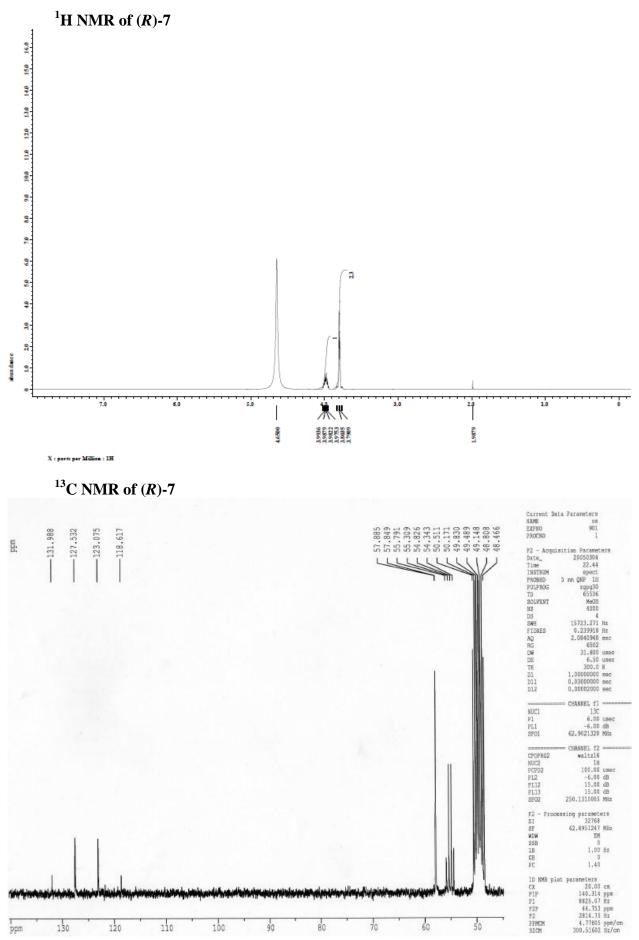






S14





S16

