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## Betti's base for crystallization-induced diastereoisomer transformations: deracemization of $\alpha$ -substituted 4-*p*-methoxybenzyl-butyrraldehydes and synthesis of enantiopure primary amines. Synthesis of enantiopure Amorolfine and Fenpropimorph.

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**Electronic Supporting Information** 

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**Ethyl 4-((4-metoxybenzyl)oxy)butanoate, 2.** The ethyl 4-hydroxybutanoate<sup>1</sup> was protected using 4-methoxybenzyl trichloroacetimidate<sup>2</sup> as described by Jacobsen<sup>3</sup> to give, after distillation at 121-123 °C /0.2 mm, 17.4 g (86 %) of protected ester **2**. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.24 (m, 2H), 6.87 (m, 2H), 4.42 (s, 2H), 4.10 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 3.47 (t, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 2H), 2.40 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 1.92 (m, 2H), 1.23 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  173.4, 159.1, 130.4, 129.2, 113.7, 72.5, 68.9, 60.2, 55.2, 31.1, 25.1, 14.2; IR (film) cm<sup>-1</sup>: 2936.2, 2859.3, 1733.4, 1614.33, 1514.3, 1248.4, 1175.1, 1100.9, 1034.9, 820.7.

Alkylation of Ethyl 4-((4-metoxybenzyl)oxy)butanoate: preparation of 3a-f. The reactions were conducted in ovendried glassware and under nitrogen. To a cooled 1M LDA at -75 °C (1.1 eq, freshly prepared from diisopropylamine dissolved in dry THF and *n*-BuLi 2.5 M in hexane) the ester (1 eq) in dry THF (0.25 mL/mmol) was added in 20 min. The reaction was stirred at -75 °C for 40 min then alkylbromide<sup>4</sup> (1,5 eq) in dry HMPA (80  $\mu$ L/mmol) was added. The reaction was stirred at -75 °C for 40 min then at -40 °C for two hours (the reaction was monitored by TLC), and quenched with saturated aqueous ammonium chloride solution. The reaction was left to warm at room temperature and the organic solvent evaporated under vacuum. The residue was partitioned between Et<sub>2</sub>O and water. The organic layer was separated, washed with water, 1N HCl, water, brine, dried on MgSO<sub>4</sub> and the solvent distilled under reduced pressure.

**Ethyl 2-benzyl-4-((4-methoxybenzyl)oxy)butanoate, 3a**. From the crude **3a** was isolated by bulb to bulb distillation, as a colorless oil, with 91% yield; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.28-7.13 (m, 7H), 6.86 (m, 2H), 4.37 (s, 2H), 4.00 (m, 2H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 3.50-3.39 (m, 2H), 2.39 (dd, *J* = 12.4 and 7.6 Hz, 1H), 2.87-2.73 (m, 2H), 1.97 (m, 1H), 1.78 (m, 1H), 1.09 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 175.3, 159.1, 139.1, 130.4, 129.2, 128.9, 128.2, 126.3, 113.6, 72.5, 67.7, 60.1, 55.2, 44.5, 38.5, 31.8, 14.0; IR (film) cm<sup>-1</sup>: 2935.6, 2660.2, 1730.8, 1613.7, 1514.3, 1248.7, 1174.0, 1098.5, 1034.1, 820.3, 745.33, 700.95.

**Ethyl 2-(4-fluorobenzyl)-4-((4-methoxybenzyl)oxy)butanoate, 3b.** From the crude **3b** was purified by flash chromatography on silica, as a colorless oil, with 92% yield; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.23 (m, 2H), 7.10 (m, 2H), 6.94 (m, 2H), 6.86 (m, 2H), 4.38 (s, 2H), 4.00 (dq, *J* = 7.1 and 1.6 Hz, 2H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 3.50-3.39 (m, 2H), 2.91-2.71 (m, 3H), 1.96 (m, 1H), 1.77 (m, 1H), 1.10 (t, *J* = 7.1, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  175.1, 161.5 (d, *J* = 244.3Hz), 159.1, 134.76 (d, *J* = 3.2Hz), 130.33 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz), 129.2, 115.0 (d, *J* = 21 Hz), 113.7, 72.6, 67.6, 60.2, 55.2, 44.7, 37.7, 31.9, 14.2; IR (film) cm<sup>-1</sup>: 2954.2, 2936.4, 2861.0, 1730.6, 1612.9, 1511.7, 1248.8, 1222.3, 1175.0, 1159.4, 1098.4, 1035.1, 823.1.

**Ethyl 2-(2-((4-methoxybenzyl)oxy)ethyl)pent-4-enoate, 3c.** From the crude **3c** was purified by flash chromatography on silica, as a colorless oil, with 85% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.24 (m, 2H), 6.87 (m, 2H), 5.73 (m, 1H), 5.08-4.99 (m, 2H), 4.40 (m, 2H), 4.10 (m, 2H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.50-3.40 (m, 2H), 2.62 (m, 1H), 2.41-2.31 (m, 1H), 2.29-2.22 (m, 1H), 1.99-1.90 (m, 1H), 1.81-1.72 (m, 1H), 1.22 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 175.1, 159.0, 135.1, 130.4, 129.1, 116.7, 113.6, 72.4, 67.5, 60.0, 55.1, 42.1, 36.4, 31.5, 14.1. IR (film) cm<sup>-1</sup>: 2954.2, 2934.5, 2859.3, 1730.8, 1613.3, 1518.9, 1249.1, 1178.0, 1096.7, 1035.9, 819.6.

**Ethyl (***E***)-2-(2-((4-methoxybenzyl)oxy)ethyl)-5-phenylpent-4-enoate, 3d.** From the crude **3d** was purified by flash chromatography on silica, as a light yellow oil, with 76% of yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.33-7.22 (m, 6H), 7.22-7.16 (m, 1H), 6.86 (m, 2H), 6.39 (d, *J* = 15.8 Hz, 1H), 6.13 (dt, *J* = 15.8 and 7.2 Hz, 1H), 4.41 (s, 2H), 4.09 (m, 2H), 3,79 (s, 3H), 3.53-3.42 (m, 2H), 2.70 (m, 1H), 2.55-2.47 (m, 1H), 2.44-2.36 (m, 1H), 2.05-1.94 (m, 1H), 1.86-1.77 (m, 1H), 1.20 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  175.3, 159.1, 137.3, 132.1, 130.5, 129.2, 128.5, 127.1, 127.0, 126.1, 113.7, 72.6, 67.7, 60.3, 55.3, 42.6, 35.8, 31.7, 14.3; IR (film) cm<sup>-1</sup>: 2935.5, 2858.7, 1730.3, 1613.2, 1513.7, 1248.4, 1174.3, 1098.4, 1035.0, 967.7, 820.9, 744.1, 694.3.

**Ethyl 4-((4-methoxybenzyl)oxy)-2-(pyridin-3-ylmethyl)butanoate, 3e.** From the crude **3e** was purified by flash chromatography on silica, as a light yellow oil, with 37% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 8.45 (dd, *J* = 4.7 and 1.6 Hz, 1H), 8.43 (d, *J* = 2 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (m, 1H), 7.27-7.17 (m, 3H), 6.87 (m, 2H), 4.40 (s, 2H), 4.01 (m, 2H), 3.79 (m, 3H), 3.52-3.41 (m, 2H), 2.94-2.76 (m, 3H), 2.00 (m, 1H), 1.80 (m, 1H), 1.10 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 174.7, 159.1, 150.2, 147.8, 136.4, 134.5, 130.3, 129.2, 123.2, 113.7, 72.6, 67.4, 60.3, 55.2, 44.2, 35.5, 32.0, 14.0; IR (film) cm<sup>-1</sup>: 2936.2, 2862.0, 1729.1, 1613.4, 1514.2, 1248.6, 1181.3, 1100.9, 1032.3, 821.9, 715.8.

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<sup>4</sup> Thiophene **3f** was obtained from 2-(chloromethyl)thiophene prepared as described by T.-H. Fu, W. T. McElroy, M. Shamszad, R. W. Heidebrecht, Jr., B. Gulledge, S. F. Martin *Tetrahedron*, 2013, **69**, 5588-5603

**Ethyl 4-((4-methoxybenzyl)oxy)-2-(thiophen-2-ylmethyl) butanoate, 3f.** From the crude **3f** was purified by flash chromatography on silica, as a light yellow oil, with 38% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.24 (m,2H), 7.11 (dd, *J* = 5.3 and 1.2 Hz, 1H), 6.89 (dd, *J* = 5.0 and 3.4 Hz, 1H), 6.87 (m, 2H), 6.78 (m, 1H), 4.39 (s, 2H), 4.06 (m, 2H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 3.51-3.43 (m, 2H), 3.16 (dd, *J* = 14.8 and 8.4Hz, 1H), 3.00 (dd, *J* = 14.8 and 6.3 Hz, 1H), 2.85 (m, 1H), 1.98 (m, 1H), 1.83 (m,1H), 1.16 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  174.9, 159.1, 141.4, 130.4, 129.2, 126.7, 125.63, 123.7, 113.7, 72.6, 67.6, 60.4, 55.2, 44.9, 32.3, 31.7, 14.1.

**Reduction of esters 3a-c,e,f to aldehydes 4a-c,e,f with DIBAL: general procedure.** The reactions were conducted in oven-dried glassware and under nitrogen. Ester (1 eq) was dissolved in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (3 mL, mmol<sup>-1</sup>) and cooled at -70 °C. DIBAL-H (1M in  $CH_2Cl_2$ , 1.1 eq) was added in 60-80 min. The reaction was stirred at -70 °C until complete ester consumption, monitored by TLC. The reaction was quenched by MeOH (0.4 mL/mmol of hydride) addition at -70 °C and left to warm at room temperature. The reaction mixture was poured over an ice cooled 1N water solution of HCl (6.7 mL mmol<sup>-1</sup> of hydride), and stirred for 60 min. The aqueous phase was separated and extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O, the combined organic phases were washed with water, brine and dried on Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. After solvent evaporation, the crude was flash chromatographed on a column of silica gel.

**2-Benzyl-4-((4-methoxybenzyl)oxy)butanal, 4a.** It was isolated with 58% yield, as a colorless oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  9.68 (d, *J* = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 7.30-7.12 (m, 7H), 6.87 (m, 2H), 4.36 (s, 2H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 3.45 (m, 2H), 3.00 (dd, *J* = 13.4 and 6.5 Hz, 1H), 2.77 (m, 1H), 2.70 (dd, *J* = 13.4 and 7.5 Hz, 1H), 1.95 (m, 1H), 1.82-1.73 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  204.1, 159.2, 138.6, 130.2, 129.3, 129.0, 128.5, 126.4, 113.8, 72.3, 67.2, 55.2, 50.8, 34.9, 29.0; IR (film) cm<sup>-1</sup>: 2934.3, 2858.8, 2710.1, 1722.9, 1613.6, 1514.4, 1248.2, 1174.3, 1099.1, 1033.8, 820.3, 745.5, 701.0.

**2-(4-Fluorobenzyl)-4-((4-methoxybenzyl)oxy)butanal, 4b**. It was isolated with 82% yield, as a colorless oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 9.67(d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.21 (m, 2H), 7.09 (m, 2H), 6.95 (m, 2H), 6.87 (m, 2H), 4.37 (s, 2H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.46 (m, 2H), 2.97 (dd, *J* = 13.8 and 7.1 Hz, 1H), 2.74 (m, 1H), 2.67 (dd, J = 13.8 and 7.3 Hz, 1H), 1.94 (m, 1H), 1.76 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 203.8, 162.3, 160.7, 159.2, 134.34, 134.32, 130.40, 130.37, 130.1, 129.3, 115.4, 115.2, 113.8, 72.7, 67.1, 55.2, 50.9, 34.0, 29.0; IR (film) cm<sup>-1</sup>: 2935.4, 2860.4, 2723.9, 1723.6, 1612.3, 1511.8, 1248.6, 1221.9, 1099.8, 1034.9, 822.5, 758.2.

**2-(2-((4-Methoxybenzyl)oxy)ethyl)pent-4-enal, 4c**. It was isolated with 83% yield, as a colorless oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 9.64 (d, *J* = 2.2 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (m, 2H), 6.87 (m, 2H), 5.73 (m, 1H), 5.09-5.03 (m, 2H), 4.39 (s, 2H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.48 (m, 2H), 2.53 (m, 1H), 2.41 (m, 1H), 2.22 (m, 1H), 1.97 (m, 1H), 1.78 (m, 1 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 204.1, 159.2, 134.8, 130.2, 129.2, 117.3, 113.7, 72.6, 67.1, 55.2, 48.6, 34.9, 28.7; IR (film) cm<sup>-1</sup>: 2963.0, 2913.6, 2850.6, 1723.1, 1612.9, 1513.4, 1259.6, 1094.0 1033.1, 800.1.

**4-((4-Methoxybenzyl)oxy)-2-(pyridin-3-ylmethyl)butanal, 4e**. It was isolated with 77% yield, as a light yellow oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 9.69 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 8.45 (dd, *J* = 7.4 and 1.4 Hz, 1H), 8.42 (d, *J* = 2 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (m, 1H), 7.23-7.18 (m, 3H), 6.88 (m, 2H), 4.38 (s, 2H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 3.52-3.43 (m, 2H), 3.01 (dd, *J* = 14.3 and 7.2 Hz, 1H), 2.78 (m, 1H), 2.68 (dd, *J* = 14.3 and 7.1 Hz, 1H), 1.95 (m, 1H), 1.80 (m, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 203.1, 159.2, 150.2, 147.8, 136.4, 134.3, 129.9, 129.2, 123.3, 113.7, 72.6, 66.7, 55.2, 50.4, 31.5, 28.9. IR (film) cm<sup>-1</sup>: 2922.5, 2859.5, 1722.4, 1612.7, 1513.7, 1247.9, 1098.2, 1030.6, 820.2, 715.1.

**4-((4-Methoxybenzyl)oxy)-2-(thiophen-2-ylmethyl)butanal, 4f.** The crude was flash chromatographed to give **4f** with 65% yield, as a light yellow oil and the corresponding alcohol **6f** with 27% yield; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  9.70 (d, *J* = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.13 (dd, *J* = 5.3 and 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.22 (m, 2H), 6.9 (dd, *J* = 5.3 and 3.5 Hz, 1H), 6.87 (m, 2H), 6.67 (m, 1H), 4.39 (s, 2H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.49 (m, 2H), 3.31 (dd, *J* = 15.2 and 7.0 Hz, 1H), 2.97 (dd, *J* = 15.2 and 7.0 Hz, 1H), 2.79 (m, 1H), 1.99 (m, 1H), 1.85 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  203.5, 159.2, 141.0, 130.1, 129.2, 126.8, 125.7, 123.9, 113.7, 72.6, 66.9, 55.2, 50.9, 28.8, 28.6.

(*E*)-2-(2-((4-Methoxybenzyl)oxy)ethyl)-5-phenylpent-4-enal, 4d. To a LiAlH<sub>4</sub> suspension (0.270 g, 7.0 mmol) in dry THF (40 mL), a solution of **3d** (2.35 g, 7.0 mmol) in dry THF (70 mL) was added dropwise and under N<sub>2</sub>. The reaction mixture was first stirred at room temperature for 0.5 hour, then at 70 °C. After 2 h the reaction was cooled at -10 °C and the hydride excess quenched with saturated aqueous solution of NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (1.5 mL). Warmed to room temperature, the reaction mixture was stirred until a gray solid material was separated from the organic phase. After filtration on büchner, the solid material was washed three times with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The organic phase was dried on MgSO<sub>4</sub>, and after solvent evaporation the residue was bulb to bulb distilled to give **6d** (2.05 g, 90%) as a colorless oil. A round bottomed flask was charged with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2,8 mL), PIPO (0.059 g, 1.5 mol%), alcohol **6d** (2.046 g, 6.2 mmol) and KBr (0.074 g, 0.62 mmol) dissolved in water (1.5 mL). The resulting suspension was stirred vigorously and cooled to 0 °C. A 10.5% solution of NaClO (5.18 mL, 7.26 mmol, at pH=9.5 obtained by addition of saturated aqueous solution of NaHCO<sub>3</sub> to commercial available bleach) was added dropwise in about 60 min, keeping the temperature below 5 °C. The reaction was followed

by TLC and after one hour, the reaction was quenched with 10% ascorbic acid (5 mL) and filtered to remove the solid material. Filtrate was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (3 x 15 mL) and the combined organic phases were dried on Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. After solvent evaporation the crude was flash chromatographed, and bulb to bulb distilled to give 1.61 g (80%) of aldehyde **4d**, as light yellow oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  9.69 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.33- 7.18 (m, 7H), 6.89- 6.85 (m, 2H), 6.41 (d, *J* = 15.9 Hz, 1H), 6.12 (m, 1H), 4.40 (s, 2H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.54-3.47 (m, 2H), 2.66-2.53 (m, 2H), 2.43-2.34 (m, 1H), 2.07-1.97 (m, 1H), 1.88-1.79 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  204.1, 159.2, 137.1, 132.5, 130.2, 129.3, 128.5, 127.3, 126.5, 126.1, 113.8, 72.7, 67.1, 55.2, 49.1, 32.2, 28.8; IR (film) cm<sup>-1</sup>: 3025.8, 2929.9, 2858.6, 1721.9, 1612.2, 1512.6, 1248.3, 1094.3, 1034.5, 968.4, 819.8, 744.0, 694.0.

(*R*)-2-Benzylbutan-1,4-diol, (*R*)-7a. To a well stirred solution of monoprotected diol (*R*)-6a (588 mg, 1.95mmol) in  $CH_2CI_2-H_2O$  20:1 (4.0 mL), cooled at -5 °C, DDQ (421 mg, 1.95 mmol) was added in 8 portions (15 min). The reaction was left to warm at rt and after 1 hour filtered on celite and washed with  $CH_2CI_2$  (3 x 5 mL). The combined organic solutions were washed with saturated aqueous solution of NaHCO<sub>3</sub> then dried on Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. After solvent evaporation and flash-chromatography, diol (*R*)-7a, 0.425 mg (73%) was obtained as a colorless oil;  $[\alpha]_D^{24}$  +2.7 (c 1.8, EtOAc), [Lit.<sup>5</sup>  $[\alpha]_D^{24}$  +6.6 (c 1.5, EtOAc)]; <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR were identical to those previously reported.5

(*R*)-2-Allylbutane-1,4-diol, (*R*)-7c. The *O*-deprotection of the diol (*R*)-6c (380 mg, 1.52 mmol) was carried out as before on (*R*)-6a. After solvent evaporation and flash-chromatography, (*R*)-7c, 142 mg (72%), was obtained as a colorless oil;  $[\alpha]_{D}^{26}$  –4.1 (c 1.46, MeOH); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz):  $\delta$  5.77 (m, 1H); 5.07-5.01 (m, 2H), 3.80 (bs, 2H); 3.75 (m, 1H); 3.66-3.59 (m, 2H); 3.45 (dd, *J*=10.8 e 7.1 Hz, 1H); 2.07 (m, 2H); 1.79-1.65 (m, 2H); 1.62-1.52 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  136.5; 116.4; 65.7; 60.8; 39.9; 36.3; 35.2; IR (film) cm<sup>-1</sup>: 3386.8; 2923.5; 1639.2; 1441.1; 1034.9; 912.5; 799.0.

(*R*)-2-Propylbutane-1,4-diol, (*R*)-8c. A suspension of  $PtO_2^6$  (3 mg) in MeOH (5 mL) was prehydrogenated in a Parr hydrogenator under 15 psi of H<sub>2</sub> for 30 min before the addition of unsaturated diol (*R*)-7c (65 mg, 0.499 mmol). The suspension was shaken under 7 psi of H<sub>2</sub> for 1 hour. After filtration through Celite and solvent evaporation 65 mg (98%) of saturated diol (*R*)-8c were obtained;  $[\alpha]_D^{26}$  - 3.3 (c 1.25, MeOH) [lit.<sup>7</sup>  $[\alpha]_D^{20}$  – 10.2 (c 1.0, MeOH)]; <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR were identical to those previously reported.7

*tert*-Butyl (*R*)-(3-(benzo[*d*][1,3]dioxol-5-yl)-2-methylpropyl) carbamate, (–)-14a. NaOH 2M aq. (3.3 mL, 6.6 mmol) was added dropwise to a suspension of (*R*)-[12a·HCl] (344 mg, 1.5 mmol) in *t*-BuOH (2.0 mL). The reaction was stirred at rt and followed by TLC. After 1 hour, a small amount (0.5 mL) of reaction mixture was taken to isolate and characterize the amine (*R*)-12a,<sup>8</sup> then dissolved in *t*-BuOH (0.5 mL) and added to the reaction mixture. A di-*tert*-butyl dicarbonate (445 mg, 2.0 mmol) solution in *t*-BuOH (0.7 mL) was then added in 45 min. The reaction was monitored by TLC and after 6 hours, the aqueous phase was separated with 20 mL of Et<sub>2</sub>O in a separating funnel. The organic phase was dried on Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and the crude product purified by flash chromatography to give 396 mg (90%) of (–)-14a with dr = 97.4:2.6, determinate by HPLC analysis using a Phenomenex<sup>®</sup> Lux Amylose-2, *n*-hexane/*i*-PrOH = 90:10, 1 mL min<sup>-1</sup>,  $\lambda$  = 230 nm, 25 °C, minor isomer tr = 9.2 min and major isomer tr = 10.9 min; [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>0</sub><sup>20</sup> –9.4 (c 0.84, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  6.72(d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 6.64 (d, *J* = 1.0 Hz, 1H), 6.59 (d, *J* = 7.7 and 1.0 Hz, 1H), 5.92 (s, 2H), 4.55 (bs, 1H), 3.08 (m,1H), 2.97 (m, 1H), 2.60 (d, *J* = 13.5 and 5.8 Hz, 1H), 2.30 (d, *J* = 13.5 and 8.5 Hz, 1H), 1.85 (m, 1H), 1.44 (s, 9H), 0.86 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  156.0, 147.5, 145.7, 134.2, 121.8, 109.3, 108.0, 100.7, 79.0, 46.2, 40.6, 35.9, 28.4, 17.3.

(*R*)-3-(Benzo[d][1,3]dioxol-5-yl)-*N*,2-dimethylpropane-1-amine hydrochloride, (–)-15a. To a solution of (–)-14a (433 mg, 1.48 mmol) in THF (2 mL), cooled with an ice bath, 60% NaH in mineral oil (71 mg, 1.78 mmol) was added. After 30 min to the cooled reaction methyl iodide was added (0.14 mL, 2.29 mmol), and stirred at rt for 3 hrs. The reaction was quenched, at 0 °C, with saturated aqueous NH<sub>4</sub>Cl. The organic solvent was removed and the crude extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O. The ethereal solution was washed with water, brine and dried on Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. After solvent evaporation, the crude was dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, cooled at 0 °C and CF<sub>3</sub>COOH (1 mL) was added. The reaction mixture was stirred at rt for one hour

<sup>5</sup> G.P. Reid, K. W. Brear, D. J. Robins, Tetrahedron: Asymmetry, 2004, 15, 793-801

<sup>6</sup> With Pd(0) on carbon also (*Z*,*E*)-2-(prop-1-en-1-yl)butane-1,4-diol, along with **8c**, was isolated

<sup>7</sup> N. Lee, Y.-W. Kim, Y. Chang, H. K. Kim, S. S. Jew, D.-K. Kim, Tetrahedron Lett., 1996, 37, 2429-2432

<sup>8</sup> The amine (*R*)-(–)-**12a** was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O, and after solvent evaporation the crude was filtered through plug of silica gel, washing with 10% Et<sub>2</sub>O in hexanes then the amine recovered with 3% of NH<sub>4</sub>OH<sub>con</sub> in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>-MeOH=4:1; (*R*)-(–)-**12a** was isolated as light yellow liquid material;  $[\alpha]_D^{22}$ -5.0 (c 1.0, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  6.72 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.65 (s, 1H), 6.59 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 5.91 (s, 2H), 2.94 (bs, 2H), 2.68 (dd, *J* = 12.7 and 5.6 Hz, 1H), 2.60 (dd, *J* = 13.6 and 6.2 Hz, 1H), 2.52 (dd, *J* = 12.7 and 7.1 Hz, 1H), 2.31 (dd, *J* = 13.6 and 8.2 Hz, 1H), 1.78 (m, 1H), 0.89 (d, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  147.4, 145.6, 134.2, 121.7, 109.2, 107.9, 100.6, 47.1, 40.5, 37.6, 17.1.

and then concentrated. Saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (3 mL) was added to the residue under stirring. A progressive color change was observed, which ceased after two hours. The product was extracted with CHCl<sub>3</sub> (3 x 2 mL) and the organic phase washed with brine-H<sub>2</sub>O 1:1 (2 mL), brine (1 mL) and dried with Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure, the residue dissolved in anhydrous Et<sub>2</sub>O (3 mL) and HCl 2M in Et<sub>2</sub>O (1.5 mL) added. The resulting suspension was stirred for 45 min, then it was filtrated. The solid was washed with anhydrous Et<sub>2</sub>O and dried under reduced pressure to give 285 mg (79%) of (*R*)-**15a**. Crystallized from CH<sub>3</sub>CN, mp = 145-148 °C; [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub><sup>22</sup> –1.8 (c 1.4, MeOH); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD):  $\delta$  6.74 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.73 (bs, 1H), 6.66 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 5.90 (s, 2H), 2.95 (m,1H), 2.86 (m, 1H), 2.70 (s, 3H), 2.68 (m, 1H), 2.42 (dd, *J* = 13.4 and 8.4 Hz, 1H), 2.13 (m, 1H), 0.99 (d, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD):  $\delta$  150.1, 148.5, 134.9, 124.1, 111.1, 110.0, 103.1, 56.9, 42.0, 35.2 (broad), 35.1, 18.1.

*tert*-Butyl (*S*)-(3-(4-(tert-butyl)phenyl)-2-methylpropyl)carbamate, (+)-14c. (*S*)-12c·HCl (482 mg, 2.0 mmol) was subjected to react with NaOH 2M aq. in *t*-BuOH as previously described for (*R*)-12a. After 1 hour, a small amount (0.5 mL) of reaction mixture was taken to isolate and characterize the amine (*S*)-12c.<sup>9</sup> The reaction was continued as before for (*R*)-14a to give to 520 mg (85%) of (*S*)-14c;  $[\alpha]_D^{26}$ +10.1 (c 1.5, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.29 (m, 2H), 7.07 (m, 2H), 4.54 (bs, 1H), 3.10 (m,1H), 2.99 (m, 1H), 2.64 (m, 1H), 2.36 (dd, *J* = 13.7 and 8.2 Hz, 1H), 1.91 (m, 1H), 1.44 (s, 9H), 1.30 (s, 9H), 0.88 (d, (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  156.0, 148.6, 137.2, 128.7, 125.1, 79.0, 46.3, 40.4, 35.7, 34.3, 31.4, 28.4, 17.5.

(*S*)-3-(4-(*tert*-Butyl)phenyl)-*N*,2-dimethylpropane-1-amine hydrochloride, (+)-15c. The carbamate (*S*)-14c (510 mg, 1.7 mmol) was subjected to methylation and *N*-Boc deprotection as described before for (*R*)-14a. 348 mg (80%) of hydrochloride (*S*)-15c was obtained, which was crystallized from *i*-PrOH to give a white solid; mp = 219-220 °C;  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  +8.1 (c 1.2, MeOH); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD):  $\delta$  7.34 (m, 2H), 7.12 (m, 2H), 2.95 (dd, *J* = 12.5 and 5.3 Hz, 1H), 2.84 (dd, *J* = 12.5 and 8.7 Hz, 1H), 2.68 (s, 3H), 2.68 (dd, *J* = 13.7 and 6.5 Hz, 1H), 2.48 (dd, *J* = 13.7 and 8.2 Hz, 1H), 2.13 (m,1H), 1.29 (s, 9H), 0.99 (d, (d, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD):  $\delta$  151.3, 138.0, 130.7, 127.3, 57.0, 41.8, 36.1, 35.2, 35.0, 32.6, 18.2.

(*S*)-*N*-(3-(4-(*tert*-Butyl)phenyl)-2-methylpropyl)-N,4-dimethyl benzenesulfonamide, (+)-16c. Pyridine (0.240 mL, 3 mmol) and TsCl (378 mg, 2 mmol) were consecutively added to a cooled solution of (*S*)-15c (340 mg, 1.3 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2 mL). After 4 h at 0 °C, the reaction was left at room temperature for 20 hours. Et<sub>2</sub>O (10 mL) was added and the solution was washed with water (3 x 1 mL) and brine (1 mL) and dried with Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. The residue was purified by flash chromatography to give 349 mg (72%) of (+)-16c with dr = 95.8:4.2, determined by HPLC analysis using a CHIRALCEL<sup>®</sup> OJ-H, *n*-hexane/*i*-PrOH = 85:15, 1 mL, min<sup>-1</sup>,  $\lambda$  = 220 nm, 25 °C, minor isomer tr = 38.6 min and major isomer tr = 45.4 min; [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>p</sub><sup>26</sup> +20.4 (c 1.67, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.65 (m, 2H), 7.30 (m, 2H), 7.29 (m, 2H), 7.07 (m, 2H), 2.86 (dd, *J* = 13.0 and 6.9 Hz, 1H), 2.81 (dd, *J* = 13.0 and 7.9 Hz, 1H), 2.75 (dd, *J* = 13.7 and 5.3 Hz, 1H), 2.70 (s, 3H), 2.42 (s, 3H), 2.33 (dd, *J* = 13.7 and 8.9 Hz, 1H), 2.01 (m, 1H), 1.31 (s, 9H), 0.92 (d, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  148.7, 143.1, 137.1, 134.4, 129.6, 128.7, 127.4, 125.1, 56.3, 40.1, 35.3, 34.3, 33.5, 31.4, 21.4, 17.3.

(*R*)-*N*-(2-(4-Methoxy-3-(3-methoxypropoxy)benzyl)-3-methylbutyl)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide, (+)-14b. To a cooled solution of hydrochloride (*R*)-12b·HCl (165 mg, 0.5 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3 mL), 10% water solution of Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (0.5 mL) was added. The mixture was stirred at rt for 60 min then the aqueous solution was separated and extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2 mL). The combined organic phases were washed with water, brine and dried on Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. A small amount of amine (*R*)-12b was isolated for the characterization.<sup>10</sup> To the crude dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2 mL) the *i*-PrNEt<sub>2</sub> (0.267 mL, 1.5 mmol) and TsCl (110 mg, 0.575 mmol) were added in succession at 0 °C. The reaction was left at rt for 20 h, then quenched with Et<sub>2</sub>O (10 mL) addition, washed with water (1 mL), brine (1 mL) and dried on Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. After solvent evaporation the crude was flash chromatographed to give 191 mg (85%) of (*R*)-14b, with dr = 99.8:0.2 determined by HPLC analysis using a CHIRALCEL<sup>®</sup> AD-H, *n*-hexane/*i*-PrOH = 85:15, 1 mL, min<sup>-1</sup>,  $\lambda$  = 230 nm, 25 °C, minor isomer t<sub>r</sub> = 14.3 min, major isomer t<sub>r</sub> = 15.3 min; crystallized from *i*-Pr<sub>2</sub>O, mp = 65-67 °C; [α]<sub>0</sub><sup>24</sup> + 21.1 (c 1.1, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.63 (m, 2H), 7.26 (m, 2H), 6.74 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 6.64 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 6.59 (dd, *J* = 8.1 and 1.8 Hz, 1H), 4.30 (m, 1H), 4.07 (t, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 3.57 (t, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 2H), 3.36 (s, 3H), 2.89 (m, 1H), 2.78 (m, 1H), 2.60 (dd, *J* =

<sup>9</sup> The amine (*S*)-**12c** was isolated as described before for (*R*)-**12a**, ref 40, and characterized;  $[\alpha]_D^{24}$  –4.3 (c 1.5, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.29 (m, 2H), 7.08 (m, 2H), 2.66 (m,2H), 2.51 (dd, *J* = 12.7 and 6.8 Hz, 1H), (dd, *J* = 13.5 and 8.1 Hz, 1H), 1.75 (m, 1H) 1.31 (s, 9H), 1.20 (bs, 2H), 0.89 (d, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  148.4, 137.8, 128.7, 125.0, 48.0, 40.4, 38.4, 34.3, 31.3, 17.4

<sup>10 (+)-(</sup>*R*)-**12b**, light yellow oil;  $[\alpha]_D^{24}$  +10.6 (c 1.1, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  6.78 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 6.73 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.70 (dd, *J* = 8.2 and 2.0 Hz, 1H), 4.10 (t, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 3.57 (t, *J* = 6.1 Hz, 2H), 3.35 (s, 3H), 2.60 (m, 3H), 2.38 (dd, *J* = 13.9 and 9.1 Hz, 1H), 2.10 (m, 2H), 1.83 (m, 1H) 1.49 (m, 1H), 1.04 (bs, 2H), 0.95 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 3H), 0.91 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  148.1, 147.3, 134.2, 121.0, 114.0, 111.5, 69.2, 65.9, 58.5, 55.9, 49.4, 42.2, 34.6, 29.5, 27.5, 19.4, 18.7

14.0 and 5.5 Hz, 1H), 2.42 (s, 3H), 2.31 (dd, J = 14.0 and 9.2 Hz, 1H), 2.09 (m, 2H), 1.75 (m, 1H), 1.56 (m, 1H), 0.88 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 3H), 0.86 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  148.4, 147.7, 143.1, 136.7, 133.0, 129.5, 127.0, 121.0, 114.0, 111.8, 69.3, 66.0, 58.6, 56.0, 46.0, 43.7, 34.6, 29.5, 28.0, 21.4, 19.1, 19.0.

(*R*)-4-Methyl-*N*-(2-methyl-3-(4-(*tert*-pentyl)phenyl)propyl) benzenesulfonammide, (–)-14d. To a cooled solution of amine hydrochloride (*R*)-12d·HCl (64 mg, 0.25 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3 mL), 10% water solution of Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (0.25 mL) was added. A small amount of amine (*R*)-12d was isolated for the characterization.<sup>11</sup> (*R*)-12d was left to react with TsCl under the same conditions above described for (*R*)-12b. Isolated 91 mg (97%) of (*R*)-14d as a waxy material, with dr = 99.4:0.6, determinate by HPLC CHIRALPAK<sup>®</sup> AD-H, *n*-hexane/*i*-PrOH = 95:5, 0.75 mL min<sup>-1</sup>,  $\lambda$  = 230 nm, 25 °C, minor isomer *t*<sub>r</sub> = 21.4, major isomer *t*<sub>r</sub> = 23,2; crystallized from *n*-hexane as a colorless solid; mp = 63-65 °C; [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub><sup>24</sup> –18.5 (c 0.75, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.70 (m, 2H), 7.29 (m, 2H), 7.19 (m, 2H), 6.97 (m, 2H), 4.43 (m, 1H), 2.86 (m, 1H), 2.77 (m, 1H), 2.57 (dd, *J* = 13.6 and 6.5 Hz, 1H), 2.42 (s, 3H), 2.34 (dd, *J* = 13.6 and 7.8 Hz, 1H), 1.87 (m, 1H), 1.61 (q, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.25 (s, 6H), 0.86 (d, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 3H), 0.67 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  147.3, 143.3, 137.0, 136.4, 129.6, 128.6, 127.1, 125.9, 48.7, 40.1, 37.6, 36.8, 35.1, 20.4, 21.5, 17.6, 9.1.

(S)-4-Methyl-N-(2-methyl-3-(4-(*tert*-pentyl)phenyl)propyl) benzenesulfonammide, (+)-14d. 0.70 mg (0.27 mmol) of amine hydrochloride (S)-12d·HCl were treated as described above for the enantiomer (*R*)-12d·HCl. A small amount of amine (S)-12d was isolated for the characterization.<sup>12</sup> 92 mg (91%) of amide (S)-14d was obtained, as a semisolid material, with dr = 99.7:0.3, determined by HPLC CHIRALPAK<sup>®</sup> AD-H, as for its enantiomer (*R*)-14d; crystallized from *n*-hexane as a colorless solid;  $[\alpha]_D^{24}$ +16.4 (c 1.1, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR are in agreement with its enantiomer previously reported.

**Preparation of diols** *meso* and (*S*,*S*)-18 from mono-protected diols (*R*,*S*)- and (*S*,*S*)-17: general procedure. An 1:1 mixture of (*R*,*S*)- and (*S*,*S*)-1-(benzyloxy)propan-2-yl)oxy)propan-1-ol [(*R*,*S*)- and (*S*,*S*)-17] was prepared as described in the literature,<sup>13</sup> and the isomers were separated by flash chromatography on silica gel. Each isomer was separately subjected to hydrogenolysis under the following conditions: 5% Pd/C (10% w/w) was added to a solution of the substrate in MeOH (7 mL mmol<sup>-1</sup>). The reaction was conducted in a Parr hydrogenator with 2 bar of H<sub>2</sub> for 16-18 hours.

*meso-*((1-Hydroxypropan-2-yl)oxy)propan-1-ol, *meso-*18. *Meso-*18 (92%) was obtained as a colorless oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 4.00 (bs, 2H), 3.66 (m, 2H), 3.60 (dd, *J* = 11.5 and 2.9 Hz, 2H), 3.48 (dd, J = 11.5 and 8.1 Hz, 2H), 1.11 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ ppm 76.3, 66.7, 17.8.

(*S*)-2-(((*S*)-1-Hydroxypropan-2-yl)oxy)propan-1-ol, (+)-18. (*S*,*S*)-18 (86%) was obtained as a colorless oil;  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  +86.8 (c 1.3, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  4.00 (bs, 2H), 3.66 (m, 2H), 3.60 (dd, *J* = 11.5 and 2.9 Hz, 2H), 3.48 (dd, J = 11.5 and 8.1 Hz, 2H), 1.11 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 73.0, 66.4, 16.1.

**Preparation of tosyl derivatives** *meso-* and (*S*,*S*)-19 from diols *meso-* and (*S*,*S*)-18: general procedure. TsCl (2 eq) was added to an ice-water cooled solution of diol in anhydrous pyridine (1.5 mL mmol<sup>-1</sup>), and stirred at the same temperature for 10 h, then left in the refrigerator at 4 °C for 30 h. Water-ice (15 mL mmol<sup>-1</sup>) was added and the heterogeneous mixture stirred for one hour.

*meso*-Oxybis(propane-2,1-diyl) bis(4-methylbenzenesulfonate), *meso*-19. The above reaction mixture was extracted with  $CH_2Cl_2$  (4 x 5 mL). 3N HCl aq. (8 mL) was added to the organic solution under vigorous agitation for 45 min. The organic phase was separated, washed with water (3 x 5 mL), brine (3 mL) and dried on Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. After solvent distillation, the crude was flash chromatographed, on silica gel, to give the target *meso*-19 (88%) product as colorless oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 7.78 (m, 4H), 7.35 (m, 4H), 3.81 (dd, J = 10.2 and 4.5 Hz, 2H), 3.87 (dd, J = 10.2 and 6.2 Hz, 2H), 2.71 (m, 2H), 2.45 (s, 6H), 1.06 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 144.8, 132.7, 129.8, 127.9, 72.5, 71.9, 21.6, 17.5.

(25,2'S)-Oxybis(propane-2,1-diyl) bis(4-methylbenzenesulfonate), (5,5)-19. A solid product was recovered by filtration from the above reaction mixture, then dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (10 mL). The organic solution was washed with 2N HCl aq. (2 mL), water (2 x 2 mL) and brine (2 mL). The organic solution was dried on Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and the solvent distilled. The crude was crystallized from MeOH (4 mL g<sup>-1</sup>) to give (*S*,*S*)-19 (86%), as white solid material;  $[\alpha]_D^{23}$  +3.8 (c 1.3, CHCl<sub>3</sub>), [lit.<sup>13</sup>  $[\alpha]_D^{29}$ 

<sup>11 (+)-(</sup>*R*)-**12d**, light yellow oil;  $[\alpha]_{D}^{22}$  +1.1 (c 1.1, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.22 (m, 2H), 7.08(m, 2H), 2.69 (dd, *J* = 12.6 and 5.6 Hz, 1H), 2.65 (dd, *J* = 13.5 and 6.3 Hz, 1H), 2.53 (dd, *J* = 12.6 and 7.1 Hz, 1H), 2.37 (dd, *J* = 13.5 and 8.0 Hz, 1H), 2.27 (bs, 2H), 1.81 (m, 1H), 1.62 (q, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.26 (s, 6H), 0.90 (d, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 3H), 0.67 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (150 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  146.8, 137.5, 128.6, 125.7, 47.9, 40.4, 38.2, 37.5, 36.8, 28.4 (2 C's), 17.4, 9.1.

<sup>12 (-)-(</sup>*S*)-**12d**, light orange oil;  $[\alpha]_D^{22}$  –1.2 (c 0.9, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR were identical to those of its enantiomer

<sup>13</sup> K. Ogasahara, K. Hirose, Y. Tobe and K. Naemura, J. Chem. Soc., Perkin Trans. 1, 1997, 3227-3236

+3.4 (c 0.99, CHCl<sub>3</sub>)]; <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra coincided with those previously reported;<sup>13</sup> <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  ppm 144.9, 132.9, 129.8, 127.9, 73.0, 72.5, 21.6, 17.1.

**Preparation of diiodo derivatives** *meso-* and (*S*,*S*)-20 from the corresponding tosyl derivatives 19: general procedure. To a saturated solution of NaI (4 eq) in dry acetone (0.5 mL mmol<sup>-1</sup>), under stirring and nitrogen, ditosyl derivative was added. The reaction was heated to 60 °C for 18 hours. The suspension was diluted with  $Et_2O$  and washed with and brine and dried with MgSO<sub>4</sub>.

*meso*-1-lodo-2-((1-iodopropan-2-yl)oxy)propane, *meso*-20. *Meso*-20 (85% yield) was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel to give a light red oil; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  3.58 (m, 2H), 3.28 (dd, *J* = 10.1 and 5.2 Hz, 2H), 3.16 (dd, *J* = 10.1 and 6.2 Hz, 2H), 1.29 (d, J = 6.1 Hz, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  73.8, 20.8, 11.2.

(S)-1-Iodo-2-(((S)-1-iodopropan-2-yl)oxy)propane, (S,S)-20. (S,S)-20 (85%) was purified as its *meso*-isomer;  $[\alpha]_D^{23}$  +11.0 (c 2.0, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  3.57 (m, 2H), 3.18 (m, 4H), 1.29 (d, J = 6.1 Hz, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  73.8, 21.1, 11.3.









































INDEX	FREQUENCY	PPM	HEIGHT
1	23982.3	159.032	11.5
2	23038.8	152.776	14.9
3	22667.7	150.314	23.8
4	22182.7	147.098	21.5
5	21545.3	142.872	16.2
6	20594.1	136.564	22.4
7	20436.7	135.520	12.7
8	19856.2	131.671	13.7
9	19642.4	130.253	13.2
10	19518.7	129.433	46.6
11	19491.6	129.253	67.8
12	19454.1	129.004	24.7
13	19396.6	128.623	13.1
14	19361.3	128.389	25.4
15	19325.9	128.154	44.3
16	19176.2	127.162	23.6
17	19065.2	126.426	23.5
18	18556.5	123.052	21.2
19	18543.8	122.968	20.3
20	18525.0	122.843	22.6
21	17957.7	119.082	24.3
22	17258.4	114.445	14.9
23	17132.0	113.606	59.3
24	12463.5	82.648	23.6
25	11643.8	77.212	38.8
26	11611.7	77.000	39.8
27	11579.7	76.788	39.5
28	10932.9	72.498	31.6
29	10264.0	68.063	25.5
30	8314.2	55.133	32.9
31	8109.8	53.778	25.0
32	6286.5	41.687	29.5
33	5103.9	33.845	21.9
34	4322.9	28.666	22.8

















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meso-18













19-meso













meso-20



1

meso-20





















Area	Percent	Report	

Sort	ed By		:	Sigr	nal
Mult	iplier:			:	1.0000
Dilu	tion:			:	1.0000
Use	Multiplier	&	Dilution	Factor	with ISTDs

Signal 1: DAD1 D, Sig=230,16 Ref=360,100

Peak	RetTime	Туре	Width	Area	Height	Area
#	[min]		[min]	[mAU*s]	[mAU]	00
1	26.262	BV	0.5849	545.34912	13.68555	2.7346
2	27.654	VB	0.6806	1.93973e4	439.73160	97.2654

Totals : 1.99426e4 453.41715


















## Crystal data for compound (+)-(S)-14d

Molecular formula: C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>19</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>S;  $M_r = 349.43$ , monoclinic, space group P2<sub>1</sub> (4), a = 7.1265(7), b =28.922(3), c = 11.2917(10) Å,  $\beta = 106.2280(10)$ ; V = 2234.6(4) Å<sup>3</sup>, T = 298(2) K, Z = 4,  $\rho_c = 1.039$ g cm<sup>-3</sup>, F(000) = 736, graphite-monochromated Mo<sub>Ka</sub> radiation ( $\lambda = 0.71073$  Å),  $\mu(Mo_{Ka}) = 0.156$ mm<sup>-1</sup>, colourless needle ( $0.45 \times 0.20 \times 0.20$  mm<sup>3</sup>), empirical absorption correction with SADABS (transmission factors: 0.933 - 0.970), 2400 frames, exposure time 15 s,  $1.408 \le \theta \le 25.50$ ,  $-8 \le h \le 10^{-10}$ 8,  $-35 \le k \le 35$ ,  $-13 \le l \le 13$ , 22626 reflections collected, 8312 independent reflections ( $R_{int} =$ 0.0243), solution by intrinsic phasing method and subsequent Fourier syntheses, full-matrix leastsquares on  $F_0^2$  (SHELXL-2014/7), hydrogen atoms refined with a riding model, data / restraints / parameters = 8312/4/415,  $S(F^2) = 0.879$ , R(F) = 0.1279 and  $wR(F^2) = 0.2878$  on all data, R(F) = 0.28780.0933 and  $wR(F^2) = 0.2460$  for 5133 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$ , weighting scheme  $w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_0^2) + \sigma^2(F_0^2)]$  $(0.1745P)^2 + 1.7294P$ ] where  $P = (F_0^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$ , largest difference peak and hole 0.61 and -0.274 e  $Å^{-3}$ . Flack parameter: 0.09(2) for S absolute configuration (C9 and C58). The unit cell contains two independent molecules related by a pseudo-symmetry centre. The t-amyl groups were highly disordered and cannot be fully modelled. The terminal methyl of the ethyl group cannot be localized due to disorder. MS data confirmed the correct mass of the molecule. Crystallographic data have been deposited with the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre as supplementary publication no. CCDC-1522373 (deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk).