Supplementary information for

# Enantioselective Bifunctional Iminophosphorane Catalyzed Sulfa-Michael Addition of Alkyl Thiols to Unactivated β-Substituted-α,β-Unsaturated Esters

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#### **1** Supplementary Methods

#### 1.1 General Information

#### **Solvents and Reagents**

Concentration under reduced pressure was performed by rotary evaporation at the appropriate pressure and temperature. Reagents used were obtained from commercial suppliers or purified according to standard procedures. Petroleum ether refers to distilled light petroleum of fraction 30 - 40 °C. Anhydrous toluene, tetrahydrofuran, dichloromethane and diethyl ether were dried by filtration through activated alumina (powder ~150 mesh, pore size 58 Å, basic, Sigma-Aldrich) columns. Dimethyl sulfoxide and dimethylformamide were used as supplied. Deuterated solvents were used as supplied.

#### Chromatography

Reactions were monitored by thin layer chromatography (TLC) using Merck silica gel 60  $F_{254}$  plates and visualized by fluorescence quenching under UV light. In addition, TLC plates were stained with potassium permanganate solution. Flash column chromatography (FCC) was performed on VWR 60 silica gel 40 - 63 µm using technical grade solvents that were used as supplied.

#### Instrumentation

Melting points were obtained on a Leica Galen III Hot-stage melting point apparatus and microscope and on a Kofler hot block and are reported uncorrected. NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker Spectrospin spectrometer operating at 200, 400 or 500 MHz (<sup>1</sup>H acquisitions), 100 or 125 MHz (<sup>13</sup>C acquisitions), 377 MHz (<sup>19</sup>F acquisitions) and 162 MHz (<sup>31</sup>P acquisitions). Chemical shifts ( $\delta$ ) are reported in ppm with the solvent resonance as the internal standard (e.g. Chloroform  $\delta$  7.27 ppm for <sup>1</sup>H and 77.0 ppm for <sup>13</sup>C). Coupling constants (*J*) are reported in hertz (Hz), and rounded to the nearest 0.5 Hz. Data are reported as follows: multiplicity [s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, dd = doublet of doublets, ddd = doublet of doublets of doublets, td = triplet of doublets, m = multiplet, br = broad], coupling constants in Hz, integration. Two-dimensional spectroscopy (COSY, HSQC

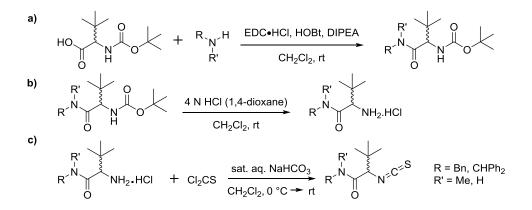
and HMBC) was used to assist in the assignment and the data is not reported. High-resolution mass spectra (ESI) were recorded on Bruker  $\mu$ TOF mass spectrometer. Infrared spectra were recorded on a Bruker Tensor 27 FT-IR spectrometer as a thin film. Only selected maximum absorbances are reported. Optical rotations were recorded using a Perkin Elmer 341 polarimeter;  $[\alpha]_D^T$  values are reported in 10<sup>-1</sup> deg cm<sup>2</sup> g<sup>-1</sup>; concentrations (c) are quoted in g/100 mL; D refers to the D-line of sodium (589 nm); temperatures (T) are given in degrees Celsius (°C). (+) and (–) compound number prefixes indicate the sign of the optical rotation. The enantiomeric excesses were determined by HPLC analysis on an Agilent 1200 Series instrument employing a chiral stationary phase column specified in the individual experiment and by comparing the samples with the appropriate racemic mixtures.

#### 1.2 Synthesis and characterization of catalysts and precursors

Catalysts  $1a^1$  and  $1b-d^2$  were prepared according to literature procedures.

#### 1.2.1 Synthesis of Isothiocyanate Precursors to Catalysts 1b - g

General Procedure A for the synthesis of isothiocyanate precursors



According to a literature procedure,<sup>3</sup>

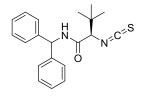
**a)** To a stirred solution of EDC hydrochloride (295 mg, 1.54 mmol, 1.10 eq) and 1-hydroxybenzotriazole hydrate (208 mg, 1.54 mmol, 1.10 eq) in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (10 mL) under a N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere at rt was added *N*,*N*-diisopropylethylamine (0.29 mL, 2.1 mmol, 1.5 eq) and the corresponding *amine* (1.54 mmol, 1.10 eq) sequentially. Boc-L-*tert* leucine (324 mg, 1.4 mmol, 1.00 eq) was added in one portion and the reaction mixture was stirred for 20 h. The reaction was diluted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (10 mL), washed with 0.5 N HCl (2 x 10 mL) and the aqueous phase extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (5 mL). The combined organic was washed with sat. aq. NaHCO<sub>3</sub>

(10 mL) and brine (10 mL), dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>), filtered and concentrated *in vacuo* to afford the product, which was used crude without further purification.

**b**) To a vigorously stirred solution of the crude product in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (5.0 mL) under a  $N_2$  atmosphere at 0 °C was added 4 N HCl in 1,4-dioxane (3.4 mL, 13.4 mmol, 9.6 eq) over 15 min. The reaction mixture was stirred for 3.5 h and concentrated *in vacuo* to afford the product which was used crude without further purification.

c) To a vigorously stirred solution of the crude product in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (20 mL) under a  $N_2$  atmosphere at 0 °C was added sat. aq. NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (20 mL), and the biphasic mixture was stirred for 20 min. Stirring was stopped and thiophosgene (160 µL, 2.10 mmol, 1.5 eq) was added to the organic layer. Immediately, vigorous stirring was restored and the mixture allowed to warm to rt over 30 min. The organic phase was extracted with  $CH_2Cl_2$  (2 x 10 mL), washed with brine (10 mL), dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>), filtered and concentrated *in vacuo* to afford the crude product.

#### (2R)-N-(Diphenylmethyl)-2-isothiocyanato-3,3-dimethylbutanamide 6



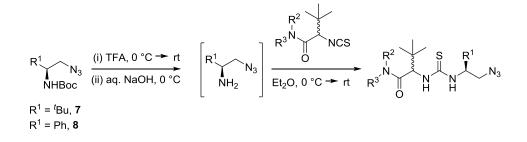
*N*-Boc-D-*tert*-leucine (323 mg, 1.40 mmol, 1.00 eq) was reacted with benzhydrylamine (282  $\mu$ L, 1.54 mmol, 1.10 eq) according to General Procedure A to afford the title compound **6** as a pale yellow amorphous solid in 89% yield (421 mg).

 $[\alpha]_{D}^{20} = -40.5$  (*c* 1.00, CHCl<sub>3</sub>), lit  $[\alpha]_{D}^{20} = +47.5$  (*c* 0.72, CHCl<sub>3</sub>) for (*S*)-**6**;<sup>2</sup> all other characterisation data are in the accordance to that published in the literature.<sup>2</sup>

#### 1.2.2 Synthesis of Azide Precursors to Catalysts 1b-g

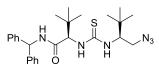
*N*-Boc amino azides 7 and *ent*-8 were synthesised according to literature procedures.<sup>1</sup>

#### General Procedure B for the synthesis of azide precursors to catalysts 1b-1g



To the N-Boc protected amino azide 7 or 8 (0.77 mmol, 1.0 eq) at 0 °C was added trifluoroacetic acid (0.50 mL, 6.5 mmol) dropwise. The reaction mixture was warmed to rt and stirred for 2 h, and the volatiles removed by N<sub>2</sub> stream. The crude material was dissolved in Et<sub>2</sub>O/H<sub>2</sub>O (1:1 v/v, 8 mL) and adjusted to pH 14 by the addition of sodium hydroxide at 0 °C. The organic phase was extracted using Et<sub>2</sub>O (2 x 5 mL), washed with brine (5 mL), dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), filtered, and concentrated to 4 mL under a N<sub>2</sub> stream. The solution was cooled to 0 °C and the corresponding isothiocyanate (0.70 mmol, 1.0 eq) added. The reaction mixture was then warmed to rt and stirred for 24 h. Volatiles were removed by N<sub>2</sub> stream and the crude product was purified by FCC to afford the corresponding azide.

### (2R)-2-({[(2S)-1-Azido-3,3-dimethylbutan-2-yl]carbamothioyl}amino)-N-(diphenylmethyl)-3,3-dimethylbutanamide 9



Azide 7 (185 mg, 0.77 mmol, 1.10 eq) was reacted with  $Ph \xrightarrow{H}_{Ph} \xrightarrow{N}_{Qh} \xrightarrow{N}_{H} \xrightarrow{N}_{H} \xrightarrow{N}_{N}$  isothiocyanate **6** (237 mg, 0.70 mmol, 1.00 eq) according to General Procedure B. The reaction mixture was purified by FCC

(petroleum ether/EtOAc = 4/1 to 3/2) to afford the title compound 9 as a colourless solid in 60% yield (202 mg).

**M.P.** = 227-230 °C;  $[\alpha]_{D}^{23}$  = +4.1 (*c* 1.00, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>**H** NMR (MeOD-d<sub>4</sub>, 400 MHz)  $\delta$  (ppm): 8.76 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 7.42 - 7.04 (m, 10 H), 6.19 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 5.01 (s, 1 H), 4.66 (m, 1 H), 3.55 (dd, J = 13.0, 4.0 Hz, 1 H), 3.32 (dd, J = 13.0, 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 1.01 (s, 18 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (MeOD-d<sub>4</sub>, 125 MHz) δ (ppm): 186.2, 172.7, 143.2, 142.9, 129.7, 129.5, 129.4, 128.8, 128.6, 128.3, 66.6, 63.1, 58.4, 53.1, 36.1, 35.8, 27.5, 27.4; HRMS (ESI+) exact mass

calculated for  $[M+Na]^+$  (C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>36</sub>N<sub>6</sub>NaOS) requires *m/z* 503.2564, found *m/z* 503.2556; **IR** (film)  $v_{max}$ /cm<sup>-1</sup>: 3304 (thiourea/amide NH), 2960, 2099, 1637 (C=O), 1533 (C=S), 1222, 1100, 756, 698.

# (2*R*)-2-({[(2*S*)-1-azido-3,3-dimethylbutan-2-yl]carbamothioyl}amino)-*N*-benzyl- 3,3dimethylbutanamide 10

Azide **7** (185 mg, 0.77 mmol, 1.10 eq) was reacted with (2*R*)-*N*benzyl-2-isothiocyanato-*N*,3,3-trimethylbutanamide<sup>2</sup> (183 mg, 0.70 mmol, 1.00 eq) according to General Procedure B. The reaction mixture was purified by FCC (petroleum ether/EtOAc = 4/1 to 3/2) to afford the title compound **10** as an off white solid in 50% yield (154 mg).

**M.P.** = 164 - 166 °C;  $[\alpha]_D^{23}$  = -26.0 (*c* 1.0, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (MeOD-d<sub>4</sub>, 400 MHz)  $\delta$  (ppm): 8.39 (br. s, 1 H), 7.31 - 7.18 (m, 5 H), 4.95 (s, 1 H), 4.65 - 4.57 (m, 1 H), 4.40 - 4.30 (m, 2 H), 3.50 (dd, *J* = 12.5, 4.0 Hz, 1 H), 3.34 - 3.26 (m, 1 H), 1.00 (s, 9 H), 0.96 (s, 9 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, MeOD-d<sub>4</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm): 184.5, 171.7, 138.4, 128.0, 127.4, 126.7, 65.3, 61.5, 51.6, 42.6, 34.5, 34.3, 26.0, 25.8; **HRMS** (EI+) exact mass calculated for [M+Na]+ (C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>32</sub>N<sub>6</sub>NaOS) requires *m/z* 427.2258, found *m/z* 427.2234; **IR** (film) v<sub>max</sub>/cm-1: 3272, 2963, 2095, 1644, 1532, 697.

# (2*R*)-2-({[(1*S*)-2-Azido-1-phenylethyl]carbamothioyl}amino)-*N*-(diphenylmethyl)-3,3dimethylbutanamide 11

Azide **8** (403 mg, 1.54 mmol, 1.10 eq) was reacted with isothiocyanate **6** (237 mg, 1.40 mmol, 1.00 eq) according to General Procedure B. The reaction mixture was purified by FCC (petroleum

ether/EtOAc = 4/1 to 3/2) to afford the title compound **11** as a colourless solid in 60% yield (420 mg).

**M.P.** = 188-190 °C;  $[\alpha]_D^{23}$  = +23.4 (*c* = 1.02, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (MeOD-d<sub>4</sub>, 400 MHz)  $\delta$  (ppm): 8.87 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.43 - 7.20 (m, 15 H), 6.22 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 1 H), 5.73 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 1 H), 4.95 (s, 1 H), 3.74 (dd, *J* = 12.5, 6.0 Hz, 1 H), 3.66 (dd, *J* = 12.5, 6.0 Hz, 1 H), 0.98 (s, 9 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (MeOD-d<sub>4</sub>, 100 MHz)  $\delta$  (ppm): 181.6, 171.6, 139.9, 139.0, 138.0,

128.7, 128.5, 128.3, 128.3, 127.8, 127.7, 127.5, 127.1, 127.0, 65.4, 57.6, 57.3, 55.4, 34.7, 26.3; **HRMS** (ES+) exact mass calculated for  $[M+Na]^+$  (C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>36</sub>N<sub>6</sub>NaOS) requires *m/z* 523.2358, found *m/z* 523.2237; **IR** (film)  $v_{max}/cm^{-1}$ : 3236 (thiourea/amide NH), 2970, 2107, 1666 (C=O), 1532 (C=S), 1508, 1339, 1279, 1100, 751, 699, 644, 609.

#### General Procedure C for the in situ Generation of Iminophosphorane Catalysts

$$R-N_3 + PR'_3 \xrightarrow{R-N}_{Et_2O, rt} R' R'$$

To the corresponding *organoazide* (0.020 mmol, 1.0 eq) and *phosphine* (0.020 mmol, 1.0 eq) under an Ar atmosphere was added  $Et_2O$  (0.1 mL), and the reaction mixture was stirred at rt for 24 h. The iminophosphorane product was confirmed by LRMS and TLC, and the volatiles were removed by a N<sub>2</sub> stream to yield the crude product, which was used as a catalyst without further purification.

#### **1.3** Synthesis of β-Substituted α,β-Unsaturated Esters 2

Crotonic esters 2a - e are commercially available and were used as supplied.

#### General Procedure D for the synthesis of $\beta$ -substituted $\alpha$ , $\beta$ -unsaturated esters 2g - m

$$(EtO)_2 P \xrightarrow{||} Ot-Bu + P \xrightarrow{O} 3 M MeMgCl in THF OTHF, reflux, 18 h R Ot-Bu$$

MeMgCl (3 M in THF, 1.67 mL, 5.0 mmol) was added dropwise to a stirred solution *tert*butyl diethylphosphonoacetate (1.15 mL, 5.00 mmol) in THF (10 mL) at rt and stirred for 15 min. A solution of the *aldehyde* (5.0 mmol, 1.0 eq) in THF (5 mL) was then added *via* cannula and the reaction mixture heated at reflux for 18 h whereupon the reaction mixture was cooled to rt, quenched with sat aq NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (10 mL) and extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (3 × 10 mL). The combined organic layers were then washed with brine (15 mL), dried and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude products were purified by flash column chromatography (Petroleum ether : Et<sub>2</sub>O mixtures) to afford the desired  $\beta$ -substituted  $\alpha$ -, $\beta$ -unsaturated esters.  $\beta$ -Substituted  $\alpha$ -, $\beta$ -unsaturated esters **2f**,<sup>4</sup> **2h**,<sup>6</sup> **2i**,<sup>7</sup> **2j**,<sup>8</sup> have been synthesised and characterised previously in the literature. Their physical and spectroscopic properties are in agreement to those reported.

#### tert-Butyl (E)-pent-2-enoate 2g

Synthesised on a 5.0 mmol scale according to General Procedure **D** using  $\underbrace{O}_{Ot-Bu}$  *tert*-butyl diethylphosphonoacetate (1.15 mL, 5.0 mmol) and propionaldehyde (0.39 mL, 5.5 mmol) to afford the title compound **2g** as a colourless oil (720 mg, 92% yield). All spectroscopic data are consistent to that published in the literature.<sup>5</sup>

#### tert-Butyl (E)-5-((tert-butoxycarbonyl)amino)pent-2-enoate 2k

BocHN Synthesised on a 3.75 mmol scale according to General Procedure **D** using *tert*-butyl diethylphosphonoacetate (0.87 mL, 3.75 mmol) and *tert*-butyl (3-oxopropyl) carbamate<sup>9</sup> (645 mg, 3.75 mmol) to afford the title compound **2k** as a colourless oil (500 mg, 49% yield). All spectroscopic data are consistent to that reported in the literature.<sup>10</sup>

#### tert-Butyl (E)-5-((tert-butyldimethylsilyl)oxy)pent-2-enoate 2l

Synthesised on a 3.75 mmol scale according to General Procedure **D** using *tert*-butyl diethylphosphonoacetate (1.04 mL, 4.50 mmol) and 3-((*tert*-butyldimethylsilyl)oxy)propanal<sup>11</sup> (846 mg, 4.50 mmol) to afford the title compound **21** as a colourless oil (660 mg, 51% yield). All spectroscopic data are consistent to that reported in the literature.<sup>12</sup>

0 ↓ 0 <i>t</i> -Bu 2e 3a	SH	0 mol% <b>1g</b>	S Ot-Bu	Ph Ph	H $h$ $O$ $MP = p$
	Entry	Solvent	Yield / % <sup>a</sup>	er <sup>b</sup>	-
	1	Toluene	94	92:8	7
	2	TBME	92	92:8	
	3	Xylene	91	92:8	
	4	THF	89	92:8	
	5	EtOAc	94	92:8	
	6	CHCl <sub>3</sub>	23	84:16	
	7	$CH_2Cl_2$	Trace	-	
	8	Hexane	92	88:12	
	9	DMF	96	52:48	
	10	$Et_2O$	95	94:6	

#### 1.4 Optimisation of Conditions for the Sulfa-Michael Addition

**Table SI.1:** Solvent optimization for the sulfa-Michael addition of 1-propanethiol **3a** (0.30 mmol) to *tert*-butyl crotonate **2e** (0.10 mmol), with 10 mol% catalyst **1g**. <sup>a</sup> Isolated yield. <sup>b</sup> Determined by HPLC analysis on a chiral stationary phase.

Entry	Temperature / °C	Time /h	Yield / % <sup>a</sup>	er <sup>b</sup>
1	RT	8	95	94:6
$2^{c}$	0	24	94	96:4
$3^{\rm c}$	-15	72	94	97:3

**Table SI.2:** Temperature optimization for the sulfa-Michael addition of 1-propanethiol **3a** (0.30 mmol) to *tert*butyl crotonate **2e** (0.10 mmol), with 10 mol% catalyst **1g** in 0.5 M Et<sub>2</sub>O. <sup>a</sup> Isolated yield. <sup>b</sup> Determined by HPLC analysis on a chiral stationary phase. <sup>c</sup> Reaction performed with 0.20 mmol **2e**.

#### 1.5 Synthesis and Characterisation of β-Substituted, β-Mercaptoesters 4

## General Procedure E for the Enantioselective Sulfa-Michael Addition of Alkyl Thiols to β-Substituted α-,β-Unsaturated Esters 4

Azide **11** (10.0 mg, 0.020 mmol, 0.10 eq) and tris(4-methoxyphenyl)phosphine (7.0 mg, 0.020 mmol, 0.10 eq) were stirred in diethyl ether (0.2 mL) under an argon atmosphere in a sealed vial at room temperature for 24 h. Formation of the *in situ* generated catalyst was confirmed by LRMS and TLC analysis and the volatiles were removed under a N<sub>2</sub> stream. To the crude catalyst was added sequentially Et<sub>2</sub>O (0.40 mL), the desired  $\beta$ -substituted  $\alpha$ -, $\beta$ -unsaturated ester **2** (0.20 mmol, 1.0 eq) under an Ar atmosphere. The reaction mixture was cooled to 0 °C, then the desired *thiol* **3** (0.60 mmol, 3.0 eq) was added and stirring was maintained for 24 h (or the time specified in the individual experiment as determined by TLC analysis). The reaction mixture was quenched by the addition of 1.0 M AcOH (in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 0.1 mL), the volatiles were removed under a stream of N<sub>2</sub> and purification by flash column chromatography (petroleum ether / Et<sub>2</sub>O mixtures) afforded the  $\beta$ -mercaptoesters **4**.<sup>a</sup>

#### Methyl (S)-3-(propylthio)butanoate 4a

To a solution of methyl crotonate **2a** (21 µL, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 eq) and **1g**   $M_{e}$  (0.020 mmol, 0.10 eq) in toluene (0.40 mL) at RT was added 1propanethiol **3a** (54 µL, 0.60 mmol, 3.0 eq) according a modified General Procedure **E**. The product was purified by FCC (99:1 petrol: Et<sub>2</sub>O) to afford **4a** as a colourless oil in >99% yield (35.2 mg) and 81:19 er [determined by HPLC, chiralpak IA, hexane/isopropanol 99.5:0.5,  $\lambda$  220 nm, 1.0mL/min, t (major) = 12.67 min, t (minor) = 18.01 min].

 $[\alpha]_{D}^{23}$  = +4.8 (*c* 1.00, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz)  $\delta$  (ppm): 3.70 (s, 3 H), 3.24-3.16 (m, 1 H), 2.64 (dd, *J* = 15.5, 6.5 Hz, 1 H), 2.53 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2 H), 2.46 (dd, *J* = 15.5, 8.5 Hz, 1 H), 1.62 (sxt, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2 H), 1.33 (d, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 3 H), 1.26 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 3 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz)  $\delta$  (ppm): 172.0, 51.7, 42.2, 36.1, 32.7, 23.0, 21.5, 13.6; HRMS (ESI+) mass calculated for [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> (C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>16</sub>NaO<sub>2</sub>S) requires *m/z* 199.0763, found *m/z* 199.0757; **IR** (film)  $v_{max}/cm^{-1}$ : 2963, 1738, 1437, 1222, 1161, 913, 734.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Racemic products for HPLC/GC analysis were formed using a modification of General Procedure **E**, with 10 mol% BEMP (2-*tert*-butylimino-2-diethylamino-1,3-dimethylperhydro-1,3,2-diazaphosphorine) in 0.5 M toluene, and left until completion.

#### Ethyl (S)-3-(propylthio)butanoate 4b

To a solution of ethyl crotonate **2b** (25 µL, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 eq) and **1g** (0.020 mmol, 0.10 eq) in toluene (0.40 mL) at RT was added 1-propanethiol **3a** (54 µL, 0.60 mmol, 3.0 eq) according to modified General Procedure **E**. The product was purified by FCC (99:1 petrol: Et<sub>2</sub>O) to afford **4b** as a colourless oil in 95% yield (36.1 mg) and 84:16 er [determined by HPLC, chiralpak IA, hexane/isopropanol 100:0,  $\lambda$  220 nm, 1.0 mL/min, t (minor) = 16.56 min, t (major) = 18.42 min].

 $[\alpha]_{D}^{23} = +4.0 \ (c \ 0.60, \text{ CHCl}_3); {}^{1}\text{H} \text{ NMR} \ (\text{CDCl}_3, 400 \text{ MHz}) \delta \ (\text{ppm}): 4.15 \ (\text{q}, J = 7.0 \text{ Hz}, 2 \text{ H}), 3.20 - 3.13 \ (\text{m}, 1 \text{ H}), 2.61 \ (\text{dd}, J = 15.5, 6.0 \text{ Hz}, 1 \text{ H}), 2.55 - 2.48 \ (\text{m}, 2 \text{ H}), 2.42 \ (\text{dd}, J = 15.5, 8.5 \text{ Hz}, 1 \text{ H}), 1.60 \ (\text{sxt}, J = 7.5 \text{ Hz}, 2 \text{ H}), 1.31 \ (\text{d}, J = 7.0 \text{ Hz}, 3 \text{ H}), 1.26 \ (\text{d}, J = 14.0 \text{ Hz}, 3 \text{ H}), 0.96 \ (\text{t}, J = 7.0 \text{ Hz}, 3 \text{ H}); {}^{13}\text{C} \text{ NMR} \ (\text{CDCl}_3, 400 \text{ MHz}) \delta \ (\text{ppm}): 171.6, 60.5, 42.4, 36.1, 32.7, 23.0, 21.4, 14.2, 13.5; \text{ HRMS} \ (\text{ESI+}) \text{ mass calculated for } [\text{M+Na}]^+ \ (\text{C}_9\text{H}_{18}\text{NaO}_2\text{S}) \text{ requires } m/z \ 213.0920, \text{ found } m/z \ 213.0922; \text{ IR} \ (\text{film}) \ v_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}: 2968, 1729, 1216, 1169, 754, 667.$ 

#### Isopropyl (S)-3-(propylthio)butanoate 4c

To a solution of isopropyl crotonate **2c** (25.6 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 eq) and **1g** (0.020 mmol, 0.10 eq) in toluene (0.40 mL) at RT was added 1-propanethiol **3a** (54  $\mu$ L, 0.60 mmol, 3.0 eq) according to modified General Procedure **E**. The product was purified by FCC (99:1 petrol: Et<sub>2</sub>O) to afford **4c** as a colourless oil in >99% yield (41 mg) and 85:15 er [determined by HPLC, chiralpak AD-H, hexane/isopropanol 99:1,  $\lambda$  220 nm, 1.0 mL/min, t (major) = 7.45 min, t (minor) = 7.81 min].

 $[a]_{D}^{23}$  = +1.6 (*c* 0.45, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz)  $\delta$  (ppm): 5.04 (spt, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 1 H), 3.19 (dquin, *J* = 8.0, 6.5 Hz, 1 H), 2.59 (dd, *J* = 15.0, 6.5 Hz, 1 H), 2.53 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2 H), 2.40 (dd, *J* = 15.0, 8.5 Hz, 1 H), 1.61 (sxt, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2 H), 1.32 (d, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 3 H), 1.25 (d, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 6 H), 0.99 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 3 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz)  $\delta$  (ppm): 171.1, 67.9, 42.7, 36.2, 32.6, 23.0, 21.8, 21.4, 13.6; HRMS (ESI+) mass calculated for [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> (C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>20</sub>NaO<sub>2</sub>S) requires *m*/*z* 227.1076, found *m*/*z* 227.1084; **IR** (film) v<sub>max</sub>/cm<sup>-1</sup>: 2926, 1722, 1216, 1106, 755.

#### Benzyl (S)-3-(propylthio)butanoate 4d

To a solution of benzyl crotonate **2d** (35.2 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 eq) and **1g**   $\mathcal{OBn}$  (0.020 mmol, 0.10 eq) in toluene (0.40 mL) at RT was added 1propanethiol **3a** (54 µL, 0.60 mmol, 3.0 eq) according to modified General Procedure **E**. The product was purified by FCC (99:1 petrol: Et<sub>2</sub>O) to afford **4d** as a colourless oil in >99% yield (50.3 mg) and 81:19 er [determined by HPLC, chiralpak AD-H, hexane/isopropanol 99:1,  $\lambda$  220 nm, 1.0 mL/min, t (major) = 13.94 min, t (minor) = 15.87 min].

 $[a]_{D}^{23} = 0$  (c 0.62, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz)  $\delta$  (ppm): 7.38-7.34 (m, 5 H), 5.05 (s, 2 H), 3.13 - 3.10 (m, 1 H), 2.62 (dd, J = 15.5, 6.5 Hz, 1 H), 2.44-2.40 (m, 3 H), 1.50 (sxt, J = 7.5 Hz, 2 H), 1.23 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 3 H), 0.88 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 3 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz)  $\delta$  (ppm): 171.4, 135.8, 128.6, 128.3<sup>b</sup>, 66.4, 42.4, 36.1, 32.7, 23.0, 21.5, 15.3; HRMS (ESI+) mass calculated for [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> (C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>20</sub>NaO<sub>2</sub>S) requires *m/z* 275.1076, found *m/z* 275.1079; IR (film)  $v_{max}/cm^{-1}$ : 2962, 1731, 1216, 1156, 753, 697, 668.

#### tert-Butyl (S)-3-(propylthio)butanoate 4e

To a solution of *tert*-butyl crotonate **2e** (32 µL, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 eq) and **1g**   $O^{t}Bu$  (0.020 mmol, 0.10 eq) in Et<sub>2</sub>O (0.40 mL) at -15 °C was added 1propanethiol **3a** (54 µL, 0.60 mmol, 3.0 eq) and stirring was maintained for 72 h according a modified modified General Procedure **E**. The product was purified by FCC (99:1 petrol: Et<sub>2</sub>O) to afford **4e** as a colourless oil in 94% yield (41 mg) and 97:3 er [determined by HPLC, chiralpak IA, hexane/isopropanol 100:0,  $\lambda$  220 nm, 1.0 mL/min, t (major) = 9.45 min, t (minor) = 11.34 min].

 $[a]_{D}^{23} = +5.5$  (c 1.85, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz)  $\delta$  (ppm): 3.22 – 3.10 (m, 1 H), 2.57-2.51 (m, 3 H), 2.34 (dd, J = 15.0, 8.5 Hz, 1 H), 1.61 (sxt, J = 7.0 Hz, 2 H), 1.46 (s, 9 H), 1.32 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 3 H), 1.26 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 3 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz)  $\delta$  (ppm): 170.9, 80.7, 43.6, 36.3, 32.6, 28.1, 23.0, 21.3, 13.6; HRMS (FI+) mass calculated for [M]<sup>+</sup> (C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>22</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S) requires *m*/*z* 218.1341, found *m*/*z* 218.1373; **IR** (film)  $v_{max}$ /cm<sup>-1</sup>: 2966, 1725, 1368, 1216, 1148, 753, 667.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup> One of the Ar<u>C</u>H is missing, probably due to overlap of the aromatic carbon signals.

#### tert-Butyl (S)-3-(pentylthio)butanoate 4f

To a solution of *tert*-butyl crotonate **2e** (32 µL, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 eq) and  $\mathbf{1g}$  (0.020 mmol, 0.10 eq) in Et<sub>2</sub>O (0.40 mL) at 0 °C was added 1pentanethiol **3b** (74 µL, 0.60 mmol, 3.00 eq) according General Procedure **E**. The reaction mixture was purified by FCC (petroleum ether: Et<sub>2</sub>O 99:1) to afford **4f** as a colourless oil in 98% yield (48 mg) and 95:5 er [determined by HPLC, chiralpak IA hexane/isopropanol 100:0,  $\lambda$  220 nm, 1.0 mL/min, t (major) = 11.09 min, t (minor) = 13.30 min].

 $[α]_D^{23}$  = +4.8 (*c* 1.57, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) δ (ppm): 3.19 - 3.10 (m, 1 H), 2.56 - 2.48 (m, 3 H), 2.32 (dd, *J* = 15.0, 8.5 Hz, 1 H), 1.63 - 1.53 (m, 2 H), 1.45 (s, 9 H), 1.39-1.29 (m, 4 H), 1.30 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3 H), 0.89 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz) δ (ppm): 171.0, 80.8, 43.7, 36.5, 31.3, 30.7, 29.5, 28.2, 22.4, 21.5, 14.1; HRMS (ESI+) mass calculated for [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> (C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>26</sub>O<sub>2</sub>NaS) requires *m*/*z* 269.1546, found *m*/*z* 269.1546; **IR** (film) v<sub>max</sub>/cm<sup>-1</sup>: 2929, 1727, 1368, 1149, 907, 731, 648.

#### tert-Butyl (S)-3-(isopropylthio)butanoate 4g

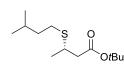


To a solution of *tert*-butyl crotonate 2e (32 µL, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 eq) and 1g (0.020 mmol, 0.10 eq) in Et<sub>2</sub>O (0.40 mL) at 0 °C was added 2-propanethiol 3c (56 µL, 0.60 mmol, 3.0 eq) according General Procedure E. The reaction

mixture was purified by FCC (petroleum ether: Et<sub>2</sub>O 99:1) to afford **4g** as a colourless oil in 86% yield (37.5 mg) and 96:4 er [determined by GC, Supelco  $\beta$ -dex<sup>TM</sup> 325, 30 m, 0.25 mm, 0.25  $\mu$ m, carrier gas He (flow rate 30 cm/s); column temperature 80 °C ramp 1 °C/min to 90 °C then 90 °C, t (minor) = 60.86 min, t (major) = 61.78 min].

 $[\alpha]_{D}^{23}$  = +1.6 (*c* 0.8, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz)  $\delta$  (ppm): 3.28 - 3.13 (m, 1 H), 2.99 (spt, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1 H), 2.51 (dd, *J* = 15.0, 6.0 Hz, 1 H), 2.33 (dd, *J* = 15.0, 8.5 Hz, 1 H), 1.45 (s, 9 H), 1.30 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3 H), 1.26 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 6 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz)  $\delta$  (ppm): 171.1, 80.8, 43.9, 35.4, 34.2, 28.2, 23.9, 23.7, 21.9; HRMS (ESI+) mass calculated for [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> (C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>22</sub>O<sub>2</sub>NaS) requires *m/z* 241.1233, found *m/z* 241.1229; **IR** (film)  $v_{max}/cm^{-1}$ : 2972, 1727, 1368, 1149, 909, 731, 648.

#### tert-Butyl (S)-3-(isopentylthio)butanoate 4h



To a solution of *tert*-butyl crotonate **2e** (32  $\mu$ L, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 eq) and **1g** (0.020 mmol, 0.10 eq) in Et<sub>2</sub>O (0.40 mL) at 0 °C was added 3-methyl-1-butanethiol **3d** (74  $\mu$ L, 0.60 mmol, 3.0 eq) according General

Procedure **E**. The reaction mixture was purified by FCC (petroleum ether: Et<sub>2</sub>O 99:1) to afford **4h** as a yellow oil in 98% yield (48 mg) and 95:5 er [determined by HPLC, chiralpak IA, hexane/isopropanol 100:0,  $\lambda$  210 nm, 1.0 mL/min, t (major) = 10.55 min, t (minor) = 12.42 min].

 $[a]_D^{23}$  = -4.9 (*c* 1.5, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) δ (ppm): 3.19 - 3.10 (m, 1 H), 2.56 - 2.50 (m, 3 H), 2.33 (dd, *J* = 15.0, 8.5 Hz, 1 H), 1.72 - 1.59 (m, 1 H), 1.49 - 1.43 (m, 2 H), 1.45 (s, 9 H), 1.30 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3 H), 0.89 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 6 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz) δ (ppm): 171.0, 80.8, 43.7, 38.8, 36.5, 28.7, 28.2, 27.6, 22.4, 22.4, 21.4; HRMS (ESI+) mass calculated for [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> (C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>26</sub>O<sub>2</sub>NaS) requires *m/z* 269.1546, found *m/z* 269.1541; IR (film) v<sub>max</sub>/cm<sup>-1</sup>: 2959, 1729, 1368, 1149, 909, 733, 648.

#### tert-Butyl (S)-3-(decylthio)butanoate 4i

To a solution of *tert*-butyl crotonate **2e** (32 μL, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 eq) and **1g** (0.020 mmol, 0.10 eq) in Et<sub>2</sub>O (0.40 mL) at 0 °C was added decane-1-thiol **3e** (124 μL, 0.60 mmol, 3.0 eq) according General Procedure **E**. The reaction mixture was purified by FCC (petroleum ether: Et<sub>2</sub>O 99:1) to afford **4i** as a colourless oil in 97% yield (61 mg) and 95:5 er [determined by GC, Supelco β-dex<sup>TM</sup> 325, 30 m, 0.25 mm, 0.25 μm, carrier gas He (flow rate 30 cm/s); column temperature 90 °C ramp 1 °C/min to 100 °C then 100 °C, t (minor) = 195.88 min, t (minor) = 197.92 min].

 $[a]_{D}^{23} = +3.5 \ (c \ 1.2, \ CHCl_3); \ ^{1}H \ NMR \ (CDCl_3, \ 400 \ MHz) \ \delta \ (ppm): \ 3.19 - 3.10 \ (m, \ 1 \ H), \ 2.56 - 2.50 \ (m, \ 3 \ H), \ 2.33 \ (dd, \ J = 15.0, \ 8.5 \ Hz, \ 1 \ H), \ 1.62 - 1.53 \ (m, \ 2 \ H), \ 1.45 \ (s, \ 9 \ H), \ 1.38 - 1.25 \ (m, \ 17 \ H), \ 0.87 \ (d, \ J = 7.0 \ Hz, \ 3 \ H); \ ^{13}C \ NMR \ (CDCl_3, \ 100 \ MHz) \ \delta \ (ppm): \ 171.0, \ 80.8, \ 43.7, \ 36.5, \ 32.0, \ 30.7, \ 29.9, \ 29.7, \ 29.5, \ 29.4, \ 29.2, \ 28.7, \ 28.2, \ 22.8, \ 21.5, \ 14.3; \ HRMS \ (ESI+) \ mass \ calculated \ for \ [M+Na]^+ \ (C_{18}H_{36}O_2NaS) \ requires \ m/z \ 339.2328, \ found \ m/z \ 339.2320; \ IR \ (film) \ v_{max}/cm^{-1}: \ 2925, \ 2855, \ 1730, \ 1457, \ 1367, \ 1148, \ 908, \ 733, \ 648.$ 

#### tert-Butyl (S)-3-(cyclohexylthio)butanoate 4j

To a solution of *tert*-butyl crotonate 2e (32 µL, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 eq) and 1g (0.020 mmol, 0.10 eq) in Et<sub>2</sub>O (0.40 mL) at 0 °C was added <sup>OtBu</sup> cyclohexanethiol (73 µL, 0.60 mmol, 3.0 eq) **3f** according to a modified

General Procedure **E** stirring for 96 h. The reaction mixture was purified by FCC (petroleum ether: Et<sub>2</sub>O 99:1) to afford **4j** as a colourless oil in 68% yield (34.8 mg) and 95:5 er [determined by HPLC, chiralpak IA, hexane/isopropanol 100:0,  $\lambda$  220 nm, 0.5 mL/min, t (major) = 27.64 min, t (minor) = 31.64 min].

 $[a]_{D}^{23} = +1.1 \ (c \ 0.9, \text{CHCl}_3); \ ^{1}\text{H} \text{ NMR} \ (\text{CDCl}_3, 400 \text{ MHz}) \ \delta \ (\text{ppm}): 3.26 - 3.17 \ (\text{m}, 1 \text{ H}), 2.75 - 2.65 \ (\text{m}, 1 \text{ H}), 2.50 \ (\text{dd}, J = 15.0, 6.0 \text{ Hz}, 1 \text{ H}), 2.31 \ (\text{dd}, J = 15.0, 8.5 \text{ Hz}, 1 \text{ H}), 2.00 - 1.88 \ (\text{m}, 2 \text{ H}), 1.80 - 1.70 \ (\text{m}, 2 \text{ H}), 1.63 - 1.55 \ (\text{m}, 1 \text{ H}), 1.44 \ (\text{s}, 9 \text{ H}), 1.32 - 1.22 \ (\text{m}, 8 \text{ H}); 1^{3}\text{C} \text{ NMR} \ (\text{CDCl}_3, 100 \text{ MHz}) \ \delta \ (\text{ppm}): 171.0, 80.7, 44.1, 42.8, 35.0, 34.2, 34.1, 28.2, 26.2, 25.9, 22.1; \text{ HRMS} \ (\text{ESI+}) \ \text{mass} \ \text{calculated} \ \text{for} \ [\text{M+Na}]^{+} \ (\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{26}\text{O}_2\text{NaS}) \ \text{requires} \ m/z \ 281.1546, \ \text{found} \ m/z \ 281.1533; \ \text{IR} \ (\text{film}) \ v_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}: 2928, 2853, 1728, 1367, 1145, 844, 732.$ 

#### *tert*-Butyl (S)-3-(cyclopentylthio)butanoate 4k

To a solution of *tert*-butyl crotonate **2e** (32 µL, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 eq) and **1g** (0.020 mmol, 0.10 eq) in Et<sub>2</sub>O (0.40 mL) at 0 °C was added cyclopentanethiol **3g** (64 µL, 0.60 mmol, 3.0 eq) according to General Procedure **E**. The reaction mixture was purified by FCC (petroleum ether: Et<sub>2</sub>O 99:1) to afford **4k** as a colourless oil in 99% yield (48.4 mg) and 96:4 er [determined by HPLC, chiralpak IA, hexane/isopropanol 100:0,  $\lambda$  220 nm, 1.0 mL/min, t (major) = 13.15 min, t (minor) = 16.11 min].

 $[\alpha]_{D}^{23} = +5.3 \ (c \ 1.1, \ CHCl_{3}); \ ^{1}H \ NMR \ (CDCl_{3}, \ 400 \ MHz) \ \delta \ (ppm): \ 3.22 - 3.09 \ (m, \ 2 \ H), \ 2.53 \ (dd, \ J = 15.0, \ 6.0 \ Hz, \ 1 \ H), \ 2.32 \ (dd, \ J = 15.0, \ 8.5 \ Hz, \ 1 \ H), \ 2.08 - 1.93 \ (m, \ 2 \ H), \ 1.78 - 1.68 \ (m, \ 2 \ H), \ 1.60 - 1.45 \ (m, \ 4 \ H), \ 1.44 \ (s, \ 9 \ H), \ 1.31 \ (d, \ J = 6.5 \ Hz, \ 3 \ H); \ ^{13}C \ NMR \ (CDCl_{3}, \ 100 \ MHz) \ \delta \ (ppm): \ 171.1, \ 80.8, \ 43.9, \ 42.8, \ 36.6, \ 34.4, \ 34.2, \ 28.2, \ 24.9, \ 24.8, \ 21.8; \ HRMS \ (ESI+) \ mass \ calculated \ for \ [M+Na]^{+} \ (C_{13}H_{24}O_{2}NaS) \ requires \ m/z \ 267.1389, \ found \ m/z \ 267.1382; \ IR \ (film) \ v_{max}/cm^{-1}: \ 2960, \ 1727, \ 1368, \ 1147, \ 907, \ 843, \ 730.$ 

#### tert-Butyl (S)-3-(phenethylthio)butanoate 4l

 $[a]_{D}^{23} = +5.6 \ (c \ 1.3, \text{CHCl}_3); \ ^{1}\text{H} \text{ NMR} \ (\text{CDCl}_3, 400 \text{ MHz}) \delta \ (\text{ppm}): \ 7.33 - 7.27 \ (\text{m}, 2 \text{ H}), 7.24 - 7.18 \ (\text{m}, 3 \text{ H}), 3.26 - 3.16 \ (\text{m}, 1 \text{ H}), 2.91 - 2.87 \ (\text{m}, 2 \text{ H}), 2.83 - 2.79 \ (\text{m}, 2 \text{ H}), 2.55 \ (\text{dd}, J = 15.0, 6.0 \text{ Hz}, 1 \text{ H}), 2.36 \ (\text{dd}, J = 15.0, 8.5 \text{ Hz}, 1 \text{ H}), 1.46 \ (\text{s}, 9 \text{ H}), 1.33 \ (\text{d}, J = 6.5 \text{ Hz}, 3 \text{ H}); \ ^{13}\text{C} \text{ NMR} \ (\text{CDCl}_3, 100 \text{ MHz}) \delta \ (\text{ppm}): 170.9, 140.7, 128.6 \ (2 \text{ C}), 126.4, 80.8, 43.6, 36.7, 36.4, 32.2, 28.2, 21.4; \text{HRMS} \ (\text{ESI+}) \text{ mass calculated for } [\text{M+Na}]^{+} \ (\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{24}\text{O}_2\text{NaS}) \text{ requires } m/z \ 303.1389, \text{ found } m/z \ 303.1374. \text{ IR} \ (\text{film}) \ v_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}: 2976, 1726, 1367, 1146, 843, 732, 697.$ 

#### tert-Butyl (S)-3-((4-methoxybenzyl)thio)butanoate 4m

To a solution of *tert*-butyl crotonate **2e** (32 µL, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 eq) and **1g** (0.020 mmol, 0.10 eq) in Et<sub>2</sub>O (0.40 mL) at -15 °C was added 4-methoxy- $\alpha$ -toluenethiol **3i** (84 µL, 0.60 mmol, 3.0 eq) and the reaction mixture was stirred at -15 °C for 24 h according to a modified General Procedure **E**. The reaction mixture was purified by FCC (petroleum ether: Et<sub>2</sub>O 99:1) to afford **4m** as a colourless oil in >99% yield (58.8 mg) and 95:5 er [determined by HPLC, chiralpak AS-H, hexane/isopropanol 99:1,  $\lambda$ 220 nm, 1.0 mL/min, t (major) = 8.27 min, t (minor) = 12.35 min].

 $[a]_{D}^{23} = -1.9 (c \ 1.0, \text{CHCl}_3); {}^{1}\text{H} \text{NMR} (\text{CDCl}_3, 400 \text{ MHz}) \delta (\text{ppm}): 7.25 - 7.22 (m, 2 \text{ H}), 6.86 - 6.82 (m, 2 \text{ H}), 3.79 (s, 3 \text{ H}), 3.72 (s, 2 \text{ H}), 3.11 - 3.02 (m, 1 \text{ H}), 2.53 (dd,$ *J*= 15.0, 6.0 Hz, 1 H), 2.33 (dd,*J*= 15.0, 8.5 Hz, 1 H), 1.44 (s, 9 H), 1.28 (d,*J* $= 7.0 \text{ Hz}, 3 \text{ H}); {}^{13}\text{C} \text{ NMR} (\text{CDCl}_3, 100 \text{ MHz}) \delta (\text{ppm}): 170.8, 158.7, 130.3, 130.0, 114.0, 80.8, 55.4, 43.4, 36.1, 34.7, 28.2, 21.2;$ **HRMS** $(ESI+) mass calculated for <math>[\text{M+Na}]^+$  (C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>24</sub>NaO<sub>3</sub>S) requires *m/z* 319.1338, found *m/z* 319.1329; **IR** (film)  $v_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ : 2976, 1725, 1511, 1247, 1147, 833, 730.

#### tert-Butyl (R)-3-((4-methoxybenzyl)thio)-3-phenylpropanoate 4n

To a solution of *tert*-butylcinnamate **2f** (40.0 mg, 0.20 mmol,  $O_{\text{Ph}} = O_{\text{T}} = O_{\text{T}}$ 

 $[α]_D^{23}$  = +89.0 (*c* 1.0, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) δ (ppm): 7.30 - 7.26 (m, 4 H), 7.24 - 7.19 (m. 1 H), 7.12 - 7.08 (m, 2 H), 6.80 - 6.75 (m, 2 H), 4.07 (dd, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 7.0 Hz, 1 H), 3.75 (s, 3 H), 3.48 (d, *J* = 13.5 Hz, 1 H), 3.39 (d, *J* = 13.5 Hz, 1 H), 2.74 (dd, *J* = 15.0, 7.5 Hz, 1 H), 2.69 (dd, *J* = 15.0, 8.5 Hz, 1 H), 1.25 (s, 9 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz) δ (ppm): 169.9, 158.7, 141.3, 130.1, 129.9, 128.5, 128.1, 127.5, 114.0, 80.9, 55.4, 45.3, 42.7, 35.1, 28.0; **HRMS** (ESI+) mass calculated for [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> (C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>26</sub>O<sub>3</sub>NaS) requires *m/z* 381.1495, found *m/z* 381.1495. **IR** (film)  $v_{max}/cm^{-1}$ : 2977, 1729, 1511, 1367, 1249, 1174, 1140, 832, 750, 700.

#### tert-Butyl (S)-3-(propylthio)pentanoate 40

To a solution of *tert*-butyl (*E*)-pent-2-enoate **2g** (31 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.00 eq) and **1g** (0.020 mmol, 0.10 eq) in Et<sub>2</sub>O (0.40 mL) at 0 °C was added 1-propanethiol **3a** (56  $\mu$ L, 0.60 mmol, 3.0 eq) according to a modified General Procedure **E** stirring for 72 h at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was purified by FCC (petroleum ether: Et<sub>2</sub>O 99:1) to afford **4o** as a colourless oil in 84% yield (39 mg) and 93:7 er [determined by HPLC, chiralpak IA, hexane/isopropanol 100:0,  $\lambda = 220$  nm, 1.0 mL/min, t (major) = 8.37 min, t (minor) = 9.86 min].

 $[\alpha]_{D}^{23} = -1.2 \ (c \ 1.24, \ CHCl_3); \ ^{1}H \ NMR \ (CDCl_3, \ 400 \ MHz) \ \delta \ (ppm): \ 2.99 \ - \ 2.92 \ (m, \ 1 \ H), \ 2.52 \ - \ 2.46 \ (m, \ 4 \ H), \ 1.68 \ - \ 1.55 \ (m, \ 4 \ H), \ 1.00 \ (t, \ J = 7.5 \ Hz, \ 3 \ H), \ 0.98 \ (t, \ J = 7.5 \ Hz, \ 3 \ H); \ ^{13}C \ NMR \ (CDCl_3, \ 100 \ MHz) \ \delta \ (ppm): \ 171.3, \ 80.8, \ 43.7, \ 42.0, \ 32.9, \ 28.2, \ 28.1, \ 23.3, \ 13.7, \ 11.4; \ HRMS \ (ESI+) \ mass \ calculated \ for \ [M+Na]^+ \ (C_{12}H_{24}O_2NaS) \ requires \ m/z \ 255.1389, \ found \ m/z \ 255.1384. \ IR \ (film) \ v_{max}/cm^{-1}: \ 2965, \ 2931, \ 1729, \ 1368, \ 1148, \ 909, \ 733.$ 

#### tert-Butyl (S)-3-(propylthio)decanoate 4p

To a solution of *tert*-butyl (*E*)-dec-2-enoate **2h** (45.2mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.00 eq) and **1g** (0.020 mmol, 0.10 eq) in Et<sub>2</sub>O (0.40 mL) at 0 °C was added 1-propanethiol **3a** (56 µL, 0.60 mmol, 3.0 eq) according to a modified General Procedure **E** stirring for 72 h at 0 °C. The product was purified by FCC (99:1 petrol: Et<sub>2</sub>O) to afford **4p** as a colourless oil in 89% yield (54.0 mg) and 92:8 er [determined by HPLC, chiralpak IA, hexane/isopropanol 100:0,  $\lambda = 240$  nm, 1.0 mL/min, t (major) = 15.44 min, t (minor) = 16.75 min].

 $[\alpha]_{D}^{23} = -2.1 (c \ 1.0, \text{CHCl}_3); {}^{1}\text{H} \text{NMR} (\text{CDCl}_3, 400 \text{ MHz}) \delta (\text{ppm}): 3.01 - 2.95 (m, 1 \text{ H}), 2.52 - 2.43 (m, 4 \text{ H}), 1.64 - 1.52 (m, 5 \text{ H}), 1.45 (s, 9 \text{ H}), 1.32 - 1.21 (m, 9 \text{ H}), 0.97 (t,$ *J*= 7.5 Hz, 3 H), 0.87 (t,*J* $= 7.0 \text{ Hz}, 3 \text{ H}); {}^{13}\text{C} \text{NMR} (\text{CDCl}_3, 100 \text{ MHz}) \delta (\text{ppm}): 171.3, 80.7, 42.4, 42.0, 35.2, 32.8, 31.9, 29.6, 29.3, 28.2, 26.9, 23.3, 22.8, 14.2, 13.7;$ **HRMS** $(ESI+) mass calculated for <math>[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$  (C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>34</sub>O<sub>2</sub>NaS) requires *m/z* 325.2172, found *m/z* 325.2172; **IR** (film) v<sub>max</sub>/cm<sup>-1</sup>: 2928, 2857, 1729, 1368, 1147, 757.

#### tert-Butyl (S)-3-(propylthio)hept-6-enoate 4q

To a solution of *tert*-butyl (*E*)-hepta-2,6-dienoate **2i** (36.4 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.0 eq) and **1g** (0.020 mmol, 0.10 eq) in Et<sub>2</sub>O (0.40 mL) at 0 °C was added 1-propanethiol **3a** (56  $\mu$ L, 0.60 mmol, 3.0 eq) according to a modified General Procedure **E** stirring for 48 h at 0 °C. The product was purified by FCC (99:1 petrol: Et<sub>2</sub>O) to afford **4q** as a colourless oil in 84% yield (43.0 mg) and 94:6 er [chiralpak IA, hexane/isopropanol 100:0,  $\lambda = 230$  nm, 1.0 mL/min, t (major) = 9.73 min, t (minor) = 11.36 min].

 $[\alpha]_{D}^{23} = -6.4 (c \ 0.9, \text{CHCl}_3); {}^{1}\text{H} \text{NMR} (\text{CDCl}_3, 400 \text{ MHz}) \delta (\text{ppm}): 5.78 (ddt, <math>J = 17.0, 10.0, 6.5 \text{ Hz}, 1 \text{ H}), 5.03 ('dq', <math>J = 17.0, 1.5 \text{ Hz}, 1 \text{ H}), 4.96 ('dq', J = 10.0, 1.5 \text{ Hz}, 1 \text{ H}), 2.99 ('qd', J = 7.5, 5.5 \text{ Hz}, 1 \text{ H}), 2.54 - 2.41 (m, 4 \text{ H}), 2.29 - 2.12 (m, 2 \text{ H}), 1.71 - 1.52 (m, 4 \text{ H}), 1.44 (s, 9 \text{ H}), 0.97 (t, J = 7.5 \text{ Hz}, 3 \text{ H}); {}^{13}\text{C} \text{NMR} (\text{CDCl}_3, 100 \text{ MHz}) \delta (\text{ppm}): 171.1, 138.1, 115.2, 80.8, 42.5, 41.5, 34.3, 32.8, 31.1, 28.2, 23.2, 13.7; \text{HRMS} (\text{ESI+}) \text{ mass calculated for } [\text{M+Na}]^+ (\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{26}\text{O}_2\text{NaS}) \text{ requires } m/z \text{ 281.1546, found } m/z \text{ 281.1533; IR} (\text{film}) v_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}: 2967, 2931, 1727, 1367, 1250, 1144, 909, 731.$ 

#### tert-Butyl (S)-5-phenyl-3-(propylthio)pentanoate 4r

To a solution of *tert*-butyl (*E*)-5-phenylpent-2-enoate **2j** (46.4 mg, Ph OtBu 0.20 mmol, 1.0 eq) and **1g** (0.020 mmol, 0.10 eq) in Et<sub>2</sub>O (0.40 mL) at 0 °C was added 1-propanethiol **3a** (56  $\mu$ L, 0.60 mmol, 3.0 eq) according to a modified General Procedure **E** stirring for 72 h at 0 °C. The product was purified by FCC (99:1 petrol: Et<sub>2</sub>O) to afford **4r** as a colourless oil in 88% yield (54.0 mg) and 94:6 er [chiralpak IA, hexane/isopropanol 100:0,  $\lambda = 210$  nm, 1.0 mL/min, t (major) = 17.39 min, t (minor) = 20.08 min].

 $[α]_D^{23} = -6.6$  (*c* 1.14, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) δ (ppm): 7.31 – 7.26 (m, 2 H), 7.22 – 7.17 (m, 3 H), 3.03 ('qd', *J* = 7.5, 5.0 Hz, 1 H), 2.88 – 2.71 (m, 2 H), 2.59 – 2.45 (m, 4 H), 1.97 – 1.79 (m, 2 H), 1.66 – 1.56 (m, 2 H), 1.45 (s, 9 H), 1.00 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 3 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz) δ (ppm): 171.0, 141.9, 128.6, 128.5, 126.0, 80.8, 42.5, 41.6, 36.8, 33.1, 32.7, 28.2, 23.2, 13.7; HRMS (ESI+) mass calculated for [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> (C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>28</sub>O<sub>2</sub>NaS) requires *m/z* 331.1702, found *m/z* 331.1702. **IR** (film)  $v_{max}/cm^{-1}$ : 2964, 1726, 1454, 1367, 1249, 1141, 847, 748, 693.

#### tert-Butyl (S)-5-((tert-butoxycarbonyl)amino)-3-(propylthio)pentanoate 4s

To a solution of *tert*-butyl (*E*)-5-((tert-butoxycarbonyl)amino)pent-2-BocHN OrBu enoate **2k** (54.2 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.00 eq) at 0 °C was added 1propanethiol **3a** (56 µL, 0.60 mmol, 3.0 eq) according to a modified General Procedure **E** stirring for 72 h at 0 °C. The product was purified by FCC (99:1 petrol: Et<sub>2</sub>O) to afford **4s** as a colourless oil in 81% yield (56.0 mg) and 94:6 er [determined by HPLC, chiralpak AD-H, hexane/isopropanol 99:1,  $\lambda = 210$  nm, 1.0 mL/min, t (minor) = 17.56 min, t (major) = 18.79 min].

 $[\alpha]_{D}^{23} = -7.3 (c \ 0.8, \text{CHCl}_3); {}^{1}\text{H} \text{NMR} (\text{CDCl}_3, 400 \text{ MHz}) \delta (\text{ppm}): 4.77 (br s, 1 H), 3.33 - 3.18 (m, 2 H), 3.04 - 2.96 (m, 1H), 2.55 - 2.42 (m, 4 H), 1.85 - 1.62 (m, 2 H), 1.61 - 1.53 (m, 2 H), 1.44 (s, 9 H), 1.42 (s, 9 H), 0.96 (t,$ *J* $= 7.5 Hz, 3 H); {}^{13}\text{C} \text{NMR} (\text{CDCl}_3, 100 \text{ MHz}) \delta (\text{ppm}): 171.0, 156.0, 81.0, 79.3, 42.4, 39.5, 38.5, 34.9, 32.6, 28.5, 28.2, 23.2, 13.7; HRMS (ESI+) mass calculated for [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> (C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>33</sub>NNaO<sub>4</sub>NaS) requires$ *m/z*370.2023, found*m/z*370.2019;**IR** $(film) <math>v_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ : 3470, 2979, 2932, 1713, 1504, 1366, 1249, 1144, 736.

#### tert-Butyl (S)-5-((tert-butyldimethylsilyl)oxy)-3-(propylthio)pentanoate 4t

To a solution of *tert*-butyl (*E*)-5-((*tert*-butyldimethylsilyl)oxy)pent-2-TBSO TBSO TBSO

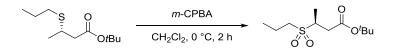
 $[α]_D^{23} = -6.8 (c 1.2, CHCl_3);$  <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) δ (ppm): 3.81 - 3.68 (m, 2 H), 3.20 - 3.08 (m, 1 H), 2.54 - 2.45 (m, 4 H), 1.84 - 1.66 (m, 2 H), 1.59 (sxt, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2 H), 1.45 (s, 9 H), 0.97 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 3 H), 0.88 (s, 9 H), 0.04 (s, 6 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz) δ (ppm): 171.0, 80.7, 60.5, 42.7, 38.8, 38.2, 32.9, 28.2, 26.1, 23.3, 18.4, 13.7, -5.2, -5.2; HRMS (ESI+) mass calculated for [M+H]<sup>+</sup> (C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>39</sub>O<sub>3</sub>SSi) requires *m/z* 363.2384, found *m/z* 363.2376. IR (film)  $ν_{max}/cm^{-1}$ : 2958, 2930, 2858, 1731, 1472, 1367, 1255, 1147, 1100, 836, 776, 735.

#### 1.6 Preparative scale SMA reaction with 1 mol% catalyst

To a solution of *tert*-butyl crotonate **2e** (1.12 mL, 7.0 mmol, 1.0 eq) and **1g**  $0^{\prime}B_{u}$  (0.070 mmol, 0.010 eq) in Et<sub>2</sub>O (1.4 mL) at 0 °C was added 1-propanethiol **3a** (1.89 mL, 21.0 mmol, 3.0 eq) and stirring was maintained for 24 h whereupon the reaction mixture was quenched by the addition of 1.0 M AcOH (in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 0.7 mL). The volatiles were removed under a stream of nitrogen and the crude reaction mixture was purified by FCC (99:1 petrol: Et<sub>2</sub>O) to afford **4e** as a colourless oil in 97% yield (1.48 g) and 94:6 er [determined by HPLC, chiralpak IA, hexane/isopropanol 100:0,  $\lambda$  210 nm, 1.0 mL/min, t (major) = 9.36 min, t (minor) = 10.58 min]. Spectroscopic data consistent with that reported in section 1.5.

#### **1.7** Derivatisation of β-Mercaptoester products

#### tert-Butyl (S)-3-(propylsulfonyl)butanoate 5a



To a solution of 3-chloroperbenzoic acid (86 mg, 0.5 mmol, 2.5 eq) in dichloromethane (5 mL) was added *tert*-butyl (*S*)-3-(propylthio)butanoate **4e** (43.6 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 eq, 94:6 er) in dichloromethane (1 mL) at 0 °C. The reaction was stirred at 0 °C for 2 h, and then quenched with NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (2 mL). The mixture was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (3 x 5 mL) and the organic layers combined, dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>), filtered and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude reaction mixture was purified by FCC to afford the title compound **5a** as a colourless oil in 96% yield (48 mg) and 94:6 er [determined by HPLC, chiralpak IA, hexane/isopropanol 95:5,  $\lambda = 220$  nm, 1.0 mL/min, t (major) = 10.93 min, t (major) = 14.85 min].

 $[\alpha]_{D}^{23} = +4.6 \ (c \ 1.1, \text{ CHCl}_3); \ ^1\text{H} \text{ NMR} \ (\text{CDCl}_3, 400 \text{ MHz}) \ \delta \ (\text{ppm}): 3.50 - 3.41 \ (\text{m}, 1 \text{ H}), 2.97 \ (\text{dd}, J = 16.5, 4.5 \text{ Hz}, 1 \text{ H}), 2.92 \ (\text{t}, J = 8 \text{ Hz}, 2 \text{ H}), 2.39 \ (\text{dd}, J = 16.5, 9.5 \text{ Hz}, 1 \text{ H}), 1.96 - 1.88 \ (\text{m}, 2 \text{ H}), 1.46 \ (\text{s}, 9 \text{ H}), 1.41 \ (\text{d}, J = 7.0 \text{ Hz}, 3 \text{ H}), 1.08 \ (\text{t}, J = 7.5 \text{ Hz}, 3 \text{ H}); \ ^{13}\text{C} \text{ NMR} \ (\text{CDCl}_3, 100 \text{ MHz}) \ \delta \ (\text{ppm}): 169.6, 82.0, 54.1, 52.0, 35.3, 28.2, 15.2, 14.0, 13.4; \text{ HRMS} \ (\text{ESI+}) \text{ mass calculated for } [\text{M+Na}]^+ \ (\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{22}\text{O}_4\text{NaS}) \text{ requires } m/z \ 273.1131, \text{ found } m/z \ 273.1132; \text{IR} \ (\text{film}) \ v_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}: 2980, 2360, 1729, 1155, 754.$ 

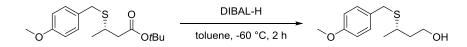
#### Methyl (S)-3-(propylthio)butanoate 4a



To a solution of *tert*-butyl (*S*)-3-(propylthio)butanoate **4e** (43.6 mg, 0.20 mmol, 1.00 eq, 96:4 er) in 1.0 mL Et<sub>2</sub>O was added trifluoroacetic acid (0.1 mL) at 0 °C dropwise. The reaction mixture was warmed to rt and stirred for 4 h, and the volatiles removed by N<sub>2</sub> stream. Saturated aq NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (5 mL) was added into the mixture and the organic phase was extracted using Et<sub>2</sub>O (2 x 5 mL), washed with brine (5 mL), dried (NaSO<sub>4</sub>), filtered, and concentrated *in vacuo* to afford the crude mixture, which was used in the next step without purification. The carboxylic acid intermediate was dissolved in MeOH (5 mL). To the

solution was added SOCl<sub>2</sub> (0.12 mL, 0.44 mmol, 2.2 eq) at 0 °C. The reaction was warmed to room temperature and stirred overnight. The reaction mixture was then quenched with saturated aq NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and then extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3 x 5 mL). The organic phase was combined, dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>), filtered and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude reaction mixture was purified by FCC (99:1 petrol: Et<sub>2</sub>O) to afford the title compound **5b** as a colourless oil in 78% yield (27 mg) and 94:6 er [determined by HPLC, chiralpak IA, hexane/isopropanol 100:0,  $\lambda = 220$  nm, 1.0 mL/min, t (major) = 19.96 min, t (minor) = 23.58 min];  $[\alpha]_D^{25} = +9.8$ (c 0.9, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). Other data consistent with that reported in section 1.5.

#### (S)-3-((4-Methoxybenzyl)thio)butan-1-ol 5b



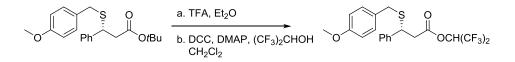
To a solution of *tert*-butyl (*S*)-3-((4-methoxybenzyl)thio)butanoate **4m** (28 mg, 0.095 mmol, 1.0 eq, 95:5 er) in toluene (1 mL) at -60°C was added DIBAL-H (1 M in toluene, 0.2 mL, 0.20 mmol, 2.2 eq) dropwise. The reaction was stirred at -60°C for 2 hours and then quenched with saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (aq), extracted three times with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3 x 5 mL). The combined organics were dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>), filtered and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude mixture was purified by FCC to afford the title compound **5c** as a colourless oil 93% yield (20 mg) and 93:7 er [determined by HPLC, chiralpak AD-H, hexane/isopropanol 97:3,  $\lambda = 220$  nm, 1.0 mL/min, t (minor) = 37.72 min, t (major) = 39.48 min].

 $[α]_D^{23} = -0.2 (c 1.0, CHCl_3);$  <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) δ (ppm): 7.28 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2 H), 6.87 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2 H), 3.82 (s, 3 H), 3.78 – 3.66 (m, 4 H), 2.84 (sxt, J = 6.5 Hz, 1 H), 2.16 (s, 1 H), 1.79 (q, J = 6.5 Hz, 2 H), 1.34 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 3 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz) δ (ppm): 158.6, 130.4, 129.9, 113.9, 60.6, 55.3, 39.0, 36.7, 34.3, 21.7; HRMS (ESI+) mass calculated for [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> (C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>18</sub>O<sub>2</sub>NaS) requires *m/z* 249.0920, found *m/z* 249.0921. IR (film)  $v_{max}/cm^{-1}$ : 3390, 2957, 1510, 1236, 1032, 831, 734.

#### 1.8 Determination of Absolute Stereochemistry

#### 1,1,1,3,3,3-Hexafluoropropan-2-yl (R)-3-((4-methoxybenzyl)thio)-3-phenylpropanoate

#### 12



To a solution of *tert*-butyl (*R*)-3-((4-methoxybenzyl)thio)-3-phenylpropanoate **4n** (68.0 mg, 0.19 mmol, 1.00 eq, 88:12 er) in 1.0 mL Et<sub>2</sub>O was added trifluoroacetic acid (0.1 mL) at 0 °C dropwise. The reaction mixture was warmed to rt and stirred for 4 h, and the volatiles removed under a N<sub>2</sub> stream to afford the crude mixture, which was used in the next step without purification. The carboxylic acid intermediate was dissolved in dichloromethane (5 mL). To the solution was added 4-dimethylaminopyridine (5 mg, 0.04 mmol) and *N*,*N*-dicyclohexylcarbodiimide (49 mg, 0.24 mmol) and 1,1,1,3,3,3-hexafluoro-2-propanol (0.025 mL, 0.24 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction was warmed to room temperature and stirred overnight. The reaction mixture was filtered and extracted three times with dichloromethane (5 mL). The organic phase was combined, dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>), filtered and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude mixture was purified by FCC (99:1 petrol: Et<sub>2</sub>O) to afford **12** as a colourless oil in 82% yield (70.0 mg) and 90:10 er [determined by HPLC, chiralpak AS-H, hexane/isopropanol 99:1,  $\lambda = 230$  nm, 1.0 mL/min, t (major) = 6.68 min, t (minor) = 11.64 min; the order of elution of the two enantiomers is consistent to that given in the literature].<sup>13</sup>

 $[\alpha]_{D}^{23}$  = +102.2 (*c* 0.85, CHCl<sub>3</sub>), [lit.<sup>13</sup>  $[\alpha]_{D}^{25}$  -65.9 (c 0.41, CHCl<sub>3</sub>) for (*S*)-12]. From the optical rotation and the HPLC chromatograms, the absolute configuration of 12 was determined to be (*R*).<sup>13</sup>

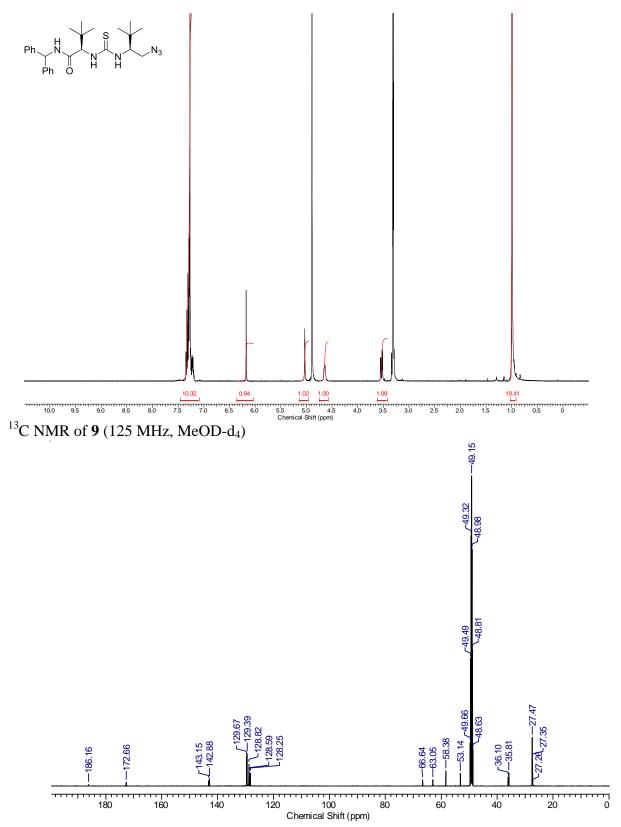
<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) δ (ppm): 7.30 - 7.16 (m, 5 H), 7.05 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2 H), 6.75 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2 H), 5.57 (spt,  $J_{\rm HF} = 6.1$  Hz, 1 H), 4.06 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 3.72 (s, 3 H), 3.47 (d, J = 13.5 Hz, 1 H), 3.38 (d, J = 13.5 Hz, 1 H), 2.96 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 2 H); <sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz) δ (ppm): 167.5, 158.9, 140.0, 130.1, 129.3, 128.9, 128.0, 127.8, 121.6 (q,  $J_{\rm FC} = 280.0$  Hz), 114.1, 66.6 (spt,  $J_{\rm FC} = 34.6$  Hz), 55.4, 44.4, 40.5, 35.3; <sup>19</sup>**F NMR** (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 377 MHz) δ (ppm): -73.3. Data consistent with that reported in literature.<sup>13</sup>

#### 2 References

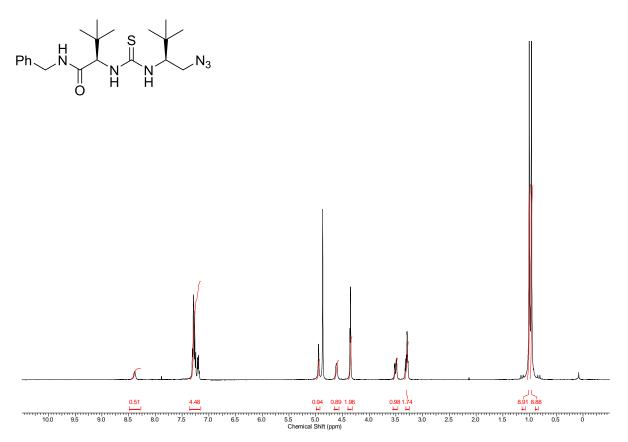
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# 3 Supplementary Data 3.1 Copies of NMR spectra

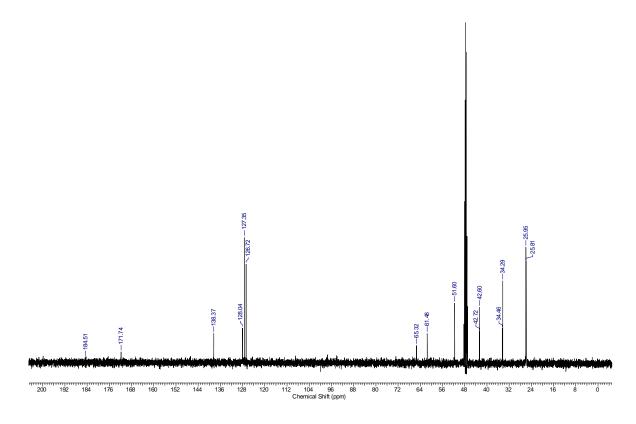
<sup>1</sup>H NMR of **9** (400 MHz, MeOD-d<sub>4</sub>)

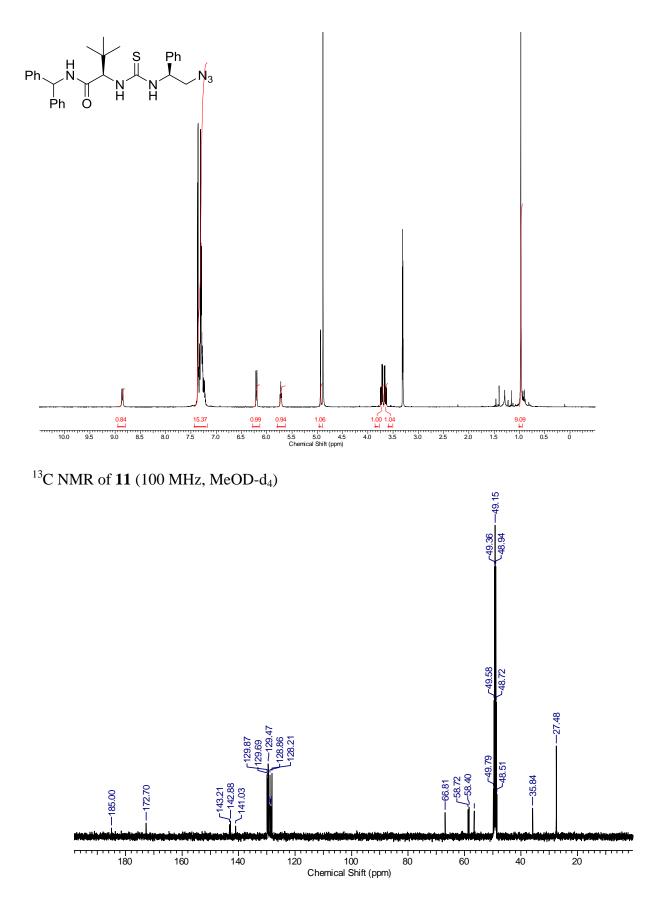


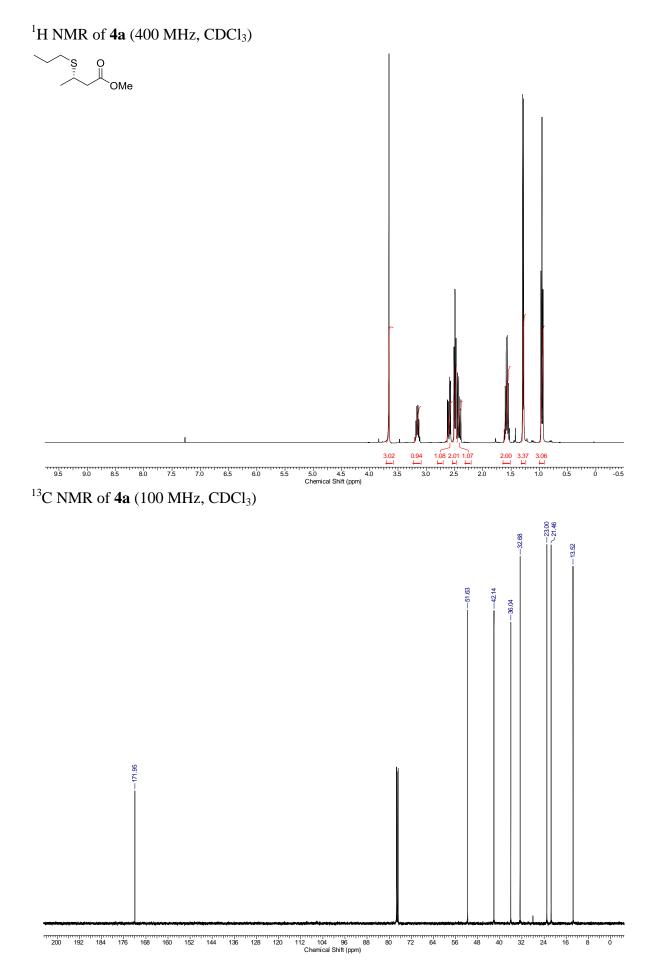
<sup>1</sup>H NMR of **10** (400 MHz, MeOD-d<sub>4</sub>)



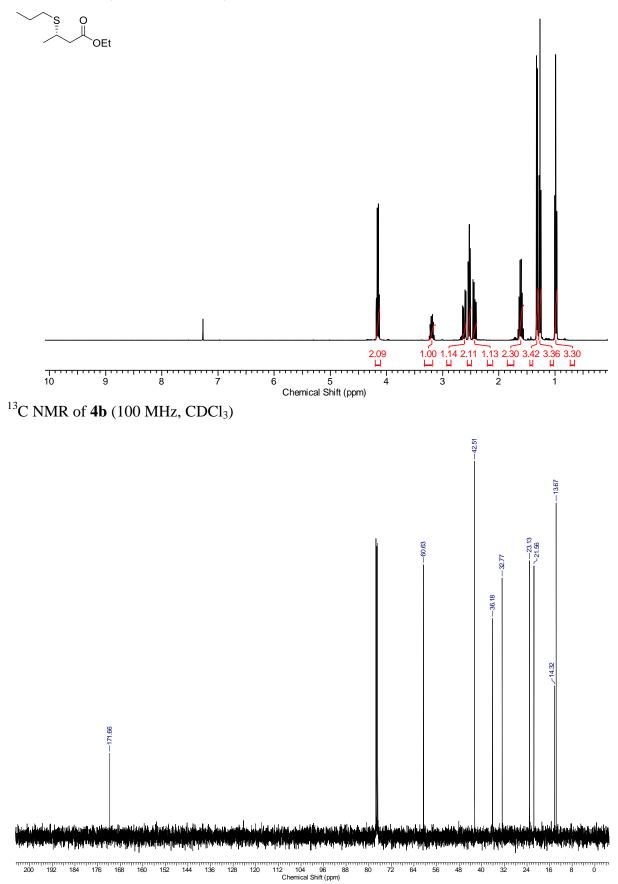
<sup>13</sup>C NMR of **10** (100 MHz, MeOD-d<sub>4</sub>)



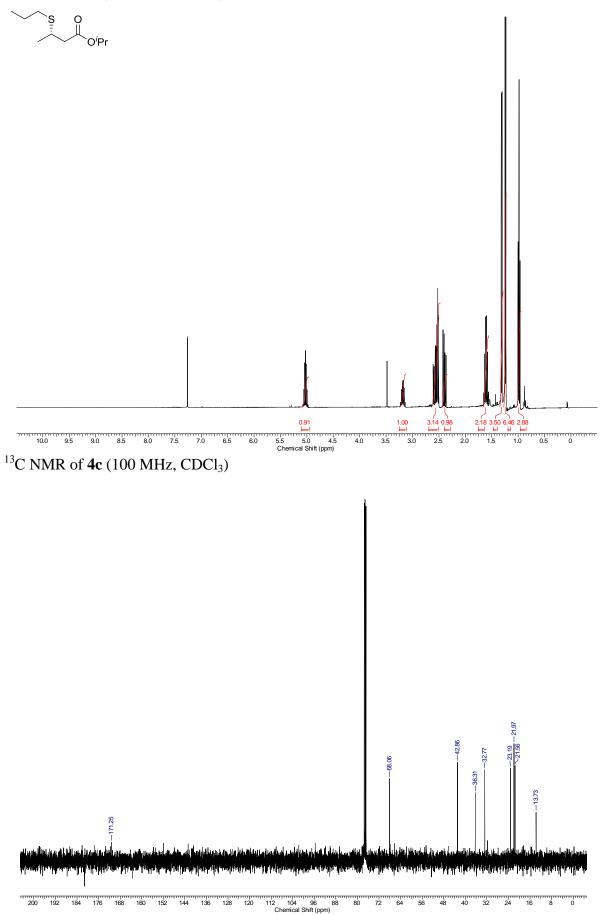




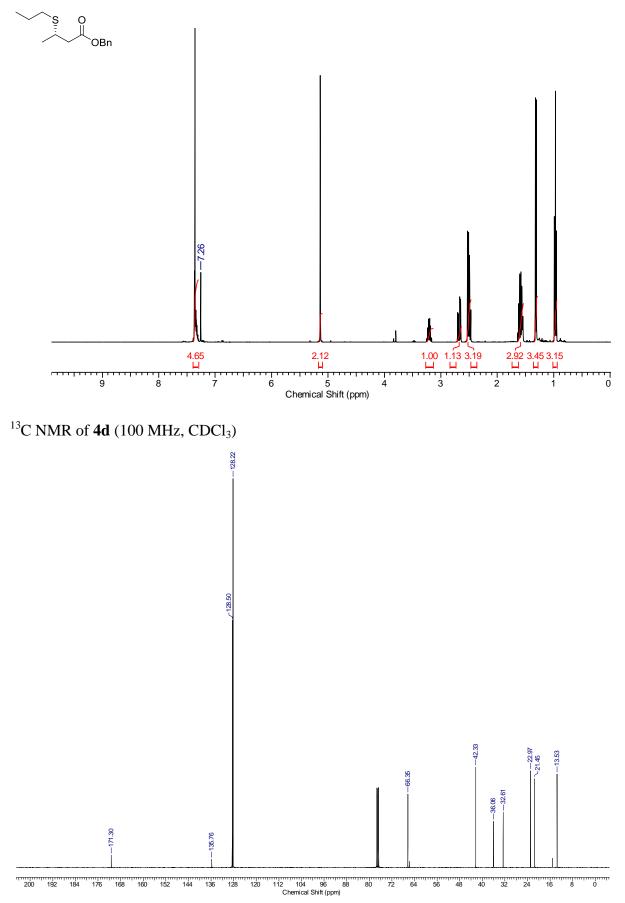
<sup>1</sup>H NMR of **4b** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



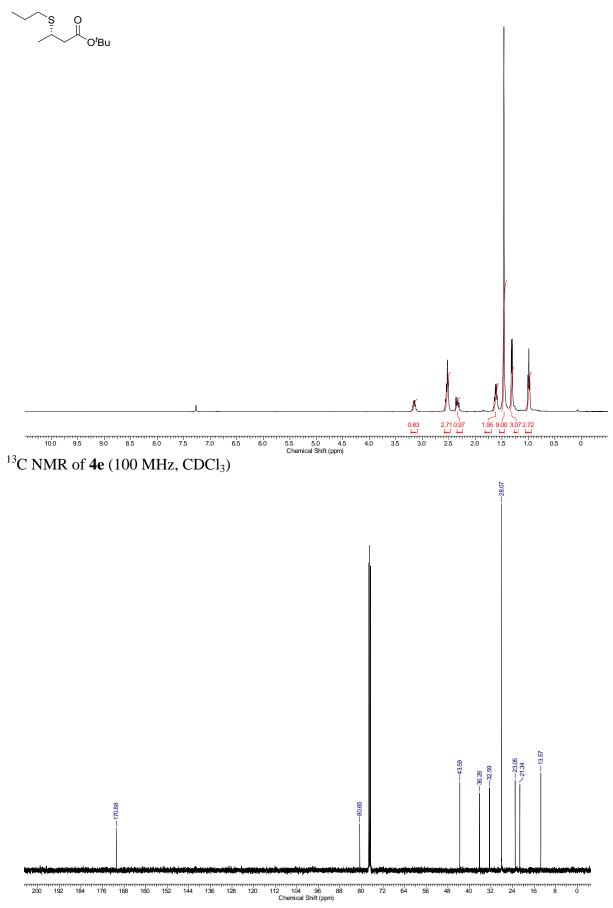
<sup>1</sup>H NMR of 4c (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



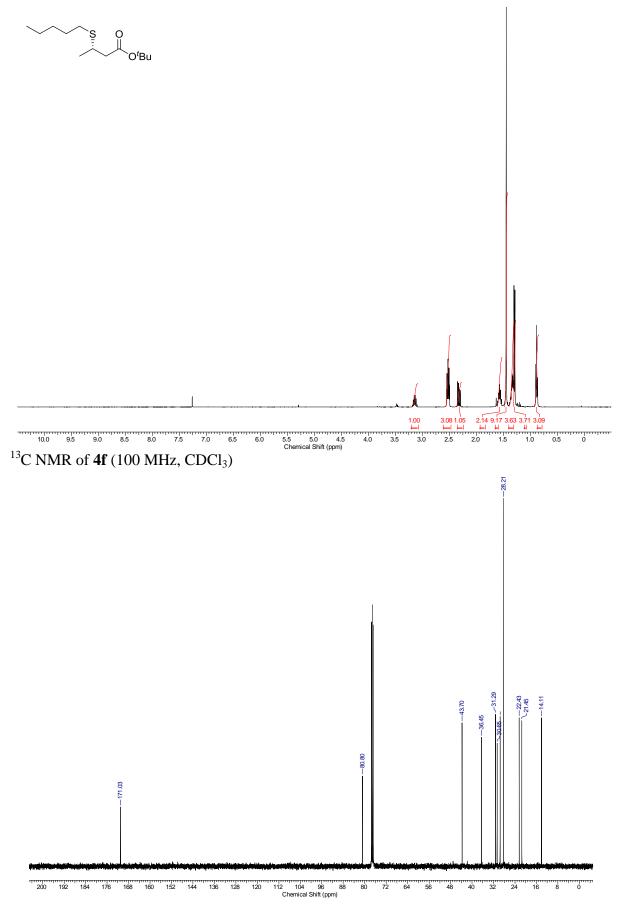
<sup>1</sup>H NMR of **4d** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



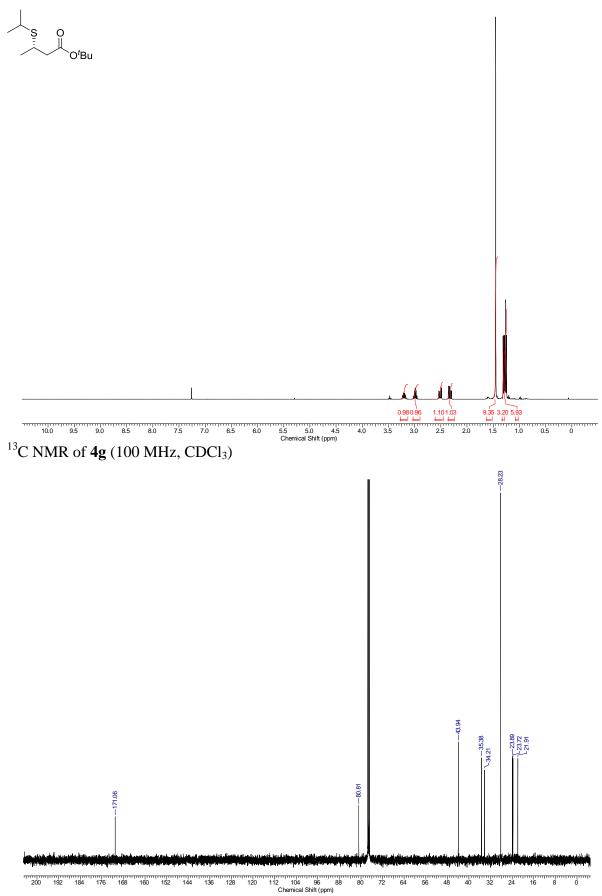
<sup>1</sup>H NMR of **4e** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



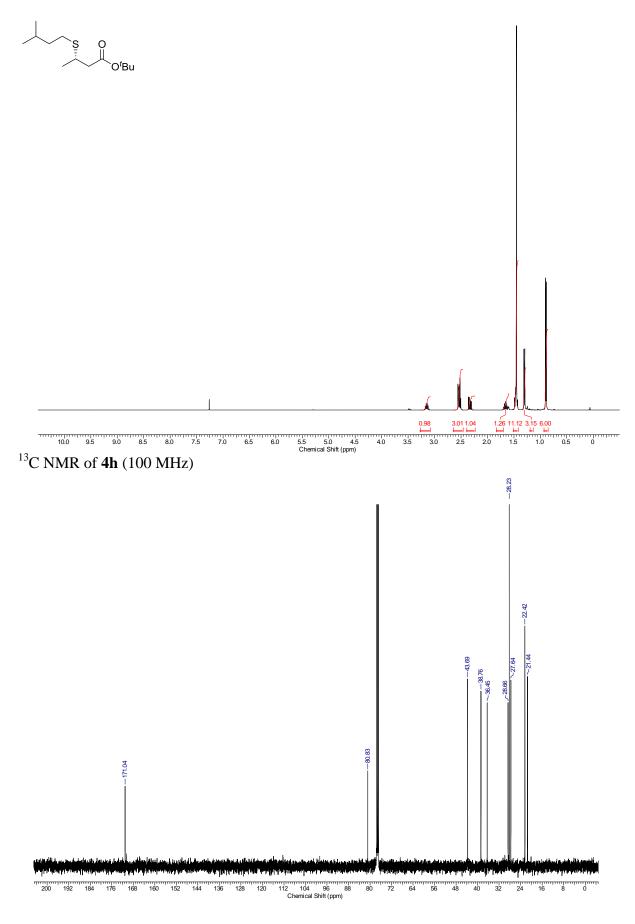
<sup>1</sup>H NMR of **4f** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

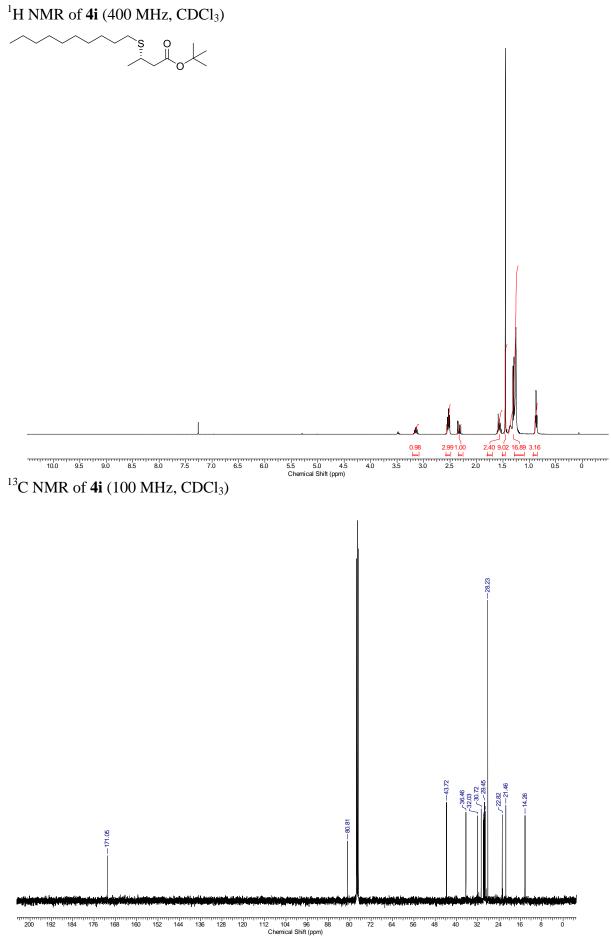


 $^{1}$ H NMR of **4g** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

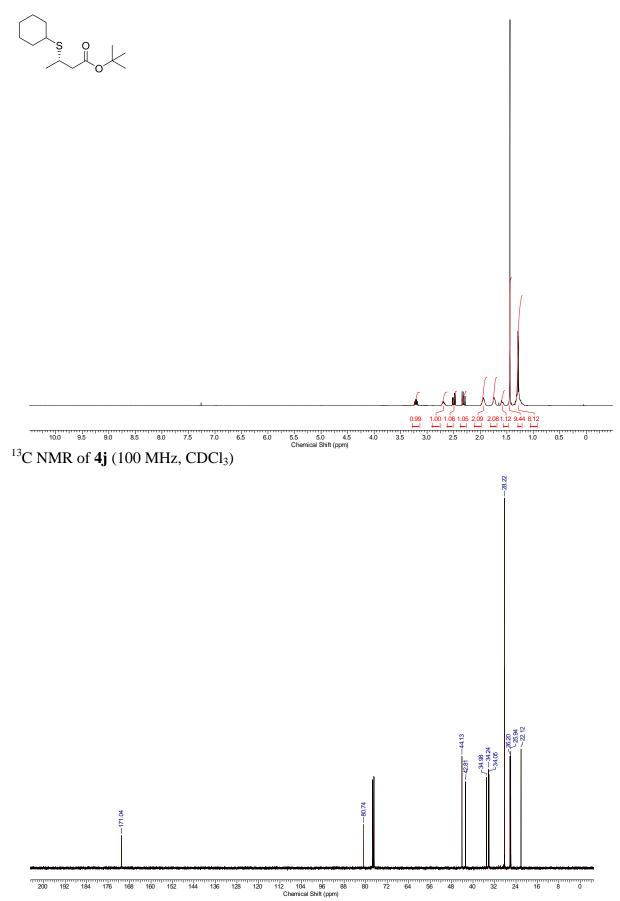


<sup>1</sup>H NMR of **4h** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

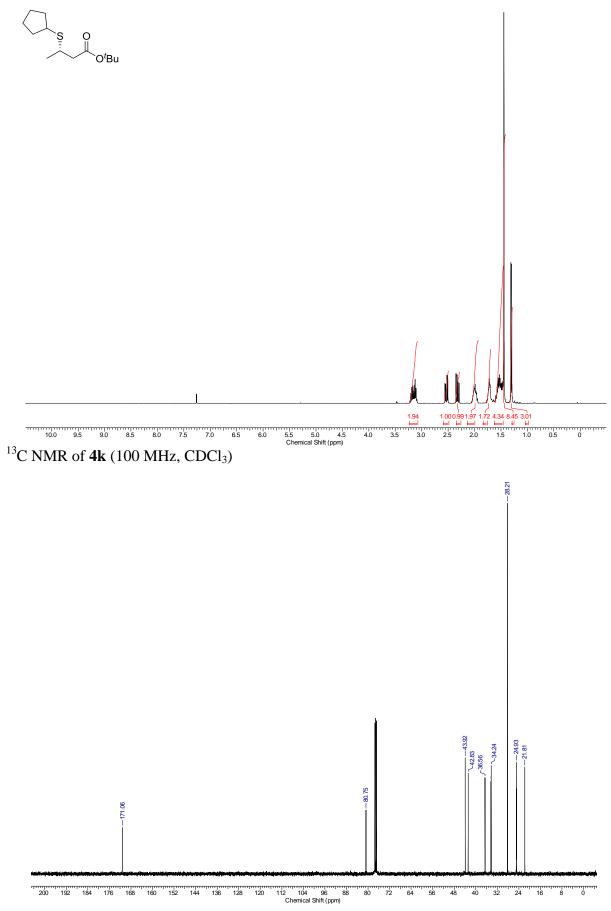




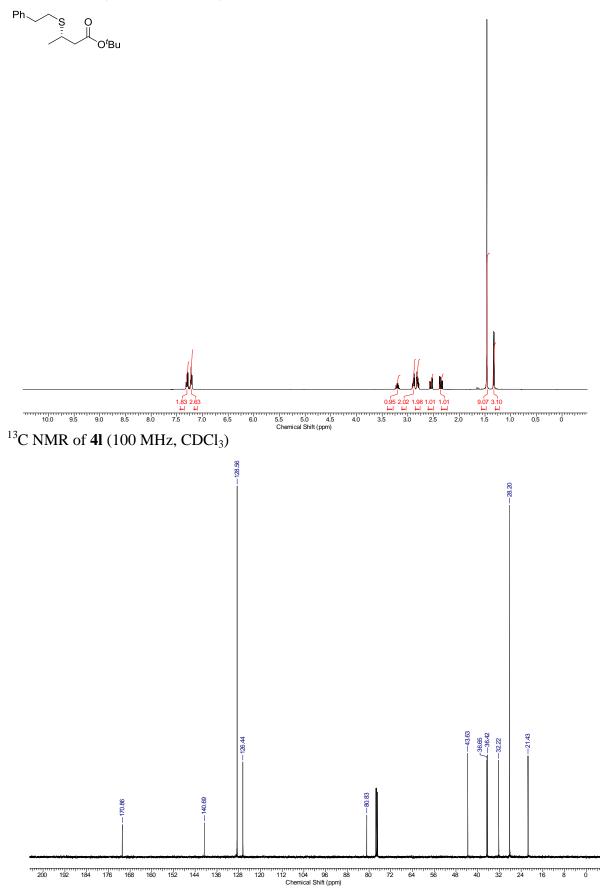
<sup>1</sup>H NMR of **4j** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

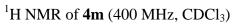


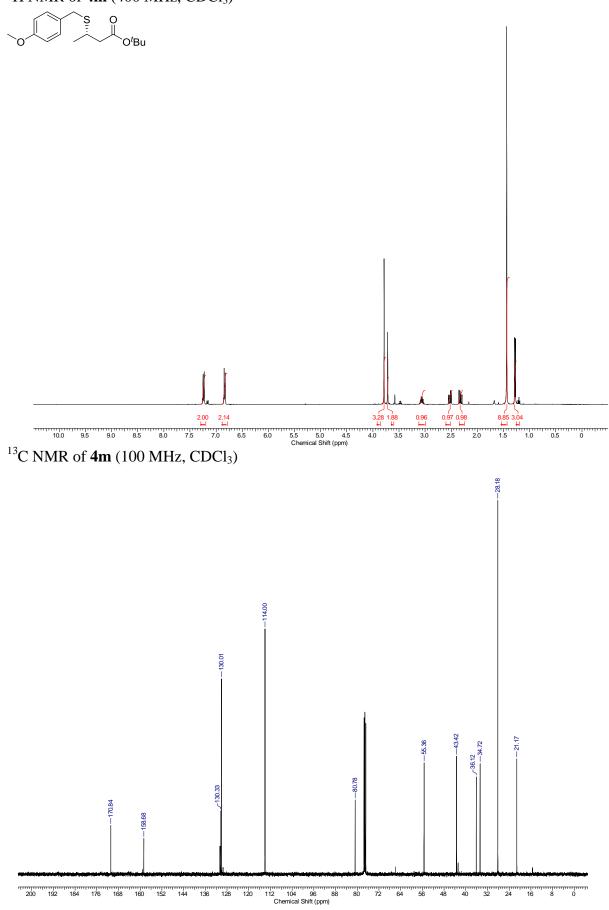
<sup>1</sup>H NMR of **4k** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



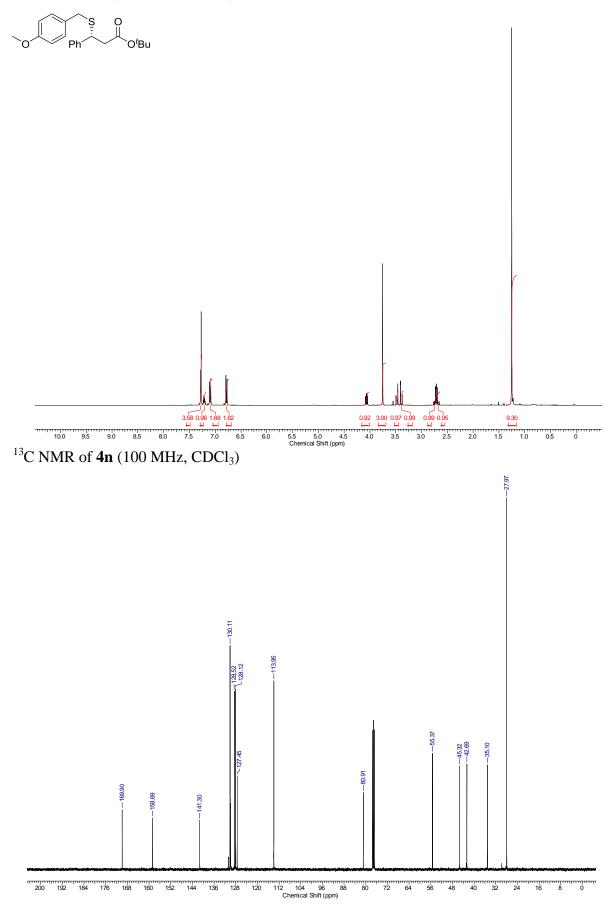
<sup>1</sup>H NMR of **4l** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



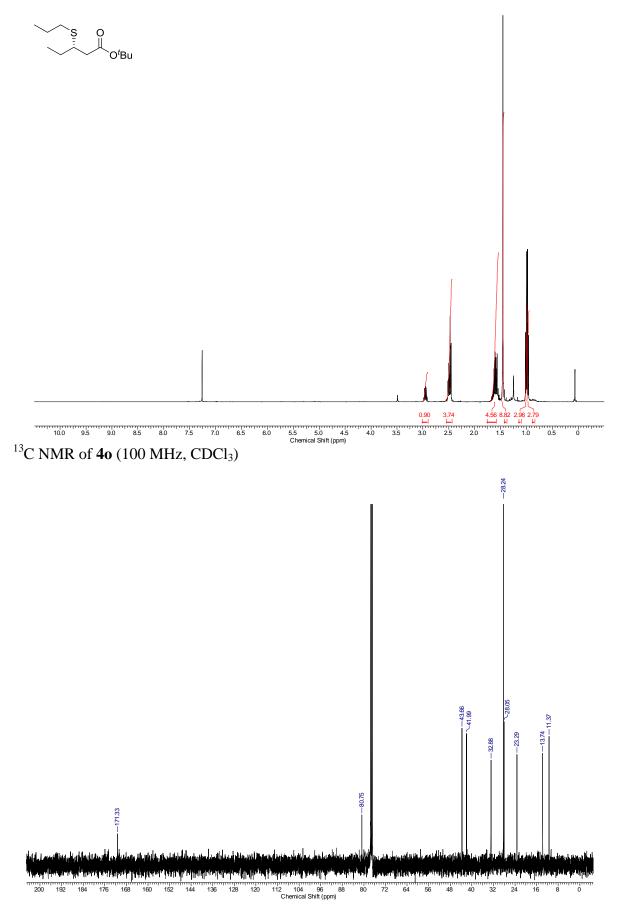




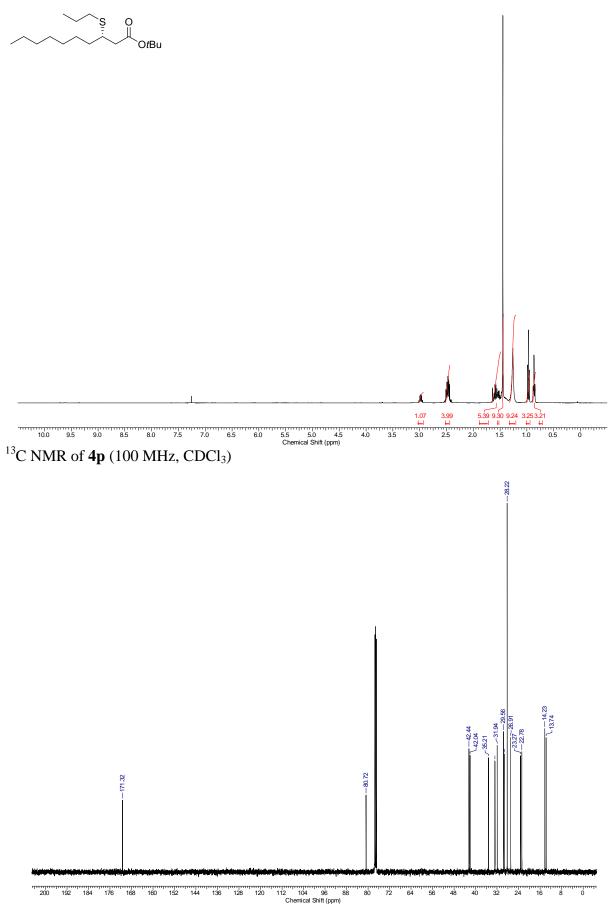
<sup>1</sup>H NMR of **4n** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)



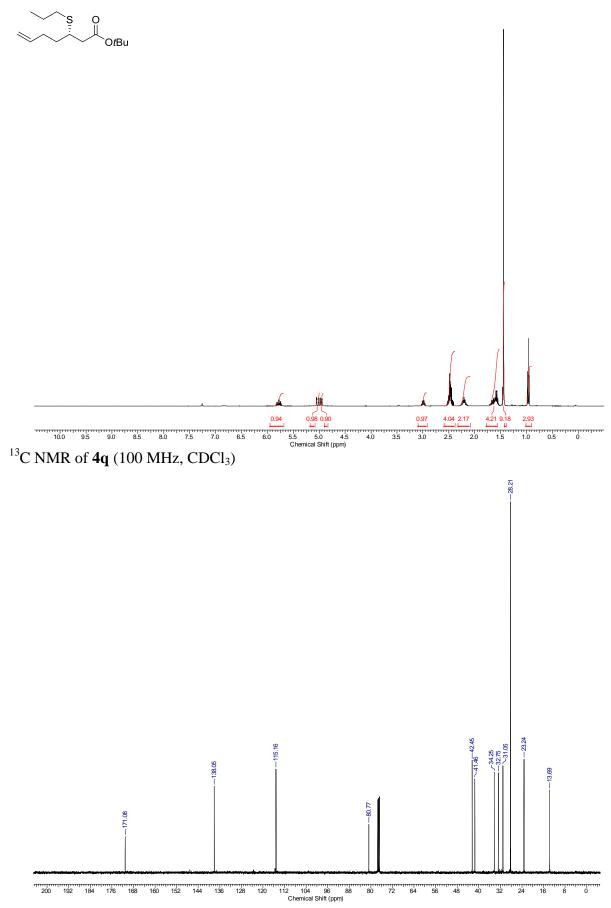
<sup>1</sup>H NMR of **40** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

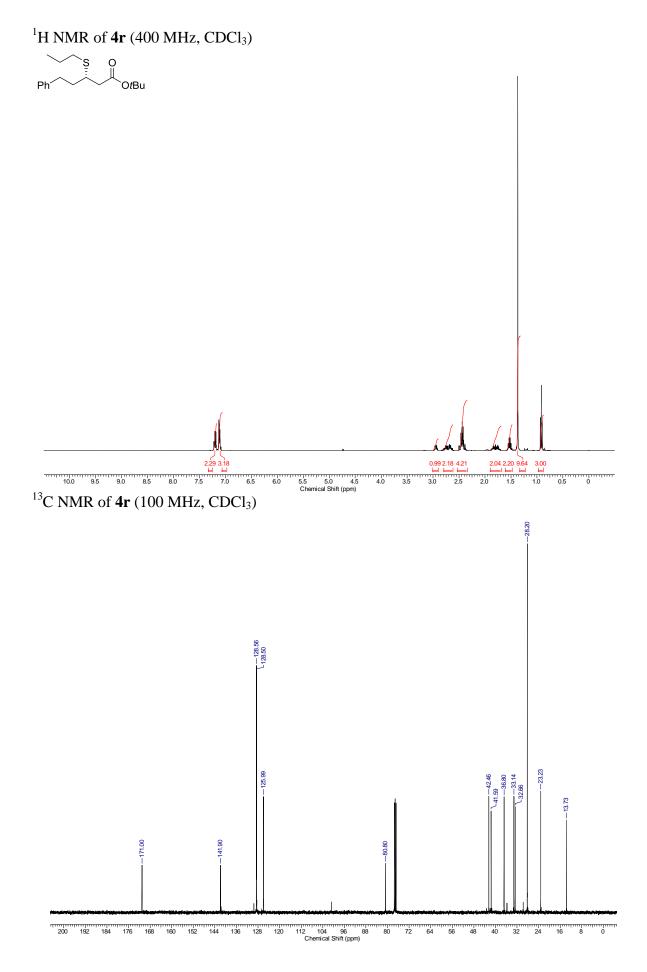


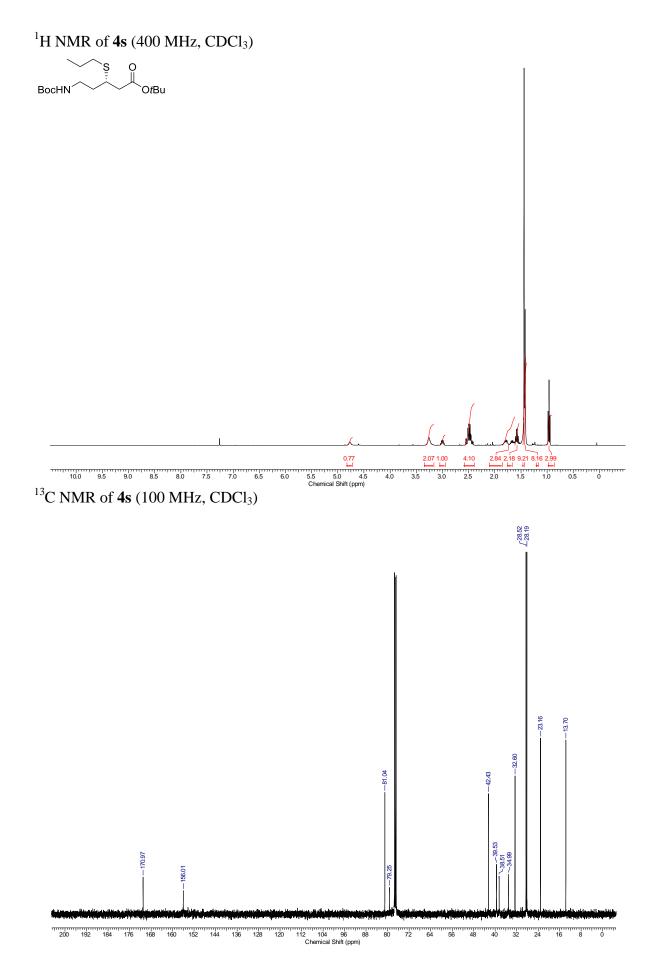


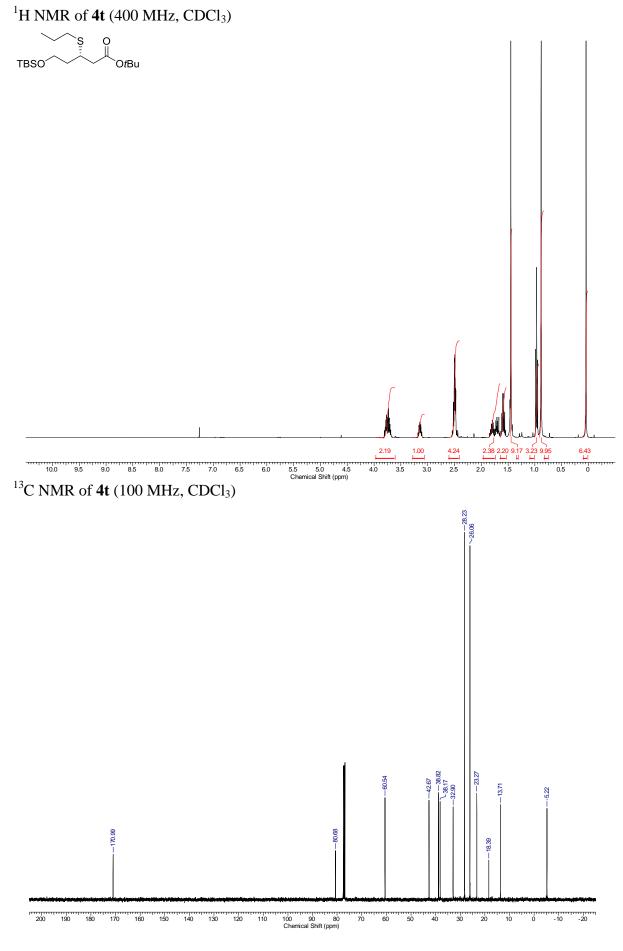


<sup>1</sup>H NMR of 4q (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

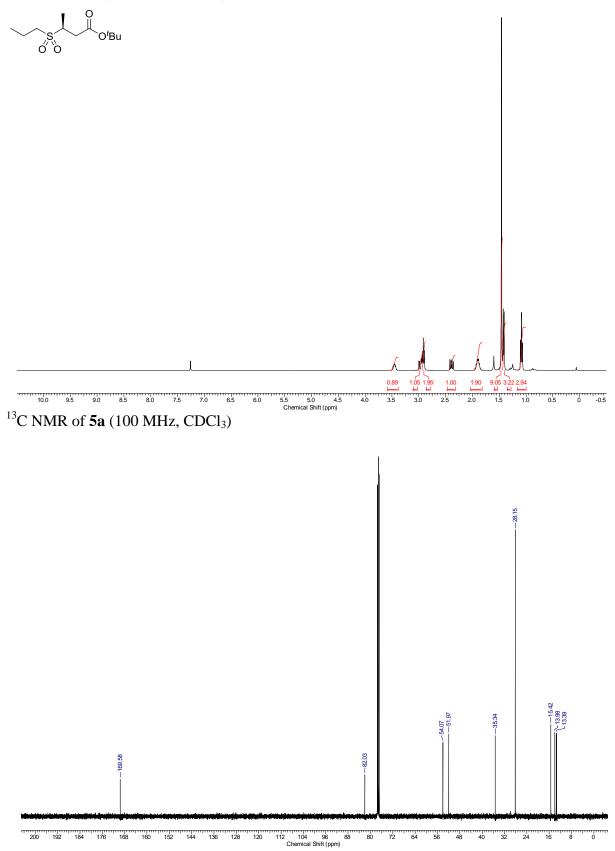


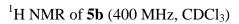


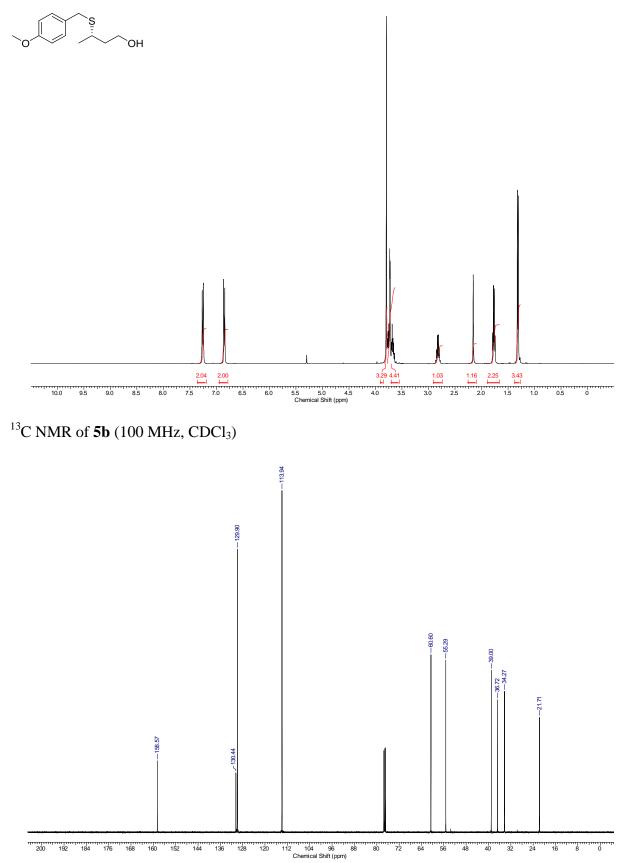


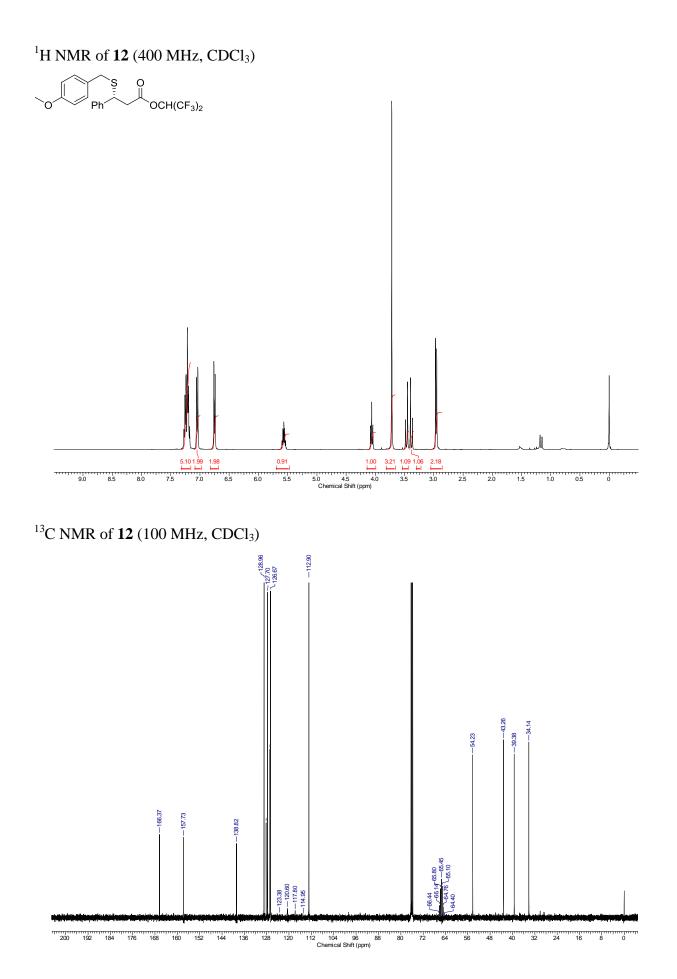


<sup>1</sup>H NMR of **5a** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)









# 3.2 Copies of HPLC and GC spectra

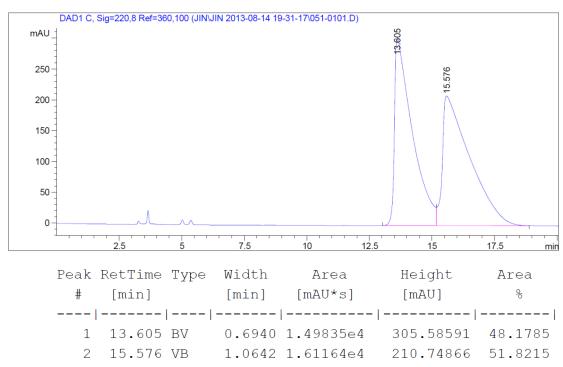
## HPLC and GC chromatograms of β-mercaptoesters 4 (section 1.5)

Methyl (*S*)-3-(propylthio)butanoate **4a** 

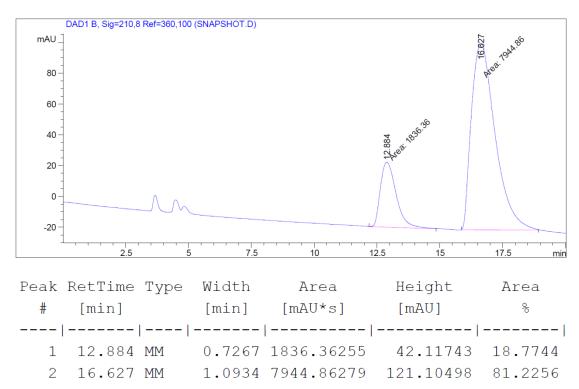
(Chiralpak IA, hexane/isopropanol = 99.5/0.5, 1 mL/min)



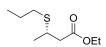
Racemic



Enantiomerically enriched (81:19 er)

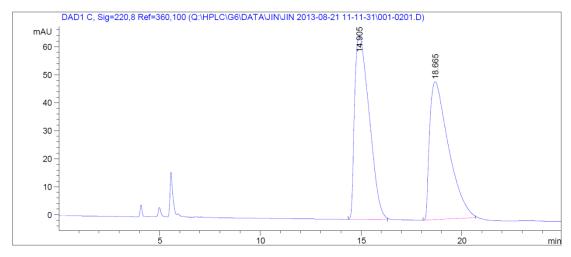


Ethyl (S)-3-(propylthio)butanoate 4b



(Chiralpak IA, hexane/isopropanol = 100/0, 1 mL/min)

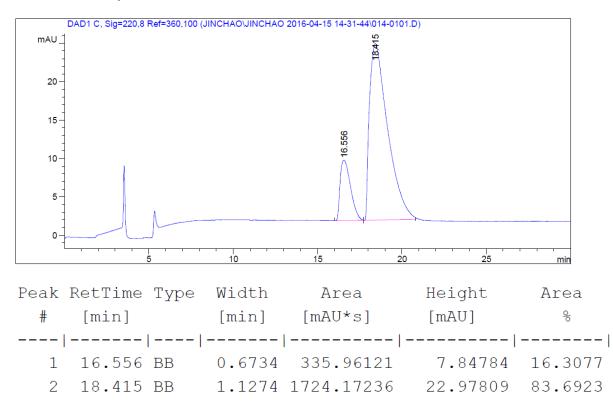
## Racemic



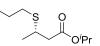
Signal 3: DAD1 C, Sig=220,8 Ref=360,100

Peak	RetTime	Туре	Width	Area	Height	Area
#	[min]		[min]	[mAU*s]	[mAU]	아
		-		-		
1	14.905	BB	0.7777	3288.40430	65.50745	50.6757
2	18.665	BB	0.9565	3200.70508	49.23289	49.3243
-	10.000	22	0.0000	3200.70000	10.20200	10.02.10

Enantiomerically enriched (84:16 er)

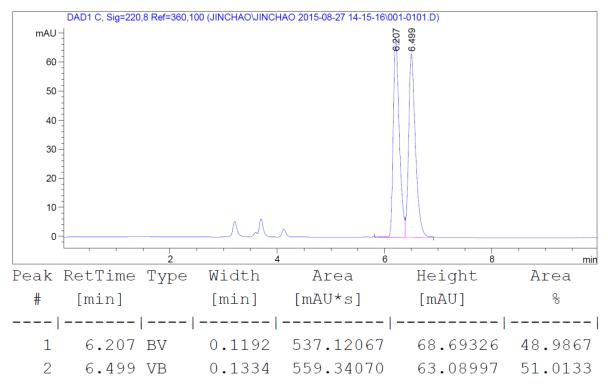


Isopropyl (*S*)-3-(propylthio)butanoate **4**c

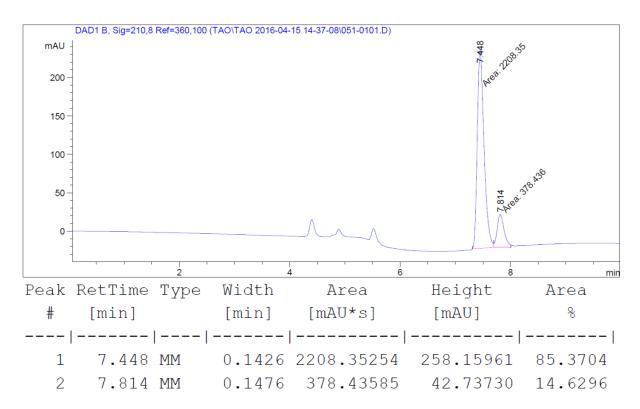


(Chiralpak AD-H, hexane/isopropanol = 99/1, 1 mL/min)

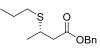
# Racemic

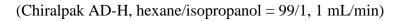


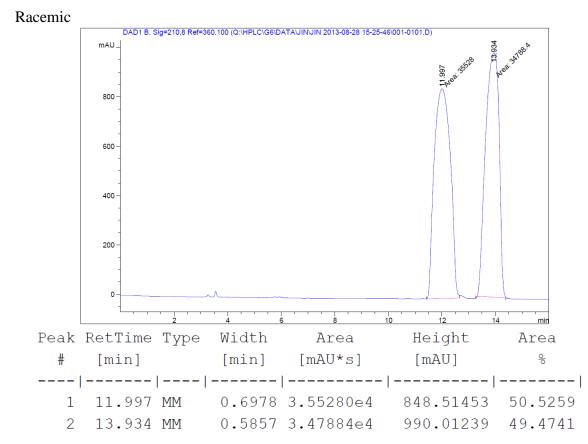
Enantiomerically enriched (85:15 er)



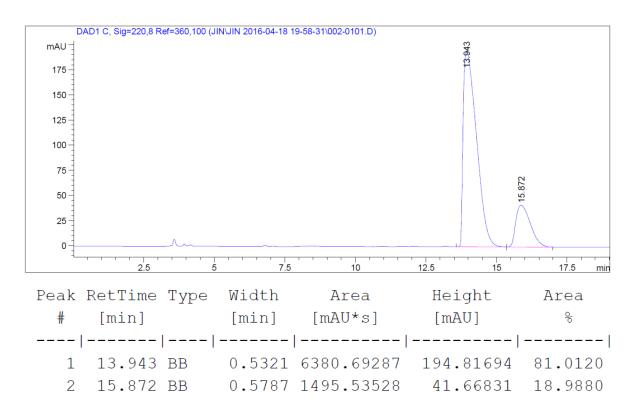
Benzyl (S)-3-(propylthio)butanoate 4d



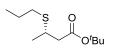




Enantiomerically enriched (81:19 er)

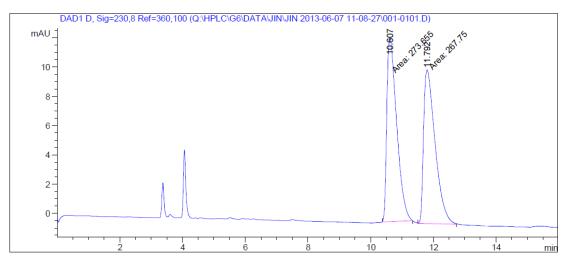


*tert*-Butyl (*S*)-3-(propylthio)butanoate **4e** 



(Chiralpak IA, hexane/isopropanol = 100/0, 1 mL/min)

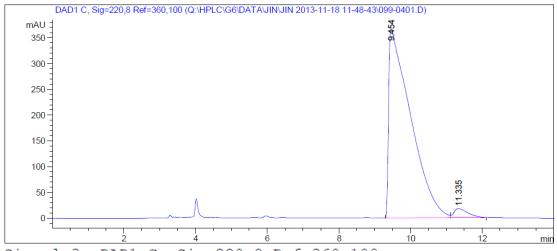
# Racemic



Signal 4: DAD1 D, Sig=230,8 Ref=360,100

Peak	RetTime	Туре	Width	Area	Height	Area
#	[min]		[min]	[mAU*s]	[mAU]	olo
1	10.607	MM	0.3626	273.65527	12.57780	50.5453
2	11.792	MM	0.4243	267.75049	10.51638	49.4547

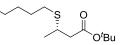
## Enantiomerically enriched (97:3 er)



Signal 3: DAD1 C, Sig=220,8 Ref=360,100

Peak	RetTime	Туре	Width	Area	Height	Area
#	[min]		[min]	[mAU*s]	[mAU]	아
1	9.454	BV	0.5481	1.55955e4	366.78867	96.9281
2	11.335	VB	0.4091	494.25604	17.84553	3.0719

*tert*-Butyl (S)-3-(pentylthio)butanoate **4f** 

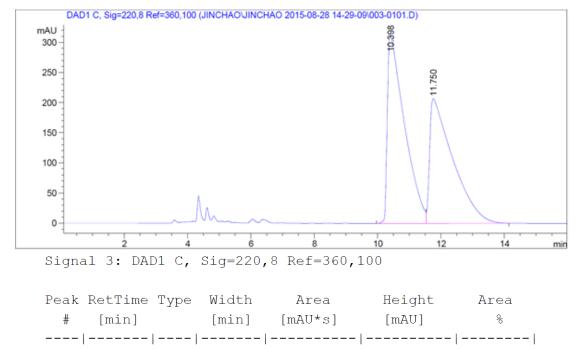


52.7505

47.2495

(Chiralpak IA, hexane/isopropanol = 100/0, 1 mL/min)

## Racemic



0.5348 1.17456e4 313.73355

207.14561

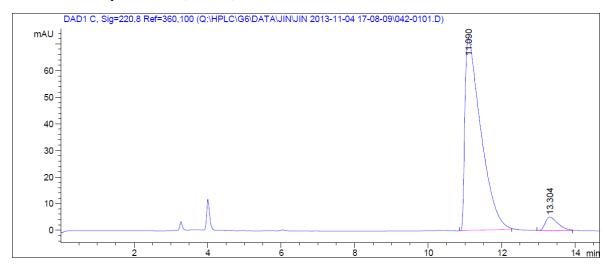
Enantiomerically enriched (95:5 er)

1

2

10.398 BV

11.750 VB



0.7025 1.05207e4

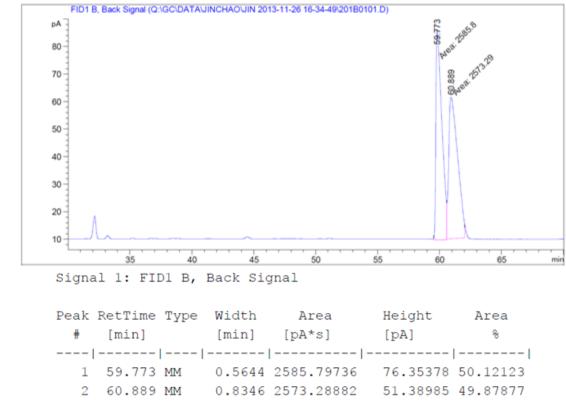
Signal 3: DAD1 C, Sig=220,8 Ref=360,100

Peak 1	RetTime	Туре	Width	Area	Height	Area
#	[min]		[min]	[mAU*s]	[mAU]	용
1	11.090	BB	0.4384	2180.99365	72.20281	94.8412
2	13.304	BB	0.3585	118.63420	4.96983	5.1588

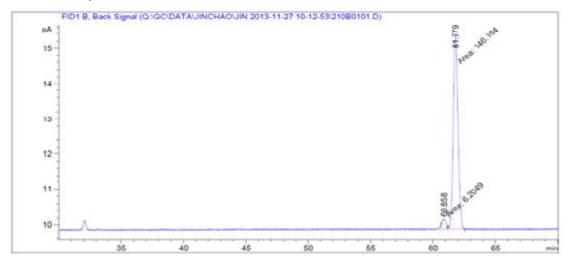
*tert*-Butyl (S)-3-(isopropylthio)butanoate **4g** (Supelco  $\beta$ -dex<sup>TM</sup> 325)



## Racemic



## Enantiomerically enriched (96:4 er)

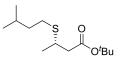


Signal 1: FID1 B, Back Signal

Peak	RetTime	Туре	Width	Area	Height	Area
#	[min]		[min]	[pA*s]	[pA]	8
		-				
1	60.858	MM	0.4049	6.79030	2.79475e-1	4.43855
2	61.779	MM	0.4430	146.19440	5.50011	95.56145

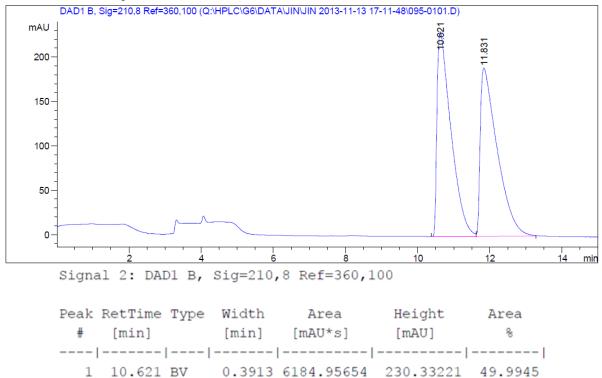
*tert*-Butyl (*S*)-3-(isopentylthio)butanoate **4h** 

(Chiralpak IA, hexane/isopropanol = 100/0, 1 mL/min)



50.0055

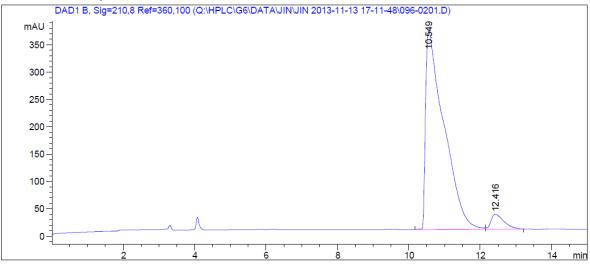
## Racemic



Enantiomerically enriched (95:5 er)

11.831 VB

2

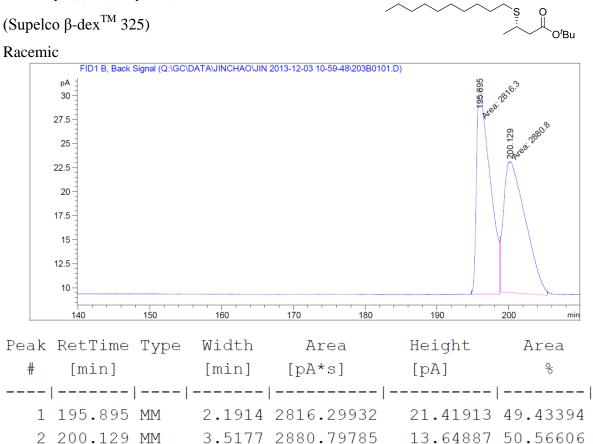


0.4728 6186.31348 189.54134

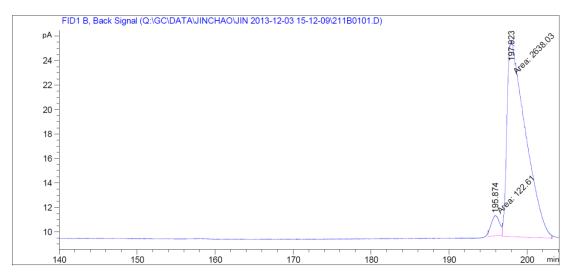
Signal 2: DAD1 B, Sig=210,8 Ref=360,100

Peak	RetTime	Туре	Width	Area	Height	Area
#	[min]		[min]	[mAU*s]	[mAU]	용
		-				
1	10.549	BB	0.4910	1.29721e4	362.90451	94.9286
2	12.416	BB	0.3782	693.01221	27.47880	5.0714

tert-Butyl (S)-3-(decylthio)butanoate 4i



Enantiomerically enriched (95:5)



Signal 1: FID1 B, Back Signal

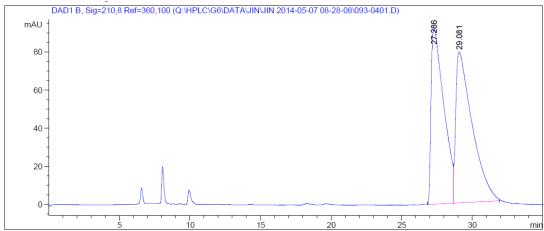
Peak	RetTime	Туре	Width	Area	Height	Area
#	[min]		[min]	[pA*s]	[pA]	%
1	195.874	MM	1.2012	130.79546	1.81475	4.69734
2	197.923	MM	2.7481	2653.66333	16.09390	95.30266

tert-Butyl (S)-3-(cyclohexylthio)butanoate 4j



(Chiralpak IA, hexane/isopropanol = 100/0, 0.5 mL/min)

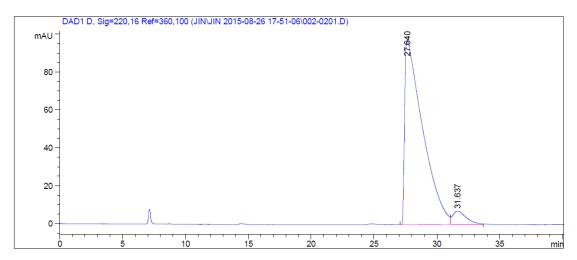
### Racemic



Signal 2: DAD1 B, Sig=210,8 Ref=360,100

Peak RetTime Type	Width	Area	Height	Area
# [min]	[min]	[mAU*s]	[mAU]	90
1 27.286 BV	0.8855	5740.49951	92.05278	47.2667
2 29.081 VB	1.0967	6404.40234	79.09560	52.7333
Totals :		1.21449e4	171 14838	
iocaip .		1.2144964	T/T.14030	

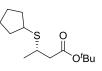
# Enantiomerically enriched (95:5 er)



Signal 4: DAD1 D, Sig=220,16 Ref=360,100

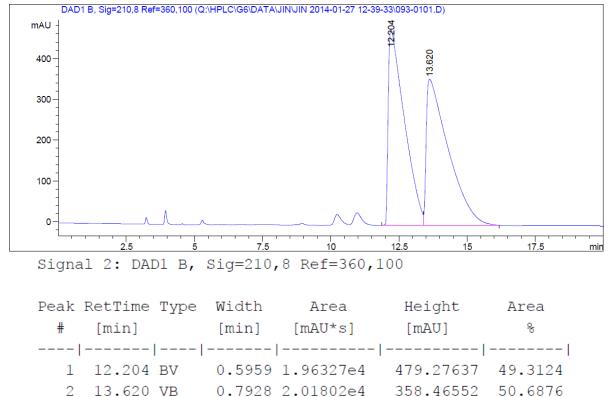
Peak RetTime Type # [min]		Area [mall*s]	Height [mAU]	Area %
# [III]			2 3	
1 27.640 BV	1.3216	9691.12891	97.32992	94.9290
2 31.637 VB	0.9968	517.68457	7.01612	5.0710

*tert*-Butyl (S)-3-(cyclopentylthio)butanoate **4**k

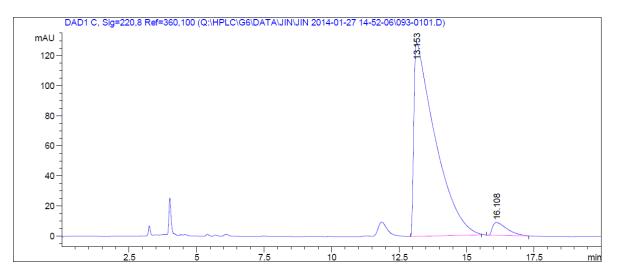


(Chiralpak IA, hexane/isopropanol = 100/0, 1.0 mL/min)

### Racemic



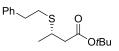
Enantiomerically enriched (96:4 er)



Signal 3: DAD1 C, Sig=220,8 Ref=360,100

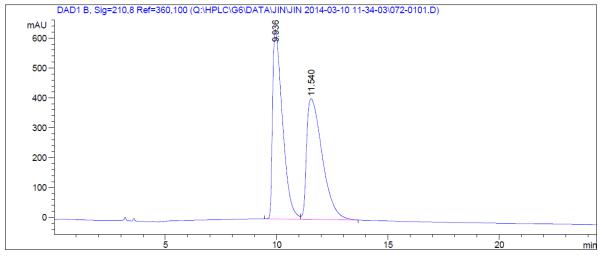
Peak	RetTime	Туре	Width	Area	Height	Area
#	[min]		[min]	[mAU*s]	[mAU]	8
1	13.153	BB	0.7463	7085.36377	129.10587	95.6882
2	16.108	BB	0.5462	319.27481	8.53992	4.3118

*tert*-Butyl (S)-3-(phenethylthio)butanoate **4** 



(Chiralpak IA, hexane/isopropanol = 100/0, 1.0 mL/min)

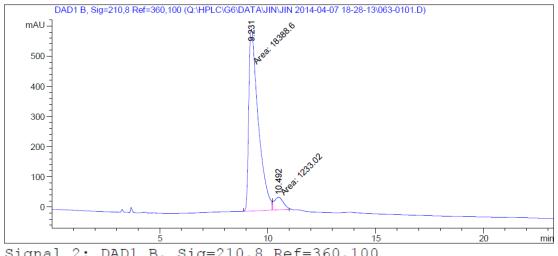
#### Racemic



Signal 2: DAD1 B, Sig=210,8 Ref=360,100

Peak RetTime Type	Width	Area	Height	Area
# [min]	[min]	[mAU*s]	[mAU]	옹
				I
1 9.936 BV	0.4662	1.95530e4	633.33875	49.7235
2 11.540 VB	0.7613	1.97704e4	403.75366	50.2765

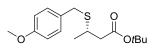
# Enantiomerically enriched (94:6 er)



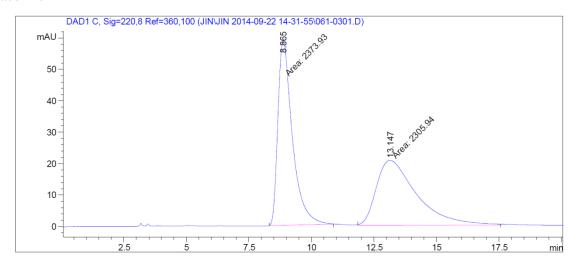
Signal 2: DAD1 B, Sig=210,8 Ref=360,100

Peak	RetTime	Туре	Width	Area	Height	Area
#	[min]		[min]	[mAU*s]	[mAU]	8
1	9.231	MM	0.5083	1.83886e4	602.98889	93.7160
2	10.492	MM	0.4930	1233.02429	41.68432	6.2840

*tert*-Butyl (*S*)-3-((4-methoxybenzyl)thio)butanoate **4m** 



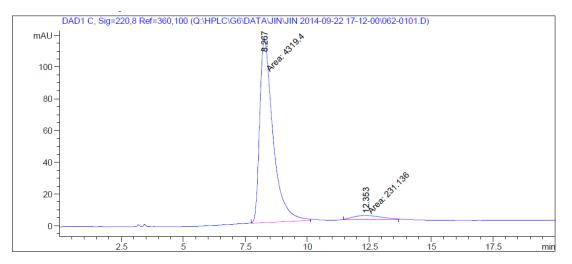
(Chiralpak AS-H, hexane/isopropanol = 99/1, 1.0 mL/min) Racemic



Signal 3: DAD1 C, Sig=220,8 Ref=360,100

Peak RetTime T	ype Width	Area	Height	Area
# [min]	[min]	[mAU*s]	[mAU]	olo
-				
1 8.865 M	M 0.6728	2373.92944	58.80980	50.7265
2 13.147 M	M 1.8599	2305.93555	20.66365	49.2735

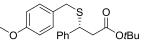
# Enantiomerically enriched (95:5 er)



Signal 3: DAD1 C, Sig=220,8 Ref=360,100

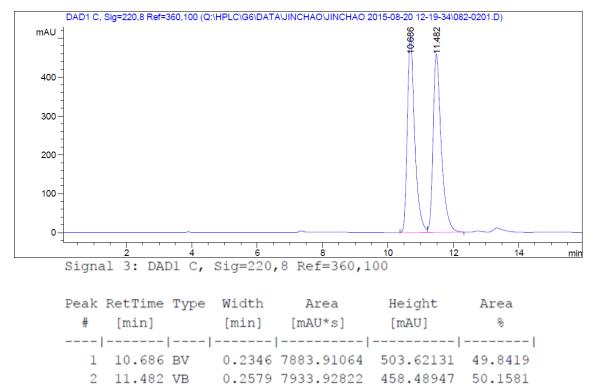
Peak	RetTime	Туре	Width	Area	Height	Area
#	[min]		[min]	[mAU*s]	[mAU]	010
1	8.267	MM	0.6258	4319.39697	115.02805	94.9207
2	12.353	MM	1.3925	231.13589	2.76634	5.0793

tert-Butyl (R)-3-((4-methoxybenzyl)thio)-3-phenylpropanoate 4n

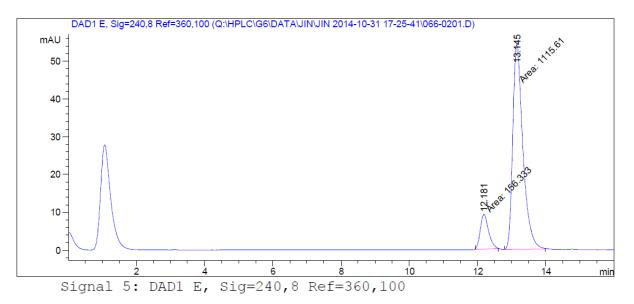


(Chiralpak AS-H, hexane/isopropanol = 100/0, 0.5 mL/min)

## Racemic



Enantiomerically enriched (88:12 er)



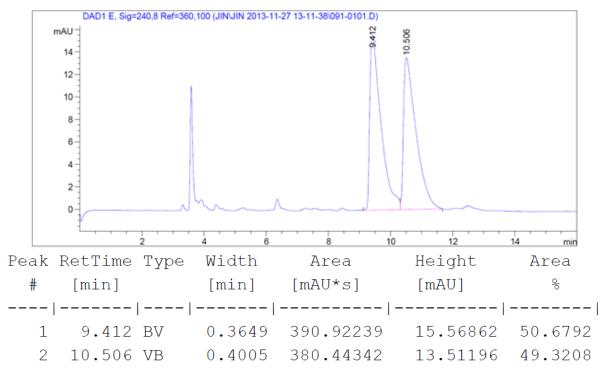
Peak H	RetTime	Туре	Width	Area	Height	Area
#	[min]		[min]	[mAU*s]	[mAU]	옹
-						
1	12.181	MM	0.2820	156.33324	9.23939	12.2909
2	13.145	MM	0.3432	1115.60718	54.18087	87.7091

*tert*-Butyl (*S*)-3-(propylthio)pentanoate **40** 

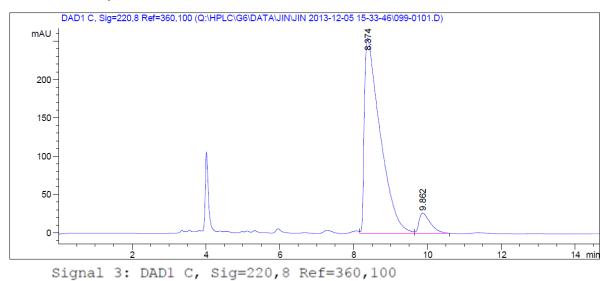


(Chiralpak IA, hexane/isopropanol = 100/0, 1.0 mL/min)



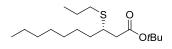


Enantiomerically enriched (93:7 er)



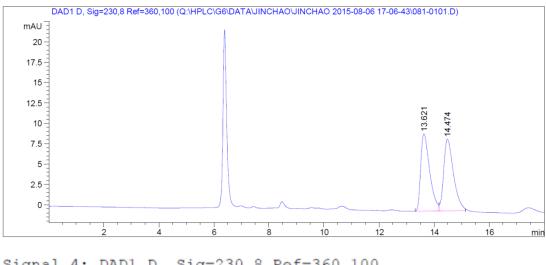
				Area [mAU*s]	Height [mAU]	Area %
1	8.374	vv	0.4239	7591.90527	254.59702	92.9248
2	9.862	VB	0.3276	578.03796	26.59521	7.0752

*tert*-Butyl (S)-3-(propylthio)decanoate **4p** 



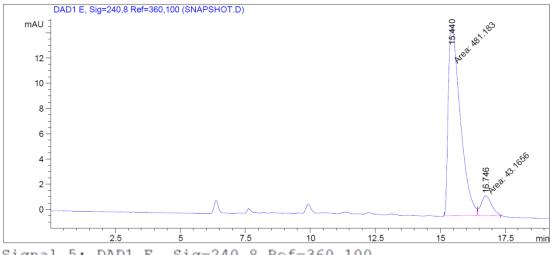
(Chiralpak IA, hexane/isopropanol = 100/0, 1.0 mL/min)

## Racemic



Sig	gna	1 4: 1	DADI	D,	Sig=230	,8 ReI=360,	100	
Pea	ak I	RetTim	ne T	ype	Width	Area	Height	Area
#	ŧ	[min]			[min]	[mAU*s]	[mAU]	00
	1	13.62	21 B	V	0.3411	213.85118	9.48187	49.5139
	2	14.47	74 V	В	0.3735	218.05049	8.78591	50.4861

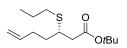
Enantiomerically enriched (92:8 er)



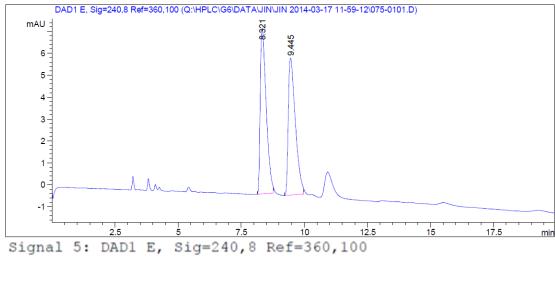
Signal 5: DAD1 E, Sig=240,8 Ref=360,100

Peak	RetTime	Type	Width	Area	Height	Area
#	[min]		[min]	[mAU*s]	[mAU]	8
1	15.440	MM	0.5403	481.18307	14.84291	91.7678
2	16.746	MM	0.4631	43.16562	1.55355	8.2322

*tert*-Butyl (*S*)-3-(propylthio)hept-6-enoate **4q** (Chiralpak IA, hexane/isopropanol = 100/0, 1.0 mL/min)

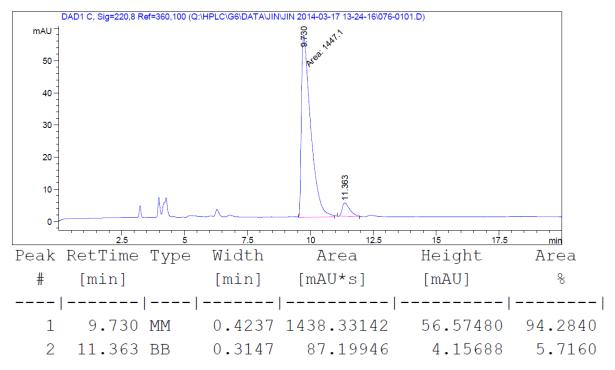


## Racemic



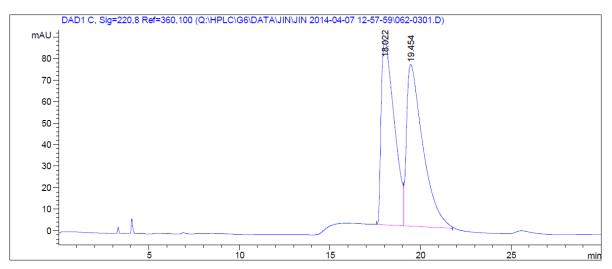
Peak	RetTime	Type	Width	Area	Height	Area	
#	[min]		[min]	[mAU*s]	[mAU]	%	
1	8.321	BB	0.2490	123.80908	7.56425	50.3606	
2	9.445	BB	0.2938	122.03627	6.24959	49.6394	

Enantiomerically enriched (94:6 er)



Ph OtBu

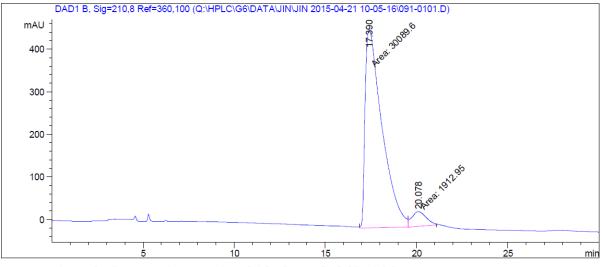
*tert*-Butyl (*S*)-5-phenyl-3-(propylthio)pentanoate **4r** (Chiralpak IA, hexane/isopropanol = 100/0, 1.0 mL/min) Racemic



Signal 3: DAD1 C, Sig=220,8 Ref=360,100

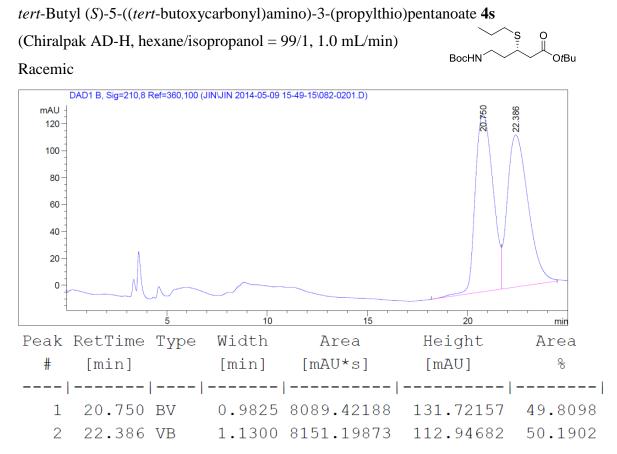
Peak	RetTime	Type	Width	Area	Height	Area
#	[min]		[min]	[mAU*s]	[mAU]	8
		-				
1	18.022	BV	0.7339	4291.35791	86.03976	47.5955
2	19.454	VB	0.9075	4724.94727	75.15421	52.4045
• •	- 11	- 1 (0 1.0	>			

Enantiomerically enriched (94:6 er)

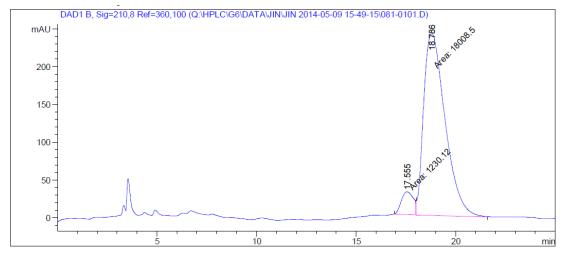


Signal 2: DAD1 B, Sig=210,8 Ref=360,100

Peak	RetTime	Туре	Width	Area	Height	Area
#	[min]		[min]	[mAU*s]	[mAU]	90
1	17.390	MM	1.0769	3.00896e4	465.69724	94.0225
2	20.078	MM	0.9175	1912.95203	34.74918	5.9775



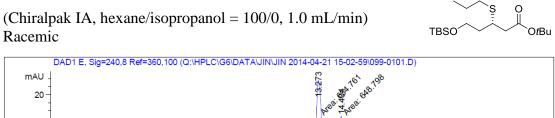
## Enantiomerically enriched (94:6 er)

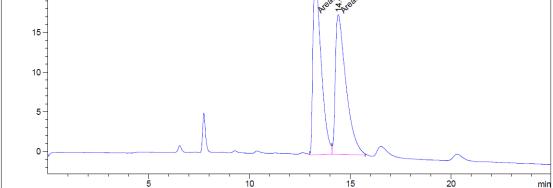


Signal 2: DAD1 B, Sig=210,8 Ref=360,100

Peak	RetTime	Туре	Width	Area	Height	Area
#	[min]		[min]	[mAU*s]	[mAU]	00
1	17.555	MM	0.6863	1230.11829	29.87365	6.3940
2	18.786	MM	1.2488	1.80085e4	240.35182	93.6060

tert-Butyl (S)-5-((tert-butyldimethylsilyl)oxy)-3-(propylthio)pentanoate 4t

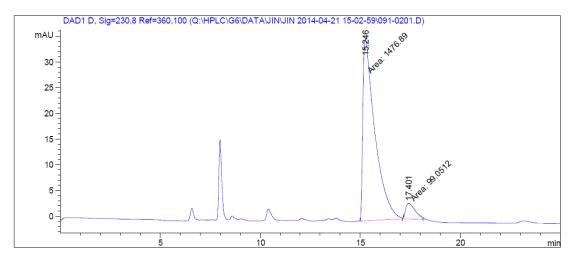




Signal 4: DAD1 D, Sig=230,8 Ref=360,100

Peak RetTime Type	Width	Area	Height	Area
# [min]	[min]	[mAU*s]	[mAU]	olo
1 13.273 BB	0.4343	1185.56799	41.62608	49.7337
2 14.405 BB	0.5257	1198.26245	32.99532	50.2663

Enantiomerically enriched (94:6 er)



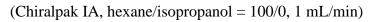
Signal 4: DAD1 D, Sig=230,8 Ref=360,100

Peak	RetTime	Туре	Width	Area	Height	Area
#	[min]		[min]	[mAU*s]	[mAU]	90
1	15.246	MM	0.6967	1476.89294	35.33311	93.7148
2	17.401	MM	0.5397	99.05119	3.05866	6.2852

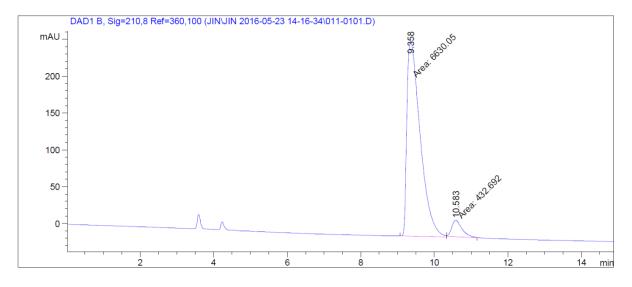
# HPLC chromatogram of 4e for Section 1.6

*tert*-Butyl (*S*)-3-(propylthio)butanoate **4**e

S O ....O'Bu



Enatiomerically enriched (94:6 er)



Signal 2: DAD1 B, Sig=210,8 Ref=360,100

Peak	RetTime	Туре	Width	Area	Height	Area
#	[min]		[min]	[mAU*s]	[mAU]	90
1	9.358	MM	0.4177	6630.05322	264.54739	93.8736
2	10.583	MM	0.3235	432.69229	22.28986	6.1264

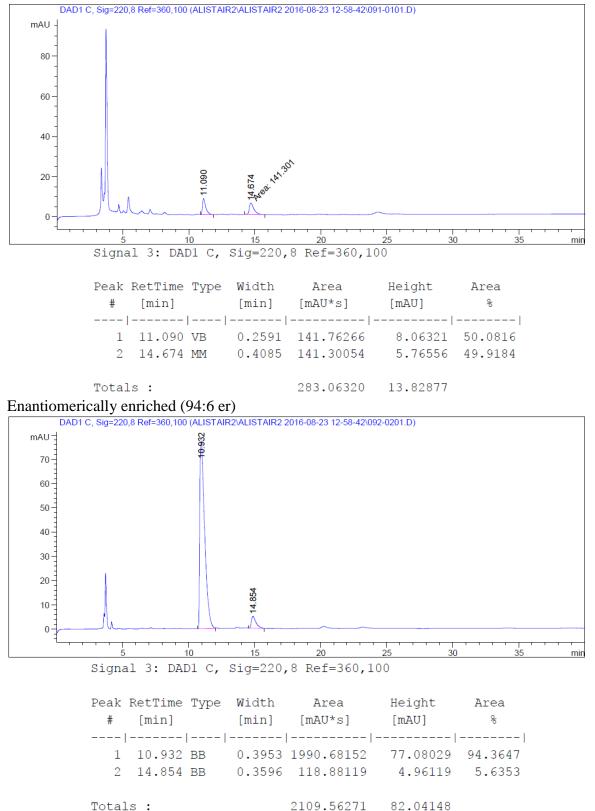
#### **HPLC chromatograms for Section 1.7**

tert-Butyl (S)-3-(propylsulfonyl)butanoate 5a

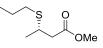
S O'Bu

(Chiralpak IA, hexane/isopropanol = 95/5, 1.0 mL/min)

#### Racemic

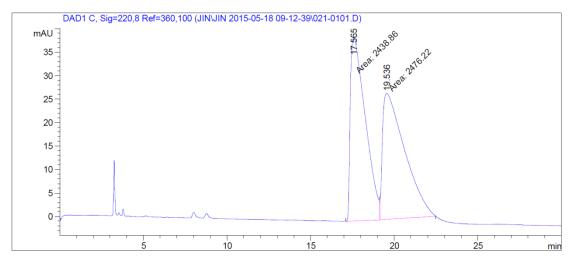


Methyl (S)-3-(propylthio)butanoate 4a



(Chiralpak IA, hexane/isopropanol = 100/0, 1.0 mL/min)

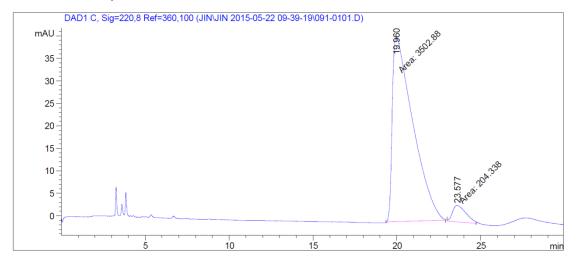
## Racemic



Signal 3: DAD1 C, Sig=220,8 Ref=360,100

Peak RetTime	Туре	Width	Area	Height	Area
# [min]		[min]	[mAU*s]	[mAU]	8
1 17.565	MM	1.0410	2438.85913	39.04567	49.6199
2 19.536	MM	1.5400	2476.22363	26.79920	50.3801

Enantiomerically enriched (94:6 er)

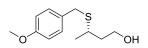


Signal 3: DAD1 C, Sig=220,8 Ref=360,100

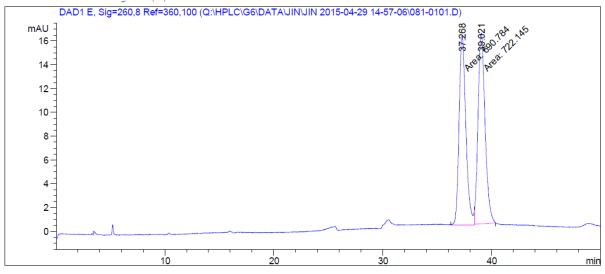
Peak	RetTime	Туре	Width	Area	Height	Area
#	[min]		[min]	[mAU*s]	[mAU]	8
1	19.960	MM	1.4245	3502.88037	40.98492	94.4881
2	23.577	MM	0.9312	204.33829	3.65733	5.5119

(*S*)-3-((4-Methoxybenzyl)thio)butan-1-ol **5b** 

(Chiralpak AD-H, hexane/isopropanol = 97/3, 1.0 mL/min)



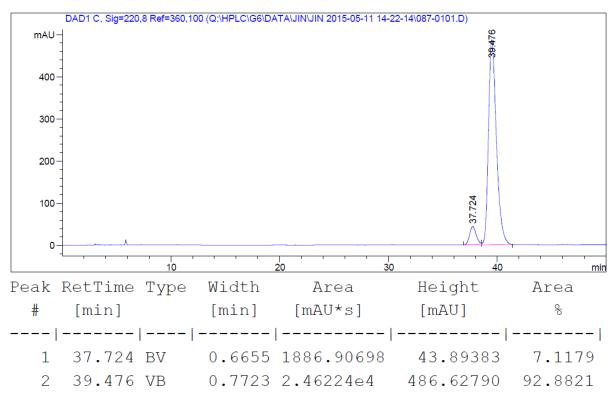
### Racemic



Signal 5: DAD1 E, Sig=260,8 Ref=360,100

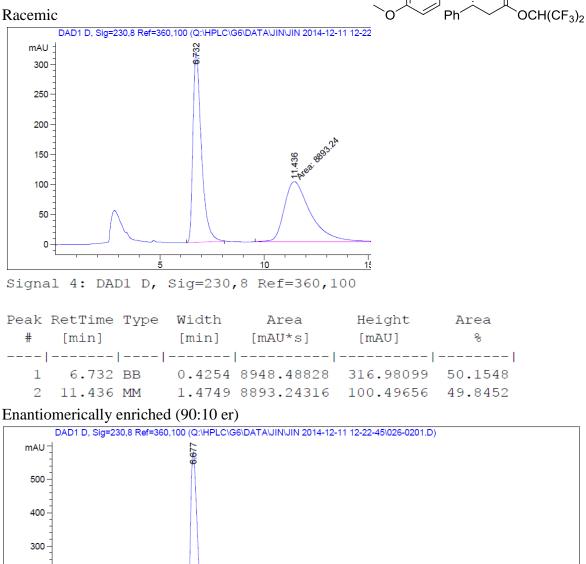
idth Area	Height	Area
min] [mAU*s]	[mAU]	용
-		
.7240 690.78394	15.90182	48.8902
.7515 722.14496	16.01645	51.1098
1	min] [mAU*s]   - .7240 690.78394	

Enantiomerically enriched (93:7 er)



## HPLC chromatograms for Section 1.8

1,1,1,3,3,3-Hexafluoropropan-2-yl (*R*)-3-((4-methoxybenzyl)thio)-3-phenylpropanoate **12** (Chiralpak AS-H, hexane/isopropanol = 99/1, 1.0 mL/min) 0





200

100

0

	RetTime [min]			Area [mAU*s]	Height [mAU]	Area %
1	6.677	BB	0.3937	1.52227e4	581.00500	89.7042
2	11.635	MM	1.3463	1747.18091	21.62953	10.2958

41.18 41.18 41.18 41.18

15

<u>20</u>

min