

# **Sulphide as Leaving Group: Highly Stereoselective Bromination of Alkyl Phenyl Sulphides**

Daniele Canestrari,<sup>a</sup> Caterina Cioffi,<sup>a</sup> Ilaria Biancofiore,<sup>a,b</sup> Stefano Lancianesi,<sup>a</sup> Lorenza Ghisu,<sup>a</sup> Manuel Ruether,<sup>c</sup> John O'Brien,<sup>c</sup> Mauro F. A. Adamo\*<sup>a</sup> and Hasim Ibrahim\*<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> *Centre for Synthesis and Chemical Biology (CSCB), Department of Chemistry, Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, 123 St. Stephen's Green, Dublin 2, Ireland*

<sup>b</sup> *IRBM Science Park S.p.A., Department of Medicinal Chemistry, Via Pontina, 30.600, 00071 Pomezia RM, Italy*

<sup>c</sup> *Trinity Biomedical Sciences Institute, School of Chemistry, The University of Dublin, Trinity College, Dublin 2, Ireland*

*email: madamo@rcsi.ie, hasimibrahim@rcsi.ie*

## **Supporting Information**

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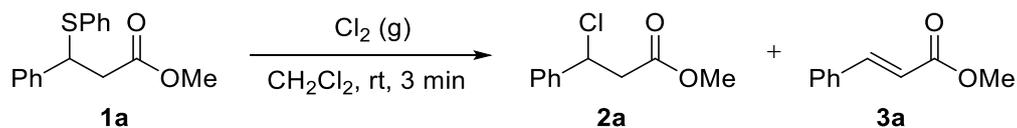
## 1. General remarks

$^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{19}\text{F}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker Avance 400 MHz spectrometer. Low-temperature 1D and 2D NMR spectra were recorded on an Agilent Technologies Ultra High Field (UHF) 800 MHz spectrometer or Agilent 400-MR Long Hold Mag. Res. spectrometer. Chemical shifts ( $\delta$ ) are reported in ppm relative to residual solvent signals for  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR ( $^1\text{H}$  NMR: 7.26 ppm for  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 1.94 ppm for  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ , 5.32 ppm for  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR: 77.00 ppm for  $\text{CDCl}_3$ , 1.32 ppm and 118.26 ppm for  $\text{CD}_3\text{CN}$ , 53.84 ppm for  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra were acquired with  $^1\text{H}$  broad band decoupled mode. Coupling constants ( $J$ ) are in Hz. Melting points were measured using a Stuart scientific melting point apparatus and are uncorrected. Infrared spectra (IR) were recorded using a Nicolet iS 10 FT-IR spectrometer. Low resolution mass spectra were acquired with an Advion Expression CMS instrument. High resolution mass spectra were obtained on a Waters Micromass GCT Premier MS spectrometer or on a Bruker micrOTOF-Q III LC-MS spectrometer (APCI method). Elemental analysis was carried out using an Exeter Analytical CE 440 elemental analyser. Optical rotations were measured on a Perkin-Elmer 343 polarimeter. The enantiomeric excess (ee) was determined by chiral stationary phase HPLC using a Shimadzu SIL-20AHT HPLC instrument.

## 2. Materials

Analytical grade solvents and commercially available reagents were used as received. Dry  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , DCE, toluene, MeCN and  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$  were purchased from commercial sources. Dry THF was obtained from an Inert Pure Solv Micro drying solvent system. Reactions were monitored by TLC analysis (Merck, aluminum plates, silica gel 60 F<sub>254</sub>) and/or  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectroscopy. Flash column chromatography was performed using silica gel 60 (0.040-0.063 mm, 230-400 mesh). Cinnamate esters,<sup>1</sup> 1,1,1,3,3,3-hexafluoropropan-2-yl cinnamates and optically active sulphides (*S*)-**1aa**, (*S*)-**1ba**, (*S*)-**1da** and (*S*)-**1ea** were prepared according to published procedures.<sup>2</sup> Methyl 3-hydroxy-3-phenylpropanoate and ethyl 3-(4-chlorophenyl)-3-hydroxypropanoate,<sup>3</sup> sulphides **1a**, **1c**, **1d**, **1i**, **1m**, **1s**, **1t**, **1x**, **1za** and **1zb**,<sup>4</sup> **1j** and **1k**,<sup>2</sup> **1l**,<sup>5</sup> **1n** and **1o**,<sup>6</sup> **1p**,<sup>7</sup> **1q**<sup>8</sup> and **1y**<sup>9</sup> were synthesized according to literature procedures.

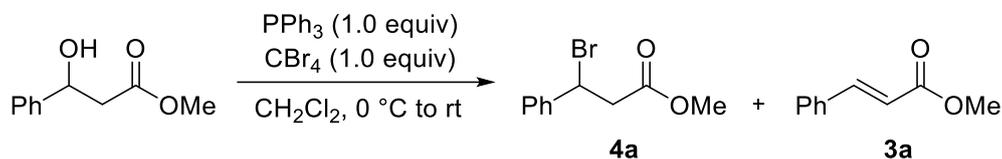
### 3. Reaction of sulphide (1a) with Cl<sub>2</sub> gas



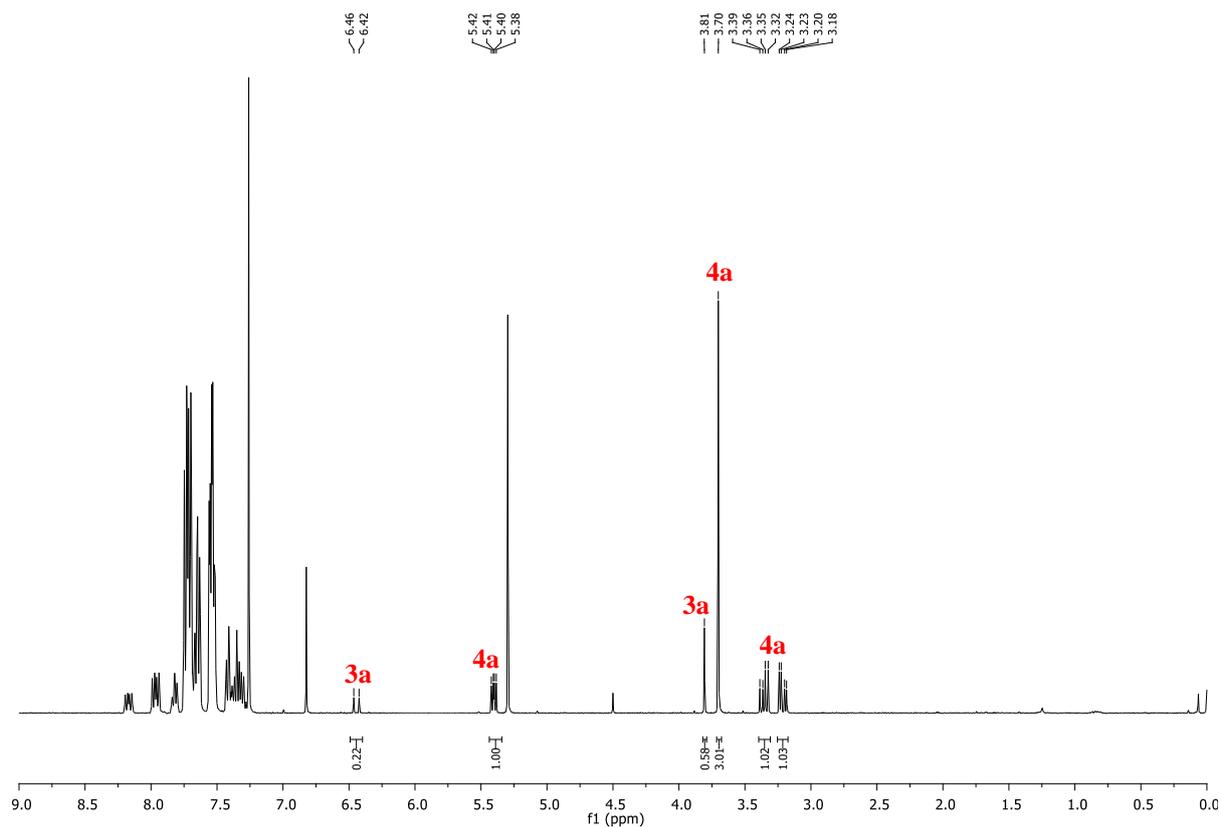
Cl<sub>2</sub> gas was bubbled into a stirred solution of **1a** (136 mg, 0.5 mmol) in dry CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3 mL) (ca. 5 bubbles/sec) under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere. The reaction was stirred for 3 minutes, quenched with styrene (86 μL, 78 mg, 0.75 mmol, 1.5 equiv) and the solvent removed *in vacuo*. A <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of the residue was recorded to determine the composition of the crude material, which indicated the complete consumption of **1a** and the presence of chloride **2a** and dehydrochlorinated **3a** in a ratio of 70:30.

### 4. Deoxybromination of β-hydroxyl esters

#### 4.1 Dehydroxybromination of methyl 3-hydroxy-3-phenylpropanoate under Appel conditions

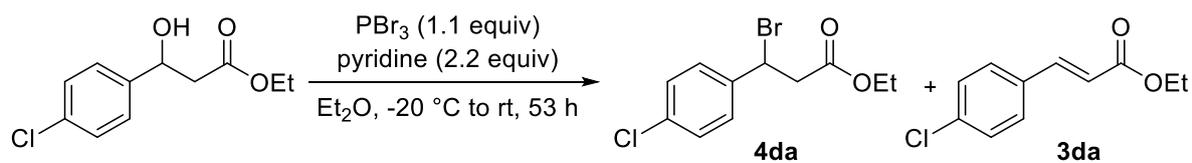


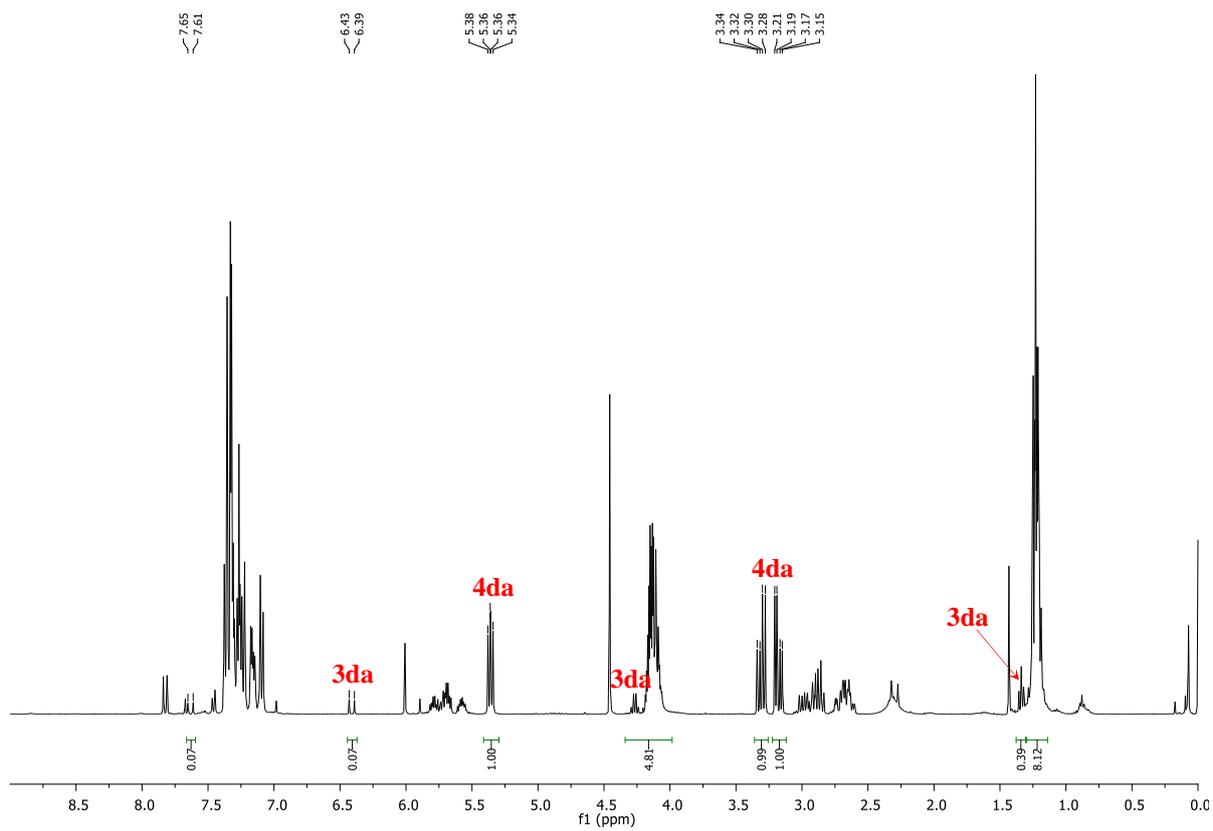
Standard conditions for the Appel reaction were followed.<sup>10</sup> A solution of methyl 3-hydroxy-3-phenylpropanoate (90 mg, 0.5 mmol) and tetrabromomethane (166 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in dry CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (5.0 mL) was cooled to 0 °C, and triphenylphosphine (131 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv) was added portion-wise. The reaction mixture was allowed to reach rt and stirred for 24 h (TLC analysis), then the reaction mixture was evaporated *in vacuo*. A <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of the residue showed the formation of **4a** and **3a** in a ratio of 82:18.



#### 4.2 Deoxybromination of ethyl 3-(4-chlorophenyl)-3-hydroxypropanoate with PBr<sub>3</sub>

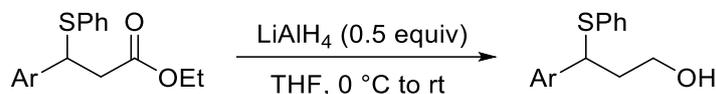
The deoxybromination procedure with PBr<sub>3</sub> was repeated according to A. Sudalai *et al.*<sup>11</sup> In our hands, the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of the crude material showed the formation of a product mixture containing around 42% of bromide **4da**.





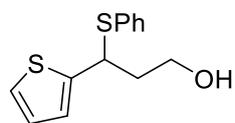
## 5. Preparation of sulphides

### 5.1 General procedure for the reduction of $\beta$ -sulphido esters (GP1)



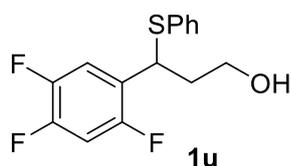
To a stirred solution of sulphide (2.0 mmol) in dry THF (4.0 mL) was added dropwise *via* syringe  $\text{LiAlH}_4$  (1.0 mL, 1.0 M solution in  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$ , 1.0 mmol, 0.5 equiv) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was allowed to reach rt and stirred until consumption of the starting material was observed by TLC analysis, then carefully quenched with sat. aq. soln of  $\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$  (10 mL) and extracted with  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$  (3 x 10 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$  and the solvent removed *in vacuo* to obtain the corresponding alcohol, which was used without further purification.

#### 3-(Phenylthio)-3-(thiophen-2-yl)propan-1-ol



Prepared according to GP1. The reaction was completed in 2 h. The title compound was obtained as a yellow oil (425 mg, 85% yield). IR (neat,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ):  $\nu$  3331, 3071, 2930, 1473, 1125, 1042, 954.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  1.79 (br s, 1H), 2.15–2.25 (m, 2H), 3.62–3.68 (m, 1H), 3.80 (dt,  $J = 11.3, 5.8$  Hz, 1H), 4.65 (virt t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 6.75 (d,  $J = 3.5$  Hz, 1H), 6.82 (dd,  $J = 5.1, 3.5$  Hz, 1H), 7.16 (dd,  $J = 5.1, 0.9$  Hz, 1H), 7.19–7.26 (m, 2H), 7.27–7.32 (m, 3H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  39.6, 45.4, 60.1, 124.5, 125.3, 126.3, 127.5, 128.7, 132.8, 134.0, 146.0. HRMS (EI):  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{14}\text{OS}_2\text{Na}$  [ $\text{M} + \text{Na}$ ] $^+$  calculated: 273.0384, found: 273.0390.

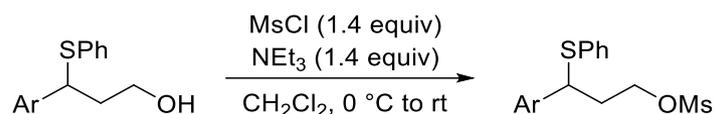
#### 3-(2,4,5-Trifluorophenyl)-3-(phenylthio)propan-1-ol (1u)



Prepared according to GP1. The reaction was completed in 16 h. The title compound was isolated as a pale yellow oil (528 mg, 89% yield). IR (neat,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ):  $\nu$  3487, 3362, 3100, 2856, 1469, 1123, 978.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  1.46 (br s, 1H), 2.02–2.10 (m, 1H), 2.16–2.24 (m, 1H), 3.65 (virt dt,  $J = 11.3, 6.3$  Hz, 1H), 3.81 (virt dt,  $J = 11.5, 5.9$  Hz, 1H), 4.69 (virt t,  $J = 7.6$  Hz, 1H), 6.82 (virt dt,  $J = 9.7, 6.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.15 (ddd,  $J = 10.8, 8.7, 6.9$  Hz, 1H), 7.20–7.30 (m, 5H).  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  -119.6 (dd,  $J = 15.2, 3.8$  Hz), -134.7 (dd,  $J = 21.7, 3.8$  Hz), -141.9 (dd,  $J = 21.7, 15.1$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  37.9, 41.8, 60.1,

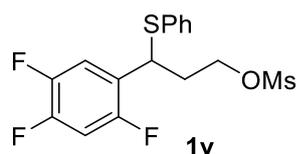
105.3 (dd,  $J = 28.8, 20.7$  Hz), 116.6 (dd,  $J = 19.9, 5.2$  Hz), 125.7 (dt,  $J = 16.0, 4.6$  Hz), 127.8, 128.9, 132.6, 133.3, 146.9 (ddd,  $J = 244.9, 12.6, 3.4$  Hz), 148.8 (ddd,  $J = 251.2, 14.5, 12.6$  Hz), 155.2 (ddd,  $J = 245.3, 9.3, 2.7$  Hz). HRMS (EI):  $C_{15}H_{13}F_3OSNa$   $[M + Na]^+$  calculated: 321.0537, found: 321.0525.

## 5.2 General procedure for the preparation of $\beta$ -sulphido mesylates (GP2)<sup>4</sup>



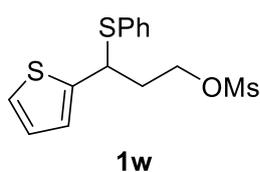
To a stirred solution of the sulphido alcohol (2.0 mmol) and methanesulphonyl chloride (260  $\mu$ L, 321 mg, 2.8 mmol, 1.4 equiv) in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (5.0 mL) was added dropwise triethylamine (467  $\mu$ L, 339 mg, 3.4 mmol, 1.4 equiv) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was allowed to reach rt and stirred until consumption of the starting material was observed by TLC analysis, then diluted with  $H_2O$  (10 mL) and extracted with  $CH_2Cl_2$  (3 x 10 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with  $H_2O$  (3 x 10 mL), brine and dried over  $Na_2SO_4$ . The solvent was removed *in vacuo* and the crude mixture was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel to afford the corresponding methanesulphonate.

### (2,4,5-Trifluorophenyl)-3-(phenylthio)propyl methansulphonate (**1v**)



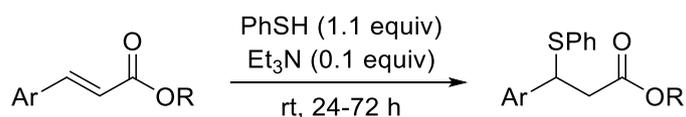
Prepared according to GP2. The reaction was completed in 16 h. The title compound was isolated by flash column chromatography (silica gel; petroleum ether/EtOAc, 80:20) as a brown oil (568 mg, 91% yield). IR (neat,  $cm^{-1}$ ):  $\nu$  3029, 3015, 2659, 1629, 1510, 1353, 1331, 1170, 797, 525.  $^1H$  NMR (400 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ):  $\delta$  2.21–2.30 (m, 1H), 2.32–2.41 (m, 1H), 2.96 (s, 3H), 4.20 (ddd,  $J = 10.3, 6.4, 5.7$  Hz, 1H), 4.39 (ddd,  $J = 10.3, 6.7, 5.6$  Hz, 1H), 4.58 (virt t,  $J = 7.6, 1H$ ), 6.86 (virt dt,  $J = 9.7, 6.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.09 (ddd,  $J = 10.7, 8.6, 6.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.21–7.31 (m, 5H).  $^{19}F$  NMR (376 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ):  $\delta$  -119.1 (dd,  $J = 15.2, 3.2$  Hz), -133.8 (dd,  $J = 21.6, 2.0$  Hz), -141.4 (dd,  $J = 26.3, 10.5$  Hz).  $^{13}C$  NMR (101 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ):  $\delta$  34.4, 37.3, 41.5, 66.7, 105.6 (dd,  $J = 28.7, 20.8$  Hz), 116.5 (dd,  $J = 20.0, 5.0$  Hz), 124.6 (dd,  $J = 15.8, 4.6$  Hz), 128.2, 129.1, 132.4, 133.1, 146.9 (ddd,  $J = 245.6, 12.6, 3.5$  Hz), 149.1 (ddd,  $J = 252.0, 14.5, 12.6$  Hz), 155.2 (ddd,  $J = 246.0, 9.3, 2.6$  Hz). HRMS (EI):  $C_{16}H_{15}F_3O_3S_2Na$   $[M + Na]^+$  calculated: 399.0312, found: 399.0309.

### 3-(Phenylthio)-3-(thiophen-2-yl)propyl methanesulphonate (1w)



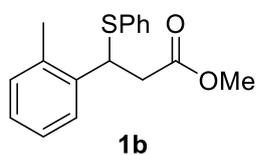
Prepared according to GP-2. The reaction was completed in 3 h. The title compound was isolated by flash column chromatography (silica gel;  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) as a yellow oil (636 mg, 97% yield). IR (neat,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ):  $\nu$  3020, 2935, 1566, 1351, 1169, 961.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  2.28-2.49 (m, 2H), 2.94 (s, 3H), 4.22 (ddd,  $J = 10.1, 7.3, 5.2$  Hz, 1H), 4.40 (virt dt,  $J = 10.2, 5.8$  Hz, 1H), 4.59 (virt t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 6.78 (d,  $J = 3.2$  Hz, 1H), 6.86 (dd,  $J = 5.1, 3.5$  Hz, 1H), 7.21 (dd,  $J = 5.1, 0.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.23–7.28 (m, 3H), 7.28–7.38 (m, 2H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  36.2, 37.2, 44.9, 67.2, 125.0, 125.8, 126.6, 128.1, 128.9, 133.2, 133.3, 144.5. HRMS (EI):  $\text{C}_{14}\text{H}_{16}\text{O}_3\text{S}_3\text{Na}$  [ $\text{M} + \text{Na}$ ] $^+$  calculated: 351.0156, found: 351.0151.

### 5.3 General procedure for the sulpha-Michael addition to cinnamate esters (GP3)



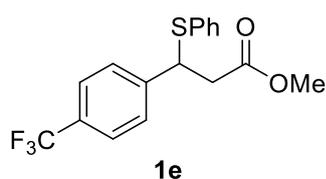
Thiophenol (337  $\mu\text{L}$ , 364 mg, 3.3 mmol, 1.1 equiv) and triethylamine (42  $\mu\text{L}$ , 30 mg, 0.3 mmol, 0.1 equiv) were added to the cinnamate ester (3.0 mmol) and the reaction mixture was stirred at rt until complete consumption of the starting material was observed by TLC analysis (9-48 h). The reaction mixture was purified directly by flash column chromatography on silica gel to afford the sulpha-Michael adduct.

### Methyl 3-(phenylthio)-3-(*o*-tolyl)propanoate (1b)



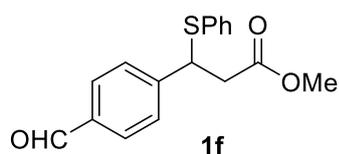
Prepared according GP3. The reaction was completed in 16 h. The title compound was isolated by flash chromatography (silica gel; petroleum ether/EtOAc, 95:5) as a pale yellow oil (566 mg, 66% yield). IR (neat,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ):  $\nu$  3025, 2925, 2910, 1787, 1599, 1503, 1271, 759, 651.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  2.40 (s, 3H), 2.98 (m, 2H), 3.55 (s, 3H), 4.87 (virt t,  $J = 7.7$  Hz, 1H), 7.09-7.18 (m, 4H), 7.22-7.27 (m, 3H), 7.28-7.35 (m, 2H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  19.4, 40.2, 44.6, 51.8, 126.2, 126.3, 127.4, 128.0, 128.8, 130.5, 133.4, 133.9, 136.1, 138.1, 171.4. HRMS (EI):  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{18}\text{O}_2\text{SNa}$  [ $\text{M} + \text{Na}$ ] $^+$  calculated: 309.0931, found: 309.0925.

### Methyl 3-(phenylthio)-3-[4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]propanoate (1e)



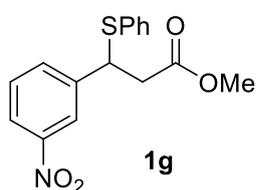
Prepared according to GP3. Reaction was completed in 16 h. The title compound was isolated by flash column chromatography (silica gel; petroleum ether/EtOAc, 95:5) as a white solid (989 mg, 97% yield). Mp: 91–93 °C. IR (neat,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ):  $\nu$  3019, 2854, 1710, 1564, 1389, 1354, 1015, 758.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  2.92 (dd,  $J = 16.0, 8.6$  Hz, 1H), 3.00 (dd,  $J = 16.0, 6.9$  Hz, 1H), 3.61 (s, 3H), 4.66 (dd,  $J = 8.3, 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.21–7.31 (m, 5H), 7.34 (d,  $J = 8.1$  Hz, 2H), 7.51 (d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz, 2H).  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  –62.5.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  40.3, 48.7, 51.9, 124.02 (q,  $J = 272.0$  Hz), 125.4 (q,  $J = 3.8$  Hz), 128.0, 128.2, 129.0, 129.6 (q,  $J = 32.4$  Hz), 132.7, 133.6, 144.7, 170.8. HRMS (EI):  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{15}\text{F}_3\text{O}_2\text{SNa}$  [ $\text{M} + \text{Na}$ ] $^+$ : calculated: 363.0643, found: 363.0658.

### Methyl 3-(4-formylphenyl)-3-(phenylthio)propanoate (1f)



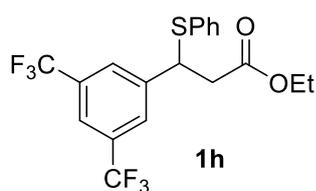
Prepared according to GP3. The reaction was completed in 24 h. The title compound was isolated by flash column chromatography (silica gel;  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) as a pale yellow oil (792 mg, 88% yield). IR (neat,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ):  $\nu$  3019, 2979, 2359, 1730, 1211, 1674, 689.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  2.94 (dd,  $J = 16.0, 8.5$  Hz, 1H), 3.02 (dd,  $J = 16.0, 7.0$  Hz, 1H), 3.61 (s, 3H), 4.67 (dd,  $J = 8.3, 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.19–7.31 (m, 5H), 7.37 (d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz, 2H), 7.77 (d,  $J = 8.2$  Hz, 2H), 9.95 (s, 1H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  40.0, 48.9, 51.9, 128.2, 128.3, 128.9, 129.8, 132.5, 133.8, 135.5, 147.5, 170.7, 191.6. HRMS (EI):  $\text{C}_{17}\text{H}_{16}\text{O}_3\text{SNa}$  [ $\text{M} + \text{Na}$ ] $^+$ : calculated: 323.0718, found: 323.0720.

### Methyl 3-(3-nitrophenyl)-3-(phenylthio)propanoate (1g)



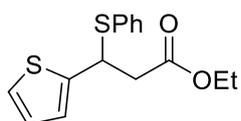
Prepared according to GP3. The reaction was completed in 22 h. The title compound was isolated by flash column chromatography (silica gel; petroleum ether/EtOAc 90:10) as a white solid (718 mg, 84% yield). Mp: 67–69 °C. IR (neat,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ):  $\nu$  3067, 2961, 2924, 1722, 1578, 1470, 1352, 1218, 1147, 987, 753.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  2.95 (dd,  $J = 16.2, 8.8$  Hz, 1H), 3.04 (dd,  $J = 16.2, 6.7$  Hz, 1H), 3.62 (s, 3H), 4.70 (dd,  $J = 8.7, 6.8$  Hz, 1H), 7.20–7.34 (m, 5H), 7.41–7.45 (m, 1H), 7.54–7.56 (m, 1H), 8.05–8.10 (m, 2H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  40.1, 48.5, 52.0, 122.5, 128.5, 129.1, 129.3, 132.2, 133.9, 133.9, 142.9, 170.6. HRMS (EI):  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{15}\text{NO}_4\text{SNa}$  [ $\text{M} + \text{Na}$ ] $^+$  calculated: 340.0612, found: 340.0619.

### Ethyl 3-[(3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)]-3-(phenylthio)propanoate (**1h**)



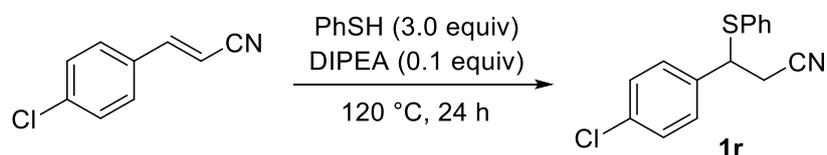
Prepared according to GP3. Reaction was completed in 48 h. The title compound was isolated by flash column chromatography (silica gel; petroleum ether/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 80:20) as a pale yellow oil (974 mg, 77% yield). IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>):  $\nu$  3001, 2983, 1732, 1275, 1168, 1125, 681. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  1.17 (t,  $J$  = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 2.92 (dd,  $J$  = 16.0, 8.8 Hz, 1H), 3.04 (dd,  $J$  = 16.0, 6.8 Hz, 1H), 4.02–4.13 (m, 2H), 4.68 (dd,  $J$  = 8.8, 6.8 Hz, 1H), 7.20–7.34 (m, 5H), 7.57 (s, 2H), 7.71 (s, 1H). <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  -62.9. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  13.9, 40.0, 48.6, 61.1, 121.3 (hept,  $J$  = 3.7 Hz), 123.1 (q,  $J$  = 272.8 Hz), 127.8 (q,  $J$  = 2.8 Hz), 128.8, 129.1, 131.5 (q,  $J$  = 33.4 Hz), 131.6, 134.4, 143.4, 169.9. HRMS (EI): C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>16</sub>F<sub>6</sub>O<sub>2</sub>SNa [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> calculated: 445.0673, found: 445.0670.

### Ethyl 3-(phenylthio)-3-(thiophen-2-yl)propanoate



Prepared according to GP3. The reaction was completed in 9 h. The title compound was isolated by flash column chromatography (silica gel; petroleum ether/EtOAc, 95:5) as a yellow oil (900 mg, 56% yield). IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>):  $\nu$  3010, 2979, 1730, 1211, 1146, 1024, 689. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  1.20 (t,  $J$  = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 2.94 (dd,  $J$  = 16.2, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 2.98 (dd,  $J$  = 16.5, 7.6 Hz, 1H), 4.01–4.19 (m, 2H), 4.92 (virt t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.78 (d,  $J$  = 3.3 Hz, 1H), 6.83–6.85 (m, 1H), 7.18 (dd,  $J$  = 5.1, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.23–7.30 (m, 3H), 7.31–7.39 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  14.1, 42.0, 44.6, 60.9, 124.7, 125.3, 126.4, 128.1, 128.9, 133.1, 133.6, 144.6, 170.4. HRMS (EI): C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>16</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>Na [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> calculated: 315.0481, found: 315.0489.

### 5.4 Synthesis of 3-(4-chlorophenyl)-3-(phenylthio)propanenitrile (**1r**)

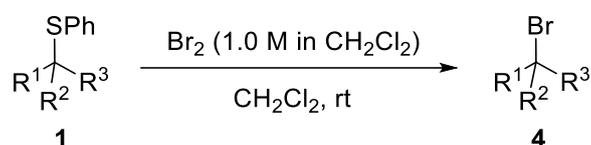


Thiophenol (919  $\mu$ L, 990 mg, 9.0 mmol, 3.0 equiv) and DIPEA (52  $\mu$ L, 39 mg, 0.3 mmol, 0.1 equiv) were added to 3-(4-chlorophenyl)acrylonitrile (489 mg, 3.0 mmol) and the reaction mixture was stirred at 120 °C until complete consumption of the starting material was observed by TLC analysis (24 h). The reaction mixture was directly purified by flash chromatography (silica gel; petroleum ether/EtOAc 95:5) to afford the title compound as a white solid (779 mg,

95% yield). Mp: 80–81 °C. IR (neat,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ):  $\nu$  2979, 1730, 1489, 1211, 1146, 1024, 689.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  2.84 (dd,  $J = 16.6, 8.1$  Hz, 1H), 2.90 (dd,  $J = 16.6, 5.9$  Hz, 1H), 4.38 (dd,  $J = 8.1, 5.9$  Hz, 1H), 7.24–7.39 (m, 9H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  24.9, 48.6, 116.9, 128.8, 128.9, 129.1, 129.3, 131.9, 133.9, 134.3, 136.8. HRMS (EI):  $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{12}\text{ClNSNa}$  [ $\text{M} + \text{Na}$ ] $^+$  calculated: 296.0277, found: 296.0275.

## 6. Bromination of sulphides with $\text{Br}_2$

### 6.1 General procedure for bromination of sulphides

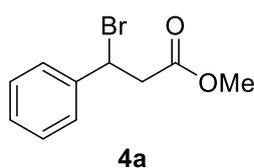


To a stirred solution of sulphide **1** (0.5 mmol) in dry  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (3.0 mL) was added  $\text{Br}_2$  (500  $\mu\text{L}$ , 1.0 M in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , 0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv) at rt under  $\text{N}_2$  atmosphere and the reaction progress was monitored by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR analysis using a stock solution of styrene in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  (0.03 M). After the consumption of the starting material (4 min–48 h), the reaction mixture was quenched by either the addition of styrene (68  $\mu\text{L}$ , 0.6 mmol, 1.2 equiv) or a sat. aq. soln of  $\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_3$ , which led to an immediate fading of the red colour. After the evaporation of the solvents or aqueous work up, the residue was purified by flash column chromatography to afford the corresponding bromide.

Products that precipitated from the reaction mixture were purified by either recrystallization or trituration.

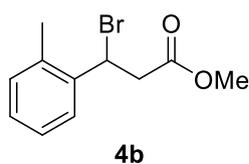
An analogous procedure was followed for slow-reacting substrates (sulphides **1g-i**, **1o**) using a 1.0 M  $\text{Br}_2$  solution in DCE, DCE as solvent and a reaction temperature of 50 °C.

#### Methyl 3-bromo-3-phenylpropanoate (**4a**)



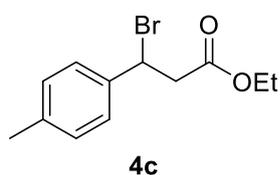
Reaction was quenched with styrene after 25 min. The title compound was isolated by flash column chromatography (silica gel; petroleum ether/EtOAc 95:5) as a yellow oil (115 mg, 95% yield). All analytical data are consistent with those reported in the literature.<sup>12</sup>

### Methyl 3-bromo-3-(*o*-tolyl)propanoate (4b)



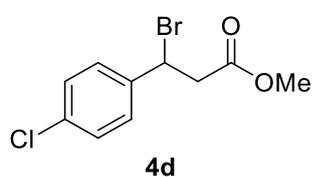
Reaction was quenched with styrene after 25 min. The title compound was isolated by flash column chromatography (silica gel; petroleum ether/EtOAc, 96:4) as a yellow oil (112 mg, 87% yield). IR (neat,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ):  $\nu$  3011, 2951, 1736, 1435, 1200, 761, 627.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  2.45 (s, 3H), 3.26 (dd,  $J = 16.4, 6.0$  Hz, 1H), 3.43 (dd,  $J = 16.4, 9.0$  Hz, 1H), 3.70 (s, 3H), 5.64 (dd,  $J = 9.0, 6.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.13–7.27 (m, 3H), 7.39–7.45 (m, 1H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  19.1, 43.5, 44.3, 52.1, 126.1, 126.7, 128.6, 130.8, 135.7, 138.5, 170.3. HRMS (APCI):  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{14}^{79}\text{BrO}_2$  [ $\text{M} + \text{H}$ ] $^+$  calculated: 257.0177, found: 257.0179. Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{13}\text{BrO}_2$ : C, 51.38; H, 5.10. Found: C, 51.31; H, 5.13.

### Ethyl 3-bromo-3-(*p*-tolyl)propanoate (4c)



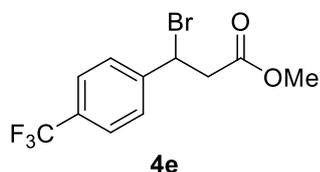
Reaction was quenched with styrene after 25 min. The title compound was isolated by flash column chromatography (silica gel; petroleum ether/EtOAc, 97:3) as a yellow oil (115 mg, 84% yield). IR (neat,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ):  $\nu$  2924, 1734, 1374, 1184, 1018, 734, 515.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  1.24 (t,  $J = 7.1$  Hz, 3H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 3.19 (dd,  $J = 16.1, 6.2$  Hz, 1H), 3.34 (dd,  $J = 16.1, 9.0$  Hz, 1H), 4.06–4.25 (m, 2H), 5.41 (dd,  $J = 9.0, 6.2$  Hz, 1H), 7.16 (d,  $J = 8.1$  Hz, 2H), 7.32 (d,  $J = 8.1$  Hz, 2H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  14.1, 21.1, 44.8, 48.2, 60.1, 127.0, 129.4, 137.8, 138.7, 169.7. HRMS (APCI):  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{16}^{79}\text{BrO}_2$  [ $\text{M} + \text{H}$ ] $^+$  calculated: 271.0334, found: 271.0347. Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{15}\text{BrO}_2$ : C, 53.16; H, 5.58. Found: C, 53.11; H, 5.50.

### Methyl 3-bromo-3-(4-chlorophenyl)propanoate (4d)



Reaction was quenched with styrene after 25 min. The title compound was isolated by flash column chromatography (silica gel; petroleum ether/EtOAc, 96:4) as a yellow oil (135 mg, 97% yield). All analytical data are consistent with those reported in the literature.<sup>13</sup>

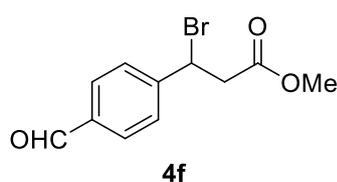
### Methyl 3-bromo-3-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)propanoate (4e)



The reaction was performed at double concentration (1.5 mL of dry  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) and quenched with styrene after 48 h. The title compound was isolated by flash chromatography (silica gel; petroleum ether/ $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , 60:40) as a yellow oil (148 mg, 95% yield). IR (neat,

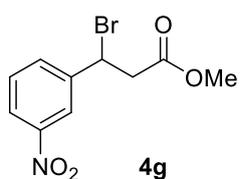
cm<sup>-1</sup>):  $\nu$  2955, 1736, 1320, 1110, 1068, 630. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  3.22 (dd,  $J$  = 16.4, 6.7 Hz, 1H), 3.35 (dd,  $J$  = 16.4, 8.5 Hz, 1H), 3.70 (s, 3H), 5.41 (dd,  $J$  = 8.5, 6.7 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (d,  $J$  = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.62 (d,  $J$  = 8.3 Hz, 2H). <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  -62.6. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  44.3, 46.0, 52.1, 123.7 (q,  $J$  = 272.2 Hz), 125.8 (q,  $J$  = 3.8 Hz), 127.6, 130.7 (q,  $J$  = 32.7 Hz), 144.5, 169.7. HRMS (APCI): C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>11</sub><sup>79</sup>BrFO<sub>2</sub> [M + H]<sup>+</sup> calculated: 310.9883, found: 310.9889.

#### Methyl 3-bromo-3-(4-formylphenyl)propanoate (4f)



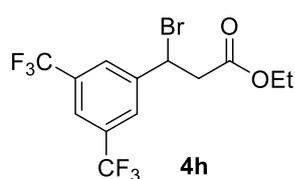
The reaction was performed at double concentration (1.5 mL of dry CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) and quenched with styrene after 4 h. The title compound was isolated by flash column chromatography (silica gel; CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) as a yellow oil (123 mg, 90% yield). IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>):  $\nu$  2922, 1721, 1690, 1211, 1156, 855, 527. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  3.25 (dd,  $J$  = 16.4, 6.7 Hz, 1H), 3.36 (dd,  $J$  = 16.4, 8.5 Hz, 1H), 3.70 (s, 3H), 5.42 (dd,  $J$  = 8.3, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (d,  $J$  = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.87 (d,  $J$  = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 10.01 (s, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  44.1, 46.1, 52.1, 127.9, 130.1, 136.3, 146.9, 169.6, 191.3. HRMS (APCI): C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>12</sub><sup>79</sup>BrO<sub>3</sub> [M + H]<sup>+</sup> calculated: 270.9972, found: 270.9964. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>11</sub>BrO<sub>3</sub>: C, 48.73; H, 4.22. Found: C, 48.60; H, 4.05.

#### Methyl 3-bromo-3-(3-nitrophenyl)propanoate (4g)



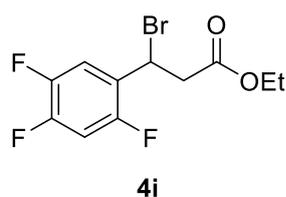
The reaction was performed in dry DCE (3.0 mL) at 50 °C, using Br<sub>2</sub> (0.5 mL, 1.0 M in DCE, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and quenched with styrene after 2 h. The title compound was isolated by flash column chromatography (silica gel; petroleum ether/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 70:30) as a yellow solid (129 mg, 90% yield). Mp: 84-86 °C. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>):  $\nu$  3012, 2953, 1732, 1527, 1347, 1024, 683. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  3.26 (dd,  $J$  = 16.5, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 3.38 (dd,  $J$  = 16.5, 8.2 Hz, 1H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 5.43 (dd,  $J$  = 8.2, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (t,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.76 (d,  $J$  = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 8.10-8.21 (m, 1H), 8.29 (t,  $J$  = 1.8 Hz, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  44.2, 45.1, 52.3, 122.2, 123.6, 129.9, 133.4, 142.8, 148.3, 169.5. HRMS (APCI): C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>11</sub><sup>79</sup>BrNO<sub>4</sub> [M + H]<sup>+</sup> calculated: 287.9874, found: 287.9866. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>10</sub>BrNO<sub>4</sub>: C, 41.69; H, 3.53; N, 4.86. Found: C, 41.54; H, 3.53; N, 4.53.

### Ethyl 3-[3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-3-bromopropanoate (4h)



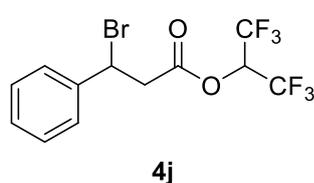
The reaction was performed in dry DCE (3.0 mL) at 50 °C, using Br<sub>2</sub> (1.0 mL, 1.0 M in DCE, 1.0 mmol, 2.0 equiv) and quenched with styrene after 2 h. The title compound was isolated by flash column chromatography (silica gel; petroleum ether/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> 70:30) as a colourless oil (175 mg, 89% yield). IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): ν 3011, 2958, 2545, 1734, 1373, 1275, 1066, 727, 591. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 1.23 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 3.23 (dd, *J* = 16.4, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 3.36 (dd, *J* = 16.4, 8.2 Hz, 1H), 4.08–4.23 (m, 2H), 5.43 (virt t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.83 (s, 1H), 7.88 (s, 2H). <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ -62.9. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 14.0, 44.5, 44.7, 61.4, 122.6 (hept, *J* = 3.7 Hz), 122.9 (q, *J* = 272.9 Hz), 127.6, 132.3 (q, *J* = 33.6 Hz), 143.3, 168.8. LRMS (ESI): *m/z* (%) 393 (100) [M]<sup>+</sup>. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>11</sub>BrF<sub>6</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: C, 39.72; H, 2.82. Found: C, 39.68; H, 2.89.

### Ethyl 3-bromo-3-(2,4,5-trifluorophenyl)propanoate (4i)



The reaction was performed in dry DCE (3.0 mL) at 50 °C, using Br<sub>2</sub> (0.6 mL, 1.0 M in DCE, 0.6 mmol, 1.2 equiv), stirred for 16 h and then quenched with styrene. The title compound was isolated by flash column chromatography (silica gel; petroleum ether/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> 70:30) as a pale yellow oil (578 mg, 93% yield). IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): ν 2921, 2852, 1734, 1514, 1336, 1110, 887, 527. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 1.24 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 3.19 (dd, *J* = 16.4, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 3.31 (dd, *J* = 16.4, 8.3 Hz, 1H), 4.10–4.23 (m, 2H), 5.56 (virt t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 6.94 (virt dt, *J* = 9.7, 6.5 Hz, 1H), 7.29 (ddd, *J* = 10.3, 8.4, 6.8 Hz, 1H). <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ -117.1 (dd, *J* = 15.1, 4.8 Hz), -131.8 (dd, *J* = 21.4, 4.8 Hz), -140.9 (dd, *J* = 21.4, 15.1 Hz). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 14.0, 38.1 (d, *J* = 2.9 Hz), 43.6, 61.3, 106.1 (dd, *J* = 28.0, 20.9 Hz), 116.6 (ddd, *J* = 20.2, 4.4, 1.5 Hz), 124.6 (ddd, *J* = 15.2, 7.1, 2.5 Hz), 146.9 (ddd, *J* = 246.3, 12.8, 3.6 Hz), 150.1 (ddd, *J* = 253.9, 14.3, 12.5 Hz), 154.6 (ddd, *J* = 249.2, 9.4, 2.7 Hz), 169.0. LRMS (ESI): *m/z* (%) 311 (50) [M]<sup>+</sup>. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>10</sub>BrF<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: C, 42.47; H, 3.24. Found: C, 42.39; H, 3.20.

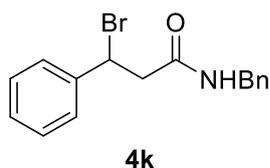
### 1,1,1,3,3,3-Hexafluoropropan-2-yl 3-bromo-3-phenylpropanoate (4j)



Reaction was quenched with styrene after 90 min. The title compound was isolated as an inseparable mixture with 1,1,1,3,3,3-hexafluoropropan-2-yl cinnamate (8%) by flash column chromatography (silica gel; petroleum ether/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> 90:10) as a pale

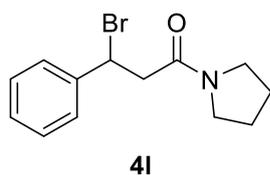
yellow oil (174 mg, 90%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  3.44 (dd,  $J = 16.5, 6.3$  Hz, 1H), 3.56 (dd,  $J = 16.5, 9.0$  Hz, 1H), 5.38 (dd,  $J = 9.0, 6.3$  Hz, 1H), 5.74 (hept,  $J = 6.0$  Hz, 1H), 7.31–7.39 (m, 3H), 7.40–7.46 (m, 2H).  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  -73.2.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  43.9, 45.9, 66.7 (hept,  $J = 34.9$  Hz), 120.2 (q,  $J = 281.9$  Hz), 127.0, 129.0, 129.2, 139.7, 166.5.

#### ***N*-Benzyl-3-bromo-3-phenylpropanamide (4k)**



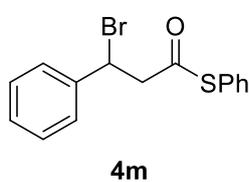
Reaction was quenched with styrene after 30 min. The title compound was isolated by flash column chromatography (silica gel;  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2/\text{EtOAc}$ , 90:10) as a white solid (130 mg, 81% yield). Mp: 127–129 °C. IR (neat,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ):  $\nu$  3263, 3089, 2965, 1635, 1567, 691, 582.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  3.07 (dd,  $J = 14.7, 5.9$  Hz, 1H), 3.16 (dd,  $J = 14.7, 8.9$  Hz, 1H), 4.43 (d,  $J = 5.7$  Hz, 2H), 5.52 (dd,  $J = 8.9, 5.9$  Hz, 1H), 5.81 (br s, 1H), 7.12–7.19 (m, 2H), 7.29–7.38 (m, 6H), 7.39–7.47 (m, 2H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  43.7, 47.4, 49.4, 127.2, 127.6, 127.7, 128.7, 128.9, 129.0, 137.7, 141.0, 168.7. HRMS (APCI):  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{17}^{79}\text{BrNO}$  [ $\text{M} + \text{H}$ ] $^+$  calculated: 318.0483, found: 318.0488. Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{16}\text{H}_{16}\text{BrNO}$ : C, 60.39; H, 5.07; N, 4.40. Found: C, 60.41; H, 5.00; N, 4.38.

#### **3-Bromo-3-phenyl-1-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)propan-1-one (4l)**



Reaction was quenched with styrene after 30 min. The title compound was isolated by flash column chromatography (silica gel;  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2/\text{EtOAc}$ , 80:20) as a white solid (129 mg, 91% yield). Mp: 93–95 °C. IR (neat,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ):  $\nu$  2989, 2870, 1626, 1440, 713, 605, 529.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  1.78–2.02 (m, 4H), 3.08 (dd,  $J = 15.7, 5.6$  Hz, 1H), 3.36 (dd,  $J = 15.5, 8.8$  Hz, 2H), 3.33–3.46 (m, 3H), 3.47–3.56 (m, 1H), 3.58 (dt,  $J = 9.9, 6.8$  Hz, 1H), 5.58 (dd,  $J = 8.7, 5.6$  Hz, 1H), 7.24–7.31 (m, 1H), 7.32–7.36 (m, 2H), 7.46 (d,  $J = 7.3$  Hz, 2H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  24.3, 26.0, 44.9, 45.8, 46.7, 49.7, 127.3, 128.4, 128.7, 141.6, 167.4. HRMS (APCI):  $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_{17}^{79}\text{BrNO}$  [ $\text{M} + \text{H}$ ] $^+$  calculated: 282.0493, found: 282.0488.

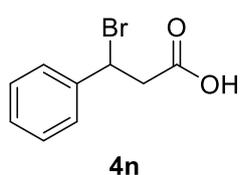
#### ***S*-Phenyl 3-bromo-3-phenylpropanethioate (4m)**



Reaction was quenched with styrene after 40 min. The title compound was isolated by flash chromatography column (silica gel; petroleum ether/ $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  70:30) as a colourless oil (100 mg, 61% yield). IR (neat,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ):  $\nu$  3189, 1856, 1667, 1485, 1423, 1148, 978, 699, 587.  $^1\text{H}$  NMR

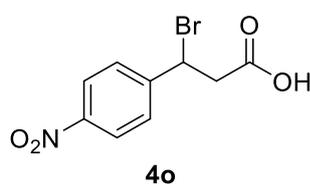
(400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  3.49 (dd,  $J = 15.9, 6.4$  Hz, 1H), 3.66 (dd,  $J = 15.9, 8.6$  Hz, 1H), 5.44 (dd,  $J = 8.5, 6.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.28–7.46 (m, 10H). <sup>13</sup>C (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  47.3, 52.6, 126.8, 127.3, 128.9, 128.9, 129.3, 129.7, 134.4, 140.3, 193.7. LRMS (ESI):  $m/z$  (%) 263 (15) [M + Na - Br]<sup>+</sup>. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>13</sub>BrOS: C, 56.09; H, 4.08. Found: C, 56.01; H, 4.05.

### 3-Bromo-3-phenylpropanoic acid (4n)



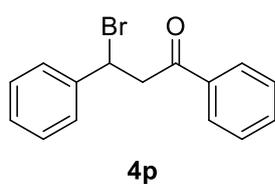
Reaction was quenched with styrene after 1 h. The title compound was obtained by trituration with cold *n*-hexane (2 x 5 mL) as an off-white solid (101 mg, 88% yield). All analytical data are consistent with those reported in the literature.<sup>14</sup>

### 3-Bromo-3-(4-nitrophenyl)propanoic acid (4o)



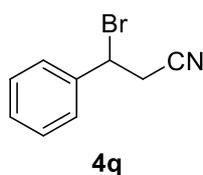
The reaction was performed in dry DCE (3.0 mL) at 50 °C, using Br<sub>2</sub> (1.0 mL, 1.0 M in DCE, 1.0 mmol, 2.0 equiv) and stirred for 7 h. Then the solvent was removed *in vacuo*. The title compound was obtained by trituration with *n*-hexane (2 x 5 mL) as an off-white solid (110 mg, 64% yield). Compound has been previously described in the literature without NMR data. Mp: 167–169 °C; lit.<sup>15</sup>: 169–171 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN):  $\delta$  3.27–3.43 (m, 2H), 5.50 (virt t,  $J = 7.4$  Hz, 1H), 7.71 (d,  $J = 8.5$  Hz, 2H), 8.20 (d,  $J = 8.4$  Hz, 2H), 9.42 (s, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN):  $\delta$  43.8, 46.9, 124.8, 129.4, 148.6, 149.1, 170.9.

### 3-Bromo-1,3-diphenyl-1-propanone (4p)



Reaction was quenched with sat. aq. soln of Na<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (ca. 4 mL) after 4 min and stirred for a further 5 min. The aqueous layer was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3 x 10 mL) and the combined organic phases were washed with H<sub>2</sub>O, brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and the solvent removed *in vacuo*. The title compound was obtained by recrystallization from Et<sub>2</sub>O (ca. 6 mL) as a white solid (96 mg, 67% yield). All analytical data are consistent with those reported in the literature.<sup>16</sup>

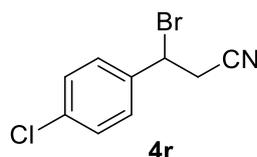
### 3-Bromo-3-phenylpropanenitrile (4q)



The reaction was performed at double concentration (1.5 mL in dry CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>), using Br<sub>2</sub> (0.6 mL, 1.0 M in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 0.6 mmol, 1.2 equiv), quenched with sat. aq. soln of Na<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (ca. 4 mL) after 9 h and stirred for a further 5 min.

The aqueous layer was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3 x 10 mL) and the combined organic phases were washed with H<sub>2</sub>O, brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and the solvent removed *in vacuo*. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography (silica gel; petroleum ether/EtOAc 95:5) to give the title compound as a pale yellow oil (60 mg, 57% yield). IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): ν 3011, 2984, 2564, 1495, 1410, 1157, 942, 525. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 3.24 (dd, *J* = 16.7, 6.6, 1H), 3.30 (dd, *J* = 16.7, 7.0, 1H), 5.15 (virt t, *J* = 7.1, 1H), 7.32-7.49 (m, 5H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 29.4, 45.3, 116.5, 127.0, 129.1, 129.5, 138.7. HRMS (APCI): C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>9</sub><sup>79</sup>BrN [M + H]<sup>+</sup> calculated: 209.9912, found: 209.9913. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>8</sub>BrN: C, 51.46; H, 3.86; N, 6.67. Found: C, 51.46; H, 3.84; N, 6.67.

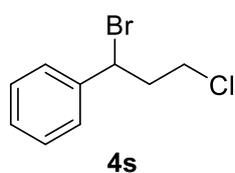
### 3-Bromo-3-(4-chlorophenyl)propanenitrile (4r)



The reaction was performed at double concentration (1.5 mL in dry CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>), using Br<sub>2</sub> (0.6 mL, 1.0 M in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 0.6 mmol, 1.2 equiv), quenched with sat. aq. soln of Na<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (ca. 4 mL) after 18 h and stirred for a further 5 min. The aqueous layer was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3 x

10 mL) and the combined organic phases were washed with H<sub>2</sub>O, brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and the solvent removed *in vacuo*. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography (silica gel; petroleum ether/EtOAc 90:10) to give the title compound as a brown oil (101 mg, 80% yield). IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): ν 3001, 2974, 2442, 1589, 1321, 1010, 950, 501. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 3.22 (dd, *J* = 16.3, 6.5 Hz, 1H), 3.28 (dd, *J* = 16.3, 6.4 Hz, 1H), 5.11 (virt t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 7.33–7.44 (m, 4H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 29.4, 44.1, 116.2, 128.3, 129.4, 135.5, 137.2. LRMS (ESI): *m/z* (%) 279 (20) [M + Cl]<sup>+</sup>. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>7</sub>BrClN: C, 44.21; H, 2.89; N 5.73. Found: C, 44.18; H, 2.91; N, 2.80.

### (1-Bromo-3-chloropropyl)benzene (4s)

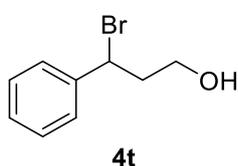


Reaction was quenched with sat. aq. soln of Na<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (ca. 4 mL) after 5 min and stirred for a further 5 min. The aqueous layer was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3 x 10 mL) and the combined organic phases were washed with H<sub>2</sub>O, brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and the solvent removed *in vacuo*. The

title compound was isolated by flash column chromatography (silica gel; petroleum ether) as

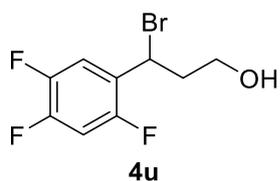
a colourless oil (63 mg, 54% yield). All analytical data are consistent with those reported in the literature.<sup>17</sup>

### 3-Bromo-3-phenylpropan-1-ol (4t)



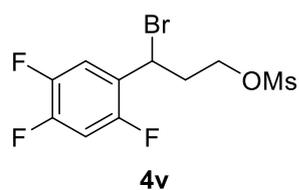
Reaction was stirred for 5 min and then directly evaporated *in vacuo*. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography (silica gel; petroleum ether/EtOAc 80:20) to afford the title compound as a colourless oil (91 mg, 85% yield). All analytical data are consistent with those reported in the literature.<sup>18</sup> The title compound was stored at  $-20\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$  as it was prone to degradation.

### 3-Bromo-3-(2,4,5-trifluorophenyl)propan-1-ol (4u)



Reaction was quenched with styrene after 90 min. The title compound was isolated by flash chromatography (silica gel; *n*-hexane/Et<sub>2</sub>O 70:30) as a colourless oil (63 mg, 48% yield). The title compound was stored at  $-20\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$  as it was prone to degradation. IR (neat,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ):  $\nu$  3015, 2824, 1789, 1535, 1125, 1115, 984, 568. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  1.55 (br s, 1H), 2.22–2.32 (m, 1H), 2.44 (virt ddt,  $J = 14.5, 9.7, 4.9$  Hz, 1H), 3.79 (virt dt,  $J = 10.8, 5.3$  Hz, 1H), 3.87 (ddd,  $J = 11.0, 8.0, 4.6$  Hz, 1H), 5.43 (dd,  $J = 9.5, 5.4$  Hz, 1H), 6.93 (virt dt,  $J = 9.7, 6.5$  Hz, 1H), 7.31 (ddd,  $J = 10.5, 8.5, 6.8$  Hz, 1H). <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  -117.9 (dd,  $J = 15.1, 4.6$  Hz), -132.5 (dd,  $J = 21.6, 4.6$  Hz), -141.1 (dd,  $J = 21.5, 15.1$  Hz). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  40.9, 41.7 (d,  $J = 2.9$  Hz), 60.1, 105.9 (dd,  $J = 28.2, 20.9$  Hz), 116.8 (ddd,  $J = 20.1, 4.5, 1.4$  Hz), 125.6 (ddd,  $J = 15.4, 5.1, 4.5$  Hz), 147.0 (ddd,  $J = 245.9, 12.8, 3.6$  Hz), 149.9 (ddd,  $J = 253.4, 14.5, 12.5$  Hz), 154.5 (ddd,  $J = 248.3, 9.4, 2.7$  Hz). LRMS (ESI):  $m/z$  (%) 535 (61) [2 M]<sup>+</sup>. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>8</sub>BrF<sub>3</sub>O: C, 40.18; H, 3.00. Found: C, 40.14; H, 2.97.

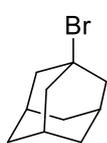
### 3-Bromo-3-(2,4,5-trifluorophenyl)propyl methanesulphonate (4v)



Reaction was quenched with sat. aq. soln of Na<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (ca. 4 mL) after 1 h and stirred for a further 5 min. The aqueous layer was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3 x 10 mL) and the combined organic phases were washed with H<sub>2</sub>O, brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and the solvent removed *in vacuo*. The title compound was isolated by flash column chromatography (silica gel; petroleum ether/EtOAc 80:20) as a pale yellow oil (169 mg, 97% yield). IR (neat,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ):  $\nu$  2921, 1513, 1353, 1134, 1170, 992, 575. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  2.44–2.55 (m, 1H),

2.61 (virt ddt,  $J = 14.6, 9.6, 4.7$  Hz, 1H), 3.06 (s, 3H), 4.32–4.49 (m, 2H), 5.31 (dd, 8.9, 5.0 Hz, 1H), 6.97 (virt dt,  $J = 9.7, 6.5$  Hz, 1H), 7.30 (ddd,  $J = 10.3, 8.4, 6.9$  Hz, 1H).  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  -117.4 (dd,  $J = 15.1, 4.8$  Hz), -131.4 (dd,  $J = 21.5, 4.9$  Hz), -140.5 (dd,  $J = 21.6, 15.1$  Hz).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  37.4, 37.9, 40.3 (d,  $J = 2.8$  Hz), 66.9, 106.2 (dd,  $J = 28.1, 21.0$  Hz), 116.7 (ddd,  $J = 20.2, 4.3, 1.4$  Hz), 124.5 (ddd,  $J = 15.1, 4.8, 4.4$  Hz), 147.0 (ddd,  $J = 246.6, 12.8, 3.6$  Hz), 150.2 (ddd,  $J = 254.3, 14.4, 12.5$  Hz), 154.6 (ddd,  $J = 248.9, 9.5, 2.7$  Hz). HMRS (APCI):  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{10}\text{BrF}_3\text{O}_3\text{S}$   $[\text{M} + \text{H}]^+$  calculated: 345.9502, found: 345.9492.

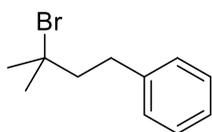
### 1-Bromoadamantane (4y)



4y

Reaction was quenched with sat. aq. soln of  $\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_3$  (ca. 4 mL) after 1 h and stirred for further 5 min. The aqueous layer was extracted with  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (3 x 10 mL) and the combined organic phases were washed with  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , brine, dried over  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$  and the solvent removed *in vacuo*. The title compound was obtained by flash column chromatography (silica gel; petroleum ether) as a white solid (76 mg, 68% yield). All analytical data are consistent with those reported in the literature.<sup>19</sup>

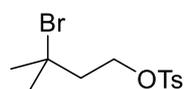
### (3-Bromo-3-methylbutyl)benzene (4za)



4za

Reaction was stirred for 30 min and then directly evaporated *in vacuo*. The  $^1\text{H}$  NMR yield (51%) was determined by adding dibromomethane (35  $\mu\text{L}$ , 87 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv) as internal standard to the crude product re-dissolved in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ . All analytical data are consistent with those reported in the literature.<sup>20</sup>

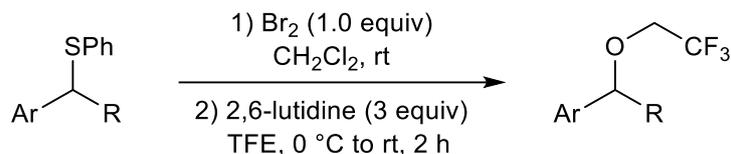
### 3-Bromo-3-methylbutyl 4-methylbenzenesulfonate (4zb)



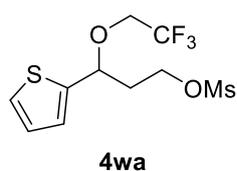
4zb

Reaction was quenched with styrene after 24 h. The title compound was isolated as an inseparable 3:1 mixture with 3,4-dibromo-3-methylbutyl 4-methylbenzenesulfonate by flash column chromatography (silica gel; petroleum ether 100%) as a colourless oil (48 mg, 30% yield). All analytical data are consistent with those reported in the literature.<sup>21</sup>

## 6.2 Bromination followed by solvolysis with 2,2,2-trifluoroethanol

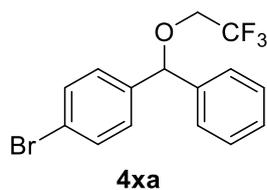


### 3-(Thiophen-2-yl)-3-(2,2,2-trifluoroethoxy)propyl methanesulphonate (4wa)



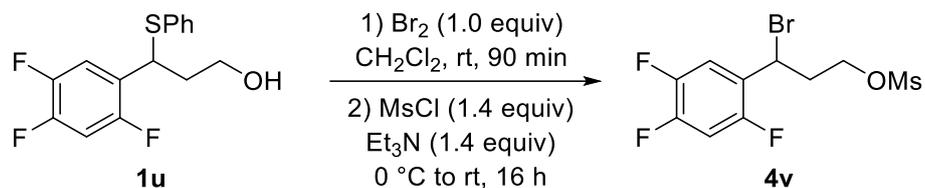
To a stirred solution of the sulphide (0.5 mmol) in dry CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3.0 mL) was added Br<sub>2</sub> (0.5 mL, 1.0 M solution in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv) under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere. The reaction was stirred at rt for 25 min and then quenched by the addition of sat. aq. soln of Na<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (ca. 4 mL) and stirred for a further 5 min. The aqueous layer was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3 x 10 mL) and the combined organic phases were washed with H<sub>2</sub>O, brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and the solvent removed *in vacuo*. The residue was re-dissolved in TFE (5.0 mL) and 2,6-lutidine (175 μL, 161 mg, 3.0 equiv) was added at 0 °C. The mixture was stirred for 2 h, then 1.0 M HCl (5 mL) and petroleum ether (20 mL) were added. The aqueous layer was extracted with petroleum ether (2 x 20 mL) and the combined organic layers were washed with 1.0 M HCl (2 x 5 mL), brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography (silica gel; petroleum ether/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 70:30 → 0:100) to afford the title compound as a yellow oil (80 mg, 50% yield). IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): ν 2938, 1353, 1274, 1158, 964, 526. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 2.22 (ddd, *J* = 19.6, 9.3, 5.0 Hz, 1H), 2.36 (ddd, *J* = 19.1, 9.4, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 3.02 (s, 3H), 3.64–3.82 (m, 2H), 4.29 (virt dt, *J* = 10.2, 5.2 Hz, 1H), 4.45 (ddd, *J* = 9.8, 8.8, 4.5 Hz, 1H), 4.91 (dd, *J* = 9.1, 4.6 Hz, 1H), 7.01 (dd, *J* = 5.0, 3.5 Hz, 1H), 7.06 (d, *J* = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 7.36 (d, *J* = 4.7 Hz, 1H). <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ -77.2. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 37.1, 37.8, 65.4 (q, *J* = 34.3 Hz), 66.3, 74.6, 122.5, 125.3, 126.5, 126.9, 142.3. HMRS (EI): C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>13</sub>F<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>S<sub>2</sub>Na [M + Na]<sup>+</sup> calculated: 341.0105, found: 341.0089.

### 1-Bromo-4-[phenyl(2,2,2-trifluoroethoxy)methyl]benzene (4xa)



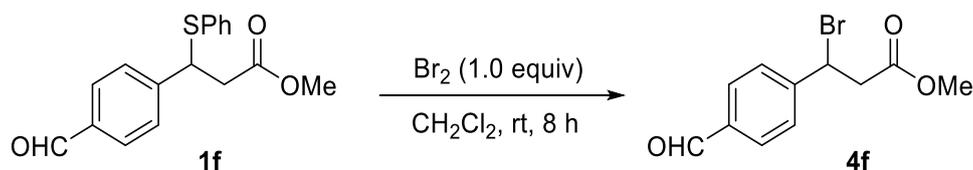
The procedure was similar to **4wa**. The reaction was stirred at rt for 1 h and concentrated *in vacuo* without any quench before solvolysis step. The title compound was obtained by flash column chromatography (silica gel; petroleum ether/EtOAc 98:2) as a pale yellow oil (134 mg, 78% yield). All analytical data are consistent with those reported in the literature.<sup>4</sup>

### 6.3 Bromination followed by mesylation with sulphide (**1u**)



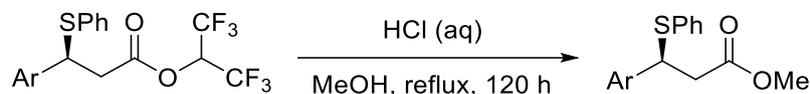
To a stirred solution of sulphide **1u** (144 mg, 0.5 mmol) in dry CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3.0 mL) was added Br<sub>2</sub> (500 μL, 1.0 M in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv) at rt under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere and stirred for 90 min. The reaction mixture was quenched by the addition of styrene (68 μL, 62 mg, 0.6 mmol, 1.2 equiv). To the resulting colourless solution were added dropwise methanesulphonyl chloride (54 μL, 79 mg, 0.7 mmol, 1.4 equiv) and triethylamine (97 μL, 70 mg, 0.7 mmol, 1.4 equiv) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was allowed to reach rt and stirred for 16 h, then diluted with H<sub>2</sub>O (10 mL) and extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3 x 10 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with H<sub>2</sub>O, brine and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was removed *in vacuo* and the crude mixture was purified by flash column chromatography (silica gel; petroleum ether/EtOAc, 90:10) to afford bromide **4v** as a brown oil (65 mg, 45% yield).

### 6.4 Large scale bromination of β-sulphido ester (**1f**)



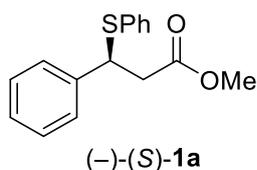
To a stirred solution of sulphide **1f** (1.50 g, 5.0 mmol) in dry CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (15.0 mL) was added *via* syringe Br<sub>2</sub> (5.0 mL, 1.0 M in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 5.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv) under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere. The reaction was stirred at rt for 8 h, then quenched by the addition of styrene (743 μL, 676 mg, 6.5 mmol, 1.3 equiv). The mixture was concentrated *in vacuo* and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography (silica gel; CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/petroleum ether 90:10) to afford the corresponding bromide (1.29 g, 95% yield).

## 7. General procedure for the transesterification of enantiomerically enriched hexafluoroisopropyl esters to cinnamate methyl esters (GP4)



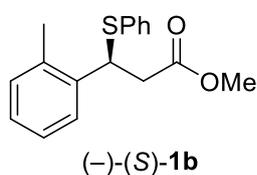
To a solution of (*S*)-1,1,1,3,3,3-hexafluoropropan-2-yl 3-aryl-3-(phenylthio)propanoate (1.0 mmol) in methanol (7.0 mL) was added a few drops of concentrated HCl and the resulting mixture was stirred under reflux for 120 h. After the completion of the reaction, as judged by TLC analysis, the solvent was removed *in vacuo* and the residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel to give the corresponding (*S*)-methyl 3-aryl-3-(phenylthio)propanoate.

### (-)-(*S*)-Methyl-3-phenyl-3-(phenylthio)propanoate (-)-(*S*)-1a



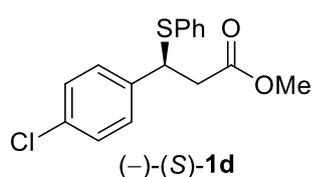
Prepared according to GP4. The title compound was isolated by flash column chromatography (silica gel; petroleum ether/EtOAc, 95:5) as a colourless oil (253 mg, 93% yield). Enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC analysis (CHIRALPAK IB-H, *n*-hexane/*i*-PrOH, 99:1, 1.0 mL/min, 210 nm):  $t_r$  (minor) = 8.6 min;  $t_r$  (major) = 11.3 min: 97% ee.  $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -150.2$  (*c* 1.27, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). Enantioenriched (-)-(*S*)-**1a** has previously been described.<sup>2</sup>

### (-)-(*S*)-Methyl-3-(phenylthio)-3-(*o*-tolyl)propanoate (-)-(*S*)-1b



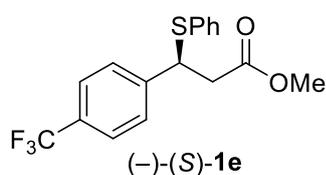
Prepared according to GP4. The title compound was isolated by flash column chromatography (silica gel; petroleum ether/EtOAc, 95:5) as a colourless oil (255 mg, 89% yield). Enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC analysis (CHIRALPAK OD-H, *n*-hexane/*i*-PrOH, 95:5, 1.0 mL/min, 210 nm):  $t_r$  (minor) = 6.0 min;  $t_r$  (major) = 10.4 min: 78% ee.  $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -62.3$  (*c* 1.41, CHCl<sub>3</sub>).

### (-)-(S)-Methyl-3-(4-chlorophenyl)-3-(phenylthio)propanoate (-)-(S)-1d



Prepared according to GP4. The title compound was isolated by flash column chromatography (silica gel; petroleum ether/EtOAc, 95:5) as a yellow oil (288 mg, 94% yield). Enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC analysis (CHIRALPAK OD-H, *n*-hexane/*i*-PrOH, 95:5, 0.5 mL/min, 210 nm):  $t_r$  (major) = 10.9 min;  $t_r$  (minor) = 14.0 min: 99% ee.  $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -169.0$  (*c* 1.18, CHCl<sub>3</sub>).

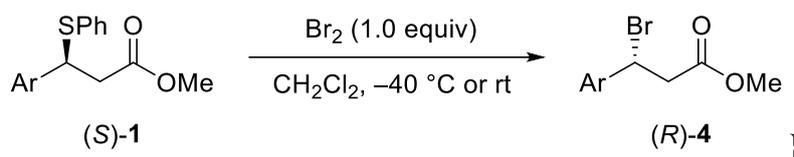
### (-)-(S)-Methyl-3-(phenylthio)-3-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)propanoate (-)-(S)-1e



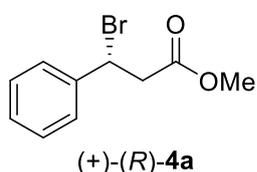
Prepared according to GP4. The title compound was isolated by flash column chromatography (silica gel; petroleum ether/EtOAc, 95:5) as a white solid (316 mg, 93% yield). Mp: 91–93 °C. Enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC analysis (CHIRALPAK OD-H, *n*-hexane/*i*-PrOH, 95:5, 0.5 mL/min, 210 nm):  $t_r$  (major) = 10.2 min;  $t_r$  (minor) = 13.0 min: 98% ee.  $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -139.0$  (*c* 1.51, CHCl<sub>3</sub>).

## 8. Optically active bromides

### 8.1. Bromination of enantiomerically enriched sulphides



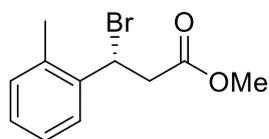
### (+)-(R)-Methyl 3-bromo-3-phenylpropanoate (+)-(R)-4a



To an oven-dried 10 mL Schlenk tube containing a stirred solution of sulphide (-)-(S)-1a (68 mg, 0.25 mmol, 97% ee) in dry CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (1.5 mL) cooled to -40 °C was added *via* syringe Br<sub>2</sub> (250 μL, 1M in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 0.25 mmol, 1.0 equiv) under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere. The reaction mixture was quenched *via* syringe with styrene (34 μL, 31 mg, 0.3 mmol, 1.3 equiv) after 15 h, which led to an immediate fading of the red colour. Evaporation of the solvent *in vacuo* and purification by flash column chromatography (silica gel; petroleum ether/EtOAc, 95:5) gave the title compound as a yellow oil (54 mg, 89% yield). Enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC

analysis (CHIRALPAK IB-H, *n*-hexane/*i*-PrOH, 95:5, 0.75 mL/min, 210 nm):  $t_r$  (major) = 7.3 min;  $t_r$  (minor) = 9.3 min: 93% ee.  $[\alpha]_D^{20} = +114.9$  (*c* 1.01, CHCl<sub>3</sub>).

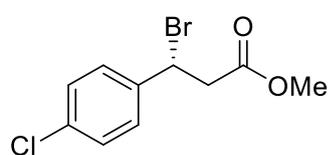
**(-)-(R)-Methyl 3-bromo-3-(*o*-tolyl)propanoate (-)-(R)-4b**



(-)-(R)-4b

To an oven-dried 10 mL Schlenk tube containing a stirred solution of sulphide (-)-(S)-**1b** (72 mg, 0.25 mmol, 78% ee) in dry CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (1.5 mL) cooled to -40 °C was added *via* syringe Br<sub>2</sub> (250 μL, 1M in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 0.25 mmol, 1 equiv) under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere. The reaction mixture was quenched *via* syringe with styrene (34 μL, 31 mg, 0.3 mmol, 1.3 equiv) after 15 h, which led to an immediate fading of the red colour. Evaporation of the solvent *in vacuo* and purification by flash column chromatography (silica gel; petroleum ether/EtOAc, 97:3) gave the title compound as a yellow oil (64 mg, 99% yield). Enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC analysis (CHIRALPAK IB-H, *n*-hexane/*i*-PrOH, 95:5, 0.75 mL/min, 210 nm):  $t_r$  (major) = 6.9 min;  $t_r$  (minor) = 10.5 min: 66% ee.  $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -13.6$  (*c* 1.03, CHCl<sub>3</sub>).

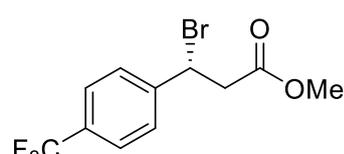
**(+)-(R)-Methyl 3-bromo-3-(4-chlorophenyl)propanoate (+)-(R)-4d**



(+)-(R)-4d

To an oven-dried 10 mL Schlenk tube containing a stirred solution of sulphide (-)-(S)-**1d** (77 mg, 0.25 mmol, 99% ee) in dry CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (1.5 mL) cooled to -40 °C was added *via* syringe Br<sub>2</sub> (250 μL, 1M in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 0.25 mmol, 1.0 equiv) under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere. The reaction mixture was quenched *via* syringe with styrene (34 μL, 31 mg, 0.3 mmol, 1.3 equiv) after 24 h, which led to an immediate fading of the red colour. Evaporation of the solvent *in vacuo* and purification by flash column chromatography (silica gel; petroleum ether/EtOAc, 95:5) gave the title compound as a yellow oil (67 mg, 97% yield). Enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC analysis (CHIRALPAK IB-H, *n*-hexane/*i*-PrOH, 98:2, 0.5 mL/min, 210 nm):  $t_r$  (major) = 14.8 min;  $t_r$  (minor) = 15.6 min: 93% ee.  $[\alpha]_D^{20} = +85.2$  (*c* 1.09, CHCl<sub>3</sub>).

**(+)-(R)-Methyl 3-bromo-3-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)propanoate (+)-(R)-4e**



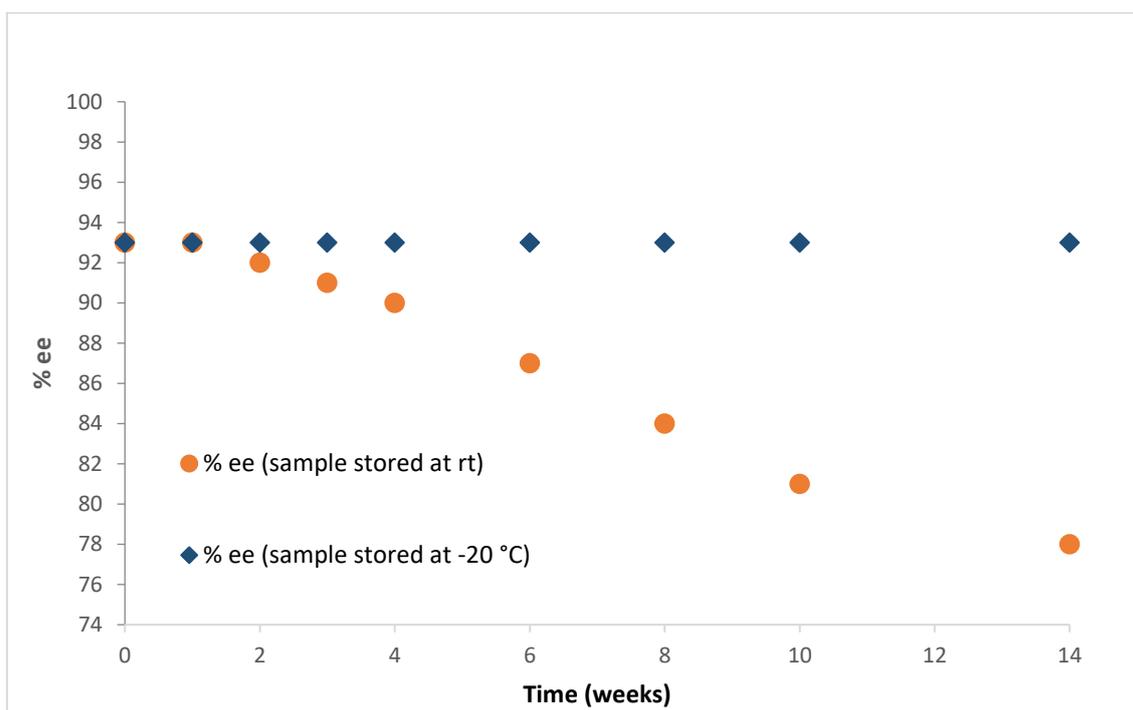
(+)-(R)-4e

To an oven-dried 10 mL Schlenk tube containing a stirred solution of sulphide (-)-(S)-**1e** (85 mg, 0.25 mmol, 98% ee) in dry CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (750 μL) was added *via* syringe Br<sub>2</sub> (275 μL, 1M in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 0.275 mmol, 1.1 equiv) at rt under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere. The reaction mixture was quenched *via* syringe with styrene (34 μL, 31 mg, 0.3 mmol, 1.3 equiv) after 48 h at rt, which led to an immediate fading of the red colour. Evaporation of the solvent *in vacuo* and

purification by flash column chromatography (silica gel; petroleum ether/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 70:30) gave the title compound as a yellow oil (74 mg, 95% yield). Enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC analysis (CHIRALPAK IB-H, *n*-hexane/*i*-PrOH, 98:2, 0.5 mL/min, 210 nm): *t*<sub>r</sub> (major) = 14.3 min; *t*<sub>r</sub> (minor) = 15.3 min: 86% ee. [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub><sup>20</sup> = +73.9 (*c* 1.68, CHCl<sub>3</sub>).

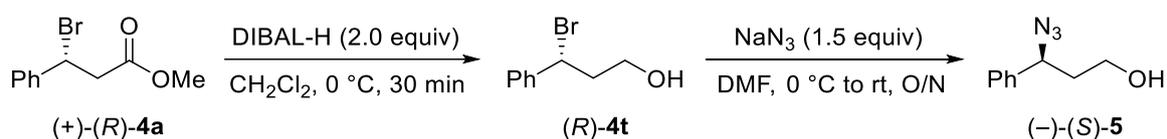
## 8.2. Monitoring the racemisation of bromide (*R*)-4a

Enantiomeric excess of  $\beta$ -bromo ester (*R*)-4a (93% ee), stored at  $-20$  °C or rt, was measured over a 14-week period.



## 9. Synthesis of (-)-(S)-3-azido-3-phenylpropan-1-ol

### 9.1 Two-pot procedure

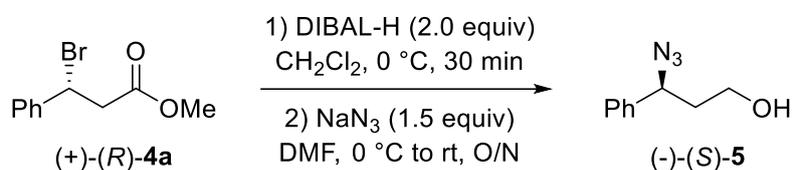


To a stirred solution of (+)-(*R*)-4a (61 mg, 0.25 mmol) in dry CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2.0 mL) was added *via* syringe DIBAL-H (0.4 mL, 1.0 M in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 0.4 mmol, 2.0 equiv) at 0 °C under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere. After stirring for 30 min (TLC analysis), the mixture was carefully quenched with H<sub>2</sub>O, filtered over a Celite pad, which was washed with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3 x 10 mL). The combined

organic layers were washed with H<sub>2</sub>O, brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated *in vacuo* to give the corresponding alcohol (*R*)-**4t** as a brown oil (50 mg, 93% yield). Enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC analysis (CHIRALPAK IB-H, *n*-hexane/*i*-PrOH, 90:10, 0.75 mL/min, 210 nm): *t*<sub>r</sub> (major) = 9.3 min; *t*<sub>r</sub> (minor) = 10.3 min: 83% *ee*. All analytical data are consistent with those reported in the literature.<sup>22</sup>

Alcohol (*R*)-**4t** was dissolved in DMF (1.0 mL) and sodium azide (23 mg, 0.35 mmol, 1.5 equiv) was added at 0 °C under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere. The reaction was allowed to reach rt and stirred overnight. H<sub>2</sub>O (3 mL) was added and the aqueous layer was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (3 x 10 mL) and the combined organic layers were washed with H<sub>2</sub>O, brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography (silica gel; petroleum ether/EtOAc, 80:20) to afford the azido alcohol (–)-(*S*)-**5** as a colourless oil (35 mg, 86% yield). Enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC analysis (CHIRALPAK IB-H, *n*-hexane/*i*-PrOH, 90:10, 0.75 mL/min, 210 nm): *t*<sub>r</sub> (minor) = 8.6 min; *t*<sub>r</sub> (major) = 9.4 min: 83% *ee*. The enantiomerically enriched (+)-(*R*)-**5** enantiomer has been previously described.<sup>23</sup>

## 9.2 One-pot procedure

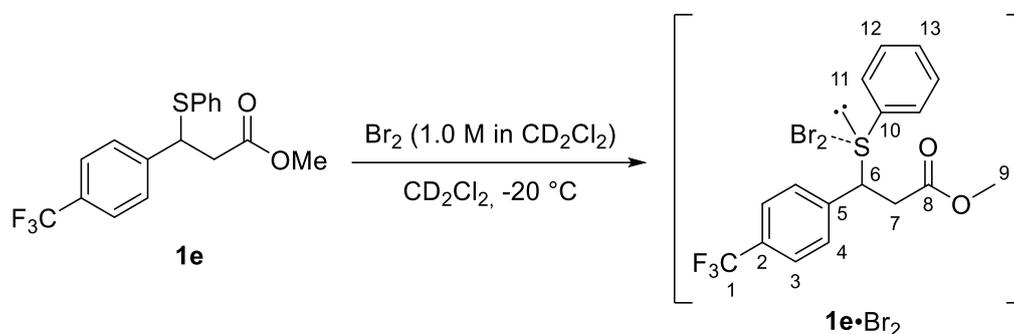


To a stirred solution of (+)-(*R*)-**4a** (61 mg, 0.25 mmol) in dry CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2.0 mL) was added *via* syringe DIBAL-H (0.4 mL, 1.0 M in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 0.4 mmol, 2.0 equiv) at 0 °C under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere. After stirring for 30 min (TLC analysis), dry DMF (2.0 mL) was added, followed by sodium azide (25 mg, 0.38 mmol, 1.5 equiv) and the reaction was allowed to reach rt and stirred overnight. The mixture was carefully quenched with H<sub>2</sub>O and filtered over a Celite pad, which was washed with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3 x 10 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with H<sub>2</sub>O, brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography (silica gel; petroleum ether/EtOAc, 80:20) to afford the title compound as a colourless oil (27 mg, 62% yield). Enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC analysis (CHIRALPAK IB-H, *n*-hexane/*i*-PrOH, 90:10, 0.75 mL/min, 210 nm): *t*<sub>r</sub> (minor) = 8.6 min; *t*<sub>r</sub> (major) = 9.4 min: 90% *ee*. [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>20</sup> = –186.9 (*c* 1.0, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); lit.<sup>23</sup>: (+)-(*R*)-**5**: [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>20</sup> = +192.7 (*c* 0.95, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). No literature *ee* value was disclosed, however, an *ee* of >90% is deduced based on the synthetic sequence.

## 10. NMR studies

### 10.1. NMR monitoring of the bromination of (1e)

#### 10.1.1. Low-temperature NMR spectroscopic characterization of adduct (1e·Br<sub>2</sub>)



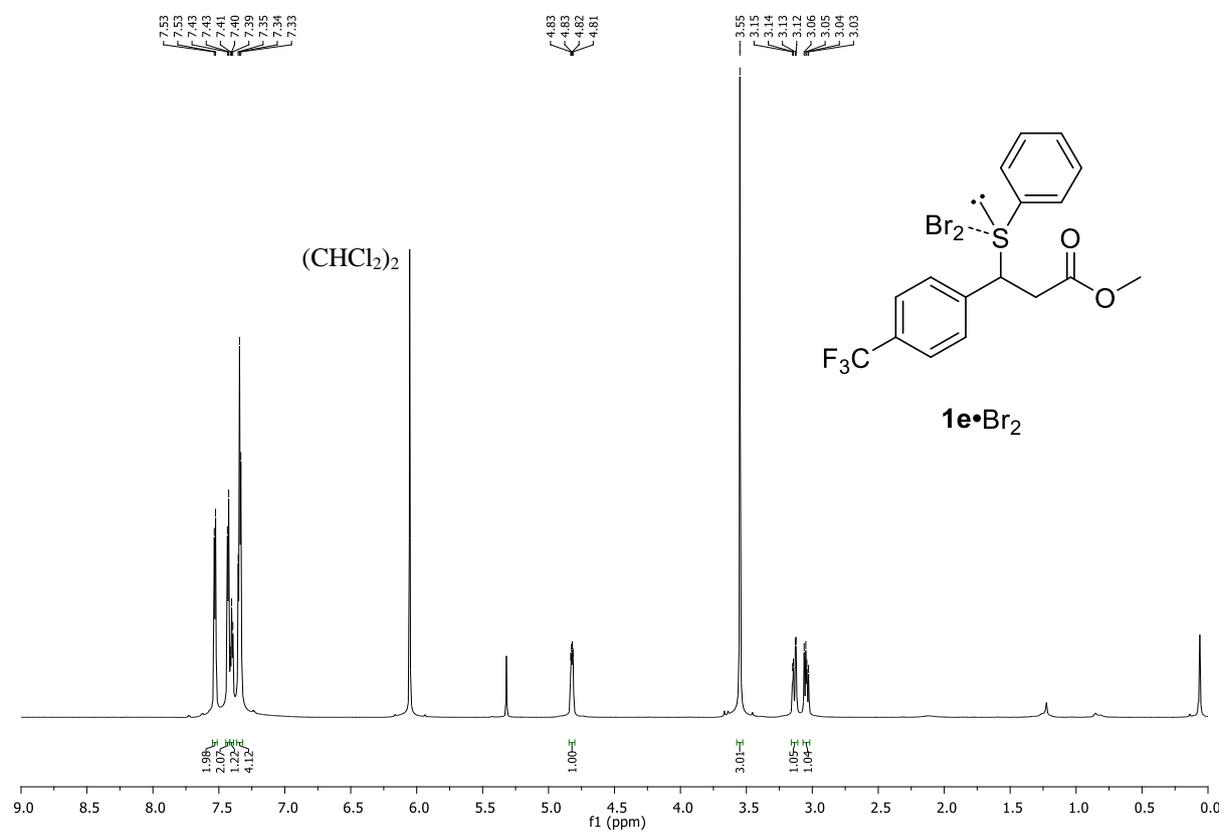
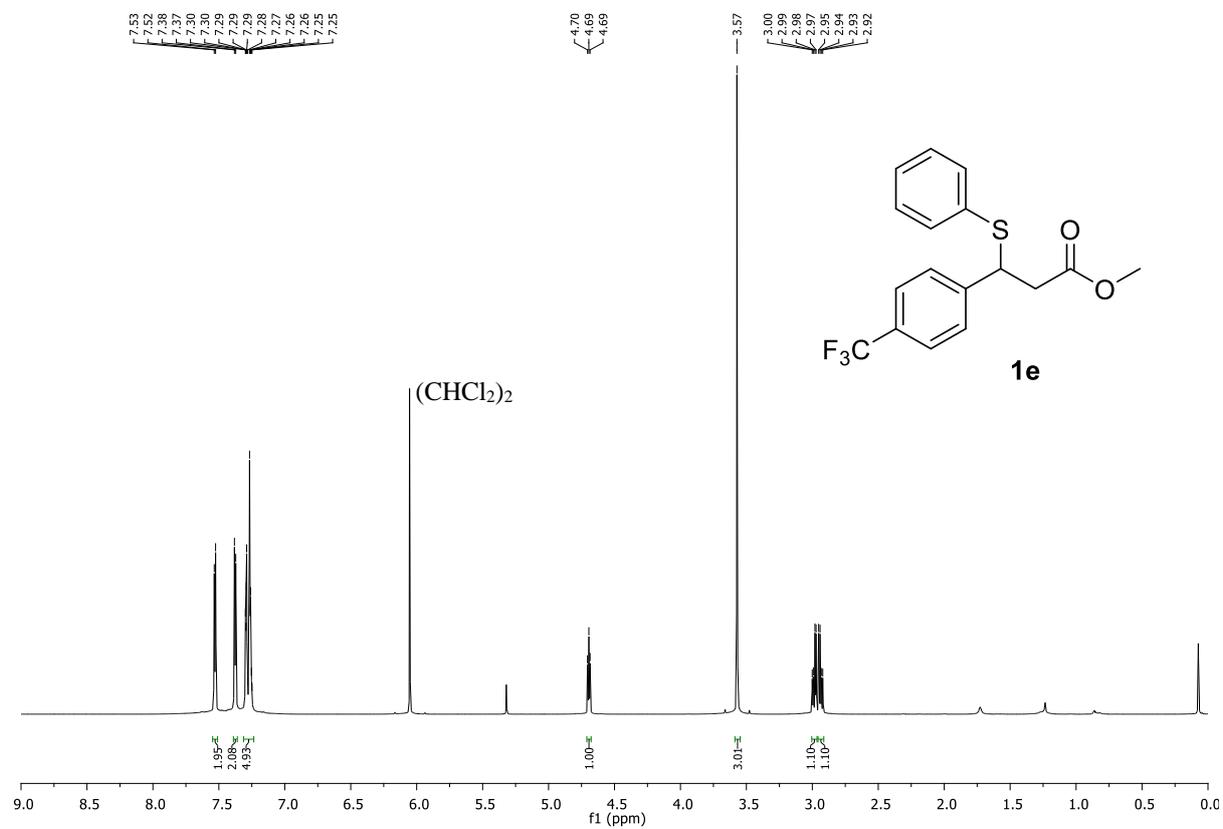
A solution of sulphide **1e** (34 mg, 0.1 mmol) in  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (0.6 mL), containing 1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane (11  $\mu\text{L}$ , 17 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) as internal standard, was prepared under  $\text{N}_2$  atmosphere. The solution was transferred *via* syringe to a 5 mm NMR tube placed in a sub-seal capped Schlenk tube. The NMR tube was sealed with a precision seal rubber septum, which was covered with parafilm. The NMR tube was allowed to equilibrate to  $-20\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  in the NMR spectrometer, before a  $\text{Br}_2$  solution (100  $\mu\text{L}$ , 1.0 M in  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv), precooled to ca  $-20\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  in a freezer, was added *via* syringe. The NMR tube was placed immediately back into the NMR spectrometer and a series of 1D and 2D NMR experiments were recorded.

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (800 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ,  $-20\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ ):  $\delta$  3.05 (dd,  $J = 16.5, 10.1$  Hz, 1H, H7), 3.14 (dd,  $J = 16.6, 4.8$  Hz, 1H, H7), 3.55 (s, 3H, H9), 4.82 (dd,  $J = 9.8, 5.0$  Hz, 1H, H6), 7.33-7.35 (m, 4H, H4, H12), 7.40 (t,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H, H13), 7.43 (d,  $J = 7.5$  Hz, 2H, H11), 7.53 (d,  $J = 7.8$  Hz, 2H, H3).

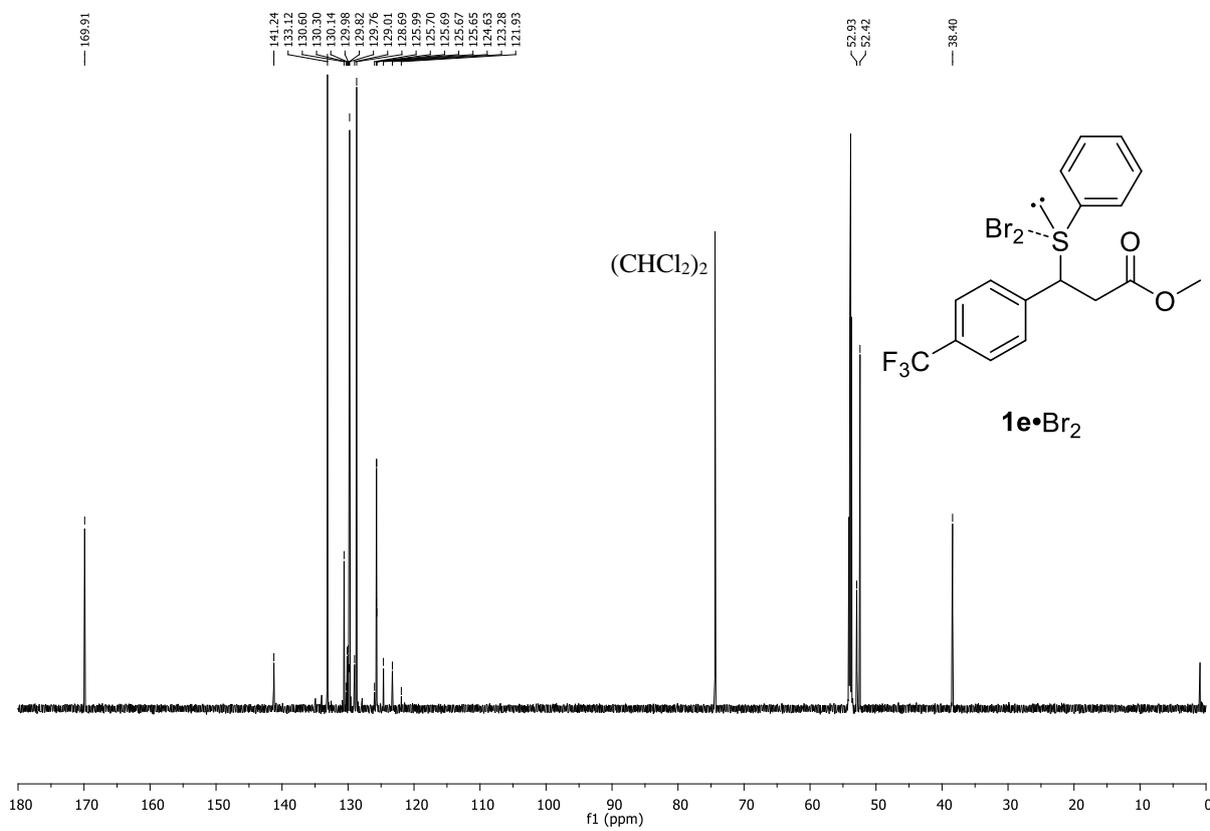
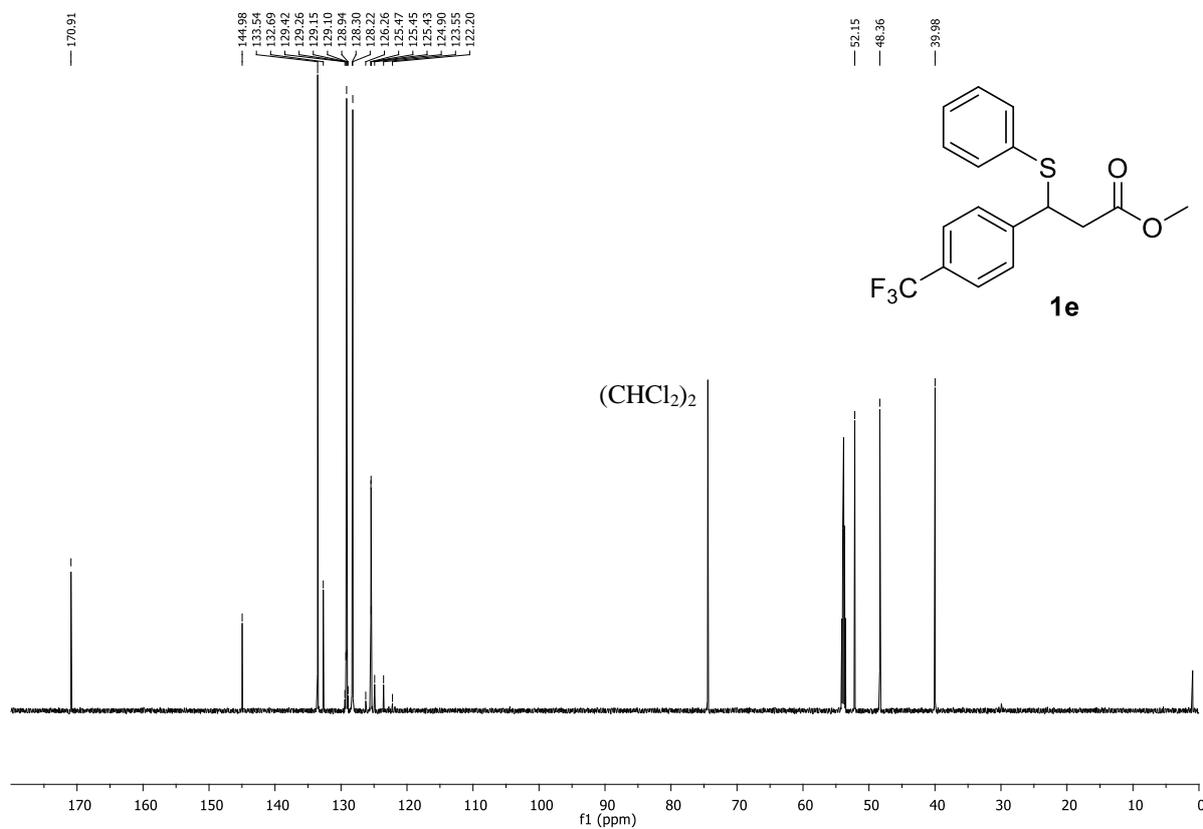
$^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (376 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ,  $20\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ ):  $\delta$   $-62.9$ .

$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (201 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ,  $-20\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$ ):  $\delta$  38.4 (C7), 52.4 (C9), 52.9 (br s, C6), 124.0 (q,  $J = 272.3$  Hz, C1), 125.7 (q,  $J = 3.5$  Hz, C3), 128.7 (C4), 129.0 (br s, C10), 129.8 (C12), 130.1 (q,  $J = 32.4$  Hz, C2), 130.6 (C13), 133.1 (C11), 141.2 (br s, C5), 169.9 (C8).

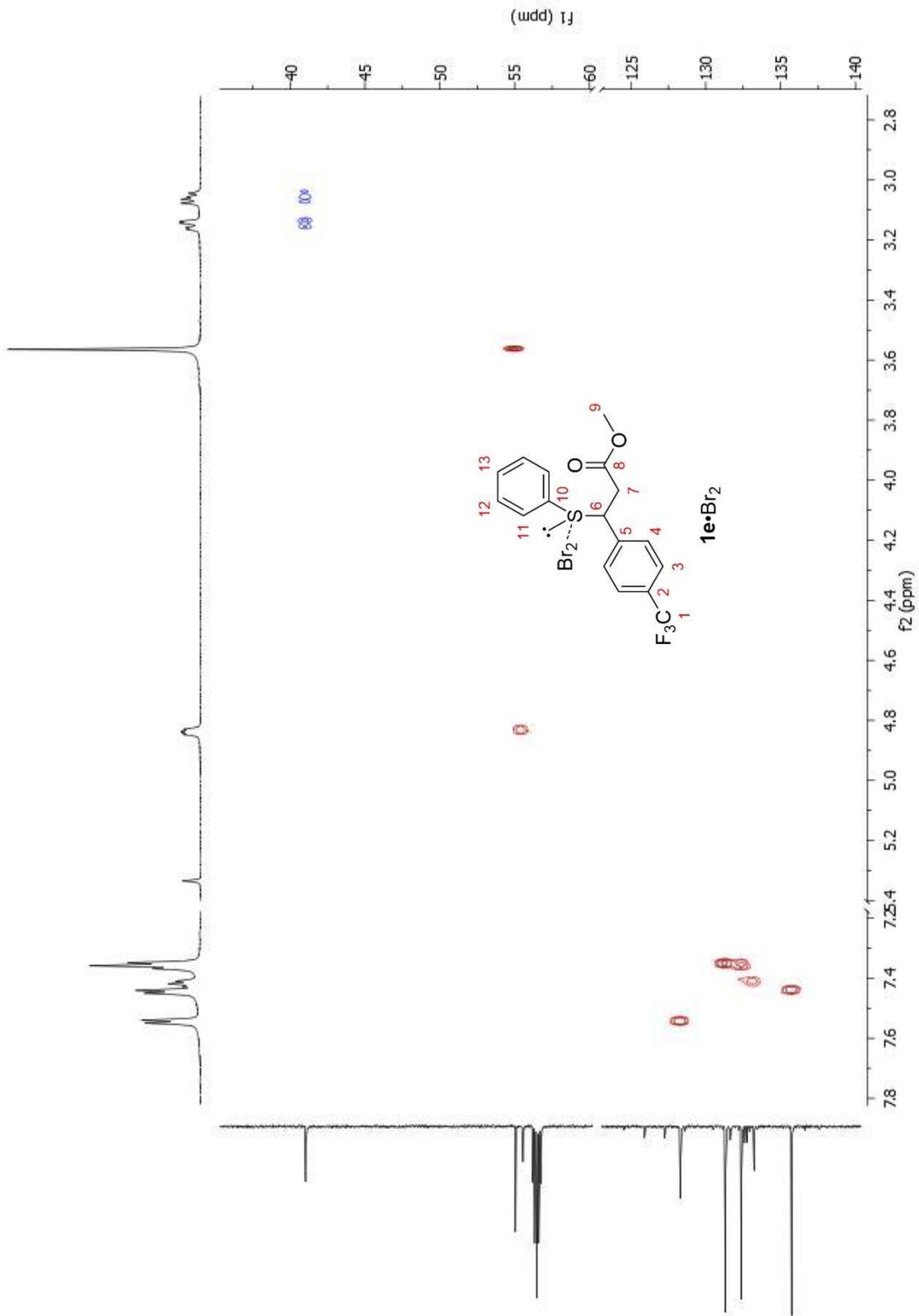
$^1\text{H}$  NMR (800 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ,  $-20^\circ\text{C}$ ) of **1e** vs **1e** $\cdot\text{Br}_2$  (2 min after  $\text{Br}_2$  addition)



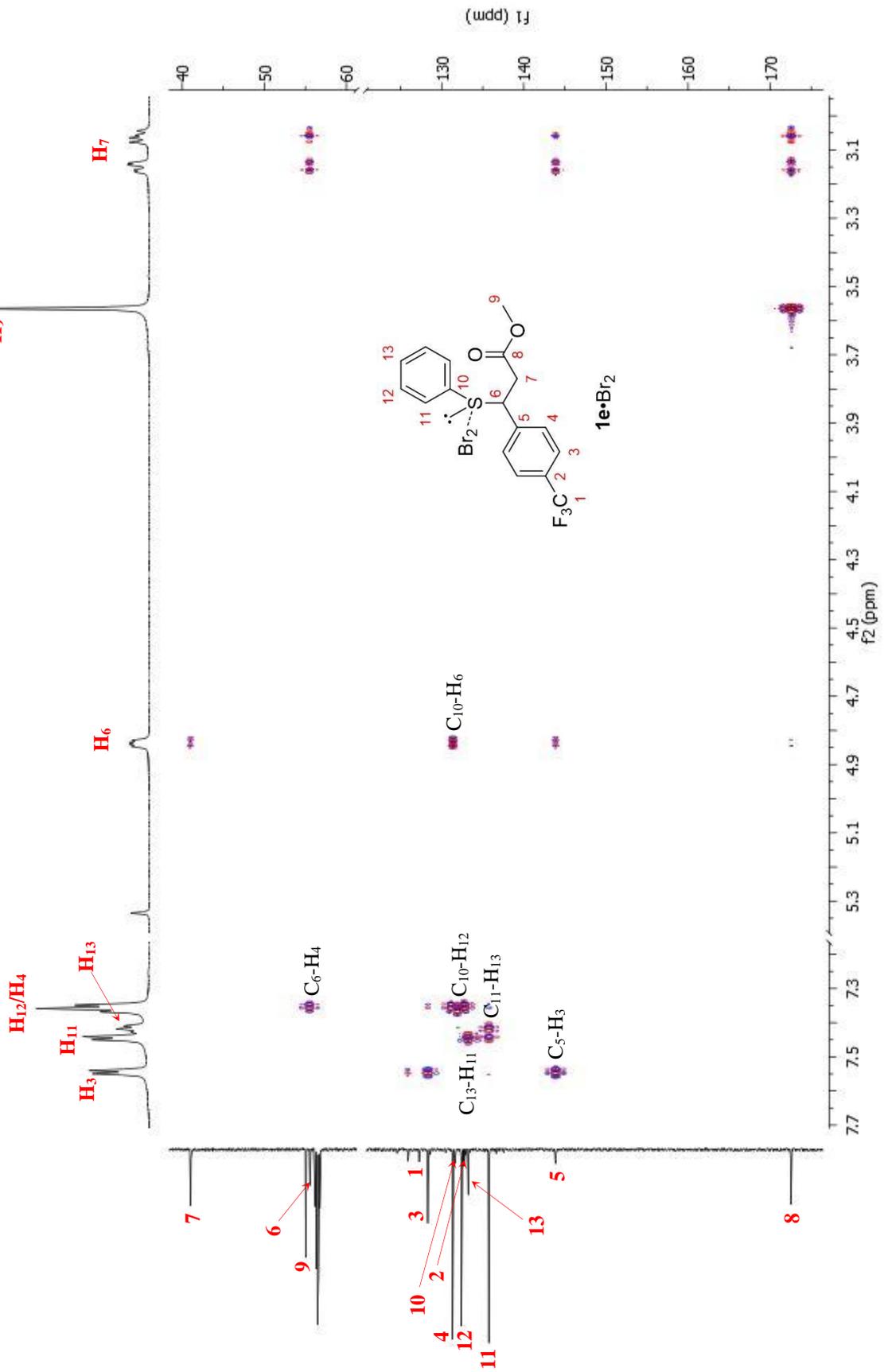
$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (201 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ,  $-20^\circ\text{C}$ ) of **1e** vs **1e**· $\text{Br}_2$  (15 min after  $\text{Br}_2$  addition)



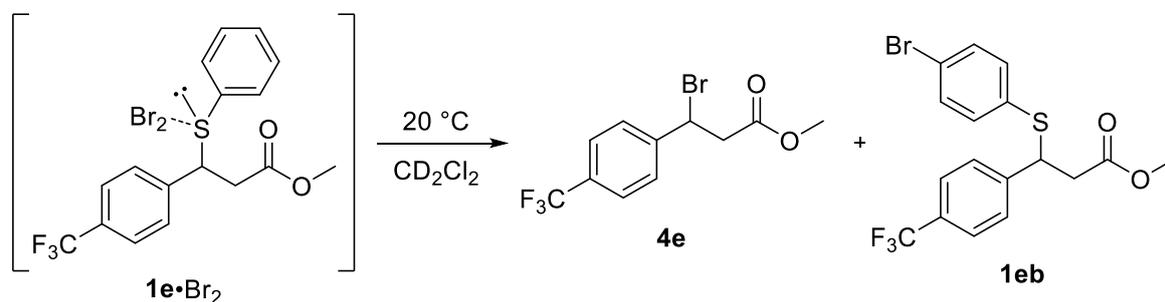
HSQC (800 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, -20 °C)



HMBC (800 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, -20 °C)



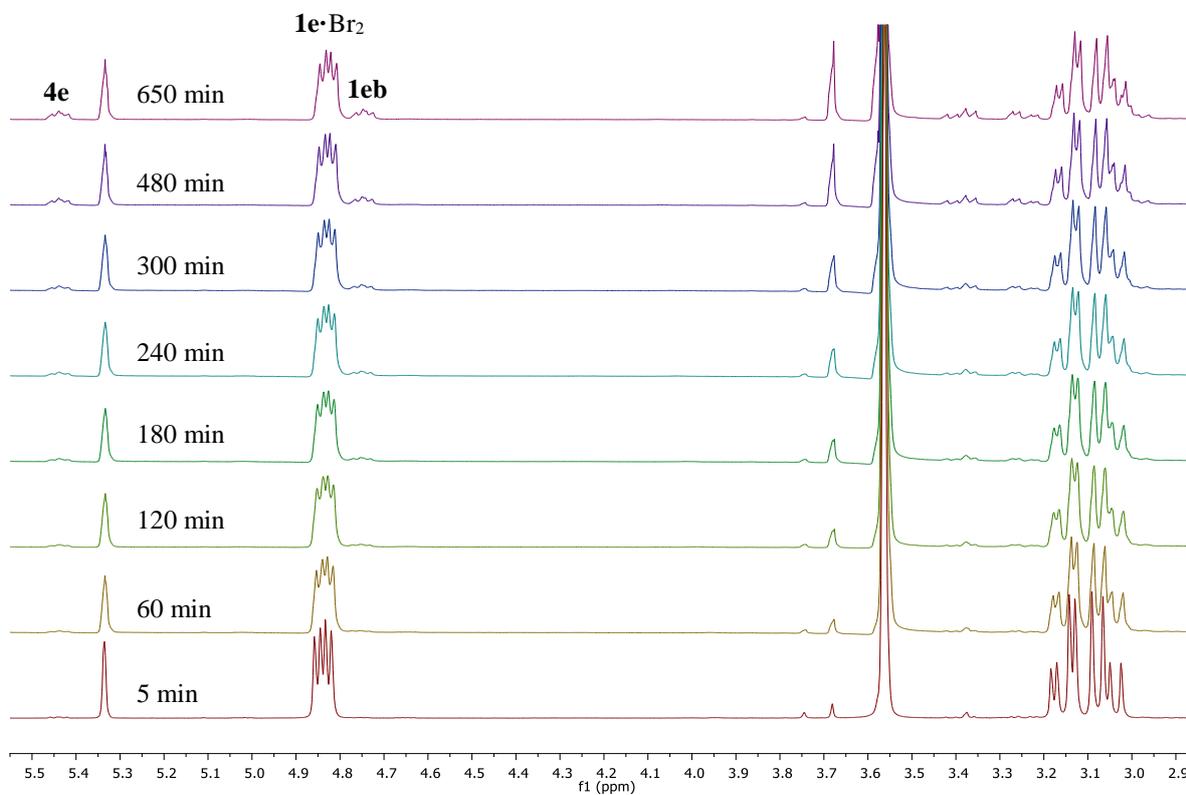
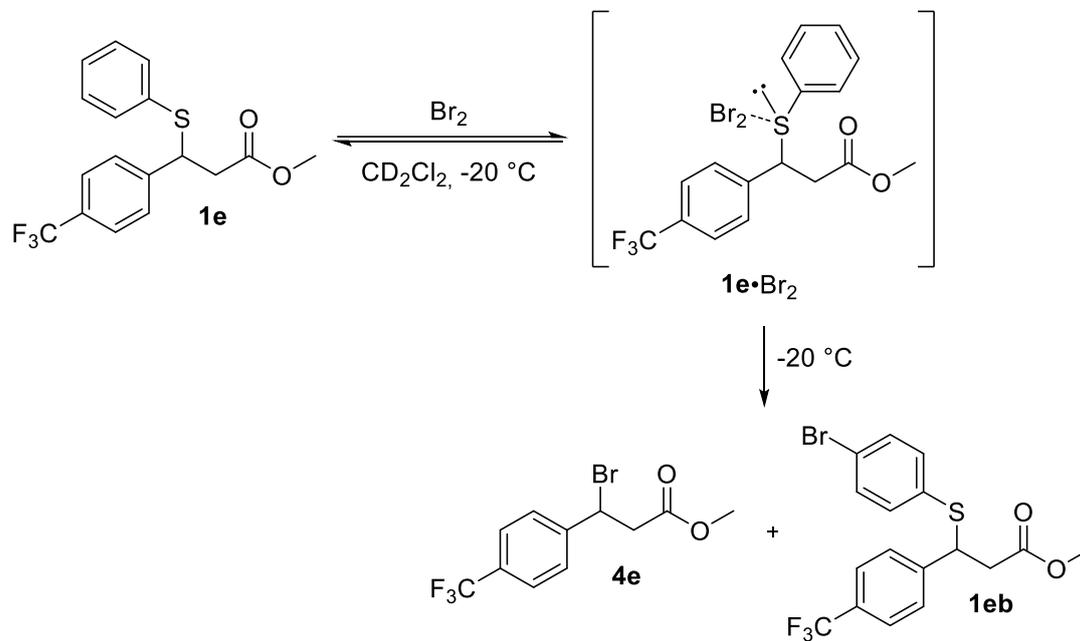
**$^1\text{H}$  NMR monitoring of the conversion of ( $1\text{e}\cdot\text{Br}_2$ ) to bromide ( $4\text{e}$ ) after raising the temperature to  $20\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$**



$^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra (Fig. 4 in the manuscript) were recorded at 15 min intervals over a period of 14.5 h. The first  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum was recorded after monitoring the reaction at  $-20\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  for 4 h. The conditioning of the NMR spectrometer to reach  $20\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$  took around 30 min.

### 10.1.2. $^1\text{H}$ NMR monitoring (400 MHz) of the bromination of (1e) at $-20\text{ }^\circ\text{C}$

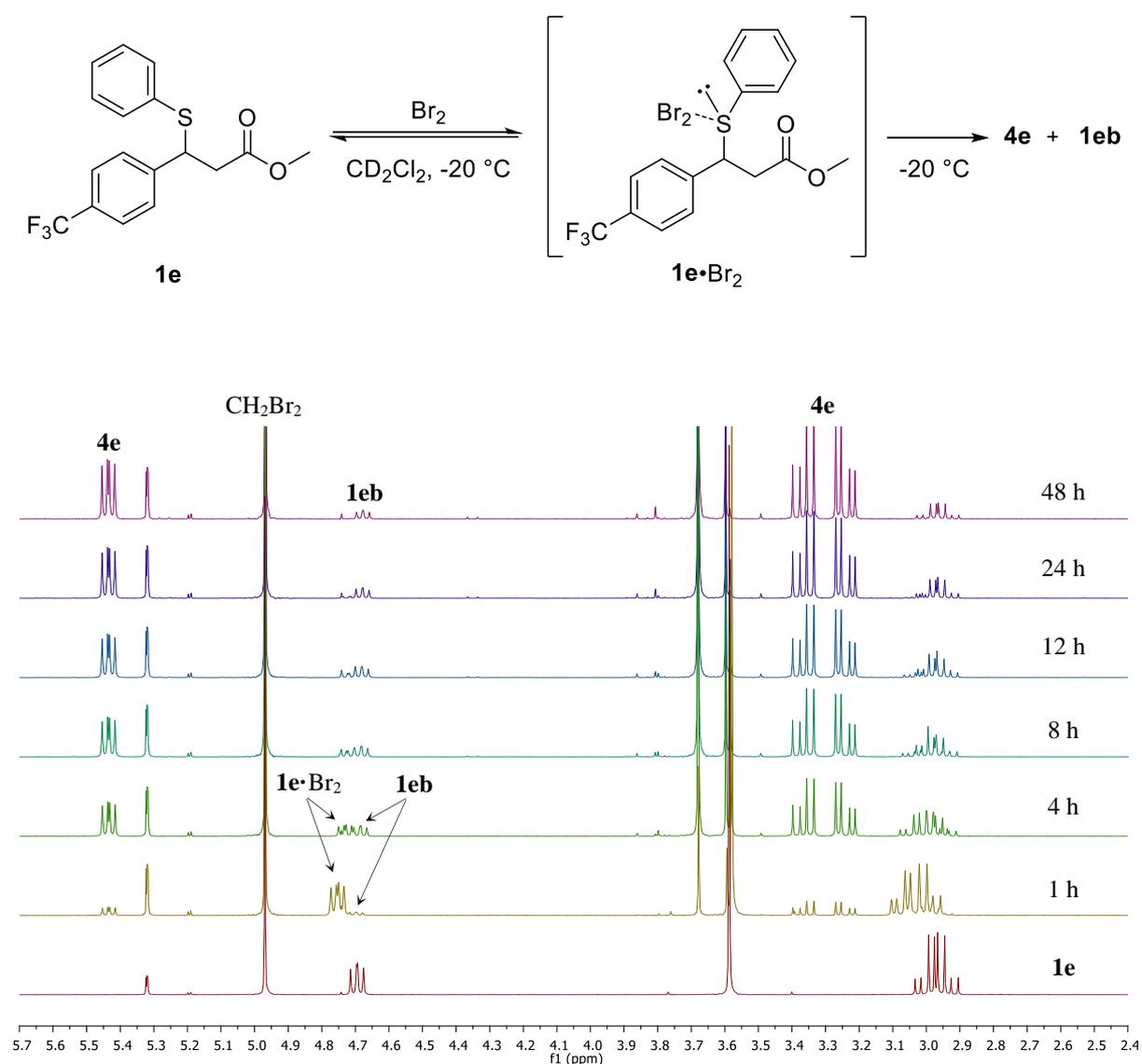
$^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra were recorded at 5 min intervals over a period of 650 min. The reaction was performed in an NMR tube as described in section 10.1.1.



### 10.1.3. Monitoring the bromination of (1e) by quantitative $^1\text{H}$ NMR at 20 °C

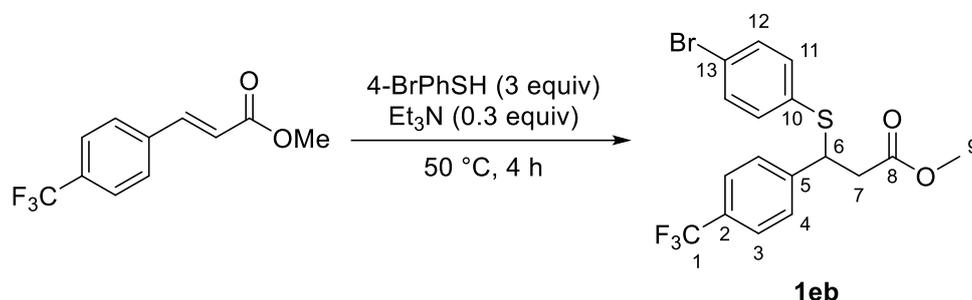
Dibromomethane (17 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) as internal standard was added as a stock solution (0.6 mL, 0.17 M in  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ) to sulphide **1e** (34 mg, 0.1 mmol) under  $\text{N}_2$  atmosphere. The solution was transferred *via* syringe to a 5 mm NMR tube placed in a suba-seal capped Schlenk tube. The NMR tube was sealed with a precision seal rubber septum, which was covered with parafilm. A  $\text{Br}_2$  solution (100  $\mu\text{L}$ , 1.0 M in  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) was added *via* syringe and a series of 1D NMR spectra (400 MHz, 20 °C) were recorded over a period of 60 hours.

Acquisition parameters for the NMR experiment were as follows: pulse sequence = zg, D1 = 60 sec, AQ = 8.17 sec, TD = 131072, SW = 20 ppm, DS = 0, NS = 16, RG = 64.

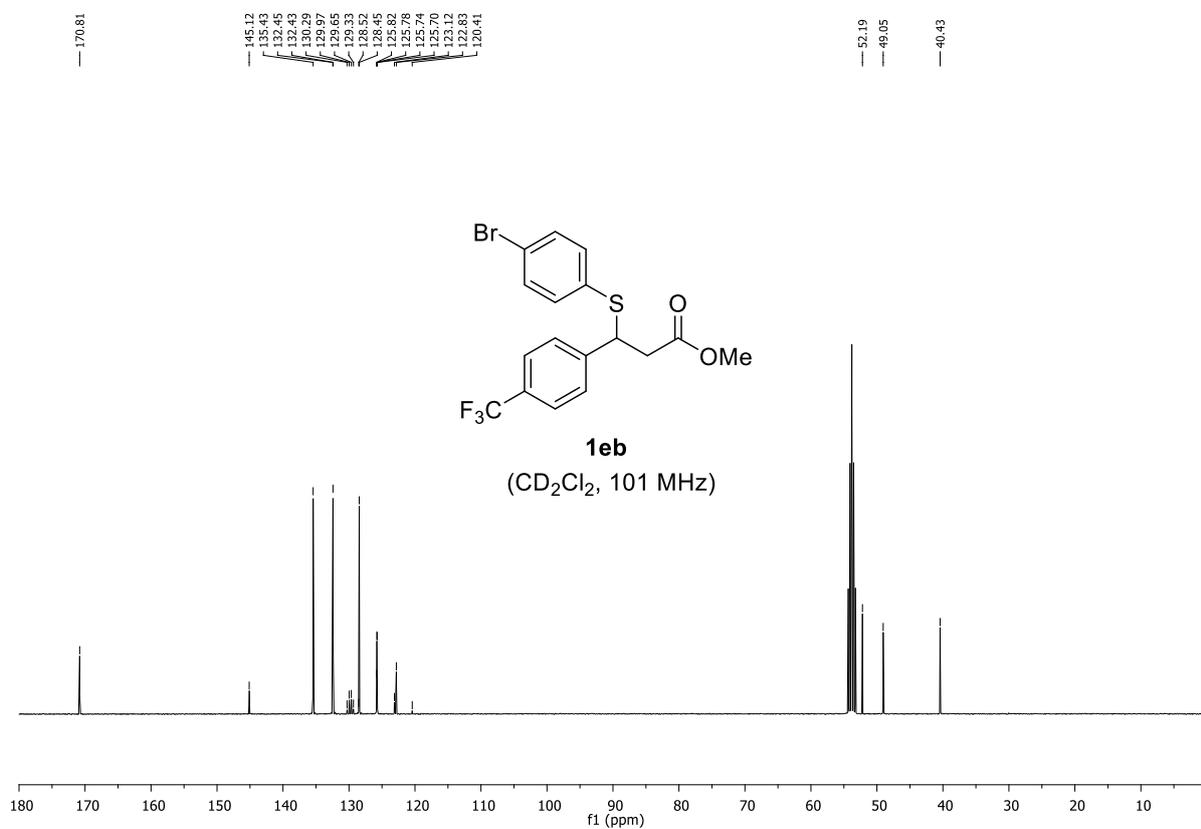
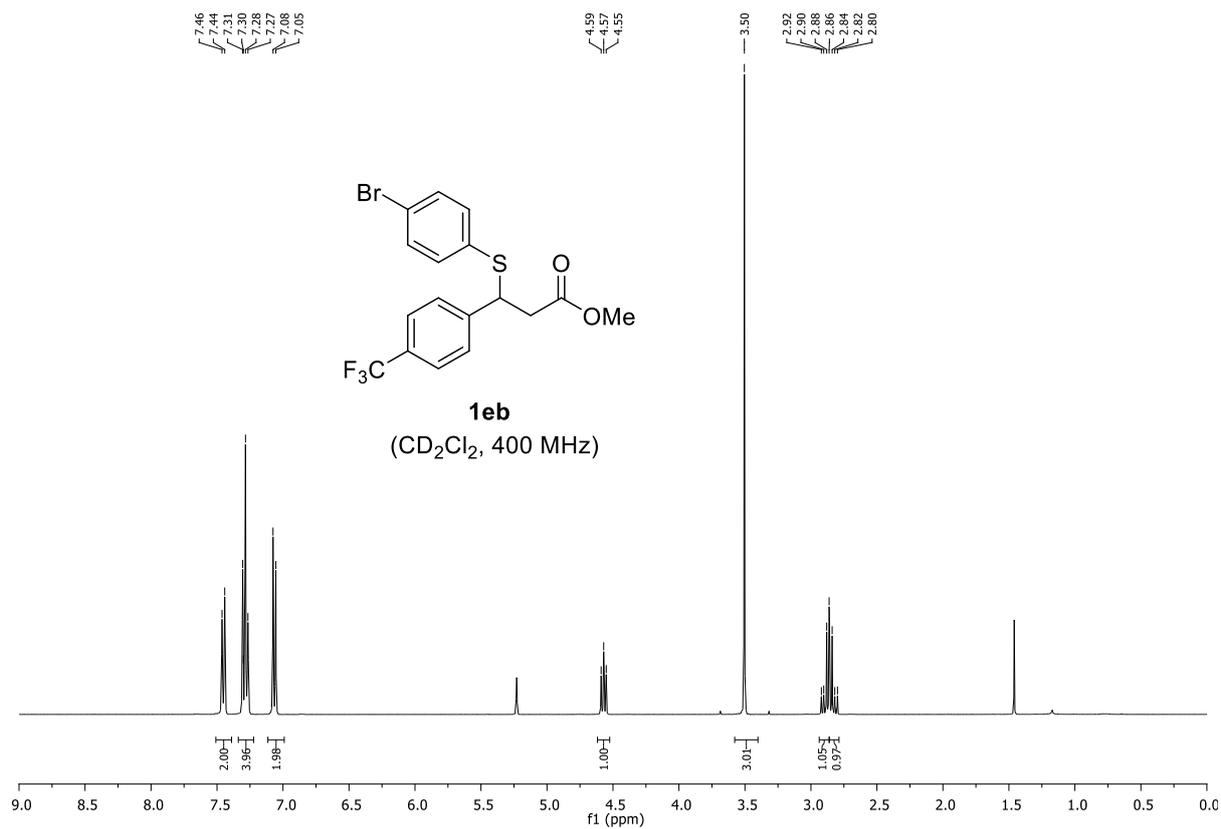


## 10.2. NMR monitoring of the bromination of sulphide (1eb)

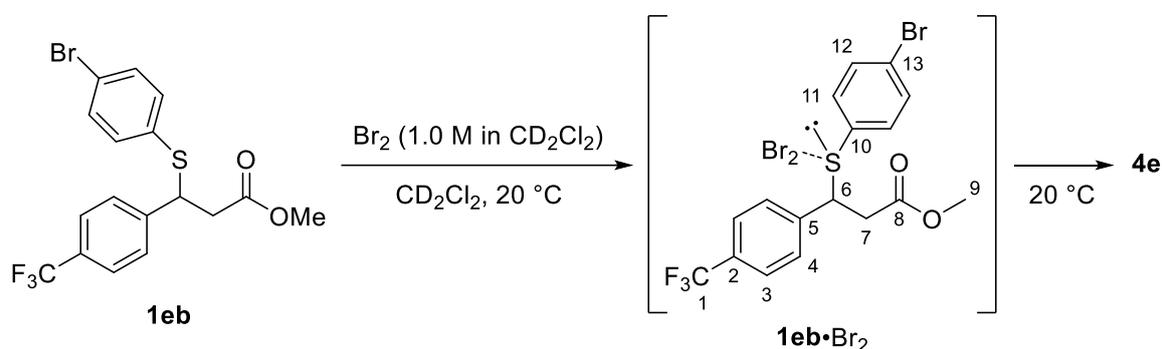
### 10.2.1. Preparation of sulphide (1eb)



4-Bromothiophenol (1.70 g, 9.0 mmol, 3.0 equiv) and triethylamine (125  $\mu$ L, 91 mg, 0.9 mmol, 0.3 equiv) were added to methyl 3-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)acrylate (690 mg, 3.0 mmol) and the reaction mixture was stirred at 50 °C for 4 h. The reaction mixture was directly purified by flash column chromatography (silica gel; petroleum ether/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 70:30  $\rightarrow$  0:100) to afford the title compound as a yellow solid (1.19 g, 95% yield). Mp: 99–100 °C. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>):  $\nu$  3129, 3084, 2761, 1623, 1572, 1251, 1289, 1020, 764. Full assignments were made based on HMBC and HSQC experiments. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>):  $\delta$  2.83 (dd,  $J$  = 16.2, 8.7 Hz, 1H, H7), 2.89 (dd,  $J$  = 16.2, 7.3 Hz, 1H, H7), 3.50 (s, 3H, H9), 4.57 (virt t,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H, H6), 7.06 (d,  $J$  = 8.4 Hz, 2H, H11), 7.27–7.31 (m, 4H, H<sub>4</sub>, H12), 7.45 (d,  $J$  = 8.2 Hz, 2H, H3). <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)  $\delta$  -62.8. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>):  $\delta$  40.4 (C7), 49.1 (C6), 52.2 (C9), 122.8 (C13), 124.5 (q,  $J$  = 272.3 Hz, C1), 125.7 (q,  $J$  = 3.8, C3), 128.4 (C4), 129.8 (q,  $J$  = 32.4 Hz, C2), 132.4 (C12), 132.4 (C10), 135.4 (C11), 145.1 (C5), 170.8 (C8). HRMS (EI): C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>14</sub>F<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub>S [M – Br]<sup>+</sup> calculated: 339.0667, found: 339.0666.



### 10.2.2. Monitoring the bromination of sulphide (**1eb**) by NMR and characterisation of adduct (**1eb**·Br<sub>2</sub>)



Dibromomethane solution (0.6 mL, 0.17 M in CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv), as internal standard, was added to a sulphide **1eb** (42 mg, 0.1 mmol) under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere. The solution was transferred *via* syringe in a 5 mm NMR tube placed in a suba-seal capped Schlenk tube. The NMR tube was sealed with a precision seal rubber septum and covered with parafilm. A Br<sub>2</sub> solution (100 μL, 1.0 M in CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) was added *via* syringe and a series of 1D NMR (400 MHz, 20 °C) spectra were recorded over a period of 60 hours. Full NMR spectroscopic characterization of adduct **1eb**·Br<sub>2</sub> was achieved within the first hour.

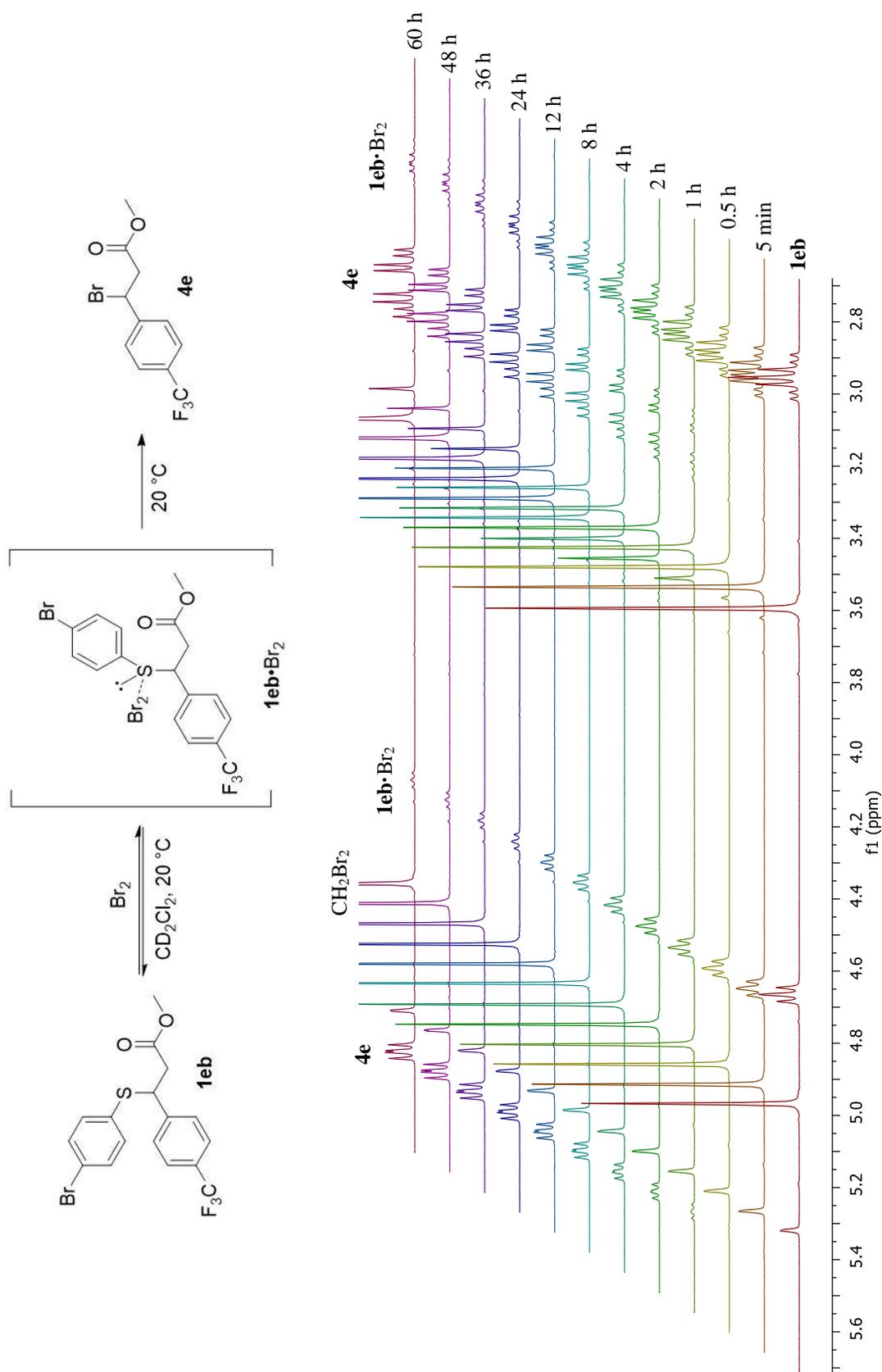
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>): δ 2.96 (dd, *J* = 16.2, 8.7 Hz, 1H, H7), 3.03 (dd, *J* = 16.2, 6.7 Hz, 1H, H7), 3.59 (s, 3H, H9), 4.70 (virt t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H, H6), 7.20 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H, H11), 7.36 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H, H4), 7.42 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H, H12), 7.55 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H, H3).

<sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) δ -62.9.

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>): δ 39.9 (C7), 50.2 (C6), 52.3 (C9), 123.6 (br s, C13), 124.1 (q, *J* = 271.6 Hz, C1), 125.8 (q, *J* = 3.8, C3), 128.6 (C4), 130.4 (q, *J* = 32.4 Hz, C2), 131.3 (br s, C10), 132.6 (C12), 135.3 (C11), 143.3 (br s, C5), 170.5 (C8).



### 10.2.3. NMR monitoring of the bromination of (1eb) at 20 °C



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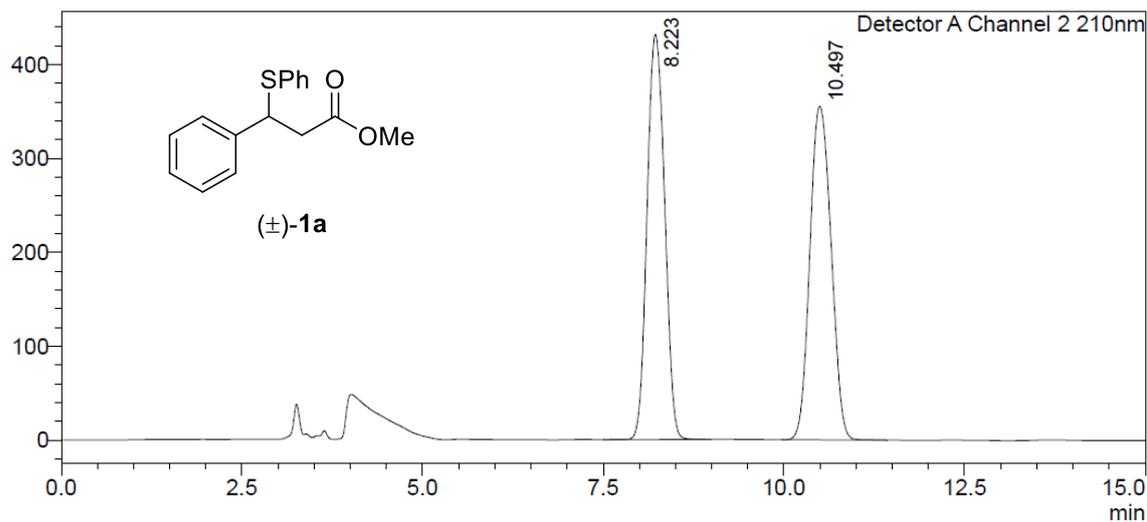
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## 12. HPLC traces of optically active compounds

### 12.1 HPLC traces of (±)-1a and (-)-(S)-1a

CHIRALPAK IB-H, *n*-hexane/*i*-PrOH, 99:1, 1 mL/min, 210 nm

mAU

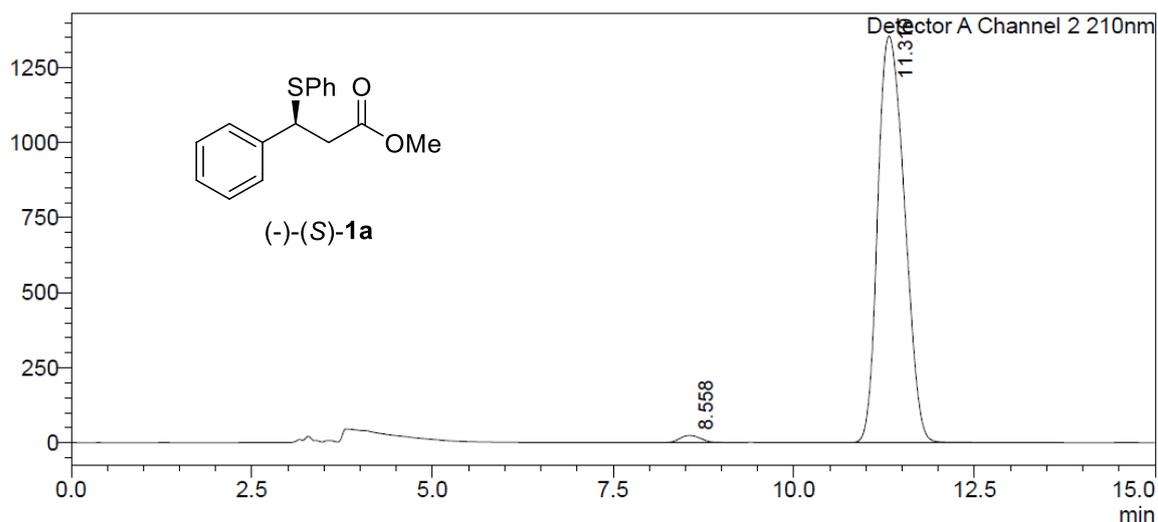


#### <Peak Table>

Detector A Channel 2 210nm

| Peak# | Ret. Time | Area     | Height | Conc.  |
|-------|-----------|----------|--------|--------|
| 1     | 8.223     | 7291578  | 431520 | 50.042 |
| 2     | 10.497    | 7279464  | 355532 | 49.958 |
| Total |           | 14571042 | 787052 |        |

mAU



#### <Peak Table>

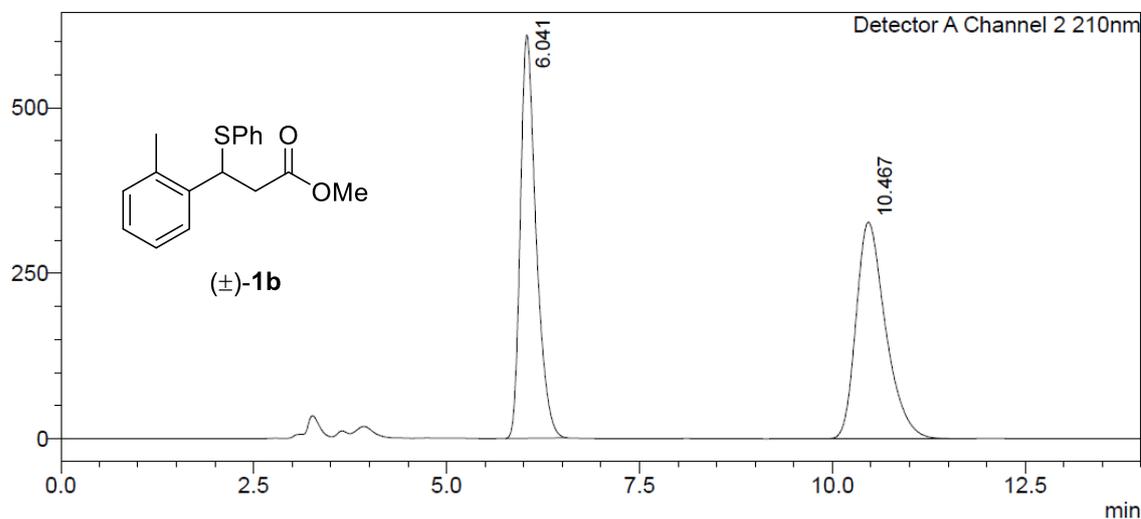
Detector A Channel 2 210nm

| Peak# | Ret. Time | Area     | Height  | Conc.  |
|-------|-----------|----------|---------|--------|
| 1     | 8.558     | 469447   | 23451   | 1.328  |
| 2     | 11.319    | 34878064 | 1354444 | 98.672 |
| Total |           | 35347510 | 1377894 |        |

## 12.2 HPLC traces of (±)-1b and (-)-(S)-1b

CHIRALPAK OD-H, *n*-hexane/*i*-PrOH, 95:5, 1.0 mL/min, 210 nm

mAU

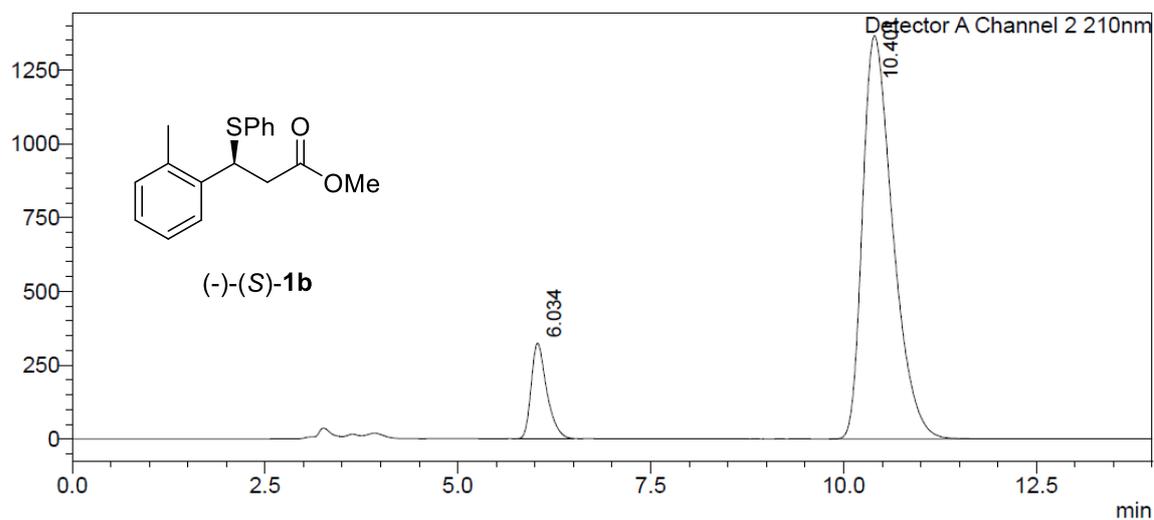


### <Peak Table>

Detector A Channel 2 210nm

| Peak# | Ret. Time | Area     | Height | Conc. |
|-------|-----------|----------|--------|-------|
| 1     | 6.041     | 8639711  | 608650 | 0.000 |
| 2     | 10.467    | 8719593  | 327290 | 0.000 |
| Total |           | 17359305 | 935940 |       |

mAU



### <Peak Table>

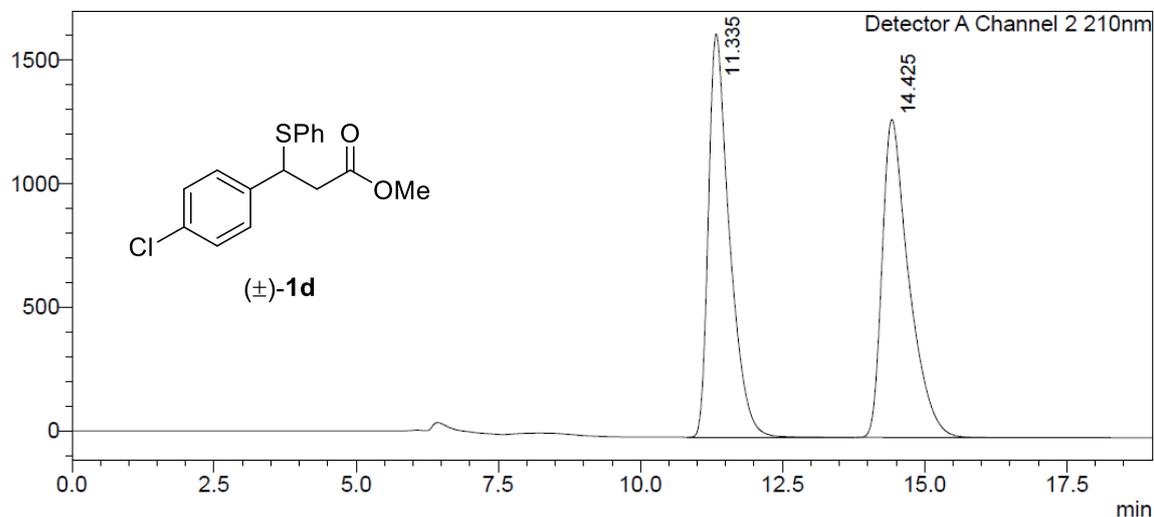
Detector A Channel 2 210nm

| Peak# | Ret. Time | Area     | Height  | Conc. |
|-------|-----------|----------|---------|-------|
| 1     | 6.034     | 4526863  | 323139  | 0.000 |
| 2     | 10.401    | 37284492 | 1365360 | 0.000 |
| Total |           | 41811355 | 1688500 |       |

### 12.3 HPLC traces of (±)-1d and (-)-(S)-1d

CHIRALPAK OD-H, *n*-hexane/*i*-PrOH, 95:5, 0.5 mL/min, 210 nm

mAU

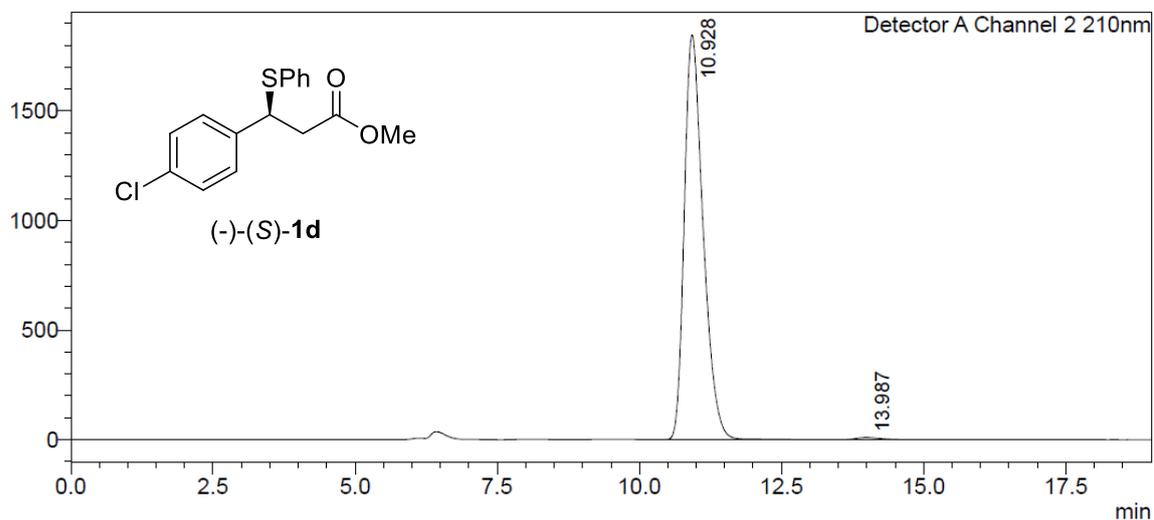


#### <Peak Table>

Detector A Channel 2 210nm

| Peak# | Ret. Time | Area     | Height  | Conc. |
|-------|-----------|----------|---------|-------|
| 1     | 11.335    | 42177480 | 1629115 | 0.000 |
| 2     | 14.425    | 42089734 | 1285541 | 0.000 |
| Total |           | 84267214 | 2914656 |       |

mAU



#### <Peak Table>

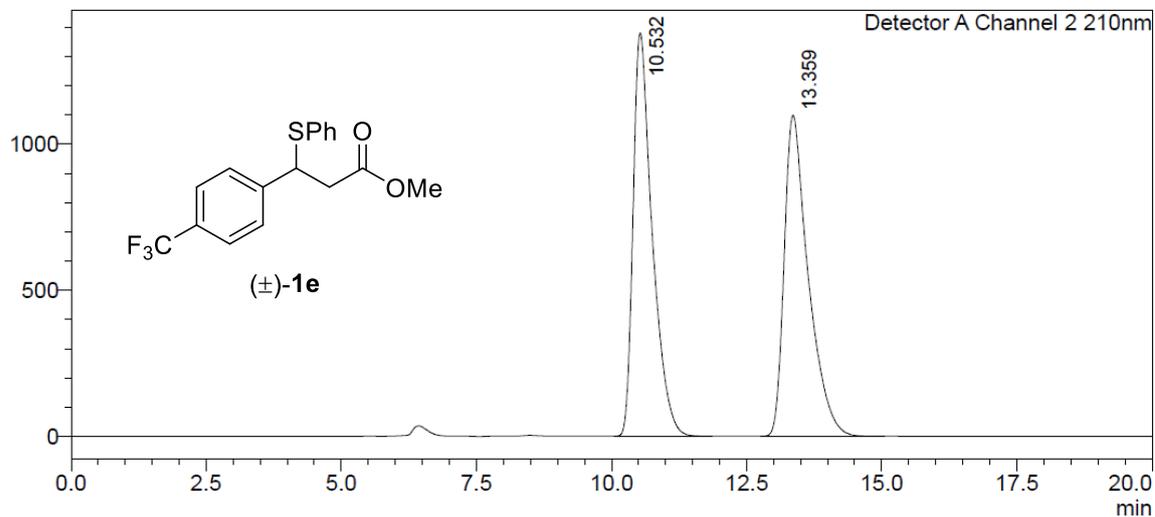
Detector A Channel 2 210nm

| Peak# | Ret. Time | Area     | Height  | Conc. |
|-------|-----------|----------|---------|-------|
| 1     | 10.928    | 42627957 | 1846094 | 0.000 |
| 2     | 13.987    | 309380   | 10727   | 0.000 |
| Total |           | 42937337 | 1856821 |       |

## 12.4 HPLC traces of (±)-1e and (-)-(S)-1e

CHIRALPAK OD-H, *n*-hexane/*i*-PrOH, 95:5, 0.5 mL/min, 210 nm

mAU

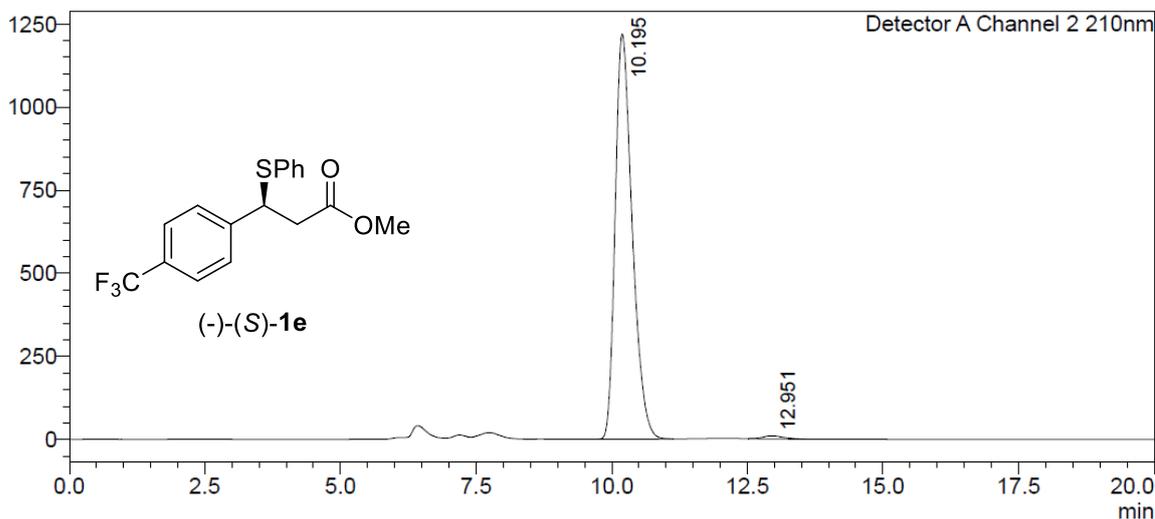


### <Peak Table>

Detector A Channel 2 210nm

| Peak# | Ret. Time | Area     | Height  | Conc. |
|-------|-----------|----------|---------|-------|
| 1     | 10.532    | 34026823 | 1380212 | 0.000 |
| 2     | 13.359    | 34095662 | 1098885 | 0.000 |
| Total |           | 68122485 | 2479097 |       |

mAU



### <Peak Table>

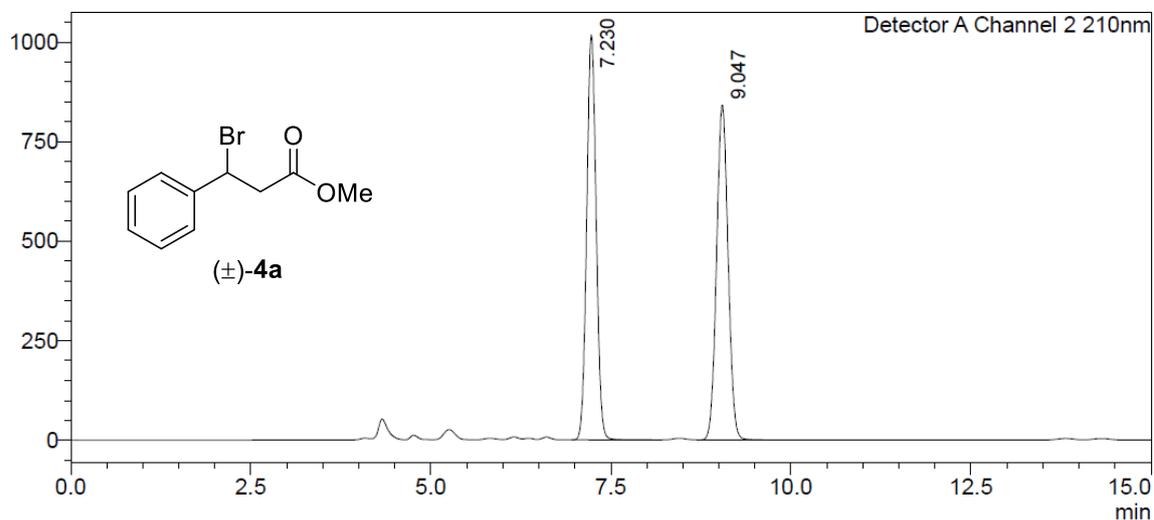
Detector A Channel 2 210nm

| Peak# | Ret. Time | Area     | Height  | Conc. |
|-------|-----------|----------|---------|-------|
| 1     | 10.195    | 26687256 | 1218413 | 0.000 |
| 2     | 12.951    | 244744   | 8939    | 0.000 |
| Total |           | 26931999 | 1227352 |       |

## 12.5 HPLC traces of (±)-4a and (+)-(R)-4a

CHIRALPAK IB-H, *n*-hexane/*i*-PrOH, 95:5, 0.75 mL/min, 210 nm

mAU

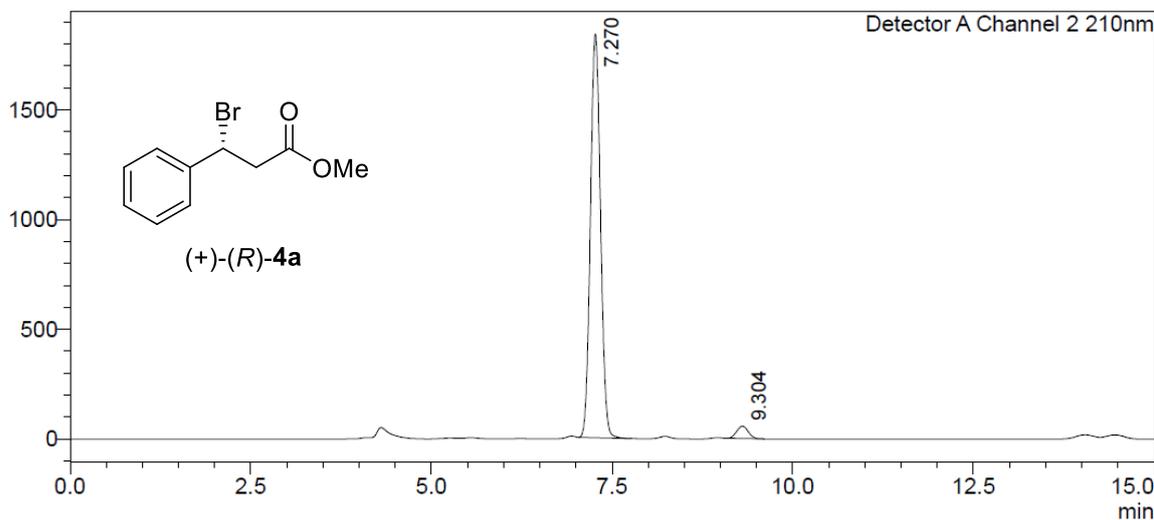


### <Peak Table>

Detector A Channel 2 210nm

| Peak# | Ret. Time | Area     | Height  | Conc.  |
|-------|-----------|----------|---------|--------|
| 1     | 7.230     | 9306586  | 1015608 | 49.794 |
| 2     | 9.047     | 9383654  | 840673  | 50.206 |
| Total |           | 18690240 | 1856280 |        |

mAU



### <Peak Table>

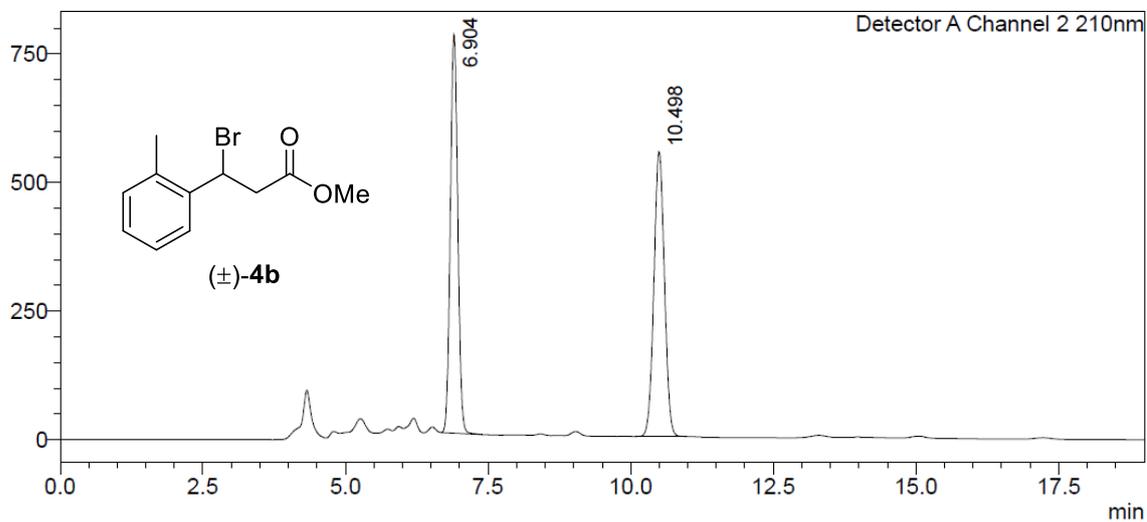
Detector A Channel 2 210nm

| Peak# | Ret. Time | Area     | Height  | Conc.  |
|-------|-----------|----------|---------|--------|
| 1     | 7.270     | 17884055 | 1838325 | 96.529 |
| 2     | 9.304     | 643017   | 56761   | 3.471  |
| Total |           | 18527072 | 1895086 |        |

## 12.6 HPLC traces of (±)-4b and (-)-(R)-4b

CHIRALPAK IB-H, *n*-hexane/*i*-PrOH, 95:5, 0.75 mL/min, 210 nm

mAU

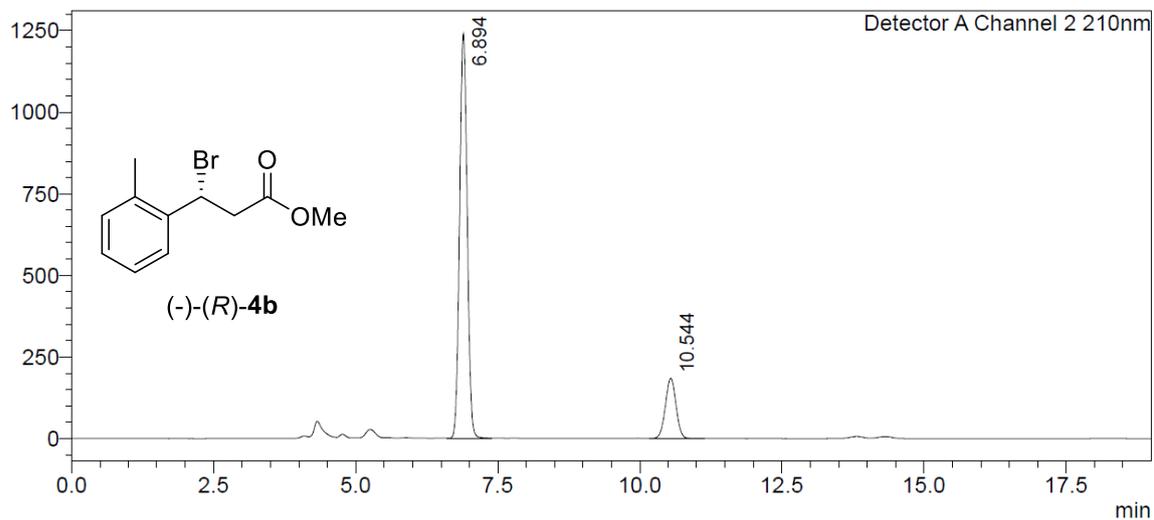


### <Peak Table>

Detector A Channel 2 210nm

| Peak# | Ret. Time | Area     | Height  | Conc.  |
|-------|-----------|----------|---------|--------|
| 1     | 6.904     | 7030763  | 775636  | 49.657 |
| 2     | 10.498    | 7127861  | 554224  | 50.343 |
| Total |           | 14158625 | 1329860 |        |

mAU



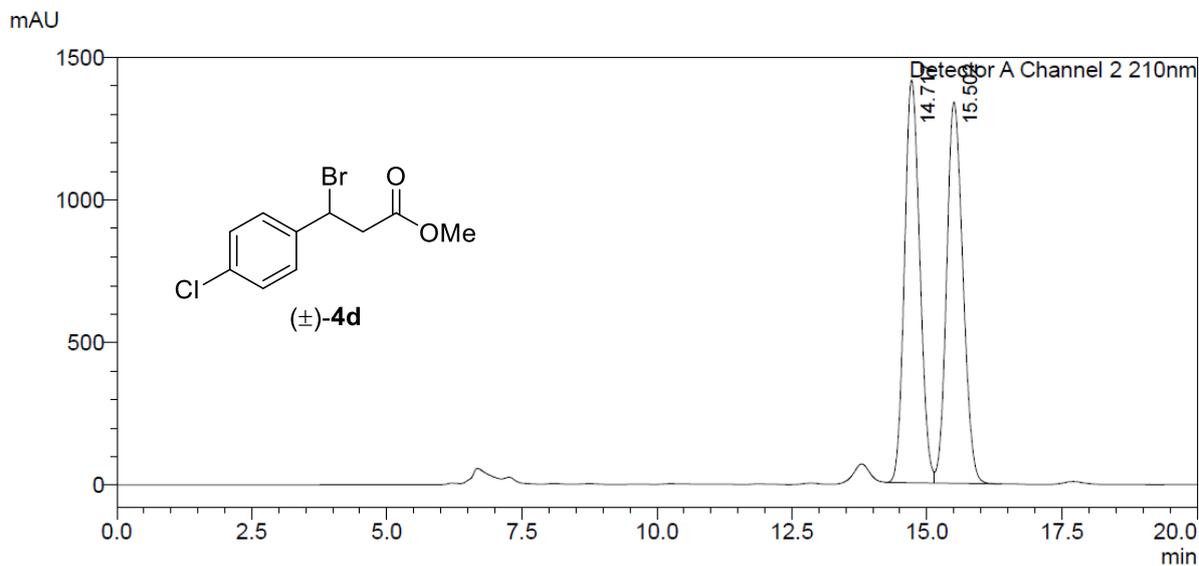
### <Peak Table>

Detector A Channel 2 210nm

| Peak# | Ret. Time | Area     | Height  | Conc.  |
|-------|-----------|----------|---------|--------|
| 1     | 6.894     | 11550607 | 1239283 | 82.770 |
| 2     | 10.544    | 2404512  | 184018  | 17.230 |
| Total |           | 13955118 | 1423301 |        |

## 12.7 HPLC traces of (±)-4d and (+)-(R)-4d

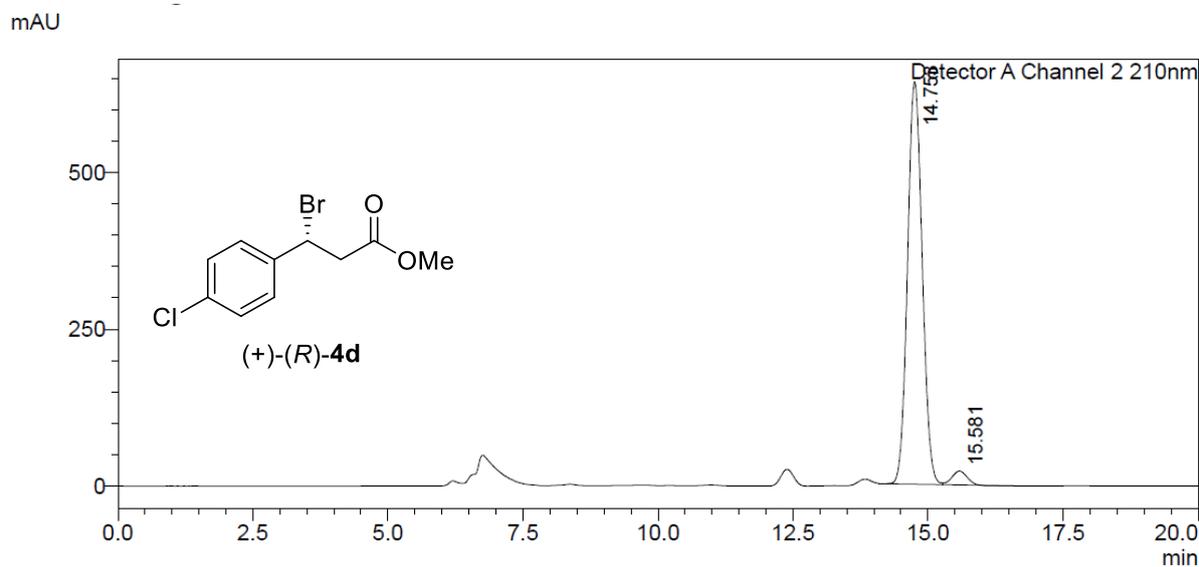
CHIRALPAK IB-H, *n*-hexane/*i*-PrOH, 98:2, 0.5 mL/min, 210 nm



### <Peak Table>

Detector A Channel 2 210nm

| Peak# | Ret. Time | Area     | Height  | Conc.  |
|-------|-----------|----------|---------|--------|
| 1     | 14.717    | 27839185 | 1412659 | 49.706 |
| 2     | 15.502    | 28168814 | 1338193 | 50.294 |
| Total |           | 56007999 | 2750852 |        |



### <Peak Table>

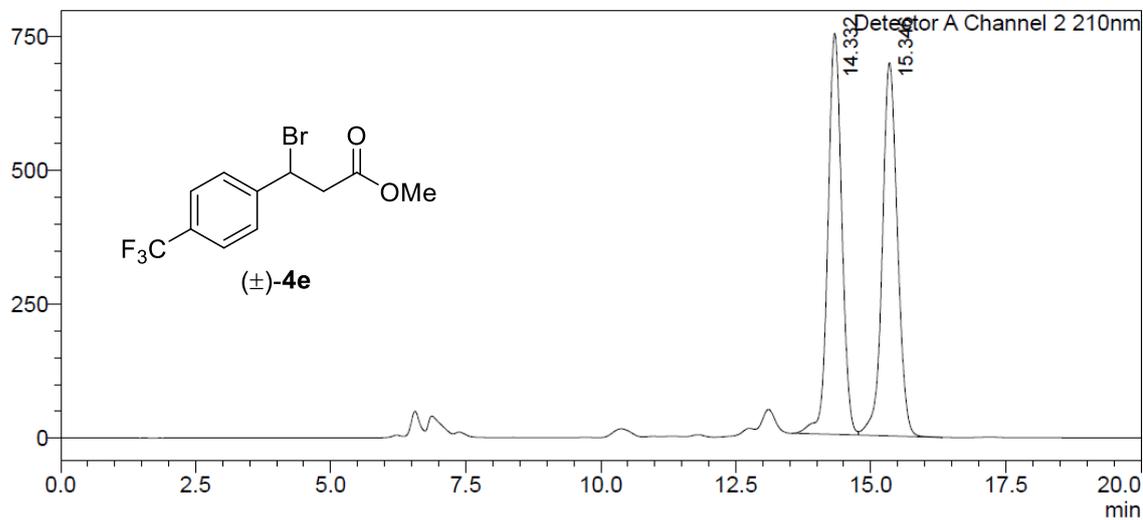
Detector A Channel 2 210nm

| Peak# | Ret. Time | Area     | Height | Conc.  |
|-------|-----------|----------|--------|--------|
| 1     | 14.753    | 12145607 | 640981 | 96.720 |
| 2     | 15.581    | 411886   | 22092  | 3.280  |
| Total |           | 12557493 | 663074 |        |

## 12.8 HPLC traces of (±)-4e and (+)-(R)-4e

CHIRALPAK IB-H, *n*-hexane/*i*-PrOH, 98:2, 0.5 mL/min, 210 nm

mAU

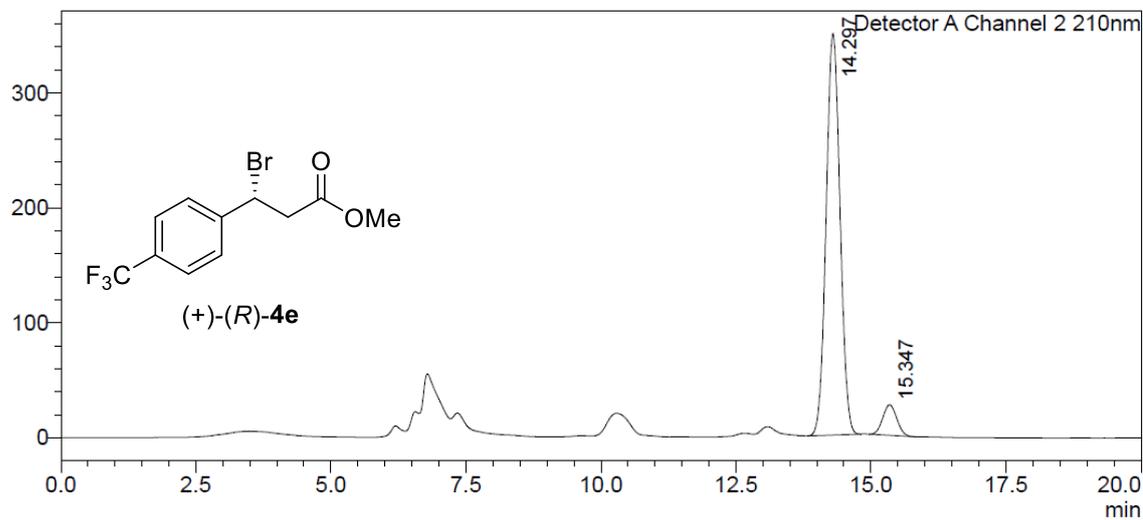


### <Peak Table>

Detector A Channel 2 210nm

| Peak# | Ret. Time | Area     | Height  | Conc.  |
|-------|-----------|----------|---------|--------|
| 1     | 14.332    | 13384115 | 749288  | 49.602 |
| 2     | 15.346    | 13599052 | 697604  | 50.398 |
| Total |           | 26983167 | 1446891 |        |

mAU



### <Peak Table>

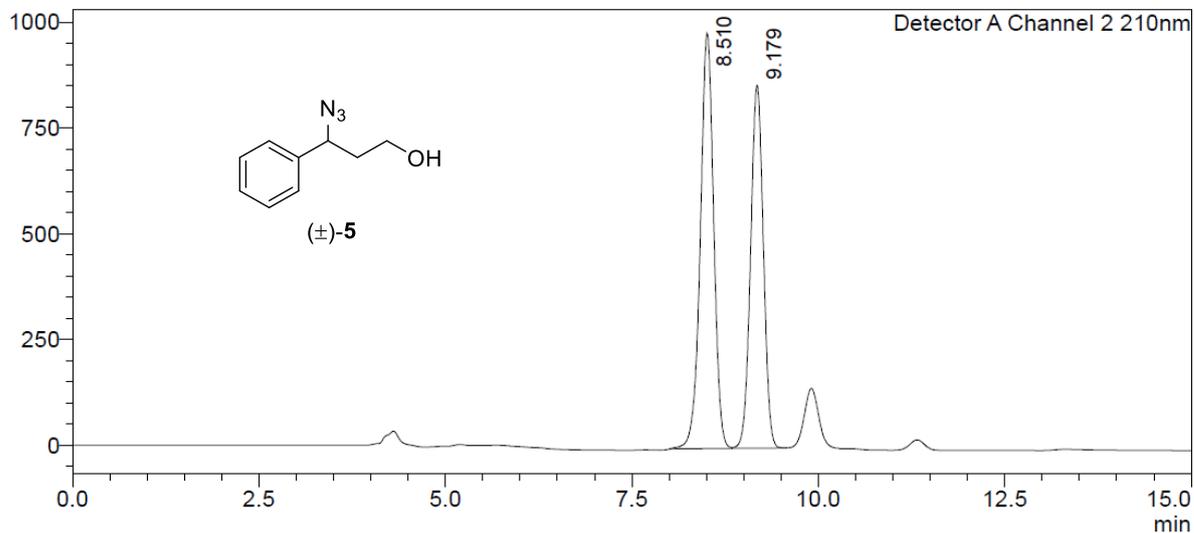
Detector A Channel 2 210nm

| Peak# | Ret. Time | Area    | Height | Conc.  |
|-------|-----------|---------|--------|--------|
| 1     | 14.297    | 6260040 | 349040 | 92.918 |
| 2     | 15.347    | 477103  | 26438  | 7.082  |
| Total |           | 6737143 | 375478 |        |

## 12.9 HPLC traces of (±)-5 and (-)-(S)-5

CHIRALPAK IB-H, *n*-hexane/*i*-PrOH, 90:10, 0.75 mL/min, 210 nm

mAU

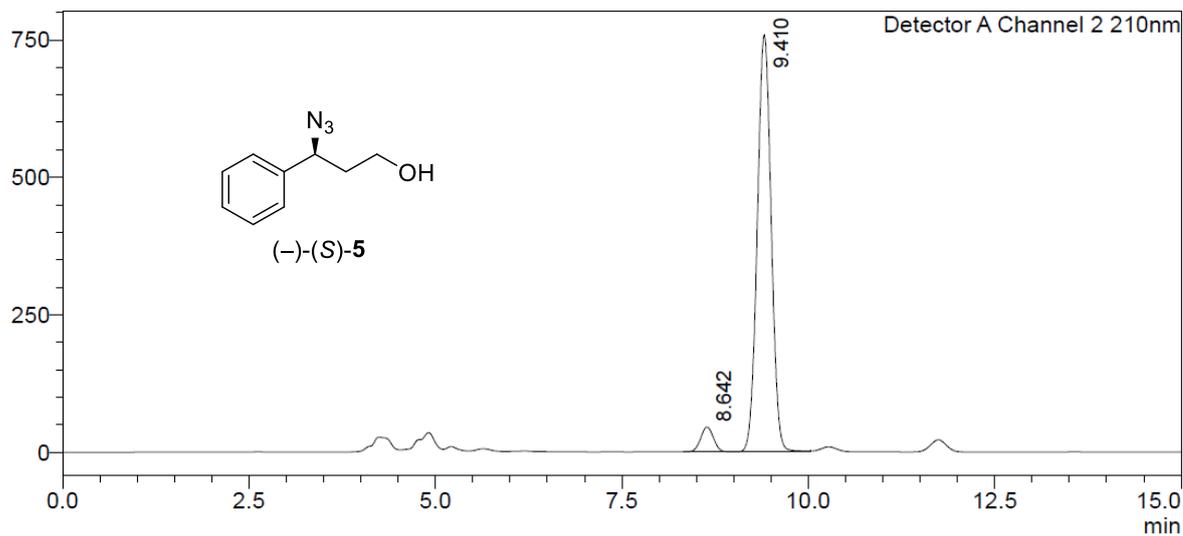


### <Peak Table>

Detector A Channel 2 210nm

| Peak# | Ret. Time | Area     | Height  | Conc. |
|-------|-----------|----------|---------|-------|
| 1     | 8.510     | 12246093 | 981130  | 0.000 |
| 2     | 9.179     | 10237590 | 857978  | 0.000 |
| Total |           | 22483682 | 1839108 |       |

mAU



### <Peak Table>

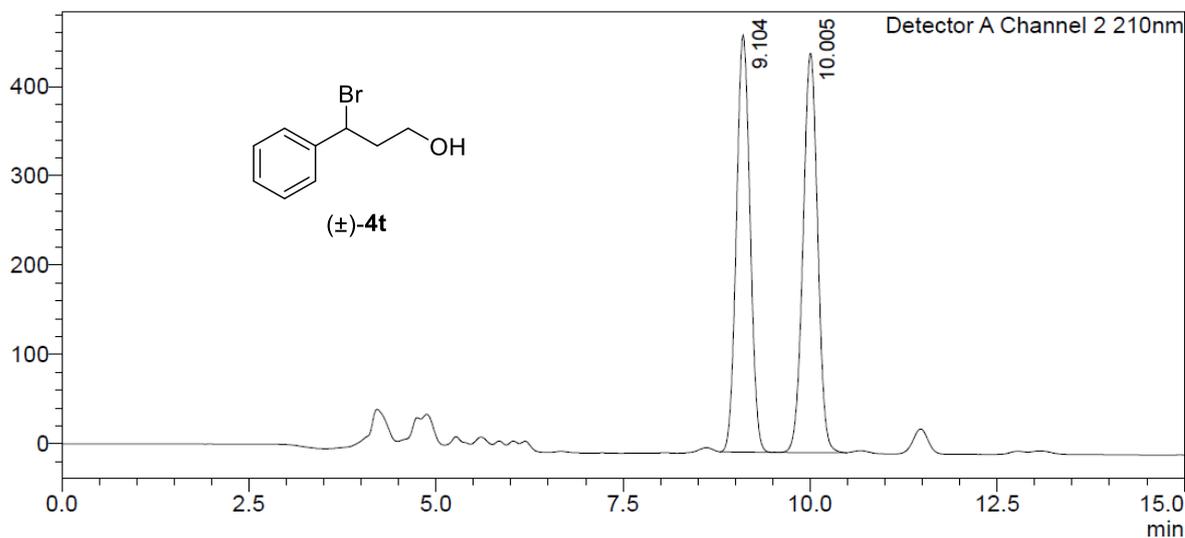
Detector A Channel 2 210nm

| Peak# | Ret. Time | Area     | Height | Conc. |
|-------|-----------|----------|--------|-------|
| 1     | 8.642     | 546143   | 45350  | 0.000 |
| 2     | 9.410     | 9861414  | 758303 | 0.000 |
| Total |           | 10407557 | 803653 |       |

## 12.10 HPLC traces of (±)-4t and (R)-4t

CHIRALPAK IB-H, *n*-hexane/*i*-PrOH, 90:10, 0.75 mL/min, 210 nm

mAU

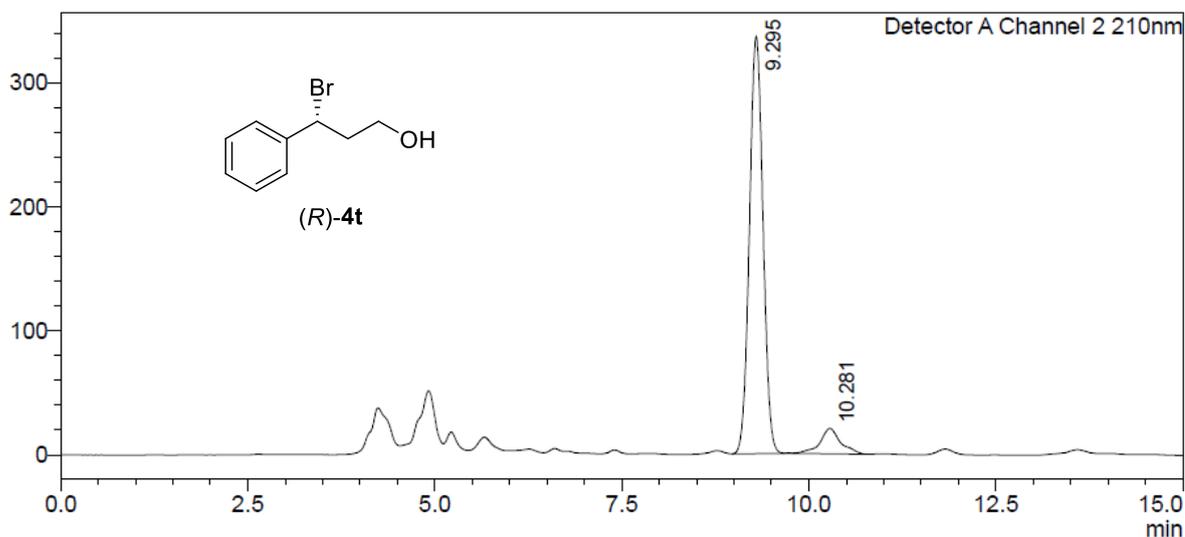


### <Peak Table>

Detector A Channel 2 210nm

| Peak# | Ret. Time | Area     | Height | Conc. |
|-------|-----------|----------|--------|-------|
| 1     | 9.104     | 5939848  | 466259 | 0.000 |
| 2     | 10.005    | 6077480  | 446977 | 0.000 |
| Total |           | 12017328 | 913236 |       |

mAU



### <Peak Table>

Detector A Channel 2 210nm

| Peak# | Ret. Time | Area    | Height | Conc.  |
|-------|-----------|---------|--------|--------|
| 1     | 9.295     | 4249275 | 336103 | 91.436 |
| 2     | 10.281    | 398004  | 20510  | 8.564  |
| Total |           | 4647279 | 356613 |        |

### 13. Copies of $^1\text{H}$ NMR and $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR spectra

