Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI) For

"S_N2 vs E2 on quaternary centres: an application to the synthesis of enantiopure $\beta^{2,2}$ -amino acids"

submitted to Chemical Communications by:

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1. (*R*)-2,3-Dihydroxy-*N*-methoxy-2,*N*-dimethylpropionamide. (*R*)-2.



A round-bottomed flask was charged with tert-butyl alcohol (80 mL), H_2O (80 mL), AD-mix- α (21.7 g) and methanesulfonamide (1.50 g). The mixture was stirred at 25°C until both phases are clear, and then cooled to 0°C, whereupon the inorganic salts partially precipitated. Olefin 1 (2.00 g, 15.5 mmol) was added and the heterogeneous slurry was vigorously stirred at 0°C for 12 h. The reaction was quenched at 0°C by addition of sodium sulphite (23.20 g) and then stirred for 1 h. The reaction mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate (3×30 mL) and then dried (Na₂SO₄) and concentrated. The residue was purified by column chromatography (hexane/ethyl acetate, 3:7) to give compound (R)-2 as a colourless oil (2.05 g, 12.5 mmol); yield: 81%. $[α]_{D}^{25}$ =+4.7 (*c* 1.80, MeOH); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 1.38 (s, 3H, CH₃), 3.31 (s, 3H, NCH₃), 3.63 (d, 1H, J=11.4 Hz, CH₂OH), 3.76 (s, 3H, NOCH₃), 3.93 (d, 1H, *J*=11.4 Hz, *CH*₂OH); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): *δ* 21.8 (CH₃), 34.0 (NCH₃), 61.4 (NOCH₃), 68.0 (CH₂OH), 76.2 (COH(CH₃)), 174.8 (CON); ESI^+ (*m*/*z*) = 164. Anal. calcd. for C₆H₁₃NO₄: C, 44.16; H, 8.03; N, 8.58. Found: C, 44.01; H, 8.00; N, 8.56.

2. Methyl (R)-2,3-dihydroxy-2-methylpropanoate. (R)-3.



To a solution of compound (R)-2 (8.60 g, 52.7 mmol) in H₂O/MeOH (1:3, 120 mL), LiOH·H₂O (11.1 g, 264 mmol) was added and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 2 h. The N,O-dimethylhydroxylamine formed in the reaction and MeOH were removed and the mixture was acidified with conc. HCl to pH 1-2. After removing the solvent, the white solid was dissolved in HCl/MeOH, previously prepared by dropwise addition of AcCl (30 mL) to a pre-cooled MeOH (120 mL) at 0°C, and the mixture was heated under reflux for 12 h. The mixture was concentrated and the residue partitioned between H₂O (50 mL) and CHCl₃/isopropanol (3:1, 100 mL). The aqueous layer was successively washed with CHCl₃/isopropanol (4×100 mL), dried (Na₂SO₄), concentrated and the crude product was purified by column chromatography (hexane/ethyl acetate, 3:7) to give (R)-3 as a Colourless oil (5.98 g, 44.6 mmol); yield: 85%. $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ =-1.0 (c 2.66, MeOH). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 1.35 (s, 3H, CH₃), 3.57 (d, 1H, J=11.2 Hz, CH₂), 3.80 (d, 1H, J=11.2 Hz, CH₂), 3.81 (s, 3H, CO₂CH₃). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 21.9 (CH₃), 53.1 (CO₂CH₃), 68.3 (CH₂), 75.6 (COH(CH₃)), 176.1 (CO₂CH₃); ESI⁺ (m/z) =135. Anal. calcd for C₅H₁₀O₄: C, 44.77; H, 7.51. Found: C, 44.61; H, 7.45.

3. Methyl (*R*)-5-(methoxymethylcarbamoyl)-5-methyl-2,2dioxo-2 λ^6 -[1,2,3]oxathiazolidine-3-carboxylate. (*R*)-4.



Diol (*R*)-**2** (3.00 g, 18.4 mmol) was dissolved in THF (50 mL) and Burgess reagent (11.0 g, 46.0 mmol) was added. The resultant solution was stirred at 25°C for 24 h, concentrated and then purified by column chromatography (CHCl₃/ethyl acetate, 9.5:0.5) to give (*R*)-**4** as a white solid (5.00 g, 17.7 mmol); yield: 96%. Mp: 97 °C. $[\alpha]^{25}_{D} = -67.3$ (*c* 0.92, MeOH); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 1.84 (s, 3H, CH₃), 3.25 (s, 3H, NCH₃), 3.78 (s, 3H, NOCH₃), 3.83 (d, 1H, *J*=10.4 Hz, CH₂N), 3.90 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 4.81 (d, 1H, *J*=10.4 Hz, CH₂N); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 21.9 (CH₃), 33.3 (NCH₃), 53.5 (CH₂N), 54.7 (NOCH₃), 61.5 (OCH₃), 85.3 (CO(CH₃)), 150.0 (NCO₂), 166.2 (CON); ESI⁺ (*m*/*z*) = 283. Anal. calcd. for C₈H₁₄N₂O₇S: C, 34.04; H, 5.00; N, 9.92. Found: C, 34.30; H, 4.98; N, 9.96.

4. Dimethyl (R)-5-methyl-2,2-dioxo-2 λ^6 -[1,2,3]oxathiazolidine-3,5-dicarboxylate. (R)-5.



Method A: To a solution of (R)-4 (2.50 g, 8.9 mmol) in MeOH, TfOH (6.65 g, 44.3 mmol) was added. After stirring for 3 h at 60°C, the mixture was cooled to 25°C, neutralized with saturated NaHCO₃ and then concentrated. Finally, the crude product was purified by column chromatography (hexane/ethyl acetate, 6:4) to give (*R*)-5 as a white solid (2.19 g, 8.6 mmol); yield: 97%.

Method B: Diol (*R*)-3 (0.71 g, 5.3 mmol) was dissolved in THF (60 mL) and Burgess reagent (2.59 g, 13.2 mmol) was added. The resultant solution was stirred at 25°C for 24 h, concentrated and then purified by column chromatography (hexane/ethyl acetate, 6:4) to give (*R*)-5 as a white solid (1.27 g, 5.0 mmol); yield: 94%. [α]²⁵_D = -45.0 (*c* 1.00, MeOH); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 1.82 (s, 3H, CH₃), 3.88 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.91 (d, 1H, *J*=10.3 Hz, CH₂N), 3.92 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 4.58 (d, 1H, *J*=10.3 Hz, CH₂N); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 22.8 (CH₃), 53.1 (CH₂N), 53.9 (OCH₃), 54.8 (OCH₃), 83.4 (*C*O(CH₃)), 149.9 (NCO₂), 168.3 (CO₂CH₃); ESI⁺ (*m*/*z*) = 254. Anal. calcd. for C₇H₁₁NO₇S: C, 33.20; H, 4.38; N, 5.53. Found: C, 33.60; H, 4.39; N, 5.51.

5. General procedure for the ring opening of sulfamidates (R)-4 and (R)-5.

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(*R*)-**4**: R' = N(OMe)Me (*R*)-**5**: R¹ = OMe

The sulfamidate (1.0 eq.) and nucleophile (1.3 eq.) were heated in DMF at 25-50°C for 1-12 h, when consumption of sulfamidate was observed by TLC. The solution was then cooled, the solvent removed and the residue solved into a mixture of 20% H_2SO_4/CH_2Cl_2 (1:1) and stirred for 12 h to hydrolize the sulfamic acid intermediate. The desired S_N2 products were isolated after extraction with EtOAc and purification by column chromatography.

5.1. Methyl (S)-2-azido-2-(methoxymethylcarbamoyl)propylcarbamate. (S)-6.



Colourless oil; yield: 86%. $[\alpha]^{25}{}_{D} = -78.5 (c \ 1.01, MeOH); {}^{1}H$ NMR (CDCl₃): δ 1.55 (s, 3H, CH₃), 3.21 (s, 3H, NCH₃), 3.51-3.57 (m, 2H, CH₂N), 3.66 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.78 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 5.31 (br s, 1H, NH); {}^{1}C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 18.2 (CH₃), 33.3 (NCH₃), 47.9 (CH₂N), 52.1 (OCH₃), 60.7 (OCH₃), 66.5 (CN₃(CH₃)), 157.2 (NCO₂), 170.9 (CON); ESI⁺ (*m*/*z*) = 246. Anal. calcd. for C₈H₁₅N₅O₄: C, 39.18; H, 6.17; N, 28.56. Found: C, 38.90; H, 6.15; N, 28.51.

5.2. Methyl (S)-2-(methoxymethylcarbamoyl)-2-(methylsulfanyl)propylcarbamate. (S)-7.



Colourless oil; yield: 93%. $[\alpha]^{25}_{D} = -3.5$ (*c* 1.0, MeOH); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 1.56 (s, 3H, CH₃), 2.04 (s, 3H, SCH₃), 3.25 (s, 3H, NCH₃), 3.51-3.66 (m, 2H, CH₂N), 3.65 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.76 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 5.25-5.35 (m, 1H NH); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 12.2 (SCH₃), 20.0 (CH₃), 34.0 (NCH₃), 48.3 (CH₂N), 52.0 (OCH₃), 60.7 (OCH₃), 68.1 (*C*(SCH₃)CH₃), 157.4 (NCO₂), 172.4 (CON); ESI⁺ (*m*/*z*) = 251. Anal. calcd. for C₉H₁₈N₂O₄S: C, 43.18; H, 7.25; N, 11.19. Found: C, 42.90; H, 7.23; N, 11.16.

5.3. Methyl (S)-2-(methoxycarbonylaminomethyl)-2-(4'nitrobenzoyloxy)propanoate. (S)-8.



Colourless oil; yield: 99%. $[\alpha]^{25}{}_{D} = +11.6 (c \ 0.99, MeOH); {}^{1}H$ NMR (CDCl₃): δ 1.78 (s, 3H, CH₃), 3.18 (s, 3H, CH₃O), 3.51-3.68 (m, 5H, CH₂N, CH₃O), 5.38 (br s, 1H, NH), 8.20-8.32 (m, 4H, Arom.); {}^{13}C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 20.3 (CH₃), 46.6 (CH₂N), 52.5 (OCH₃), 52.9 (OCH₃), 81.3 (CO(CH₃)), 123.6, 131.0, 135.0, 150.8 (Arom.), 157.2 (NCO₂), 163.6, 170.7 (2CO₂); ESI⁺ (*m*/*z*) = 341. Anal. calcd. for C₁₄H₁₆N₂O₈: C, 49.41; H, 4.74; N, 8.23. Found: C, 49.57; H, 4.77; N, 8.38.

5.4. Methyl (S)-2-fluoro-2-(methoxycarbonylaminomethyl)-2-methylpropanoate. (S)-9.



Colourless oil; yield: 97%. $[\alpha]^{25}_{D} = +13.9$ (*c* 0.99, MeOH); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 1.55 (d, 3H, $J_{H,F} = 21.6$ Hz, CH₃), 3.42-3.75 (m, 2H, CH₂N), 3.65 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.78 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 5.08 (br s, 1H, NH); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 20.8 (d, $J_{C,F} = 23.2$ Hz, CH₃), 47.1 (d, $J_{C,F} = 22.3$ Hz, CH₂N), 52.5 (OCH₃), 52.9 (OCH₃), 94.4 (d, $J_{C,F} = 183.9$ Hz, *C*F(CH₃)), 157.0 (NCO₂), 170.8 (d, $J_{C,F} = 25.5$ Hz, CO₂CH₃); ESI⁺ (*m*/*z*) = 194. Anal. calcd. for C₇H₁₂FNO₄: C, 43.52; H, 6.26; N, 7.25. Found: C, 43.60; H, 6.35; N, 7.17.

5.5. Methyl (*R*)-2-cyano-2-(methoxycarbonylaminomethyl)-2-methylpropanoate. (*R*)-10.



Colourless oil; yield: 96%. $[\alpha]^{25}{}_{\rm D} = -8.2$ (*c* 1.57, MeOH); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 1.57 (s, 3H, CH₃), 3.55-3.77 (m, 5H, CH₂ + NCO₂CH₃), 3.81 (s, 3H, CO₂CH₃), 5.37 (br s, 1H, NH); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 20.4 (CH₃), 45.0 (CCH₃), 46.7 (CH₂), 52.5 (NCO₂CH₃), 53.7 (CO₂CH₃), 118.5 (CN), 156.9 (NCO), 168.4 (CO); ESI⁺ (*m*/*z*) = 200. Anal. calcd. for C₈H₁₂N₂O₄: C, 48.00; H, 6.04; N, 13.99. Found: C, 48.60; H, 6.10; N, 13.87.

6. (S)-2,3-Diamino-2-methylpropionic acid. (S)-11.



To a solution of (S)-6 (2.00 g, 8.16 mmol) in MeOH (40 mL), palladium on carbon (1:5 catalyst/substrate by weight) was added and the resulting suspension was stirred at 25° C for 12 h. The catalyst was removed by filtration and the solvent was evaporated to give the corresponding amine. To this compound, an aqueous solution of 6N HCl (20 mL) was added and the mixture was heated under reflux for 12 h. The solvent was removed to give (S)-11 as hydrochloride derivative (white solid). This compound was dissolved in EtOH/propylene oxide (3:1, 4 mL) and the mixture was heated under reflux for 2 h. After this time, (S)-11

partially precipitated as a white solid (330 mg). The filtrate was concentrated and the residue was dissolved in H₂O and eluted through a C₁₈ reverse-phase Sep-pak cartridge to give, after removal of the H₂O, 344 mg of (*S*)-**11** as a white solid; total amount (674 mg, 5.70 mmol); yield: 70%. $[\alpha]^{25}_{D} = +3.2$ (*c* 0.93, H₂O); ¹H NMR (D₂O): δ 1.54 (s, 3H, CH₃), 3.26 (d, 1H, *J*=13.2 Hz, CH₂N); 3.36 (d, 1H, *J*=13.2 Hz, CH₂N); ¹³C NMR (D₂O): δ 22.6 (CH₃), 45.7 (CH₂N), 59.5 (CNH₂(CH₃)), 176.3 (CO₂H); ESI⁺ (*m*/*z*) = 119. Anal. calcd. for C₄H₁₀N₂O₂: C, 40.67; H, 8.53; N, 23.71. Found: C, 40.21; H, 8.52; N, 23.66.

7. General procedure for the synthesis of β -amino acids (S)-12 to (S)-14.



Compound (S)-7, (S)-8 or (S)-9 (1.0 eq.) was suspended in an aqueous solution of 6N HCl (15 mL) and the mixture was heated under reflux for 12 h. The solvent was removed to give the corresponding hydrochloride as a white solid. The treatment of this mixture with ethanol/propylene oxide gave the desired β -amino acid as a white solid.

7.1. (S)-3-Amino-2-methyl-2-methylsulfanylpropionic acid. (S)-12.



Yield: 81%. $[\alpha]^{25}_{D} = -2.6$ (*c* 0.97, H₂O); ¹H NMR (D₂O): δ 1.48 (s, 3H, CH₃), 2.06 (s, 3H, SCH₃), 3.22-3.35 (m, 2H, CH₂N); ¹³C NMR (D₂O): δ 11.7 (SCH₃), 22.0 (CH₃), 44.9 (CH₂N), 51.6 (*C*SCH₃(CH₃)), 178.1 (CO₂H); ESI⁺ (*m*/*z*) = 150. Anal. calcd. for C₅H₁₁NO₂S: C, 40.25; H, 7.43; N, 9.39. Found: C, 40.12; H, 7.42; N, 9.37.

7.2. (S)-3-Amino-2-hydroxy-2-methylpropionic acid. (S)-13.



Yield: 85%. $[\alpha]^{25}{}_{\rm D}$ = +2.8 (*c* 1.01, H₂O); ¹H NMR (D₂O): δ 1.51 (s, 3H, CH₃), 3.21 (d, 1H, *J* = 13.2 Hz, CH₂N), 3.38 (d, 1H, *J* = 13.2 Hz, CH₂N); ¹³C NMR (D₂O): δ 23.6 (CH₃), 46.7 (CH₂N), 72.9 (COH(CH₃)), 179.4 (CO₂H); ESI⁺ (*m*/*z*) = 120. Anal. calcd. for C₄H₉NO₃: C, 40.33; H, 7.62; N, 11.76. Found: C, 40.24; H, 7.64; N, 11.69.

7.3. (S)-3-Amino-2-fluoro-2-methylpropionic acid. (S)-14.



Yield: 83%. $[\alpha]^{25}_{D} = -1.4$ (*c* 1.00, H₂O); ¹H NMR (D₂O): δ 1.54 (d, 3H, $J_{H,F} = 21.9$ Hz, CH₃), 3.22-3.52 (m, 2H, CH₂N); ¹³C NMR (D₂O): δ 23.5 (d, $J_{C,F} = 23.7$ Hz, CH₃), 47.5 (d, $J_{C,F} = 23.8$ Hz, CH₂N), 96.1 (d, $J_{C,F} = 181.3$ Hz, *C*F(CH₃)), 178.2 (d, $J_{C,F} = 20.9$ Hz, CO₂H); ESI⁺ (*m*/*z*) = 122. Anal. calcd. for C₄H₈FNO₂: C, 39.67; H, 6.66; N, 11.57. Found: C, 39.48; H, 6.64; N, 11.55.

8. (R)-2-(Aminomethyl)-2-cyanopropanoic acid. (R)-15.



To a solution of compound (R)-10 (0.16 g, 0.80 mmol) in H₂O/MeOH (2:3, 10 mL), LiOH·H₂O (0.34 g, 8.00 mmol) was added and the mixture was stirred at reflux for 48 h. This mixture was cooled, H₂O was added (20 mL) and the resulting solution was treated with Dowex® H⁺ until pH=7. After filtering, the solution was evaporated to give a white solid (0.10 g, 98%), corresponding to β -amino acid (R)-15. Another exhaustive purification was developed involving the treatment of a solution of the amino acid (10 mL of H₂O) with an aqueous solution of 0.5 N HCl (until pH 1-2). This aqueous solution was washed with ethyl acetate (2×15 mL), the solvent was eliminated and the residue was solved in a mixture of ethanol/propylene oxide (3:1, 2 mL). After refluxing this mixture for 2 h and filtering the solid, the desired β -amino acid (R)-15 was obtianed as a white solid (0.03 g, 29%). The filtrate was concentrated and the residue was dissolved in H₂O and eluted through a C₁₈ reverse-phase Sep-pak cartridge to give, after removal of the H₂O, 0.04 g (36%) of (R)-15 as a white solid. Overall yield of this exhaustive purification: 65%. $[\alpha]^{25}_{D}$ = -5.5 (*c* 1.06, H₂O); ¹H NMR (D₂O): δ 1.52-1.70 (m, 3H, CH₃), 3.35-3.43 (m, 2H, CH₂); ¹³C NMR (D₂O): *δ* 23.8 (CH₃), 46.5 (CH₂), 47.6 (*C*CH₃), 123.0 (CN), 179.9 (CO₂H); ESI⁺ (m/z) = 128. Anal. calcd. for C₅H₈N₂O₂: C, 46.87; H, 6.29; N, 21.86. Found: C, 46.56; H, 6.21; N, 21.99.

9. Methyl (S)-2-Fluoro-2-(methoxymethylcarbamoyl)propylcarbamate. (S)-16.



Following the general procedure for the ring opening of sulfamidates, the treatment of (*R*)-4 with the nucleophile NBu₄F gave a mixture of compounds (*S*)-16 (32%) and 17 (68%). Data for (*S*)-16: $[\alpha]^{25}_{D} = -12.2$ (*c* 1.01, MeOH); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 1.59 (d, 3H, $J_{H,F} = 21.9$ Hz, CH₃), 3.21 (s, 3H, NCH₃), 3.52-3.72 (m, 8H, CH₂N, 2OCH₃), 5.23 (br s, 1H, NH); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 20.3 (d, $J_{C,F} = 23.0$ Hz, CH₃), 47.2 (d, $J_{C,F} = 24.9$ Hz, CH₂N), 52.2 (OCH₃), 61.5 (OCH₃), 96.1 (d, $J_{C,F} = 187.4$ Hz, *C*F(CH₃)), 157.2 (NCO₂), 170.1 (CON); ESI⁺ (*m*/*z*) = 223. Anal. calcd. for C₈H₁₅FN₂O₄: C, 43.24; H, 6.80; N, 12.61. Found: C, 43.03; H, 6.78; N, 12.58.

10. General procedure for the synthesis of 17 and 18.



Sulfamidate (R)-4 or (R)-5 (1.0 eq.) was dissolved in THF and DBU (2.0 eq.) was added. After heating under reflux for 12 h, the mixture was washed with 0.5N HCl. Then, the aqueous phase was extracted with ethyl acetate and concentrated. The crude product was purified by column chromatography (hexane/ethyl acetate, 3:2) to give 17 or 18.

10.1. N-Methoxy-N-methyl 2-(methoxycarbonylaminomethyl)acrylamide. 17.



Colourless oil, yield: 88%. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 3.22 (s, 3H, NCH₃), 3.55-3.70 (m, 6H, 2OCH₃), 3.99 (d, 2H, *J* = 6.0 Hz, CH₂N), 5.29 (br s, 1H, NH), 5.49 (br s, 1H, CH₂=C), 5.53 (br s, 1H, CH₂=C); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 33.4 (NCH₃), 43.6 (CH₂N), 52.1 (OCH₃), 61.2 (OCH₃), 118.8 (CH₂=C), 140.4 (CH₂=C), 156.9 (NCO₂), 168.9 (CON); ESI⁺ (*m*/*z*) = 203. Anal. calcd. for C₈H₁₄N₂O₄: C, 47.52; H, 6.98; N, 13.85. Found: C, 47.35; H, 6.96; N, 13.85.

10.2. Methyl 2-(methoxycarbonylaminomethyl)acrylate. 18.



Colourless oil, yield: 80%. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 3.66 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.77 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 4.00 (d, 2H, *J* = 6.3 Hz, CH₂N), 5.16 (br s, 1H, CH₂N), 5.82 (s, 1H, CH₂=C), 6.26 (s, 1H, CH₂=C); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 42.2 (CH₂N), 52.0 (OCH₃), 52.2 (OCH₃), 126.9 (CH₂=C), 136.8 (CH₂=C), 156.8 (NCO₂), 166.6 (COO); ESI⁺ (*m*/*z*) = 174. Anal. calcd. for C₇H₁₁NO₄: C, 48.55; H, 6.40; N, 8.09. Found: C, 48.32; H, 6.41; N, 8.06.

11. General Procedures.

Unless otherwise stated, all starting materials were obtained from commercial suppliers and used without further purification. Melting points are uncorrected. All manipulations involving airsensitive reagents were carried out under a dry argon atmosphere using standard Schlenk techniques. Solvents were purified according to standard procedures. Analytical TLC was performed using Polychrom SI F_{254} plates. Column chromatography was performed using Kieselgel 60 (230–400 mesh). Organic solutions were dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄ and, when necessary, concentrated under reduced pressure using a rotary evaporator. NMR spectra were recorded at 300 MHz (¹H) and at 75 MHz (¹³C) and are reported in ppm downfield from TMS. Microanalyses were carried out on a CE Instruments EA-1110 analyser and were in good agreement with the calculated values. Mass spectra were obtained by electrospray ionization (ESI).

12. Determination of the absolute configuration and the enantiomeric purity of β -amino acids.

In the case of known amino acids (*S*)-11 and (*S*)-13, both the absolute configuration and the enantiomeric purity were determined by comparison of the optical rotations with literature values.

Amino acid	[α]	[α]lit.	Reference
(S) -11	+3.2	+4.1	J. Org. Chem. 1993, 58, 5918.
(S)- 13	+2.8	+2.9	Tetrahedron: Asymmetry
			2004, 15, 131.

In this context, it is important to highlight that in a recent work (*Tetrahedron: Asymmetry* 2004, **15**, 131), the authors have unequivocally established the absolute configuration of β -amino acid (*S*)-**11** and its enantiomer (*R*)-**11** (both obtained by other different synthetic procedures) as well as their enantiomeric purity by transformation in some diastereomeric derivatives, which were analyzed by X-ray diffraction and NMR experiments.

The absolute configuration for the rest of the amino acids synthesized was assigned by applying the same model: creation of the stereogenic centre in the AD reaction followed by total inversion of the configuration in the S_N2 reaction.

A GC/MS system of a gas chromatograph combined with a mass spectrometer (Hewlett-Packard G1800B GCD Plus) was used with α - or γ -DEXTM – 120 fused silica capillary columns (30 $m \times 0.25 \text{ mm} \times 0.25 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$) in order to determine the enantiomeric purity of β -amino acid precursors (S)-7 and (S)-9. Conditions as follows: GC/MS injector and detector temperatures were 225 °C, flow rate 1.00 mL min⁻¹, split mode. Injection volume, 2.0 µL of a solution of about 15 mg mL⁻¹ of the mixture in dichloromethane. Helium was used as the carrier gas. The MS were determined at 70 eV. Scanning speed was 0.84 scan sec⁻¹ from m/z 33 to 450. Oven temperature for (S)-9 was isocratic 125 °C using α -DEXTM capillary column. In the case of (S)-7, the temperature program for the column oven was 150 °C for 23.5 min, a linear ramp to 220 °C at 20 °C/min and an 8 min held, using $\gamma\text{-}\text{DEX}^{\text{TM}}$ capillary column. Unfortunately, the enantiomeric purity of the β -amino acid precursor (R)-10 could not be measured by this method since in all conditions tested we did not get the separation. Alternatively, the enantiomeric purity of the sulfamidate (R)-5 was determined as follows: the temperature program for the column oven was 90 °C for 97 min, a linear ramp to 140 °C at 20 °C/min and a 15 min held, using α -DEXTM capillary column. Figure ESI-1 shows the chromatograms and the corresponding area percent reports, indicating the enantiomeric excess for each compound (approx. 93%).



Figure ESI-1. Chromatograms and area percent reports corresponding to compounds (S)-7, (S)-9 and (R)-5.







	$E_0(B3LYP/6-31+G(d))$	Lowest freq.	S	G ₂₉₈ (B3LYP/6-31+G(d))	E _{basis} (B3LYP/6-
	$(a.u.)^a$	(cm^{-1})	$(cal mol^{-1} K^{-1})$	(a.u.)	311++G(2d,p))
					(a.u.)
F ⁻	-99.8596977	-	34.768	-99.8738567	-99.8886932
4	-1347.4476052	26.02	147.835	-1347.252726	-1347.7711283
5	-1252.8459231	27.75	135.836	-1252.692234	-1253.1447859
TS4_s	-1447.3535115	389.87i	151.946	-1447.159968	-1447.7088730
TS4_e	-1447.3464824	469.04i	157.026	-1447.159567	-1447.7031930
TS5_s	-1352.7573902	392.17i	140.372	-1352.605239	-1353.0876126
TS5_e	-1352.7461679	606.13i	144.025	-1352.600266	-1353.0783935

Table ESI-1. Calculated energies, entropies, Gibbs free energies and lowest frequencies of the reactants and transition structures (B3LYP/6-31+G(d) optimized geometries).

^a 1 a.u. = $627.5 \text{ kcal mol}^{-1}$

Figure ESI-2. TS calculated with (*R*)-4 and (*R*)-5 and fluoride anion. Distances are given in Å. In brackets the relative energies calculated at the B3LYP/6-311++G(2d,p)//B3LYP/6-31+G(d) level.



B3LYP/6-31+G (d) geometries

	l.	4	i	
1	2	1	L	
		5		

C -0.83766	-1.05243	0.87373	C -3.14684	-0.66486	-1.18654
C 0.48915	-0.66648	1.54931	0 -3.55490	1.38472	-0.12324
0 -0.43406	-1.55266	-0.44223	C 2.50566	0.53156	0.71370
C -1.54324	-2.20035	1.59212	C -2.97772	2.61117	-0.60490
C -1.78164	0.19126	0.81027	0 2.89719	0.78073	1.83512
N 1.30394	-0.12268	0.46142	0 3.12438	0.84223	-0.43342
S 0.88552	-0.78349	-1.06743	C 4.39318	1.51594	-0.30540
N -2.64829	0.32132	-0.23734	н 0.33559	0.09872	2.30862
0 -1.71079	1.01399	1.71718	н 0.96800	-1.54902	1.98935
0 1.81272	-1.81372	-1.50223	н -2.46972	-2.47823	1.08170
0 0.46586	0.26459	-1.98177	н -1.79227	-1.88613	2.61117

H -0.88931 H -4.14037 H -2.45937 H -3.22486 H -3.79498 H -2.63431 H -2.15570 H 4.26083 H 5.09757 H 4.73251	-3.07634 -1.00805 -1.50378 -0.19652 3.33459 2.49666 2.92884 2.47017 0.88980 1.67076	1.63483 -0.87327 -1.25333 -2.17199 -0.55666 -1.63944 0.04225 0.20977 0.24732 -1.32906
5		
C 0.000000 N 0.000000 S 1.584761 O 2.283366 C 1.385428 C -1.164263 O -0.909980 C -2.044306 O 1.935067 O 1.817950 C 1.898326 C 1.386204 O 0.408016 O 2.591605 C 2.700040 O -2.249666 H -0.799472 H -0.129223 H 2.901537 H 1.226461 H 1.934988 H 3.739856 H 2.028241 H 2.448053 H -2.781931 H -2.497950 H -1.636437	0.000000 0.000000 0.040935 0.550559 -0.208128 -0.210799 -0.430543 -1.274110 1.246266 0.022808 2.097792 2.750725 2.597697 4.038484 -0.355840 0.642539 -1.016906 0.407203 0.342478 -1.070176 4.245026 4.432946 0.363076 -1.401094 -0.407657	0.000000 1.462214 2.139120 0.648138 -0.377021 2.189006 3.504289 4.367136 2.738567 2.848283 -1.714875 -0.399806 -0.699556 -0.128604 -0.131730 1.663669 -0.369509 -0.387469 -1.917295 -2.518876 -1.692156 0.118939 0.618318 -1.119272 4.226932 4.152750 5.377140
TS4_s		
C 0.000000 C 0.000000 C 1.355059 N 1.990180 C 3.340117 O 3.730171 C 5.126771 C -1.169211 O -1.117612 N -2.397855 C -2.557742 O -3.477353 C -3.971821 S 0.873056 O -0.379286 O 1.185017 O 0.858312 O 4.108473 F 0.106007	0.000000 0.000000 1.319484 1.456033 2.750006 2.986385 -0.451802 -0.323658 -0.696342 -1.795128 -0.821363 0.468051 2.657436 1.757172 3.375480 3.432061 0.528221 -2.105999 -0.900070	0.000000 1.513247 2.209324 2.027728 2.214410 2.122060 2.308685 2.390022 3.599581 1.720766 0.771712 2.645018 2.994465 1.880252 1.740034 0.639129 3.123657 2.427664 1.646786

н -0.977331

0.288398 -0.393095

$\begin{array}{rrrr} H & 0.736722 \\ H & -4.826210 \\ H & -4.300680 \\ H & -3.216070 \\ H & 1.990753 \\ H & 1.219995 \\ H & 5.248021 \\ H & 5.714883 \\ H & 5.447177 \\ H & -2.694436 \\ H & -1.662388 \\ H & -3.436107 \end{array}$	0.721158 0.273810 1.015740 1.049038 -0.756741 -0.227181 4.066347 2.461756 2.656152 -2.738477 -1.893541 -1.592963	-0.365823 3.651373 2.100744 3.532941 1.754887 3.267834 2.207436 1.549173 3.301689 1.314980 0.166849 0.148342
TS4_e		
S 0.00000 O 0.00000 C 1.509191 C 2.236728 N 1.640132 C 1.488231 C 1.983627 N 1.144805 C -0.080062 C 2.274399 O 3.367799 O -0.922943 O -0.098743 O -0.098743 O -0.098743 O 1.530210 C 2.101198 O 1.674564 C 1.554163 F 3.852753 H 1.059296 H 0.992571 H 3.296289 H 2.117943 H -0.789723 H -0.789723 H -0.515829 H 3.056468 H 2.257374 H 1.371516 H 1.925102 H 0.506475 H 2.167579	0.00000 0.00000 0.00000 -0.852073 -0.550143 -0.601297 1.473793 2.433179 2.324664 -0.879085 -1.413603 -1.020725 1.352384 1.762521 -0.528890 -0.849093 3.729960 4.397257 -1.330792 0.037435 -1.577997 -0.598429 -1.911247 3.076985 2.501439 1.339223 -0.333187 -1.928044 -0.503046 5.409847 4.432151 3.899504	0.00000 1.587072 2.244415 1.206347 -0.103782 3.579221 2.197517 2.707181 3.474761 -1.276950 -1.340577 -0.495867 -0.548872 1.695046 -2.352267 -3.625039 2.778318 1.513182 4.286289 4.354397 3.568008 1.194278 1.452910 3.111771 4.540422 3.33275 -3.758968 -3.717820 -4.358772 1.697455 1.188900 0.757876
H 2.673286	-0.88/464	3.914844
- C 0.000000 C 0.000000 C 1.351977 O 1.255229 C 2.501794 C -1.235049 N -2.320458 S -1.776611 O -2.004714 C -3.618249 O -3.979488 O -4.465251 C -5.843821	0.000000 0.000000 0.107851 0.150888 0.511397 -0.476906 -2.139614 -2.786260 -0.096470 1.054676 -1.152067 -0.846644	0.000000 1.506153 2.180813 3.528192 4.220109 2.235183 2.088511 2.011887 3.308588 2.305770 2.509895 2.253733 2.471379

0	2.393939	-0.249305	1.604096
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Н	0.207903	1.020690	-0.328351
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Н	-0.971135	-0.329070	-0.380987
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Н	-1.009747	0.691800	3.286756
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Η	-6.211960	-0.149089	1.712601
Н	-5.993135	-0.408949	3.463374
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Н	3.084560	1.019791	3.897146
Н	3.080755	-0.760590	4.038413
-	_		
TS	5_e		
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S	0.000000	0.00000	1.741964
0	1.576050	0.00000	1.844932
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H 1.390322

Н 1.558181

H 4.354152 H 3.611819

н -3.550920

н -3.561865

Н -4.262869

Н 3.929147

Н 2.278515

Н 3.684754

Н 4.166713







ESI-11





ESI-13





ESI-15





ESI-17





ESI-19























ESI-29







ESI-31











ESI-34















ESI-39





ESI-41





ESI-43