# **Supporting Information**

# *syn*-Selective asymmetric cross-aldol reactions between aldehydes and glyoxylic acid derivatives catalyzed by an axially chiral amino sulfonamide

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General Information: Infrared (IR) spectra were recorded on a Shimadzu IRPrestige-21 spectrometer. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra were measured on a JEOL JNM-FX400 (400MHz) spectrometer. Chemical shifts were reported in ppm from tetramethylsilane (in the case of CDCl<sub>3</sub>) as an internal standard. Data were reported as follows: chemical shift, integration, multiplicity (s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quintet, m = multiplet, br = broad, and app = apparent), and coupling constants (Hz).  $^{13}$ C NMR spectra were recorded on a JEOL JNM-FX400 (100MHz) spectrometer with complete proton decoupling. Chemical shifts were reported in ppm from the residual solvent as an internal standard. High performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) was performed on Shimadzu 10A instruments using a Daicel CHIRALPAK AD-H and AS-H 4.6  $mm \times 25$  cm column. The high-resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were performed on Applied Biosystems Mariner 8295 API-TOF and Bruker microTOF. Optical rotations were measured on a JASCO DIP-1000 digital polarimeter. For thin layer chromatography (TLC) analysis throughout this work, Merck precoated TLC plates (silica gel 60 GF<sub>254</sub>, 0.25 mm) were used. The products were purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel 60 (Merck 1.09386.9025, 230-400 mesh). tert-Butyl glyoxylate and *N*-glyoxyloylmorpholine were prepared by a similar method described in literature.<sup>1</sup> Aldehydes were distilled and stored under argon atmosphere at -17 °C. Amino sulfonamide (S)-1 was synthesized according to the literature procedure.<sup>2</sup> Other simple chemicals were purchased and used as such.

General Procedure for the Catalytic Asymmetric Cross-Aldol Reaction between Aldehydes and *tert*-Butyl Glyoxylate: To a stirred solution of chiral amino sulfonamide (*S*)-1 (2.2 mg, 0.005 mmol) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN (250  $\mu$ L) were added *tert*-butyl glyoxylate (32.5 mg, 0.25 mmol) and a donor aldehyde (0.75 mmol) in this sequence at room temperature. The mixture was stirred for the time indicated in Table 2, and then quenched with water. After extraction with ethyl acetate, the combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel to afford the corresponding aldol adduct.

*tert*-Butyl (2*R*,3*R*)-3-Formyl-2-hydroxyheptanoate (Table 2, entry 2): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ 9.71 (1H, d, J = 2.2 Hz, CHO), 4.46 (1H, t, J = 3.9 Hz, C<u>H</u>OH), 2.99 (1H, d, J = 4.4 Hz, OH), 2.63-2.55 (1H, m, C<u>H</u>CHO), 1.89-1.76 (1H, m, C<u>H</u>H), 1.76-1.52 (1H, m, CH<u>H</u>), 1.50 (9H, s, C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 1.50-1.20 (4H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>), 0.90 (3H, t, J = 7.0 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  202.3, 172.7, 83.6, 69.6, 55.1, 29.6, 27.9, 23.6, 22.6, 13.7; IR (neat) 3499, 2959, 1724, 1256, 1159, 845 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI-TOF) Calcd. for  $C_{12}H_{22}NaO_4$ : 253.1410 ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>), Found: 253.1403 ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>). The title compound was reduced for determining the enantiomeric excess. The enantiomeric excess was determined by the method described below.

*tert*-Butyl (2*R*,3*R*)-3-Benzyl-2-hydroxy-4-oxobutanoate (Table 2, entry 3): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  9.73 (1H, d, J = 1.5 Hz, CHO), 7.36-7.13 (5H, m, ArH), 4.49 (1H, d, J = 3.1 Hz, C<u>H</u>OH), 3.19 (1H, dd, J = 14.1, 8.6 Hz, C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>C<u>H</u>H), 3.10 (1H, br, OH), 3.08-3.00 (1H, m, C<u>H</u>CHO), 2.80 (1H, dd, J = 14.1, 5.7 Hz, C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>CH<u>H</u>), 1.45 (9H, s, C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  201.4, 172.4, 138.3, 129.1, 128.7, 126.6, 83.8, 69.2, 56.6, 30.2, 27.9; IR (neat) 3493, 2978, 1724, 1252, 1155, 700 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI-TOF) Calcd. for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>20</sub>NaO<sub>4</sub>: 287.1254 ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>), Found: 287.1267 ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>). Daicel Chiralpak AS-H, hexane/2-propanol = 40/1, flow rate 1.0 mL/min,  $\lambda = 210$  nm, retention time: 16.4 min (major) and 18.3 min (minor).

*tert*-Butyl (2*R*,3*R*)-3-Formyl-2-hydroxy-4-methylpentanoate (Table 2, entry 5): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  9.76 (1H, d, *J* = 3.4 Hz, CHO), 4.43 (1H, d, *J* = 5.1 Hz, C<u>H</u>OH), 2.97 (1H, br, OH), 2.46-2.40 (1H, m, C<u>H</u>CHO), 2.35-2.24 (1H, m, CH), 1.48 (9H, s, C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 1.08 (3H, d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.05 (3H, d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  202.9, 173.1, 83.7, 68.9, 60.9, 27.9, 26.4, 21.1, 19.6; IR (neat) 3499, 2967, 1721, 1252, 1142, 845 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI-TOF) Calcd. for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>20</sub>NaO<sub>4</sub>: 239.1254 ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>), Found: 239.1265 ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>). The title compound was reduced for determining the enantiomeric excess. The enantiomeric excess was determined by the method described below.

Typical Procedure for the Catalytic Asymmetric Cross-Aldol Reaction between Aldehydes and *tert*-Butyl Glyoxylate (Table 2, entries 1 and 4): To a stirred solution of chiral amino sulfonamide (*S*)-1 (2.2 mg, 0.005 mmol) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN (250  $\mu$ L) were added *tert*-butyl glyoxylate (32.5 mg, 0.25 mmol) and a donor aldehyde (0.75 mmol) in this sequence at room temperature and stirred for 1 h. To the reaction mixture were added MeOH (500  $\mu$ L) and NaBH<sub>4</sub> (28 mg, 0.75 mmol) at 0 °C. The reaction mixture was stirred for 30 min at same temperature, then quenched with water and extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel to afford the corresponding aldol adduct. The enantiomeric excess was determined by the method described below.

*tert*-Butyl (2*R*,3*S*)-2,4-Dihydroxy-3-methylbutanoate (Table 2, entry 1): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  4.31 (1H, d, J = 2.4 Hz, C<u>H</u>OH), 3.75-3.59 (2H, m, C<u>H</u><sub>2</sub>OH), 2.96 (1H, br, OH), 2.20-2.08 (1H, m, CH), 1.50 (9H, s, C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 0.85 (3H, d, J = 7.0 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  174.0, 82.7, 71.8, 65.6, 38.4, 28.0, 9.6; IR (neat) 3383, 2970, 1728, 1121, 1043, 853 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI-TOF) Calcd. for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>18</sub>NaO<sub>4</sub>: 213.1097 ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>), Found: 213.1089 ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>).

*tert*-Butyl (2*R*,3*R*)-4-(Benzyloxy)-2-hydroxy-3-(hydroxymethyl)butanoate (Table 2, entry 4): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.36-7.26 (5H, m, ArH), 4.47 (2H, d, J = 2.9 Hz, OC<u>H<sub>2</sub></u>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>), 4.26 (1H, d, J = 2.7 Hz, C<u>H</u>OH), 3.90-3.75 (2H, m, C<u>H<sub>2</sub></u>OH), 3.56 (2H, d, J = 6.5 Hz, CHC<u>H<sub>2</sub></u>O), 3.16 (1H, br, OH),

2.41-2.30 (1H, m, CH), 1.44 (9H, s, C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  173.4, 137.9, 128.4, 127.8, 127.7, 82.7, 73.5, 70.7, 67.6, 63.0, 44.2, 27.9; IR (neat) 3441, 2932, 1722, 1254, 1161, 741 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI-TOF) Calcd. for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>24</sub>NaO<sub>5</sub>: 319.1516 ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>), Found: 319.1504 ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>).

General Procedure for the Catalytic Asymmetric Cross-Aldol Reaction between Aldehydes and *N*-GlyoxyloyImorpholine: To a stirred solution of chiral amino sulfonamide (*S*)-1 (2.2 mg, 0.005 mmol) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN (250  $\mu$ L) were added *N*-glyoxyloyImorpholine (36.0 mg, 0.25 mmol) and a donor aldehyde (0.75 mmol) in this sequence at room temperature. After stirring for the time indicated in Table 3, to the reaction mixture were added MeOH (500  $\mu$ L) and NaBH<sub>4</sub> (28 mg, 0.75 mmol) slowly at 0 °C. The reaction mixture were stirred for 30 min at same temperature, then quenched with water and extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel to afford the corresponding aldol adducts. The enantiomeric excess was determined by the method described below.

(2*R*,3*S*)-2-Hydroxy-3-(hydroxymethyl)-1-morpholinoheptan-1-one (Table 3, entry 1):  $[\alpha]_{D}^{21} = +10.4$  (*c* 2.0, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  4.72 (1H, d, *J* = 1.9 Hz, C<u>H</u>OH), 3.81-3.40 (10H, m, NC<u>H</u><sub>2</sub>C<u>H</u><sub>2</sub>O, C<u>H</u><sub>2</sub>OH), 2.18 (1H, br, OH), 1.73-1.62 (1H, m, CH), 1.40-1.10 (6H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>), 0.87 (3H, t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  172.6, 68.2, 66.8, 66.5, 63.1, 45.5, 43.3, 42.9, 29.7, 23.4, 22.8, 13.9; IR (neat) 3416, 2928, 1639, 1271, 1115, 1030, 860 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI-TOF) Calcd. for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NNaO<sub>4</sub>: 268.1519 ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>), Found: 268.1507 ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>).

(2*R*,3*S*)-3-Benzyl-2,4-dihydroxy-1-morpholinobutan-1-one (Table 3, entry 2):  $[α]_D^{21} = -6.7$  (*c* 2.3, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ7.31-7.25 (2H, m, ArH), 7.19 (1H, d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, ArH), 7.12 (2H, d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, ArH), 4.75 (1H, app s, C<u>H</u>OH), 3.78-3.36 (10H, m, NC<u>H</u><sub>2</sub>C<u>H</u><sub>2</sub>O, C<u>H</u><sub>2</sub>OH), 2.62-2.47 (2H, m, C<u>H</u><sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>), 2.09 (1H, br, OH), 2.09-1.98 (1H, m, CH); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ172.1, 140.0, 129.0, 128.4, 126.2, 67.8, 66.7, 66.3, 63.1, 45.6, 45.4, 42.8, 30.5; IR (neat) 3418, 2924, 1636, 1113, 1032, 525 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI-TOF) Calcd. for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>21</sub>NNaO<sub>4</sub>: 302.1363 ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>), Found: 302.1358 ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>).

(2R,3S)-2-Hydroxy-3-(hydroxymethyl)-1-morpholinononan-1-one (Table 3, entry 3): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  4.71 (1H, d, J = 1.7 Hz, C<u>H</u>OH), 3.91-3.38 (10H, m, NC<u>H<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>O</u>, C<u>H<sub>2</sub>OH), 1.66 (1H, m, CH), 1.38-1.07 (10H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>), 0.87 (3H, t, J = 6.8 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  172.6, 68.2, 66.8, 66.5, 63.1, 45.5, 43.3, 42.9, 31.6, 29.4, 27.5, 23.7, 22.6, 14.0; IR (neat) 3420, 2926, 1639, 1271, 1115, 1032 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI-TOF) Calcd. for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>27</sub>NNaO<sub>4</sub>: 296.1832 ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>), Found: 296.1820 ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>).</u>

(2R,3R)-4-(Benzyloxy)-2-hydroxy-3-(hydroxymethyl)-1-morphoinobutan-1-one (Table 3, entry 4): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.38-7.21 (5H, m, ArH), 4.65 (1H, dd, J = 6.2, 3.8 Hz, C<u>H</u>OH), 4.42 (2H, s, OC<u>H</u><sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>), 3.93 (1H, d, J = 6.5 Hz, CHC<u>H</u>HO), 3.89-3.75 (2H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>OH), 3.75-3.37 (10H, m, CHCH<u>H</u>O, NC<u>H</u><sub>2</sub>C<u>H</u><sub>2</sub>O, OH), 2.64 (1H, br, OH), 2.15-2.03 (1H, m, CH); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ 172.0, 137.9, 128.4, 127.9, 127.8, 73.6, 67.5, 67.1, 66.5, 66.3, 62.7, 45.5, 44.6, 42.9; IR (neat) 3414, 2860, 1636, 1111, 1036, 742 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI-TOF) Calcd. for  $C_{16}H_{23}NNaO_5$ : 332.1468 ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>), Found: 332.1458 ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>).

(2R,3S)-2-Hydroxy-3-(hydroxymethyl)-4-methyl-1-morpholinopentan-1-one (Table 3, entry 5): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  4.75 (1H, d, J = 2.7 Hz, C<u>H</u>OH), 3.90-3.79 (2H, m, C<u>H</u><sub>2</sub>OH), 3.76-3.40 (8H, m, NC<u>H</u><sub>2</sub>C<u>H</u><sub>2</sub>O), 1.90-1.78 (1H, m, C<u>H</u>(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 1.65-1.58 (1H, m, CH), 0.95 (3H, d, J = 4.4 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>) 0.93 (3H, d, J = 4.4 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  173.3, 68.4, 66.8, 66.5, 60.7, 49.1, 45.7, 42.9, 25.3, 23.0, 19.5; IR (neat) 3420, 2924, 1632, 1269, 1113, 1040 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI-TOF) Calcd. for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>21</sub>NNaO<sub>4</sub>: 254.1363 ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>), Found: 254.1354 ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>).

# **Typical Procedure for Determining the Enantiomeric Excess of Aldol Product:**



The reduced aldol product was dissolved in 4N HCl (2 mL). After stirring for 3 h at 80 °C, the reaction mixture was quenched with NaHCO<sub>3</sub> aq and extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic layers were dried over  $Na_2SO_4$  and concentrated. The residue was used for the next step directly.

To a solution of the residue in  $CH_2Cl_2(1 \text{ mL})$  were added triethylamine (1.2 equiv), 4-nitrobenzoyl chloride (1.1 equiv) and 4-dimethylaminopyridine (0.5 equiv) in this sequence at room temperature. After 12 h of stirring, the reaction mixture was quenched with water and extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over  $Na_2SO_4$  and concentrated. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel to afford the corresponding product.

(*3R*,4*S*)-4-Methyl-2-oxotetrahydrofuran-3-yl 4-Nitrobenzoate (Table 2 entry 1): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.32 (2H, app d, J = 9.2 Hz, ArH), 8.26 (2H, app d, J = 9.2 Hz, ArH), 5.49 (1H, d, J = 10.4 Hz, C<u>H</u>OCOAr), 4.57 (1H, app t, J = 8.6 Hz, C<u>H</u>HO), 3.97 (1H, app t, J = 9.7 Hz, CH<u>H</u>O), 2.95-2.80 (1H, m, OCH<sub>2</sub>C<u>H</u>), 1.31 (3H, d, J = 6.5 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 171.8, 163.7, 151.0, 134.1, 131.2, 123.7, 74.6, 70.6, 37.0, 14.5; IR (neat) 2922, 1790, 1732, 1526, 1269, 1119, 716 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI-TOF) Calcd. for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>11</sub>NNaO<sub>6</sub>: 288.0479 ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>), Found: 288.0476 ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>). Daicel Chiralpak AS-H, hexane/2-propanol = 4/1, flow rate 0.5 mL/min,  $\lambda = 254$  nm, retention time: 89 min (major) and 99 min (minor).

(3*R*,4*S*)-4-Butyl-2-oxotetrahydrofuran-3-yl 4-Nitrobenzoate (Table 2, entry 2 and Table 3, entry 1): Spectral dates of the title compound were in accordance with those previously reported.<sup>3</sup> Daicel Chiralpak AS-H, hexane/2-propanol = 9/1, flow rate 0.5 mL/min,  $\lambda = 254$  nm, retention time: 60 min (major) and 75 min (minor).

(*3R*,4*S*)-4-Benzyl-2-oxotetrahydrofuran-3-yl 4-Nitrobenzoate (Table 3, entry 2):  $[α]_p^{21} = +39.6$  (*c* 2.8, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.26 (2H, app d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, ArH), 8.06 (2H, app d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, ArH), 7.22 (2H, d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, ArH), 7.18-7.09 (3H, m, ArH), 5.67 (1H, d, *J* = 10.4 Hz, CHOCOAr), 4.49 (1H, app t, *J* = 8.6 Hz, CHHO), 4.09 (1H, app t, *J* = 9.8 Hz, CHHO), 3.23-3.10 (1H, m, OCH<sub>2</sub>CH), 3.04-2.89 (2H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 171.5, 163.4, 150.9, 136.6, 134.0, 131.0, 128.9, 128.5, 127.1, 123.5, 73.0, 69.1, 43.1, 36.3; IR (neat) 1790, 1732, 1524, 1346, 1265, 1130, 1011, 702 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI-TOF) Calcd. for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>15</sub>NNaO<sub>6</sub>: 364.0792 ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>), Found: 364.0778 ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>). Daicel Chiralpak AD-H, hexane/2-propanol = 9/1, flow rate 0.5 mL/min, λ = 254 nm, retention time: 99.3 min (major) and 161.0 min (minor).

(*3R*,4*S*)-4-Isopropyl-2-oxotetrahydrofuran-3-yl 4-Nitrobenzoate (Table 2, entry 5 and Table 3, entry 5): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.32 (2H, app d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, ArH), 8.25 (2H, app d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, ArH), 5.63 (1H, d, *J* = 10.4 Hz, CHOCOAr), 4.57 (1H, app t, *J* = 8.8 Hz, CHO), 4.05 (1H, app t, *J* = 9.7 Hz, CHHO), 2.74-2.60 (1H, m, OCH<sub>2</sub>CH), 1.96-1.84 (1H, m, CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 1.01 (3H, t, *J* = 4.4 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>), 0.99 (3H, t, *J* = 4.4 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 172.0, 163.5, 151.0, 134.2, 131.1, 123.7, 72.4, 68.4, 47.4, 30.0, 20.2, 19.8; IR (neat) 2963, 1790, 1732, 1528, 1267, 1121, 1009, 716 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI-TOF) Calcd. for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>15</sub>NNaO<sub>6</sub>: 316.0792 ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>), Found: 316.0787 ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>). Daicel Chiralpak AD-H, hexane/2-propanol = 9/1, flow rate 0.5 mL/min,  $\lambda$  = 254 nm, retention time: 84.2 min (major) and 118.0 min (minor).

(*3R*,4*S*)-4-Hexyl-2-oxotetrahydrofuran-3-yl 4-Nitrobenzoate (Table 3, entry 3): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.32 (2H, app d, J = 8.9 Hz, ArH), 8.25 (2H, app d, J = 8.9 Hz, ArH), 5.56 (1H, d, J = 10.2 Hz, C<u>H</u>OCOAr), 4.58 (1H, app t, J = 8.6 Hz, C<u>H</u>HO), 4.01 (1H, app t, J = 9.6 Hz, CH<u>H</u>O), 2.93-2.74 (1H, m, OCH<sub>2</sub>C<u>H</u>), 1.80-1.67 (1H, m, C<u>H</u>H), 1.65-1.50 (1H, m, CH<u>H</u>), 1.42-1.15 (8H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>), 0.85 (3H, t, J = 6.7 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 171.9, 163.6, 151.0, 134.2, 131.2, 123.7, 73.7, 69.8, 41.5, 31.5, 30.6, 29.1, 26.8, 22.5, 14.0; IR (neat) 2926, 1791, 1734, 1528, 1265, 1099, 1013, 716 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI-TOF) Calcd. for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>21</sub>NNaO<sub>6</sub>: 358.1261 ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>), Found: 358.1248 ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>). Daicel Chiralpak AD-H, hexane/2-propanol = 9/1, flow rate 0.5 mL/min,  $\lambda = 254$  nm, retention time: 64.3 min (major) and 72.8 min (minor).

Determination of the Enantiomeric Excess of *tert*-Butyl (2*R*,3*R*)-4-(Benzyloxy)-2hydroxy-3-(hydroxymethyl)butanoate and (2*R*,3*R*)-4-(Benzyloxy)-2-hydroxy-3-(hydroxymethyl)-1morphoinobutan-1-one (Table 2, entry 4 and Table 3, entry 4):



The title compound was dissolved in 4N HCl (2 mL). After stirring for 3 h at 80 °C, the reaction mixture was quenched with NaHCO<sub>3</sub> aq and extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (hexane/ethyl acetate = 2/1) to afford (2*R*,3*S*)-3-benzyloxymethyl-2-hydroxy-4-butanolide.<sup>4</sup> Daicel Chiralpak AD-H, hexane/2-propanol = 4/1, flow rate 0.5 mL/min,  $\lambda$  = 210 nm, retention time: 65.7 min (major) and 82.3 min (minor).

#### Determination of Relative and Absolute Configuration of Aldol Product:



(3R,4S)-3-Hydroxy-4-methyldihydrofuran-2(3H)-one was prepared by a similar method described above. A mixture of (3R,4S)-3-hydroxy-4-methyldihydrofuran-2(3H)-one (14 mg, 0.121 mmol), MeI (36 mg, 0.25 mmol) and Ag<sub>2</sub>O (58 mg, 0.25 mmol) in *N*,*N*-dimethylformamide (DMF) (65 µL) was stirred for 5 h at room temperature. The resulting precipitate was filtered off with the aid of Celite and the filtrate was diluted with H<sub>2</sub>O and extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic layers were dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (hexane/ethyl acetate = 5/1) to afford a (2*S*,3*R*)-2-methyl-3-methoxy-1-butanolide<sup>5</sup> (43% yield).  $[\alpha]_{D}^{21} = +77.8$  (*c* 0.7, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). The relative and absolute configuration was determined by comparison with <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum and optical rotation of the literature.<sup>5</sup> (lit  $[\alpha]_{D}^{21} = +124.7$  (*c* 4.6, CHCl<sub>3</sub>)).



The absolute configuration of the syn-aldol product obtained in the reaction between tert-butyl glyoxylate and hexanal catalyzed by (S)-1 was determined to be (2R,3R). Based on this information, the absolute configuration of the syn-aldol product obtained in the reaction between N-glyoxyloylmorpholine and hexanal catalyzed by (S)-**1** was determined to be (2R, 3R)by converted to (3R,4S)-4-butyl-2-oxotetrahydrofuran-3-yl 4-nitrobenzoate and comparison of the HPLC analysis retention time of (3R,4S)-4-butyl-2-oxotetrahydrofuran-3-yl 4-nitrobenzoate.

Synthesis of (3R,4S)-1-Benzyl-4-butyl-3-hydroxypyrrolidin-2-one 4:<sup>6,7</sup>



To a solution of *tert*-butyl (2R,3R)-3-formyl-2-hydroxyheptanoate (45.6 mg, 0.195 mmol) in MeOH( 2 mL) were added benzylamine (2 equiv), an NaBH<sub>3</sub>CN solution in THF (1M, 2 equiv) and acetic acid (2.5 equiv). The mixture was stirred overnight at room temperature, after which MeOH was evaporated, and the crude was dissolved in ethyl acetate. The organic phase was washed with a NaHCO<sub>3</sub> aq and brine, dried over

 $Na_2SO_4$  and concentrated to afford *tert*-butyl (2*S*,3*S*)-3-((benzylamino)methyl)-2-hydroxyheptanoate which was roughly purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (77% yield).

*tert*-Butyl (2*S*,3*S*)-3-((benzylamino)methyl)-2-hydroxyheptanoate was refluxed in toluene for 16 h. After removal of toluene, the residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (hexane/ethyl acetate = 1/1) afforded (3*R*,4*S*)-1-benzyl-4-butyl-3-hydroxypyrrolidin-2-one (84% yield, 94% ee); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ 7.39-7.16 (5H, m, ArH), 4.48 (1H, d, *J* = 14.8 Hz, NC<u>H</u>HC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>), 4.42 (1H, d, *J* = 14.8 Hz, NCH<u>H</u>C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>), 4.15 (1H, br, OH), 4.03 (1H, d, *J* = 9.2 Hz, C<u>H</u>OH), 3.27 (1H, app t, *J* = 9.1 Hz, NC<u>H</u>HCH), 2.80 (1H, app t, *J* = 9.4 Hz, NCH<u>H</u>CH), 2.24-2.12 (1H, m, NCH<sub>2</sub>C<u>H</u>), 1.80-1.65 (1H, m, C<u>H</u>H), 1.45-1.13 (5H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>), 0.87 (3H, t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  175.0, 135.7, 128.7, 128.1, 127.7, 75.4, 48.7, 46.9, 41.7, 31.9, 29.4, 22.7, 13.9; IR (neat) 3337, 2926, 1676, 1452, 1263, 700 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI-TOF) Calcd. for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>21</sub>NNaO<sub>2</sub>: 270.1465 ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>), Found: 270.1460 ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>). Daicel Chiralpak AD-H, hexane/2-propanol = 9/1, flow rate 0.5 mL/min,  $\lambda$  = 210 nm, retention time: 27.8 min (major) and 40.0 min (minor).

# **One-Pot Synthesis of (3***R***,4***S***)-1-Benzyl-4-butyl-3-hydroxypyrrolidin-2-one 4:**



To a stirred solution of chiral amino sulfonamide (*S*)-1 (2.2 mg, 0.005 mmol) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN (250 µL) were added *N*-glyoxyloylmorpholine (36.0 mg, 0.25 mmol) and a donor aldehyde (0.75 mmol) in this sequence at room temperature. After stirring for 48 h, the reaction mixture was quenched with water and extracted with ethyl acetate, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated. To a stirred solution of the reaction mixture in MeOH (2.3 mL) were added benzylamine (68 µL, 3 equiv), an NaBH<sub>3</sub>CN solution in THF (1M, 3 equiv) and acetic acid (2.5 equiv). The mixture was stirred overnight at room temperature, after which MeOH was evaporated, and the crude was dissolved in ethyl acetate. The organic phase was washed with a NaHCO<sub>3</sub> aq and brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated. The residue was refluxed in toluene for 16 h. After removal of toluene, the residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (hexane/ethyl acetate = 1/1) afforded (3*R*,4*S*)-1-benzyl-4-butyl-3-hydroxypyrrolidin-2-one (56% yield for 3 steps, 94% ee). [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub><sup>21</sup> = +78.0 (*c* 0.79, CHCl<sub>3</sub>).

#### (3R,4S)-4-Butyl-3-hydroxydihydrofuran-2(3H)-one 6:



(2R,3S)-2-Hydroxy-3-(hydroxymethyl)-1-morphorinoheptan-1-one **5** (50.8 mg, 0.207 mmol) was dissolved in 4N HCl (2 mL). After stirring for 3 h at 80 °C, the reaction mixture was quenched with NaHCO<sub>3</sub> aq and extracted with ethyl acetate. The combined organic layers were dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated. The residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel (hexane/ethyl acetate = 2/1) to afford (3*R*,4*S*)-4-butyl-3-hydroxydihydrofuran-2(3H)-one (51% yield).  $[\alpha]_D^{21} = +65.2$  (*c* 0.77, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  4.44 (1H, app t, *J* = 8.5 Hz, C<u>H</u>HOCO), 4.08 (1H, d, *J* = 10.4 Hz, C<u>H</u>OH), 3.83 (1H, dd, *J* = 10.4, 9.2 Hz, CH<u>H</u>OCO), 2.54-2.40 (1H, m, CH), 1.81-1.61 (1H, m, C<u>H</u>H), 1.56-1.29 (5H, m, CH), 0.92 (3H, t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  177.9, 72.9, 69.9, 43.7, 30.5, 29.1, 22.7, 13.8; IR (neat) 3441, 2928, 1784, 1143, 1096, 1005 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI-TOF) Calcd. for C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>14</sub>NaO<sub>3</sub>: 181.0835 ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>), Found: 181.0836 ([M + Na]<sup>+</sup>). The enantiomeric excess was determined by the method described above.

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| DFILE | hexanal-amideal:   |
|-------|--------------------|
| COMNT |                    |
| DATIM | Fri Mar 05 16:38:2 |
| OBNUC | 1H                 |
| EMOD  | NON                |
| OBFRQ | 395.75 MHz         |
| OBSET | 124.00 KHz         |
| OBFIN | 10277.00 Hz        |
| POINT | 32768              |
| FREQU | 7920.79 Hz         |
| SCANS | Θ                  |
| ACQTM | 4.1370 sec         |
| PD    | 2.0610 sec         |
| PWL   | 6.70 usec          |
| IRNUC | lH                 |
| CTEMP | 26.3 c             |
| SLUNT | CDCF3              |
| EXREF | 0.00 ppm           |
| BF    | 0.12 Hz            |
| RGAIN | 16                 |
|       |                    |























