

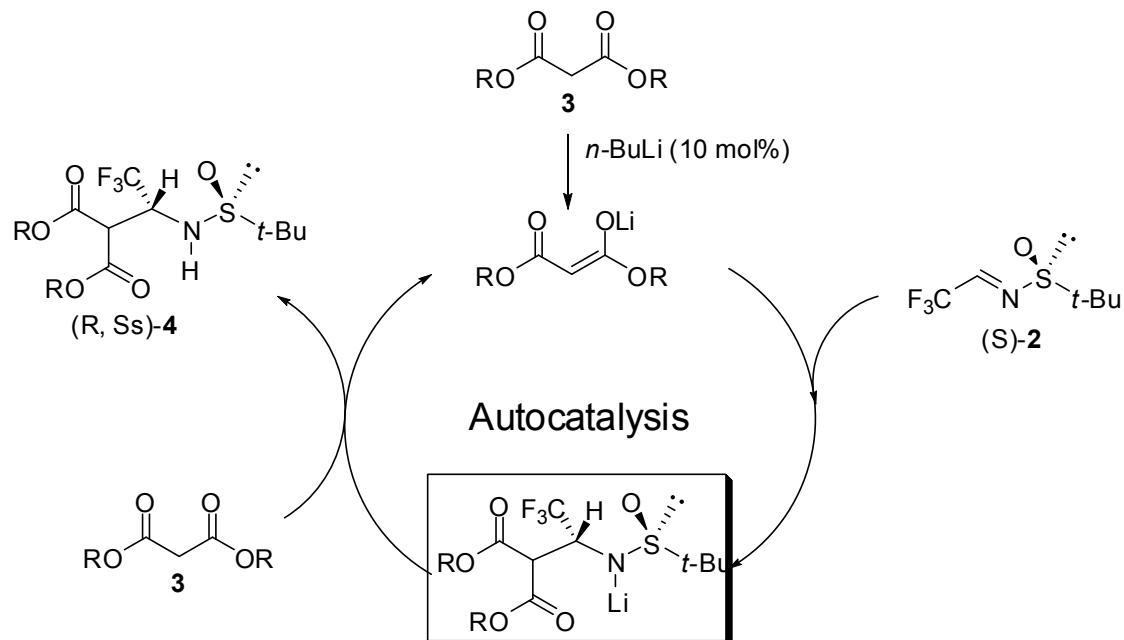
**Supplementary Information**  
**Organic base-catalyzed stereodivergent synthesis of (*R*)- and**  
**(*S*)-3-amino-4,4,4-trifluorobutanoic acids**

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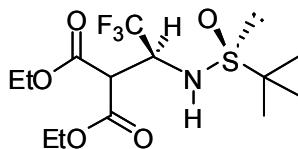


**Fig. S1.** Auto-catalytic scenario of the reaction of dialkyl malonates **3** with imine **(S)-2** catalyzed *n*-BuLi.

### General Methods.

All reactions were performed in oven-dried glassware under a positive pressure of nitrogen. Solvents were transferred *via* syringe and were introduced into the reaction vessels through a rubber septum. All reactions were monitored by TLC on 0.25 mm Merck aluminum plates, silica gel 60, F<sub>254</sub>. The TLC plates were visualized with UV light and 7% phosphomolybdic acid or KMnO<sub>4</sub> in water/heat. Column chromatography was carried out on a column packed with silica gel 60N spherical neutral size 63-210 µm. The <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (300 MHz), <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (75.5 MHz) and <sup>19</sup>F-NMR (282 MHz) spectra for solution in CDCl<sub>3</sub> or CD<sub>3</sub>OD were recorded on a Varian Mercury 300. Chemical shifts ( $\delta$ ) are expressed in ppm and referenced to the internal TMS or residual solvent peak. Mass spectra were recorded on a SHIMAZU LCMS-2010EV (ESI-MS). Optical rotations were measured on a HORIBA SEPA-300. Infrared spectra were recorded on a JASCO FT/IR-4100 spectrometer.

**(S)-Diethyl 2-[(S)-1-(*tert*-butanesulfinamido)-2,2,2-trifluoroethyl]malonate (4a). General Procedure**



To a solution of diethyl malonate (0.30 mmol; 45.5 µl) in dry toluene (1.0 ml) P2-Et (0.03 mmol; 10.0 µl) was added with stirring at -78 °C. After 10 min at -78 °C (*S*<sub>S</sub>)-*N*-*tert*-butanesulfinyl (3,3,3)-trifluoroacetaldimine **2** (0.36 mmol; 72.4 mg) was added dropwise. Stirring was continued at -78 °C for 24 h, then the reaction was quenched with saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (3.0 ml), followed by H<sub>2</sub>O (10.0 ml) and the mixture was brought to room temperature. The organic layer was taken and the aqueous layer was extracted with diethyl ether (3 × 10 ml). The combined organic layers were washed with brine (15 ml), dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. After purification by chromatography on silica-gel (hexane/EtOAc = 4/1), **3** (91.1 mg, 84%) was obtained as a colorless oil; [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>25</sup> +20.1 (c 1.52, CHCl<sub>3</sub>).

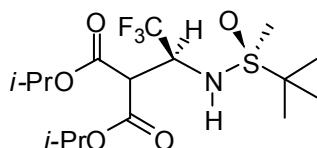
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 1.21 (s, 9H), 1.29 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.31 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 3.81 (d, *J* = 3.6 Hz, 1H), 4.22 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 4.27 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 4.47 (dqd, *J* = 3.6, 7.2, 10.8 Hz, 1H), 5.08 (d, *J* = 10.8 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 13.7, 13.7, 22.3, 50.2, 57.2, 58.3 (q, *J* = 32.1 Hz), 62.1, 62.6, 123.9 (q, *J* = 284.3 Hz), 165.5, 166.7; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = -74.0 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz); IR (NaCl): 3294, 2984, 1733, 1471, 1263, 1181, 1130, 1092, 882, 493 cm<sup>-1</sup>; MS (ESI): m/z = 384.5 [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>; HRMS (ESI) Calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>22</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NNaO<sub>5</sub>S: (M+Na<sup>+</sup>): 384.1068, found: 384.1052.

**(S)-Dimethyl 2-[(S)-1-(*tert*-butanesulfinamido)-2,2,2-trifluoroethyl]malonate (4b)**



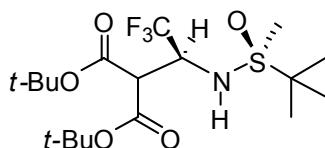
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 1.21 (s, 9H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.87 (d, *J* = 3.9 Hz, 1H), 4.48 (dqd, *J* = 3.9, 7.2, 10.8 Hz, 1H), 5.03 (d, *J* = 10.8 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 22.3, 50.0, 53.1, 53.3, 57.3, 58.4 (q, *J* = 31.5 Hz), 123.9 (q, *J* = 283.8 Hz), 166.0, 167.1; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = -74.0 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz); IR (NaCl): 3472, 3331, 2959, 1749, 1438, 1365, 1263, 1173, 1131, 1086, 424 cm<sup>-1</sup>; MS (ESI): m/z = 356.5 [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>; HRMS (ESI) Calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>18</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NNaO<sub>5</sub>S: (M+Na<sup>+</sup>): 356.0755, found: 356.0757; [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>25</sup> +18.5 (c 0.90, CHCl<sub>3</sub>).

**(S)-Diisopropyl 2-[(S)-1-(*tert*-butanesulfinamido)- 2,2,2-trifluoroethyl]malonate (4c)**



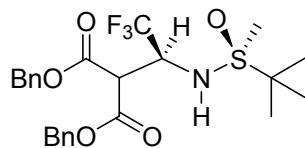
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 1.22 (s, 9H), 1.25-1.31 (m, 12H), 3.75 (d, *J* = 3.3 Hz, 1H), 4.46 (dqd, *J* = 3.3, 7.2, 10.8 Hz, 1H), 5.04 (sept, *J* = 6.3, 1H), 5.12 (sept, *J* = 6.3, 1H), 5.14 (d, *J* = 10.8 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 21.3, 21.3, 21.4, 21.4, 22.4, 50.5, 57.3, 58.2 (q, *J* = 32.1 Hz), 70.0, 70.7, 124.1 (q, *J* = 283.0 Hz), 165.1, 166.3; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = -74.0 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz); IR (NaCl): 3324, 2983, 1742, 1469, 1375, 1264, 1183, 1130, 908, 496 cm<sup>-1</sup>; MS (ESI): m/z = 412.6 [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>; HRMS (ESI) Calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>26</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NNaO<sub>5</sub>S: (M+Na<sup>+</sup>): 412.1381, found: 412.1386; [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>25</sup> +14.5 (c 0.97, CHCl<sub>3</sub>).

**(S)-Di-*tert*-butyl 2-[(S)-1-(*tert*-butanesulfinamido)- 2,2,2-trifluoroethyl]malonate (4d)**



<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 1.24 (s, 9H), 1.47 (s, 9H), 1.49 (s, 9H), 3.65 (d, *J* = 3.3 Hz, 1H), 4.36-4.41 (m, 1H), 5.13 (d, *J* = 10.5 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 22.6, 27.6, 27.7, 51.5, 57.3, 58.0 (q, *J* = 31.0 Hz), 83.2, 83.7, 124.3 (q, *J* = 284.4 Hz), 164.7, 166.2; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = -74.0 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz); IR (KBr): 3324, 2987, 1733, 1458, 1368, 1265, 1151, 1082, 985, 619 cm<sup>-1</sup>; MS (ESI): m/z = 440.6 [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>; Mp = 93–94 °C; HRMS (ESI) Calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>30</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NNaO<sub>5</sub>S: (M+Na<sup>+</sup>): 440.1694, found: 440.1681; [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>25</sup> +7.5 (c 1.04, CHCl<sub>3</sub>).

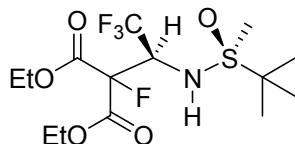
**(S)-Dibenzyl 2-[(S)-1-(*tert*-butanesulfinamido)- 2,2,2-trifluoroethyl]malonate (4e)**



<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 1.09 (s, 9H), 3.93 (d, *J* = 3.3 Hz, 1H), 4.49 (dqd, *J* = 3.3, 7.2, 10.8 Hz, 1H), 4.97 (d, *J* = 10.8 Hz, 1H), 5.10-5.25 (m, 4H), 7.21-7.37 (m, 10H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 22.3, 50.5, 57.3, 58.4 (q, *J* = 32.1 Hz), 68.1, 68.3, 123.9 (q, *J* = 284.3 Hz), 128.3, 128.5, 128.6, 128.7, 128.7, 128.8, 134.2, 134.3, 165.3, 166.4; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = -73.9 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz); IR (NaCl): 3337, 2960, 1746, 1457, 1344, 1263, 1220, 1170, 1129, 1088, 698, 465 cm<sup>-1</sup>; MS (ESI): m/z = 508.4 [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>; HRMS (ESI) Calcd for

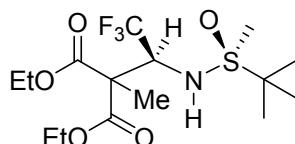
C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>26</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NNaO<sub>5</sub>S: (M+Na<sup>+</sup>): 508.1381, found: 508.1378; [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>25</sup> +3.3 (c 1.06, CHCl<sub>3</sub>).

**(S)-Diethyl 2-[(S)-1-(*tert*-butanesulfinamido)-2,2,2-trifluoroethyl]- 2-fluoromalonate (4f)**



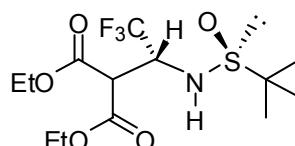
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 1.21 (s, 9H), 1.33 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.34 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 3.99 (d, *J* = 11.1 Hz, 1H), 4.19-4.40 (m, 4H), 4.79-4.97 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 13.7, 13.7, 22.3, 57.4, 61.3 (dq, *J* = 19.9, 31.0 Hz), 63.5, 63.7, 93.7 (d, *J* = 211.3 Hz), 123.0 (q, *J* = 284.9 Hz), 162.5 (d, *J* = 24.9 Hz), 162.8 (d, *J* = 24.9 Hz); <sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = -69.7 (dd, *J* = 6.9, 8.7 Hz), -179.8 (dq, *J* = 23.7, 8.7 Hz); IR (NaCl): 3286, 2985, 1771, 1472, 1254, 1166, 1094, 1046, 881, 492 cm<sup>-1</sup>; MS (ESI): m/z = 402.5 [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>; HRMS (ESI) Calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>21</sub>F<sub>4</sub>NNaO<sub>5</sub>S: (M+Na<sup>+</sup>): 402.0974, found: 402.0988; [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>25</sup> +0.9 (c 1.12, CHCl<sub>3</sub>).

**(S)-Diethyl 2-[(S)-1-(*tert*-butanesulfinamido)- 2,2,2-trifluoroethyl]- 2-methylmalonate (4g)**



<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 1.20 (s, 9H), 1.28 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.30 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.56 (d, *J* = 1.5 Hz, 3H), 4.17-4.30 (m, 4H), 4.57-4.59 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 13.7, 13.7, 17.2, 22.5, 56.6, 57.1, 62.2, 62.3, 62.6 (q, *J* = 29.9 Hz), 124.3 (q, *J* = 285.5 Hz), 168.5, 168.7; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = -67.4 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz); IR (NaCl): 3470, 3286, 2984, 1740, 1469, 1252, 1184, 1155, 1097, 734, 417 cm<sup>-1</sup>; MS (ESI): m/z = 398.6 [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>; HRMS (ESI) Calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>24</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NNaO<sub>5</sub>S: (M+Na<sup>+</sup>): 398.1225, found: 398.1217; [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>25</sup> +6.2 (c 0.57, CHCl<sub>3</sub>).

**(R)-Diethyl 2-[(S)-1-(*tert*-butanesulfinamido)- 2,2,2-trifluoroethyl]malonate (5a). General Procedure**

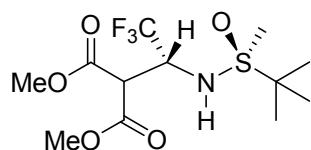


To a solution of diethyl malonate (0.3 mmol; 45.5 μl) and DMAP (0.03 mmol; 3.7 mg) in dry toluene (1.0 ml) (*S*<sub>S</sub>)-*N*-*tert*-butanesulfinyl (3,3,3)-trifluoroacetaldimine **2** (0.30 mmol; 60.4 mg) was added with stirring at room temperature. After 48 h the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. Purification by chromatography on silica-gel (hexane/EtOAc = 4/1) gave **4** (94.6 mg,

87%) as colorless oil;  $[\alpha]_D^{25} +71.9$  (c 1.48, CHCl<sub>3</sub>).

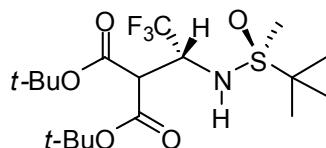
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 1.24 (s, 9H), 1.29 (t,  $J$  = 6.9 Hz, 3H), 1.31 (t,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 3.81 (d,  $J$  = 3.0 Hz, 1H), 4.21 (q,  $J$  = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 4.27 (q,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 4.47 (dqd,  $J$  = 3.0, 6.6, 9.3 Hz, 1H), 5.59 (d,  $J$  = 9.3 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 13.6, 22.2, 49.5, 56.8, 58.6 (q,  $J$  = 31.6 Hz), 62.2, 63.1, 124.1 (q,  $J$  = 282.1 Hz), 165.1, 167.4; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = -75.6 (d,  $J$  = 6.6 Hz); IR (NaCl): 3328, 2984, 1747, 1469, 1263, 1182, 1130, 1092, 878, 461 cm<sup>-1</sup>; MS (ESI): m/z = 384.1 [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>; HRMS (ESI) Calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>22</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NNaO<sub>5</sub>S: (M+Na<sup>+</sup>): 384.1068, found: 384.1068.

**(R)-Dimethyl 2-[(S)-1-(tert-butanesulfinamido)-2,2,2-trifluoroethyl]malonate (5b)**



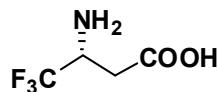
<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 1.25 (s, 9H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 3.86 (d,  $J$  = 3.9 Hz, 1H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 4.53–4.41 (m, 1H), 5.55 (d,  $J$  = 9.3 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 22.3, 49.4, 53.1, 53.8, 56.9, 58.8 (q,  $J$  = 31.6 Hz), 124.1 (q,  $J$  = 282.1 Hz), 165.6, 167.9; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = -75.7 (d,  $J$  = 7.9 Hz); IR (NaCl): 3479, 3298, 2960, 1738, 1438, 1360, 1264, 1174, 1130, 1090, 929, 472 cm<sup>-1</sup>; MS (ESI): m/z = 356.6 [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>; HRMS (ESI) Calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>18</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NNaO<sub>5</sub>S: (M+Na<sup>+</sup>): 356.0755, found: 356.0770;  $[\alpha]_D^{25} +78.9$  (c 1.18, CHCl<sub>3</sub>).

**(R)-Di-tert-butyl 2-[(S)-1-(tert-butanesulfinamido)-2,2,2-trifluoroethyl]malonate (5d)**



<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 1.24 (s, 9H), 1.50 (s, 9H), 1.53 (s, 9H), 3.64 (d,  $J$  = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 4.43 (dqd,  $J$  = 2.4, 7.9, 8.7 Hz, 1H), 5.56 (d,  $J$  = 8.7 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 22.4, 27.7, 27.8, 50.8, 56.9, 58.1 (q,  $J$  = 30.4 Hz), 83.4, 84.5, 124.5 (q,  $J$  = 282.7 Hz), 164.3, 166.7; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = -75.5 (d,  $J$  = 7.9 Hz); IR (NaCl): 3288, 2980, 1724, 1459, 1370, 1263, 1175, 1094, 845, 488 cm<sup>-1</sup>; MS (ESI): m/z = 440.5 [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>; HRMS (ESI) Calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>30</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NNaO<sub>5</sub>S: (M+Na<sup>+</sup>): 440.1694, found: 440.1693;  $[\alpha]_D^{25} +61.0$  (c 2.13, CHCl<sub>3</sub>).

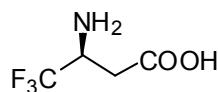
**(S)-3-Amino-4,4,4-trifluorobutanoic acid (1). General Procedure**



A solution of (*S*)-diethyl 2-[*(S*)-1-(*tert*-butanesulfinamido)-2,2,2-trifluoroethyl]malonate **3** (2.50 mmol; 903.5mg) in 6N HCl (10.0 ml) was refluxed for 12 h. The reaction mixture was brought to room temperature and the aqueous layer was extracted with diethyl ether ( $3 \times 10.0$  ml). The aqueous layer was concentrated under reduced pressure to dryness. The resulting solid was treated with propylene oxide (10.0 ml) and stirred for 1 h at room temperature. Precipitate was filtered off and washed with hexane ( $2 \times 5.0$  ml) to provide (*S*)-**1** (376.9 mg, 96%) as a white solid;  $[\alpha]_D^{25} -25.9$  (c 1.02, 6N HCl).

$^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD): 2.49 (dd,  $J = 9.6, 16.5$  Hz, 1H), 2.71 (dd,  $J = 3.6, 16.5$  Hz, 1H), 3.81-3.91 (m, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (75.5 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD):  $\delta = 35.2, 51.8$  (q,  $J = 30.4$  Hz), 127.0 (q,  $J = 280.5$  Hz), 173.7;  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR (282 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD):  $\delta = -77.1$  (d,  $J = 7.1$  Hz); IR (KBr): 2894, 2724, 2132, 1620, 1526, 1381, 1133, 902, 655; MS (ESI): m/z = 158.0 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>; Mp = 174–175 °C; HRMS (ESI) Calcd for C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>7</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>: (M+H)<sup>+</sup>: 158.0429, found: 158.0427.

**(R)-3-Amino-4,4,4-trifluorobutanoic acid (1)**



This compound was synthesized according to procedure for (*S*)-**3** starting from (*R,S<sub>S</sub>*)-**4** on 1.0 mmol scale; yield 149.4 mg (95%); white solid;  $[\alpha]_D^{25} +24.4$  (c 1.05, 6N HCl).

