# Chiral Guanidine-Catalyzed Asymmetric Direct Vinylogous Michael Reaction of α,β-Unsaturated γ-Butyrolactam with Alkylidene Malonates

Yang Yang, Shunxi Dong, Xiaohua Liu, \* Lili Lin and Xiaoming Feng\*

Key Laboratory of Green Chemistry & Technology, Ministry of Education, College of Chemistry, Sichuan University, Chengdu 610064, China

liuxh@scu.edu.cn; xmfeng@scu.edu.cn

# **Supporting Information**

#### **Contents of the supporting information:**

- 1. General remarks
- 2. Procedure and Characterization of the catalysts
- 3. General procedure for the catalytic asymmetric vinylogous Michael reaction and characterization of

the products 6a-6u

- 4. Transformation of the products 6 to 5-substituted pyrrolidin-2-one (8)
- 5. References
- 6. Copy of <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra
- 7. X-ray structure of 7i

#### 1. General Remarks

The <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra were recorded at 300 MHz or 400 MHz. The chemical shifts are reported in ppm downfield to CDCl<sub>3</sub> ( $\delta$  = 7.26) or d<sub>6</sub>-DMSO ( $\delta$  = 2.50) for <sup>1</sup>H NMR. Coupling constants in <sup>1</sup>H NMR were in Hz. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were collected on commerical instruments (75 MHz or 100 MHz) with complete proton decoupling. Chemical shifts are reported in ppm with the solvent resonance as internal standard (CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$  = 77.0 or d<sub>6</sub>-DMSO,  $\delta$  = 39.4). The enantiomeric excess (ee) of the products were determined by HPLC using Chiralpak AD-H or IA columns with hexane/isopropanol as eluent, and the retention times were compared to corresponding racemic samples. Optical rotations were measured on a commercial polarimeter and reported as follows:  $[\alpha]_D^T$  (c = g/100 mL, in solvent). Melting points (m.p.) were measured on electrothermal digital melting point apparatus and were uncorrected.

 $\alpha,\beta$ -Unsaturated  $\gamma$ -butyrolactam **4** was prepared according to the reported procedure.<sup>[1]</sup> The guanidines were prepared according to the methods mentioned in catalyst preparation section.<sup>[2]</sup>





To a solution of **A** (2.4 g, 9.4 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (40 mL) was added Et<sub>3</sub>N (1.31 mL, 9.4 mmol), isobutyl carbonochloridate (1.23 mL, 9.4 mmol) at 0 °C under stirring. After 10 min, (1*S*, 2*S*)-1,2-diphenylethane-1,2-diamine (0.951 g, 4.48 mmol) was added. The reaction was allowed to warm to room temperature and detected by TLC. Overnight, the mixture was washed with 1 N KHSO<sub>4</sub> solution, saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution, brine, dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated and purified through flash chromatograph (EtOAc : petroleum ether = 1 : 3) as white solid. TFA (6 mL) was added to the CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (6 mL) solution of the amide, and stirred until reaction was finished (1 h). Then, the solvent was evaporated, and H<sub>2</sub>O (10 mL) was added. The pH value of the mixture was brought into the range of 10–12 by the addition of 2 N NaOH solution. The aqueous phase was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3 × 30 mL). The combined organic phase was washed with brine, dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, and evaporated in vacuo to get a kind of white foam **3**.



(2*S*,3a*S*,6a*S*)-*N*-((1*S*,2*S*)-2-((2*R*,3a*S*,6a*S*)-octahydrocyclopenta[*b*]pyrrole-2carboxamido)-1,2-diphenylethyl)-octahydrocyclopenta[*b*]pyrrole-2-carbox amide (3):  $[\alpha]_D^{15} = -7.4$  (c = 0.20, in MeOH). m.p. 90 – 94 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, d<sub>6</sub>-DMSO)  $\delta$  8.53 (2 H, d, *J* = 8.3 Hz), 7.25 – 7.10 (10 H, m), 5.24  $-5.14 (2 \text{ H, m}), 3.66 - 3.55 (2 \text{ H, m}), 3.52 - 3.44 (4 \text{ H, m}), 2.50 - 2.38 (2 \text{ H, m}), 2.17 - 2.05 (2 \text{ H, m}), 1.56 - 1.36 (10 \text{ H, m}), 1.26 - 1.15 (2 \text{ H, m}), 1.12 - 1.03 (2 \text{ H, m}). {}^{13}\text{C}$  NMR  $\delta$  (100 MHz, d<sub>6</sub>-DMSO): 172.66, 139.52, 127.85, 127.30, 127.01, 63.32, 61.96, 56.38, 42.49, 37.92, 34.06, 32.17, 23.54. HRMS (ESI): calcd for C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>38</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M+H<sup>+</sup>] 487.3068, found 487.3075.

2.4 M *n*-BuLi in *n*-hexane (4.2 eq, 2.63 mL) was injected into a solution of **3** (730 mg, 1.5 mmol) in THF (40 mL) dropwise over 10 mins under nitrogen atmosphere at -20 °C with well stirring. For additional 10 mins, a solution of *N*,*N*'-dicyclohexylcarbodiimide (1.3 eq., 402 mg, 1.95 mmol) in 10 mL THF was added dropwise in 10 mins. The reaction was allowed to warm to room temperature, and detected by TLC. After 48 h, the mixture was evaporated under reduced pressure to get rid of THF, and the pH value of the mixture was brought into the range of 0–1 by the addition of 2 N HCl. The aqueous phase was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3 × 30 mL). The combined organic phase was washed with brine, dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub>, and evaporated in vacuum, and purified through flash chromatograph on silica gel (EtOAc : MeOH = 3:1) to produce **E**. The white foam **E** in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (10 mL) was added 5 N NaOH (10 mL) and stirred until the basification was finished (10 mins). The pH value of the mixture was washed with 3 N NaOH in birne, dried over anhydrous NaSO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated in vacuum. Finally, a white solid **2** was obtained. Then it was dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and filtration through Celite to remove the silicone gel, concentrated to get a kind of white solid (540 mg, 52% yield).



(2*S*,3a*S*,6a*S*)-*N*-((1*S*,2*S*)-2-((2*R*,3a*S*,6a*S*)-1-(carbamimidoyl)-octahydroc yclopenta[*b*]pyrrole-2-carboxamido)-1,2-diphenylethyl)-octahydrocyclo penta[*b*]pyrrole-2-carboxamide (2): [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>16</sup> = -53.0 (c = 0.23, in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>). m.p. 78 - 82 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.24 - 6.97 (10 H, m), 5.15 (2 H, s), 4.68 (1 H, s), 4.03 (1 H, d, *J* = 4.8 Hz), 3.71 (1 H, t, *J* = 6.4 Hz), 3.58 (1 H, t, *J* = 8.4 Hz), 3.01 (2 H, s), 2.65 - 2.44 (2 H, m), 2.31 - 2.19 (1 H, t)

m), 2.15-1.95 (2 H, m), 1.94 – 1.41 (20 H, m), 1.40 – 0.91 (15 H, m).  $^{13}$ C NMR  $\delta$  (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 174.60, 174.06, 171.75, 139.61, 138.89, 128.06, 127.98, 127.86, 127.83, 127.71, 127.28, 127.19, 127.05, 126.82, 126.23, 77.20, 66.65, 65.92, 64.94, 63.56, 62.56, 58.44, 58.03, 57.21, 43.35, 42.79,

42.62, 38.17, 35.06, 34.92, 33.38, 33.07, 32.50, 30.74, 29.58, 25.49, 25.31, 24.93, 24.63, 23.72. HRMS (ESI): calcd for  $C_{43}H_{60}N_6O_2$  [M+H<sup>+</sup>] 693.4851, found 693.4852.



To a solution of **A** (1.28 g, 5 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (40 mL) was added Et<sub>3</sub>N (0.84 mL, 6 mmol), isobutyl carbonochloridate (0.84 mL, 6 mmol) at 0 °C under stirring. After 10 min, **F** (1.54 g, 4.5 mmol) was added. The reaction was allowed to warm to room temperature, and detected by TLC. After 3 hours, the mixture was washed with 1 N KHSO<sub>4</sub> solution, saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution, brine, dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated and purified through flash chromatograph (EtOAc : petroleum ether = 1 : 2) as white solid. TFA (4 mL) was added to the CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (4 mL) solution of the amide and stirred until reaction was finished (1 h). Then, the solvent was evaporated, and H<sub>2</sub>O (10 mL) was added. The pH value of the mixture was brought into the range of 10–12 by the addition of 2 N NaOH solution. The aqueous phase was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3 × 30 mL). The combined organic phase was washed with brine, dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated in vacuo to get a kind of white foam **H**.

To a solution of **H** (1.811 g, 3.78 mmol) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN (15 mL) was added paraformaldehyde (CH<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>n</sub>

(0.341 g, 11.34 mmol, 3 eq) at r.t. under stirring. After 10 min, NaBH<sub>3</sub>CN (0.275 g, 4.16 mmol, 1.1 eq) was added stirring for 15 min, then glacial acetic acid (0.65 mL, 11.34 mmol, 3.0 eq) was added. The reaction was detected by TLC. After 2 hours, the residue was filtered, the organic phase was concentrated and dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The pH value of the mixture was brought into the range of 7–8 by the addition of sat. NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution. The aqueous phase was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> ( $3 \times 30$  mL). The combined organic phase was washed with brine, dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, concentrated and purified through flash chromatograph (EtOAc : petroleum ether = 1 : 3) to get a white solid **I**. Then **I** and NH<sub>2</sub>-NH<sub>2</sub> • H<sub>2</sub>O was dissolved in EtOH, and the reaction was allowed to reflux, and detected by TLC. After 3 hours, the residue was filtered, the organic phase was concentrated and dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. This step was repeated third times, then the mixture was concentrated and purified through flash chromatograph (EtOAc : petroleum ether = 1 : 1) to get a kind of white foam **J**.

Synthesis of **L** from **J** was according to the procedure for **H** from **F**. The mixture was isolated by column chromatography on silica gel (EtOAc : petroleum ether = 4 : 1) to afford **L** as a white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.28 (1 H, d, *J* = 8.0 Hz), 7.87 (1 H, d, *J* = 7.6 Hz),7.26 – 6.92 (10 H, m), 5.30 – 5.15 (2 H, m), 3.74 (1 H, t, *J* = 6.0 Hz), 3.62 (1 H, t, *J* = 8.0 Hz), 2.92 (2 H, t, *J* = 8.8 Hz), 2.74 (2 H, s), 2.55 – 2.42 (2 H, m), 2.37 – 2.20 (5 H, m), 1.75 – 1.65 (1 H, m), 1.65 – 1.55 (1 H, m), 1.55 – 1.35 (7 H, m), 1.35 – 1.17 (3 H, m), 1.17 – 1.05 (1 H, m). <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $\delta$  (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 174.24, 174.04, 138.66, 128.36, 128.34 127.58, 127.54, 127.28, 127.27, 72.43, 71.38, 63.67, 62.47, 57.66, 57.64, 42.67, 41.20, 40.53, 38.36, 37.93, 35.13, 33.33, 32.82, 32.39, 24.00, 23.72.

2.4 M *n*-BuLi in *n*-hexane (3.5 eq, 1.45 mL) was injected into a solution of **L** (497 mg, 0.993 mmol) in THF (40 mL) dropwise over 10 mins under nitrogen atmosphere at -20 °C with well stirring. For additional 10 mins, a solution of *N*,*N*'-dicyclohexylcarbodiimide (1.5 eq., 307 mg, 1.49 mmol) in 10 mL THF was added dropwise in 10 mins. The reaction was allowed to warm to room temperature, and detected by TLC. After 48 h, the mixture was evaporated under reduced pressure to get rid of THF, and the pH value of the mixture was brought into the range of 0–1 by the addition of 2 N HCl. The aqueous phase was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3 × 30 mL). The combined organic phase was washed with brine, dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub>, evaporated in vacuum, and purified through flash chromatograph on silica gel (EtOAc : MeOH = 5:1) to produce **O**. The white foam **O** in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (10 mL) was added 5

N NaOH (10 mL) and stirred until the basification was finished (10 mins). The pH value of the mixture was kept in the range of 11–12. The aqueous phase was extracted with  $CH_2Cl_2$  (3 × 20 mL). The combined organic phase was washed with 3 N NaOH in birne, dried over anhydrous NaSO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated in vacuum. Finally, a white solid **9** was obtained. Then it was dissolved in  $CH_2Cl_2$ , and filtration through Celite to remove the silicone gel, concentrated to get a kind of white solid (442 mg, 63% yield).



(2S,3aS,6aS)-*N*-((1*S*,2*S*)-2-((2*R*,3aS,6aS)-1-(carbamimidoyl)-octahydrocycl openta[*b*]pyrrole-2-carboxamido)-1,2-diphenylethyl)-1-methyl-octahydroc yclopenta[*b*]pyrrole-2-carboxamide (9):  $[\alpha]_D^{15} = -119.5$  (c = 0.23, in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>). m.p. 58 – 62 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.18 – 6.95 (10 H, m), 5.25 – 5.05 (2 H, m), 4.72 (1 H, s), 4.01 (1 H, d, *J* = 4.5 Hz), 3.05 – 2.93 (2 H,

m), 2.93 - 2.80 (2 H, m), 2.60 - 2.40 (2 H, m), 2.31 - 2.21 (4 H, m), 2.10 - 1.87 (2 H, m), 1.62 (19 H, m), 1.41 - 1.07 (15 H, m). <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $\delta$  (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 174.35, 173.34, 140.15, 138.77, 127.94, 127.83, 127.29, 127.19, 126.93, 77.20, 72.32, 71.44, 65.49, 62.07, 58.11, 57.90, 42.47, 41.14, 40.59, 38.21, 34.09, 33.45, 32.71, 31.87, 30.98, 30.24, 29.64, 25.54, 25.42, 25.32, 24.74, 24.13. HRMS (ESI): calcd for C<sub>44</sub>H<sub>64</sub>N<sub>6</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M+H<sup>+</sup>] 707.5007, found 707.5001.



C<sub>2</sub>-symmetric bisguanidine catalysts, perviously used in the catalytic asymmetric reactions of azlactone, afforded complex mixtures.



When  $\alpha$ , $\beta$ -unsaturated ketones, such as chalcone and cinnamone, were tested under the optimized conditions for this reaction, unsatisfied results were obtained. For chalcone, the corresponding product was obtained in 43% yield, 8% ee, 2:1 dr (47% ee for the minor isomer), although  $\gamma$ -butyrolactam was greatly consumed. For cinnamone, only trace amount of the desired product was obtained in 24 hours.

# 3. General procedure for the catalytic asymmetric vinylogous Michael reaction

 $\alpha$ , $\beta$ -Unsaturated  $\gamma$ -butyrolactam **4** (9.2 mg, 0.05 mmol) and the catalyst **2** (1.7 mg, 0.0025 mmol) were added into PhCF<sub>3</sub> (0.25 mL), then stirred for 15–30 mins at ambient temperature. Then the diethyl benzylidenemalonates **5a** (24.8 mg, 0.1 mmol) was added. The mixture was stirred at 30 °C for 18 hours. After that, the reaction mixture was purified directly by flash chromatography to give desired product **6a** in 82% yield. The *syn/anti* ratio of the product was determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis or HPLC.

*tert*-butyl 2-(3-ethoxy-2-(ethoxycarbonyl)-3-oxo-1-phenylpropyl)-5-oxo-2*H*pyrrole-1(5*H*)-carboxylate (6a): The reaction time is 18 hours. The mixture was isolated by column chromatography on silica gel (3:1 P.E./EtOAc) to afford 6a (82% yield, 95:5 dr and 94% ee). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.36 – 7.27 (3H, m), 7.21 – 7.19 (2H, m), 7.08 – 7.06 (1H, m), 6.13 (1H, dd, *J* = 7.6, 1.4 Hz), 4.84 (1H, t, *J* = 1.7 Hz), 4.50 (1H, dd, *J* = 13.2, 3.6 Hz), 4.22 (2H, dd, *J* = 7.2, 1.5 Hz), 3.93 – 3.81 (3H, m), 1.65 (9H, s), 1.27 (3H, t, *J* = 7.1Hz), 0.88 (3H, t, *J* = 7.1 Hz) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $\delta$  (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 168.70, 167.81, 167.07, 149.29, 146.46, 137.11, 128.80, 128.43, 128.24, 127.78, 83.54, 65.52, 62.58, 61.48, 51.89, 45.69, 28.17, 13.82, 13.52. HRMS (ESI): calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>29</sub>NO<sub>7</sub> [M+Na<sup>+</sup>] 454.1836, found 454.1837. The ee was determined by HPLC analysis using a Chiral ADH column (*n*-hexane/2-propanol 80: 20, 1.0 mL/min,  $\lambda$ = 210 nm; t<sub>1</sub> = 5.1 min, t<sub>2</sub> = 12.2 min).



2.85

5665

1.29

*tert*-butyl 2-(3-methoxy-2-(methoxycarbonyl)-3-oxo-1-phenylpropyl)-5-oxo-2*H*pyrrole-1(5*H*)-carboxylate (6b): The reaction time is 18 hours. The mixture was isolated by column chromatography on silica gel (3:1 P.E./EtOAc) to afford 6b (85% yield, 95:5 dr and 93% ee). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.36 – 7.27 (3H, m), 7.20 – 7.18 (2H, m), 7.04 (1H, dd, *J* = 6.2, 1.6 Hz), 6.15 (1H, dd, *J* = 6.2, 1.6 Hz), 4.81 (1H, dt, *J* = 3.6, 1.8 Hz), 4.53 (1 H, dd, *J* = 12.3, 3.5 Hz), 3.85 (1H, d, *J* = 12.3 Hz), 3.76 (3H, s), 3.43 (3H, s), 1.65 (9H, s) pm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $\delta$  (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 168.71, 168.04, 167.41, 149.13, 146.05, 137.03, 128.90, 128.54, 127.89, 127.81, 83.60, 65.56, 53.51, 52.61, 51.25, 45.50, 28.11. HRMS (ESI): calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>25</sub>NO<sub>7</sub> [M+Na<sup>+</sup>] 426.1523, found 426.1537. The ee was determined by HPLC analysis using a Chiral ADH column (*n*-hexane/2-propanol 85: 15, 1.0 mL/min,  $\lambda$  = 210 nm; t<sub>1</sub> = 6.9 min, t<sub>2</sub> = 14.4 min).

12.237

Δ

137633



*tert*-butyl 2-(3-(benzyloxy)-2-(benzyloxycarbonyl)-3-oxo-1-phenylpropyl)-5 -oxo-2*H*-pyrrole-1(5*H*)-carboxylate (6c): The reaction time is 18 hours. The mixture was isolated by column chromatography on silica gel (3:1 P.E./EtOAc) to afford 6c (83% yield, 95: 5 dr and 91% ee). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.33 – m), 7.25 – 7.11 (6H, m), 7.03 (1H, dd, J = 6.2, 2.0 Hz), 7.01 – 6.93 (2H, m), 6.11 (1H, dd, J =

7.26 (7H, m), 7.25 – 7.11 (6H, m), 7.03 (1H, dd, J = 6.2, 2.0 Hz), 7.01 – 6.93 (2H, m), 6.11 (1H, dd, J = 6.2, 1.6 Hz), 5.29 (1H, d, J = 12.2 Hz), 5.11 (1H, d, J = 12.2 Hz), 4.91 – 4.86 (1H, m), 4.84 (2H, s), 4.55 (1H, dt, J = 8.8, 4.4 Hz), 3.98 (1H, d, J = 12.3 Hz), 1.65 (9H, s) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $\delta$  (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 168.79, 167.46, 166.75, 149.30, 146.48, 136.68, 135.11, 134.81, 128.88, 128.49, 128.43, 128.36, 128.26, 128.17, 128.07, 128.05, 127.92, 127.83, 83.64, 68.12, 67.24, 65.40, 51.75, 45.66, 28.14. HRMS (ESI): calcd for C<sub>33</sub>H<sub>33</sub>NO<sub>7</sub> [M+Na<sup>+</sup>] 578.2149, found 578.2146. The ee was determined by HPLC analysis using a Chiral IA column (*n*-hexane/2-propanol 80: 20, 1.0 mL/min,  $\lambda = 210$  nm; t<sub>1</sub> = 8.7 min, t<sub>2</sub> = 18.5 min).



Boc COOEt ĊOOEt

oxo-2H-pyrrole-1(5H)-carboxylate (6d): The reaction time is 12 hours. The mixture was isolated by column chromatography on silica gel (3:1 P.E./EtOAc) to afford **6d** (78% yield, 95: 5 dr and 94% ee). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.20 – 7.12 (2 H, m), 7.07 - 6.95 (3 H, m), 6.10 (1 H, d, J = 6.1 Hz), 4.84 (1 H, s), 4.43 (1 H, dd, J = 12.2, 3.2Hz), 4.19 (2 H, tt, J = 10.8, 5.3 Hz), 3.91 (2 H, dq, J = 11.0, 3.7 Hz), 3.82 (1 H, d, J = 12.2 Hz), 1.62 (9 H, s), 1.26 (3H, t, J = 7.0 Hz), 0.90 (3 H, t, J = 7.1 Hz). <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $\delta$  (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 168.48, 167.64, 166.98, 163.67, 149.42, 146.44, 132.60, 129.88 (d, J = 8.0 Hz), 128.43, 115.83, 83.57, 65.09, 62.53, 61.52, 52.13, 45.07, 28.09, 13.77, 13.55. HRMS (ESI): calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>28</sub>FNO<sub>7</sub> [M+Na<sup>+</sup>] 472.1742, found 472.1749. The ee was determined by HPLC analysis using a Chiral ADH column (*n*-hexane/2-propanol 90: 10, 1.0 mL/min,  $\lambda = 210$  nm;  $t_1 = 7.8$  min,  $t_2 = 25.4$  min)

tert-butyl 2-(3-ethoxy-2-(ethoxycarbonyl)-1-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-oxopropyl)-5-

Boc

ĊOOEt

COOEt

CI



	Retention Time	Area	% Area	Height	% Height
1	7.797	4610041	92.30	230663	95.66
2	10.806	101335	2.03	3577	1.48
З	23.253	150777	3.02	3868	1.60
4	25.416	132576	2.65	3013	1.25

*tert*-butyl 2-(1-(2-chlorophenyl)-3-ethoxy-2-(ethoxycarbonyl)-3-oxopropyl)-5oxo-2*H*-pyrrole-1(5*H*)-carboxylate (6e): The reaction time is 12 hours. The mixture was isolated by column chromatography on silica gel (3:1 P.E./EtOAc) to afford 6e (75% yield, 95: 5 dr and 93% ee). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.43 –

7.34 (1 H, m), 7.24 – 7.16 (2 H, m), 7.13 – 7.03 (2 H, m), 6.02 (1 H, dd, J = 6.1, 1.5 Hz), 5.16 – 5.08 (1 H, m), 4.92 (1 H, dd, J = 12.2, 3.6 Hz), 4.33 – 4.21 (2 H, m), 4.01 – 3.93 (1 H, m), 3.93 – 3.80 (2 H, m), 1.62 (9 H, s), 1.29 (3 H, t, J = 7.2 Hz), 0.88 (3 H, t, J = 7.2 Hz) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $\delta$  (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 168.94, 167.75, 166.94, 149.96, 147.59, 134.91, 133.90, 130.19, 128.99, 128.92, 127.85, 126.79, 83.77, 62.74, 62.41, 61.55, 52.72, 42.34, 28.19, 13.87, 13.47. HRMS (ESI): calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>28</sub><sup>34.9689</sup>ClNO<sub>7</sub> [M+Na<sup>+</sup>] 488.1447, found 488.1449. The ee was determined by HPLC analysis using a Chiral ADH column (*n*-hexane/2-propanol 95: 5, 1.0 mL/min,  $\lambda = 210$  nm; t<sub>1</sub> = 13.4 min, t<sub>2</sub> = 15.0 min).

COOEt

COOEt



	Retention	Area	% Area	Height	% Height
	Time				
1	13.382	3716516	96.56	125048	96.25
2	14.975	132556	3.44	4872	3.75

*tert*-butyl 2-(1-(3-chlorophenyl)-3-ethoxy-2-(ethoxycarbonyl)-3-oxopropyl)-5oxo-2*H*-pyrrole-1(5*H*)-carboxylate (6f): The reaction time is 12 hours. The mixture was isolated by column chromatography on silica gel (3:1 P.E./EtOAc) to afford 6f (80% yield, 94:6 dr and 90% ee). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.28 –

7.23 (2 H, m), 7.22 – 7.17 (1 H, m), 7.11 – 7.03 (2 H, m), 6.14 (1 H, dd, J = 6.2, 1.6 Hz), 4.86 – 4.79 (1 H, m), 4.45 (1 H, dd, J = 12.2, 3.3 Hz), 4.26 – 4.16 (2 H, m), 3.93 (2 H, qd, J = 7.1, 2.5 Hz), 3.83 (1 H, d, J = 12.2 Hz), 1.63 (9 H, s), 1.25 (3H, t, J = 7.1 Hz), 0.94 (3 H, t, J = 7.1 Hz) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $\delta$  (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 168.35, 167.54, 166.85, 149.34, 146.09, 139.07, 134.63, 130.03, 128.64, 128.46, 128.02, 126.31, 83.68, 65.04, 62.64, 61.63, 51.69, 45.36, 28.11, 13.77, 13.57. HRMS (ESI): calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>28</sub><sup>34.9689</sup>CINO<sub>7</sub> [M+Na<sup>+</sup>] 488.1447, found 488.1453. The ee was determined by HPLC analysis using a Chiral ADH column (*n*-hexane/2-propanol 90: 10, 1.0 mL/min,  $\lambda = 210$  nm; t<sub>1</sub> = 6.8 min, t<sub>2</sub> = 15.9 min).



COOEt

ĊOOEt



	Retention Time	Area	% Area	Height	% Height
1	6.838	7489721	89.61	393413	92.33
2	9.406	138472	1.66	8162	1.92
3	13.512	350351	4.19	13671	3.21
4	15.906	379209	4.54	10870	2.55

*tert*-butyl 2-(1-(4-chlorophenyl)-3-ethoxy-2-(ethoxycarbonyl)-3-oxopropyl)-5oxo-2*H*-pyrrole-1(5*H*)-carboxylate (6g): The reaction time is 12 hours. The mixture was isolated by column chromatography on silica gel (3:1 P.E./EtOAc) to afford 6g (85% yield, 95: 5 dr and 92% ee). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.31 –

7.26 (2 H, m), 7.17 – 7.11 (2 H, m), 7.02 (1 H, dd, J = 6.1, 1.9 Hz), 6.11 (1 H, dd, J = 6.3, 1.5 Hz), 4.83 (1 H, d, J = 1.5 Hz), 4.42 (1 H, dd, J = 12.1, 3.3 Hz), 4.28 – 4.15 (2 H, m), 3.91 (2 H, qd, J = 7.2, 3.6 Hz), 3.82 (1 H, d, J = 12.3 Hz), 1.62 (9 H, s), 1.26 (3 H, t, J = 6.4 Hz), 0.93 (3 H, t, J = 7.1 Hz) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $\delta$  (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 168.40, 167.58, 166.91, 149.41, 146.28, 135.41, 133.66, 129.56, 128.93, 128.52, 83.62, 64.97, 62.57, 61.59, 51.91, 45.16, 28.10, 13.77, 13.58. HRMS (ESI): calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>28</sub><sup>34.9689</sup>CINO<sub>7</sub> [M+Na<sup>+</sup>] 488.1447, found 488.1449. The ee was determined by HPLC analysis using a Chiral ADH column (*n*-hexane/2-propanol 90: 10, 1.0 mL/min,  $\lambda = 210$  nm; t<sub>1</sub> = 8.7 min, t<sub>2</sub> = 26.4 min)



Boc

COOEt

Br



	Retention Time	Area	% Area	Height	% Height
1	8.741	7049617	90.70	302232	94.64
2	11.442	138381	1.78	5334	1.67
3	22.149	300553	3.87	6564	2.06
4	26.406	284103	3.66	5233	1.64

2-(1-(3-bromophenyl)-3-ethoxy-2-(ethoxycarbonyl)-3-oxopropyl) *tert*-butyl -5-oxo-2*H*-pyrrole-1(5*H*)-carboxylate (6h): The reaction time is 12 hours. COOEt The mixture was isolated by column chromatography on silica gel (3:1 P.E./EtOAc) to afford **6h** (85% yield, 94:6 dr and 93% ee). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz,

 $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  7.45 - 7.30 (2 H, m), 7.22 - 7.17 (1 H, m), 7.15 - 7.10 (1 H, m), 7.04 (1 H, dd, J = 6.2, 1.8Hz), 6.13 (1 H, dd, J = 6.1, 1.3 Hz), 4.85 – 4.78 (1 H, m), 4.43 (1 H, dd, J = 12.2, 3.3 Hz), 4.19 (2 H, q, *J* = 7.1 Hz), 3.92 (2 H, ddd, *J* = 14.1, 7.1, 2.0 Hz), 3.82 (1 H, d, *J* = 12.2 Hz), 1.62 (9 H, s), 1.25 (3 H, t, J = 7.1 Hz), 0.93 (3 H, t, J = 7.1 Hz). <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $\delta$  (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 168.29, 167.48, 166.80, 149.29, 146.02, 139.32, 131.33, 130.90, 130.27, 128.62, 126.72, 122.75, 83.64, 65.02, 62.60, 61.60, 51.61, 45.29, 28.08, 13.73, 13.56. HRMS (ESI): calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>28</sub><sup>78.9183</sup>BrNO<sub>7</sub> [M+Na<sup>+</sup>] 532.0941, found 532.0941. The ee was determined by HPLC analysis using a Chiral ADH column (*n*-hexane/2-propanol 90: 10, 1.0 mL/min,  $\lambda = 210$  nm;  $t_1 = 6.9$  min,  $t_2 = 15.4$  min)





	Retention Time	Area	% Area	Height	% Height
1	6.959	4583960	91.12	259665	94.08
2	9.515	102729	2.04	4738	1.72
3	13.634	184210	3.66	6243	2.26
4	15.455	159824	3.18	5360	1.94



*tert*-butyl 2-(1-(4-bromophenyl)-3-ethoxy-2-(ethoxycarbonyl)-3-oxopropyl)-5oxo-2*H*-pyrrole-1(5*H*)-carboxylate (6i): The reaction time is 12 hours. The mixture was isolated by column chromatography on silica gel (3:1 P.E./EtOAc) to afford 6i (86% yield, 95: 5 dr and 93% ee). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.48 –

7.40 (2 H, m), 7.10 – 7.04 (2 H, m), 7.01 (1 H, dd, J = 6.2, 2.0 Hz), 6.10 (1 H, dd, J = 6.1, 1.5 Hz), 4.86 – 4.79 (1 H, m), 4.41 (1 H, dd, J = 12.2, 3.3 Hz), 4.25 – 4.15 (2 H, m), 3.91 (2 H, qd, J = 7.1, 3.5 Hz), 3.81 (1 H, d, J = 12.2 Hz), 1.61 (9 H, s), 1.25 (3 H, t, J = 6.3 Hz), 0.93 (3 H, t, J = 7.1 Hz). <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $\delta$  (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 168.35, 167.54, 166.87, 149.38, 146.22, 135.95, 131.87, 129.86, 128.52, 121.72, 83.60, 64.88, 62.55, 61.58, 51.81, 45.20, 28.08, 13.75, 13.57. HRMS (ESI): calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>28</sub><sup>78.9183</sup>BrNO<sub>7</sub> [M+Na<sup>+</sup>] 532.0941, found 532.0948. The ee was determined by HPLC analysis using a Chiral ADH column (*n*-hexane/2-propanol 90: 10, 1.0 mL/min,  $\lambda = 210$  nm; t<sub>1</sub> = 9.2 min, t<sub>2</sub> = 26.9 min)





	Retention Time	Area	% Area	Height	% Height
1	9.238	6573578	90.91	272205	94.86
2	12.168	129194	1.79	4698	1.64
3	22.263	260003	3.60	5470	1.91
4	26.925	268317	3.71	4584	1.60



*tert*-butyl 2-(3-ethoxy-2-(ethoxycarbonyl)-3-oxo-1-*m*-tolylpropyl)-5-oxo-2*H*pyrrole-1(5*H*)-carboxylate (6j): The reaction time is 18 hours. The mixture was isolated by column chromatography on silica gel (3:1 P.E./EtOAc) to afford 6j (76% yield, 95: 5 dr and 93% ee). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.21 (1 H, t, *J* =

7.6 Hz), 7.11 – 7.01 (3 H, m), 6.98 (1 H, d, J = 7.7 Hz), 6.15 (1 H, dd, J = 6.2, 1.7 Hz), 4.81 (1 H, dt, J = 3.7, 1.9 Hz), 4.48 (1 H, dd, J = 12.2, 3.5 Hz), 4.25 – 4.15 (2 H, m), 3.98 – 3.84 (2 H, m), 3.80 (1 H, d, J = 12.2 Hz), 2.33 (3 H, s), 1.65 (9 H, s), 1.27 (3H, t, J = 6.4 Hz), 0.90 (3 H, t, J = 7.1 Hz). <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $\delta$  (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 168.64, 167.83, 167.09, 149.31, 146.47, 138.45, 137.17, 129.20, 128.62, 128.48, 128.40, 125.01, 83.47, 65.68, 62.54, 61.41, 51.83, 45.54, 28.19, 21.41, 13.81, 13.55. HRMS (ESI): calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>31</sub>NO<sub>7</sub> [M+Na<sup>+</sup>] 468.1993, found 468.2010. The ee was determined by HPLC analysis using a Chiral ADH column (*n*-hexane/2-propanol 90: 10, 1.0 mL/min,  $\lambda = 210$  nm; t<sub>1</sub> = 6.2 min, t<sub>2</sub> = 14.2 min)





2	8.492	73018	1.60	3875	1.34
3	13.574	101911	2.23	4349	1.50
4	14.266	169532	3.72	5530	1.91

Me O N-Boc COOEt

*tert*-butyl 2-(3-ethoxy-2-(ethoxycarbonyl)-3-oxo-1-*p*-tolylpropyl)-5-oxo-2*H*pyrrole-1(5*H*)-carboxylate (6k): The reaction time is 18 hours. The mixture was isolated by column chromatography on silica gel (3:1 P.E./EtOAc) to afford 6k (82% yield, 95: 5 dr and 93% ee). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.14 – 7.05

(5 H, m), 6.12 (1 H, dd, J = 6.2, 1.6 Hz), 4.85 – 4.78 (1 H, m), 4.46 (1 H, dd, J = 12.2, 3.5 Hz), 4.21 (2 H, tt, J = 7.1, 3.6 Hz), 3.97 – 3.83 (2 H, m), 3.81 (1 H, d, J = 12.2 Hz), 2.31 (3 H, s), 1.65 (9 H, s), 1.28 (3 H, t, J = 7.2 Hz), 0.92 (3 H, t, J = 7.1 Hz). <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $\delta$  (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 168.80, 167.87, 167.12, 149.27, 146.60, 137.45, 133.98, 129.46, 128.35, 128.07, 83.49, 65.67, 62.55, 61.44, 51.90, 45.28, 28.17, 21.02, 13.81, 13.58. HRMS (ESI): calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>31</sub>NO<sub>7</sub> [M+Na<sup>+</sup>] 468.1993, found 468.2004. The ee was determined by HPLC analysis using a Chiral IA column (*n*-hexane/2-propanol 90: 10, 1.0 mL/min,  $\lambda = 210$  nm; t<sub>1</sub> = 7.8 min, t<sub>2</sub> = 15.4 min)



Boc COOEt

ĊOOEt

MeO



*tert*-butyl 2-(3-ethoxy-2-(ethoxycarbonyl)-1-(3-methoxyphenyl)-3-oxopropyl) -5-oxo-2*H*-pyrrole-1(5*H*)-carboxylate (61): The reaction time is 18 hours. The mixture was isolated by column chromatography on silica gel (3:1 P.E./EtOAc) to afford 6l (93% yield, 95: 5 dr and 93% ee). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ

7.23 (1 H, d, J = 7.8 Hz), 7.07 (1 H, dd, J = 6.2, 2.0 Hz), 6.82 - 6.75 (3 H, m), 6.14 (1 H, dd, J 6.1, 1.6), 4.87 - 4.79 (1 H, m), 4.48 (1 H, dd, J = 12.5, 3.8 Hz), 4.25 - 4.15 (2 H, m), 3.99 - 3.85 (2 H, m), 3.78 (3 H, s), 1.65 (9 H, s), 1.27 (3 H, t, J = 7.2 Hz), 0.93 (3 H, t, J = 7.2 Hz). <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $\delta$  (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 168.71, 167.75, 167.02, 159.80, 146.44, 138.78, 129.80, 128.80, 128.42, 120.23, 114.31, 112.98, 83.51, 65.55, 62.62, 61.49, 55.18, 51.77, 45.57, 29.66, 13.79, 13.56. HRMS (ESI): calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>31</sub>NO<sub>8</sub> [M+Na<sup>+</sup>] 484.1942, found 484.1951. The ee was determined by HPLC analysis using a Chiral IA column (*n*-hexane/2-propanol 90: 10, 1.0 mL/min,  $\lambda = 210$  nm; t<sub>1</sub> = 8.5 min, t<sub>2</sub> = 15.9 min)





	Time			0	0
1	8.530	5291488	92.73	297640	95.57
2	13.766	37434	0.66	1622	0.52
3	15.950	183525	3.22	6874	2.21
4	18.743	194124	3.40	5301	1.70

MeO

*tert*-butyl 2-(3-ethoxy-2-(ethoxycarbonyl)-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)-3-oxopropyl) -5-oxo-2*H*-pyrrole-1(5*H*)-carboxylate (6m): The reaction time is 24 hours. The mixture was isolated by column chromatography on silica gel (3:1 P.E./EtOAc) to afford 6m (72% yield, 95: 5 dr and 93% ee). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz,

CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.15 – 7.03 (3 H, m), 6.85 (2 H, d, J = 8.7 Hz), 6.12 (1 H, dd, J = 6.1, 1.6 Hz), 4.82 (1 H, dd, J = 3.5, 1.8 Hz), 4.42 (1 H, dd, J = 12.2, 3.4 Hz), 4.21 (2 H, qd, J = 7.1, 2.3 Hz), 3.97 – 3.84 (2 H, m), 3.78 (3 H, s), 1.64 (9 H, s), 1.26 (3 H, t, J = 7.2 Hz), 0.92 (3 H, t, J = 7.1 Hz). <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $\delta$  (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 168.81, 167.86, 167.16, 158.96, 146.77, 132.06, 130.77, 129.35, 128.32, 114.12, 81.98, 65.61, 62.52, 61.46, 55.22, 52.16, 45.01, 28.16, 13.83, 13.63. HRMS (ESI): calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>31</sub>NO<sub>8</sub> [M+Na<sup>+</sup>] 484.1942, found 484.1954. The ee was determined by HPLC analysis using a Chiral IA column (*n*-hexane/2-propanol 90: 10, 1.0 mL/min,  $\lambda = 210$  nm; t<sub>1</sub> = 10.4 min, t<sub>2</sub> = 25.2 min)





	Retention Time	Area	% Area	Height	% Height
1	10.463	651534	96.49	28625	98.23
2	25.213	23701	3.51	516	1.77



*tert*-butyl 2-(1-(benzo[*d*][1,3]dioxol-5-yl)-3-ethoxy-2-(ethoxycarbonyl)-3oxopropyl)-5-oxo-2*H*-pyrrole-1(5*H*)-carboxylate (6n): The reaction time is 36 hours. The mixture was isolated by column chromatography on silica gel (3:1 P.E./EtOAc) to afford 6n (64% yield, 90:10 dr and 91% ee). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz,

CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.08 (1 H, dd, J = 6.1, 1.8 Hz), 6.74 (1 H, d, J = 8.0 Hz), 6.69 – 6.58 (2 H, m), 6.13 (1 H, d, J = 6.1 Hz), 5.94 (2 H, s), 4.81 (1 H, s), 4.38 (1 H, dd, J = 12.3, 3.3 Hz), 4.20 (2 H, q, J = 7.1 Hz), 4.01 – 3.87 (2 H, m), 3.77 (1 H, d, J = 12.2 Hz), 1.63 (9 H, s), 1.25 (3 H, t, J = 7.1 Hz), 0.97 (3 H, t, J = 7.1 Hz). <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $\delta$  (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 168.66, 167.72, 167.04, 149.31, 147.87, 147.01, 146.64, 130.58, 128.35, 121.32, 108.72, 108.40, 101.18, 83.52, 65.48, 62.54, 61.48, 52.11, 45.35, 28.12, 13.79, 13.66. HRMS (ESI): calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>29</sub>NO<sub>9</sub> [M+Na<sup>+</sup>] 498.1735, found 498.1734. The ee was determined by HPLC analysis using a Chiral ADH column (*n*-hexane/2-propanol 90: 10, 1.0 mL/min,  $\lambda = 210$  nm; t<sub>1</sub> = 11.0 min, t<sub>2</sub> = 28.1 min)



Boc

ĊOOEt

COOEt



	Retention Time	Area	% Area	Height	% Height
1	11.006	3011949	86.09	112924	92.35
2	16.764	42036	1.20	1230	1.01
3	22.626	305299	8.73	5585	4.57
4	28.098	139380	3.98	2540	2.08

*tert*-butyl 2-(3-ethoxy-2-(ethoxycarbonyl)-1-(biphenyl-4-yl)-3-oxopropyl) -5-oxo-2*H*-pyrrole-1(5*H*)-carboxylate (60): The reaction time is 18 hours. The mixture was isolated by column chromatography on silica gel (3:1 P.E./EtOAc) to afford 60 (83% yield, 95: 5 dr and 90% ee). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300

MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.61 – 7.52 (4 H, m), 7.46 – 7.40 (2 H, m), 7.37 – 7.40 (1 H, m), 7.28 (2 H, d, J = 8.2 Hz), 7.11 (1 H, dd, J = 6.2, 1.9 Hz), 6.16 (1 H, dd, J = 6.1, 1.4 Hz), 4.87 (1 H, d, J = 1.5 Hz), 4.56 (1 H, dd, J = 12.2, 3.4 Hz), 4.28 – 4.16 (2 H, m), 4.00 – 3.88 (2 H, m), 3.88 – 3.81 (1 H, m), 1.66 (9 H, s), 1.28 (3 H, t, J = 7.2 Hz), 0.91 (3 H, t, J = 7.1 Hz). <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $\delta$  (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 168.64, 167.71, 167.02, 149.21, 146.40, 140.53, 140.15, 136.06, 128.75, 128.57, 128.44, 127.44, 127.37, 126.89, 83.51, 65.47, 62.56, 61.48, 51.78, 45.29, 28.11, 13.76, 13.51. HRMS (ESI): calcd for C<sub>29</sub>H<sub>33</sub>NO<sub>7</sub> [M+Na<sup>+</sup>] 530.2149, found 530.2155. The ee was determined by HPLC analysis using a Chiral ADH column (*n*-hexane/2-propanol 80: 20, 1.0 mL/min,  $\lambda = 210$  nm; t<sub>1</sub> = 6.6 min, t<sub>2</sub> = 12.2 min)





	Retention Time	Area	% Area	Height	% Height
1	6.673	4773444	90.02	244568	93.72
2	8.700	128219	2.42	5296	2.03
3	12.225	258583	4.88	7744	2.97
4	14.180	142553	2.69	3341	1.28

*tert*-butyl 2-(3-ethoxy-2-(ethoxycarbonyl)-3-oxo-1-(3-phenoxyphenyl) **propyl**)-**5-oxo-**2*H*-**pyrrole-**1(5*H*)-**carboxylate** (**6p**): The reaction time is 18 hours. The mixture was isolated by column chromatography on silica gel COOEt (3:1 P.E./EtOAc) to afford **6p** (89% yield, 95:5 dr and 89% ee). <sup>1</sup>H NMR COOEt  $(300 \text{ MHz}, \text{CDCl}_3) \delta 7.38 - 7.24 (3 \text{ H}, \text{m}), 7.14 - 7.08 (1 \text{ H}, \text{m}), 7.04 (1 \text{ H}, \text{dd}, J = 6.2, 2.0 \text{ Hz}), 6.98 - 7.24 (3 \text{ H}, \text{m}), 7.14 - 7.08 (1 \text{ H}, \text{m}), 7.04 (1 \text{ H}, \text{dd}, J = 6.2, 2.0 \text{ Hz}), 6.98 - 7.24 (3 \text{ H}, \text{m}), 7.14 - 7.08 (1 \text{ H}, \text{m}), 7.04 (1 \text{ H}, \text{dd}, J = 6.2, 2.0 \text{ Hz}), 6.98 - 7.24 (3 \text{ H}, \text{m}), 7.14 - 7.08 (1 \text{ H}, \text{m}), 7.04 (1 \text{ H}, \text{dd}, J = 6.2, 2.0 \text{ Hz}), 6.98 - 7.24 (3 \text{ H}, \text{m}), 7.14 - 7.08 (1 \text{ H}, \text{m}), 7.04 (1 \text{ H}, \text{dd}, J = 6.2, 2.0 \text{ Hz}), 6.98 - 7.24 (3 \text{ H}, \text{m}), 7.14 - 7.08 (1 \text{ H}, \text{m}), 7.04 (1 \text{ H}, \text{dd}, J = 6.2, 2.0 \text{ Hz}), 6.98 - 7.24 (1 \text{ H}, \text{m}), 7.14 - 7.08 (1 \text{ H}, \text{m}), 7.04 (1 \text{ H}, \text{dd}, J = 6.2, 2.0 \text{ Hz}), 6.98 - 7.24 (1 \text{ H}, \text{m}), 7.14 - 7.08 (1 \text{ H}, \text{m}), 7.04 (1 \text{ H}, \text{dd}, J = 6.2, 2.0 \text{ Hz}), 6.98 - 7.24 (1 \text{ H}, \text{m}), 7.14 - 7.08 (1 \text{ H}, \text{m}), 7.04 (1 \text{ H}, \text{dd}, J = 6.2, 2.0 \text{ Hz}), 6.98 - 7.24 (1 \text{ H}, \text{m}), 7.04 (1 \text{ H},$ 6.88 (4 H, m), 6.83 (1 H, d, J = 1.8 Hz), 6.12 (1 H, dd, J = 6.2, 1.7 Hz), 4.82 (1 H, dt, J = 3.5, 1.9 Hz), 4.44 (1 H, dd, J = 12.2, 3.3 Hz), 4.24 - 4.14 (2 H, m), 4.00 - 3.87 (2 H, m), 3.79 (1 H, d, J = 12.2 Hz),1.57 (9 H, s), 1.24 (3 H, t, J = 7.1 Hz), 0.96 (3 H, t, J = 7.1 Hz). <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $\delta$  (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 168.59, 167.63, 166.88, 157.61, 156.59, 149.08, 146.28, 139.02, 130.05, 129.80, 128.44, 123.58, 122.71, 118.98, 118.40, 117.87, 83.48, 65.29, 62.57, 61.48, 51.68, 45.46, 28.03, 13.73, 13.59. HRMS (ESI): calcd for C<sub>29</sub>H<sub>33</sub>NO<sub>8</sub> [M+Na<sup>+</sup>] 546.2098, found 546.2109. The ee was determined by HPLC analysis using a Chiral ADH column (*n*-hexane/2-propanol 80: 20, 1.0 mL/min,  $\lambda = 210$  nm; t<sub>1</sub> = 4.5 min, t<sub>2</sub> = 7.6 min)



Ś



	Retention Time	Area	% Area	Height	% Height
1	4.797	4929559	94.55	397789	95.81
2	7.655	283991	5.45	17410	4.19

*tert*-butyl 2-(3-ethoxy-2-(ethoxycarbonyl)-3-oxo-1-(thiophen-2-yl)propyl)-5-oxo-2H-pyrrole-1(5H)-carboxylate (6q): The reaction time is 18 hours. The mixture was Boc COOEt isolated by column chromatography on silica gel (3:1 P.E./EtOAc) to afford 6q (72%

ĊOOEt yield, 95:5 dr and 90% ee). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ 7.23 – 7.13 (2 H, m), 6.95 – 6.91 (1 H, m), 6.86 (1 H, d, J = 3.4 Hz), 6.12 (1 H, dd, J = 6.1, 1.7 Hz), 4.92 (1 H, dt, J = 3.6, 1.9 Hz), 4.72 (1 H, dd, J = 11.9, 3.2 Hz), 4.28 – 4.11 (2 H, m), 4.00 – 3.86 (2 H, m), 3.73 (1 H, d, J = 11.9 Hz), 1.61 (9 H, s), 1.24 (3 H, t, J = 7.1 Hz), 0.96 (3 H, t, J = 7.1 Hz). <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $\delta$  (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 168.64, 167.17, 166.77, 149.15, 146.79, 138.97, 128.43, 126.83, 126.18, 124.87, 83.57, 65.05, 62.51, 61.56, 53.60, 41.03, 28.06, 13.75, 13.54. HRMS (ESI): calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>27</sub>NO<sub>7</sub>S [M+Na<sup>+</sup>] 460.1400, found 460.1404. The ee was determined by HPLC analysis using a Chiral ADH column (n-hexane/2-propanol 80: 20, 1.0 mL/min,  $\lambda = 210$  nm;  $t_1 = 5.2$  min,  $t_2 = 11.4$  min)



	Time				
1	5.233	2373222	90.61	191995	94.19
2	6.078	80832	3.09	4621	2.27
3	10.309	42643	1.63	1692	0.83
4	11.424	122402	4.67	5538	2.72



*tert*-butyl 2-(3-ethoxy-2-(ethoxycarbonyl)-3-oxo-1-(thiophen-3-yl)propyl)-5-oxo-2*H*-pyrrole-1(5*H*)-carboxylate (6r): The reaction time is 18 hours. The mixture was isolated by column chromatography on silica gel (3:1 P.E./EtOAc) to afford 6r (70% yield, 93:7 dr and 91% ee). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.32 – 7.24 (1 H, m),

7.08 – 7.04 (2 H, m), 6.98 – 6.92 (1 H, m), 6.11 (1 H, dd, J = 6.1, 1.5 Hz), 4.89 – 4.82 (1 H, m), 4.58 (1 H, dd, J = 12.0, 3.3 Hz), 4.25 – 4.13 (2 H, m), 4.00 – 3.84 (2 H, m), 3.74 (1 H, d, J = 12.0 Hz), 1.61 (9 H, s), 1.24 (3 H, t, J = 7.1 Hz), 0.93 (3 H, t, J = 7.1 Hz). <sup>13</sup>C NMR δ (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 168.61, 167.53, 167.08, 149.29, 146.94, 137.28, 128.26, 127.41, 126.24, 122.60, 83.43, 64.79, 62.43, 61.48, 52.70, 41.30, 28.07, 13.76, 13.51. HRMS (ESI): calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>27</sub>NO<sub>7</sub>S [M+Na<sup>+</sup>] 460.1400, found 460.1402. The ee was determined by HPLC analysis using a Chiral ADH column (*n*-hexane/2-propanol 80: 20, 1.0 mL/min,  $\lambda = 210$  nm; t<sub>1</sub> = 5.2 min, t<sub>2</sub> = 13.2 min)



1	5.229	1936932	88.93	153773	92.32
2	6.148	47449	2.18	3770	2.26
3	8.928	105376	4.84	5571	3.34
4	13.174	88289	4.05	3460	2.08



*tert*-butyl 2-(3-ethoxy-2-(ethoxycarbonyl)-1-(naphthalen-2-yl)-3-oxopropyl)-5-oxo-2*H*-pyrrole-1(5*H*)-carboxylate (6s): The reaction time is 18 hours. The mixture was isolated by column chromatography on silica gel (3:1 P.E./EtOAc) to afford 6s (82% yield, 93:7 dr and 91% ee). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.88

-7.73 (3 H, m), 7.64 (1 H, s), 7.53 -7.43 (2 H, m), 7.36 (1 H, dd, *J* = 8.5, 1.6 Hz), 7.10 (1 H, dd, *J* = 6.2, 2.0 Hz), 6.15 (1 H, dd, *J* = 6.1, 1.6 Hz), 4.96 -4.88 (1 H, m), 4.69 (1 H, dd, *J* = 12.2, 3.5 Hz), 4.30 -4.18 (2 H, m), 3.97 (1 H, d, *J* = 12.2 Hz), 3.85 (2 H, dtt, *J* = 10.8, 7.1, 3.7 Hz), 1.68 (9 H, s), 1.28 (3 H, t, *J* = 7.1 Hz), 0.83 (3 H, t, *J* = 7.1 Hz). <sup>13</sup>C NMR δ (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 168.58, 167.75, 167.03, 149.28, 146.33, 134.71, 133.12, 132.61, 128.65, 128.48, 127.68, 127.62, 126.84, 126.46, 126.22, 126.20, 83.55, 65.50, 62.60, 61.46, 51.83, 45.61, 28.15, 13.78, 13.53. HRMS (ESI): calcd for C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>31</sub>NO<sub>7</sub> [M+Na<sup>+</sup>] 504.1993, found 504.2006. The ee was determined by HPLC analysis using a Chiral ADH column (*n*-hexane/2-propanol 80: 20, 1.0 mL/min,  $\lambda = 210$  nm; t<sub>1</sub> = 6.7 min, t<sub>2</sub> = 13.7 min)



Boc

ĊOOEt

3	12.473	303210	4.77	10741	2.87
4	13.778	263644	4.15	9419	2.51

(E)-tert-butyl 2-(1-ethoxy-2-(ethoxycarbonyl)-1-oxo-5-phenylpent-4-en-3-yl)-5-oxo-2*H*-pyrrole-1(5*H*)-carboxylate (6*t*): The reaction time is 12 hours. The COOEt mixture was isolated by column chromatography on silica gel (3:1 P.E./EtOAc)

to afford **6t** (75% yield, 81:19 dr and 78% ee). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ 7.34 - 7.30 (4 H, m), 7.27 - 7.18 (2 H, m), 6.60 (1 H, d, J = 15.7 Hz), 6.23 - 6.08 (2 H, m), 4.89 - 4.81(1 H, m), 4.24 – 4.13 (2 H, m), 4.05 (2 H, dt, *J* = 7.1, 3.8 Hz), 3.95 (1 H, td, *J* = 9.5, 3.7 Hz), 3.46 (1 H, d, J = 9.2 Hz), 1.61 (9 H, s), 1.23 (3 H, t, J = 7.1 Hz), 1.13 (3 H, t, J = 7.1 Hz). <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $\delta$  (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 168.78, 167.74, 167.68, 149.36, 147.59, 136.00, 135.45, 128.57, 128.07, 127.88, 126.42, 123.39, 83.55, 64.94, 62.06, 61.51, 51.69, 44.11, 28.02, 13.96, 13.88. HRMS (ESI): calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>31</sub>NO<sub>7</sub> [M+Na<sup>+</sup>] 480.1993, found 480.1997. The ee was determined by HPLC analysis using a Chiral ADH column (*n*-hexane/2-propanol 80: 20, 1.0 mL/min,  $\lambda = 210$  nm; t<sub>1</sub> = 5.7 min, t<sub>2</sub> = 12.1 min)





*tert*-butyl 2-(1-cyclohexyl-3-ethoxy-2-(ethoxycarbonyl)-3-oxopropyl)-5-oxo-2*H*pyrrole-1(5*H*)-carboxylate (6u): The reaction time is 18 hours. The mixture was isolated by column chromatography on silica gel (3:1 P.E./EtOAc) to afford 6u (70% yield, 95: 5 dr and 90% ee). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.15 (1 H, d, *J* = 6.2 Hz),

6.06 (1 H, d, J = 6.1 Hz), 4.96 (1 H, s), 4.11 (4 H, dt, J = 12.2, 6.1 Hz), 3.21 (1 H, d, J = 5.1 Hz), 3.17-3.12 (1 H, m), 1.99 – 1.62 (7 H, m), 1.56 (9 H, s), 1.29 – 1.14 (10 H, m). <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $\delta$  (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 169.15, 169.09, 168.47, 147.88, 127.65, 83.44, 62.40, 61.90, 61.16, 48.90, 44.68, 37.72, 31.89, 31.15, 28.06, 26.42, 26.21, 13.90, 13.84. HRMS (ESI): calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>35</sub>NO<sub>7</sub> [M+Na<sup>+</sup>] 460.2306, found 460.2314. The ee was determined by HPLC analysis using a Chiral ADH column (*n*-hexane/2-propanol 95: 5, 1.0 mL/min,  $\lambda = 210$  nm; t<sub>1</sub> = 12.7 min, t<sub>2</sub> = 14.3 min)



COOEt

#### 4. Transformation of the products 6 to 5-substituted pyrrolidin-2-one 8

diethyl 2-((5-0x0-2,5-dihydro-1H-pyrrol-2-yl)(phenyl)methyl)malonate (7a);To a solution of *syn*-**6a** (363 mg, 0.84 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (10.0 mL), TFA (2 COOEt mL) was added at room temperature, then stirred for 20 mins. After checking the complete consumption of the starting material by TLC, a solution of 2 N NaOH was

added to reaction solution until pH = 10 and extracted with  $CH_2Cl_2$  (30 x 3 mL). The combined organic phase was washed with brine, and dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. After evaporation of solvent, the residue was isolated by column chromatography on silica gel (1:2 P.E./EtOAc) to afford 7a (99% yield and 92% ee). The desired product was recrystallized in petroleum/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> to get the optical pure product as single isomer (73% yield, 99% ee).  $[\alpha]_D^{15} = +126.7$  (c = 0.18, in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>). m.p. 118 – 120 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.32-7.15 (5 H, m), 6.94 (1 H, d, J 5.0), 6.91 – 6.74 (1 H, m), 5.93 (1 H, d, J 5.2), 4.60 (1 H, s), 4.28 (2 H, q, J 6.7), 4.00-3.80 (4 H, m), 1.31 (3 H, t, J 7.0), 0.96 (3 H, t, J 6.6). <sup>13</sup>C NMR δ (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 174.01, 168.43, 167.09, 148.09, 135.95, 128.46, 128.45, 128.09, 127.89, 62.36, 61.67, 61.14, 54.56, 47.42, 14.05, 13.66. HRMS (ESI): calcd for  $C_{18}H_{21}NO_5$  [M+H<sup>+</sup>] 332.1492, found 332.1504. The ee was determined by HPLC analysis using a Chiral IA column  $(n-hexane/2-propanol 70: 30, 1.0 \text{ mL/min}, \lambda = 210 \text{ nm}; t_1 = 5.8 \text{ min}, t_2 = 13.9 \text{ min}).$ 





Data obtained after recrystalization

diethyl 2-((4-bromophenyl)(5-oxo-2,5-dihydro-1*H*-pyrrol-2-yl)methyl) malonate (7i): Prepared according to the procedure for 7a, from 6i (423 mg, 0.83 mmol) and TFA for 20 mins to provide the crude product. The mixture was isolated by column chromatography on silica gel (1:2 P.E./EtOAc) to afford 7i

(99% yield and 93% ee).  $[\alpha]_D{}^{15} = +140.5$  (c = 0.22, in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>). m.p. 144 – 146 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.42-7.25 (3 H, m), 7.07 (2 H, d, *J* 7.8), 6.92 (1 H, d, *J* 3.8), 5.92 (1 H, d, *J* 4.3), 4.60 (1 H, s), 4.28 (2 H, q, *J* 6.8), 4.05 – 3.88 (3 H, m), 3.86-3.75 (1 H, m), 1.30 (3 H, t, *J* 6.9), 1.01 (3 H, t, *J* 6.8). <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $\delta$  (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 174.34, 168.16, 166.96, 148.12, 134.67, 131.47, 130.21, 128.27, 121.90, 62.44, 61.80, 60.63, 54.46, 46.74, 14.04, 13.74. HRMS (ESI): calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>20</sub>BrNO<sub>5</sub> [M+H<sup>+</sup>] 410.0598, found 410.0631. The ee was determined by HPLC analysis using a Chiral ADH column (*n*-hexane/2-propanol 70: 30, 1.0 mL/min,  $\lambda$  = 210 nm; t<sub>1</sub> = 5.7 min, t<sub>2</sub> = 14.4 min).

ЛН

ĊOOEt



diethyl 2-((5-oxopyrrolidin-2-yl)(phenyl)methyl)malonate (8a): A suspension of 7a (718mg, 2.17 mmol) and Pd/C (140 mg, 20 wt%) in 20 mL EtOAc is placed under COOEt hydrogen atmosphere at room temperature and stirred overnight. The solution is filtered and the solvent is removed under reduced pressure to give the mixture, which

was isolated by column chromatography on silica gel (1:2 P.E./EtOAc) to afford 8a (99% yield and 98% ee).  $[\alpha]_D^{12} = +18.7$  (c = 0.60, in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.38-7.18 (5 H, m), 6.81 (1 H, s), 4.26 (2 H, q, J 6.8), 4.06 (1 H, d, J 5.7), 3.99 – 3.83 (3 H, m), 3.51 (1 H, dd, J 10.9, 3.0), 2.29 - 2.13 (1 H, m), 2.04 - 1.92 (1 H, m), 1.83 (1 H, t, J 11.0), 1.48 (1 H, dt, J 17.7, 8.8), 1.29 (3 H, t, J 6.9), 0.94 (3 H, t, J 6.6). <sup>13</sup>C NMR δ (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 178.79, 168.39, 167.26, 136.22, 129.49, 128.48, 127.73, 62.02, 61.42, 55.62, 54.63, 50.02, 29.49, 25.04, 14.03, 13.63. HRMS (ESI): calcd for  $C_{18}H_{23}NO_5$  [M+H<sup>+</sup>] 334.1649, found 334.1649. The ee was determined by HPLC analysis using a Chiral ADH column (*n*-hexane/2-propanol 70: 30, 1.0 mL/min,  $\lambda = 210$  nm;  $t_1 = 5.7$  min,  $t_2 = 8.9$  min).



#### **5. References**

(1) C. Curti, A. Sartori, L. Battistini, G. Rassu, P. Burreddu, F. Zanardi and G. Casiraghi, J. Org. Chem. 2008, 73, 5446.

(2) (a) Z. Yu, X. Liu, L. Zhou, L. Lin and X. Feng, *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.*, 2009, **48**, 5195; (b) S. Dong, X. Liu, X. Chen, F. Mei, Y. Zhang, B. Gao, L. Lin and X. Feng, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2010, **132**, 10650.

### 6. Copy of 1H NMR and 13C NMR spectra







fl (ppm) 













100 90 fl (ppm) 

























f1 (ppm) 

















100 90 fl (ppm) 

## 7. X-ray Structure of 7i



Empirical formula	$C_{18}H_{19}BrNO_5$
Formula weight	409.25
Temperature/K	135.05(10)
Crystal system	orthorhombic
Space group	P2 <sub>1</sub> 2 <sub>1</sub> 2 <sub>1</sub>
a/Å	8.3520(5)
b/Å	12.0788(10)
c/Å	21.7041(17)
α/°	90.00
β <b>/</b> °	90.00
γ/۴	90.00
Volume/Å <sup>3</sup>	2189.6(3)
7	4

$\rho_{calc}mg/mm^3$	1.241	
m/mm⁻¹	1.900	
F(000)	836.0	
Crystal size/mm <sup>3</sup>	$0.42 \times 0.32 \times 0.28$	
20 range for data collection	5.94 to 50.04°	
Index ranges	-9 ≤ h ≤ 9, -11 ≤ k ≤ 14, -25 ≤ l ≤ 15	
Reflections collected	8232	
Independent reflections	3798[R(int) = 0.0542]	
Data/restraints/parameters	3798/5/241	
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	0.992	
Final R indexes [I>=2σ (I)]	R <sub>1</sub> = 0.0958, wR <sub>2</sub> = 0.2459	
Final R indexes [all data]	$R_1 = 0.1340$ , $wR_2 = 0.2810$	
Largest diff. peak/hole / e Å <sup>-3</sup> 0.56/-0.43		
Flack parameter	0.10(3)	