Supplementary Information

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Supplementary Information (SI)

Contents

1.	Experimental details		S2
	1.1	General	S2
	1.2	Experimental procedures and characterisation data	S 3
2.	In situ IR spectra		S35
3.	. References		S37

1. Experimental details

1.1 General

All reagents were obtained from commercial suppliers and were used without further purification unless otherwise specified. Solvents were purified using a Grubbs dry solvent system (model SPS-200-6). Petrol refers to petroleum ether (b.p. 40-60 °C). Reactions were carried out under N₂ using oven-dried and/or flame-dried glassware. Thin layer chromatography was performed on silica plates and visualised by UV irradiation at 254 nm or by staining with an alkaline KMnO₄ dip. Column chromatography was performed using silica gel (40-63 micron mesh). Infrared spectra were recorded on Perkin Elmer Spectrum RX Fourier Transform IR System. In situ React-IR infra-red spectroscopic monitoring was performed on a Mettler-Toledo React-IR 4000 spectrometer equipped with a diamond-tipped (DiComp) probe. ¹H NMR spectra were either recorded on a Bruker AC400 (400 MHz) or Bruker AC250 (250 MHz) instrument. Chemical shifts are reported in ppm with respect to the residual solvent peaks, with multiplicities given as s = singlet, d =doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet. Coupling constants, J, are quoted to the nearest 0.5 Hz. ¹³C NMR were recorded on the above instrument at either 100 MHz or 63 MHz. Low and high resolution (accurate mass) mass spectra were recorded on a Walters LCT instrument for Electro-Spray (ES). Chiral stationary phase HPLC was performed on a Gilson instrument and a multiple wavelength, UV/Vis diode array detector; integration was performed at 254 nm.

1.2 Experimental Procedures and Characterisation Data

General Procedure A: Synthesis of (±)-*N*-Boc-2-arylpiperidines 3 from 5-bromovaleronitrile (Scheme 2)

To a 0.1 M solution of 5-bromovaleronitrile (1.0 eq.) in PhMe at 0 °C was added dropwise the aryllithium (formed *via* bromine–lithium exchange of the relevant aryl bromide with *n*-BuLi unless otherwise stated) (1.2 eq.). After 15 min, the mixture was warmed to room temp. and then aqueous HCl (2 M) was added. The phases were separated and the aqueous phase was extracted with CH_2Cl_2 . The aqueous phase was basified to pH 9–10 using aqueous NaOH (2 M) and then was extracted with CH_2Cl_2 . The organic phases were combined, dried (MgSO₄), filtered and the solvent was evaporated to give the crude imine.

To a solution of the crude imine in MeOH at 0 °C was added NaBH₄ (4.0 eq.) portion-wise. After 30 min, the mixture was warmed to room temp. and then aqueous HCl (2 M) was added. The phases were separated and the aqueous phase was extracted with CH_2Cl_2 . The aqueous phase was basified to pH 9–10 using aqueous NaOH (2 M) and then was extracted with CH_2Cl_2 . The organic phases were combined, dried (MgSO₄), filtered and the solvent was evaporated to give the crude amine.

To a solution of Boc_2O (1.2 eq.) in THF was added a solution of the crude amine in THF at room temp. After 10 min, the mixture was partitioned between 10% aqueous NaHCO₃ and Et₂O. The phases were separated and the aqueous phase was extracted with Et₂O. The combined organic phases were washed with brine, dried (MgSO₄), filtered and the solvent was evaporated. The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to give the carbamate **3a–g**.

General Procedure B: Kinetic resolution of piperidines 3 (Scheme 4)

n-BuLi (0.7 eq., 2.5 M solution in hexanes) was added to a 0.25 M solution of the *N*-Boc-2-aryl piperidine (1.0 eq.) and (–)-sparteine (0.7 eq.) or (+)-sparteine surrogate (0.7 eq.) in PhMe at -78 °C. After 3 h, the electrophile (1.5 eq.) was added. The mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature over 16 h then aqueous NH₄Cl (1 mL) was added. Water was added and the mixture was extracted with Et₂O. The organic phases were washed with brine, dried (MgSO₄), filtered and the solvent was evaporated. The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to give the carbamate **3a–g**.

General Procedure C: Lithiation-substitution of piperidines 3b-d (Scheme 6)

n-BuLi (1.1 equiv., 2.5 M solution in hexanes) was added dropwise to a stirred solution of the *N*-Boc-2-arylpiperidine **3b–d** (1 equiv.) in THF (~4 mL per mmol **3**) at -78 °C. After 5 min, the electrophile (1.5 equiv.) was added dropwise. The mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature over 16 h then aqueous NH₄Cl (1 mL) was added. Water was added and the mixture was extracted with Et₂O. The organic phases were washed with brine, dried (MgSO₄), filtered and the solvent was evaporated. The crude product was purified by column chromatography on silica gel to give the carbamate **4b–4d**, **5b–5c**, **7b**.

N-Boc-2-phenylpiperidine 3a

For racemic 3a:

Using general procedure A, 5-bromovaleronitrile (2.3 mL, 20 mmol), PhLi (24 mL, 24 mmol), NaBH₄ (3.1 g, 80 mmol), di-*tert*-butyl dicarbonate (4.3 g, 20 mmol) gave, after purification on silica gel, eluting with petrol–EtOAc (90:10), the piperidine (±)-**3a** (3.1 g, 60%) as an oil which solidified on standing; m.p. 79–81 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.40–7.30 (2H, m), 7.26–7.20 (3H, m), 5.43 (1H, br s), 4.06 (1H, d, *J* 13.5 Hz), 2.72–2.82 (1H, m), 2.32 (1H, dd, *J* 13.5, 2.5 Hz), 1.95–1.83 (1H, m), 1.65–1.36 (4H, m), 1.47 (9H, s); data as reported.¹

Resolution between the enantiomers of the piperidine **3a** was achieved using a Beckman system fitted with a Phenomenex Lux Cellulose-2 column (250 mm × 460 mm i.d.) as the stationary phase with a mixture of *n*-hexane: ⁱPrOH (99:1 v/v) as the mobile phase at a flow rate of 1 mL·min⁻¹; ambient temperature, detection by UV absorbance at 254 nm. Injection volume 20 μ L of the sample prepared in a 2 g·L⁻¹ solution of the eluent. Under these conditions, the components were eluted at 6.8 min (*R*) and 19.4 min (*S*).

For (*R*)-3a:

Using general procedure B, piperidine (±)-**3a** (200 mg, 0.77 mmol), *n*-BuLi (0.22 mL, 0.54 mmol, 2.5 M in hexanes), (–)-sparteine (126 mg, 0.54 mmol) and EtOCOCI (0.11 mL, 1.16 mmol) gave, after column chromatograph on silica gel, eluting with petrol–EtOAc (90:10), the piperidine **3a** as an amorphous solid (91 mg, 45%); m.p. 95–97 °C, lit.² for (*R*)-enantiomer: m.p. 78–80 °C, lit.³ for (*R*)-enantiomer: m.p. 112–114 °C; $[\alpha]_D^{23}$ +84.0 (1.0, CHCl₃), lit.² for (*R*)-enantiomer: $[\alpha]_D^{20}$ +114.8 (1.0, acetone). The enantiomer ratio was determined by chiral stationary phase (CSP) HPLC as described above; er (*R*:*S*) 96:4.

For (*S*)-**3**a:

Using general procedure B, piperidine (±)-**3a** (150 mg, 0.57 mmol), *n*-BuLi (0.16 mL, 0.40 mmol, 2.5 M in hexanes), (+)-sparteine surrogate⁴ (78 mg, 0.40 mmol) and EtOCOCI (0.08 mL, 0.86 mmol) gave, after column chromatograph on silica gel, eluting with petrol–EtOAc (90:10), the piperidine **3a** as an amorphous solid (64 mg, 43%); m.p. 94–96 °C, lit.² for (*R*)-enantiomer: m.p. 78–80 °C, lit.⁵ for (*S*)-enantiomer: m.p. 106–108 °C; $[\alpha]_D^{23}$ –81.0 (1.0, CHCl₃), lit.² for (*R*)-enantiomer: $[\alpha]_D^{23}$ +83.7 (0.98, CHCl₃), lit.⁶ for (*S*)-enantiomer: $[\alpha]_D^{21}$ –90.0 (1.0, CHCl₃), lit.⁷ for (*S*)-enantiomer: $[\alpha]_D^{26}$ –104.6 (1.1, CHCl₃). The enantiomer ratio was determined by CSP-HPLC as described above; er (*R*:*S*) 9:91.

Piperidine (S)-3a was also made from the stannane 6a (Scheme 5):

n-BuLi (0.06 mL, 0.14 mmol, 2.5 M in hexanes) was added to the stannane **6a** (50 mg, 0.12 mmol) in THF (0.5 mL) at -78 °C. After 30 min, glacial AcOH (0.01 mL) was added and the mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature over 16 h. Aqueous NH₄Cl (1 mL) and water were added and the mixture was extracted with Et₂O. The organic phases were washed with brine, dried (MgSO₄), and the solvent was evaporated. Purification by column chromatograph on silica gel, eluting with petrol–EtOAc (90:10), gave the piperidine **3a** (25 mg, 80%) as an amorphous solid; $[\alpha]_D^{23}$ –59.0 (1.0, CHCl₃). The enantiomer ratio was determined by CSP-HPLC as described above; er (*R:S*) 18:82.











tert-Butyl-2-(4-chlorophenyl)piperidine-1-carboxylate 3b



For racemic **3b**:

Using general procedure A, 5-bromovaleronitrile (2.3 mL, 20 mmol), 4-bromochlorobenzene (2.8 mL, 24 mmol) and *n*-BuLi (10.4 mL, 26 mmol, 2.5 M in hexanes), NaBH₄ (3.1 g, 80 mmol), di-*tert*-butyl dicarbonate (4.3 g, 20 mmol) gave, after purification on silica gel, eluting with petrol–EtOAc (90:10), the carbamate

(±)-**3b** (3.6 g, 61%) as an oil; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.39–7.30 (2H, m), 7.22–7.11 (2H, m), 5.39 (1H, dd, *J* 5.5, 2.5 Hz), 4.06 (1H, dt, *J* 12.0, 2.5 Hz), 2.74 (1H, ddd, *J* 13.5, 12.0, 3.5 Hz), 2.31–2.20 (1H, br m), 1.90 (1H, tdd, *J* 13.5, 5.5, 3.5 Hz), 1.68–1.35 (4H, m), 1.48 (9H, s); data as reported.⁸

Resolution between the enantiomers of the carbamate **3b** was achieved using a Beckman system fitted with a Phenomenex Lux Cellulose-2 column (250 mm × 460 mm i.d.) as the stationary phase with a mixture of *n*-hexane: ⁱPrOH (97:3 v/v) as the mobile phase at a flow rate of 1 mL·min⁻¹; ambient temperature, detection by UV absorbance at 254 nm. Injection volume 20 μ L of the sample prepared in a 2 g·L⁻¹ solution of the eluent. Under these conditions, the components were eluted at 5.3 min (*S*) and 5.8 min (*R*).

For (*R*)-**3b**:

Using general procedure B, carbamate (±)-**3b** (500 mg, 1.69 mmol), *n*-BuLi (0.47 mL, 1.18 mmol, 2.5 M in hexanes), (–)-sparteine (277 mg, 1.18 mmol) and EtOCOCI (0.24 mL, 2.54 mmol) gave, after column chromatography on silica gel, eluting with petrol–EtOAc (90:10), the carbamate **3b** as an oil (205 mg, 41%); $[\alpha]_D^{23}$ +74.0 (1.0, CHCl₃). The enantiomer ratio was determined by CSP-HPLC as described above; er (*R*:*S*) 96:4.

For (*S*)-**3b**:

Using general procedure B, carbamate (±)-**3b** (296 mg, 1.00 mmol), *n*-BuLi (0.28 mL, 0.70 mmol, 2.5 M in hexanes), (+)-sparteine surrogate⁴ (105 mg, 0.54 mmol) and EtOCOCI (0.11 mL, 1.16 mmol) gave, after column chromatography on silica gel, eluting with petrol–EtOAc (90:10), the carbamate **3b** as an oil (124 mg, 42%); $[\alpha]_D^{23}$ –52.0 (1.0, CHCl₃). The enantiomer ratio was determined by CSP-HPLC as described above; er (*R*:*S*) 16:84.











tert-Butyl-2-(4-fluorophenyl)piperidine-1-carboxylate 3c



For racemic 3c:

Using general procedure A, 5-bromovaleronitrile (2.3 mL, 20 mmol). 4-bromofluorobenzene (2.6 mL, 24 mmol) and n-BuLi (10.4 mL, 26 mmol, 2.5 M in hexanes), NaBH₄ (3.1 g, 80 mmol), di-tert-butyl dicarbonate (4.3 g, 20 mmol) gave, after purification on silica gel, eluting with petrol-EtOAc (90:10), the carbamate (±)-3c (1.3 g, 24%) as an amorphous solid; m.p. 53–56 °C; $R_f 0.42$ [petrol-EtOAc (90:10)]; FT-IR v_{max} film/cm⁻¹ 2945, 2920, 2860, 1680; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.18 (2H, dd, J 8.0, 5.5 Hz), 7.07–6.99 (2H, m), 5.39 (1H, br s), 4.04 (1H, br d, J 13.5 Hz), 2.73 (1H, ddd, J 13.5, 12.0, 4.0 Hz), 2.31–2.21 (1H, m), 1.89 (1H, tdd, J 13.5, 5.5, 4.0 Hz), 1.70–1.34 ppm (4H, m), 1.47 (9H, s); 13 C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) $\delta =$ 161.7 (d, J 245.5 Hz), 156.6, 136.1, 128.0, 115.2 (d, J 21 Hz), 79.7, 52.7, 40.0, 28.4, 28.2, 25.4, 19.3; HRMS (ES) Found: MH⁺, 279.1646. C₁₆H₂₂FNO₂, requires 279.1635.

Resolution between the enantiomers of the carbamate **3c** was achieved using a Beckman system fitted with a Phenomenex Lux Cellulose-2 column (250 mm × 460 mm i.d.) as the stationary phase with a mixture of *n*-hexane: ⁱPrOH (99:1 v/v) as the mobile phase at a flow rate of 1 mL·min⁻¹; ambient temperature, detection by UV absorbance at 254 nm. Injection volume 20 μ L of the sample prepared in a 2 g·L⁻¹ solution of the eluent. Under these conditions, the components were eluted at 6.0 min (*R*) and 10.7 min (*S*).

For (*R*)-3c:

Using general procedure B, carbamate (\pm)-**3c** (253 mg, 0.91 mmol), *n*-BuLi (0.26 mL, 0.64 mmol, 2.5 M in hexanes), (–)-sparteine (150 mg, 0.64 mmol) and EtOCOCI (0.10 mL, 1.08 mmol) gave, after column chromatography on silica gel, eluting with petrol–EtOAc (90:10), the carbamate **3c** as an amorphous solid (121 mg, 48%); m.p.

79–81 °C; $[\alpha]_D^{23}$ +93.0 (1.0, CHCl₃). The enantiomer ratio was determined by CSP-HPLC as described above; er (*R*:*S*) 94:6.

HPLC traces: Racemic **3c**







tert-Butyl-2-(2-naphthyl)piperidine-1-carboxylate 3d



For racemic 3d:

Using general procedure A [but with addition of 4-dimethylaminopyridine (2.44 g, 20 mmol) in the Boc-protection step], 5-bromovaleronitrile (2.3 mL, 20 mmol), 2-bromonaphthalene (3.1 mL, 24 mmol) and *n*-BuLi (10.4 mL, 26 mmol, 2.5 M in hexanes), NaBH₄ (3.1 g, 80 mmol), di-*tert*-butyl dicarbonate (4.3 g, 20 mmol) gave, after purification on silica gel, eluting with petrol–EtOAc (90:10), the carbamate (\pm)-**3d** (2.0 g, 32%) as an amorphous solid; m.p. 101–103 °C; R_f 0.41 [petrol–EtOAc (90:10)]; FT-IR ν_{max} film/cm⁻¹ 2975, 2940, 2855, 1690; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.89–7.77 (3H, m), 7.66 (1H, s), 7.54–7.42 (2H, m), 7.39 (1H, dd, *J* 8.5, 1.5 Hz), 5.59 (1H, br d, *J* 4.5 Hz), 4.13 (1H, d, *J* 13.5 Hz), 2.96–2.77 (1H, m), 2.52–2.38 (1H, m), 2.07–1.91 (1H, m), 1.73–1.44 (4H, m), 1.50 (9H, s). Data in accordance with the literature (no lit. m.p. given).⁹

Resolution between the enantiomers of the carbamate **3d** was achieved using a Beckman system fitted with a Phenomenex Lux Cellulose-2 column (250 mm × 460 mm i.d.) as the stationary phase with a mixture of *n*-hexane: ⁱPrOH (99:1 v/v) as the mobile phase at a flow rate of 1 mL·min⁻¹; ambient temperature, detection by UV absorbance at 254 nm. Injection volume 20 μ L of the sample prepared in a 2 g·L⁻¹ solution of the eluent. Under these conditions, the components were eluted at 7.3 min (*R*) and 8.2 min (*S*).

For (*R*)-3d:

Using general procedure B, carbamate (\pm)-3d (240 mg, 0.77 mmol), *n*-BuLi (0.22 mL, 0.54 mmol, 2.5 M in hexanes), (–)-sparteine (127 mg, 0.54 mmol) and EtOCOCI (0.11 mL, 1.16 mmol) gave, after column chromatography on silica gel, eluting with petrol–EtOAc (90:10), the carbamate 3d as an amorphous solid (96 mg, 40%); m.p.

88–91 °C; $[\alpha]_D^{23}$ +136.0 (1.0, CHCl₃). The enantiomer ratio was determined by CSP-HPLC as described above; er (*R*:*S*) 97:3.







tert-Butyl-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)piperidine-1-carboxylate 3e



For racemic 3e:

Using general procedure A, 5-bromovaleronitrile (2.3 mL, 20 mmol), 4-bromoanisole (3.0 mL, 24 mmol) and *n*-BuLi (10.4 mL, 26 mmol, 2.5 M in hexanes), NaBH₄ (3.1 g, 80 mmol), di-*tert*-butyl dicarbonate (4.3 g, 20 mmol) gave, after purification on silica gel, eluting with petrol–EtOAc (90:10), the carbamate (\pm)-**3e** (408 mg, 7%) as an amorphous solid; m.p. 76–78 °C; lit.¹ m.p. 77–78 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.18–7.10 (2H, m), 6.92–6.85 (2H, m), 5.38 (1H, d, *J* 4.0 Hz), 4.03 (1H, br d, *J* 13.5 Hz), 3.81 (3H, s), 2.75 (1H, ddd, *J* 13.5, 11.5, 4.0 Hz), 2.32–2.22 (1H, m), 1.95–1.80 (1H, m), 1.62–1.39 (4H, m), 1.47 (9 H, s). Data in accordance with the literature.¹

Resolution between the enantiomers of the carbamate **3e** was achieved using a Beckman system fitted with a Phenomenex Lux Cellulose-2 column (250 mm × 460 mm i.d.) as the stationary phase with a mixture of *n*-hexane: ⁱPrOH (90:10 v/v) as the mobile phase at a flow rate of 0.5 mL·min⁻¹; ambient temperature, detection by UV absorbance at 254 nm. Injection volume 20 μ L of the sample prepared in a 2 g·L⁻¹ solution of the eluent. Under these conditions, the components were eluted at 4.5 min (*R*) and 10.5 min (*S*).

For (*R*)-3e:

Using general procedure B, carbamate (±)-**3e** (150 mg, 0.51 mmol), *n*-BuLi (0.14 mL, 0.36 mmol, 2.5 M in hexanes), (–)-sparteine (84 mg, 0.36 mmol) and EtOCOCI (0.07 mL, 0.76 mmol) gave, after column chromatography on silica gel, eluting with petrol–EtOAc (90:10), the carbamate **3e** as an amorphous solid (99 mg, 49%); m.p. 97–99 °C; $[\alpha]_D^{23}$ +84.0 (1.0, CHCl₃), lit.¹⁰ $[\alpha]_D^{21}$ +55.0 (0.2, CHCl₃) for er 82:18 (*R*:*S*);. The enantiomer ratio was determined by CSP-HPLC as described above; er (*R*:*S*) 90:10.

HPLC traces: Racemic **3e**







tert-Butyl-2-(3,5-bis-trifluoromethylphenyl)piperidine-1-carboxylate 3f



For racemic 3f:

Using general procedure A, 5-bromovaleronitrile (2.3 mL, 20 mmol), 3,5-*bis*-trifluoromethylbromobenzene (4.1 mL, 24 mmol) and *n*-BuLi (10.4 mL, 26 mmol, 2.5 M in hexanes), NaBH₄ (3.1 g, 80 mmol), di-*tert*-butyl dicarbonate (4.3 g, 20 mmol) gave, after purification on silica gel, eluting with petrol–EtOAc (90:10)]; FT-IR v_{max} film/cm⁻¹ 2940, 2865, 1690; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.77 (1H, s), 7.65 (2H, s), 5.46 (1H, br s), 4.10 (1H, br d, *J* 13.5 Hz), 2.72 (1H, ddd, *J* 13.5, 12.0, 4.0 Hz), 2.35–2.25 (1H, m), 2.06–1.93 (1H, m), 1.74–1.65 (1H, m), 1.59–1.50 (2H, m), 1.47 (9H, s), 1.40–1.28 (1H, m); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 155.4, 143.9, 131.9 (q, *J* 33 Hz), 126.8, 123.4 (q, *J* 273 Hz), 120.7, 80.4, 53.1, 40.4, 28.3, 28.0, 25.0, 19.2; HRMS (ES) Found: MH⁺, 397.1483. C₁₈H₂₁F₆NO₂, requires 397.1476.

Resolution between the enantiomers of the carbamate **3f** was achieved using a Beckman system fitted with a Phenomenex Lux Cellulose-2 column (250 mm × 460 mm i.d.) as the stationary phase with a mixture of *n*-hexane: ⁱPrOH (99.9:0.1 v/v) as the mobile phase at a flow rate of 1 mL·min⁻¹; ambient temperature, detection by UV absorbance at 254 nm. Injection volume 20 μ L of the sample prepared in a 2 g·L⁻¹ solution of the eluent. Under these conditions, the components were eluted at 11.3 min (*R*) and 14.0 min (*S*).

For (*R*)-3f:

Using general procedure B, carbamate (±)-**3f** (347 mg, 0.87 mmol), *n*-BuLi (0.24 mL, 0.61 mmol, 2.5 M in hexanes), (–)-sparteine (143 mg, 0.61 mmol) and EtOCOCl (0.14 mL, 1.3 mmol) gave, after column chromatography on silica gel, eluting with petrol–EtOAc (90:10), the carbamate **3f** as an oil (137 mg, 39%); $[\alpha]_D^{23}$ +36.0 (1.0, CHCl₃). The er was determined by CSP-HPLC as described above; er (*R*:*S*) 75:25.

HPLC traces: Racemic **3f**







tert-Butyl-2-(2-pyridinyl)piperidine-1-carboxylate 3g



For racemic 3g:

Using general procedure A, 5-bromovaleronitrile (2.3 mL, 20 mmol), 2-bromopyridine (2.3 mL, 24 mmol) and *n*-BuLi (10.4 mL, 26 mmol, 2.5 M in hexanes), NaBH₄ (3.1 g, 80 mmol), di-*tert*-butyl dicarbonate (4.3 g, 20 mmol) gave, after purification on silica gel, eluting with petrol–EtOAc (90:10), the carbamate (\pm)-**3g** (3.0 g, 57%) as an amorphous solid; m.p. 56–59 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.64–8.55 (1H, m), 7.69–7.62 (1H, m), 7.19–7.11 (2H, m), 5.46–5.36 (1H, m), 4.16–4.05 (1H, m), 2.86 (1H, td, *J* 13.0, 3.5 Hz), 2.71–2.60 (1H, m), 1.83 (1H, tdd, *J* 13.5, 5.5, 3.5 Hz), 1.65–1.48 (3H, m), 1.45 (9H, s), 1.37–1.24 (1H, m). Data in accordance with the literature, except that the literature guotes an oil.^{8,11}

Resolution between the enantiomers of the carbamate **3g** was achieved using a Beckman system fitted with a Phenomenex Lux Cellulose-2 column (250 mm × 460 mm i.d.) as the stationary phase with a mixture of *n*-hexane: ⁱPrOH (99:1 v/v) as the mobile phase at a flow rate of 0.5 mL·min⁻¹; ambient temperature, detection by UV absorbance at 254 nm. Injection volume 20 μ L of the sample prepared in a 2 g·L⁻¹ solution of the eluent. Under these conditions, the components were eluted at 7.5 min (*R*) and 8.9 min (*S*).

For (*R*)-3g:

Using general procedure B, carbamate (±)-**3g** (202 mg, 0.77 mmol), *n*-BuLi (0.22 mL, 0.54 mmol, 2.5 M in hexanes), (–)-sparteine (127 mg, 0.54 mmol) and EtOCOCl (0.11 mL, 1.16 mmol) gave, after column chromatography on silica gel, eluting with petrol–EtOAc (90:10), the carbamate **3g** as an amorphous solid (78 mg, 39%); m.p. 50–53 °C; $[\alpha]_D^{23}$ +51.0 (1.0, CHCl₃), lit.¹² $[\alpha]_D^{21}$ +93.1 (1.0, CHCl₃) for er 93:7 (*R*:*S*);. The enantiomer ratio was determined by CSP-HPLC as described above; er (*R*:*S*) 80:20.

HPLC traces: Racemic **3**g







tert-Butyl 2-Methyl-2-phenylpiperidine-1-carboxylate 4a

(Scheme 3)



N-Boc-2-phenylpiperidine (200 mg, 0.77 mmol) in PhMe (0.5 mL) was added to a 0.25 M solution of (–)-sparteine (99 mg, 0.42 mmol) and *n*-BuLi (0.17 mL, 0.42 mmol, 2.5 M solution in hexanes) in PhMe at –78 °C (pre-mixed for 5 min). After 5 min, MeI (0.07 mL, 1.16 mmol) was added. The mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature over 16 h then aqueous NH₄Cl (1 mL) was added. Water was added and the mixture was extracted with Et₂O. The organic phases were washed with brine, dried (MgSO₄), filtered and the solvent was evaporated. Purification by column chromatography on silica gel, eluting with petrol–EtOAc (97:3), gave the carbamate **4a** (63 mg, 30%) as an oil; R_f 0.50 [petrol–EtOAc (9:1)]; $[\alpha]_D^{23}$ –4.0 (1.0, CHCl₃), lit.⁶ for (*S*)-enantiomer: $[\alpha]_D^{21}$ –8.6 (0.58, CHCl₃) for er 97:3; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.30–7.22 (4H, m, 4 × CH), 7.18–7.11 (1H, m, CH), 3.72 (1H, ddd, *J* 13.5, 7.0, 5.0 Hz, NCH) 3.52 (1H, ddd, *J* 13.5, 8.5, 5.0 Hz, NCH), 1.85–1.73 (2H, m, 2 × CH), 1.72 (3H, s, CH₃), 1.71–1.62 (2H, m, 2 × CH), 1.60–1.50 (2H, m, 2 × CH) 1.09 (9H, s, *t*-Bu); data in accordance with the literature. The er (*S:R*) 79:21 was determined by CSP-HPLC:

Resolution between enantiomers of the carbamate **4a** was achieved using a Beckman system fitted with a Chiralcel OD column (250 mm × 4.60 mm i.d.) as the stationary phase with a mixture of *n*-hexane: ⁱPrOH (99:1 v/v) as the mobile phase at a flow rate of 1 mL min⁻¹; ambient temperature, detection by UV absorbance at 254 nm. Injection volume of 20 μ m of sample prepared in a 2 g·L⁻¹ solution of the eluent. Under these conditions the components were eluted at 5.9 min (*R*) and 7.1 min (*S*). Recovered **3a**: 52%, er 84:16 by CSP-HPLC.

HPLC traces: Racemic **4a**







1-tert-Butyl-2-ethyl-2-phenylpiperidine-1,2-dicarboxylate 5a



Using general procedure B, carbamate (±)-**3a** (200 mg, 0.77 mmol), *n*-BuLi (0.17 mL, 0.42 mmol, 2.5 M in hexanes), (–)-sparteine (99 mg, 0.42 mmol) and EtOCOCI (0.11

mL, 1.16 mmol) gave, after column chromatography on silica gel, eluting with petrol–EtOAc (90:10), the carbamate **5a** as an oil (108 mg, 42%); R_f 0.50 [petrol–EtOAc (9:1)]; $[\alpha]_D^{23}$ –27.0 (1.0, CHCl₃); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.40–7.30 (4H, m, 4 × CH), 7.27–7.22 (1H, m, CH), 4.29–4.09 (2H, m, OCH₂), 3.90–3.76 (1H, m, NCH), 3.35 (1H, br s, NCH), 2.37–2.19 (2H, m, 2 × CH), 1.74–1.51 (4H, m, 4 × CH), 1.35 (9H, s, *t*-Bu), 1.26 (3H, t, *J* 7.0 Hz, CH₃); data in accordance with the literature (but no specific rotation reported).¹³ The er (*S:R*) 92:8 was determined by CSP-HPLC:

Resolution between enantiomers of the carbamate **5a** was achieved using a Beckman system fitted with a Chiralcel OD column (250 mm × 4.60 mm i.d.) as the stationary phase with a mixture of *n*-hexane: ⁱPrOH (99:1 v/v) as the mobile phase at a flow rate of 1 mL^{-min⁻¹}; ambient temperature, detection by UV absorbance at 254 nm. Injection volume of 20 µm of sample prepared in a 2 g⁻¹ solution of the eluent. Under these conditions the components were eluted at 7.8 min (*R*) and 8.7 min (*S*). Recovered **3a**: 50%, er 75:25 by CSP-HPLC.

Yields and er values for recovered **3a** for other entries in Table 1:

entry 1: 56%, er 89:11 entry 2: 64%, er 70:30 entry 3: 64%, er 77:23 entry 4: 58%, er 73:27

Carbamate **5a** was also prepared as shown in Scheme 3:

N-Boc-2-phenylpiperidine (200 mg, 0.77 mmol) in PhMe (0.5 mL) was added to a 0.25 M solution of (–)-sparteine (99 mg, 0.42 mmol) and *n*-BuLi (0.17 mL, 0.42 mmol, 2.5 M solution in hexanes) in PhMe at -78 °C (pre-mixed for 5 min). After 5 min, EtOCOCl (0.11 mL, 1.16 mmol) was added. The mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature over 16 h then aqueous NH₄Cl (1 mL) was added. Water was added and the mixture was extracted with Et₂O. The organic phases were washed with

brine, dried (MgSO₄), filtered and the solvent was evaporated. Purification by column chromatography on silica gel, eluting with petrol–EtOAc (90:10), gave the carbamate **5a** (127 mg, 50%) as an oil; $[\alpha]_D^{23}$ –26.0 (1.0, CHCl₃); data as above. The er (*S:R*) 89:11 was determined by CSP-HPLC as described above. Recovered **3a**: 49%, er 85:15 by CSP-HPLC.









tert-Butyl-2-phenyl-2-(trimethylstannyl)piperidine-1-carboxylate 6a

(Scheme 5)

Using general procedure B, piperidine (±)-**3a** (200 mg, 0.77 mmol), *n*-BuLi (0.22 mL, 0.54 mmol, 2.5 M in hexanes), (–)-sparteine (126 mg, 0.54 mmol) and SnMe₃Cl (153 mg, 0.77 mmol) gave, after purification by column chromatograph on silica gel, eluting with petrol–EtOAc (93:7), the piperidine **6a** as a gum (154 mg, 47%); ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.34–7.27 (2H, m) 7.09–7.02 (1H, m) 6.95 (2H, dd, *J* 8.5, 1.0 Hz) 4.02–3.91 (1H, m), 2.82–2.69 (1H, m), 2.62 (1H, dd, *J* 14.5, 1.5 Hz) 2.01–1.82 (1H, m), 1.58–1.44 (4H, m), 1.51 (9H, s), –0.13 (9H, s); data in accordance with the literature.⁶

Recovered **3a**: 42%, er 94:6 by CSP-HPLC.

The following compounds are listed in the order as given in Scheme 6: (R)-tert-Butyl-2-methyl-2-(4-chlorophenyl)piperidine-1-carboxylate 4b (Scheme 6)

Using the General Procedure C, (*R*)-*N*-Boc-2-(4-chlorophenyl)piperidine **3b** (35 mg, 0.12 mmol), *n*-BuLi (0.06 mL, 0.14 mmol, 2.5 M in hexanes) and iodomethane (0.01 mL, 0.18 mmol) gave, after column chromatograph on silica gel, eluting with petrol–EtOAc (90:10), the carbamate **4b** as an oil (28 mg, 88%); R_f 0.50 [petrol–EtOAc (90:10)]; FT-IR ν_{max} film/cm⁻¹ 2975, 2935, 2865, 1680; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.27–7.21 (4H, m), 3.76 (1H, ddd, *J* 13.5, 6.5, 5.0 Hz), 3.47 (1H, ddd, *J* 13.5, 9.0, 4.5 Hz), 1.86–1.49 (6H, m), 1.72 (3H, s), 1.15 (9H, s); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 155.8, 148.8, 131.1, 127.9, 126.0, 79.6, 59.6, 41.2 (2 × CH₂), 28.1,

23.6, 23.1, 18.0; HRMS (ES) Found: MH⁺, 310.1584, $C_{17}H_{24}NO_2^{35}Cl$, requires 310.1574; $[\alpha]_D^{23}$ 20.0 (0.5, CHCl₃); er (*R*:*S*) 96:4 determined using CSP-HPLC: Resolution between enantiomers of the carbamate **4b** was achieved using a Beckman system fitted with a Phenomenex Lux Cellulose-1 (250 mm × 4.60 mm i.d.) as the

stationary phase with a mixture of *n*-hexane:ⁱPrOH (97:3 v/v) as the mobile phase at a flow rate of 1 mL^{-min⁻¹}; ambient temperature, detection by UV absorbance at 254 nm. Injection volume of 20 μ m of sample prepared in a 2 g·L⁻¹ solution of the eluent. Under these conditions the components were eluted at 4.3 min (*R*) and 5.0 min (*S*).









(R)-1-tert-Butyl-2-ethyl-2-(4-chlorophenyl)piperidine-1,2-dicarboxylate 5b

(Scheme 6)

Using the General Procedure C, (*R*)-*N*-Boc-2-(4-chlorophenyl)piperidine **3b** (34 mg, 0.12 mmol), *n*-BuLi (0.06 mL, 0.14 mmol, 2.5 M in hexanes) and EtOCOCI (0.02 mL, 0.18 mmol) gave, after column chromatograph on silica gel, eluting with petrol–EtOAc (90:10), the carbamate **5b** as an oil (28 mg, 72%); R_f 0.30 [petrol–EtOAc (90:10)]; FT-IR ν_{max} film/cm⁻¹ 2975, 2940, 2865, 1740, 1695; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.31 (4H, br s), 4.27–4.10 (2H, m), 3.89–3.72 (1H, m), 3.47–3.21 (1H, m), 2.21 (2H, m), 1.76–1.50 (4H, m), 1.35 (9H, br s), 1.26 (3H, t, *J* 7.0 Hz); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃, one C not detected) δ = 172.4, 156.0, 132.7, 128.9, 127.9, 80.7, 67.1, 61.2, 42.3, 28.4, 23.4, 18.5 (2 × CH₂), 14.0; HRMS (ES) Found: MH⁺, 368.1620, C₁₉H₂₆³⁵CINO₄, requires 368.1629; [α]_D²³ +33.0 (1.0, CHCl₃); er (*R:S*) 96:4 determined using CSP-HPLC:

Resolution between enantiomers of the carbamate **5b** was achieved using a Beckman system fitted with a Chiralpak IC column (250 mm × 4.60 mm i.d.) as the stationary phase with a mixture of *n*-hexane:ⁱPrOH (99:1 v/v) as the mobile phase at a flow rate of 1 mL⁻min⁻¹; ambient temperature, detection by UV absorbance at 254 nm. Injection volume of 20 μ m of sample prepared in a 2 g·L⁻¹ solution of the eluent. Under these conditions the components were eluted at 13.1 min (*R*) and 19.6 min (*S*).

HPLC traces: Racemic **5b**







(R)-tert-Butyl-2-allyl-2-(4-chlorophenyl)piperidine-1-carboxylate 7b

(Scheme 6)



Using the General Procedure C, (*R*)-*N*-Boc-2-(4-chlorophenyl)piperidine **3b** (38 mg, 0.13 mmol), *n*-BuLi (0.06 mL, 0.15 mmol, 2.5 M in hexanes) and allyl bromide (0.02 mL, 0.20 mmol) gave, after column chromatograph on silica gel, eluting with petrol–EtOAc (90:10), the carbamate **7b** as an oil (26 mg, 67%); R_f 0.55 [petrol–EtOAc (90:10)]; FT-IR ν_{max} film/cm⁻¹ 2935, 2865, 1680; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.29–7.25 (2H, m), 7.24–7.18 (2H, m), 5.87 (1H, dddd, *J* 17.0, 10.0, 8.0, 6.5 Hz), 5.23–5.11 (2H, m), 3.92 (1H, dt, *J* 13.5, 5.0 Hz) 3.36–3.18 (2H, m), 2.66 (1H, dd, *J* 13.5, 8.0 Hz), 2.27–2.14 (1H, m), 1.82–1.72 (2H, m), 1.71–1.64 (2H, m), 1.23 (9H, s), 1.36–1.19 (1H, m); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 155.4, 146.2, 133.8, 131.4, 127.8, 126.7, 118.8, 79.7, 62.2, 44.6, 40.9, 35.7, 28.2, 21.6, 15.8; HRMS (ES) Found: MH⁺, 336.1724, C₁₉H₂₆NO₂³⁵Cl, requires 336.1730; [α]_D²³ +15.8 (1.5, CHCl₃); er (*R*:S) 92:8 determined using CSP-HPLC:

Resolution between enantiomers of the carbamate **7b** was achieved using a Beckman system fitted with a Chiralcel OJ column (250 mm × 4.60 mm i.d.) as the stationary phase with a mixture of *n*-hexane:ⁱPrOH (99:1 v/v) as the mobile phase at a flow rate of 1 mL^{-min⁻¹}; ambient temperature, detection by UV absorbance at 254 nm. Injection volume of 20 µm of sample prepared in a 2 g⁻¹ solution of the eluent. Under these conditions the components were eluted at 4.9 min (*R*) and 7.2 min (*S*).









(Scheme 6)

Using the General Procedure C, (*R*)-*N*-Boc-2-(4-fluorophenyl)piperidine 3c (39 mg, 0.14 mmol), *n*-BuLi (0.07 mL, 0.17 mmol, 2.5 M in hexanes) and iodomethane (0.02

mL, 0.21 mmol) gave, after column chromatograph on silica gel, eluting with petrol–EtOAc (90:10), the carbamate **4c** as an oil (30 mg, 73%); R_f 0.45 [petrol–EtOAc (90:10)]; FT-IR ν_{max} film/cm⁻¹2975, 2940, 2865, 1685; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.30–7.21 (2H, m), 7.01–6.93 (2H, m), 3.76 (1H, ddd, *J* 13.5, 7.0, 5.0 Hz), 3.50 (1H, ddd, *J* 13.5, 8.5, 4.5 Hz), 1.84–1.62 (4H, m), 1.73 (3H, s), 1.62–1.51 (2H, m), 1.14 (9H, s); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 160.0 (d, *J* 244 Hz), 155.9, 126.0, 114.5 (d, *J* 21 Hz), 79.5, 59.6, 41.2, 41.1, 28.1, 23.9, 23.1, 17.9; HRMS (ES) Found: MH⁺, 294.1861, C₁₇H₂₄NO₂F, requires 294.1869; [α]_D²³ +1.6 (1.3, CHCl₃); er (*R*:*S*) 91:9 determined using CSP-HPLC:

Resolution between enantiomers of the carbamate **4c** was achieved using a Beckman system fitted with a Phenomenex Lux Cellulose-1 (250 mm × 4.60 mm i.d.) as the stationary phase with a mixture of *n*-hexane:ⁱPrOH (99:1 v/v) as the mobile phase at a flow rate of 1 mL⁻min⁻¹; ambient temperature, detection by UV absorbance at 254 nm. Injection volume of 20 μ m of sample prepared in a 2 g·L⁻¹ solution of the eluent. Under these conditions the components were eluted at 6.3 min (*R*) and 10.5 min (*S*).









(*R*)-1-*tert*-Butyl-2-ethyl-(4-fluorophenyl)piperidine-1,2-dicarboxylate 5c (Scheme 6)



Using the General Procedure C, (*R*)-*N*-Boc-2-(4-fluorophenyl)piperidine **3c** (39 mg, 0.14 mmol), *n*-BuLi (0.07 mL, 0.17 mmol, 2.5 M in hexanes) and EtOCOCI (0.02 mL, 0.21 mmol) gave, after column chromatograph on silica gel, eluting with petrol–EtOAc (90:10), the carbamate **5c** as an oil (32 mg, 84%); R_f 0.30 [petrol–EtOAc (90:10)]; FT-IR ν_{max} film/cm⁻¹ 2975, 2940, 2870, 1740, 1695; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.37–7.29 (2H, m), 7.07–6.98 (2H, m), 4.27–4.08 (2H, m), 3.95–3.76 (1H, m), 3.28 (1H, m), 2.35–2.19 (2H, m), 1.78–1.50 (4H, m), 1.35 (9H, s), 1.25 (3H, t, *J* 7.0 Hz); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃, one C not detected) δ = 172.6, 161.5 (d, *J* 244.5 Hz), 156.1, 129.3, 114.6 (d, *J* 21.5 Hz), 80.7, 67.0, 61.2, 42.2, 28.1, 23.4, 18.5 (2 × CH₂), 14.1; HRMS (ES) Found: MH⁺, 352.1928, C₁₉H₂₆FNO₄, requires 352.1924; [α]_D²³ +22.0 (1.0, CHCl₃); er (*R*:*S*) 93:7 determined using CSP-HPLC:

Resolution between enantiomers of the carbamate **5c** was achieved using a Beckman system fitted with a Phenomenex Lux Cellulose-1 (250 mm × 4.60 mm i.d.) as the stationary phase with a mixture of *n*-hexane:ⁱPrOH (99:1 v/v) as the mobile phase at a flow rate of 1 mL⁻min⁻¹; ambient temperature, detection by UV absorbance at 254 nm. Injection volume of 20 μ m of sample prepared in a 2 g·L⁻¹ solution of the eluent. Under these conditions the components were eluted at 6.3 min (*R*) and 10.5 min (*S*).









(R)-tert-Butyl-2-(2-naphthyl)piperidine-1-carboxylate 4d





Using the General Procedure C, (*R*)-*N*-Boc-2-(2-naphthyl)piperidine **3d** (39 mg, 0.13 mmol), *n*-BuLi (0.06 mL, 0.15 mmol, 2.5 M in hexanes) and iodomethane (0.01 mL, 0.20 mmol) gave, after column chromatograph on silica gel, eluting with petrol–EtOAc (90:10), the carbamate **4d** as an oil (32 mg, 76%); R_f 0.45 [petrol–EtOAc (90:10)]; FT-IR ν_{max} film/cm⁻¹2945, 2870, 1675; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 7.86–7.73 (3H, m), 7.68 (1H, d, *J* 1.5 Hz), 7.52 (1H, dd, *J* 9.0, 1.5 Hz), 7.49–7.39 (2H, m), 3.85 (1H, ddd, *J* 13.5, 6.5, 5.0 Hz), 3.55 (1H, ddd, *J* 13.5, 9.0, 4.5 Hz), 1.98–1.67 (4H, m), 1.66–1.56 (2H, m), 1.86 (3H, s), 1.03 (9H, s); ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ = 156.1, 147.7, 133.3, 131.8, 127.8, 127.5, 127.4, 125.7, 125.1, 124.0, 122.2, 79.4, 60.1, 41.4, 41.1, 28.0, 23.8, 23.4, 18.4; HRMS (ES) Found: MH⁺, 326.2108, C₂₁H₂₇NO₂, requires 326.2120; $[\alpha]_D^{23}$ +3.0 (1.0, CHCl₃); er (*R*:*S*) 95:5 determined using chiral stationary phase HPLC:

Resolution between enantiomers of the carbamate **4d** was achieved using a Beckman system fitted with a Phenomenex Lux Cellulose-1 (250 mm × 4.60 mm i.d.) as the stationary phase with a mixture of *n*-hexane:ⁱPrOH (99:1 v/v) as the mobile phase at a flow rate of 1 mL^{-min⁻¹}; ambient temperature, detection by UV absorbance at 254 nm. Injection volume of 20 µm of sample prepared in a 2 g⁻¹ solution of the eluent. Under these conditions the components were eluted at 5.2 min (*R*) and 6.9 min (*S*).

HPLC traces: Racemic **4d**







2. In situ IR spectra

Two modes of addition were studied:

(a) Using pre-mixed n-BuLi/(–)-sparteine

Toluene (12 mL) was added to a flask equipped with a stirrer bar and ReactIR probe at rt under Ar. After cooling to -78 °C, a solution of *N*-Boc-2-phenylpiperidine **3a** (522 mg, 2 mmol) in THF (1 mL) was added dropwise. After 16 min, a pre-mixed solution of *n*-BuLi (0.44 mL, 1.1 mmol) and (–)-sparteine (257 mg, 1.1 mmol) in PhMe (1 mL) was added dropwise. The solution was stirred and was monitored by IR spectroscopy. A peak at 1691 cm⁻¹ was observed for **3a** which was assigned to $\nu_{C=0}$. After addition of *n*-BuLi/(–)-sparteine, a new peak at 1640 cm⁻¹ was observed which was assigned to $\nu_{C=0}$ in the lithiated intermediate.

The following plot is shown with time in hours:minutes:seconds (total reaction time \sim 40 min).



(b) Using addition of n-BuLi to the substrate/(–)-sparteine

Toluene (12 mL) was added to a flask equipped with a stirrer bar and ReactIR probe at rt under Ar. After cooling to -78 °C, a solution of *N*-Boc-2-phenylpiperidine **3a** (522 mg, 2 mmol) and (-)-sparteine (323 mg, 1.4 mmol) in THF (1 mL) was added dropwise. After ~20 min, *n*-BuLi (0.56 mL, 1.4 mmol) was added dropwise. The solution was stirred and was monitored by IR spectroscopy. A peak at 1691 cm⁻¹ was observed for **3a** which was assigned to $v_{C=0}$. After addition of *n*-BuLi, a new peak at 1640 cm⁻¹ was observed which was assigned to $v_{C=0}$ in the lithiated intermediate.

The following plot is shown with time in hours:minutes:seconds (total reaction time ~ 4 h).



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