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Organocatalytic Conjugate Addition of Malonates to a, ß-Unsaturated Aldehydes: Asymmetric Formal Synthesis of (-)-Paroxetine, Chiral Lactams and Lactones

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General. The ^1H NMR and ^{13}C NMR spectra were recorded at 400 MHz and 100 MHz, respectively. The chemical shifts are reported in ppm relative to CDCl $_3$ (δ = 7.26) for ^1H NMR and relative to the central resonances of CDCl $_3$ (δ = 77.0) for ^{13}C NMR. Chromatography was carried out by flash chromatography (FC) using Merck silica gel 60 (230-400 mesh) using mixtures of Et $_2\text{O}$ and n-pentane or EtOAc and n-pentane as eluents. Optical rotation was measured on a Perkin-Elmer 241 polarimeter. NMR data of known compounds are in agreement with literature values.

Materials. All solvent were of p.a. quality and were dried by standard procedures prior to use if necessary. Unless otherwise specified, materials were obtained from commercial sources and used without purification. α , β -Unsaturated aldehydes (7e, 7f, 7g, 7h, 7i, 7j) were prepared following the procedure described in the literature. Cinnamylaldehyde (7a) was purified by distillation before usage and stored under nitrogen. Catalysts (R)-10 and (S)-10 were prepared as described in the literature.

General procedure for the organocatalytic addition of malonates to a,ß-unsaturated aldehydes: The catalyst 15.0 mg (0.025 mmol, 0.1 equiv.) 10 was added to a stirred ice-cooled (0 °C) solution of the α ,ß-unsaturated aldehyde (0.50 mmol, 2.0 equiv.) 7 in 1.0 mL solvent followed by the addition of (0.25 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) malonate 8. The reaction mixture was stirred for 96 h at 0 °C and then filtered through 1-2 cm bed of silica washing through with Et₂O and CH₂Cl₂. The solvents were evaporated under vacuum. The crude product was subjected to FC on silica gel (Et₂O/n-pentane/CH₂Cl₂ 1:10:0.1) to yield the desired addition product.

(R)-2-(3-0xo-1-phenylpropyl)malonic acid dibenzyl ester (6a)

Yellow solid. Yield: 80% using catalyst (S)-10.

¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 9.59 (t, 3J = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.43
CO₂Bn 7.09 (m, 15H), 5.20 (s, 1H), 5.19 (s, 1H), 4.95

CO₂Bn (s, 1H), 4.94 (s, 1H), 4.10 (m, 1H), 3.89 (d, 3J = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 2.92 (dd, 3J = 1.5 Hz, 3J = 6.3 Hz, (R)-6a

2H). 13 C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 199.9, 167.7, 167.1, 139.5, 135.0, 134.9, 128.8, 128.6, 128.5, 128.4, 128.3, 128.3, 128.2, 128.0, 127.5, 67.5, 67.2, 57.4, 47.2, 39.5. HRMS: C₂₆H₂₄O₅ [M+Na]⁺ calcd: 439.1521, found: 439.1507. [α]_D²³ = -15.7 (c = 1.03, CHCl₃, 84% ee (R)).

(S)-2-(3-0xo-1-phenylpropyl)malonic acid dibenzyl ester (6a)

Yellow solid. Yield: 75% using catalyst (R)-10.

¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 9.59 (t, 3J = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.43-

CO₂Bn (s, 1H), 5.20 (s, 1H), 5.19 (s, 1H), 4.95 (s, 1H), 4.94 (s, 1H), 4.10 (m, 1H), 3.89 (d, 3J = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 2.92 (dd, 3J = 1.5 Hz, 3J = 6.3 Hz, 2H). [α]_D²³ = +16.8 (c = 0,81, CHCl₃, 90% ee (S)).

(R)-2-(3-Oxo-1-phenylpropyl)malonic acid dimethyl ester (6b)

Colourless liquid. Yield: 85% using catalyst (S)
10. 1 H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 9.61 (t, 3 J = 1.6 Hz, 1H),

CO₂Me 7.33-7.22 (m, 5H), 4.04 (m, 1H), 3.78 (d, 3 J = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 3.52 (s, 3H), 2.94 (m, 2H). 13 C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 199.8, 168.2, 167.6, 139.5,

128.6, 127.8, 127.4, 57.0, 52.6, 52.3, 47.2, 39.3.

HRMS: C₁₄H₁₆O₅ [M+Na]⁺ calcd: 287.0895, found: 287.0882. [α]_D²³ = -29.8 (c = 0.56, CHCl₃, 93% ee (R)).

(R)-2-(3-0xo-1-phenylpropyl)malonic acid diethyl ester (6c)

Colourless liquid. Yield: 42% using catalyst (S)
10. 1 H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 9.58 (t, 3 J = 1.5 Hz, 1H),

CO₂Et 7.30-7.19 (m, 5H), 4.20 (q, 3 J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 4.01 (dt, 3 J = 9.7 Hz, 3 J = 5.3 Hz, 1H), 3.93 (q, 3 J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.70 (d, 3 J = 10.1 Hz, 1H), 2.90 (m, 2H), 1.25 (t, 3 J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 0.99 (t, 3 J = 7.1 Hz, 3H). 13 C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 200.0, 167.9, 167.3, 139.6, 128.6, 128.0, 127.4, 61.7, 61.3, 57.4, 47.3, 39.4, 13.9, 13.6. HRMS: C₁₆H₂₀O₅ [M+Na]⁺ calcd: 315.1208, found: 315.1210. [α]_D²³ = -25.8 (c = 1.02, CHCl₃, 89% ee (R)).

(R)-2-(3-0xo-1-(4-bromophenyl)propyl)malonic acid dibenzyl ester (6f)

White solid. Yield: 84% using catalyst (S)-10.
CO₂Bn 1 H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 9.53 (dd, ^{3}J = 1.0 Hz, ^{3}J = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.36-7.26 (m, 10H), 7.06-7.04 (m, 4H), 5.15 (s, 2H), 4.92 (s, 2H), 4.00 (dt, ^{3}J = 9.4 Hz, 1H), 2.85 (m, 2H). 13 C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 199.2, 167.6, 138.6, 134.8, 134.7, 131.8, 129.8, 128.6, 128.6, 128.5, 128.4, 128.3, 128.3, 67.6, 67.4, 57.0, 47.1, 38.7. HRMS: $C_{26}H_{23}BrO_{5}$ [M+Na]⁺ calcd:

517.0627, found: 517.0637. $[\alpha]_D^{23} = -14.9$ (c = 0.53, CHCl₃, 90% ee (R)).

(R)-2-(3-0xo-1-(4-bromophenyl)propyl)malonic acid dimethyl ester (6g)

Yellow liquid. Yield: 40% using catalyst (S)- 10. 1 H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 9.59 (s, 1H), 7.41 (d, 3 J = 0.2Me 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.12 (d, 3 J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 3.99 (dt, 3 J = 9.1 Hz, 3 J = 5.1 Hz, 1H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 3.71 (d, 3 J = 9.1 Hz, 1H), 3.53 (s, 3H), 2.95 (ddd, 2 J = 17.5 Hz, 3 J = 5.1 Hz, 3 J = 0.8 Hz, 1H), 2.88 (ddd, 2 J = 17.5 Hz, 3 J = 9.1 Hz, 3 J = 1.7 Hz, 1H). 13 C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 199.3, 168.1, 167.6, 138.8, 131.8, 129.7, 121.4, 56.8, 52.8, 52.6, 47.0, 38.7. HRMS: $C_{14}H_{15}BrO_{5}$ [M+Na]⁺ calcd: 365.0001, found: 365.0016. [α]_D²³ = -20.0 (c = 0.30, CHCl₃, 95% ee (R)).

(R)-2-(3-Oxo-1-(2-bromophenyl)propyl)malonic acid dibenzyl ester (6h)

Colourless liquid. Yield: 34% using catalyst (S)-Br CO₂Bn 10. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 9.57 (s, 1H), 7.52 (dd, ³J = 8.0 Hz, ⁴J = 0.6 Hz, 1H), 7.37-7.04 (m, 13H), 5.12 (s, 1H), 5.11 (s, 1H), 5.01 (s, 2H), 4.56 (m, 1H), 4.06 (m, 1H), 2.97 (d, ³J = 7.1 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 199.7, 167.5, 167.1, 138.6, 134.9, 133.5, 128.9, 128.5, 128.4, 128.3, 128.2, 127.7, 124.6, 67.4, 67.3, 55.2, 45.9, 38.1. HRMS: C₂₆H₂₃BrO₅ [M+Na]⁺ calcd: 517.0627, found: 517.0615. [α]_D²³ = -0.1 (c = 0.46, CHCl₃, 88% ee (R)).

(R)-2-(3-Oxo-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)propyl)malonic acid dibenzyl ester

Yellow solid. Yield: 93% using catalyst (S)
(CO₂Bn 10. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 9.53 (t, ³J = 1.4 Hz, 1H),

7.34-7.24 (m, 8H), 7.10 (d, ³J = 8.7 Hz, 2H),

7.05 (dd, ³J = 7.5 Hz, ⁴J = 1.8 Hz, 2H), 6.75

(d, ³J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 5.15 (s, 2H), 4.91 (s, 2H), 3.99 (dt, ³J = 9.6 Hz, ³J = 5.5 Hz, 1H), 3.78 (d, ³J = 9.6 Hz, 1H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 2.83 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 200.1, 167.7, 158.7, 134.9, 131.3, 129.1, 128.6, 128.5, 128.4, 128.3, 128.3, 128.2, 114.1, 67.4, 67.2, 57.6, 47.3, 38.8. HRMS: C₂₆H₂₆O₆ [M+Na]⁺ calcd: 469.1627, found: 469.1607. [α]_D²³ = -28.4 (c = 0.96, CHCl₃, 81% ee (R)).

(R)-2-(3-0xo-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)propyl)malonic acid dimethyl ester (6j)

Yellow liquid. Yield: 73% from using catalyst (S)-10. 1 H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 9.56 (s, 1H), 7.13 (d, 3 J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 6.80 (d, 3 J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 3.96 (dt, 3 J = 9.6 Hz, 3 J = 5.4 Hz, 1H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 3.68 (d, 3 J = 9.6 Hz, 1H), 3.49 (s, 3H), 2.86 (m, 2H). 13 C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 200.1, 168.3, 167.8, 158.7, 131.4, 128.9, 114.0, 57.3, 55.0, 52.6, 52.4, 47.2, 38.7. HRMS: C_{15} H₁₈O₆ [M+Na]⁺ calcd: 317.1001, found: 317.1000. [α]_D²³ = -22.3 (c = 0.65, CHCl₃, 92% ee (R)).

(R)-2-(3-Oxo-1-(4-chlorophenyl)propyl)malonic acid dibenzyl ester (6k)

White solid. Yield: 85% using catalyst (S)-10. $^{1}\text{H NMR (CDCl}_{3}) \ \delta \ 9.52 \ (\text{t,} \ ^{3}\!\!J = 1.6 \ \text{Hz,} \ 1\text{H}), \\ 7.35-7.04 \ (\text{m,} 14\text{H}), \ 5.14 \ (\text{s,} 2\text{H}), \ 4.91 \ (\text{s,} 2\text{H}), \\ CO_{2}\text{Bn} \ \\ CI$

4.07 (m, 1H), 3.78 (d, 3J = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 2.86 (m, 2H). ${}^{13}C$ NMR (CDCl₃) δ 199.3, 167.4, 166.9, 138.0, 134.8, 134.7, 133.2, 129.4, 128.8, 128.6, 128.5, 128.4, 128.3, 128.3, 128.2, 67.7, 67.3, 57.0, 47.1, 38.6. [α]_D²³ = -15.4 (c = 1.00, CHCl₃, 86% ee).

(R)-2-(1-(Biphenyl-4-yl)-3-oxopropyl) malonic acid dibenzyl ester (61)

White solid. Yield: 76% using catalyst (S)- 10. 1 H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 9.57 (t, 3 J = 1.6 Hz, CO₂Bn 1 H), 7.55-7.03 (m, 19H), 5.16 (s, 2H), 5.92 (s, 2H), 4.10 (m, 1H), 3.86 (d, 3 J = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 2.91 (dd, 3 J = 6.4 Hz, 3 J = 1.6 Hz, 2H). 13 C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 199.8, 167.6, 167.1, 140.3, 140.1, 138.5, 134.9, 134.8, 128.7, 128.5, 128.5, 128.4, 128.3, 128.2, 128.2, 128.1, 127.3, 126.9, 67.4, 67.2, 57.3, 47.1, 39.0. [α]_D²³ = -12.3 (c = 1.00, CHCl₃, 86% ee (R)).

(R)-2-(3-0xo-1-(4-fluorophenyl)propyl)malonic acid dibenzyl ester (6m)

White solid. Yield: 72% using catalyst (S)-10. CO_2Bn 1H NMR $(CDCl_3)$ δ 9.50 (s, 1H), 7.35-7.23 (m, 8H), 7.11 $(dd, ^3J = 5.3 \text{ Hz}, ^3J = 8.6 \text{ Hz}, 1H)$, 7.03 $(dd, ^3J = 7.1 \text{ Hz}, ^4J = 1.8 \text{ Hz}, 1H)$, 6.86 $(t, ^3J = 8.6 \text{ Hz}, 1H)$, 5.12 (s, 2H), 4.88 (s, 2H), 4.00 $(dt, ^3J = 9.5 \text{ Hz}, ^3J = 5.2 \text{ Hz}, 1H)$, 3.76 $(d, ^3J = 9.5 \text{ Hz}, 1H)$, 2.83 (m, 2H). ^{13}C NMR $(CDCl_3)$ δ 199.5, 167.0, 134.9, 129.7, 129.6, 128.6, 128.6, 128.5, 128.4, 128.3, 128.3, 115.7, 115.5, 67.5, 67.3, 57.3, 47.3, 38.6. HRMS: $C_{26}H_{23}FO_5$ $[M+Na]^+$ calcd: 457.1427, found: 457.1445. $[\alpha]_D^{23} = -15.0$ $(c = 0.56, CHCl_3, 86\% ee (R))$.

(R)-2-(3-Oxo-1-(4-formylphenyl)propyl)malonic acid dibenzyl ester

White solid. Yield: 95% using catalyst (S)-10.

CO₂Bn 1 H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 9.92 (s, 1H), 9.55 (t, 3 J = 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.70 (d, 3 J = 8.3Hz, 2H), 7.34 (m, 2H), 7.28-7.21 (m, 10H), 7.05 (dd, 3 J = 7.7 Hz, 4 J = 1.7 Hz, 2H), 5.15 (s, 2H), 4.91 (s, 2H), 4.11 (m, 1H), 3.84 (d, 3 J = 9.8 Hz, 1H), 2.94 (m, 2H). 13 C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 198.8, 191.6, 167.3, 166.8, 146.6, 135.4, 134.8, 134.6, 130.0, 128.8, 128.6, 128.6, 128.5, 128.4, 128.4, 128.3, 67.6, 67.3, 56.7, 47.0, 39.2. HRMS: C_{27} H₂₄O₆ [M+Na]⁺ calcd: 467.1471, found: 467.1481. C_{1} Cl₁C²³ = -16.8 (c = 0.37, CHCl₃, 86% ee (R)).

(R)-2-(3-Oxo-1-(4-methylphenyl)propyl)malonic acid dibenzyl ester

CO₂Bn Colourless oil. Yield: 95% using catalyst (S)-CO₂Bn CO₂Bn CO₂Bn

(R)-2-(1-(naphthalen-2-yl)-3-oxopropyl) malonic acid dibenzyl ester (6p)

White solid. Yield: 69% using catalyst (S)-10. $^{1}\text{H NMR (CDCl}_{3}) \ \delta \ 9.56 \ (\text{t,} \ ^{3}\!J = 1.6 \ \text{Hz,} \ 1\text{H}),$ $^{7}\text{CO}_{2}\text{Bn} \ 7.79-6.81 \ (\text{m,} \ 17\text{H}), \ 5.16 \ (\text{s,} \ 2\text{H}), \ 4.83 \ (\text{s,} \ 2\text{H}), \ 4.22 \ (\text{m,} \ 1\text{H}), \ 3.94 \ (\text{d,} \ ^{3}\!J = 10.0 \ \text{Hz,} \ 1\text{H}),$

2.96 (m, 2H). 13 C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 199.7, 167.6, 167.1, 136.9, 134.9, 134.6, 133.2, 132.6, 128.6, 128.5, 128.4, 128.2, 128.1, 128.0, 127.8, 127.6, 127.1, 126.2, 126.0, 125.7, 67.4, 67.2, 57.3, 47.1, 39.6. $[\alpha]_{D}^{23} = -13.1$ (c = 1.00, CHCl₃, 88% ee (R)).

(R)-2-(3-0xo-1-thiophen-2-ylpropyl)malonic acid dibenzyl ester

Yellow Liquid. Yield: 83% using catalyst (S)-10.
CO₂Bn 1 H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 9.59 (t, 3 J = 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.38-7.26 (m, 8H), 7.15 (m, 3H), 6.86 (m, 2H), 5.15 (s, 1H), 5.15 (s, 1H), 5.00 (s, 2H), 4.39 (dt, 3 J = 7.0 Hz, 3 J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 3.87 (d, 3 J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 2.93 (dd, 3 J = 1.4 Hz, 3 J = 7.0 Hz, 2H). 13 C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 199.4, 167.3, 167.0, 142.5, 134.9, 128.5, 128.5, 128.3, 128.3, 128.2, 126.8, 126.0, 124.6, 67.5, 67.4, 57.8, 47.7, 34.7. [α]_D²³ = -13.5 (c = 0.51, CHCl₃, 92% ee (R)).

Oxidation of the aldehydes to the carboxylic esters:

General method A: Representative procedure: 50 mg (0.10 mmol) 6h were diluted with 3.0 mL t-BuOH and 3.0 mL 1 m NaH₂PO₄ (aq.). 3.0 mL 1 m KMnO₄ were added successively. After 5 min of vigorous stirring 5.0 mL saturated NaHSO₃ was added and the pH was adjusted to approximately 3 with 1 m HCl. The resulting mixture was extracted 3 times with 10 mL EtOAc, the combined organic layers were washed with 10 mL of water and 10 mL brine, and dried over MgSO₄. The organic layer was concentrated in vacuum and the resiual acid was dissolved in 2.0 mL toluene and 5.0 mL MeOH. TMSCHN₂ (2.0 m in n-hexane) was added dropwise until the yellow colour persisted. The solution was stirred for an additional 10 min and quenched with a drop of concentrated AcOH. The solvents were evaporated under vacuum. The crude product was subjected to FC on

silica gel ($\rm Et_2O/n\text{-}pentane/CH_2Cl_2$ 1:10:0.1) to give **11h** (29 mg, 0.06 mmol, 60%) as a yellow liquid.

General method B: Representative procedure: 84 mg (0.17 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) 61 were dissolved in 1.0 mL MeOH, 1.0 mL CH₃CN, and 1.0 mL water. The solution was cooled down to 0 °C and 63 mg (0.46 mmol, 2.7 equiv.) KH_2PO_4 and 46 mg (0.43 mmol, 2.5 equiv.) $NaClO_2$ were added. After the injection of $0.5~\text{mL}~\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ (35%) the mixture was warmed up to rt and stirred for 2 h. The pH was adjusted to 3 with 1 M HCl and 5 mL saturated Na_2SO_3 solution were added. resulting mixture was extracted 3 times with 10 mL CH₂Cl₂, the combined organic layers were washed with 10 mL of water, and dried over MgSO₄. The organic layer was concentrated in vacuum and the resiual acid was dissolved in 2.0 mL toluene and 5.0 mL MeOH. $TMSCHN_2$ (2.0 M in n-hexane) was added dropwise until the yellow colour persisted. The solution was stirred for an additional 10 min and quenched with a drop of concentrated AcOH. The solvents were evaporated under vacuum. The crude product was subjected to FC on silica gel (EtOAc/n-pentane 1:9) to give **111** (80 mg, 0.15 mmol, 90%) as a yellow liquid.

(R)-2-Benzyloxycarbonyl-3-phenylpetanedioic acid 1-benzyl ester 5-O methyl ester (11a)

calcd: 469.1627, found: 469.1632. $[\alpha]_D^{23} = -7.1$ (c = 0.58, CHCl₃, 86% ee (R)). HPLC: Daicel Chiralpak AD, hexane/2-propanol (80/20), flow rate = 1.0 mL/min (τ_1 = 19.1 min. (major enantiomer); τ_2 = 25.4 min. (minor enantiomer)).

(R)-2-Methyloxycarbonyl-3-phenylpetanedioic acid 1,5-dimethyl O ester (11b)

Yellow solid. Yield: 40% using general oxidation CO₂Me method A. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 7.30-7.19 (m, 5H), 3.92 (dt, 3J = 4.9 Hz, 3J = 9.9 Hz, 1H), 3.78 (d, 3J = 9.9 Hz, 1H), 3.78 (d, 3J = 9.9 Hz, 1H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 3.53 (s, 3H), 3.48 (s, 11b 3H), 2.85 (dd, 3J = 4.9 Hz, 2J = 15.7 Hz, 1H), 2.75 (dd, 3J = 9.5 Hz, 2J = 15.7 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 171.5, 168.4, 167.9, 139.7, 128.5, 127.9, 127.4, 57.0, 52.7, 52.4, 51.6, 41.4, 38.3. HRMS: C₁₅H₁₈O₆ [M+Na]⁺ calcd: 317.1001, found: 317.0994. [α]_D²³ = -16.5 (c = 0.37, CHCl₃, 91% ee (R)). HPLC: Daicel Chiralpak AD, hexane/2-propanol (80/20), flow rate = 0.5 mL/min (τ ₁ = 20.1 min. (major enantiomer); τ ₂ = 23.3 min. (minor enantiomer)).

(R)-2-Ethyloxycarbonyl-3-phenylpetanedioic acid 5-ethyl ester 1-methyl ester (11c)

Colourless liquid. Yield: 59% using general oxidation method A. 1 H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 7.28-7.18 (m, CO₂Et 5H), 4.12 (q, 3 J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.91 (m, 3H), 3.73 (d, 3 J = 10.3 Hz, 1H), 3.52 (s, 3H), 2.85 (dd, 3 J = 4.6 Hz, 2 J = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 2.74 (dd, 3 J = 9.9 Hz, 2 J = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 1.26 (t, 3 J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 0.98 (t, 3 J = 7.1 Hz, 3H). 13 C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 171.6, 168.0, 167.5, 139.8, 128.4, 128.1, 127.3, 61.7, 61.4, 57.3, 51.6, 41.4, 38.5, 14.0, 13.7. HRMS: 13 C M+Na]⁺ calcd: 345.1314, found: 345.1320. [α]_D²³ = -29.0 (c = 0.10, CHCl₃, 89% ee (R)). HPLC: Daicel Chiralpak AD,

hexane/2-propanol (80/20), flow rate = 0.5 mL/min (τ_1 = 18.5 min. (major enantiomer); τ_2 = 27.4 min. (minor enantiomer)).

(R)-2-Benzyloxycarbonyl-3-(4-bromophenyl)petanedioic acid 5-benzyl ester 1-methyl ester (11f)

White solid. Yield: 72% using general oxidation CO_2Bn method B. 1H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 7.34-7.26 (m, 10H), 7.06-7.03 (m, 4H), 5.16 (s, 2H), 4.90 (s, 2H), 3.91 (dt, 3J = 10.0 Hz, 3J = 4.4 Hz, 1H), 3.82 (d, 3J = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 3.51 (s, 3H), 2.80 (dd, 3J = 15.8 Hz, 3J = 4.3 Hz, 1H), 2.67 (dd, 3J = 15.8 Hz, 3J = 9.7 Hz, 1H). ^{13}C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 171.5, 167.7, 167.3, 138.8, 135.2, 135.0, 131.9, 130.1, 128.9, 128.7, 128.6, 128.6, 128.5, 128.4, 121.6, 67.7, 67.5, 57.1, 52.0, 41.1, 38.3. HRMS: $C_{27}H_{25}BrO_6$ [M+Na]⁺ calcd: 547.0732, found: 547.0728. [α]_D²³ = -3.7 (c = 0.59, CHCl₃, 90% ee (R)). HPLC: Daicel Chiralpak AD, hexane/2-propanol (80/20), flow rate = 1.0 mL/min (τ_1 = 22.5 min. (major enantiomer); τ_2 = 35.2 min. (minor enantiomer)).

(R)-2-Methyloxycarbonyl-3-(4-bromophenyl)petanedioic acid 1,5-dimethyl ester (11g)

Chiralpak AD, hexane/2-propanol (80/20), flow rate = 1.0 mL/min (τ_1 = 9.8 min. (major enantiomer); τ_2 = 12.7 min. (minor enantiomer)).

(R)-2-Benzyloxycarbonyl-3-(2-bromophenyl)petanedioic acid 5-benzyl ester 1-methyl ester (11h)

Br O CO₂Bn CO₂Bn

Yellow liquid. Yield 60% using general oxidation CO_2Bn method A. 1H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 7.51 (dd, 3J = 8.1 Hz, 4J = 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.34-7.03 (m, 13H), 5.30 (s, 1H), 5.13 (s, 1H), 5.12 (s, 1H), 4.99 (s, 2H), 4.47 (m,

11h 1H), 4.12 (d, ${}^{3}J$ = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 3.52 (s, 3H), 2.91 (m, 2H). 13 C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 171.4, 167.5, 167.2, 138.7, 135.0, 133.4, 128.7, 128.5, 128.4, 128.4, 128.2, 128.2, 128.1, 127.5, 67.3, 67.2, 55.0, 51.6, 36.2. $[\alpha]_{D}^{23}$ = -10.0 (c = 0.01, CHCl₃, 88% ee (R)). HPLC: Daicel Chiralpak AD, hexane/2-propanol (80/20), flow rate = 1.0 mL/min (τ_{1} = 17.5 min. (major enantiomer); τ_{2} = 21.7 min. (minor enantiomer)).

(R)-2-Benzyloxycarbonyl-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)petanedioic acid 5benzyl ester 1-methyl ester (11i)

O CO₂Bn

Yellow solid. Yield: 90% using general oxidation method A. 1 H NMR (CDCl $_{3}$) δ 7.34-7.22 (m, 8H), 7.11 (d, 3 J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.04 (dd, 3 J = 7.9 Hz, 4 J = 1.6 Hz, 2H), 6.74 (d, 3 J =

11i 8.7 Hz, 2H), 5.15 (s, 2H), 4.88 (s, 2H), 3.90 (dt, 3J = 9.8 Hz, 3J = 4.5 Hz, 1H), 3.82 (d, 3J = 9.8 Hz, 1H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 3.50 (s, 3H), 2.79 (dd, 3J = 15.6 Hz, 3J = 4.5 Hz, 1H), 2.68 (dd, 3J = 15.6 Hz, 3J = 9.8 Hz, 1H). 13 C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 171.5, 167.7, 167.3, 158.6, 135.0, 131.4, 129.0, 128.5, 128.4, 128.2, 128.1, 113.8, 67.3, 67.1, 57.4, 51.2, 40.7, 38.5. HRMS: $C_{28}H_{28}O_7$ [M+Na]⁺ calcd: 499.1733, found: 499.1728. [α]_D²³ = -6.7 (c = 0.56, CHCl₃, 81% ee (R)). HPLC: Daicel Chiralpak AD, hexane/2-propanol

(80/20), flow rate = 1.0 mL/min (τ_1 = 23.7 min. (major enantiomer); τ_2 = 38.2 min. (minor enantiomer)).

(R)-2-Methyloxycarbonyl-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)petanedioic acid 1,5-dimethyl ester (11j)

Yellow liquid. Yield: 84% using general oxidation method A. 1 H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 7.12 (d, 3 J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.78 (d, 3 J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 3.86 (dt, 3 J = 9.9 Hz, 3 J = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 3.72 (d, 3 J = 9.8 Hz, 1H), 3.51 (s, 3H), 3.47 (s, 3H), 2.80 (dd, 3 J = 15.6 Hz, 3 J = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 2.70 (dd, 3 J = 15.6 Hz, 3 J = 9.8 Hz, 1H). 13 C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 171.5, 168.4, 167.9, 158.6, 131.5, 128.9, 113.7, 57.1, 55.0, 52.6, 52.3, 51.5, 40.6, 38.4. HRMS: C_{16} H₂₀O₇ [M+Na]⁺ calcd: 347.1107, found: 347.1112. [α]_D²³ = -12.9 (c = 1.21, CHCl₃, 92% ee (R)). HPLC: Daicel Chiralpak AD, hexane/2-propanol (80/20), flow rate = 0.5 mL/min (τ ₁ = 24.3 min. (major enantiomer); τ ₂ = 32.3 min. (minor enantiomer)).

(R)-2-Benzyloxycarbonyl-3-(4-chlorophenyl)petanedioic acid 5-benzyl ester 1-methyl ester (11k)

White solid. Yield: 81% using general oxidation method B. 1 H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 7.35-7.03 (m, 14H), 5.16 (s, 2H), 4.90 (s, 2H), 3.90 (m, 1H), 3.81 (d, 3 J = 10.2 Hz, 1H), 3.51 (s, 3H), 2.79 (dd, 3 J = 16.0 Hz, 3 J = 4.4 Hz, 1H), 2.67 (dd, 3 J = 16.0 Hz, 3 J = 10.2 Hz, 1H). 13 C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 171.2, 167.4, 167.0, 138.0, 134.9, 134.8, 133.1, 129.4, 128.7, 128.6, 128.5, 128.4, 128.3, 128.3, 128.2, 67.5, 67.2, 56.9, 51.7, 40.8, 38.2. HRMS: $C_{27}H_{25}ClO_6$ [M+Na] $^+$ calcd: 503.1237, found: 503.1237. [α] $_D^{23}$ = -6.4 (c = 1.00, CHCl₃, 86% ee (R)). HPLC: Daicel

Chiralpak AD, hexane/2-propanol (80/20), flow rate = 1.0 mL/min (τ_1 = 15.3 min. (major enantiomer); τ_2 = 18.1 min. (minor enantiomer)).

(R)-1,1-dibenzyl 3-methyl 2-(biphenyl-4-yl)propane-1,1,3-tricarboxylate (111)

Yellow oil. Yield: 90% using general oxidation method B. 1 H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 7.57-7.02 (m, 19H), 5.17 (s, 3H), 4.90 (s, 3H), 4.00 (m, 1H), 3.90 (d, ^{3}J = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 3.53 (s, 3H), 2.85 (dd, ^{3}J = 16.0 Hz, ^{3}J = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 2.77 (dd, ^{3}J = 16.0 Hz, ^{3}J = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 2.77 (dd, ^{3}J = 16.0 Hz, ^{3}J = 10.0 Hz, 1H). 13 C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 171.5, 167.6, 167.2, 140.5, 140.0, 138.6, 135.0, 134.8, 128.7, 128.6, 128.5, 128.4, 128.3, 128.2, 128.2, 127.1, 126.9, 67.4, 67.2, 57.1, 51.6, 41.0, 38.2. HRMS: CarHapOr [M+Na]⁺ calcd: 545.1940, found: 545.1941, [Gla²³ = -2.3] (C = 2.35)

128.2, 127.1, 126.9, 67.4, 67.2, 57.1, 51.6, 41.0, 38.2. HRMS: $C_{33}H_{30}O_6 \ [\text{M+Na}]^+ \ \text{calcd} : 545.1940$, found: 545.1941. $[\alpha]_D^{23} = -2.3$ (c = 1.00, CHCl₃, 89% ee (R)). HPLC: Daicel Chiralpak AD, hexane/2-propanol (80/20), flow rate = 1.0 mL/min (τ_1 = 22.7 min. (major

enantiomer); $\tau_2 = 44.1 \text{ min. (minor enantiomer)}$.

(R)-2-Benzyloxycarbonyl-3-(4-fluorophenyl)petanedioic acid 5benzyl ester 1-methyl ester (11m)

White solid. Yield: 16% using general oxidation method A. 1 H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 7.27-7.19 (m, 8H), 7.07 (dd, ^{3}J = 5.3 Hz, ^{3}J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (dd, ^{3}J = 7.6 Hz, ^{4}J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 6.81 (t, ^{3}J =

11m 8.6 Hz, 1H), 5.09 (s, 2H), 4.82 (s, 2H), 3.86 (dt, 3J = 10.1 Hz, 3J = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 3.75 (d, 3J = 10.1 Hz, 1H), 3.44 (s, 3H), 2.73 (dd, 2J = 15.8 Hz, 3J = 4.4 Hz, 1H), 2.60 (dd, 2J = 15.8 Hz, 3J = 9.9 Hz, 1H). 13 C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 171.3, 167.5, 167.1, 135.1, 135.0, 134.8, 129.7, 129.6, 128.6, 128.5, 128.4, 128.3, 128.2, 115.5, 115.2, 67.4, 67.2, 57.1, 51.6, 40.7, 38.4. HRMS: $C_{26}H_{23}FO_5$ [M+Na]⁺ calcd: 487.1533, found: 487.1513. [α]_D²³ =

-4.6 (c = 0.20, CHCl₃, 86% ee (R)). HPLC: Daicel Chiralpak AD, hexane/2-propanol (80/20), flow rate = 1.0 mL/min (τ_1 = 19.7 min. (major enantiomer); τ_2 = 30.7 min. (minor enantiomer)).

(R)-2-Benzyloxycarbonyl-3-(4-methoxycarbonylphenyl)pentanedioic acid 1-benzyl ester 5-methyl ester (11n)

White solid. Yield: 70% using general oxidation method A. 1 H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 7.86 (d, 3 J = 8.4Hz, 2H), 7.33 (m, 2H), 7.28–7.22 (m, 10H), 7.03 (dd, 3 J = 7.4 Hz, 4 J = 1.4 Hz, 2H), 5.16 (s, 2H), 4.87 (s, 2H), 4.00 (dt, 3 J = 9.9 Hz, 3 J = 4.5 Hz, 1H), 3.90 (s, 3H), 3.87 (d, 3 J = 9.9 Hz, 1H), 2.84 (dd, 3 J = 16.0 Hz, 3 J = 4.6 Hz, 1H), 2.72 (dd, 3 J = 16.0 Hz, 3 J = 9.9 Hz, 1H). 13 C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 171.1, 167.4, 166.9, 166.7, 144.8, 134.8, 134.7, 134.6, 129.8, 129.2, 128.6, 128.5, 128.4, 128.3, 128.3, 128.2, 67.5, 67.2, 52.1, 51.7, 41.2, 38.0. HRMS: $C_{29}H_{28}O_{8}$ [M+Na]* calcd: 527.1682, found: 527.1678. [α]_D²³ = -4.2 (c = 0.26, CHCl₃, 86% ee (R)). HPLC: Daicel Chiralpak AD, hexane/2-propanol (80/20), flow rate = 1.0 mL/min (τ ₁ = 31.2 min. (major enantiomer); τ ₂ = 63.7 min. (minor enantiomer)).

(R)-2-Benzyloxycarbonyl-3-(4-methylphenyl)petanedioic acid 5benzyl ester 1-methyl ester (110)

Colourless oil. Yield: 92% using general oxidation method B. 1 H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 7.32-7.00 (m, 14H), 5.15 (s, 2H), 4.87 (s, 2H), 3.91 (m, 14H), 3.84 (d, ^{3}J = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 3.50 (s, 3H), 2.79 (dd, ^{3}J = 15.6 Hz, ^{3}J = 4.4 Hz, 1H), 2.70 (dd, ^{3}J = 15.6 Hz, ^{3}J = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 2.28 (s, 3H). 13 C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 171.8, 168.0, 167.5, 137.1, 136.7, 135.3, 135.2, 129.4, 128.8, 128.6, 128.4, 128.4, 128.3, 128.0, 67.6, 67.3, 57.5, 51.8, 41.3, 38.6, 21.3. HRMS: $C_{28}H_{28}O_{6}$ [M+Na] $^{+}$ calcd: 483.1783, found: 483.1786.

 $[\alpha]_D^{23}$ = -6.2 (c = 1.00, CHCl₃, 88% ee (R)). HPLC: Daicel Chiralpak AD, hexane/2-propanol (80/20), flow rate = 1.0 mL/min (τ_1 = 15.5 min. (major enantiomer); τ_2 = 21.6 min. (minor enantiomer)).

(R)-1,1-dibenzyl 3-methyl 2-(naphthalen-2-yl)propane-1,1,3-tricarboxylate (11p)

Colourless oil. Yield: 86% using general oxidation method B. ^1H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 7.93-6.86 (m, 17H), 5.17 (s, 2H), 4.82 (s, 2H), 4.14 (m, CO₂Bn 1H), 3.98 (d, 3J = 10.4 Hz, 1H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 2.87 (m, 2H). ^{13}C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 171.4, 167.6, 167.2, 137.1, 135.0, 134.7, 133.2, 132.7, 128.5, 128.4, 128.3, 128.2, 128.2, 128.1, 128.0, 127.9, 127.6, 127.0, 126.0, 125.9, 125.8, 67.4, 67.1, 57.2, 51.6, 41.5, 38.3. HRMS: C₃₁H₂₈O₆ [M+Na]⁺ calcd: 519.1783, found: 519.1791. [α]_D²³ = -2.1 (c = 1.00, CHCl₃, 88% ee). HPLC: Daicel Chiralpak AD, hexane/2-propanol (80/20), flow rate = 1.0 mL/min (τ ₁ = 21.6 min. (major enantiomer); τ ₂ = 30.1 min. (minor enantiomer)).

(R)-2-Benzyloxycarbonyl-3-thiophen-2-ylpentanedioic acid 1-benzyl ester 5-methyl ester (11q)

Yellow Liquid. Yield: 40% using general oxidation CO₂Bn method A. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 7.33-7.26 (m, 8H), 7.13 (m, 3H), 6.85 (m, 2H), 5.16 (s, 1H), 5.15 (s, 1H), 4.98 (s, 2H), 4.27 (dt, 3J = 9.1 Hz, 3J = 4.9 Hz, 1H), 3.91 (d, 3J = 9.1 Hz, 1H), 3.57 (s, 3H), 2.87 (dd, 3J = 16.0 Hz, 3J = 4.8 Hz, 1H), 2.78 (dd, 3J = 16.0 Hz, 3J = 9.3 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 171.3, 167.1, 142.5, 135.0, 128.5, 128.5, 128.3, 128.2, 128.2, 126.7, 125.8, 124.4, 67.4, 67.2, 57.6, 51.7, 40.0, 36.7. HRMS: C₂₅H₂₄O₆S [M+Na]⁺ calcd: 475.1191, found: 475.1197. [α]_D²³ = -11.0 (c = 0.26, CHCl₃, 92% ee (R)). HPLC: Daicel

Chiralpak AD, hexane/2-propanol (80/20), flow rate = 1.0 mL/min (τ_1 = 20.7 min. (major enantiomer); τ_2 = 23.8 min. (minor enantiomer)).

(R,R)-2-0xo-4-phenyltetrahydropyran-3-carboxylic acid methyl ester (9a)

299 mg (1.13 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) **6b** were solved in 5 mL THF. The solution was cooled to 0 °C and 1.25 mL concentrated AcOH and 112 mg (1.70 mmol, 1.5 equiv.) NaCNBH $_3$ (95%) were subsequently added. The reaction

mixture was warmed up to rt overnight. 5 mL brine 9a were added and the pH was adjusted to 7 with saturated NaHCO3 solution. The aqueous layer was extracted 3 times with 10 mL $\rm Et_2O$ and the combined organic layers were dried over MgSO4. After evapouration of the solvents under vacuum the crude product was dissolved in 8.1 mL CH_2Cl_2 . 1.21 g of silica were added and the mixture was stirred slowly for 4 d. After filtration the solvent was evapourated under vacuum and the crude product was subjected to FC on silica gel (Et₂O/n-pentane/CH₂Cl₂ 1:1:0.1) to give diastereomerically pure **9a** (151 mg, 0.64 mmol, 57%) as a colorless oil. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 7.37 (tt, ³J = 7.4 Hz, ⁴J = 1.4 Hz, 2H), 7.32 $(tt, {}^{3}J = 7.4 \text{ Hz}, {}^{4}J = 1.4 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}), 7.25 (dd, {}^{3}J = 7.4 \text{ Hz}, {}^{4}J = 1.5$ Hz, 2H), 4.55 (m, 2H), 3.75 (d, ${}^{3}J$ = 10.5 Hz, 1H), 3.68 (s, 3H), 3.64 (dt, ^{3}J = 5.5 Hz, ^{3}J = 10.5 Hz, 1H), 2.23 (m, 2H). 13 C NMR $(CDCl_3)$ δ 168.5, 168.0, 140.8, 129.0, 127.6, 126.7, 68.8, 55.0, 52.7, 41.0, 29.7. HRMS: $C_{13}H_{14}O_4$ [M+Na]⁺ calcd: 257.0790, found: 275.0781. $[\alpha]_D^{23} = -52.3$ (c = 0.39, CHCl₃, 90% ee (R)). HPLC: Daicel Chiralpak AD, hexane/2-propanol (70/30), flow rate = 1.0 mL/min (τ_1 = 8.4 min. (major enantiomer); τ_2 = 10.6 min. (minor enantiomer)).

(R,R)-2-Oxo-4-(4-bromophenyl)tetrahydropyran-3-carboxylic acid methyl ester (9b)

70 mg (0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) **6g** were solved in 2 mL THF. The solution was cooled to 0 °C and 0.50 mL concentrated AcOH and 22 mg (0.35 mmol, 1.5 CO_2Me equiv.) NaCNBH₃ (95%) were subsequently added.

The reaction mixture was warmed up to 9b overnight. 5 mL brine were added and the pH was adjusted to 7 with saturated NaHCO₃ solution. The aqueous layer was extracted 3 times with 10 mL Et₂O and the combined organic layers were dried over MgSO₄. After evapouration of the solvents under vacuum the crude product was dissolved in 1.4 mL CH₂Cl₂. 272 mg of silica were added and the mixture was stirred slowly for 28 h. After filtration the solvent was evapourated under vacuum and the crude product was subjected to FC on silica gel (Et_2O/n -pentane/ CH_2Cl_2 1:1:0.1) to give diastereomerically pure 9b (31 mg, 0.10 mmol, 49%) as a colorless oil. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 7.47 (d, ³J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.09 (d, $^{3}J = 8.4 \text{ Hz}, 2\text{H}), 4.54 \text{ (dt, }^{3}J = 4.9 \text{ Hz, }^{2}J = 11.3 \text{ Hz, } 1\text{H}), 4.47$ $(td, ^3J = 4.0 \text{ Hz}, ^2J = 11.3 \text{ Hz}, 1H), 3.66 (s, 3H), 3.64 (d, ^3J = 11.3 \text{ Hz}, 1H)$ 10.9 Hz, 1H), 3.57 (dt, ${}^{3}J$ = 5.1 Hz, ${}^{3}J$ = 10.9 Hz, 1H), 2.16 (m, 2H). 13 C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 168.3, 166.6, 139.8, 132.2, 128.5, 121.6, 68.7, 54.8, 52.9, 40.6, 29.7. HRMS: $C_{13}H_{13}BrO_4$ [M+Na]⁺ calcd: 334.9895, found: 334.9897. $[\alpha]_D^{23} = -56.5$ (c = 0.26, CHCl₃, 93% ee (R)). HPLC: Daicel Chiralpak AD, hexane/2-propanol (70/30), flow rate = 1.0 mL/min (τ_1 = 15.7 min. (major enantiomer); τ_2 = 22.1 min. (minor enantiomer)).

(R,S)-1-Benzyl-4-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-oxo-piperidine-3-carboxylic acid benzyl ester (12)

Ph To a solution of 136 mg (0.31 mmol, 1.0 equiv.)

(R)-2-[1-(4-fluoro-phenyl)-3-oxo-propyl]malonic acid dibenzyl ester 6m and benzylamine 34 mg

(0.31 mmol, 1.0 eq) in 3.0 mL dioxane at 0 °C was added 86 mg sodium triaacetoxyborohydride (0.40)

mmol, 1.3 eq). The resulting mixture was stirred at rt for 24 h. After this time, the reaction mixture was quenched by adding 10 mL aq. saturated NaHCO₃ and the product was extracted three times with 10 mL EtOAc each. The organic extract was dried over Na₂SO₄ and the solvent was evaporated in vacuum to give the crude product, which was purified by FC on silica gel (EtOAc/n-pentane 1:5) giving 14 (91 mg, 0.22 mmol, 70% overall yield, dr = 13:1) as a yellow oil. Major diastereoisomer: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 7.34-6.90 (m, 14H), 5.16 (d, ²J = 12.4 Hz, 1H), 4.75 (d, ²J = 14.4 Hz, 1H), 4.75 (d, ²J = 14.4 Hz, 1H), 3.63(d, ³J = 11.2 Hz, 1H), 3.44-3.36 (m, 2H), 3.28 (m, 1H), 2.04-1.96 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 169.7, 165.5, 161.8 (J_{C-F} = 244.4 Hz), 136.8, 136.4, 135.4, 128.7, 128.4, 128.3, 128.1, 128.0, 127.9, 127.8, 127.6, 115.6 (J_{C-F} = 21.2 Hz), 66.7, 56.8, 50.3, 46.2, 41.9, 29.3. HRMS: C₂₆H₂₄FNaNO₃ [M+Na]⁺ calcd: 440.1638, found: 440.1640.

(S,R)-1-Benzyl-4-phenyl-2-oxo-piperidine-3-carboxylic acid benzyl ester (14)

Ph N EO₂Bn To a solution of 129 mg (0.31 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) (S)-2-[1-phenyl-3-oxo-propyl]malonic acid dibenzyl ester $\bf 6a$ and benzylamine 33 mg (0.31 mmol, 1.0 eq) in 3.0 mL dioxane at 0 °C was added 85 mg sodium triacetoxyborohydride (0.40 mmol, 1.3 eq). The

resulting mixture was stirred at rt for 24 h. After this time, the reaction mixture was quenched by adding 10 mL aq. saturated NaHCO₃ and the product was extracted three times with 10 mL EtOAc each. The organic extract was dried over Na₂SO₄ and the solvent was evaporated in vacuum to give the crude product, which was purified by FC on silica gel (EtOAc/n-pentane 1:5) giving 15 (83 mg, 0.21 mmol, 67% overall yield, dr = 12:1) as a yellow oil. Mayor diastereoisomer: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 7.33-7.05 (m, 15H), 5.14 (d, 2J = 12.4 Hz, 1H), 5.04 (d, 2J = 12.4 Hz, 1H), 4.75 (d, 2J = 14.6

Hz, 1H), 4.57 (d, ${}^{2}J$ = 14.6 Hz, 1H), 3.71(d, ${}^{3}J$ = 11.2 Hz, 1H), 3.47-3.37 (m, 2H), 3.29 (m, 1H), 2.06-2.03 (m, 2H). ${}^{13}C$ NMR (CDCl₃) δ 169.9, 165.7, 141.0, 136.4, 135.4, 128.7, 128.6, 128.3, 128.0, 127.8, 126.7, 66.7, 56.5, 50.2, 46.2, 42.5, 29.2. HRMS: $C_{26}H_{25}NaNO_{3}$ [M+Na]⁺ calcd: 422.1732, found: 422.1733.

[1-Benzyl-4-(4-fluoro-phenyl)-piperidin-3-yl]-methanol (13)

(R,S)-1-Benzyl-4-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-oxopiperidine-3-carboxylic acid benzyl ester 12 (28 mg, 0.07 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) dissolved in THF (2 mL) was added dropwise to a stirred solution of LiAlH₄ (65 mg, 1.71 mmol) in THF (3 mL), whilst being cooled by an ice bath. The reaction mixture 13 was then warmed to rt and then heated at reflux overnigth. After this time the flask was cooled to rt, water (1 mL) was added dropwise and the mixture was stirred for 10 min. 2M NaOH (3 mL) was then added and the reaction mixture was left to stir for a further 10 min. The mixture was then poured into saturated Rochelle's salt solution (30 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (4 \times 20 mL). The organic extracts were combined, washed with brine (3 x 20 mL), dried with MgSO₄, filtered and concentrated in vacuo to give the crude product, which was purified by FC on silica gel (EtOAc/n-pentane 1:1) giving **15** (18 mg, 0.06 mmol, 85% yield) as an oil. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 7.40-6.96 (m, 9H), 3.62 (d, J = 13.4 Hz, 1H), 3.58 (d, J = 13.4 Hz, 1H), 3.37 (dd, J = 11.0, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 3.30-3.12 (m, 2H), 2.99 (m, 1H), 2.35 (m, 1H), 2.13-1.65 (m, 6H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 161.3 ($J_{C-F} = 244.1 \text{ Hz}$), 140.1 ($J_{C-F} = 3.0 \text{ Hz}$), 137.9, 129.3, 128.8, 128.2, 127.1, 115.4 ($J_{C-F} = 21.2 \text{ Hz}$), 63.8, 63.4, 57.2, 53.8, 44.2, 44.1, 34.4. HRMS: C₁₉H₂₂FNaNO [M+Na]⁺ calcd: 322.1583, found: 322.1584. $[\alpha]_D^{23} = -20.1$ (c = 1.00, CHCl₃, 87% ee).

(1-Benzyl-4-phenyl-piperidin-3-yl)-methanol 15.

Ph N OH (S,R)-1-Benzyl-4-phenyl-2-oxo-piperidine-3-carboxylic acid benzyl ester ${f 14}$ (83 mg, 0.21 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) dissolved in THF (3 mL) was added dropwise to a stirred solution of LiAlH₄ (38 mg, 1.0 mmol) in THF (10 mL), whilst being cooled by an ice

bath. The reaction mixture was then warmed to rt 15 and then heated at reflux overnigth. After this time the flask was cooled to rt, water (1 mL) was added dropwise and the mixture was stirred for 10 min. 2M NaOH (3 mL) was then added and the reaction mixture was left to stir for a further 10 min. The mixture was then poured into saturated Rochelle's salt solution (30 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (4 x 20mL). The organic extracts were combined, washed with brine (3 x 20mL), dried with MqSO₄, filtered and concentrated in vacuo to give the crude product, which was purified by FC on silica gel (EtOAc/n-pentane 1:1) giving 15 (46.1 mg, 0.16 mmol, 79% yield) as an oil. 1 H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 7.38-7.20 (m, 10H), 3.63 (m, 2H), 3.39 (dd, J = 10.8, 3.2 Hz, 1H), 3.24 (m, 2H), 3.03 (m, 1H), 2.36(m, 1H), 2.11 (m, 3H), 1.08 (m. 1H), 0.85 (m, 1H). 13 C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 144.2, 129.4, 128.6, 128.2, 127.4, 127.2, 126.5, 64.0, 63.4, 57.2, 53.8, 45.0, 43.8, 34.0. HRMS: C₁₉H₂₄NO $[M+H]^+$ calcd: 282.1857, found: 282.1857. $[\alpha]_D^{23} = +15.1$ (c = 1.0, CHCl₃, 90% ee).

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