#### **Supporting Information**

#### For

# Amine Protection/α-Activation with the *tert*-Butoxythiocarbonyl Group: Application to Azetidine Lithiation–Electrophilic Substitution

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#### **<u>1. General Details</u>**

All reactions requiring anhydrous conditions were conducted in flame-dried apparatus under an atmosphere of nitrogen or argon.  $CH_2Cl_2$ , toluene, pentane, THF and  $Et_2O$  were degassed and dried over activated alumina under nitrogen.<sup>1</sup> TMEDA was distilled over  $CaH_2$ ; MeI and BuI were passed through basic alumina immediately before use; TMSCl was distilled and passed through basic alumina; benzaldehyde, *p*-anisaldehyde and allyl bromide were distilled; 4-chlorobenzaldehyde was recrystallised from  $Et_2O$ ; acetone was refluxed over CaO and distilled; all other reagents were used as received. *s*-BuLi was titrated on arrival, and periodically thereafter, using 2-propanol solution in toluene with 0.2% 1,10-phenanthroline indicator titration solution for quantitative analysis of BuLi.

Thin layer chromatography (TLC) was carried out on aluminium-backed plates pre-coated with silica (0.2 mm, 60 F254 nm), which were visualized UV light ( $\lambda$ max = 254 nm) and/or developed with basic potassium permanganate solution with heating. Flash column chromatography was carried out on Sigel (43–63 µm) in the solvents systems indicated, applying head pressure by means of a low pressure nitrogen line (0.1–0.3 atm). Petroleum ether refers to the fraction boiling between 30 °C – 40 °C. Melting points are uncorrected. Infra-red spectra were recorded neat and the intensity of the peaks are reported as s, m, w, br, denoting strong, medium, weak and broad, respectively. <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C and <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectra were recorded at 25 °C in CDCl<sub>3</sub> or D<sub>2</sub>O. <sup>13</sup>C DEPT, COSY and HSQC spectra were used to aid structure assignments. Data are expressed as chemical shifts ( $\delta$ ) in parts per million (ppm) relative to CDCl<sub>3</sub> (<sup>1</sup>H  $\delta$  7.27 ppm, <sup>13</sup>C  $\delta$  77.0 ppm, respectively) or D<sub>2</sub>O (<sup>1</sup>H  $\delta$  4.75 ppm) as the internal standard on the  $\delta$  scale. TMS (<sup>13</sup>C  $\delta$  0.00 ppm) or CFCl<sub>3</sub> (<sup>19</sup>F  $\delta$  0.00 ppm) were employed as external references. The multiplicity of each signal is reported as s, d, t, q, quin, br, m, denoting singlet, doublet, triplet, quartet, quintet, broad, and multiplet, respectively. Proton coupling constants J are reported to the nearest 0.1 Hz. Discernible NMR signals for minor rotamers or diastereomers are indicated in parentheses. High resolution mass spectra were obtained by field ionization (FI), or by electrospray ionization (ESI) using tetraoctylammonium bromide or sodium dodecyl sulfate as the lock mass; values are quotes as ratio of mass to charge (m/z) in Daltons, and relative intensities of assignable peaks observed are quoted as a percentage value of the base peak.

### **<u>2. Experimental Conditions</u>**

#### 1-(2,2-Dimethylazetidin-1-yl)-2,2-dimethylpropane-1-thione (3)



A solution of 2,2-dimethyl-1-(2-methylazetidin-1-yl)propane-1-thione  $(2)^2$  (E = Me) (59 mg, 0.34 mmol) in THF (2 mL) was cooled to -78 °C (acetone / dry-ice) before the addition of TMEDA (124  $\mu$ L, 0.83 mmol). *s*-BuLi (1.3 M in cyclohexane / hexane, 317  $\mu$ L, 0.41 mmol) was then added quickly in one portion. The reaction mixture was stirred for 30 min at -78 °C before addition of MeI (64  $\mu$ L, 1.0 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred for a further 15 min at -78 °C, warmed to rt over 10 min, stirred at rt for 20 min, then quenched with sat. aq NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (5 mL), and extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (4 × 5 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with water (10 mL) and brine (10 mL), dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated under reduced pressure. Purification of the pale yellow solid (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 3–5% Et<sub>2</sub>O / petroleum ether) gave a white solid, 2,2-disubstituted azetidine **3** (32 mg, 50%).

 $R_f 0.52 (30\% \text{ Et}_2\text{O} / \text{petroleum ether}); \text{mp } 65-67 \text{ °C}; \text{IR (neat / cm}^{-1}) 2992 \text{ w}, 2960 \text{ m}, 2923 \text{ w}, 1468 \text{ m}, 1458 \text{ m}, 1429 \text{ s}, 1362 \text{ s}, 1270 \text{ w}, 1252 \text{ w}, 1231 \text{ w}, 1154 \text{ w}, 1113 \text{ s}; \delta_H (400 \text{ MHz, CDCl}_3) 4.51-4.46 (2H, m, \text{NCH}_2), 2.10-2.06 (2H, m, \text{NCH}_2\text{CH}_2), 1.79 (6H, \text{s}, C(CH_3)_2), 1.30 (9H, \text{s}, (CH_3)_3); \delta_C (100 \text{ MHz, CDCl}_3) 208.7 (C=S), 74.4 (NC_qCH_3), 54.3 (NCH_2), 43.6 (C(CH_3)_3), 31.1 (CH_2), 29.3 ((CH_3)_3), 24.7 (C_q(CH_3)_2); \text{HRMS (ESI}^+) calcd for C_{10}H_{19}NNaS: 208.1130, found 208.1124.$ 

#### **O-tert-Butyl azetidine-1-carbothioate (5)**



To a solution of *O-tert*-butyl *S*-methyl carbonodithioate (4)<sup>3</sup> (300 mg, 1.83 mmol) in pentane (0.5 mL) at 0 °C (ice-bath) was added azetidine (112  $\mu$ L, 1.66 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 1.5 h, then stirred at rt for 1 h, then concentrated under reduced pressure. Purification of the resulting pale yellow oil (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 5–20% Et<sub>2</sub>O / petroleum ether) gave a colorless oil, azetidine thiocarbamate **5** (254 mg, 88%).

 $R_f 0.44$  (5% EtOAc / petroleum ether); IR (neat / cm<sup>-1</sup>) 2975 s, 2882 w, 1488 br, 1438 s, 1391 m, 1365 m, 1741 br, 1245 s, 1228 m, 1139 br, 1024 m, 944 w, 818 w;  $\delta_{\rm H}$  (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 4.13 (2H, t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, NCH<sub>2</sub>), 4.01 (2H, t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, NCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.21–2.14 (2H, m, NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.64 (9H, s, C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>);  $\delta_{\rm C}$  (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 184.9 (C=S), 84.6 (*C*(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 51.7 (NCH<sub>2</sub>), 50.6 (NCH<sub>2</sub>), 28.4 (C(*C*H<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 13.9 (NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>); HRMS (FI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>15</sub>NOS: 173.0874, found 173.0869.

O-tert-Butyl pyrrolidine-1-carbothioate (SI-1)



To a solution of *O-tert*-butyl *S*-methyl carbonodithioate (**4**)<sup>3</sup> (300 mg, 1.83 mmol) in pentane (0.5 mL) at 0 °C (ice-bath) was added pyrrolidine (141  $\mu$ L, 1.66 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 1 h, then stirred at rt for 1 h, then concentrated under reduced pressure. Purification of the resulting yellow oil (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 5–10% Et<sub>2</sub>O / petroleum ether) gave a colorless oil, pyrrolidine thiocarbamate **SI-1** (277 mg, 89%).

 $R_f$  0.66 (5% EtOAc / petroleum ether); IR (neat / cm<sup>-1</sup>) 2973 s, 2928 m, 2876 s, 1468 m, 1437 b, 1390 m, 1364 m, 1333 m, 1267 s, 1232 w, 1143 br, 997 w, 858 m;  $\delta_{\rm H}$  (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 3.70–3.66 (2H, m, NCH<sub>2</sub>), 3.48–3.45 (2H, m, NCH<sub>2</sub>), 1.94–1.88 (4H, m, NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub> × 2), 1.67 (9H, s, C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>);  $\delta_{\rm C}$  (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 183.2 (C=S), 84.7 (*C*(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 51.1 (NCH<sub>2</sub>), 48.3 (NCH<sub>2</sub>), 28.5 (C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 25.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 24.6 (CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>); HRMS (FI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>17</sub>NOS: 187.1031, found 187.1025.

#### O-(tert-Butyl) piperidine-1-carbothioate (SI-2)



To a solution of *O-tert*-butyl *S*-methyl carbonodithioate (**4**)<sup>3</sup> (300 mg, 1.83 mmol) in pentane (0.5 mL) at 0 °C (ice-bath) was added piperidine (164  $\mu$ L, 1.66 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 30 min, and then stirred at rt for 30 min. The reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure. Purification of the resulting pale yellow oil (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 1% EtOAc / petroleum ether) gave a colorless oil, piperidine thiocarbamate **SI-2** (300 mg, 90%).

 $R_f 0.76$  (5% EtOAc / petroleum ether); IR (neat / cm<sup>-1</sup>) 2975 w, 2935 m, 2857 w, 1479 s, 1428 s, 1391 w, 1365 w, 1289 s, 1271 w, 1236 s, 1205 w, 1139 s, 1010 m, 954 w, 852 w;  $\delta_H$  (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 4.02 (2H, br s, NCH<sub>2</sub>), 3.64–3.61 (2H, m, NCH<sub>2</sub>), 1.66 (9H, s, C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 1.63 (4H, br s, NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub> × 2), 1.53 (2H, br s, N(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>);  $\delta_C$  (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 184.8 (C=S), 85.2 (*C*(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 49.7 (NCH<sub>2</sub>), 46.9 (NCH<sub>2</sub>), 28.6 (C(*C*H<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 26.0 (NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 25.2 (NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 24.4 (N(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>); HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>19</sub>NNaOS: 224.1080, found 224.1078.

·ŅH₂ CI

Azetidinium chloride (6a)

HCl (2 M in Et<sub>2</sub>O, 577  $\mu$ L, 1.15 mmol) was added to *O-tert*-butyl azetidine-1-carbothioate (**5**) (50 mg, 0.29 mmol) at rt. The reaction mixture was stirred for 1 h at rt, then concentrated under reduced pressure to give a white solid, azetidine salt **6a**<sup>4</sup> (27 mg, quant.).

IR (neat / cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3386 br, 2928 s, 2644 m, 2394 w, 1639 w, 1449 m, 1317 s, 1254 m, 952 w, 909 m;  $\delta_{\rm H}$  (400 MHz, D<sub>2</sub>O) 4.08 (4H, t, *J* = 8.4 Hz, NCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.50 (2H, quin, *J* = 8.3 Hz, NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>);  $\delta_{\rm C}$  (100 MHz, D<sub>2</sub>O) 46.8 (NCH<sub>2</sub>), 18.4 (NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>).

#### Azetidinium trifluoroacetate (6b)

To a solution of *O-tert*-butyl azetidine-1-carbothioate (**5**) (45 mg, 0.26 mmol) in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (0.5 ml) at rt was added TFA (50 µl, 1.07 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred for 30 min at rt, then concentrated under reduced pressure to give a grey liquid, azetidine salt **6b** (44 mg, quant.).

IR (neat / cm<sup>-1</sup>) 2993 br, 2682 w, 2361 w, 1672 s, 1178 s, 1127 s, 836 w, 799 w, 721 w;  $\delta_{\rm H}$  (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 9.49 (2H, br s, NH<sub>2</sub>), 4.13–4.08 (4H, m, NCH<sub>2</sub> × 2), 2.56 (2H, quin, *J* = 8.4 Hz, NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>);  $\delta_{\rm C}$  (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 162.1 (q, *J* = 35 Hz, C=O), 116.5 (Q, *J* = 292 Hz, CF<sub>3</sub>), 46.2 (NCH<sub>2</sub> × 2), 18.7 (NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>);  $\delta_{\rm F}$  (470 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) –75.9.

#### tert-Butyl azetidine-1-carboxylate (SI-3)



Prepared by analogy to a lit.<sup>5</sup> procedure for *N*-Boc-pyrrolidine. Boc<sub>2</sub>O (0.57 mL, 2.5 mmol) was added dropwise to an ice-cold, stirred solution of azetidine (0.17 mL, 2.5 mmol) and Et<sub>3</sub>N (0.70 mL, 5 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (10 mL) and the reaction mixture was stirred overnight, warming to rt. After quenching with aq HCl (1 M, 5 mL) and partitioning, the aq layer was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3 x 15 mL) and the combined organic layers washed with H<sub>2</sub>O (30 mL) and brine (30 mL), dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated under reduced pressure. Purification of the pale yellow oil (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 50% Et<sub>2</sub>O / petroleum ether) gave a colorless oil, *N*-Boc-azetidine **SI-3**<sup>6</sup> (376 mg, 96%).

 $R_f 0.3 (20\% \text{ Et}_2\text{O} / \text{petroleum ether}); \text{IR (neat / cm-1) 2975 m, 2888 w, 1698 br, 1479 w, 1455 w, 1390 s, 1365 s, 1304 w, 1180 m, 1132 s, 966 w; <math>\delta_H (400 \text{ MHz, CDCl}_3) 3.94 (4H, t, J = 7.6 \text{ Hz, NCH}_2), 2.17 (2H, quin, J = 7.6 \text{ Hz, NCH}_2CH_2), 1.43 (9H, s, C(CH_3)_3); <math>\delta_C (100 \text{ MHz, CDCl}_3) 156.3 (C=O), 79.1 C(CH_3)_3), 49.2 (br, NCH_2), 28.4 (C(CH_3)_3), 15.3 (CH_2); LRMS (ESI^+) 180.1 ([M+Na]^+, 100\%).$ 



To a solution of *O-tert*-butyl azetidine-1-carbothioate (**5**) (22 mg, 0.13 mmol) and *tert*-butyl azetidine-1-carboxylate (**SI-3**) (20 mg, 0.13 mmol) in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (0.5 ml) at rt was added TFA (29 µl, 0.38 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred for 1 h at rt, then concentrated under reduced pressure to give a colorless oil (43 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, p S32) indicated a 1.02:0.98 ratio of azetidine salt **6b** and *N*-Boc-azetidine **SI-3**.

#### Pyrrolidinium trifluoroacetate (SI-4)



To a solution of *O-tert*-butyl pyrrolidine-1-carbothioate (**SI-2**) (50 mg, 0.27 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (1 ml) at rt was added TFA (82 µl, 1.07 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred for 1 h at rt, then concentrated under reduced pressure to give a colorless liquid, pyrrolidine salt **SI-4**<sup>7</sup> (49 mg, quant.). IR (neat / cm<sup>-1</sup>) 2986 br, 2850 w, 2486 w, 1670 s, 1462 w, 1426 w, 1198 s, 1173 s, 1125 s, 833 m, 797 m;  $\delta_{\rm H}$  (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 9.43 (1H, br s, NH<sub>2</sub>), 4.66 (1H, br s, NH<sub>2</sub>), 3.27–3.23 (4H, m, NCH<sub>2</sub> × 2), 2.02–1.97 (4H, m, NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub> × 2);  $\delta_{\rm C}$  (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 162.1 (q, *J* = 36 Hz, C=O), 116 (Q, *J* = 292 Hz, CF<sub>3</sub>), 45.1 (NCH<sub>2</sub> × 2), 24.2 ((CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>);  $\delta_{\rm F}$  (470 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) –75.8.

#### Selective deprotection of N-Botc-pyrrolidine SI-1 in the presence of N-Boc-pyrrolidine SI-5



To a solution of *O-tert*-butyl pyrrolidine-1-carbothioate (**SI-1**) (50 mg, 0.27 mmol) and *tert*-butyl pyrrolidine-1-carboxylate (**SI-5**)<sup>5</sup> (46 mg, 0.27 mmol) in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (1 ml) at rt was added TFA (41 µl, 0.53 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred for 1 h at rt, then concentrated under reduced pressure to give a colorless oil (93 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, p S34) indicated a 1.2:0.8 ratio of pyrrolidine salt **SI-4** and *N*-Boc-pyrrolidine **SI-5**.

#### 2-Methylazetidinium trifluoroacetate (SI-6)



S7

To a solution of *O-tert*-butyl 2-methylazetidine-1-carbothioate (**10h**) (60 mg, 0.32 mmol) in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (1 ml) at rt was added TFA (61 µl, 0.80 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred for 1 h at rt, then concentrated under reduced pressure to give a colorless liquid, 2-methylazetidine salt **SI-6** (59 mg, quant.).

IR (neat / cm<sup>-1</sup>); 3434 br, 2987 br, 2680 br, 2494 br, 1671 s, 1452 w, 1428 w, 1395 w, 1339 w, 1173 s, 1129 s, 1045 w, 925 w, 835 m, 798 m, 721 m, 706 m;  $\delta_{\rm H}$  (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 9.26 (1H, br s, N*H*H'), 9.06 (1H, br s, NH*H*'), 4.60–4.58 (1H, m, NCH), 4.01–3.91 (2H, m, NCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.63–2.55 (1H, m, C*H*H'), 2.35–2.26 (1H, m, CH*H*'), 1.54 (3H, d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>);  $\delta_{\rm C}$  (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 161.7 (q, *J* = 36 Hz, C=O), 116.2 (Q, *J* = 300 Hz, CF<sub>3</sub>), 57.4 (NCH), 42.1 (NCH<sub>2</sub>), 26.3 (NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 19.5 (CH<sub>3</sub>);  $\delta_{\rm F}$  (377 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) –75.9.

#### O-(tert-Butyl) 3-((triisopropylsilyl)oxy)azetidine-1-carbothioate (7)



To a solution of *O-tert*-butyl *S*-methyl carbonodithioate (4)<sup>3</sup> (215 mg, 1.31 mmol) in pentane (1 mL) at 0 °C (ice-bath) was added 3-((triisopropylsilyl)oxy)azetidine (9) (200 mg, 0.87 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 1 h, and then stirred at rt for 1 h. The reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure. Purification of the resulting pale yellow oil (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 1–1.5% Et<sub>2</sub>O / petroleum ether) gave a colorless oil, azetidine thiocarbamate **7** (196 mg, 65%).

 $R_f 0.32$  (2% Et<sub>2</sub>O / petroleum ether); IR (neat / cm<sup>-1</sup>) 2943 w, 2867 w, 1482 s, 1444 s, 1391 w, 1366 w, 1275 m, 1228 w, 1133 s, 1009 s, 882 s, 683 m;  $\delta_{\rm H}$  (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 4.58 (1H, tt, *J* = 6.5, 4.3 Hz, OCH), 4.31 (1H, ddd, *J* = 10.7, 6.6, 1.5 Hz, NC*H*H'), 4.19 (1H, ddd, *J* = 10.5, 6.6, 1.5 Hz, NC*H*H'), 3.99–3.95 (1H, m, NCH*H*'), 3.84–3.80 (1H, m, NCH*H*'), 1.63 (9H, s, C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 1.10–1.00 (21 H, m, SiCH × 3, CH<sub>3</sub> × 6);  $\delta_{\rm C}$  (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 185.2 (C=S), 84.9 (*C*(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 62.1 (NCH<sub>2</sub>), 60.7 (NCH<sub>2</sub>), 60.3 (OCH), 28.3 (C(*C*H<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 17.7 (CH*C*H<sub>3</sub>), 11.7 (SiCH); HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>35</sub>NNaO<sub>2</sub>SSi: 368.2050, found 368.2043.

#### tert-Butyl 3-((triisopropylsilyl)oxy)azetidine-1-carboxylate (8)



To a solution of di-*tert*-butyl dicarbonate (327  $\mu$ L, 1.43 mmol) in EtOH (4 mL) at rt was added a solution of 3-((triisopropylsilyl)oxy)azetidine (**9**) (218 mg, 0.95 mmol) in EtOH (4 mL). After 10 min, imidazole (65 mg, 0.95 mmol) was added and after a further 5 min the reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure. CHCl<sub>3</sub> (8 mL) was added and the mixture was washed with 1% aq HCl (2 × 8 mL, 0 °C) with cooling (ice-bath). The organic phase was dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated under reduced pressure. Purification of the resulting pale yellow oil (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 5–10% Et<sub>2</sub>O / petroleum ether) gave a colorless oil, Boc-protected-azetidine **8** (290 mg, 93%).

 $R_f 0.24$  (5% Et<sub>2</sub>O / petroleum ether); IR (neat / cm<sup>-1</sup>) 2944 m, 2867 m, 1707 s, 1463 m, 1402 s, 1366 m, 1251 w, 1123 m, 1064 s, 1014 s, 948 w, 883 s, 773 w, 680 m;  $\delta_{\rm H}$  (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 4.60 (1H, tt, *J* = 6.6, 4.7 Hz, OCH), 4.11–4.07 (2H, m, NC*H*H'), 3.79 (2H, dd, *J* = 9.5, 4.6 Hz, NCH*H*'), 1.43 (9H, s, C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 1.07–1.00 (21 H, m, SiCH × 3, CH<sub>3</sub> × 6);  $\delta_{\rm C}$  (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 156.4 (C=O), 79.3 (*C*(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 61.6 (OCH), 59.5 (NCH<sub>2</sub>), 28.4 (C(*C*H<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 17.7 (CH*C*H<sub>3</sub>), 11.8 (SiCH); HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>35</sub>NNaO<sub>3</sub>Si: 352.2278, found 352.2268.

#### 3-((Triisopropylsilyl)oxy)azetidine (9)

TIPSO

A suspension of 3-hydroxyazetidine hydrochloride (250 mg, 2.28 mmol) and imidazole (932 mg, 13.7 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3 mL) was stirred at rt for 10 min before the addition of TIPSCl (1.1 mL, 5.1 mmol). The reaction was stirred at rt for a further 48 h before addition of H<sub>2</sub>O (6 mL), followed by aq NaOH (6 M, 2 mL). The mixture was partitioned and the organic layer was washed with H<sub>2</sub>O (2 × 6 mL) and brine (6 mL). The aqueous extracts were then re-extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2 × 6 mL) and the combined organic extracts were dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated under reduced pressure. HCl (2 M in Et<sub>2</sub>O, 3 mL) was added to the resulting pale yellow liquid and the mixture was stirred at rt for 1 h before addition of H<sub>2</sub>O (6 mL). The mixture was partitioned and the organic layer was extracted with H<sub>2</sub>O (2 × 6 mL) and the combined organic extracts were dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated under reduced pressure. HCl (2 M in Et<sub>2</sub>O, 3 mL) was added to the resulting pale yellow liquid and the mixture was extracted with H<sub>2</sub>O (2 × 6 mL). The combined aqueous extracts were basified by addition of aq NaOH (6 M) until pH paper indicated ~pH 10, then extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (3 × 10 mL), dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated under reduced pressure to give a colorless oil, TIPS-protected 3-hydroxyazetidine **9** (425 mg, 81%).

 $R_f 0.49$  (1% Et<sub>3</sub>N / 20% MeOH / petroleum ether); IR (neat / cm<sup>-1</sup>) 2943 m, 2866 m, 1739 w, 1542 w, 1463 m, 1383 s, 1169 s, 1126 m, 1013 w, 994 w, 863 s, 682 m;  $\delta_{\rm H}$  (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 4.66 (1H, quin, J = 6.5 Hz, OCH), 3.66–3.56 (4H, m, NCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.06 (1H, br s, NH), 1.05–1.00 (21 H, m, SiCH × 3,

CH<sub>3</sub> × 6);  $\delta_{C}$  (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 66.3 (OCH), 58.0 (NCH<sub>2</sub>), 17.8 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 11.8 (SiCH); HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>28</sub>NOSi: 230.1935, found 230.1931.

Selective thermal deprotection of *O*-(*tert*-Butyl) 3-((triisopropylsilyl)oxy)azetidine-1carbothioate (7) in the presence of *tert*-Butyl 3-((triisopropylsilyl)oxy)azetidine-1-carboxylate (8)



A solution of *O*-(*tert*-butyl) 3-((triisopropylsilyl)oxy)azetidine-1-carbothioate (**7**) (30 mg, 0.087 mmol) and *tert*-butyl 3-((triisopropylsilyl)oxy)azetidine-1-carboxylate (**8**) (29 mg, 0.088 mmol) in EtOH (4 mL) was heated at reflux for 12 h. The reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure to give a colorless oil (48 mg). <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, p S40) indicated a ~1:1 mixture of azetidine salt **9** and *N*-Boc-azetidine **8**.

# General Procedure A: α-deprotonation-electrophile trapping of *O-tert*-butyl azetidine-1carbothioate (5)

A solution of *O-tert*-butyl azetidine-1-carbothioate (**5**) (1 equiv) in THF (5 mL/ mmol **5**) was cooled to -78 °C (acetone/dry-ice) before the addition of TMEDA (2.4 equiv). *s*-BuLi [1.3 M in cyclohexane / hexane, 1.3 equiv (1 equiv for reactions with aromatic aldehydes)] was then added dropwise over 3 min. The reaction mixture was stirred for 30 min at -78 °C before the addition of the electrophile (3 equiv). The reaction mixture was stirred for the time and at the temp described below, then quenched with sat. aq NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (10 mL), and extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (4 × 10 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with water (20 mL) and brine (20 mL), dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated under reduced pressure.

#### *O-tert*-Butyl (2-<sup>2</sup>H<sub>1</sub>)azetidine-1-carbothioate (10a)



*O-tert*-Butyl azetidine-1-carbothioate (**5**) (40 mg, 0.23 mmol) and CD<sub>3</sub>OD (28  $\mu$ L, 0.69 mmol) were used following General Procedure A, with stirring following electrophile addition for 60 min at -78 °C, warming to rt over 10 min, then stirring at rt for a further 5 min. Purification of the resulting pale yellow oil (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 10% Et<sub>2</sub>O / petroleum ether) gave a colorless oil, deuterated azetidine **10a** (36 mg, 90% mass recovery, 95% D by HRMS analysis).

 $R_f 0.33$  (5% EtOAc / petroleum ether); IR (neat / cm<sup>-1</sup>) 2974 w, 2929 w, 1481 s, 1442 s, 1391 w, 1365 m, 1267 s, 1226 w, 1142 s, 1022 w, 898 w, 736 w;  $\delta_{\rm H}$  (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 4.12–3.96 (3H, m, NCHD and NCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.17–2.13 (2H, m, NCHCH<sub>2</sub>), 1.62 (9H, s, C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>);  $\delta_{\rm C}$  (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) (rotamer mixture) 185.0 (C=S), 84.6 (*C*(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 51.7 (50.6) (NCH<sub>2</sub>), 51.4 (50.3) (T, *J* = 22.9 Hz, NCHD), 28.4 (C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 13.8 (13.9) (NCHCH<sub>2</sub>); HRMS (FI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>14</sub>DNOS: 174.0937, found 174.0930.

#### O-tert-Butyl 2-(trimethylsilyl)azetidine-1-carbothioate (10b)



*O-tert*-Butyl azetidine-1-carbothioate (**5**) (147 mg, 0.85 mmol) and TMSCl (323 µL, 2.54 mmol) were used following General Procedure A, with stirring following electrophile addition for 30 min at -78 °C, warming to rt over 10 min, then stirring at rt for a further 20 min. Purification of the resulting pale yellow oil (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 2–5% Et<sub>2</sub>O / petroleum ether) gave a colorless oil, silane **10b** (158 mg, 76%). *R<sub>f</sub>* 0.59 (5% EtOAc / petroleum ether); IR (neat / cm<sup>-1</sup>) 2961 w, 2882 w, 1483 s, 1445 s, 1390 m, 1365 m, 1267 s, 1248 s, 1227 m, 1022 w, 992 w, 937 w, 754 w, 737 w, 695 w;  $\delta_{\rm H}$  (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) (3.5:1 rotamer mixture by analysis of C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub> signals at 1.66 and 1.61) 4.26–3.89 (3H, m, NCH and NCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.43–2.25 (1H, m, NCHCHH'), 1.99–1.89 (1H, m, NCHCHH'), 1.66 (1.61) (9H, s, C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 0.11 (0.18) (9H, s, Si(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>);  $\delta_{\rm C}$  (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) (rotamer mixture) 183.8 (C=S), 85.0 (*C*(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 57.3 (NCH), 52.7 (51.1) (NCH<sub>2</sub>), 28.7 (28.5) (C(*C*H<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 16.6 (NCH*C*H<sub>2</sub>), -3.2 (-2.2) (Si(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>); HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NNaOSSi: 268.1162, found 268.1158.

#### O-tert-Butyl 2-(tributylstannyl)azetidine-1-carbothioate (10c)



*O-tert*-Butyl azetidine-1-carbothioate (**5**) (150 mg, 0.87 mmol) and Bu<sub>3</sub>SnCl (704  $\mu$ L, 2.60 mmol) were used following General Procedure A, with stirring following electrophile addition for 30 min at -78 °C, warming to rt over 10 min, then stirring at rt for a further 20 min. Purification of the resulting colorless liquid (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 1–3% Et<sub>2</sub>O / petroleum ether) gave a colorless oil, stannane **10c** (300 mg, 75%).

 $R_f 0.65 (10\% \text{ Et}_2\text{O} / \text{petroleum ether});$  IR (neat / cm<sup>-1</sup>) 2956 w, 2923 m, 1490 s, 1446 m, 1390 w, 1365 w, 1265 s, 1225 w, 1138 s, 1073 w, 1023 w, 875 w, 823 w;  $\delta_H$  (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) (2:1 rotamer mixture by analysis of C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub> signals at 1.66 and 1.60) 4.48–4.45 (1H, m NCH), 4.15–4.09 (4.28–4.21) (1H, td, J = 10.0, 5.0 Hz, NCHH'), 4.05–3.99 (4.15–4.09) (1H, m, NCHH'), 2.56–2.39

(1H, m, NCH<sub>2</sub>C*H*H'), 2.17–2.06 (1H, m, NCH<sub>2</sub>CH*H*'), 1.60 (1.66) (9H, s, C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 1.64–1.43 (6H, m, Sn(CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 1.36–1.26 (6H, m, Sn(CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 0.97 (1.03) (9H, t, J = 8.0 Hz, Sn(CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 0.92–0.88 (6H, m, Sn(CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>);  $\delta_{\rm C}$  (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) (rotamer mixture) 181.2 (181.7) (C=S), 83.5 (84.6) (*C*(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 55.1 (54.4) ( $J_{119Sn-C} = 325$  Hz,  $J_{117Sn-C} = 302$  Hz ( $J_{119Sn-C} = 294$  Hz,  $J_{117Sn-C} = 280$  Hz), NCH), 50.8 (52.7) (NCH<sub>2</sub>), 29.1 (29.0) (SnCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 28.5 (28.7) (C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 27.5 (27.4) (CH<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 18.2 (18.7) (NCHCH<sub>2</sub>), 13.69 (13.65) (*C*H<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 11.0 (9.5) ( $J_{119Sn-C} = 322$  Hz,  $J_{117Sn-C} = 308$  Hz ( $J_{119Sn-C} = 318$  Hz,  $J_{117Sn-C} = 302$  Hz), SnCH<sub>2</sub>); HRMS (FI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>41</sub>NOS<sup>120</sup>Sn: 463.1931, found 463.1928.

#### O-tert-Butyl 2-(hydroxy(phenyl)methyl)azetidine-1-carbothioate (10d)



*O-tert*-Butyl azetidine-1-carbothioate (**5**) (150 mg, 0.87 mmol) and benzaldehyde (264  $\mu$ L, 2.60 mmol) were used following General Procedure A for an aromatic aldehyde, with stirring following electrophile addition for 2 h at -78 °C. Purification of the resulting pale brown oil (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 5–30% Et<sub>2</sub>O / petroleum ether) gave first a colorless oil, the minor diastereomer (*R*\*,*R*\*)-**10d-minor** (53 mg, 22%), followed by a colorless oil, the major diastereomer (*R*\*,*S*\*)-**10d-major** (127 mg, 52%); stereochemistry was assigned by analogy to **10e**.

# *O-(tert-*Butyl) (*R*\*)-2-((*R*\*)-hydroxy(phenyl)methyl)azetidine-1-carbothioate ((*R*\*,*R*\*)-10d-minor)



 $R_f$  0.43 (20% EtOAc / petroleum ether); IR (neat / cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3397 br, 2974 w, 2927 w, 2360 w, 1481 s, 1450 m, 1436 s, 1391 w, 1366 w, 1281 s, 1143 s, 1069 w, 1015 w, 977 w, 927 w, 701 w;  $\delta_H$  (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) (1.4:1 rotamer mixture by analysis of NCH signals in the region 4.92–4.50) 7.44–7.28 (5H, m, Ar), 5.33 (5.29) (1H, br s, CHOH), 4.92–4.89 (4.52–4.50) (1H, m, NCH), 4.32 (2.56) (1H, br s, OH), 4.00–3.39 (2H, m, NCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.36–1.87 (2H, m, NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.65 (1.72) (9H, s, C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>);  $\delta_C$  (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) (rotamer mixture) 186.3 (186.4) (C=S), 139.5 (139.1) (Ar), 128.5 (Ar), 128.1 (Ar), 127.5 (127.8) (Ar), 126.9 (Ar) 125.8 (Ar), 85.6 (85.7) (*C*(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 73.5 (71.8) (*C*HOH), 69.8 (68.9) (NCH), 49.1 (50.0) (NCH<sub>2</sub>), 28.4 (28.5) (C(*C*H<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 16.1 (14.3) (NCH<sub>2</sub>*C*H<sub>2</sub>); HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>21</sub>NNaO<sub>2</sub>S: 302.1185, found 302.1183.

*O*-(*tert*-Butyl) (*R*\*)-2-((*S*\*)-hydroxy(phenyl)methyl)azetidine-1-carbothioate ((*R*\*,*S*\*)-10d-major)



 $R_f 0.31$  (20% EtOAc petroleum ether); IR (neat / cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3295 br, 2975 w, 2928 w, 1476 s, 1462 s, 1452 s, 1437 s, 1392 m, 1366 m, 1278 s, 1198 m, 1086 s, 1061 w, 1039 w, 1027 w, 865 w, 823 w;  $\delta_H$  (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) (3:1 rotamer mixture by analysis of C*H*OH signals in the region 4.98–4.89) 7.43–7.29 (5H, m, Ar), 5.90 (1H, br s, OH), 4.97 (4.90) (1H, d, J = 8.6 Hz (J = 7.8 Hz), C*H*OH), 4.78–4.72 (4.57–4.44) (1H, m, NCH), 4.03–3.81 (2H, m, NCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.05–1.78 (2H, m, NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.67 (1.74) (9H, s, C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>);  $\delta_C$  (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) (rotamer mixture) 187.3 (C=S), 139.6 (Ar), 128.5 (Ar), 128.4 (Ar), 128.1 (Ar), 127.4 (Ar), 127.0 (Ar), 86.2 (*C*(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 79.2 (*C*HOH), 70.8 (69.7) (NCH), 48.8 (49.6) (NCH<sub>2</sub>), 28.4 (28.5) (C(*C*H<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 18.2 (17.3) (NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>); HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>21</sub>NNaO<sub>2</sub>S: 302.1185, found 302.1179.

#### O-tert-Butyl 2-((4-chlorophenyl)(hydroxy)methyl)azetidine-1-carbothioate (10e)



*O-tert*-Butyl azetidine-1-carbothioate (5) (150 mg, 0.87 mmol) and a solution of 4chlorobenzaldehyde (365 mg, 2.60 mmol) in THF (0.5 mL) were used following General Procedure A for an aromatic aldehyde, with stirring following electrophile addition for 2 h at -78 °C. Purification of the resulting pale brown oil (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 5–20% Et<sub>2</sub>O/ petroleum ether) gave first a colorless oil, the minor diastereomer ( $R^*,R^*$ )-10e-minor (57 mg, 21%), followed by a white solid, the major diastereomer ( $R^*,S^*$ )-10e-major (131 mg, 48%); stereochemistry was determined by conversion to the corresponding *N*-piv azetidines ( $R^*,R^*$ )-SI-8 and ( $R^*,S^*$ )-SI-8 and comparing characterization data to that of an authentic sample of ( $R^*,R^*$ )-SI-8, see below. *O-tert*-Butyl  $(R^*)$ -2- $((R^*)$ -(4-chlorophenyl)(hydroxy)methyl)azetidine-1-carbothioate  $((R^*, R^*)$ -10e-minor)



 $R_f$  0.43 (20% EtOAc / petroleum ether); IR (neat / cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3396 br, 2975 m, 2928 w, 1480 s, 1436 s, 1391 m, 1366 m, 1281 s, 1142 s, 1090 m, 1013 m, 977 w, 912 w, 837 w, 823 w, 781 w;  $\delta_{\rm H}$  (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) (1.9:1 rotamer mixture by analysis of NCH signals at 4.88 and 4.46) 7.38–7.25 (4H, m, Ar), 5.25 (1H, d, J = 4.0 Hz, CHOH), 4.88 (4.46) (1H, t, J = 7.1 Hz (J = 6.3 Hz), NCH), 4.56 (2.74) (1H, d, J = 6.8 Hz (J = 3.0 Hz), OH), 3.76 (4.00–3.88) (1H, td (m), J = 9.6, 6.1 Hz, NCHH'), 3.40 (4.00–3.88) (1H, td (m), J = 9.3, 6.7 Hz, NCHH'), 2.14–2.05 (2.30–2.22) (1H, m, NCH<sub>2</sub>CHH'), 2.00–1.84 (1H, m, NCH<sub>2</sub>CHH'), 1.64 (1.71) (9H, s, C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>);  $\delta_{\rm C}$  (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) (rotamer mixture) 186.5 (C=S), 138.1 (137.6) (Ar), 133.3 (133.5) (Ar), 128.3 (128.6) (Ar), 128.2 (127.2) (Ar), 85.8 (*C*(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 73.2 (71.2) (*C*HOH), 69.6 (68.7) (NCH), 49.0 (50.0) (NCH<sub>2</sub>), 28.3 (28.5) (C(*C*H<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 16.1 (14.2) (NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>); HRMS (FI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>20</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>SCI: 313.0903, found 313.0905.

*O-tert*-Butyl ( $R^*$ )-2-(( $S^*$ )-(4-chlorophenyl)(hydroxy)methyl)azetidine-1-carbothioate (( $R^*$ , $S^*$ )-10e-major)



 $R_f$  0.28 (20% EtOAc petroleum ether); mp 100–102 °C (decomposes); IR (neat/cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3276 br, 2976 w, 2927 w, 1477 s, 1462 s, 1436 s, 1392 m, 1366 m, 1276 s, 1142 s, 1090 w, 1069 w, 1039 w, 1014 m, 910 w, 822 m, 732 m;  $\delta_{\rm H}$  (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) (3.4:1 rotamer mixture by analysis of CHOH signals at 4.95 and 4.87) 7.37–2.28 (4H, m, Ar), 5.94 (1H, br s, OH), 4.95 (4.87) (1H, d, J = 8.6 (7.8) Hz, CHOH), 4.71–4.65 (4.51–4.45) (1H, m, NCH), 4.01–3.78 (2H, m, NCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.02–1.91 (1.81–1.69) (2H, m, NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.65 (1.73) (9H, s, C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>);  $\delta_{\rm C}$  (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) (rotamer mixture) 187.4 (C=S), 138.2 (137.2) (Ar), 133.8 (Ar), 128.7 (128.6) (Ar), 128.55 (128.3) (Ar), 86.3 (87.3) (C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 78.3 (76.2) (CHOH), 70.5 (69.3) (NCH), 48.8 (49.5) (NCH<sub>2</sub>), 28.3 (28.4) (C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 18.0 (17.1) (NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>); HRMS (FI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>20</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>SCI: 313.0903, found 313.0908.

Synthesis of an authentic sample of  $1-((R^*)-2-((R^*)-(4-\text{chlorophenyl})(hydroxy))$ methyl)azetidin-1-yl)-2,2-dimethylpropan-1-one (( $R^*,R^*$ )-SI-8)



Aq H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (35%, 1.7 mL) was added to an ice-cold, stirred solution of AcOH (1.3 mL). A solution of 1-(( $R^*$ )-2-(( $R^*$ )-(4-chlorophenyl)(hydroxy)methyl)azetidin-1-yl)-2,2-dimethylpropane-1-thione (**SI-7**)<sup>2</sup> (30 mg, 0.10 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (0.5 mL) was added slowly and the reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 4 h, then poured onto sat. aq NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (15 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (3 × 10 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed successively with sat. aq NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (10 mL), H<sub>2</sub>O (10 mL) and brine (10 mL), then dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated under reduced pressure. Purification of the resulting pale yellow oil (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 20–40% EtOAc/ petroleum ether) gave a white solid, *N*-piv-azetidine ( $R^*$ , $R^*$ )-**SI-8** (18 mg, 64%).

 $R_f$  0.24 (40% EtOAc/ petroleum ether); mp 107–110 °C; IR (neat/cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3364 br, 2968 m, 1593 s, 1484 s, 1426 s, 1365 m, 1238 w, 1149 w, 1090 m, 1013 m, 978 w, 836 w, 755w;  $\delta_H$  (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 7.37–7.24 (4H, m, Ar), 6.21 (1H, br d, J = 7.2 Hz, OH), 4.96 (1H, ddd, J = 9.0, 6.5, 1.9 Hz, NCH), 4.72 (1H, br d, J = 3.2 Hz, CHOH), 4.12 (1H, td, J = 8.9, 6.0 Hz, NCHH'), 3.60–3.55 (1H, m, NCH*H*'), 2.34–2.25 (1H, m, NCH<sub>2</sub>C*H*H'), 1.94–1.85 (1H, m, NCH<sub>2</sub>C*HH*'), 1.18 (9H, s, C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>);  $\delta_C$  (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 179.8 (C=O), 138.3 (Ar), 133.4 (Ar), 128.7 (Ar), 128.0 (Ar), 75.0 (CHOH), 67.7 (NCH), 50.7 (NCH<sub>2</sub>), 38.4 (*C*(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 26.9 (C(*C*H<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 18.0 (NCH<sub>2</sub>*C*H<sub>2</sub>); HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>21</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>Cl: 282.1255, found 282.1251.

Synthesisof $1-((R^*)-2-((R^*)-(4-chlorophenyl)(hydroxy)methyl)azetidin-1-yl)-2,2-dimethylpropan-1-one((R^*,R^*)-SI-8) from 10e-minor$ 



HC1 (2 Μ  $Et_2O$ , 1 mL, 2.00 mmol) was added *O-tert*-butyl 2-((4in to chlorophenyl)(hydroxy)methyl)azetidine-1-carbothioate (10e-minor) (22 mg, 0.07 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred at rt for 1 h, then concentrated under reduced pressure. Py (1 mL) and DMAP (2 mg, 0.016 mmol) were added to the resulting white solid and the reaction mixture was

heated to 70 °C for 10 min, then cooled to 0 °C. PivCl (9  $\mu$ L, 0.073 mmol) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred at rt for 12 h. HCl (2 M, aq, 10 mL) was added and the reaction mixture was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3 × 10 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with H<sub>2</sub>O (10 mL) and brine (10 mL), dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated under reduced pressure. Purification of the resulting dark brown oil (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 20–40% EtOAc/ petroleum ether) gave *N*-piv azetidine (*R*\*,*R*\*)-**SI-8** as a white solid (11 mg, 56%). Data as above.

Synthesisof $1-((R^*)-2-((S^*)-(4-chlorophenyl)(hydroxy)methyl)azetidin-1-yl)-2,2-dimethylpropan-1-one((R^*,S^*)-SI-8) from 10e-major$ 



A solution of HCl (2 M in Et<sub>2</sub>O, 2.5 mL, 5.00 mmol) was added to *O-tert*-butyl 2-((4-chlorophenyl)(hydroxy)methyl)azetidine-1-carbothioate (**10e-major**) (66 mg, 0.21 mmol) at rt. The reaction mixture was stirred at rt for 1 h, then concentrated under reduced pressure. Py (1.5 mL) and DMAP (5 mg, 0.04 mmol) were added to the resulting white solid and the reaction mixture was heated to 70 °C for 10 min, then cooled to 0 °C. PivCl (28  $\mu$ L, 0.23 mmol) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred at rt for 12 h. HCl (2 M, aq, 15 mL) was added and the reaction mixture was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3 × 10 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with H<sub>2</sub>O (10 mL) and brine (10 mL), dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated under reduced pressure. Purification of the resulting pale brown oil (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 20% EtOAc/ petroleum ether) gave a white solid, *N*-piv-azetidine (*R*\*,*S*\*)-**SI-8** (22 mg, 37%).

 $R_f$  0.46 (40% EtOAc petroleum ether); mp 140–142 °C; IR (neat/cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3188 br, 2965 m, 1578 s, 1483 m, 1427 s, 1365 w, 1353 w, 1220 w, 1086 w, 1073 w, 835 m, 756 w;  $\delta_{\rm H}$  (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 7.36–7.30 (4H, m, Ar), 6.72 (1H, s, OH), 4.73 (1H, d, J = 8.7 Hz, CHOH), 4.56 (1H, q, J = 15.9, 8.5 Hz, NCH), 4.28 (2H, t, J = 7.8 Hz, NCH<sub>2</sub>), 1.96–1.82 (2H, m, NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.24 (9H, s, C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>);  $\delta_{\rm C}$  (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 180.6 (C=O), 138.0 (Ar), 133.8 (Ar), 128.7 (Ar), 128.6 (Ar), 78.5 (CHOH), 69.6 (NCH), 50.6 (NCH<sub>2</sub>), 38.6 (*C*(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 26.9 (C(*C*H<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 19.2 (NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>); HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>21</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>Cl: 282.1255, found 282.1254. Data differs from that of an authentic sample of (*R*\*,*R*\*)-**SI-8**, see above.

#### O-tert-Butyl 2-(hydroxy(4-methoxyphenyl)methyl)azetidine-1-carbothioate (10f)



*O-tert*-Butyl azetidine-1-carbothioate (**5**) (150 mg, 0.87 mmol) and *p*-anisaldehyde (316  $\mu$ L, 2.60 mmol) were used following General Procedure A for an aromatic aldehyde, with stirring following electrophile addition for 2 h at -78 °C. Purification of the resulting pale brown oil (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 5–30% Et<sub>2</sub>O / petroleum ether) gave first a colorless oil, the minor diastereomer (*R*\*,*R*\*)-**10f-minor** (45 mg, 17%), followed by a white solid, the major diastereomer (*R*\*,*S*\*)-**10f-major** (108 mg, 40%); stereochemistry was assigned by analogy to **10e**.

O-(*tert*-Butyl) ( $R^*$ )-2-(( $R^*$ )-hydroxy(4-methoxyphenyl)methyl)azetidine-1-carbothioate (( $R^*, R^*$ )-10f-minor)



 $R_f 0.32$  (20% EtOAc / petroleum ether); IR (neat / cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3424 br, 2973 m, 2931 w, 2836 w, 1612 w, 1585 w, 1512 m, 1482 s, 1464 s, 1437 s, 1391 m, 1366 m, 1280 s, 1248 s, 1172 m, 1144 s, 1034 m, 976 w, 911 w, 847 w, 832 w, 734 w;  $\delta_H$  (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) (1.4:1 rotamer mixture by analysis of NCH signals at 4.89 and 4.48) 7.37–7.34 (7.26–7.24) (2H, m, Ar), 6.91–6.88 (2H, m, Ar), 5.22 (1H, br s, CHOH), 4.89 (4.48) (1H, t, J = 6.0 (7.0) Hz, NCH), 4.41 (2.48) (1H, d (br s), J = 6.5 Hz, OH), 4.00–3.90 (1H, m, NCHH'), 3.82 (3.81) (3H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.75 (3.40) (1H, td, J = 10.0, 6.0 (9.5, 7.0) Hz, NCHH'), 2.14–2.07 (2.35–2.27) (1H, m, NCH<sub>2</sub>CHH'), 2.03–1.89 (1H, m, NCH<sub>2</sub>CHH'), 1.65 (1.72) (9H, s, C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>);  $\delta_C$  (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) (rotamer mixture) 186.3 (186.4) (C=S), 159.0 (159.2) (Ar), 131.6 (131.2) (Ar), 128.1 (127.0) (Ar), 113.5 (113.9) (Ar), 85.6 (85.7) (C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 73.5 (71.6) (CHOH), 69.9 (69.0) (NCH), 55.2 (55.3) (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 49.0 (50.0) (NCH<sub>2</sub>), 28.4 (28.5) (C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 16.3 (14.4) (NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>); HRMS (FI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>S: 309.1399, found 309.1400.

 $O-(tert-Butyl) (R^*)-2-((S^*)-hydroxy(4-methoxyphenyl)methyl) azetidine-1-carbothioate ((R^*,S^*)-10f-major)$ 



 $R_f 0.28$  (20% EtOAc petroleum ether); mp 96–98 °C (dec); IR (neat / cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3300 br, 2974 m, 2929 w, 2836 w, 1613 w, 1513 m, 1477 s, 1464 s, 1438 s, 1392 w, 1367 w, 1277 s, 1250 s, 1145 s, 1067 w, 1033 m, 912 w, 829 w, 733 w;  $\delta_{\rm H}$  (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) (2.7:1 rotamer mixture by analysis of CHOH signals at 4.92 and 4.84) 7.35–7.27 (2H, m, Ar), 6.89–6.87 (2H, m, Ar), 5.86 (1H, br s, OH), 4.92 (4.84) (1H, d, *J* = 9.0 (8.0) Hz, CHOH), 4.74–68 (4.54–4.48) (1H, m, NCH), 3.88 (4.01–3.93) (2H, t (m), *J* = 7.8 Hz, NCH<sub>2</sub>), 3.80 (3H, s, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 2.03–1.91 (1.82–1.63) (2H, m, NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.66 (1.74) (9H, s, C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>);  $\delta_{\rm C}$  (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) (rotamer mixture) 187.2 (C=S), 159.4 (Ar), 131.8 (Ar), 128.5 (128.2) (Ar), 113.8 (113.9) (Ar), 86.1 (87.2) (*C*(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 78.7 (76.8) (CHOH), 70.9 (69.8) (NCH), 55.2 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 48.8 (49.5) (NCH<sub>2</sub>), 28.4 (28.5) (C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 18.3 (17.3) (NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>); HRMS (FI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>S: 309.1399, found 309.1404.

#### O-tert-Butyl 2-(2-hydroxypropan-2-yl)azetidine-1-carbothioate (10g)



*O-tert*-Butyl azetidine-1-carbothioate (**5**) (70 mg, 0.40 mmol) and acetone (90  $\mu$ L, 1.23 mmol) were used following General Procedure A, with stirring following electrophile addition for 3 h at -78 °C. Purification of the resulting pale yellow oil (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 5–20% Et<sub>2</sub>O / petroleum ether) gave a colorless oil, alcohol **10g** (60 mg, 65%).

 $R_f$  0.22 (20% EtOAc / petroleum ether); IR (neat / cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3335 br, 2975 w, 2930 w, 1474 w, 1437 s, 1391 m, 1366 m, 1271 s, 1248 m, 1225 m, 1142 s, 983 w, 911 w, 859 w;  $\delta_H$  (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) (1.7:1 rotamer mixture by analysis of NCH signals in the 4.57–4.31 region) 5.52 (1H, br s, OH), 4.57–4.53 (4.35–4.31) (1H, m, NCH), 4.10–3.82 (2H, m, NCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.32–1.77 (2H, m, NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.63 (1.69) (9H, s, C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 1.30 (1.23) (3H, s, CH<sub>3</sub>COH), 1.10 (1.15) (3H, s, CH<sub>3</sub>COH);  $\delta_C$  (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) (rotamer mixture) 186.7 (C=S), 85.7 (87.0) (*C*(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 74.6 (73.8) (NCH), 72.4 (72.3) (COH), 49.1 (50.4) (NCH<sub>2</sub>), 28.3 (C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 24.8 (25.2) (CH<sub>3</sub>COH), 22.9 (23.5) (CH<sub>3</sub>COH), 18.6 (17.9) (NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>); HRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>21</sub>NNaO<sub>2</sub>S: 254.1185, found 254.1189.

#### O-tert-Butyl 2-methylazetidine-1-carbothioate (10h)



*O-tert*-Butyl azetidine-1-carbothioate (**5**) (50 mg, 0.29 mmol) and MeI (54  $\mu$ L, 0.87 mmol) were used following General Procedure A, with stirring following electrophile addition for 10 min at -78 °C and then warmed to rt over 10 min. Purification of the resulting bright yellow oil (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 0–5% EtOAc / *n*-hexane) gave a colorless oil, methylated azetidine **10h** (43 mg, 79%).

 $R_f$  0.60 (5% EtOAc / petroleum ether); IR (neat / cm<sup>-1</sup>) 2968 w, 1739 w, 1479 m, 1436 s, 1391 w, 1366 w, 1274 s, 1142 s;  $\delta_{\rm H}$  (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) (2.5:1 rotamer mixture by analysis of NCH signals in the 4.56–4.34 region) 4.40–4.34 (4.56–4.50) (1H, m, NCH), 4.08–3.90 (2H, m, NCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.39–2.28 (1H, m, NCHC*HH'*), 1.79–1.73 (1H, m, NCHC*HH'*), 1.64 (1.63) (9H, s, C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 1.42 (1.57) (3H, d, J = 6.3 Hz, NCHC*H*<sub>3</sub>);  $\delta_{\rm C}$  (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) (rotamer mixture) 185.3 (185.2) (C=S), 84.7 (84.5) (C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 59.9 (61.0) (NCH), 48.96 (49.04) (NCH<sub>2</sub>), 28.48 (28.50) (C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 22.4 (22.8) (NCHCH<sub>2</sub>), 20.6 (19.7) (NCHCH<sub>3</sub>); HRMS (FI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>17</sub>NOS: 187.1031, found 187.1026.

#### O-tert-Butyl 2-allylazetidine-1-carbothioate (10i)



*O-tert*-Butyl azetidine-1-carbothioate (**5**) (151 mg, 0.87 mmol) and allyl bromide (226  $\mu$ L, 2.61 mmol) were used following General Procedure A, with stirring following electrophile addition for 30 min at -78 °C, warming to rt over 10 min, then stirring at rt for a further 20 min. Purification of the resulting yellow liquid (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 5–50% Et<sub>2</sub>O / petroleum ether) gave a colorless oil, allylated azetidine **10i** (99 mg, 53%).

 $R_f$  0.59 (30% Et<sub>2</sub>O / petroleum ether); IR (neat / cm<sup>-1</sup>) 2975 m, 2926 w, 1641 w, 1477 s, 1435 s, 1390 m, 1365 m, 1348 w, 1138 s, 998 w, 917 m, 836 w, 733 w;  $\delta_H$  (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) (2.6:1 rotamer mixture by analysis of NCH signals in the 4.54–4.33 region) 5.82–5.70 (1H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>=CH), 5.16–5.09 (2H, m, CH<sub>2</sub>=CH), 4.38–4.33 (4.54–4.49) (1H, m NCH), 4.02–3.87 (2H, m, NCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.60–2.55 (2.92–2.87) (1H, m, CHH'CH=CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.53–2.47 (2.70–2.64) (1H, m, CHH'CH=CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.30–2.16 (1H, m, NCH<sub>2</sub>CHH'), 1.93–1.85 (1H, m, NCH<sub>2</sub>CHH'), 1.64 (1.62) (9H, s, C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>);  $\delta_C$  (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) (rotamer mixture) 185.3 (185.2) (C=S), 132.4 (132.6) (CH<sub>2</sub>=CH), 118.4 (118.2) (CH<sub>2</sub>=CH), 84.9 (84.5) (C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 62.7 (63.6) (NCH), 49.22 (49.17) (NCH<sub>2</sub>), 37.8 (36.3) (CH<sub>2</sub>CH=CH<sub>2</sub>), 28.5 (C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 19.4 (19.8) (NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>); HRMS (FI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>19</sub>NOS: 213.1187, found 213.1178.

#### O-tert-Butyl 2-butylazetidine-1-carbothioate (10j)



*O-tert*-Butyl azetidine-1-carbothioate (**5**) (117 mg, 0.68 mmol) and *n*-BuI (308  $\mu$ L, 2.71 mmol) were used following General Procedure A, with stirring following electrophile addition for 30 min at -78 °C, warming to rt over 10 min, then stirring at rt for a further 20 min. Purification of the resulting yellow oil (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 2–5% Et<sub>2</sub>O / petroleum ether) gave a colorless oil, butylated azetidine **10j** (120 mg, 77%).

 $R_f 0.34$  (5% EtOAc / petroleum ether); IR (neat / cm<sup>-1</sup>) 2959 br, 2928 br, 1478 s, 1465 s, 1435 s, 1390 m, 1365 m, 1274 s, 1244 w, 1140 s, 1013 w, 993 w, 841 w, 735 w;  $\delta_{\rm H}$  (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) (2.6:1 rotamer mixture by analysis of NCH signals in the region 4.45–4.26) 4.32–4.26 (4.45–4.40) (1H, m, NCH), 4.02–3.88 (2H, m, NCH<sub>2</sub>), 2.38–2.22 (1H, m, NCH<sub>2</sub>CHH'), 1.85–1.79 (1H, m, NCH<sub>2</sub>CHH'), 1.72–1.64 (1.95–1.89) (2H, m, CH<sub>3</sub>(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.64 (1.63) (9H, s, C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 1.40–1.24 (4H, m, CH<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 0.92 (3H, t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>);  $\delta_{\rm C}$  (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) (rotamer mixture) 185.3 (185.2) (C=S), 84.7 (84.4) (*C*(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 64.0 (65.1) (NCH), 49.4 (49.2) (NCH<sub>2</sub>), 33.4 (32.2) (NCHCH<sub>2</sub>), 28.5 (C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 26.3 (26.1) (CH<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 22.5 (22.6) (CH<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 20.4 (21.0) (NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 14.0 (14.1) (CH<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>); HRMS (FI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NOS: 229.1500, found 229.1507.

#### O-tert-Butyl 2,4-dimethylazetidine-1-carbothioate (11)



A solution of *O-tert*-butyl 2-methylazetidine-1-carbothioate (**10h**) (62 mg, 0.33 mmol) in THF (2 mL) was cooled to -78 °C (acetone / dry-ice) before the addition of TMEDA (119 µL, 0.79 mmol). *s*-BuLi (1.3 M in cyclohexane/ hexane, 331 µL, 0.43 mmol) was then added dropwise over 3 min. The reaction mixture was stirred for 30 min at -78 °C before the addition of the MeI (62 µL, 1.00 mmol). The reaction mixture was stirred for a further 30 min at -78 °C, warmed to rt over 10 min, stirred at rt for 10 min, quenched with sat. aq NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (10 mL), and extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (4 × 10 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with water (20 mL) and brine (20 mL), dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated under reduced pressure. Purification of the resulting very pale yellow oil (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 0–2% Et<sub>2</sub>O / petroleum ether) gave a colorless oil, *N*-Botc-2,4-dimethylazetidine **11** (37 mg, 55%, 93% brsm), as a ~1:1 mixture of inseparable diastereomers.

 $R_f 0.38$  (10% Et<sub>2</sub>O/ petroleum ether); IR (neat / cm<sup>-1</sup>) 2965 w, 2927 w, 1465 m, 1430 s, 1390 w, 1365 w, 1347 w, 1268 s, 1225 w, 1138 s, 1003 m, 938 w, 835 m, 752 w;  $\delta_H$  (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) (1:1

diastereomer mixture) 4.54–4.19 (2H, m, NCH), 2.53 (1.98–1.87) (2H, dt (m), J = 11.1, 8.6 Hz, NCHC $H_2$ ), 1.64 (1.63) (9H, s, C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 1.56 (1.55) (3H, d, J = 6.0 Hz, NCHC $H_3$ ), 1.41 (1.39) (3H, d, J = 6.0 Hz, NCHC $H_3$ );  $\delta_C$  (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) (diastereomer mixture) 186.4 (184.2) (C=S), 84.4 (*C*(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 58.57 (58.54) (NCH), 58.1 (57.5) (NCH), 31.2 (31.1) (NCHC $H_2$ ), 28.6 (28.5) (C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 22.0 (21.3) (CHCH<sub>3</sub>), 20.3 (19.0) (CHCH<sub>3</sub>); HRMS (FI<sup>+</sup>) calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>19</sub>NOS: 201.1187, found 201.1182.

# General Procedure B: Asymmetric α-deprotonation–electrophile trapping of *O-tert*-butyl azetidine-1-carbothioate (5) with chiral DIANANE ligand 14

A solution of  $(1S,2S,4S,5S)-N^2,N^2,N^5,N^5$ -tetramethylbicyclo[2.2.1]heptane-2,5-diamine  $(14)^8$  (1.3 equiv) in pentane (3.3 mL/ mmol 14) was cooled to -78 °C and *s*-BuLi (1.3 M in cyclohexane / hexane, 1.3 equiv) was added dropwise. The reaction mixture was stirred for 10 min, and then transferred dropwise via cannula to a precooled solution of *O-tert*-butyl azetidine-1-carbothioate (5) (1 equiv) in pentane (4.3 mL/ mmol 5) at the appropriate lithiation temp (-78 °C or -98 °C). The reaction mixture was stirred at this temp for the appropriate lithiation time (1 h or 3 h) before the addition of the electrophile (3 equiv). The reaction mixture was stirred at the same temp for a further 1 h, quenched with sat. aq HCl (1 M, 10 mL), and extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (4 × 10 mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with water (30 mL) and brine (30 mL), dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated under reduced pressure.

#### O-(tert-Butyl) (R)-2-methylazetidine-1-carbothioate ((R)-10h) (from reaction in Et<sub>2</sub>O)



*O-tert*-Butyl azetidine-1-carbothioate (**5**) (80 mg, 0.46 mmol) and MeI (87 µL, 1.39 mmol) were used following a modified General Procedure B (using Et<sub>2</sub>O as solvent instead of pentane), with a lithiation temp of -78 °C and lithiation time of 1 h. Purification of the resulting colorless oil (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 0–5% EtOAc / hexane) gave methylated azetidine (*R*)-**10h** as a colorless oil (55 mg, 64%) in 56:44 er (chiral SFC analysis, p S61,  $\tau_R$  (major) = 4.50 min,  $\tau_R$  (minor) = 3.75 min). Absolute configuration was assigned by conversion to the corresponding *N*-thiopivaloyl azetidine (*R*)-**2** (E = Me), see below, and comparing chiral GC data with those for enantiomerically pure (*R*)-**2** (E = Me).<sup>2</sup>





A solution of HCl in Et<sub>2</sub>O (2 M, 3 mL, 6.0 mmol) was added to a sample *O*-(*tert*-butyl) (*R*)-2methylazetidine-1-carbothioate ((*R*)-**10h**) (44 mg, 0.24 mmol, 56:44 er). The reaction mixture was stirred at rt for 5 h, then concentrated under reduced pressure. Py (1 mL) and DMAP (6 mg, 0.05 mmol) were added to the resulting white solid and the reaction mixture heated to 70 °C for 10 min, then cooled to 0 °C. PivCl (43 µL, 0.35 mmol) was added and the reaction mixture stirred at rt for 12 h. P<sub>2</sub>S<sub>5</sub> (209 mg, 0.94 mmol) and py (0.5 mL) was added and the reaction mixture stirred at 75 °C for 6 h, then aq HCl (3 M, 20 mL) was added and the reaction mixture stirred at 75 °C for mL). The combined organic extracts were washed with aq HCl (1 M, 10 mL), H<sub>2</sub>O (10 mL) and brine (10 mL), dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated under reduced pressure. Purification of the resulting dark red oil (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 10% Et<sub>2</sub>O/ petroleum ether) gave a colorless oil, *N*-thiopivaloyl azetidine (*R*)-**2** (E = Me)<sup>2</sup> (28 mg, 70%), in 56:44 (*R*:*S*) er (by chiral GC analysis, p S63,  $\tau_R$  (major) = 36.1 min,  $\tau_R$  (minor) = 36.5 min; lit.<sup>2</sup>  $\tau_R$  (*R*) = 29.6 min,  $\tau_R$  (*S*) = 30.0 min).

 $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  –0.1 (*c* 1.27, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); lit.<sup>2</sup> enantiomerically pure (*R*)-**2** (E = Me)  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  –21.3 (*c* 1.15, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); *R<sub>f</sub>* 0.38 (30% Et<sub>2</sub>O / petroleum ether); IR (neat/ cm<sup>-1</sup>) 2963 w, 2926 w, 1456 s, 1426 s, 1394 w, 1363 m, 1331 w, 1291 w, 1255 m, 1237 w, 1139 m, 994 w, 931 w;  $\delta_H$  (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) (6.8:1 rotamer mixture by analysis of NCHC*H*<sub>3</sub> signals at 1.64 and 1.60) 4.88–4.81 (1H, m, NC*H*), 4.59–4.52 (1H, m, NC*H*I'), 4.44–4.38 (1H, m, NCH*H*'), 2.57–2.48 (1H, m, NCH<sub>2</sub>CH*H*'), 1.87–1.80 (1H, m, NCH<sub>2</sub>CH*H*'), 1.60 (1.64) (3H, d, *J* = 6.3 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.31 (1.39) (9H, s, C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>);  $\delta_C$  (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) (rotamer mixture) 209.6 (C=S), 64.7 (65.7) (NCH), 55.6 (53.6) (NCH<sub>2</sub>), 43.2 (*C*(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 29.6 (30.8) (C(*C*H<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 23.1 (22.9) (NCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 18.4 (CH*C*H<sub>3</sub>); LRMS (ESI<sup>+</sup>) 172.1 ([M+H]<sup>+</sup>, 15%), 194.1 ([M+Na]<sup>+</sup>, 10%), 409.1 (100%).

#### O-(tert-Butyl) (R)-2-methylazetidine-1-carbothioate ((R)-10h) (from reaction in pentane)



*O-tert*-Butyl azetidine-1-carbothioate (**5**) (160 mg, 0.92 mmol) and MeI (172  $\mu$ L, 2.77 mmol) were used following General Procedure B, with a lithiation temp of -98 °C and lithiation time of 1 h. Purification of the resulting colorless oil (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 3–5% Et<sub>2</sub>O / petroleum ether) gave a colorless oil,

methylated azetidine (*R*)-**10h** (78 mg, 45%, 83% brsm) in 91:9 er (chiral SFC analysis, p S62,  $\tau_R$  (*R*) = 8.39 min,  $\tau_R$  (*S*) = 7.15 min).

# $\left[\alpha\right]_{D}^{25}$ -32.6 (*c* 1.12, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); all other data as described for **10h**.

#### O-(tert-Butyl) (2S)-2-(hydroxy(phenyl)methyl)azetidine-1-carbothioate ((2S)-10d)



*O-tert*-Butyl azetidine-1-carbothioate (**5**) (60 mg, 0.35 mmol) and benzaldehyde (106 µL, 1.04 mmol) were used following General Procedure B, with a lithiation temp of -78 °C and lithiation time of 1 h. Purification of the resulting pale yellow oil (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 5–30% Et<sub>2</sub>O/ petroleum ether) gave first a colorless oil, the minor diastereomer (*S*,*S*)-**10d-minor** (34 mg, 35%) in 85:15 er (chiral HPLC analysis, p S65–S66,  $\tau_R$  (major) = 11.57 min,  $\tau_R$  (minor) = 12.66 min), followed by a colorless oil, the major diastereomer (*S*,*R*)-**10d-major** (51 mg, 53%) in 86:14 er (chiral HPLC analysis, p 67–68,  $\tau_R$  (major) = 26.02 min,  $\tau_R$  (minor) = 36.09 min); stereochemistry was assigned by analogy to (*R*)-**10h**.

#### O-(tert-Butyl) (S)-2-((S)-hydroxy(phenyl)methyl)azetidine-1-carbothioate ((S,S)-10d-minor)



 $\left[\alpha\right]_{D}^{25}$  +91.6 (*c* 0.98, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); all other data as described for (*R*\*,*R*\*)-10d-minor.

#### O-(tert-Butyl) (S)-2-((R)-hydroxy(phenyl)methyl)azetidine-1-carbothioate ((S,R)-10d-major)



 $\left[\alpha\right]_{D}^{25}$  +22.7 (c 1.03, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); all other data as described for ( $R^*, S^*$ )-10d-major.

#### O-(tert-Butyl) (S)-2-(2-hydroxypropan-2-yl)azetidine-1-carbothioate ((S)-10g)



*O-tert*-Butyl azetidine-1-carbothioate (**5**) (60 mg, 0.35 mmol) and acetone (76 µL, 1.04 mmol) were used following General Procedure B, with a lithiation temp of -78 °C and lithiation time of 3 h. Purification of the resulting yellow oil (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 10–40% Et<sub>2</sub>O / petroleum ether) gave a colorless oil, alcohol (*S*)-**10g** (51 mg, 64%) in 92:8 er (chiral HPLC analysis, p S69–S70,  $\tau_R$  (major) = 12.18 min,  $\tau_R$  (minor) = 14.17 min); stereochemistry was assigned by analogy to (*R*)-**10h**.  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$  +87.8 (*c* 1.02, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); all other data as described for **10g**.

# 3. <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C and <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectra













































See below for <sup>13</sup>C NMR expansions showing  $J_{Sn-C}$  coupling.































### 4. Chiral Ligand Screen

The following chiral ligands were tested for use in asymmetric methylation of Botc-protected azetidine **5**:



Unsuccessful ligands (0% yield, starting material recovered):



#### Ligands giving good yields:



**13** (hexane: 70%, 56:44 *R:S* Et<sub>2</sub>O: 78%, 52:48 *R:S*)



**SI-13**<sup>10</sup> (hexane : 60%, 51:49 *R:S* Et<sub>2</sub>O: 48%, 48:52 *R:S*)



**12**<sup>11</sup> (hexane: 79%, 53:47 *R*:*S* Et<sub>2</sub>O: 75%, 59:41 *R*:*S*)



SI-14<sup>12</sup> (hexane: 73%, 58:42 *R:S* Et<sub>2</sub>O: 58%, 47:53 *R:S*)



**SI-15**<sup>13</sup> (hexane: 53%, 46:54 *R:S* Et<sub>2</sub>O: 35%, 43:57 *R:S*)

Me<sub>2</sub>N NMe<sub>2</sub>

**14<sup>8</sup>** (hexane: 73%, 69:31 *R:S* Et<sub>2</sub>O: 64%, 56:44 *R:S*)

The enantioselectivity of the asymmetric methylation of Botc-protected azetidine 5 with tetramethyl DIANANE  $14^8$  was dependent on the durations of lithiation and methylation and the temps at which both of these steps were carried out (Table SI-1).



entry	solvent	lithiation time (temp)	methylation time (temp)	% yield	er ( <i>R</i> : <i>S</i> )
1	4 h (-78 °C)		20 min ( 78 %C)	55	59:41
2	havona	1 h (-78 °C) $30 mm$	$\frac{30 \text{ min} (-78 \text{ C})}{\text{then } 20 \text{ min} (\text{rt})}$	73	69:31
3	nexane	5 min (-78 °C)	then 30 min (rt)	71	74:26
4		1 h (−78 °C)	4 h (-78 °C)	55	66:34
5		1 h (-98 °C)	30 min (-98 °C)	54	75:25
			then 30 min (rt)	54	
6			1 h (-98 °C)	45	91:9
7	pentane		1 h (-98 °C)	60	67.22
/	_	$2 h (0.08 \circ C)$	then 30 min (rt)	00	07.55
8		5 II ( 98 C)	1 h (-98 °C)	67	70:30
9			3 h (-98 °C)	68	66:34

Table SI-1. Conditions for Asymmetric Methylation

# 6. Chiral SFC Traces

#### Chiral SFC traces for (*R*)-10h (initial conditions)

Column: CHIRALPAK IC,  $150 \times 2.1$  mm, 3 µm, 40 °C, 0.7 mL / min, UV-vis ( $\lambda = 220$  nm and 254 nm), eluent = isocratic at 5% *i*-PrOH in CO<sub>2</sub>.



Racemic **10h**; er 50:50



(*R*)-10h; from reaction in Et<sub>2</sub>O; er 56:44 (*R*:*S*)

#### Chiral SFC traces for (*R*)-10h

Column: CHIRALPAK IC,  $250 \times 4.6$  mm, 5 µm, 40 °C, 3 mL/ min, UV-vis ( $\lambda = 220$  nm and 254 nm), eluent = isocratic at 5% *i*-PrOH in CO<sub>2</sub>.

Racemic 10h; er 50:50



#### (*R*)-10h; from reaction in pentane; er 91:9 (*R*:*S*)



Peak #	RetTime [min]	туре	Width [min]	Area [mAU*s]	Height [mAU]	Area %
1	7.149	BV	0.2404	975.52692	63.09827	8.8898
2	8.390	VB	0.2538	9998.04297	561.40704	91.1102

# 7. Chiral GC Traces

### Chiral GC traces for 2 (E = Me)

Column:  $\beta$ -cyclodextrin, 0.22 mm × 30 m, thickness 0.25  $\mu$ m, flow rate = 1 mL/ min, carrier gas = He, T injector 220 °C, T detector (FID) 250 °C, T initial 40 °C, 5 min then 5 °C/min to 140 °C.

Racemic **2** (E = Me); er 50:50



(*R*)-**2** (E= Me); from reaction in Et<sub>2</sub>O; er 56:44 (*R*:*S*)



Spiking experiment: enantiomerically pure (*R*)-2 (E = Me)<sup>2</sup> added to racemic 2 (E = Me)



# 9. Chiral HPLC Traces

#### **Chiral HPLC traces for 10d**

Column: CHIRALPAK AD-H, 250 × 4.6 mm, 5µm, 25 °C, 1 mL/ min, UV-vis ( $\lambda$  = 272 nm), eluent = isocratic at 4% *i*-PrOH in hexane.



Racemic (*R*\*,*R*\*)-10d-minor; er 50:50

	No.	Ret.Time min	Peak Name	Height mAU	Area mAU*min	Rel.Area %	Amount	Туре
Γ	1	11.58	n.a.	67.093	17.305	50.06	n.a.	BM
L	2	12.66	n.a.	58.827	17.265	49.94	n.a.	MB
'	Total:			125.920	34.569	100.00	0.000	



19.465

5.605

100.00

0.000

(*S*,*S*)-**10d-minor**; er 85:15 (*S*,*S*:*R*,*R*)

Total:



No.	Ret.Time	Peak Name	Height	Area	Rel.Area	Amount	Туре
	min		mAU	mAU*min	%		
1	25.89	n.a.	44.569	26.750	50.08	n.a.	BMB
2	36.02	n.a.	29.998	26.667	49.92	n.a.	BMB
Total:			74.567	53.417	100.00	0.000	



## (*S*,*R*)-**10d-major**; er 86:14 (*S*,*R*:*R*,*S*)

No.	Ret.Time	Peak Name	Height	Area	Rel.Area	Amount	Туре
	min		mAU	mAU*min	%		
1	26.02	n.a.	16.829	10.550	14.20	n.a.	BMB
2	36.09	n.a.	69.655	63.726	85.80	n.a.	BMB
Total:			86.484	74.276	100.00	0.000	

#### **Chiral HPLC traces for 10g**

Column: CHIRALPAK AD-H,  $250 \times 4.6$  mm,  $, 5\mu$ m, 25 °C, 1 mL/min, UV-vis ( $\lambda = 254$  nm), eluent = isocratic at 2% *i*-PrOH in hexane.

#### Racemic 10g; er 50:50



#### (*S*)-**10g**; er 92:8 (*S*:*R*)



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