# **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

# A Mild Procedure for the Lewis Acid-Catalyzed Ring-Opening of Activated Cyclopropanes by Amine Nucleophiles

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General: All non-aqueous reactions were run under an inert atmosphere of argon with exclusion of moisture from reagents and glassware using standard techniques for manipulating airsensitive compounds.<sup>1</sup> All glassware was stored in the oven or was flame-dried prior to use under an inert atmosphere of gas. Anhydrous solvents (benzene, diethyl ether, THF) were obtained by filtration through activated alumina columns. Flash column chromatography was performed using 230-400 mesh silica and the indicated solvent system according to standard technique.<sup>2</sup> Analytical thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was performed on precoated, glass-backed silica gel. Visualization of the developed chromatogram was performed by UV absorbance and/or aqueous potassium permanganate. Melting points were obtained on a melting point apparatus and are uncorrected. Nuclear magnetic resonance spectra were recorded on 300 MHz or 400 MHz spectrometers. Chemical shifts for <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra are recorded in parts per million from tetramethylsilane with the solvent resonance as the internal standard (chloroform,  $\delta$  = 7.27 ppm). Data are reported as follows: chemical shift, multiplicity (s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet,  $m_c = centered$  multiplet and br = broad), coupling constant in Hz and integration. Chemical shifts for <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra are recorded in parts per million from tetramethylsilane using the solvent resonance as the internal standard (chloroform,  $\delta$  = 77.00 ppm). All <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were obtained with complete proton decoupling. When ambiguous, proton and carbon assignments were established using COSY, HMQC and DEPT 135 experiments. Where inseparable and/or interconvertible mixtures of diastereomers were obtained, the spectra are reported as observed; where chemical shifts are coincidental, they are reported with an integration of 1 H; where diastereoisomers display separate chemical shifts, integrations are reported as 1 H<sup>d1</sup> and 1  $H^{d2}$  for the first (d<sub>1</sub>) and second (d<sub>2</sub>) diastereoisomer, respectively. Infrared spectra were taken on an FTIR apparatus and are reported in reciprocal centimeters (cm<sup>-1</sup>). High resolution mass spectra were performed by the Centre régional de spectroscopie de masse de l'Université de Montréal. Optical rotations were determined with a polarimeter at 589 nm. Data are reported as follows:  $[\alpha]_{\lambda}^{\text{temp}}$ , concentration (c in g/100 mL), and solvent. Analytical Supercritical Fluid Chromatography was performed on an instrument equipped with a diode array UV detector recording at 210 nm. Data are reported as follows: (column type, eluent, flow rate, pressure, column temperature: retention time  $(t_r)$ ).

**Reagents:** Unless otherwise stated, commercial reagents were used without purification. Cyclopropanes **1a-1e**<sup>3a</sup> and *tert*-butyl 3-aminophenylcarbamate **2d**<sup>3b</sup> were prepared according to literature procedures.

<sup>2</sup> Still, W.C.; Kahn, M.; Mitra, A. J. Org. Chem. **1978**, 43, 2923.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Shriver, D.F.; Drezdzon, M.A. *The manipulation of air-sensitive compounds*; 2nd Edition; Wiley: New York, 1986.

a) Enantioenriched cyclopropanes 1a and 1b: Moreau, B.; Charette, A.B. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2005, 127, 18014.
Racemic cyclopropanes 1a-1e: Wurz, R. P.; Charette, A. B. J. Org. Chem. 2004, 69, 1262. b) Sauer, M.; Yeung, C.; Chong, J.H.; Patrick, B.O.; MacLachlan, M.J. J. Org. Chem. 2006, 71, 775.

ļ			PhNH <sub>2</sub> (1.5 equiv), CH <sub>2</sub> Cl	Ph 2, Ph	NH NO <sub>2</sub>	Ph V	N <sup>-0</sup>
Ph	`ر 1a	CO <sub>2</sub> Me	Lewis acid, additive, 17 h,	rt Ph	CO <sub>2</sub> Me	<u>ر</u> 4	CO <sub>2</sub> Me
	•	entry	Lewis acid	Additive	Ratio <b>1a: 3a: 4</b> ª	ee of <b>4</b> (%) <sup>b</sup>	_
		1	None	none	65:35:0	-	
		2	Cu(OTf) <sub>2</sub>	none	45:48:7	-	
		3	AICI <sub>3</sub>	none	13:21:66	20	
		4	$BF_3 \cdot OEt_2$	none	40:38:22	-	
		5	SnCl₄	none	0:0:100	10	
		6	Ti(O <sup>′</sup> Pr)₄	none	65:35:0	-	
		7	ZnCl <sub>2</sub>	none	60:40:0	-	
		8	Y(OTf) <sub>3</sub>	none	6:90:4	-	
		9	Ni(ClO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> ·6H <sub>2</sub> O	none	10:87:3	-	
	_	10	Ni(ClO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> ·6H <sub>2</sub> O	3Å MS	45:55:0	-	_

Table SI-1. Screening of the Lewis acid for ring-opening of 1a with aniline

<sup>*a*</sup> Ratios were determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR of the crude reaction mixture. <sup>*b*</sup> 1.0 equiv of the enantioenriched cyclopropane *ent*-1a (90% ee) used as the starting material

#### **Experimental Procedures and Characterization Data**



Nucleophilic ring-opening of methyl 1-nitro-2-phenylcyclopropanecarboxylate with aniline under thermal conditions. In a 2-mL microwave vial containing a magnetic stirbar, cyclopropane (±)-1a (100 mg, 0.45 mmol, 1 equiv) was dissolved in acetonitrile (1.5 mL), and aniline (58  $\mu$ L, 0.68 mmol, 1.5 equiv) was added. The vial was sealed with a Teflon-lined cap and the reaction mixture stirred at 90 °C for 17 h. The crude reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, evaporated under reduced pressure and purified by flash chromatography, eluting with 25% EtOAc in hexanes to afford pure (±)-3a as a yellow crystalline solid (122.0 mg, 0.39 mmol, 86%).



General procedure for the ring opening of methyl 1-nitro-2-arylcyclopropane carboxylates with amines under Lewis acid catalysis. In a 2-mL microwave vial containing a magnetic stirbar, cyclopropane 1 (0.23 mmol, 1 equiv) was mixed with the appropriate amine (0.34 mmol, 1.5 equiv), and dichloromethane (100  $\mu$ L) was added, followed by Ni(ClO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O (8.3 mg, 0.023 mmol, 0.1 equiv). The vial was sealed with a Teflon-lined cap to prevent solvent evaporation (a regular septum is sufficient on a larger scale), and the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 17 h. The crude reaction mixture was evaporated under reduced pressure and purified by flash chromatography. In cases where the remaining excess of the aniline derivative was difficult to separate by flash chromatography, it was removed by the following aqueous workup prior to chromatographic purification: the organic layer was washed twice with 3 M HCl and the combined acidified aqueous layers were washed with diethyl ether twice. Combined organic layers were then neutralized with sat. aq. NaHCO<sub>3</sub>, washed with sat. aq. NaCl and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>.



**Methyl 5-phenyl-4,5-dihydroisoxazole-3-carboxylate 2-oxide (4).** Beige solid; mp 89-91 °C;  $R_f = 0.35 (30\% \text{ ethyl acetate in hexanes}); {}^{1}H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl_3) \delta 7.46-7.36 (m, 5H), 5.73 (dd, {}^{3}J = 7.8 Hz, {}^{3}J = 9.6 Hz, 1H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 3.81 (dd, {}^{2}J = 16.9 Hz, {}^{3}J = 9.6 Hz, 1H); 3.44 (dd, {}^{2}J = 16.9 Hz, {}^{3}J = 7.8 Hz, 1H); {}^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) \delta 159.3, 137.6, 129.1, 129.0, 125.7, 107.7, 76.8, 52.6, 38.3; FTIR (neat) 2952, 1733, 1702, 1614, 1438, 1241, 1197, 977, 746, 700 cm^{-1}; HRMS Calcd for C_{11}H_{11}NO_4Na (M+Na)^+: 244.0580. Found 244.0575.$  SFC (Chiralcel AD-H, 5% MeOH, 2 mL/min, 200 bar, 25 °C):  $t_r$  14.8 min (major enantiomer),  $t_r$  19.2 min (minor enantiomer).



**Methyl (4***S***)-4-anilino-2-nitro-4-phenylbutanoate (3a).** The title compound was prepared by the Lewis acid-catalyzed procedure described above using cyclopropane **1a** (50.0 mg, 0.23 mmol, 1 equiv, 92% ee) and aniline (29.2 μL, 0.34 mmol, 1.5 equiv), and purified by the aqueous workup described above, followed by flash chromatography, eluting with 30% EtOAc in hexanes, to afford spectroscopically pure **3a** as a crystalline yellow solid (58.2 mg, 0.18 mmol, 82%, 55:45 dr, d<sub>1</sub> = 91.7% ee, d<sub>2</sub> = 89.7% ee). mp 64-67 °C; R<sub>f</sub> = 0.44 (d<sub>1</sub>), 0.50 (d<sub>2</sub>) (30% ethyl acetate in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub> mixture of 2 diastereomers) δ 7.42-7.25 (m, 5H), 7.17-7.10 (m, 2H), 6.72 (t, <sup>3</sup>J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.60-6.56 (m, 2H), 5.47 (dd, <sup>3</sup>J = 5.1 Hz, <sup>3</sup>J = 8.8 Hz, 1H<sup>d1</sup>), 5.15 (dd, <sup>3</sup>J = 5.1 Hz, <sup>3</sup>J = 8.6 Hz, 1H<sup>d2</sup>), 4.57-4.50 (m, 1H), 4.10 (br. s, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H<sup>d1</sup>), 3.81 (s, 3H<sup>d2</sup>), 2.94-2.80 (m, 1H), 2.67-2.55 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub> mixture of 2 diastereomers) δ 165.2, 164.8, 146.2, 141.2, 140.8, 129.27, 129.25, 129.18, 129.0, 128.1, 127.9, 126.3, 126.0, 118.6, 118.4, 114.0, 113.7, 85.5, 85.3, 55.2, 54.6, 53.8, 53.7, 38.6, 37.9; FTIR (neat) 3399, 3028, 2957, 2247, 1750, 1601, 1559, 1504, 1372, 907, 729 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS Calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>19</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> (M+H)<sup>+</sup>: 315.1339. Found 315.1337.

SFC (Chiralcel AD-H, 10% MeOH, 2.5 mL/min, 200 bar, 25 °C)  $t_r$  5.2 min (minor enantiomer, minor diastereomer),  $t_r$  6.3 min (minor enantiomer, major diastereomer),  $t_r$  6.7 min (major enantiomer, major diastereomer),  $t_r$  6.7 min (major enantiomer, major diastereomer).



**Methyl 4-[(2-bromophenyl)amino]-2-nitro-4-phenylbutanoate (3b).** The title compound was prepared by the Lewis acid-catalyzed procedure described above using cyclopropane (±)-1a (50.0 mg, 0.23 mmol, 1 equiv) and 2-bromoaniline (58.3 mg, 0.34 mmol, 1.5 equiv), and purified by flash chromatography, eluting with 7% EtOAc in hexanes, to afford spectroscopically pure **3b** as a yellow oil (73.8 mg, 0.19 mmol, 83%, 50:50 dr). R<sub>f</sub> = 0.76 (30% ethyl acetate in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, mixture of 2 diastereomers) δ 7.45-7.26 (m, 6H), 7.09-7.02 (m, 1H), 6.58 (m<sub>c</sub>, 1H), 6.50 (ddd, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 8.3 Hz, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 13.0 Hz, <sup>4</sup>*J* = 1.4 Hz, 1H), 5.46 (dd, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 5.2 Hz, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H<sup>d1</sup>), 5.12 (dd, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 4.9 Hz, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 8.9 Hz, 1H<sup>d2</sup>), 4.75 (m, 1H), 4.63-4.52 (m, 1H), 3.87 (s, 3H<sup>d1</sup>), 3.82 (s, 3H<sup>d2</sup>), 3.01-2.84 (m, 1H), 2.72-2.61 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, mixture of 2 diastereomers) δ 165.0, 164.7, 143.08, 143.03, 140.6, 140.1, 132.45, 132.43, 129.3, 129.1, 128.5, 128.4, 128.3, 128.0, 126.3, 125.9, 119.1, 118.9, 113.0, 112.7, 110.5, 110.3, 85.31, 85.29, 55.1, 54.7, 53.9, 53.8, 38.7, 38.0; FTIR (neat) 3393, 2954, 1750, 1595, 1558, 1453, 1268, 1019, 908, 741 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS Calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>18</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> (M+H)<sup>+</sup>: 393.0444. Found 393.0449.



**Methyl (4***R***)-4-anilino-4-(1-naphthyl)-2-nitrobutanoate (3c).** The title compound was prepared by the Lewis acid-catalyzed procedure described above using cyclopropane **1b** (50.0 mg, 0.18 mmol, 1 equiv, 92% ee) and aniline (23.8 μL, 0.28 mmol, 1.5 equiv), and purified by the aqueous workup described above, followed by flash chromatography, eluting with a gradient of 15% to 30% EtOAc in hexanes, to afford spectroscopically pure **3c** as an off-white foam (49.3 mg, 0.13 mmol, 73%, 55:45 dr, d<sub>1</sub> = 91.5% ee, d<sub>2</sub> = 91.7% ee). R<sub>f</sub> = 0.59 (d<sub>1</sub>), 0.69 (d<sub>2</sub>) (10% ethyl acetate in toluene); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub> mixture of 2 diastereomers) δ 8.24 (d, <sup>3</sup>J = 8.3 Hz, 1H<sup>d1</sup>), 8.19 (d, <sup>3</sup>J = 7.9 Hz, 1H<sup>d2</sup>), 7.94 (d, <sup>3</sup>J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.82 (d, <sup>3</sup>J = 6.8 Hz, 1H<sup>d1</sup>), 7.80 (d, <sup>3</sup>J = 6.3 Hz, 1H<sup>d2</sup>), 7.69-7.39 (m, 4H), 7.14-7.06 (m, 2H), 6.74-6.68 (m, 1H), 6.61-6.55 (m, 2H), 5.69 (dd, <sup>3</sup>J = 4.2 Hz, <sup>3</sup>J = 9.4 Hz, 1H<sup>d1</sup>), 5.50-5.36 (m, 1H + 1H<sup>d2</sup>), 4.29 (br. s, 1H), 3.87 (s, 3H<sup>d1</sup>), 3.81 (s, 3H<sup>d2</sup>), 3.16-3.06 (m, 1H<sup>d1</sup>), 3.04-2.95 (m, 1H<sup>d2</sup>), 2.83-2.73 (m, 1H<sup>d1</sup>), 2.58-2.48 (m, 1H<sup>d2</sup>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub> mixture of 2 diastereomers) δ 165.3, 165.0, 146.1, 146.0, 136.4, 136.2, 134.12, 134.06, 130.8, 130.6, 129.32, 129.30, 129.28, 129.25, 128.6, 128.4, 126.9, 126.0, 125.9, 125.6, 125.5, 122.7, 122.3, 122.1, 121.9, 118.6, 118.4, 113.8, 113.6, 85.5, 85.3, 53.81, 53.78, 50.8, 50.3, 37.7, 37.3; FTIR (neat) 3393, 3052, 2956, 1752, 1601, 1504, 1436, 1255, 778 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS Calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>21</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> (M+H)<sup>+</sup>: 365.1496. Found 365.1494.

SFC (Chiralcel AD-H, 5% MeOH, 5 mL/min, 150 bar, 25 °C)  $t_r$  5.3 min (minor enantiomer, minor diastereomer),  $t_r$  6.3 min (major enantiomer, minor diastereomer),  $t_r$  6.7 min (major enantiomer, major diastereomer),  $t_r$  8.7 min (minor enantiomer, major diastereomer).



**Methyl 4-[(4-chlorophenyl)amino]-2-nitro-4-phenylbutanoate (3d).** The title compound was prepared by the Lewis acid-catalyzed procedure described above using cyclopropane (±)-1a (50.0 mg, 0.23 mmol, 1 equiv) and 4-chloroaniline (43.2, 0.34 mmol, 1.5 equiv), and purified by flash chromatography, eluting with 10% EtOAc in hexanes, to afford spectroscopically pure **3d** as a yellow oil (67.9 mg, 0.19 mmol, 86%, 50:50 dr).  $R_f = 0.52$  (d<sub>1</sub>), 0.59 (d<sub>2</sub>) (10% ethyl acetate in toluene); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub> mixture of 2 diastereomers)  $\delta$  7.42-7.26 (m, 5H), 7.07 (m<sub>c</sub>, 2H), 6.50 (m<sub>c</sub>, 2H), 5.45 (dd, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 5.1 Hz, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 8.7 Hz, 1H<sup>d1</sup>), 5.14 (dd, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 5.0 Hz, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 8.8 Hz, 1H<sup>d2</sup>), 4.47 (m<sub>c</sub>, 1H), 4.12 (br. s, 1H), 3.83 (s, 3H<sup>d1</sup>), 3.80 (s, 3H<sup>d2</sup>), 2.92-2.79 (m, 1H), 2.66-2.54 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub> mixture of 2 diastereomers)  $\delta$  165.1, 164.7, 144.8, 144.7, 140.7, 140.3, 129.2, 129.08, 129.07, 129.05, 128.3, 128.0, 126.2, 125.9, 123.1, 123.0, 115.1, 114.8, 85.4, 85.2, 55.3, 54.7, 53.80, 53.79, 38.4, 37.8; FTIR (neat) 3400, 3029, 1749, 1598, 1559, 1495, 1254, 908, 731 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS Calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>18</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>Cl (M+H)<sup>+</sup>: 349.0950. Found 349.0948.



**Methyl 4-({3-[(***tert***-butoxycarbonyl)amino]phenyl}amino)-2-nitro-4-phenylbutanoate (3e).** The title compound was prepared by the Lewis acid-catalyzed procedure described above using cyclopropane (±)-1a (50.0 mg, 0.23 mmol, 1 equiv) and *tert*-butyl 3-aminophenylcarbamate  $2d^{3b}$  (70.6 mg, 0.34 mmol, 1.5 equiv), and purified by flash chromatography, eluting with 20% EtOAc in hexanes, to afford spectroscopically pure 3e as a crystalline yellow solid (64.2 mg, 0.15 mmol, 66%, 50:50 dr). mp 112-114 °C; R<sub>f</sub> = 0.53 (30% ethyl acetate in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub> mixture of 2 diastereomers) δ 7.39-7.23 (m, 5H), 7.00 (m<sub>c</sub>, 1H), 6.87 (br. s, 1H<sup>d1</sup>), 6.83 (br. s, 1H<sup>d2</sup>), 6.60-6.53 (m, 1H), 6.40 (br. s, 1H), 6.22 (m<sub>c</sub>, 1H), 5.44 (dd, <sup>3</sup>J = 5.1 Hz, <sup>3</sup>J = 9.0 Hz, 1H<sup>d1</sup>), 5.12 (dd, <sup>3</sup>J = 5.3 Hz, <sup>3</sup>J = 8.8 Hz, 1H<sup>d2</sup>), 4.51-4.47 (m, 1H), 4.12 (br. s, 1H), 3.83 (s, 3H<sup>d1</sup>), 3.80 (s, 3H<sup>d2</sup>), 2.89-2.77 (m, 1H), 2.63-2.48 (m, 1H), 1.50 (s, 9H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub> mixture of 2 diastereomers) δ 165.2, 164.8, 152.6, 147.03, 147.02, 141.1, 140.7, 139.3, 129.76, 129.74, 129.1, 129.0, 128.1, 127.8, 126.3, 125.9, 108.6, 108.5, 108.1, 108.0, 104.3, 104.0, 85.4, 85.3, 80.3, 55.0, 54.3, 53.8, 53.7, 38.0, 37.8, 28.3; FTIR (neat) 3385, 2977, 1751, 1707, 1559, 1526, 1479, 1231, 908, 729.cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS Calcd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>28</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>6</sub> (M+H)<sup>+</sup>: 430.1973. Found 430.1980.



**Methyl 4-[methyl(phenyl)amino]-2-nitro-4-phenylbutanoate (3f).** The title compound was prepared by the Lewis acid-catalyzed procedure described above using cyclopropane (±)-1a (50.0 mg, 0.23 mmol, 1 equiv) and N-methylaniline (36.7 μL, 0.34 mmol, 1.5 equiv), and purified by flash chromatography, eluting with 100% toluene, to afford spectroscopically pure **3f** as a yellow oil (59.2 mg, 0.18 mmol, 80%, 55:45 dr). R<sub>f</sub> = 0.81 (10% ethyl acetate in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub> mixture of 2 diastereomers) δ 7.39-7.16 (m, 7H), 6.88-6.81 (m, 3H), 5.45 (dd, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 4.2 Hz, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 9.5 Hz, 1H<sup>d1</sup>), 5.29-5.20 (m, 1H<sup>d2</sup> + 1H<sup>d1</sup>), 5.10 (dd, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 4.6 Hz, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 11.5 Hz, 1H<sup>d2</sup>), 3.84 (s, 3H<sup>d1</sup>), 3.80 (s, 3H<sup>d2</sup>), 3.11-2.91 (m, 2H), 2.62 (s, 3H<sup>d1</sup>), 2.60 (s, 3H<sup>d2</sup>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub> mixture of 2 diastereomers) δ 165.3, 164.9, 150.1, 150.0, 138.0, 137.8, 129.4, 129.3, 128.6, 128.5, 127.84, 127.77, 126.9, 126.8, 118.6, 118.4, 114.6, 114.3, 85.6, 85.4, 59.05, 59.03, 53.7, 53.6, 32.2, 32.0, 31.81, 31.78; FTIR (neat) 2955, 1750, 1596, 1558, 1372, 1266, 1108, 991, 750, 697 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS Calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>21</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> (M+H)<sup>+</sup>: 329.1496. Found 329.1497.



**Methyl 4-[(4-methoxyphenyl)amino]-2-nitro-4-phenylbutanoate (3g).** The title compound was prepared by the Lewis acid-catalyzed procedure described above using cyclopropane (±)-1a (50.0 mg, 0.23 mmol, 1 equiv) and *p*-methoxyaniline (41.7 mg, 0.34 mmol, 1.5 equiv), and purified by flash chromatography, eluting with 30% EtOAc in hexanes, to afford spectroscopically pure **3g** as a dark yellow oil (55.0 mg, 0.16 mmol, 71%, 50:50 dr). R<sub>f</sub> = 0.47 (d<sub>1</sub>), 0.52 (d<sub>2</sub>) (30% ethyl acetate in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub> mixture of 2 diastereomers) δ 7.40-7.23 (m, 5H), 6.73-6.69 (m, 2H), 6.55-6.51 (m, 2H), 5.52 (dd, <sup>3</sup>J = 5.1 Hz, <sup>3</sup>J = 8.8 Hz, 1H<sup>d1</sup>), 5.17 (dd, <sup>3</sup>J = 5.0 Hz, <sup>3</sup>J = 8.6 Hz, 1H<sup>d2</sup>), 4.46-4.40 (m, 1H), 3.83 (s, 3H<sup>d1</sup>), 3.81 (s, 3H<sup>d2</sup>), 3.78 (br. s, 1H), 3.71 (s, 3H<sup>d1</sup>), 3.70 (s, 3H<sup>d2</sup>), 2.91-2.77 (m, 1H), 2.64-2.51 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub> mixture of 2 diastereomers) δ 165.3, 164.9, 152.8, 152.7, 141.4, 141.0, 140.2, 140.1, 129.1, 129.0, 128.0, 127.8, 126.3, 126.0, 115.7, 115.3, 114.7, 85.6, 85.4, 56.1, 55.7, 55.59, 55.56, 53.7, 38.6, 38.0; FTIR (neat) 3372, 2956, 1750, 1708, 1557, 1439, 1357, 1237, 822, 735 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS Calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>21</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> (M+H)<sup>+</sup>: 355.1445. Found 345.1443.



**Methyl 2-nitro-4-[(4-nitrophenyl)amino]-4-phenylbutanoate (3h).** The title compound was prepared by the Lewis acid-catalyzed procedure described above using cyclopropane (±)-1a (50.0 mg, 0.23 mmol, 1 equiv) and *p*-nitroaniline (41.7 mg, 0.34 mmol, 1.5 equiv). To achieve full conversion, the reaction mixture was stirred for 48h before being evaporated under reduced pressure. The crude mixture was purified by flash chromatography, eluting with 5% EtOAc in toluene, to afford spectroscopically pure **3h** as a bright yellow viscous oil (74.9 mg, 0.21 mmol, 92%, 50:50 dr). R<sub>f</sub> = 0.41 (5% ethyl acetate in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, mixture of 2 diastereomers) δ 8.49 (d,  ${}^{3}J$  = 6.1 Hz, 1H<sup>d1</sup>), 8.43 (d,  ${}^{3}J$  = 7.8 Hz, 1H<sup>d2</sup>), 8.20 (dd,  ${}^{3}J$  = 8.7 Hz,  ${}^{4}J$  = 1.5 Hz, 1H<sup>d1</sup>), 8.18 (dd,  ${}^{3}J$  = 8.6,  ${}^{4}J$  = 1.5 Hz, 1H<sup>d1</sup>), 7.45-7.31 (m, 5H + 2H<sup>d2</sup>), 6.77-6.67 (m, 2H), 5.40 (dd,  ${}^{3}J$  = 4.7 Hz,  ${}^{3}J$  = 9.3 Hz, 1H<sup>d1</sup>), 5.01 (dd,  ${}^{3}J$  = 4.4 Hz,  ${}^{3}J$  = 9.8 Hz, 1H<sup>d2</sup>), 4.74-4.61 (m, 1H), 3.87 (s, 3H<sup>d1</sup>), 3.81 (s, 3H<sup>d2</sup>), 3.11-2.88 (m, 1H), 2.77-2.61 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, mixture of 2 diastereomers) δ 165.5, 164.3, 143.8, 143.6, 139.8, 139.1, 136.4, 136.3, 133.0, 132.8, 129.6, 129.4, 128.8, 128.4, 126.8, 126.4, 125.9, 116.8, 116.6, 114.8, 114.5, 85.0, 84.9, 54.4, 54.1, 54.0, 53.9, 38.7, 37.7; FTIR (neat) 3362, 2957, 1752, 1561, 1501, 1417, 1350, 1235, 1039, 910, 742 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS Calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>6</sub>Na (M+Na)<sup>+</sup>: 382.1010. Found 382.1006.



**Methyl (4***R***)-4-(2,3-dihydro-1***H***-indol-1-yl)-2-nitro-4-phenylbutanoate (3i). The title compound was prepared by the Lewis acid-catalyzed procedure described above using cyclopropane** *ent-1a* **(50.0 mg, 0.23 mmol, 1 equiv, 90% ee) and indoline (38 μL, 0.34 mmol, 1.5 equiv), and purified by flash chromatography, eluting with 20% EtOAc in hexanes, to afford spectroscopically pure <b>3i** as a beige solid (72.3 mg, 0.21 mmol, 94%, 55:45 dr, d<sub>1</sub> = 90.0% ee, d<sub>2</sub> = 89.6% ee). mp 82-85 °C, R<sub>f</sub> = 0.76 (30% ethyl acetate in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub> mixture of 2 diastereomers)  $\delta$  7.39-7.25 (m, 5H), 7.12-7.04 (m, 2H), 6.69-6.58 (m, 2H), 5.50 (dd, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 5.1 Hz, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 8.9 Hz, 1H<sup>d1</sup>), 5.26 (dd, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 6.3 Hz, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H<sup>d2</sup>), 4.90 (dd, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 6.4 Hz, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 9.2 Hz, 1H<sup>d1</sup>), 4.83 (dd, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 4.7 Hz, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 11.0 Hz, 1H<sup>d2</sup>), 3.80 (s, 3H<sup>d1</sup>), 3.79 (s, 3H<sup>d2</sup>), 3.44-3.35 (m, 1H), 3.12-2.80 (m, 5H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub> mixture of 2 diastereomers)  $\delta$  165.3, 164.9, 150.6, 150.5, 137.2, 137.1, 129.7, 129.5, 128.8, 128.6, 128.1, 128.0, 127.7, 127.5, 127.4, 127.3, 124.8, 124.7, 117.94, 117.91, 107.1, 107.0, 85.60, 85.58, 55.7, 55.0, 53.62, 53.58, 46.7, 46.2, 32.2, 31.8, 28.0; FTIR (neat) 3029, 2955, 2849, 1750, 1605, 1558, 1485, 1436, 1328, 1254, 1002, 873, 745 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>21</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> (M+H)<sup>+</sup>: 341.1496. Found 341.1499.

SFC (Chiralcel OJ-H, 10% <sup>*i*</sup>PrOH, 2 mL/min, 150 bar, 25 °C) t<sub>r</sub> 10.9 min (minor enantiomer, minor diastereomer), t<sub>r</sub> 15.0 min (minor enantiomer, major diastereomer), t<sub>r</sub> 18.6 min (major enantiomer, minor diastereomer), t<sub>r</sub> 21.6 min (major enantiomer, major diastereomer).



**Methyl 4-anilino-4-(4-chlorophenyl)-2-nitrobutanoate (3j).** The title compound was prepared by the Lewis acid-catalyzed procedure described above using cyclopropane **1c** (57.8 mg, 0.23 mmol, 1 equiv) and aniline (29.2 μL, 0.34 mmol, 1.5 equiv), and purified by flash chromatography, eluting with 100% toluene, to afford spectroscopically pure **3j** as a yellow oil (58.6 mg, 0.17 mmol, 74%, 50:50 dr).  $R_f = 0.43$  (toluene); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub> mixture of 2 diastereomers) δ 7.36-7.24 (m, 4H), 7.13 (m<sub>c</sub>, 2H), 6.74 (t, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H<sup>d1</sup>), 6.73 (t, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H<sup>d2</sup>), 6.54 (m<sub>c</sub>, 2H), 5.46 (dd, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 4.9 Hz, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 8.9 Hz, 1H<sup>d1</sup>), 5.16 (dd, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 5.3 Hz, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H<sup>d2</sup>), 4.54-4.49 (m, 1H), 4.04 (br. s, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H<sup>d1</sup>), 3.82 (s, 3H<sup>d2</sup>), 2.88-2.77 (m, 1H), 2.65-2.50 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub> mixture of 2 diastereomers) δ 165.1, 164.7, 145.86, 145.84, 139.8, 139.5, 133.8, 133.6, 129.34, 129.32, 129.29, 129.19, 127.7, 127.4, 118.8, 118.7, 114.0, 113.8, 85.3, 85.2, 54.6, 54.1, 53.86, 53.84, 38.5, 38.0; FTIR (neat) 3394 (br), 2957, 1750, 1601, 1559, 1490, 1436, 1372, 1313, 1265, 1179, 1090, 826, 752, 692 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS Calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>18</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>Cl (M+H)<sup>+</sup>: 349.0950. Found 349.0954.



**Methyl {1-[(4-chlorophenyl)amino]-2,3-dihydro-1***H***-inden-2-yl}(nitro)acetate (3k). The title compound was prepared by the Lewis acid-catalyzed procedure described above using cyclopropane 1d (52.7 mg, 0.23 mmol, 1 equiv) and** *p***-chloroaniline (43.2 mg, 0.34 mmol, 1.5 equiv), and purified by flash chromatography, eluting with 100% toluene, to afford the spectroscopically pure 3k as an orange solid (60.3 mg, 0.18 mmol, 78%, 70:30 dr). mp 111-113 °C; R\_f = 0.43 (toluene); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub> mixture of 2 diastereomers) δ 7.31-7.15 (m, 6H), 6.71-6.64 (m, 2H), 5.47 (d, <sup>3</sup>***J* **= 5.7 Hz, 1H<sup>d1</sup>), 5.39 (d, <sup>3</sup>***J* **= 8.7 Hz, 1H<sup>d2</sup>), 5.26 (t, <sup>3</sup>***J* **= 9.1 Hz, 1H<sup>d1</sup>), 5.04 (t, <sup>3</sup>***J* **= 9.1 Hz, 1H<sup>d2</sup>), 3.91 (br. s, 1H<sup>d1</sup>), 3.88 (br. s, 1H<sup>d2</sup>), 3.81 (s, 3H<sup>d1</sup>), 3.64 (s, 3H<sup>d2</sup>), 3.40-3.30 (m, 1H), 3.25-3.10 (m, 1H), 2.93-2.84 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub> mixture of 2 diastereomers) δ 164.4, 164.2, 145.7, 145.6, 142.5, 142.4, 139.4, 139.2, 129.41, 129.37, 128.54, 128.52, 127.4, 125.05, 125.02, 124.0, 123.8, 123.1, 123.0, 114.5, 114.4, 89.6, 88.1, 60.5, 59.6, 53.6, 43.4, 33.9, 32.7; FTIR (neat) 3392, 2955, 1751, 1598, 1501, 1459, 1293, 1179, 1004, 910, 817, 750 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS Calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>18</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>CI (M+H)<sup>+</sup>: 361.0950. Found 361.0945.** 



Methyl 4-anilino-2-nitrohex-5-enoate (31). The title compound was prepared by the Lewis acidcatalyzed procedure described above using cyclopropane 1e (39.0 mg, 0.23 mmol, 1 equiv) and aniline (29.2 µL, 0.34 mmol, 1.5 equiv). The crude reaction mixture was washed twice with 3 M HCI and the combined acidified aqueous layers were washed with dichloromethane twice. Combined organic layers were then neutralized with sat. aq. NaHCO<sub>3</sub>, washed with sat. aq. NaCl and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. After evaporating the solvent under reduced pressure, the crude product was purified by flash chromatography, eluting with 30% EtOAc in hexanes, to afford spectroscopically pure **3I** as a yellow oil (40.0 mg, 0.15 mmol, 67%, 50:50 dr).  $R_f = 0.36$  (15%) ethyl acetate in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub> mixture of 2 diastereomers)  $\delta$  7.18 (m<sub>c</sub>, 2H), 6.76 (t,  ${}^{3}J$  = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 6.62 (m<sub>c</sub>, 2H), 5.83-5.70 (m, 1H), 5.47 (dd,  ${}^{3}J$  = 4.9 Hz,  ${}^{3}J$  = 8.8 Hz, 1H<sup>d1</sup>), 5.33 (dd,  ${}^{3}J$  = 5.4 Hz,  ${}^{3}J$  = 8.3 Hz, 1H<sup>d2</sup>), 5.31-5.18 (m, 2H), 4.02 (m<sub>c</sub>, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H<sup>d1</sup>), 3.83 (s, 3H<sup>d2</sup>), 3.56 (br. s, 1H), 2.74-2.59 (m, 1H), 2.49-2.31 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub> mixture of 2 diastereomers)  $\delta$  165.2, 165.0, 146.4, 146.3, 137.4, 137.2, 129.34, 129.32, 118.7, 118.6, 117.8, 116.8, 114.1, 113.8, 85.2, 85.1, 53.7, 53.3, 52.8, 35.8, 35.4; FTIR (neat) 3384, 2957, 1749, 1601, 1557, 1498, 1360, 1310, 1217, 992, 751 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS Calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> (M+H)<sup>+</sup>: 265.1183. Found 265.1174.



**Methyl 2-nitro-4-phenyl-4-pyrrolidin-1-ylbutanoate (3m).** The title compound was prepared by the Lewis acid-catalyzed procedure described above using cyclopropane (±)-1a (50.0 mg, 0.23 mmol, 1 equiv) and pyrrolidine (39.5 μL, 0.48 mmol, 2.1 equiv), stirring the reaction mixture for 48 hours. It was purified by flash chromatography, eluting with 5% MeOH in dichloromethane, to afford spectroscopically pure 3m as a yellow oil (60.5 mg, 0.21 mmol, 90%, 60:40 dr). R<sub>f</sub> = 0.30 (5% MeOH in dichloromethane); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub> mixture of 2 diastereomers) δ 7.40-7.22 (m, 5H), 5.22 (m<sub>c</sub>, 1H<sup>d1</sup>), 4.83 (dd, <sup>3</sup>J = 3.4 Hz, <sup>3</sup>J = 11.0 Hz, 1H<sup>d2</sup>), 3.82 (s, 3H<sup>d1</sup>), 3.76 (s, 3H<sup>d2</sup>), 3.50 (m<sub>c</sub>, 1H<sup>d1</sup>), 3.19 (dd, <sup>3</sup>J = 4.6 Hz, <sup>3</sup>J = 10.0 Hz, 1H<sup>d2</sup>), 3.06 (m<sub>c</sub>, 1H<sup>d1</sup>), 2.92 (m<sub>c</sub>, 1H<sup>d2</sup>), 2.68-2.35 (m, 5H), 1.79-1.66 (m, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub> mixture of 2 diastereomers) δ 165.2, 165.1, 139.7, 138.0, 128.7, 128.4, 128.3, 128.1, 127.9, 85.9, 85.6, 66.0, 63.9, 53.5, 53.4, 52.1, 50.2, 36.0, 35.0, 23.2, 23.0; FTIR (neat) 2959, 2795, 1754, 1561, 1454, 1436, 1262, 1210, 1135, 884, 704 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS Calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>21</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> (M+H)<sup>+</sup>: 293.1496. Found 293.1498.



**Methyl 2-nitro-4-phenyl-4-pyrrolidin-1-ylbutanoate (3n).** In a 2-mL microwave vial containing a magnetic stirbar, cyclopropane (±)-1 (100 mg, 0.45 mmol, 1 equiv) was mixed with piperidine (67 μL, 0.68 mmol, 1.5 equiv), and dichloromethane (200 μL) was added, followed by Ni(ClO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O (8.3 mg, 0.023 mmol, 0.1 equiv.) The vial was sealed with a Teflon-lined cap and the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 48 h. The crude reaction was evaporated under reduced pressure and purified by flash chromatography, eluting with 5% MeOH in dichloromethane, affording spectroscopically pure **3n** as a beige crystalline solid (87.3 mg, 0.28 mmol, 63%, 50:50 dr). mp 68-71 °C; R<sub>f</sub> = 0.20 (5% MeOH in dichloromethane); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub> mixture of 2 diastereomers) δ 7.39-7.31 (m, 3H), 7.16 (m<sub>c</sub>, 2H), 5.67 (m<sub>c</sub>, 1H<sup>d1</sup>); 5.22 (dd, <sup>3</sup>J = 5.6 Hz, <sup>3</sup>J = 8.3 Hz, 1H<sup>d2</sup>), 3.87 (s, 3H<sup>d1</sup>), 3.81 (s, 3H<sup>d2</sup>), 3.58-3.52 (m, 1H), 3.15-3.04 (m, 1H<sup>d1</sup>), 2.94 (m<sub>c</sub>, 1H<sup>d2</sup>), 2.56-2.38 (m, 4H<sup>d1</sup> + 1H), 2.15 (m<sub>c</sub>, 4H<sup>d2</sup>), 1.50 (m<sub>c</sub>, 4H), 1.33-1.27 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub> mixture of 2 diastereomers) δ 165.9, 165.4, 136.4, 135.7, 128.5, 128.2, 128.0, 127.8, 127.7, 86.8, 86.1, 67.2, 63.5, 53.5, 50.8, 50.3, 32.5, 32.0, 26.3, 26.0, 24.4; FTIR (neat) 3029, 2933, 2806, 1751, 1558, 1436, 1371, 1160, 1100, 871, 702 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS Calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>23</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub> (M+H)<sup>+</sup>: 307.1652. Found 307.1654.



1-[(1R)-3-nitro-1-phenylpropyl]indoline (5). To a solution of 3i (500 mg, 1.5 mmol, 1 equiv, 90% ee) in dioxane (10 mL) and water (5 mL) was added LiOH (53 mg, 2.2 mmol, 1.5 equiv), and the reaction mixture was stirred at 80 °C for 48 h, after which all of the starting material was consumed. The crude reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, neutralized with 1 M HCI and partitioned with EtOAc. The aqueous phase was extracted with EtOAc three times, and the combined organic phases were washed with sat. aq. NaCl and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. After evaporating the solvent under reduced pressure, the crude product was purified by flash chromatography, eluting with 20% EtOAc in hexanes, affording spectroscopically pure 5 as a crystalline yellow solid (369.5 mg, 1.31 mmol, 89%, 90% ee).  $[\alpha]_{p}^{20}$ : + 150.8 (*c* 0.455, MeOH); mp 69-71 °C;  $R_f = 0.76$  (30% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.37-7.26 (m, 5H), 7.06 (m<sub>c</sub>, 2H), 6.64 (ddd,  ${}^{3}J$  = 7.6 Hz,  ${}^{3}J$  = 7.3 Hz,  ${}^{4}J$  = 0.9 Hz, 1H), 6.56 (d,  ${}^{3}J$  = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 4.82  $(dd, {}^{3}J = 5.9 Hz, {}^{3}J = 9.6 Hz, 1H), 4.62-4.46 (m, 2H), 3.45-3.37 (m, 1H), 3.20-3.11 (m, 1H), 3.02-$ 2.88 (m, 2H), 2.84-2.61 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 150.8, 138.0, 129.6, 128.7, 127.9, 127.6, 127.4, 124.7, 117.6, 106.8, 73.0, 56.0, 46.7, 28.9, 28.1; FTIR (neat) 3027, 2925, 2848, 1604, 1546, 1381, 1255, 1024, 919, 873, 744 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS Calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>19</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M+H)<sup>+</sup>: 283.1441. Found 283.1434.

SFC (Chiralcel OD-H, 20% MeOH, 4 mL/min, 100 bar, 25 °C)  $t_r$  5.8 min (minor enantiomer),  $t_r$  15.5 min (major enantiomer).



(3*R*)-3-(2,3-dihydro-1*H*-indol-1-yl)-3-phenylpropylamine (6). In a flame-dried 25 mL round bottom flask, **5** (200 mg, 0.71 mmol, 1 equiv) was dissolved in anhydrous diethyl ether (6 mL) under an atmosphere of argon. LiAlH<sub>4</sub> (107 mg, 2.8 mmol, 4 equiv) was added quickly in one portion at 0 °C. When the exotherm ceased, the reaction mixture was warmed up to room temperature and stirred overnight. The crude reaction mixture was quenched with several drops of H<sub>2</sub>O at 0 °C, and several drops of 2M NaOH were added so that a thick white precipitate formed. This suspension was filtered through a pad of Celite washing with diethyl ether, yielding a clear yellowish solution, which was evaporated under reduced pressure to afford spectroscopically pure **6** (177 mg, 0.70 mmol, 99%, 90% ee) which was used without further purification. [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub><sup>20</sup> : + 155.4 (c 0.975, MeOH); R<sub>f</sub> = 0.15 (20% MeOH in dichloromethane); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.37-7.25 (m, 5H), 7.07-7.02 (m, 2H), 6.61–6.53 (m, 2H), 4.79 (dd, <sup>3</sup>J = 7.1 Hz, <sup>3</sup>J = 7.9 Hz), 3.49 (m<sub>c</sub>, 1H), 3.28 (m<sub>c</sub>, 1H), 3.04-2.88 (m, 2H), 2.83 (t, <sup>3</sup>J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.28-2.02 (m, 2H), 1.29 (br. s, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  151.4, 140.2, 129.5, 128.3, 127.7, 127.2, 127.1, 124.5, 116.6, 106.3,

53.4, 46.8, 39.7, 35.0, 28.1; FTIR (neat) 3025, 2924, 2847, 1605, 1487, 1329, 1258, 1157, 837, 742, 631 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS Calcd for  $C_{17}H_{21}N_2$  (M+H)<sup>+</sup>: 253.1699. Found 253.1697.



**Methyl (3***R***)-3-(2,3-dihydro-1***H***-indol-1-yl)-3-phenylpropylcarbamate (7). To a solution of <b>6** (165 mg, 0.65 mmol, 1 equiv) in dichloromethane (5 mL) was added methyl chloroformate (61 μL, 0.78 mmol, 1.2 equiv). The solution was cooled to 0 °C and K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (362 mg, 2.6 mmol, 4 equiv) and H<sub>2</sub>O (5 mL) were added. The reaction was warmed to room temperature and stirred for 30 min. Water (5 mL) was added and the reaction mixture was extracted with dichloromethane three times, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated under reduced pressure. Flash chromatography, eluting with 30% EtOAc in hexanes, afforded the spectroscopically pure **7** as a colourless oil (191.0 mg, 0.61 mmol, 94%, 90% ee).  $[\alpha]_D^{20}$ : + 117.0 (*c* 0.675, MeOH); R<sub>f</sub> = 0.33 (30% EtOAc in hexanes); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.35-7.27 (m, 5H), 7.10-7.06 (m, 2H), 6.63 (t, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.56 (d, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 4.97 (br. s, 1H), 4.75 (t, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 3.70 (s, 3H), 3.53-3.47 (m, 1H), 3.40-3.23 (m, 2H), 3.04-2.89 (m, 2H), 2.26 (m<sub>c</sub>, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 156.0, 150.2, 138.5, 128.5, 127.3, 126.6, 126.3, 126.2, 123.6, 115.9, 105.4, 55.4, 51.0, 45.6, 37.9, 30.3, 27.0; FTIR (neat) 3030, 3026, 2946, 1698, 1604, 1519, 1452, 1188, 1023, 918, 741 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>23</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M+H)<sup>+</sup>: 311.1754. Found 311.1747.

SFC (Chiralcel OD-H, 20% MeOH, 4 mL/min, 100 bar, 30 °C)  $t_r$  5.9 min (minor enantiomer),  $t_r$  7.1 min (major enantiomer).



(3*R*)-3-(2,3-dihydro-1*H*-indol-1-yl)-*N*-methyl-3-phenylpropan-1-amine (8). In a flame-dried 25 mL round bottom flask, **7** (57.5 mg, 0.18 mmol, 1 equiv) was dissolved in anhydrous tetrahydrofuran (3 mL) under an atmosphere of argon and cooled to 0 °C. LiAlH<sub>4</sub> (28.1 mg, 0.74 mmol, 4 equiv) was added quickly in one portion. When the exotherm ceased, the reaction was warmed up to room temperature, and then stirred at reflux for 35 min, after which all of the starting material was consumed. The crude reaction mixture was quenched with several drops of H<sub>2</sub>O at 0 °C, and several drops of 2 M NaOH were added so that a thick white precipitate formed. This suspension was filtered through a pad of Celite washing with diethyl ether, yielding a clear yellowish solution, which was evaporated under reduced pressure to afford pure **8** (49.2 mg, 0.18 mmol, quant., 90% ee) which was used without further purification. If desired, the product can be further purified by flash chromatography, eluting with 20% MeOH in dichloromethane or by filtration through a silica plug eluting with MeOH. [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub><sup>20</sup>: + 149.7 (*c* 0.625, MeOH); R<sub>f</sub> = 0.10 (methanol); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.36-7.22 (m, 5H), 7.07-7.02 (m, 2H), 6.61-6.53 (m, 2H),

5.77 (t,  ${}^{3}J$  = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 3.49 (m<sub>c</sub>, 1H), 3.25 (m<sub>c</sub>, 1H), 3.02-2.84 (m, 2H), 2.70 (m<sub>c</sub>, 2H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 2.31-2.11 (m, 2H), 1.81 (br. s, 1H);  ${}^{13}$ C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  151.4, 140.1, 129.5, 128.3, 127.7, 127.2, 127.1, 124.4, 116.6, 106.4, 56.9, 49.5, 46.8, 36.5, 31.4, 28.1; FTIR (neat) 3026, 2930, 2793, 1605, 1472, 1328, 1263, 1157, 1024, 735 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS Calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>23</sub>N<sub>2</sub> (M+H)<sup>+</sup>: 267.1856. Found 267.1854. Spectroscopic data are in full agreement with the reported values.<sup>4</sup>

SFC (Chiralcel OD-H, 20% [MeOH + 0.2% NEt<sub>3</sub>], 2 mL/min, 100 bar, 40 °C) t<sub>r</sub> 6.4 min (minor enantiomer), t<sub>r</sub> 8.0 min (major enantiomer).



(3*R*)-3-(1*H*-indol-1-yl)-*N*-methyl-3-phenylpropan-1-amine (9). To a solution of **8** (49 mg, 0.18 mmol, 1 equiv) in dichloromethane (3 mL) was added MnO<sub>2</sub> (161 mg, 1.8 mmol, 10 equiv) and the reaction mixture was stirred at reflux for 3 h, after which all of the starting material was consumed. The crude reaction mixture was filtered through a pad of Celite, washing with dichloromethane, evaporated under reduced pressure and purified by flash chromatography eluting with 20% MeOH in dichloromethane, affording spectroscopically pure **9** as a yellowish oil (40.3 mg, 0.15 mmol, 83%, 90% ee).  $[\alpha]_D^{20}$ : + 81.2 (*c* 0.50, MeOH); Lit.<sup>4</sup>:  $[\alpha]^{25}_D$  = + 79.2 (*c* 1.0, MeOH); R<sub>f</sub> = 0.13 (20% MeOH in dichloromethane); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.68 (d, <sup>3</sup>J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (d, <sup>3</sup>J = 3.2 Hz, 1H), 7.40-7.24 (m, 6H), 7.20 (ddd, <sup>3</sup>J = 7.1 Hz, <sup>3</sup>J = 7.0 Hz, <sup>4</sup>J = 1.1 Hz, 1H), 6.63 (d, <sup>3</sup>J = 3.2 Hz, 1H), 5.71 (dd, <sup>3</sup>J = 6.4 Hz, <sup>3</sup>J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 2.63-2.45 (m, 4H), 2.42 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  141.3, 136.3, 128.6, 128.5, 127.5, 126.2, 124.9, 121.4, 120.8, 119.5, 109.9, 101.8, 57.2, 48.7, 36.4, 35.3; FTIR (neat) 3028, 2932, 1609, 1509, 1474, 1308, 1212, 1013, 738 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS Calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>21</sub>N<sub>2</sub> (M+H)<sup>+</sup>: 265.1699. Found 265.1704. Spectroscopic data are in full agreement with the reported values.<sup>4</sup>

SFC (Chiralcel OD-H, 20% [MeOH + 0.2% NEt<sub>3</sub>], 2 mL/min, 100 bar, 35 °C) t<sub>r</sub> 7.1 min (minor enantiomer), t<sub>r</sub> 12.9 min (major enantiomer).



*N*-[3-(2,3-dihydro-1*H*-indol-1-yl)-3-phenylpropyl]-*N*,*N*-dimethylamine (10). To a solution of (±)-6 (295 mg, 1.17 mmol, 1 equiv) in MeOH (6 mL) was added 37% aq. formaldehyde (483 mg, 5.95 mmol, 5 equiv) at room temperature, upon which a white suspension formed which dissolved under 1 min. NaCNBH<sub>3</sub> (120 mg, 1.90 mmol, 1.6 equiv) was added, and the reaction mixture was stirred for 2 h at room temperature. Several drops of glacial acetic acid were added (with gas

evolution) and the reaction mixture was stirred for additional 2 hours. The reaction mixture was basified to pH 9 with 2 M NaOH and extracted with dichloromethane three times. The combined organic layers were washed with sat. aq. NaCl, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporated under reduced pressure. Flash chromatography, eluting with 20% MeOH in dichloromethane, afforded spectroscopically pure **10** as a colourless oil (234.9 mg, 0.84 mmol, 72%). R<sub>f</sub> = 0.43 (20% MeOH in dichloromethane); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.36-7.22 (m, 5H), 7.06-7.02 (m, 2H), 6.61-6.53 (m, 2H), 4.74 (m<sub>c</sub>, 1H), 3.50 (m<sub>c</sub>, 1H), 3.44 (m<sub>c</sub>, 1H), 3.03-2.85 (m, 2H), 2.56-2.37 (m, 2H), 2.32 (s, 6H), 2.30-2.14 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  151.3, 139.9, 129.5, 128.3, 127.4, 127.22, 127.20, 124.5, 116.6, 106.4, 56.9, 56.8, 46.7, 45.3, 29.1, 28.1; FTIR (neat) 3026, 2943, 2854, 2764, 1605, 1487, 1388, 1304, 1024, 738, 629 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>25</sub>N<sub>2</sub> (M+H)<sup>+</sup>: 281.2012. Found 281.2000.



**3-(1***H***-indol-1-yl)-***N***,***N***-dimethyl-3-phenylpropan-1-amine (11). To a solution of 10 (234.9 mg, 0.84 mmol, 1 equiv) in dichloromethane (18 mL) was added MnO<sub>2</sub> (727 mg, 8.4 mmol, 10 equiv) and the reaction mixture was stirred at reflux for 2 hours. The reaction mixture was filtered through a pad of Celite washing with dichloromethane and evaporated under reduced pressure to afford spectroscopically pure <b>11** as a colourless oil (233.8 mg, 0.84 mmol, quant.). R<sub>f</sub> = 0.33 (20% MeOH in dichloromethane); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.71 (d, <sup>3</sup>J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.43-7.13 (m, 9H), 6.65 (d, <sup>3</sup>J = 3.2 Hz, 1H), 5.72 (dd, <sup>3</sup>J = 6.3 Hz, <sup>3</sup>J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 2.56-2.37 (m, 2H), 2.33-2.27 (m, 2H), 2.27 (s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  141.4, 136.3, 128.6, 128.5, 127.4, 126.3, 124.9, 121.4, 120.8, 119.4, 110.0, 101.8, 57.2, 56.2, 45.5, 33.3; FTIR (neat) 3030, 2944, 2860, 2768, 1510, 1407, 1213, 906, 727, 648 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS Calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>23</sub>N<sub>2</sub> (M+H)<sup>+</sup>: 279.1856. Found 279.1862. Spectroscopical data are in full agreement with the literature values.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Mahaney, P. E. *et al. Bioorg. Med. Chem.* **2006**, *14*, 8455.

## SFC chromatograms of enantioenriched compounds





Signal

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# Retention Time 5.83 min 15.53 min



racemic

enantioenriched



0.35

0.2



racemic









<sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of new compounds

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0L-UZ-U42-CHAR NO 0L-U2-U42-CHAR Acquisition Paramete 2000311 L 2000311 RUM 9 996C RUM 9 996C RUM 5 mm QN 911/1 ROG 5 mm QN 93268 EMT CDC13

OL-02-042-cha

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S42









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S52

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S59

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S60

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