Supporting information

Short α/β -peptides as catalysts for intra- and intermolecular aldol reactions

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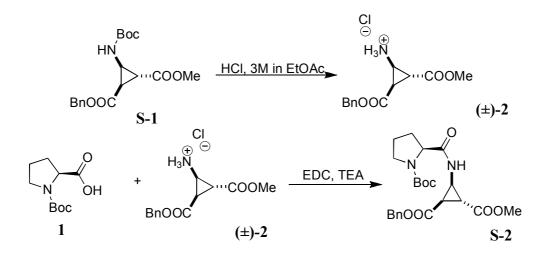
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General Information

Reactions were carried out in closed 10 mL vials following the procedure subsequently reported; distilled, water free solvents have been employed in all reactions that did not involve water presence. Dry DCM for peptide coupling has been obtained from a molecular sieves solvent purification system. Analysis grade acetone has been employed in the catalysis involving water containing mixtures. Aldehyde substrates have been distilled before use. Silica gel 60 (0.063-0.200 mm) was used for the column chromatography, TLC analysis was done on silica gel 60 F₂₅₄ coated on aluminium sheets; ninhvdrine coloration was employed to check the reaction progress during peptide synthesis, vanilline was employed to follow the formation of the products of catalysis. ¹H (300 MHz) and ¹³C (75.5 MHz) NMR spectra were recorded on a 300 MHz Spectrometer in CDCl₃ (7.27 ppm for ¹H, 77 ppm for ¹³C) or CD₃OD (3.31 ppm for ¹H, 49.1 ppm for ¹³C). IR spectra were recorded using a *golden gate*, single reflection, ATR system. The ee was determined by chiral HPLC on a Chiralpak-AS column or by chiral GC on a CP Chiralsil-Dex CB column (injector temperature, 250°C, detector temperature, 250°C) after trimethylsylilation (only for intermolecular aldol reaction) of the product. The trimethylsilvlation was carried out directly on the GC sample, dissolved in DCM by addition of one drop of pure trimethylsilylimidazole. The absolute configuration was assigned by comparison of the optical rotation for the isolated compound, with the values reported in literature.

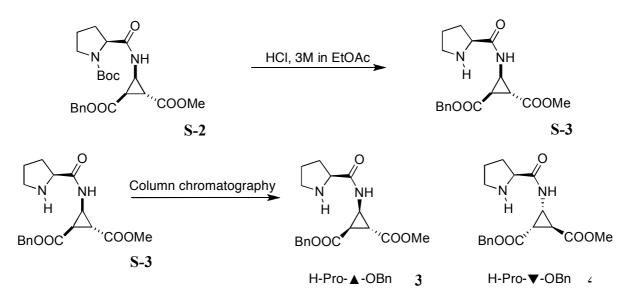
Representative procedure for catalysts preparation

Dipeptide preparation and separation of diastereomers:



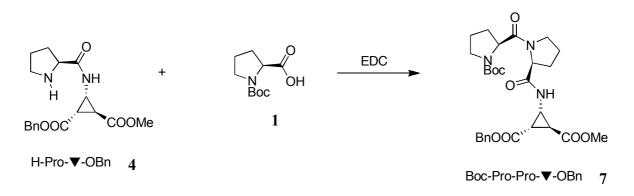
Racemic building block S-1 (2.0 g, 5.7 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) was dissolved in a saturated solution of HCl in EtOAC ($c\approx3$ mol/L), 20 mL, at 0°C. After stirring for 2 hours the acid was removed under reduced pressure, leaving a white/pinkish solid as a residue. To this deprotected building block (±)-2 a solution of *N*-Boc-L-proline (1) (1.5 g, 7.1 mmol, 1.25 equiv.) and EDC·HCl (1.4 g, 7.1 mmol, 1.25 equiv.) in DCM (25 mL), which was stirred beforehand for 30 min, was added. Using a dropping funnel TEA (0.87 mL, 6.8 mmol, 1.2 equiv.) in DCM (20 mL) was added over a period of 1.5 h. The mixture was stirred overnight. Then the reaction was quenched with water (20 mL) and the solution acidified to pH 3 using KHSO₄ solution (1 M), then extracted with DCM. The organic phase was extracted successively with NaHCO₃ solution and brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered and evaporated

under reduced pressure. Purification by chromatography on silica gel (1:1 hexanes/EtOAc) yielded 1.78 g (70%) of the mixture of diastereomers **S-2**.

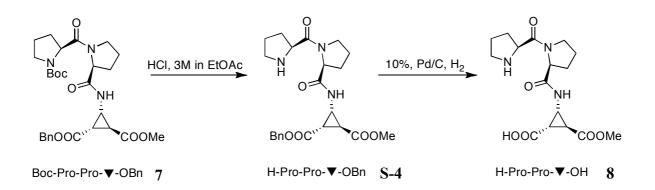


To the mixture of diastereomers S-2 (2.0 g, 4.5 mmol) was added at 0°C a saturated solution of HCl in EtOAC (15 mL, c \approx 3 mol/L). After stirring for 1.5 hours the acid was removed under reduced pressure leaving a white wax as a residue. It was dissolved in water (20 mL) and extracted with Et₂O, the aqueous phase was then adjusted to basic pH using NaHCO₃ saturated solution and then extracted with DCM (3x20 mL). The organic phase was dried over Na₂SO₄, filtrated and evaporated under reduced pressure to yield S-3 (1.52 g, 4.4 mmol, 98%). The two diastereomers **3** and **4** were separated using column chromatography (DCM/MeOH 15:1) to give pure **4** (570 mg, 38% R_f=0.25) and pure **3** (570 mg, 38%, R_f=0.20) along with the recovered mixture S-3 (380 mg).

*Synthesis of the tripeptide Pro-Pro-***▼**:

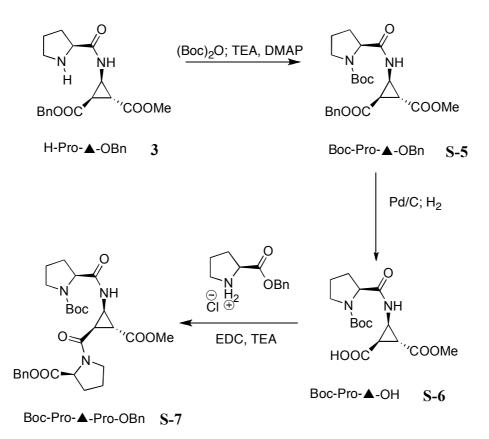


N-Boc-L-proline (300 mg, 1.4 mmol) was dissolved in DCM (10 mL) and EDC·HCl (295mg, 1.54 mmol, 1.1 equiv.) was added. After 30 min 4 (580 mg, 1.68 mmol, 1.2 equiv.) was added and the reaction was stirred overnight. Then DCM (10 mL) and water (10 mL) were added and the pH was adjusted to 4 by addition of small amounts of KHSO₄ solution (1M). The organic phase was extracted and then extracted successively with NaHCO₃ solution (sat.) (10 mL) and brine (10 mL). The organic phase was dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered and evaporated under reduced pressure to give 7 (495 mg, 0.91 mmol, 65%).



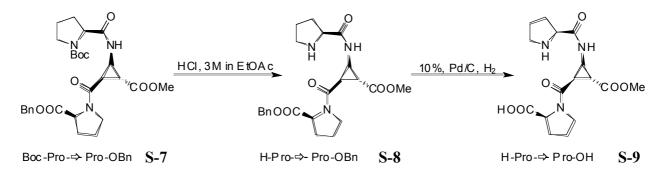
The preparation of **8** was completed by deprotection of the amino and carboxylic acid functionalities. Boc-group deprotection of **7** (495 mg, 0.91 mmol) to furnish product **S-4** (360 mg, 90%) was performed as reported for **S-3**. Debenzylation was carried out by dissolving **S-4** (200 mg, 0.45 mmol) in MeOH and adding Pd/C (10 m%, 20 mg). Stirring under H₂ atmosphere was continued for 1.5 hours. After this period the Pd/C residue was filtered through celite and the collected solvent was evaporated to provide **8** (160 mg, quantitative).

Synthesis of tripeptide Pro- **-***Pro:*



3 (500 mg, 1.44 mmol) was dissolved in DCM (10 mL) and then Boc_2O (330 mg, 1.5 mmol, 1.5 equiv.) was added. A mixture of TEA (0.15 mL, 1.1 mmol, 1.1 equiv.) and DMAP (18 mg, 0.15 mmol, 0.15 equiv.) in DCM (10 mL) was then added dropwise into the mixture over a

period of 1 h, and stirring continued for 10 h. The reaction was quenched with water and KHSO₄ solution (1 M) was used to acidify the solution, which was then extracted with DCM. The combined organic phases were extracted with brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, evaporated under reduced pressure to give **S-5** (580 mg, 90%). The following debenzylation was performed according to the procedure described above for the synthesis of **8** and proceeded in quantitative yield, affording 460 mg **S-6**. Dipeptide **S-6** (360 mg, 1.0 mmol) was then dissolved in DCM (15 mL) and EDC·HCl (200 mg, 1.05 mmol, 1.05 equiv.) and added to the solution. After stirring for 30 min NH(HCl)-Pro-OBn (290 mg, 1.2 mmol, 1.2 equiv.) followed by TEA (0.17 mL, 1.2 mmol, 1.2 equiv.) were added and the mixture was stirred for 24 h. DCM (10 mL) and water (10 mL) were added and the aqueous phase was adjusted to pH 4 using a KHSO₄ solution (1M). The organic phase was extracted and extracted with NaHCO₃ solution (sat.) (10 mL) and brine (10 mL). The organic phase was dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered and evaporated under reduced pressure to give compound **S-7** (380 mg, 70%).



Deprotection of S-7 to furnish the final peptide catalyst has been carried out as described above for 7 and S-4, leading to H-Pro- \triangle -Pro-OH, S-9 (240 mg, quantitative).

General procedure for catalytic asymmetric aldol reaction

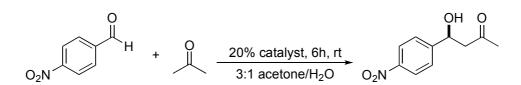
Intermolecular aldol reaction:

a) *Water free conditions:* 0.01 to 0.04 mmol (5 to 20% catalyst) of the selected catalyst were added to 0.2 mmol of aldehyde and dissolved under N_2 atmosphere in 2 ml of dry acetone or CHCl₃/acetone mixture in a 10 ml vial. The reaction was stirred for the time indicated, subsequently, the solvent was evaporated and 5 mL of EtOAc and 2 mL of water were added to the crude material. The organic phases were extracted again with 1 mL of water, dried (Na₂SO₄), concentrated and purified on silica (3:1 hexanes/EtOAc) to yield the desired aldol product.

Catalyst recovery: the combined water layers were extracted with Et_2O (2 mL) and frozen at – 20°C. Lyophilization of the sample allowed the recovery of the catalyst (90-95%), which could be reused without any loss in performance.

b) *Homogeneous acetone/water mixture:* p-nitrobenzaldehyde (38 mg, 0.25 mmol) and catalyst (H–Pro- \blacktriangle -Pro–OH) (17.7 mg, 0.05 mmol) were dissolved in 0.75 mL of a 3:1 acetone/water (molar ratio 1:30:42 aldehyde/acetone/water), and the reaction mixture was stirred for 6 hours at room temperature. Acetone was evaporated under reduced pressure and EtOAc (5 mL) and water (2 mL) were added to the resulting suspension. The organic layers were separated, extracted with water (1 mL), dried (Na₂SO₄) and evaporated. The residue was purified on silica (3:1 hexanes/EtOAc) to yield 11a (50 mg, 95% yield, 71% ee).

Catalyst recovery: the combined aqueous layers were extracted with Et_2O (2 mL) and frozen at -20°C. Lyophilization allowed recovery of the catalyst (90-95%), which could be reused without any loss in performance.



cycle	time	Yield	ee	catalyst recovery
1	6h	95%	71%	90%
2	6h	92%	71%	95%
3	6h	96%	71%	93%

Table S-1: catalytic cycles with fresh (1) and recovered (2,3) catalyst.

Reaction between aromatic aldehydes and cyclohexanone (homogeneous): in a 5 mL vial, 0.03 mmol of H–Pro- \blacktriangle -Pro–OH were added to 0.15 mmol of aldehyde, followed by 20 µL of water and 0.4 mL of ketone; the reaction was left stirring for 24 h. After this period 3 mL of EtOAc and 1 mL of water were added to the crude material. The organic phases were extracted with 1 mL of water and dried (Na₂SO₄), evaporated and purified on silica (4:1 hexanes/EtOAc) to furnish the desired aldol product.

Catalyst recovery: the combined water layers were extracted with 2 mL Et_2O and frozen at – 20°C. Lyophilization of the sample allowed the recovery of 90-95% of the catalyst.

Reaction between aromatic aldehydes and cyclohexanone (heterogeneous): in a 5 mL vial, 0.03 mmol of H–Pro- \blacktriangle -Pro–OH were added to 0.15 mmol of aldehyde, followed by 40 µL of water and 0.4 mL of ketone; the reaction mixture was stirred for 48 h. After this period 3 mL of EtOAc and 1 mL of water were added to the crude material. The organic phases were extracted with 1 mL of water and dried (Na₂SO₄), evaporated and purified on silica (4:1 hexanes/EtOAc) to furnish the desired aldol product.

Catalyst recovery: the combined water layers were extracted with 2 mL Et_2O and frozen at - 20°C. Lyophilization of the sample allowed the recovery of 90-95% of the catalyst.

Intramolecular aldol reaction:

0.03 mmol of the selected catalyst were added to 0.3 mmol of **13** in 1ml of CHCl₃. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature, the progress of the reaction was followed by GC. After 24 hours the solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure and the crude material was dissolved in 5 mL of EtOAc and extracted with 2 mL of water. The organic phases were dried (Na₂SO₄), evaporated and purified on silica (3:1 hexanes/EtOAc).

Experimental data

H-Pro-Δ-OBn (3), ¹H-NMR (300 MHz; CDCl₃) δ: 8.42 (brs, 1H); 7.35 (m, 5H); 5.15 (q, 2H); 4.10 (m, 1H); 3.72 (m, 1H); 3.68 (s, 3H); 3.66 (m, 1H); 2.96 (m, 1H); 2.85 (m, 1H); 2.58 (m, 1H); 2.37 (m, 1H); 1.93 (m, 1H); 1.67 (m, 2H). ¹³C (75.5 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 26.3, 26.6, 28.6 30.8, 36.2, 47.3, 52.5, 60.6, 67.4, 128.5, 128.6, 128.8, 135.4, 169.7, 170.2, 176.4; (ES-MS) for 346.15, C₁₈H₂₂N₂O₅, (MH⁺) was found: 347.1; High resolution mass (EI-MS) for 346.1529, C₁₈H₂₂N₂O₅, 346.1528 was found (δ = 0.3 ppm). FT-IR (film) v_{max}: 3325.0, 2968.3, 2957.4, 1723.8, 1667.6, 1510.5, 1407.3, 1300.0, 1179.6; mp: 114°C.

H-Pro-▼-OBn (4), ¹H-NMR (300 MHz; CDCl₃) δ : 8.45 (d, 1H); 7.35 (m, 5H); 5.15 (q, 2H); 4.04 (m, 1H); 3.70 (m, 1H); 3.69 (m, 3H); 2.94 (m, 1H); 2.76 (m, 1H); 2.57 (m, 1H); 2.37 (m, 1H) 2.04 (m, 1H) 1.80 (m, 1H); 1.59 (m, 1H). ¹³C (75.5 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 176.3, 170.1, 169.4, 135.3, 128.6, 128.5, 128.3, 67.2, 60.5, 52.4, 47.2, 36.1, 30.7, 28.5, 26.7, 26.1. (ES-MS) for 346.15, C₁₈H₂₂N₂O₅, (MH⁺) was found: 347.1; High resolution mass (EI-MS) for 346.1529, C₁₈H₂₂N₂O₅, 346.1529 was found. FT-IR (film) v_{max}: 3322.0, 2975.3, 2955.5, 1723.4, 1673.5, 1508.4, 1451.4, 1309.9, 1177.1; oil

H-Pro- \blacktriangle-**OH**, ¹H-NMR (300 MHz; CDCl₃) δ : 4.27 (m, 1H); 3.72 (s, 3H); 3.57 (dd, J = 4.6; 7.9 Hz, 1H); 3.35 (m, 2H); 2.42 (m, 1H); 2.35-2.00 (m, 5H). ¹³C (75.5 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 172.3, 172.2, 170.9, 61.2, 53.0, 47.4, 36.3, 31.0, 29.6, 28.1, 24.9. High resolution mass (EI-MS) for 256.1059, C₁₁H₁₆N₂O₅, 256.1054 was found ($\delta = 0.2$ ppm). FT-IR (solid) v_{max}: 3439, 3207, 2955, 1678, 1639, 1543, 1146; mp: 130-132°C.

H-Pro-▼-OH, ¹H-NMR (300 MHz; CDCl₃) δ : 4.27 (m, 1H); 3.72 (s, 3H); 3.62 (dd, *J* = 5.1; 7.4 Hz, 1H); 3.35 (m, 2H); 2.38 (m, 1H); 2.27 (m, 2H); 2.05 (m, 3H). ¹³C (75.5 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 174.2, 172.0, 170.0, 61.0, 52.8, 47.2, 36.3, 30.8, 30.6, 28.5, 25.1. High resolution mass (EI-MS) for 256.1059, C₁₁H₁₆N₂O₅, 256.1053 was found (δ = 0.2 ppm). FT-IR (solid) v_{max}: 3379, 3241, 3059, 1732, 1686, 1447, 1167; mp: 132-134°C.

H-Pro-Δ-**Pro-OH** (**S-9**), ¹H-NMR (300 MHz; CD₃OH) δ: 8.79-8.27 (bs, signal doubling because of rotamers, 1H); 4.24 (m, 2H); 3.93 (m, 1H); 3.78 (m, 1H); 3.73 (s, 3H); 3.48-3.65 (m, 2H); 3.38 (m 1H); 2.50-2.69 (m, 2H); 2.28 (m, 1H); 2.20 (m, 1H); 1.97 (m, 3H); 1.90 (m, 3H). ¹³C (75.5 MHz, CD₃OD) δ: (major conformer) 177.0, 172.3, 171.3, 166.6, 60.9, 53.0, 50.0, 48.8, 47.6, 36.3, 31.3, 30.9, 30.4, 26.7, 25.7, 25.0. (ES-MS) for 353.1, C₁₆H₂₃N₃O₆, (MH⁺) was found: 354.1; High resolution mass (EI-MS) for 353.1587, C₁₆H₂₃N₃O₆, 353.1593 was found (δ = 1.7 ppm). FT-IR (solid) ν_{max}: 2963.4, 1725.1, 1616.7, 1438.9, 1299.1, 1195.8, 1176,3; mp: 184-186°C.

H-Pro-V-**Pro-OH**, ¹H-NMR (300 MHz; CD₃OD) δ: 4.58-4.32 (m, 1H); 4.18 (m, 1H); 3.90 (m, 1H); 3.71 (s, 3H); 3.55 (m, 1H); 3.34 (m, 3H); 2.71 (m, 1H); 2.51 (m, 1H); 2.38 (m, 1H); 2.18 (m, 1H); 2.02 (m, 6H). ¹³C (75.5 MHz, CD₃Cl) δ: (major conformer) 172.5, 171.7, 170.6, 166.2, 61.1, 54.9, 52.9, 47.2, 36.0, 31.0, 30.8, 30.5, 26.5, 25.3, 25.1. (ES-MS) for 353.1, C₁₆H₂₃N₃O₆, (M-H⁺) was found: 352.1; High resolution mass (EI-MS) for 353.1587, C₁₆H₂₃N₃O₆, 353.1581 was found (δ = 1.7 ppm). FT-IR (solid) ν_{max}: 2977.5, 1723.1, 1668.7, 1615.6, 1438.1, 1409.2, 1293.5, 1196.4, 1169.4; mp: 169-171°C.

H-Pro-Pro- \blacktriangle **-OH**, ¹H-NMR (300 MHz; CD₃OD) δ : 4.59 (m, 1H); 4.47 (m, 1H); 3.76 (s, 3H + m, 1H); 3.68 (m, 3H); 3.44 (m, 1H); 2.55 (m, 1H); 2.38 (m, 2H); 2.26 (m; 2H); 2.05 (m, 5H). ¹³C (75.5 MHz, CD₃OD) δ : (major conformer) 175.1, 174.6, 172.8, 169.0, 79.6, 62.3, 52.9, 47.6, 46.3, 36.4, 30.7, 29.67, 28.6, 26.0, 25.3, 24.2; (ES-MS) for 353.1, C₁₆H₂₃N₃O₆,

 (MH^+) was found: 354.1; High resolution mass (EI-MS) for 353.1587, $C_{16}H_{23}N_3O_6$, 353.1583 was found ($\delta = 1.1$ ppm). FT-IR (solid) v_{max} : 2956.5, 1723.1, 1617.5, 1514.6, 1437.9, 1410.2, 1299.5, 1194.8, 1171.2; wax.

H-Pro-Pro-▼-OH (8), ¹H-NMR (300 MHz; CD₃OD) δ : 4.59-4.14 (m, signal doubling because of rotamers, 2H); 3.69 (s, 3H + m, 1H); 3.64 (m, 1H); 3.48 (m, 1H); 3.78 (m, 2H); 2.49 (m, 1H); 2.34 (m, 1H); 2.24 (m, 2H); 2.08 (m, 6H). ¹³C (75.5 MHz, CD₃OD) δ : (major conformer) 175.2, 174.3, 172.98, 169.2, 62.5, 60.6, 52.8, 47.5, 46.2, 36.2, 33.0, 30.4, 29.6, 29.0, 26.0, 25.3. (ES-MS) for 353.1, C₁₆H₂₃N₃O₆, (MH⁺) was found: 354.1; High resolution mass (EI-MS) for 353.1587, C₁₆H₂₃N₃O₆, 353.1584 was found (δ = 0.9 ppm). FT-IR (solid) v_{max}: 2961.5, 1725.1, 1615.5, 1517.6, 1437.8, 1409.2, 1296.5, 1195.8, 1171.2, 1045.8; mp: 169-171°C.

H-Pro-Δ-**Pro-V**-**OH**, ¹H-NMR (300 MHz; CD₃OD) δ: 4.20 (m, 2H); 3.77 (m, 1H); 3.73 (s, 3H); 3.71 (s, 3H); 3.48 (m, 2H); 3.32 (m, 2H); 2.73-2.55 (m, signal doubling because of rotamers, 2H); 2.47 (m, 1H); 2.37 (m, 1H); 2.25 (m, 1H); 2.04 (m, 3H); 1.92 (m, 4H). ¹³C (75.5 MHz, CD₃OD) δ: 175.7, 172.3, 172.1, 171.4, 171.0, 167.7, 62.2, 60.8, 53.1, 53.0, 48.9, 47.6, 36.6, 36.1, 31.2, 31.0, 30.8, 28.1, 26.7, 26.6, 25.4, 25.0. (ES-MS) for 494.2, C₂₂H₃₀N₄O₉, (MH⁺) was found: 495.2; High resolution mass (EI-MS) for 494.2013, C₂₂H₃₀N₄O₉, 494.2003 was found (δ = 2.0 ppm). FT-IR (solid) v_{max} : 2988.5, 2976.5, 1734.1, 1687.1, 1669.4, 1616.4, 1612.5, 1423.6, 1412.5, 1294.6, 1200.5, 1198.2, 1167.5; mp: 230-232°C.

H-Pro-▼-**Pro-Pro-OH**, ¹H-NMR (300 MHz; CD₃OD) δ: 4.46-3.94 (m, signal doubling because of rotamers, 3H); 3.72 (s, 3H); 3.66 (m, 2H); 3.58 (m, 2H), 3.49 (m, 2H); 3.37 (m, 1H); 2.67 (m, 2H); 2.27 (m, 3H); 2.04 (m, 9H). ¹³C (75.5 MHz, CD₃OD) δ: 172.4, 172.1, 171.4, 168.7, 166.1, 71.4, 61.8, 53.0, 50.5, 47.4, 46.3, 36.0, 31.6, 31.3, 30.7, 30.3, 29.2, 28.8, 26.2, 25.2, 24.2, (ES-MS) for 450.2, C₂₂H₃₀N₄O₉, (MH⁺) was found: 451.2; High resolution mass (EI-MS) for 450.2114, C₂₁H₃₀N₄O₇, 450.2108 was found (δ = 1.3 ppm). FT-IR (film) v_{max} : 2983.5, 2960.4, 1720.1, 1687.1, 1618.4, 1422.6, 1411.0, 1294.6, 1200.5, 1198.2, 1167.5; oil.

H-Pro-β-Ala-Pro-OH, ¹H-NMR (300 MHz; CD₃OD) δ: 4.35 (m, 1H); 4.20 (m, 1H); 3.62 (m, 1H); 3.53 (m, 3H); 3.34 (m, 2H); 2.66 (m, 1H); 2.49 (m, 1H); 2.38 (m, 1H); 2.24 (m, 1H); 2.02 (m, 5H); 1.88 (m, 1H). ¹³C (75.5 MHz, CD₃OD) δ: 177.4, 171.8, 169.8, 62.8, 61.2, 47.4, 36.7, 34.0, 32.8, 31.0, 30.7, 25.7, 25.2. (ES-MS) for 283.1, C₁₃H₂₁N₃O₄, (MH⁺) was found: 284.1; High resolution mass (EI-MS) for 283.1532, C₁₃H₂₁N₃O₄, 283.1531 was found (δ = 0.3 ppm). FT-IR (solid) v_{max}: 2958.3, 2744.4, 1622.7, 1556.6, 1445.7, 1303.5, 1195.3, 1169.4; wax.

H-Pro- A-**Asp-OH**, ¹H-NMR (300 MHz; CD₃OD) δ : 4.58 (m, 1H); 4.20 (m, 1H); 3.73 (s, 3H); 3.48 (m, 1H); 3.35 (m, 2H); 2.84 (m, 1H); 2.67 (m, 2H); 2.45 (m, 1H); 2.36 (m, 1H); 2.02 (m, 3H). ¹³C (75.5 MHz, CD₃OD) δ : 176.2, 175.6, 171.2, 170.6, 170.1, 61.0, 52.7, 52.0, 47.4, 38.5, 35.9, 31.1, 29.5, 28.3, 24.9. (ES-MS) for 371.2, C₁₅H₂₁N₃O₈, (MH⁺) was found: 372.3; High resolution mass (PI-LSIMS) for 372.1408, C₁₅H₂₁N₃O₈ 372.1413 was found (δ = 1.3 ppm). FT-IR (solid) v_{max}: 2965.3, 2856.3, 1643.4, 1622.0, 1444.5, 1195.3. mp: decomposition at 240-245°C.

H-Pro-▼-**Asp-OH**, ¹H-NMR (300 MHz; CD₃OD) δ : 4.62 (m, 1H); 3.85 (m, 1H); 3.77 (s, 3H); 3.67-3.42 (m, 2H); 3.04 (m, 1H); 2.82 (m, 1H); 2.70 (m, 1H); 2.63-2.38 (m, 3H); 2.08 (m, 3H). ¹³C (75.5 MHz, D₂O) δ : 174.6, 174.4, 173.3, 170.6, 59.8, 52.8, 51.2, 46.4, 34.7, 34.5, 30.7, 29.5, 29.0, 27.1, 23.7. (ES-MS) for 371.2, C₁₅H₂₁N₃O₈, (MH⁺) was found: 372.3; High

resolution mass (PI-LSIMS) for 372.1408, $C_{15}H_{21}N_3O_8$, 372.1412 was found ($\delta = 1.1$ ppm). FT-IR (solid) v_{max} : 2967.3, 2864.3, 1648.3, 1580.4, 1442.5, 1190.8. mp: decomposition at 240-245°C.

H-Pro- \blacktriangle -Glu-OH, ¹H-NMR (300 MHz; CD₃OD) δ : 4.41 (m, 1H); 4.20 (m, 1H); 3.71 (s, 3H); 3.52-3.71 (m, 3H); 2.52 (m, 2H); 2.40 (m, 2H); 2.15 (m, 1H); 2.02 (m, 5H). ¹³C (75.5 MHz, D₂O) δ : 178.3, 174.1, 173.0, 170.6, 59.8, 54.2, 52.3, 46.4, 34.8, 31.1, 30.1, 29.5, 27.1, 26.0, 23.7. (ES-MS) for 385.2, C₁₆H₂₃N₃O₈, (MH⁺) was found: 386.0; High resolution mass (PI-LSIMS) for 386.1563, C₁₆H₂₃N₃O₈, 386.1567 was found (δ = 1.0 ppm). FT-IR (solid) v_{max}: 2965.3, 2856.3, 1643.4, 1622.0, 1444.5, 1195.3. decomposition at 245-250°C.

4-Hydroxy-4-(4'-nitrophenyl)-butan-2-one (11a), $[\alpha]^{20}{}_{D} = -51.4$ (c = 0.5, CHCl₃) for (S)enantiomer, 88% *ee*. ¹H-NMR (300 MHz; CDCl₃) δ : 8.15 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H); 7.46 (d, J = 6.8Hz, 2H); 5.18 (m, 1H); 3.65 (d, J = 3.2 Hz, 1H); 2.89 (m, 2H); 2.18 (s, 3H). ¹³C (75.5 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 208.6, 150.2, 147.4, 129.1, 126.7, 124.5, 123.9, 69.2, 51.9, 31.2. Enantiomeric excess determined by chiral GC as reported in the general information, at 165°C, t_R is 13.65 min for (S)-enantiomer, 14.04 min for (R)-enantiomer.

4-Hydroxy-4-phenyl-butan-2-one (11b), $[\alpha]^{20}{}_{D}$ = -51.3 (*c* = 1.0, CHCl₃) for (*S*)-enantiomer, 79% *ee.* ¹H-NMR (300 MHz; CDCl₃) δ : 7.27-7.38 (m, 5H); 5.15 (m, 1H); 3.32 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz, 1H); 2.87 (m, 2H); 2.21 (s, 3H). ¹³C (75.5 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 209.2, 142.7, 128.6, 127.7, 125.7, 69.9, 52.0, 30.8. Enantiomeric excess determined by chiral GC as reported in the general information, at 120°C, t_R is 9.77 min for (*S*)-enantiomer, 10.12 min for (*R*)-enantiomer.

4-Hydroxy-4-(2'-chlorophenyl)-butan-2-one (11c), $[\alpha]^{20}{}_{D}$ = -101.3 (*c* = 1.2, CHCl₃) for (*S*)enantiomer, 80% *ee.* ¹H-NMR (300 MHz; CDCl₃) δ : 7.61 (m, 1H); 7.44-7.18 (m, 3H); 5.50 (m, 1H); 3.61 (brs, 1H); 3.01-2.63 (m, 2H); 2.22 (s, 3H). ¹³C (75.5 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 209.3, 140.1, 131.1, 129.3, 128.6, 127.3, 127.1, 66.6, 50.0, 30.6. Enantiomeric excess determined by chiral GC as reported in the general information, at 120°C, t_R is 17.86 min for (*S*)-enantiomer, 18.38 min for (*R*)-enantiomer.

4-Hydroxy-4-(4'-chlorophenyl)-butan-2-one (11d), $[\alpha]^{22}{}_{D}$ = -67.8 (*c* = 1.0, CHCl₃), for (*S*)enantiomer, 84% *ee.* ¹H-NMR (300 MHz; CDCl₃) δ : 7.27-7.21 (m, 4H); 5.08 (m, 1H); 3.31 (brd, 1H); 2.78 (m, 2H); 2.15 (s, 3H). ¹³C (75.5 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 219.0, 141.2, 133.4, 128.7, 127.0, 69.2, 51.8, 30.8. Enantiomeric excess determined by chiral GC as reported in the general information, at 140°C, t_R is 10.80 min for (*S*)-enantiomer, 11.15 min for (*R*)enantiomer.

4-Hydroxy-4-(2'-bromophenyl)-butan-2-one (11e), $[\alpha]^{22}{}_{D}$ = -77.8 (*c* = 1.5, CHCl₃), for (*S*)enantiomer, 82% *ee.* ¹H-NMR (300 MHz; CDCl₃) δ : 7.61-7.41 (m, 4H); 5.44 (m, 1H); 3.56 (brs, 1H); 2.99 (m, 1H); 2.65 (m, 1H); 2.22 (s, 3H). ¹³C (75.5 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 204.2, 141.6, 137.6, 129.0, 127.9, 127.3, 121.2, 68.8, 50.1, 30.6. Enantiomeric excess determined by chiral GC as reported in the general information, at 130°C, t_R is 16.64 min for (*S*)-enantiomer, 17.12 min for (*R*)-enantiomer.

4-Hydroxy-4-(2'-nitrophenyl)-butan-2-one (11f), $[\alpha]_{D}^{20} = +91.2$ (c = 1.0, CHCl₃) for (R)enantiomer, 91% *ee.* ¹H-NMR (300 MHz; CDCl₃) δ : 7.93 (m, 2H); 7.67 (m, 1H); 7.44 (m, 1H); 5.68 (dd, J = 1.8; J = 9.7, 1H); 3.73 (brs, 1H); 3.18 (d, J = 1.8, 1H); 2.72 (m, 1H); 2.24 (s, 3H). ¹³C (75.5 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 208.9, 147.1, 138.4, 133.9, 128.3, 128.2, 124.5, 65.6, 51.1, 30.5. Enantiomeric excess determined by chiral GC as reported in the general information, at 160°C, t_R is 8.15 min for (*S*)-enantiomer, 10.55 min for (*R*)-enantiomer. **4-Hydroxy-4-(cyclohexyl)-butan-2-one (11g)**, $[\alpha]^{22}_{D} = -35.3$ (c = 2.0, CHCl₃), for (S)enantiomer 82% *ee.* ¹H-NMR (300 MHz; CDCl₃) δ : 3.82 (m, 1H); 2.89 (brs, 1H); 2.53 (m, 2H); 2.18 (s, 3H); 1.75-1.60 (m, 5H); 1.25-0.95 (m, 6H). ¹³C (75.5 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 210.7, 71.9, 47.5, 42.8, 30.7, 29.0, 28.1, 26.4, 26.2, 25.9. Enantiomeric excess determined by chiral GC as reported in the general information, at 100°C, t_R is 32.31 min for (S)-enantiomer, 33.11 min for (R)-enantiomer.

2-(Hydroxy(4-nitrophenyl)methyl)cyclohexanone (13a), $[\alpha]^{22}{}_{D} = +11.8$ (c = 1.0, CHCl₃), for *anti/syn* = 6:1 and 95% *ee* (*anti*). ¹H-NMR (300 MHz; CDCl₃) δ (*anti*): 8.12 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H); 7.34 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H); 4.82 (d, 1H); 4.05 (brs, 1H); 2.53 (m, 1H); 2.38 (m, 2H); 2.01 (m, 1H); 1.68-1.23 (m, 5H). ¹³C (75.5 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 214.7, 148.5, 147.5, 127.9, 123.5, 73.9, 57.2, 42.7, 30.7, 27.6, 24.7. Diastereomeric ratio and enantiomeric excess determined by chiral GC as reported in the general information, at 170°C, t_R is 39.84 and 40.61 min (major) for the *anti* diastereomer, 44.59 and 46.10 for the *syn* diastereomer.

2-(Hydroxy(4-chlorophenyl)methyl)cyclohexanone (13b), $[\alpha]^{22}{}_{D}$ = +20.4 (*c* = 1.0, CHCl₃), for *anti/syn* = 9:1 and 91% *ee* (*anti*). ¹H-NMR (300 MHz; CDCl₃) δ (*anti*): 7.30 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H); 7.27 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H); 4.76 (d, 1H); 3.97 (brs, 1H); 2.60-2.44 (m, 2H); 2.35 (m, 1H); 2.10 (m, 1H); 1.82-1.45 (m, 4H); 1.29 (m, 1H). ¹³C (75.5 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 215.3, 139.5, 133.6, 128.6, 128.4, 74.2, 57.4, 42.7, 30.7, 27.7, 24.7. Diastereomeric ratio and enantiomeric excess determined by chiral GC as reported in the general information, at 145°C, t_R is 36.71 and 37.47 min (major) for the *anti* diastereomer, 39.78 and 41.89 for the *syn* diastereomer.

2-(Hydroxy(2-bromophenyl)methyl)cyclohexanone (13c), $[\alpha]^{22}{}_{D}$ = +14.0 (*c* = 2.5, CHCl₃), for *anti/syn* = 90:1 and 95% *ee* (*anti*). ¹H-NMR (300 MHz; CDCl₃) δ (*anti*): 7.50 (m, 2H); 7.34 (m, 1H); 7.13 (m, 1H); 5.30 (m, *J* = 7.7, 1H); 3.85 (brs, 1H); 2.76 (m, 1H); 2.44 (m, 2H); 2.08 (m, 1H); 1.88-1.46 (m, 5H). ¹³C (75.5 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 215.3, 140.8, 132.5, 129.1, 128.8, 127.9, 123.4, 72.9, 57.7, 42.8, 30.6, 27.8, 25.0. Diastereomeric ratio and enantiomeric excess determined by chiral GC as reported in the general information, at 160°C, t_R is 18.36 and 20.24 min (major) for the *anti* diastereomer, 23.89 and 25.69 for the *syn* diastereomer.

2-(Hydroxy(2-chlorophenyl)methyl)cyclohexanone (13d), $[\alpha]^{22}{}_{D}$ = +19.4 (*c* = 2.7, CHCl₃), for *anti/syn* = 70:1 and 98% *ee* (*anti*). ¹H-NMR (300 MHz; CDCl₃) δ (*anti*): 7.53 (m, 1H); 7.29 (m, 2H); 7.19 (m, 1H); 5.33 (dd, *J* = 3.7; *J* = 8.2, 1H); 4.05 (d, *J* = 3.7, 1H); 2.66 (m, 1H); 2.44 (m, 1H); 2.32 (m, 1H); 2.07 (m, 1H); 1.84-1.50 (m, 5H). ¹³C (75.5 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 215.2, 139.1, 132.9, 129.2, 128.8, 128.3, 127.3, 70.4, 57.6, 42.7, 30.4, 27.8, 24.9. Diastereomeric ratio and enantiomeric excess determined by chiral GC as reported in the general information, at 160°C, t_R is 13.57 and 14.98 min (major) for the *anti* diastereomer, 17.29 and 18.77 for the *syn* diastereomer.

2-(Hydroxy(4-nitrophenyl)methyl)cyclopentanone (13e), ¹H-NMR (300 MHz; CDCl₃) δ : 8.18 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H); 7.51 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H); 5.41 (d, 0.67H, *syn*); 4.83 (d, 0.34H, *anti*); 4.78 (brs, 0.34H, *anti*); 2.74 (brs, 0.67H, *syn*); 2.50-1.67 (m, 7H). ¹³C (75.5 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (*syn*): 219.6, 150.2, 127.3, 126.4, 123.7, 70.5, 56.2, 39.0, 22.4, 20.4. Diastereomeric ratio and enantiomeric excess determined by chiral GC as reported in the general information, at 165°C, t_R is 31.42 and 32.33 min (major) for the *syn* diastereomer, 36.33 and 39.16 min (major) for the *anti* diastereomer.

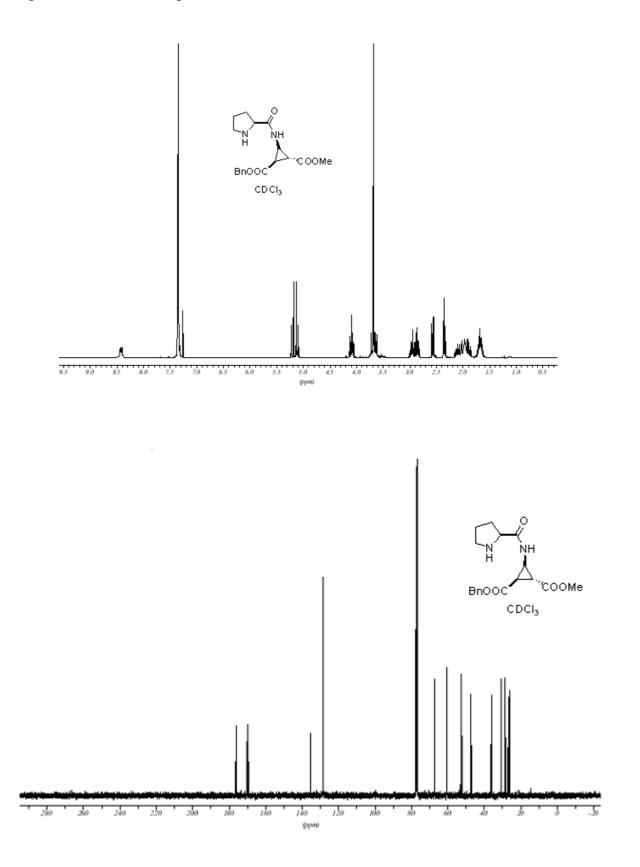
3-(Hydroxy(4-nitrophenyl)methyl)-tetrahydropyran-4-one (13f), $[\alpha]^{22}{}_{D} = +39.0$ (c = 2.2, CHCl₃), for *anti/syn* = 1:2 and 87% *ee* (*syn*). ¹H-NMR (300 MHz; CDCl₃) δ : 8.22 (d, J = 8.9,

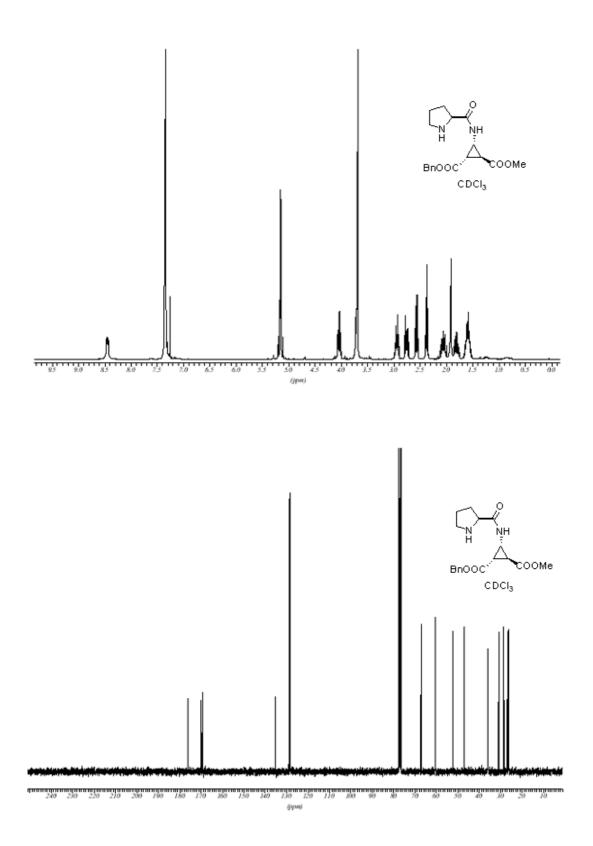
2H); 7.51 (d, J = 8.9, 2H); 5.54 (s, 0.61H, *syn*); 4.98 (d, 0.39H, *anti*); 4.23 (m, 1H); 3.77 (m, 3H); 3.46 (m, 0.39H, *anti*); 2.97-2.85 (m, 1H + m, 0.61H, *syn*); 2.71 (m, 1H); 2.50 (m, 1H). ¹³C (75.5 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (*syn*): 207.3, 147.0, 126.4, 125.3, 122.7, 67.9, 67.3, 66.5, 56.2, 42.1. ¹³C (75.5 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (*anti*): 208.3, 146.3, 126.4, 125.3, 122.9, 70.3, 68.8, 67.3, 56.6, 41.9. Diastereomeric ratio and enantiomeric excess determined by chiral GC as reported in the general information, at 180°C, t_R is 26.18 and 26.57 min (major) for the *anti* diastereomer, 29.53 and 30.94 min (major) for the *syn* diastereomer.

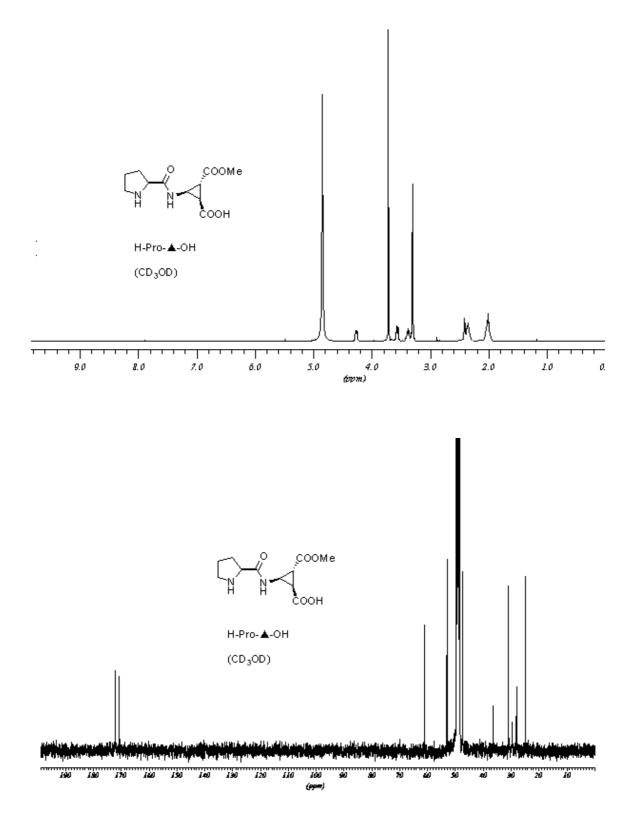
1H-Indene-1,5-(6H)-dione-2,3,7,7a-tetrahydro-7a-methyl (15a), $[\alpha]^{22}{}_{D} = +244$ (c = 0.5, CHCl₃), for (*S*)-enantiomer (83%) *ee.* ¹H-NMR (300 MHz; CDCl₃) δ : 5.96 (s, 1H); 2.95 (m, 1H); 2.77 (m, 2H); 2.58-2.36 (m, 3H); 2.09 (m, 1H); 1.83 (m, 1H); 1.31 (s, 3H). ¹³C (75.5 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 216.5, 198.2, 169.7, 123.9, 48.7, 35.9, 32.9, 29.2, 26.8, 20.6. Enantiomeric excess determined by chiral GC, at 155°C, t_R is 5.8 min for (*R*)-enantiomer, 6.2 min for (*S*)-enantiomer and 3.8 min for the starting material.

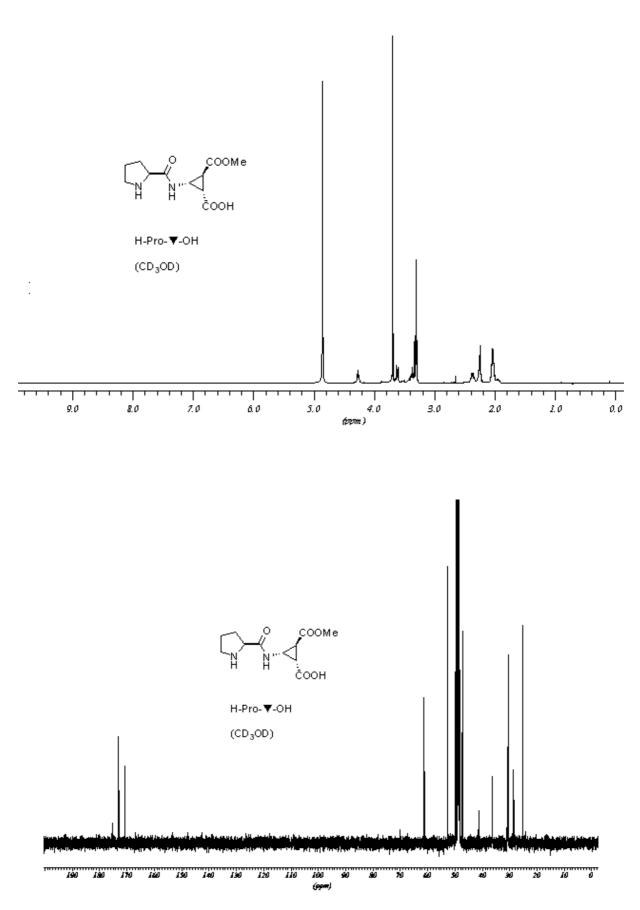
1,6-(2H,7H)-Naphtalenedione-3,4,8,8a-tetrahydro-8a-methyl (15b), $[\alpha]^{22}_{D} = +107.5$ (c = 2.0, CHCl₃), for (*S*)-enantiomer (92%) *ee.* ¹H-NMR (300 MHz; CDCl₃) δ : 5.85 (s, 1H); 2.75-2.63 (m, 2H); 2.51-2.38 (m, 4H); 2.18-2.08 (m, 3H); 1.75-164 (m, 1H); 1.44 (s, 3H). ¹³C (75.5 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 210.2, 198.0, 165.7, 125.8, 50.5, 37.4, 33.7, 31.8, 29.7, 23.4, 21.0. Enantiomeric excess determined by chiral GC, at 140°C, t_R is 21.5 min for (*R*)-enantiomer, 22.5 min for (*S*)-enantiomer and 11.2 min for the starting material.

Copies of ¹H and ¹³C spectra

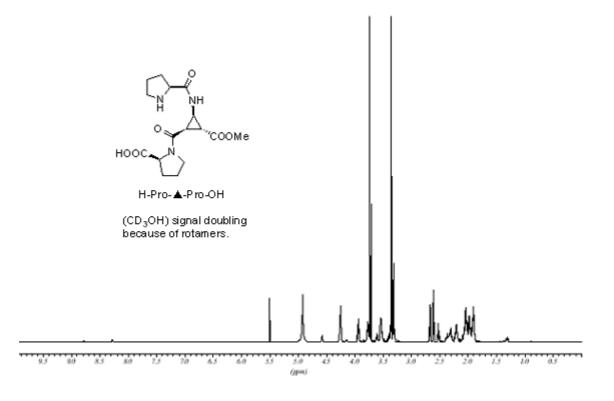


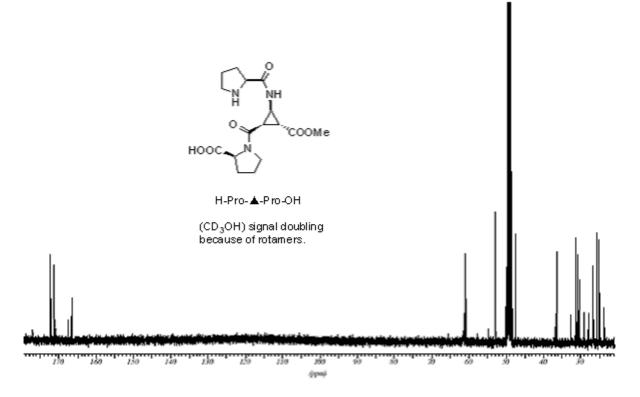


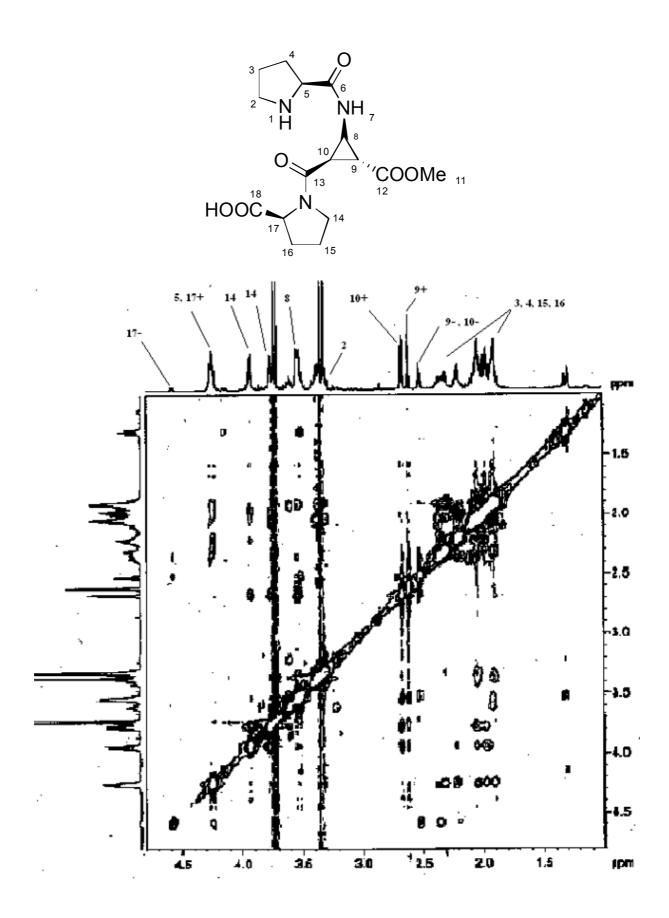




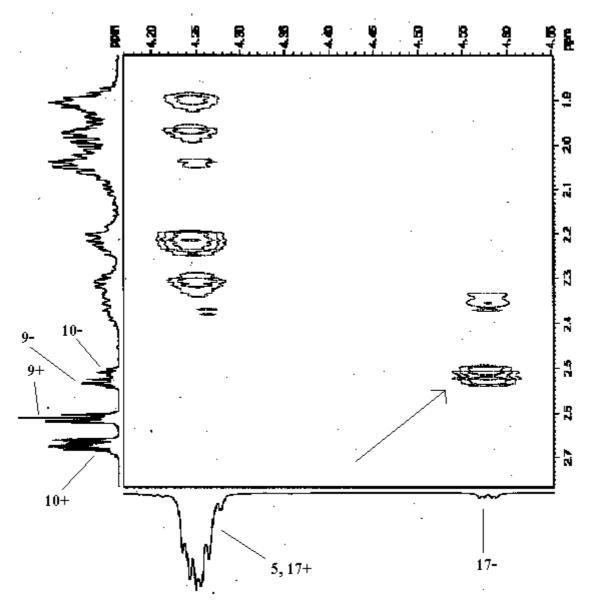
S-16



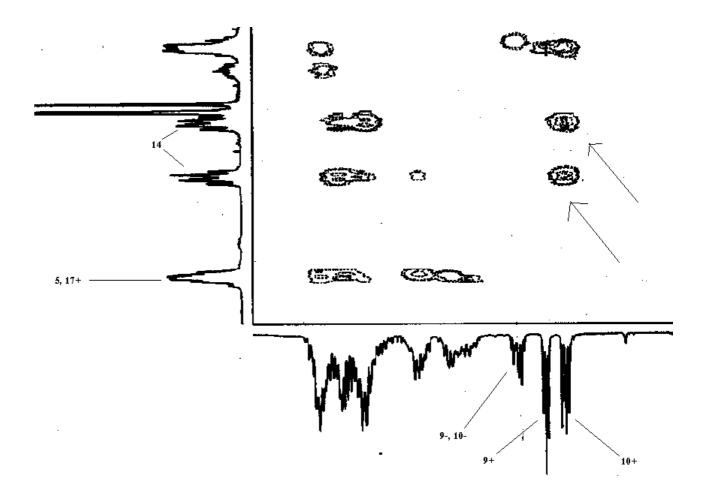




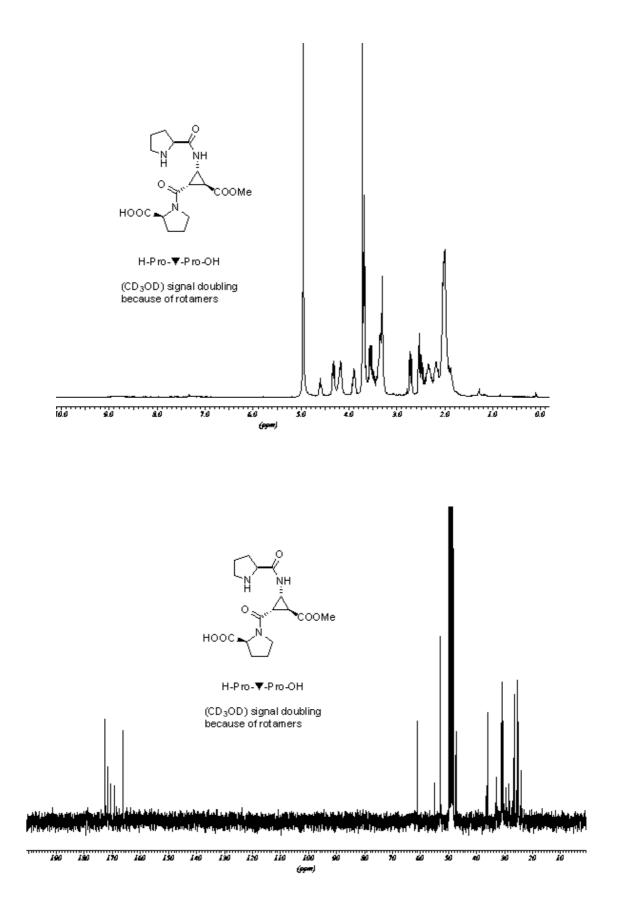
The ¹H-NMR signals have been unequivocally assigned by mean of bidimensional NMR studies (HSQC, HMBC, NOEs). It is evident how some signals (9, 10, 17) double because of the presence of two different populations of conformes: trans and cis, in a ratio of about 3:1. The NOESY spectrum shows how proton 10 couples in the major conformation with the two protons 14, but not with 17, as expected for trans conformer (see text), while for the minor conformation the opposite is true, as expected for the cis conformer.

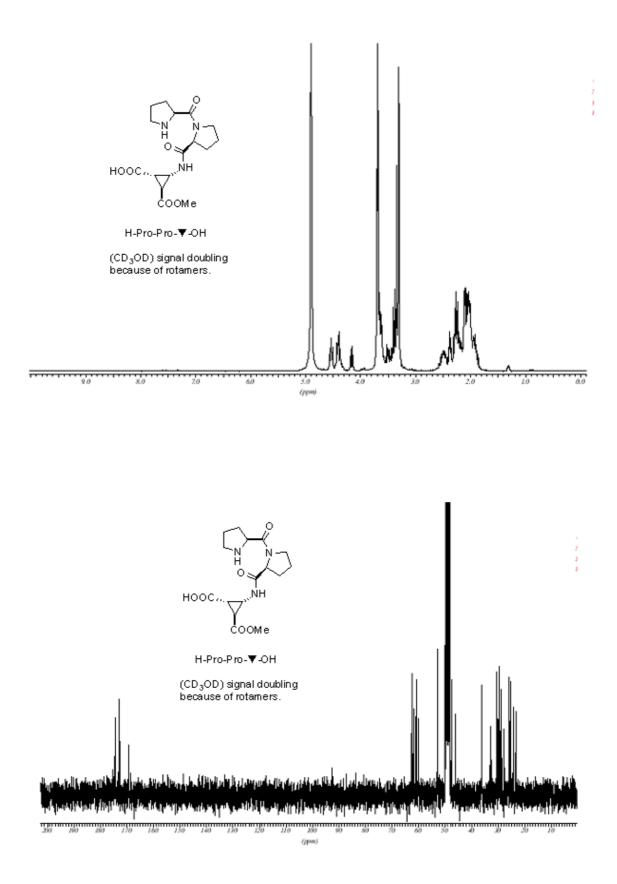


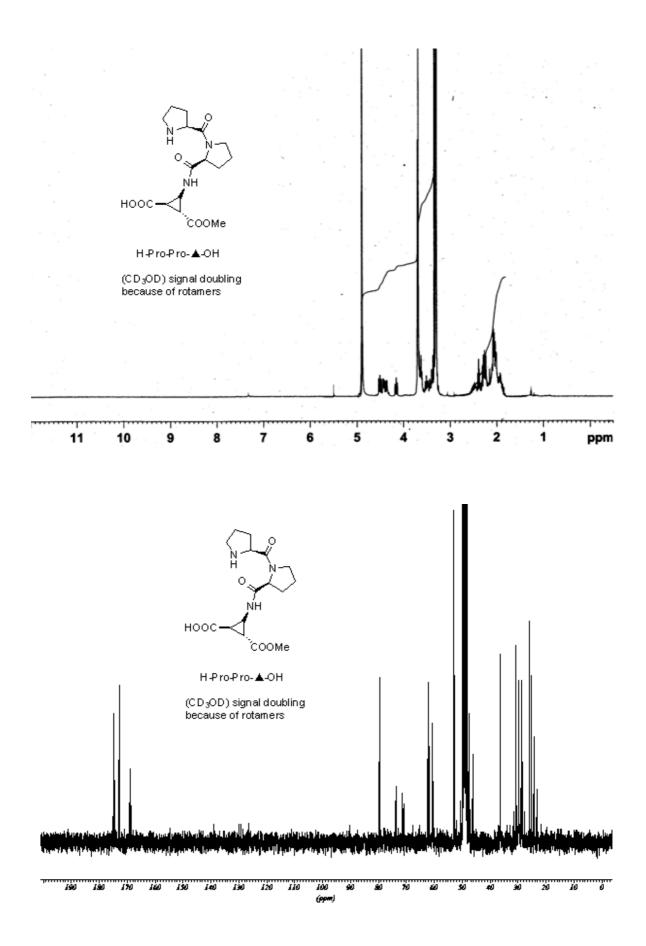
(NOESY spectrum magnified, to show the coupling between 10- and 17-, which proofs the existence of a stable cis population.)

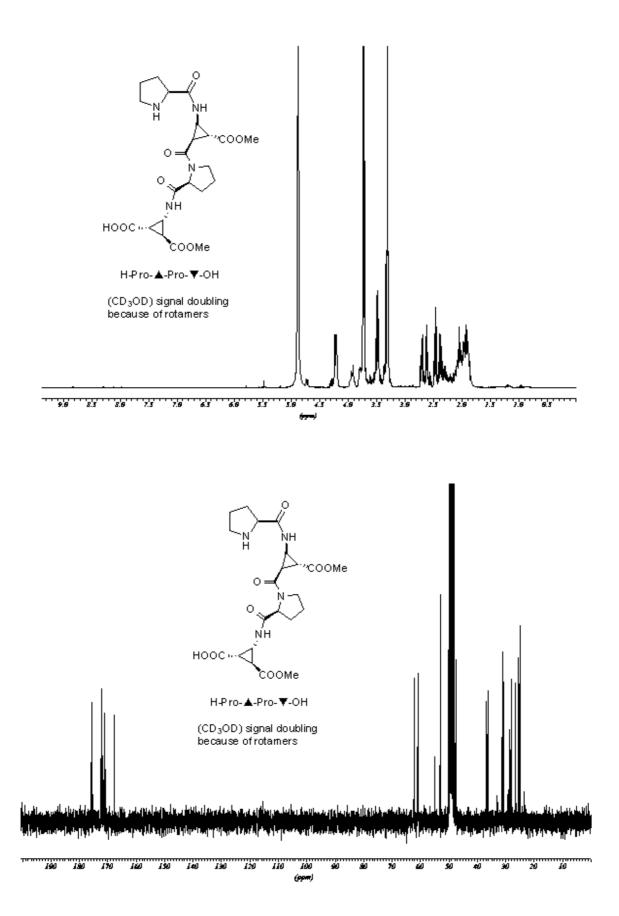


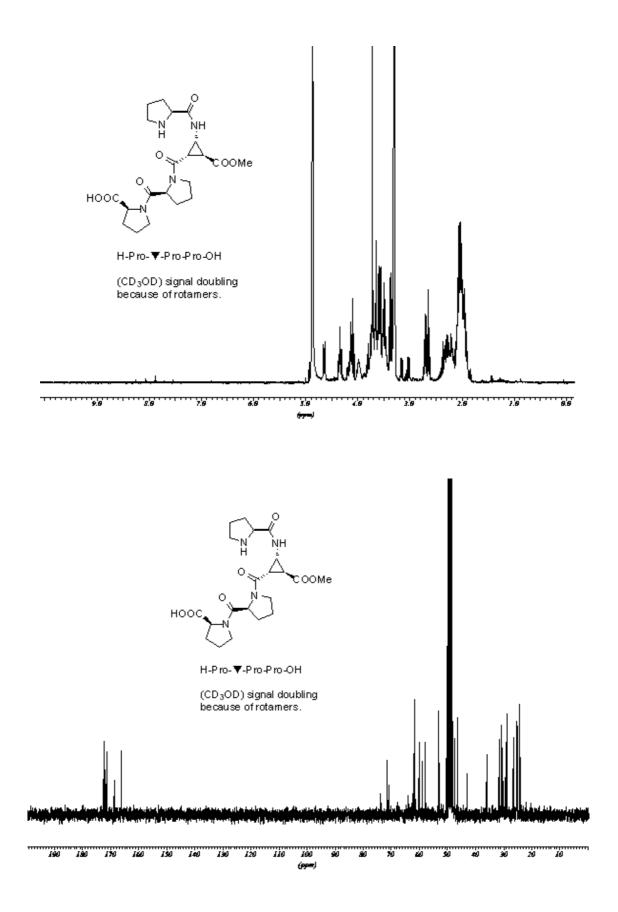
(NOESY spectrum magnified, to show the coupling between 10+ and 14 and the absence of coupling between 10+ and 17+, or 10- and 14)

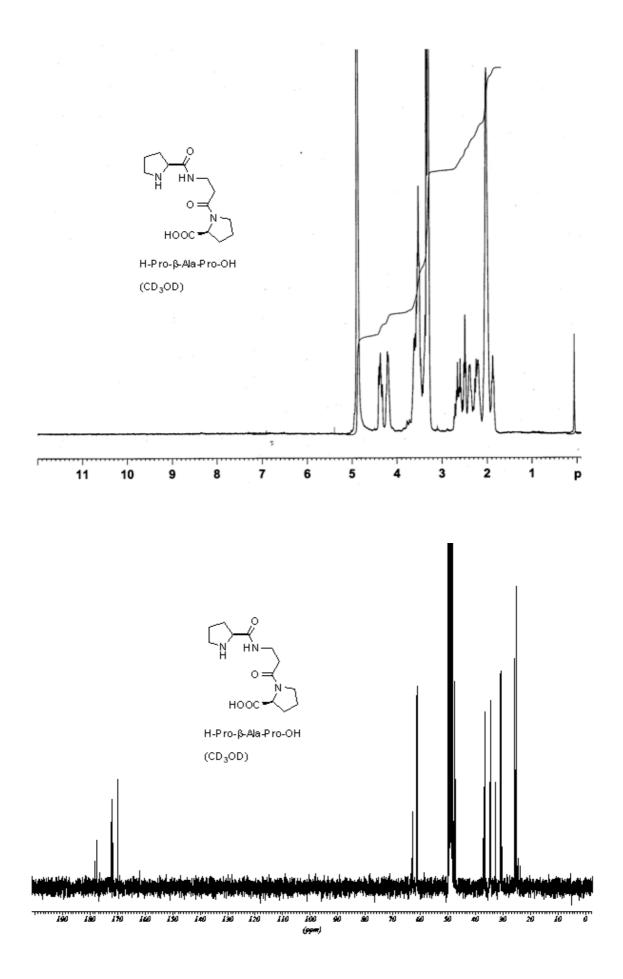


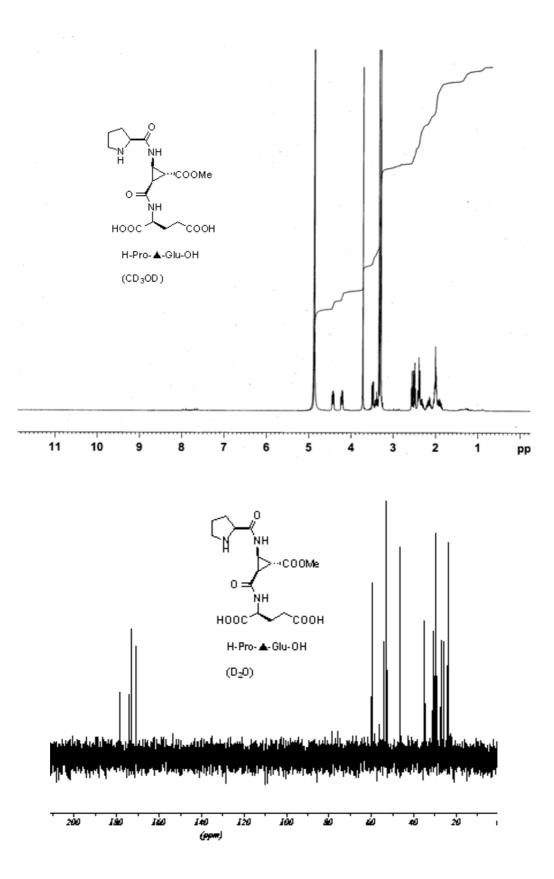


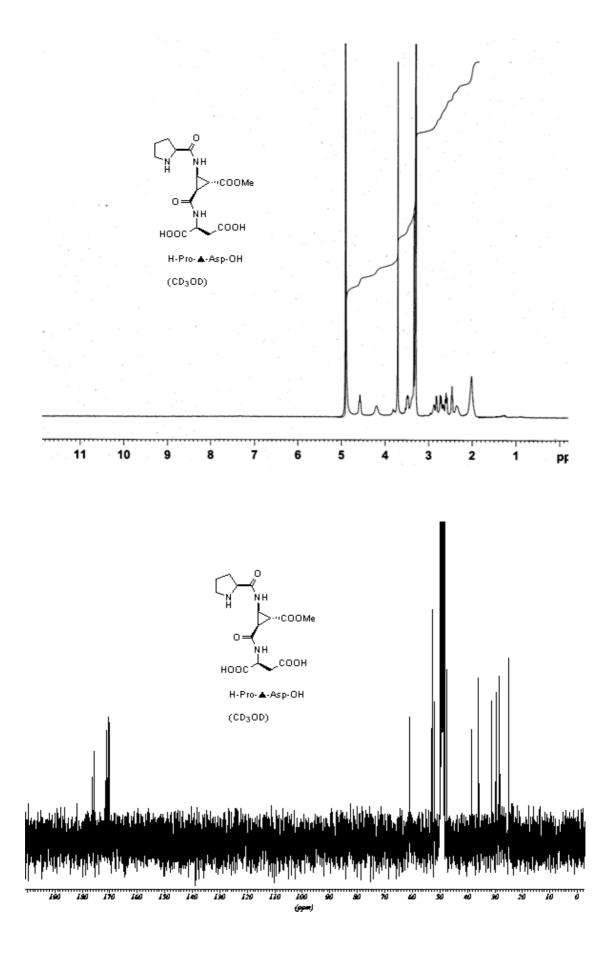


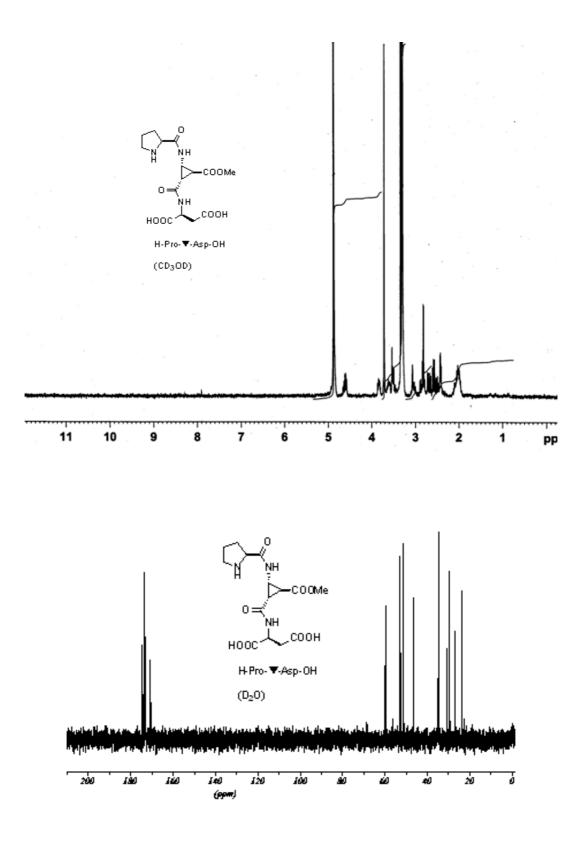


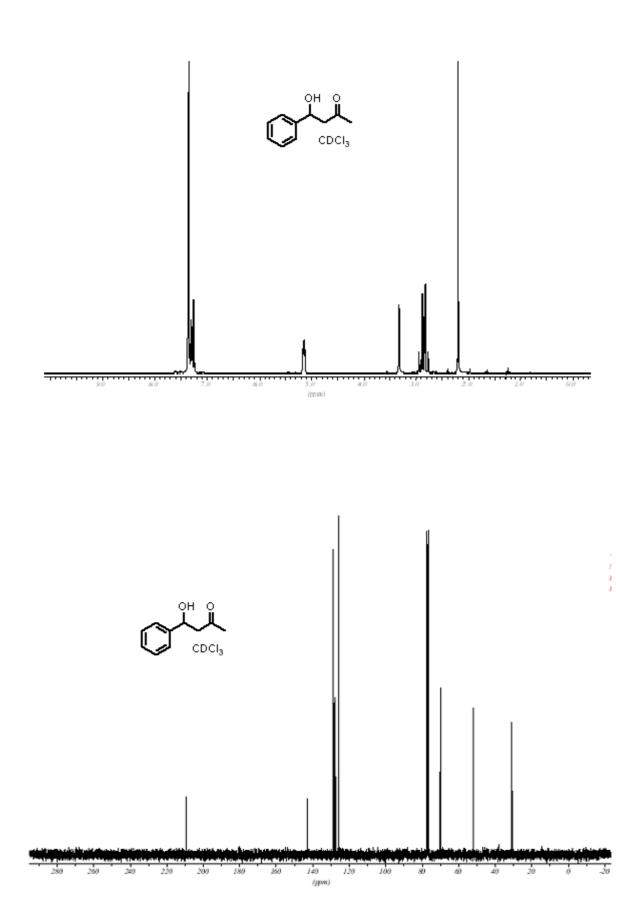


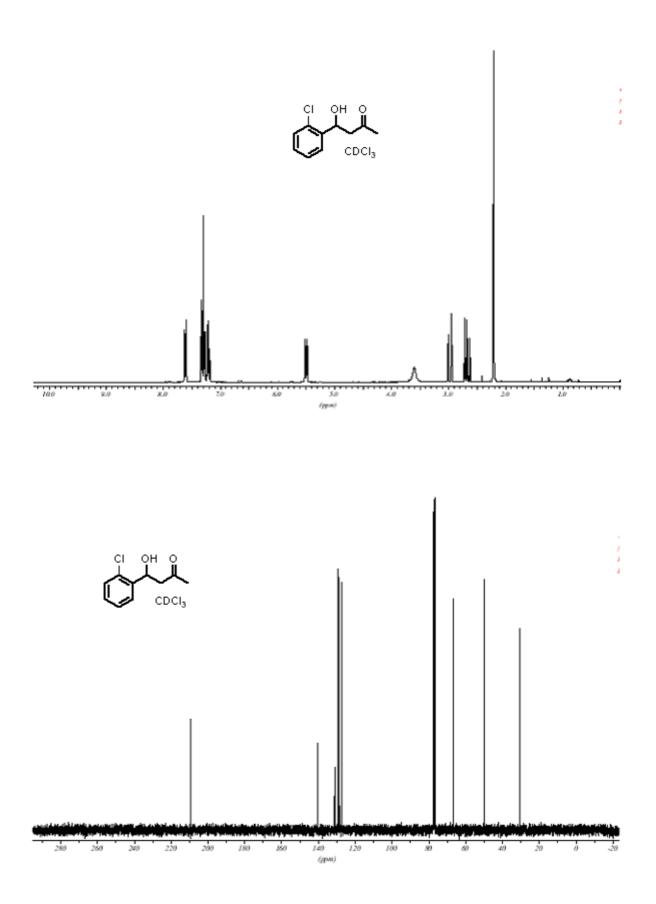


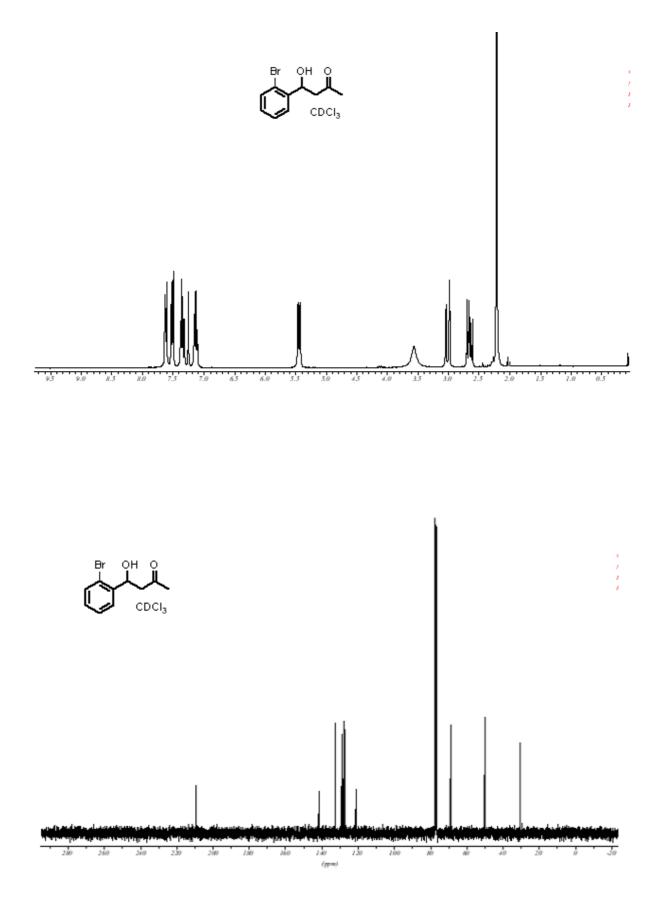


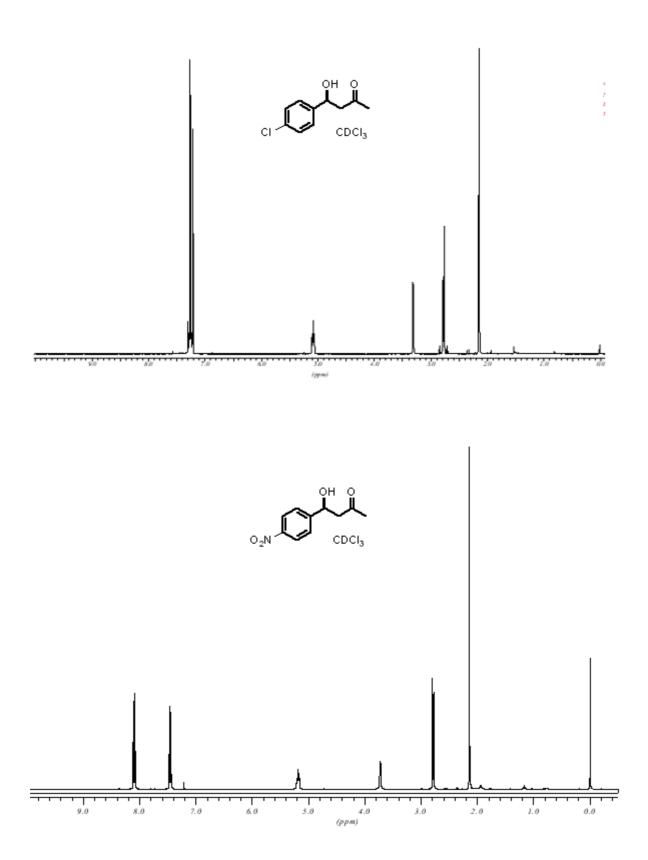


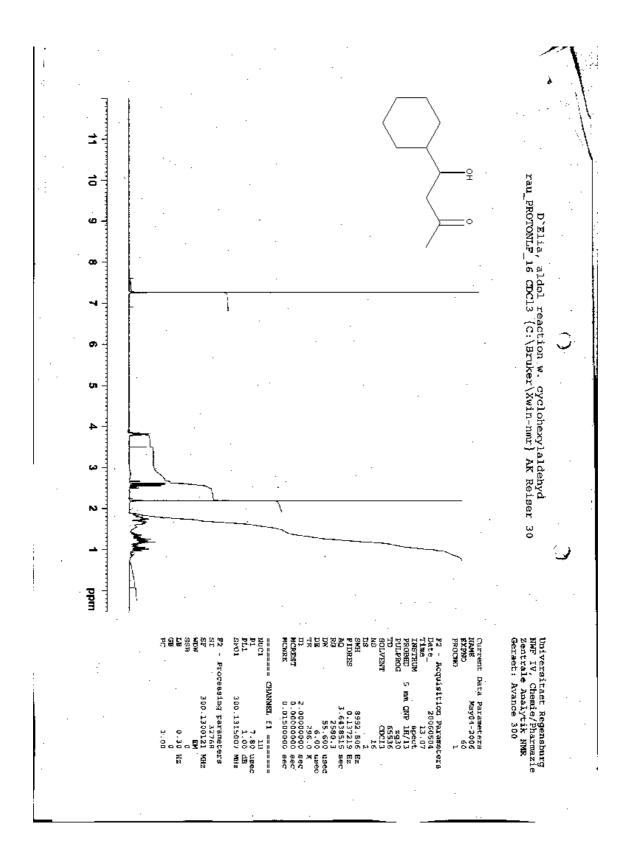


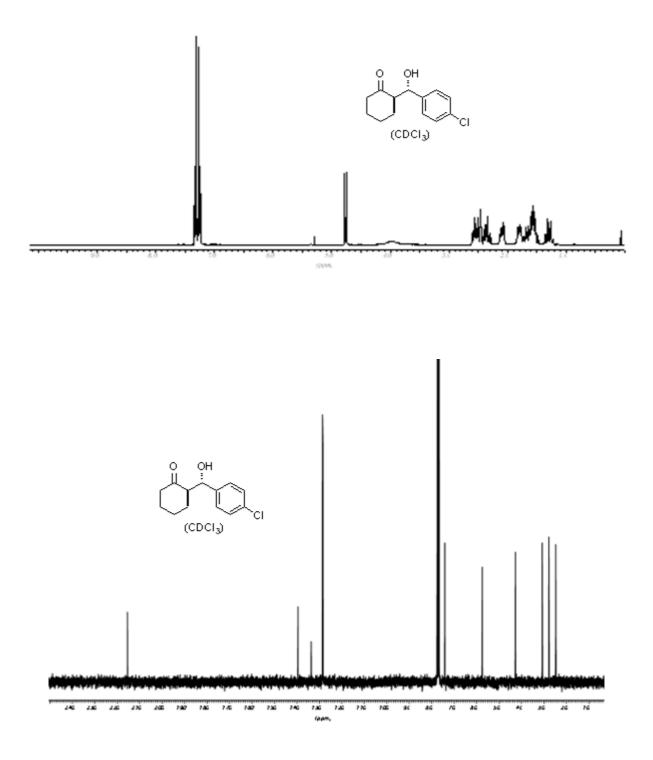


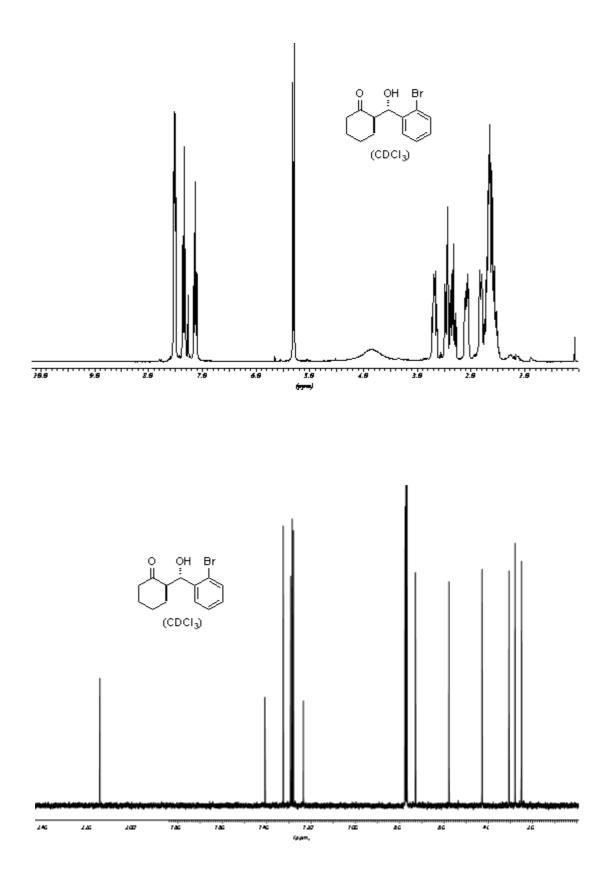


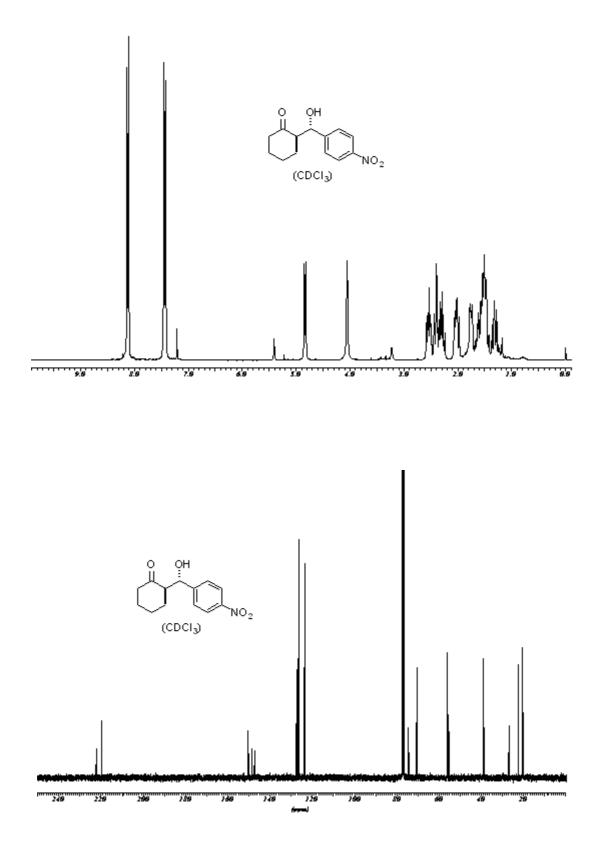


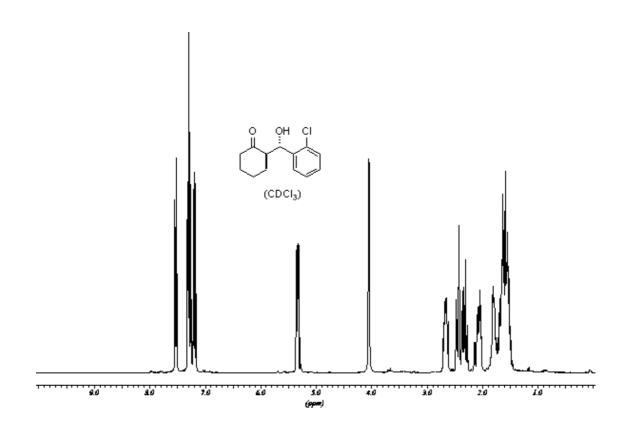


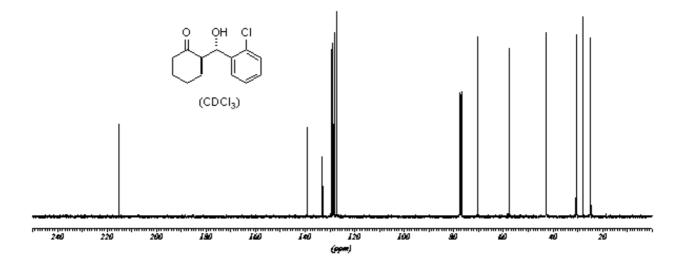


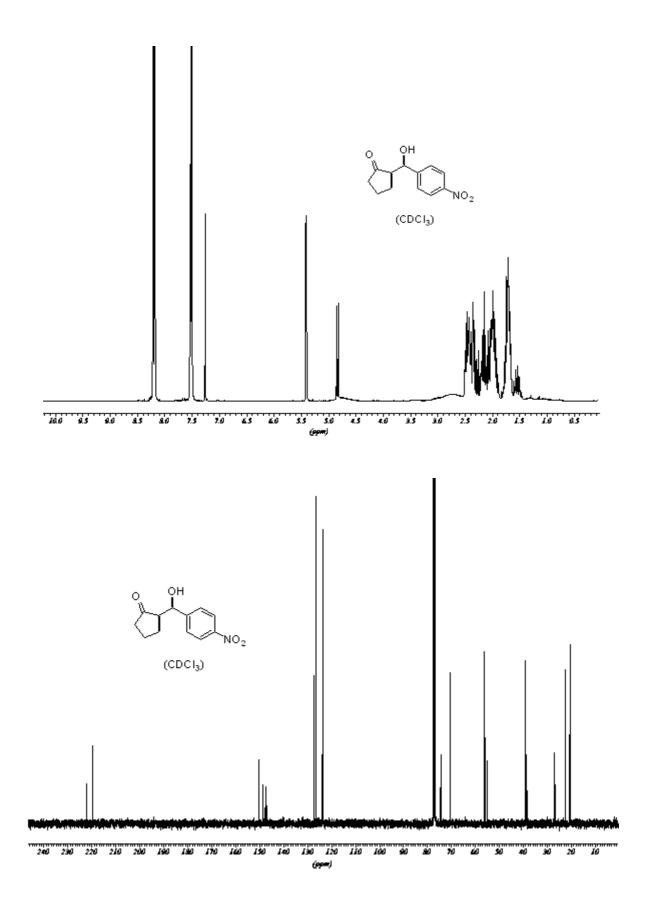


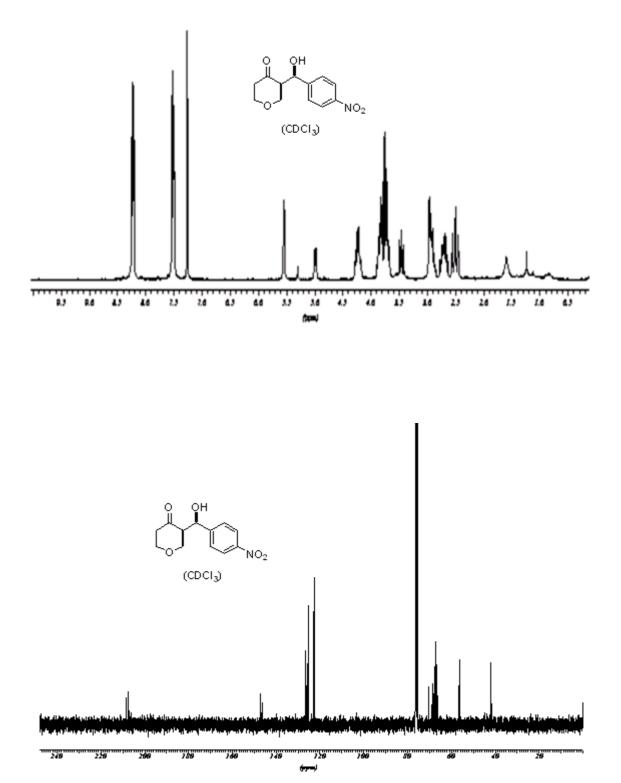


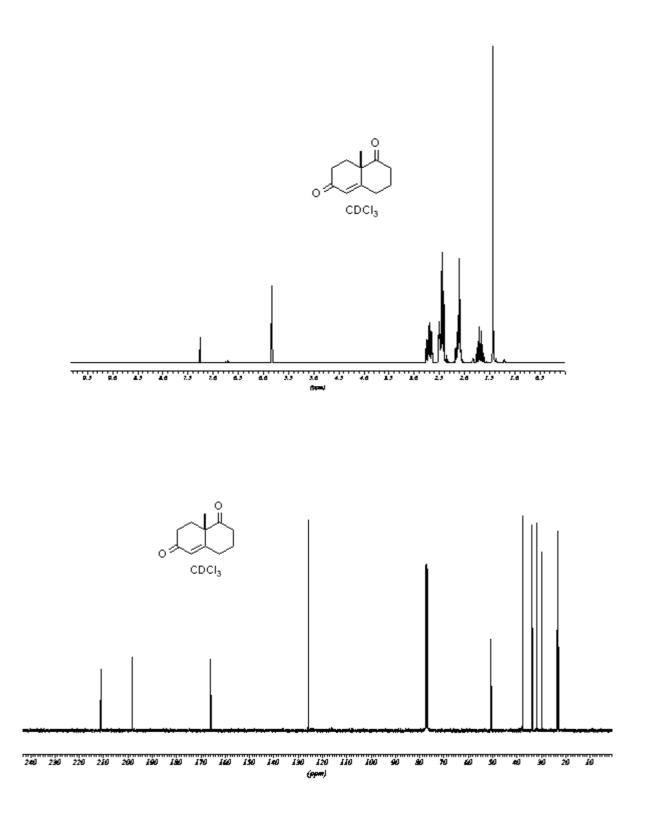


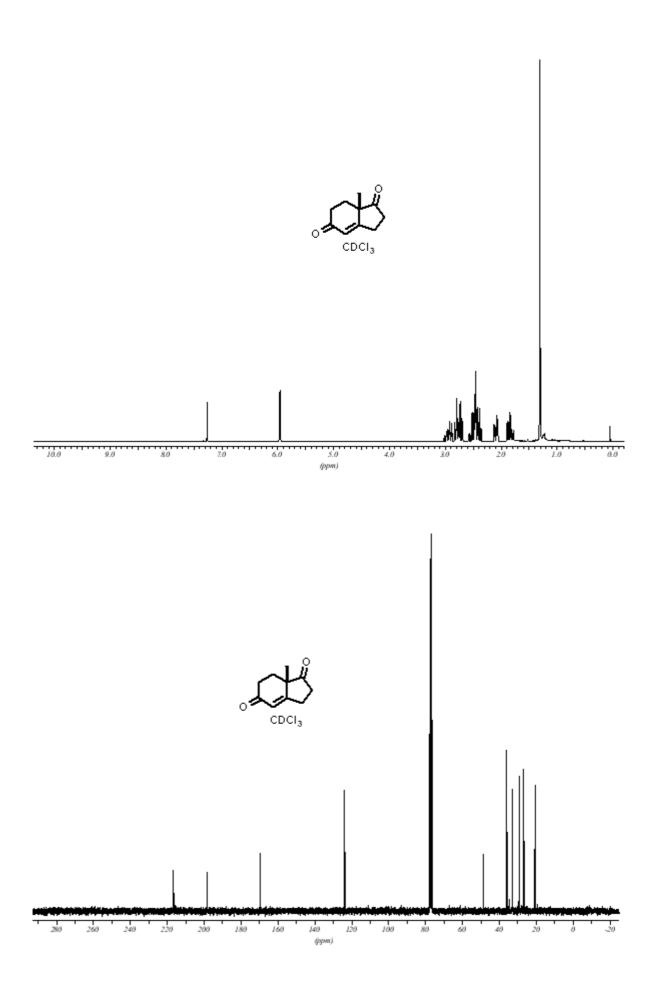




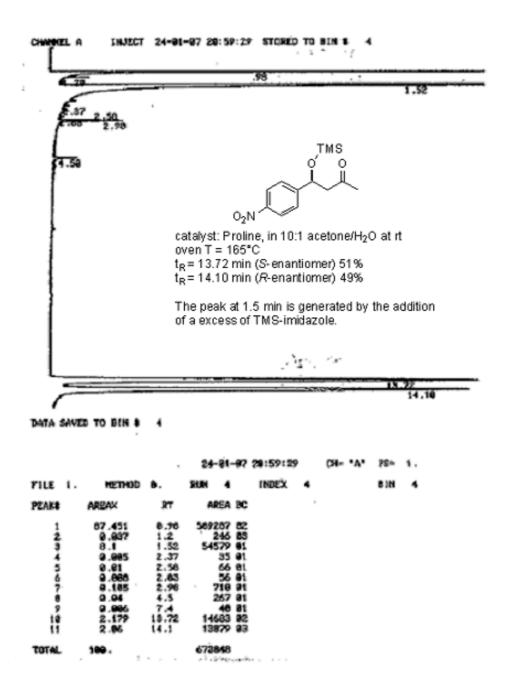


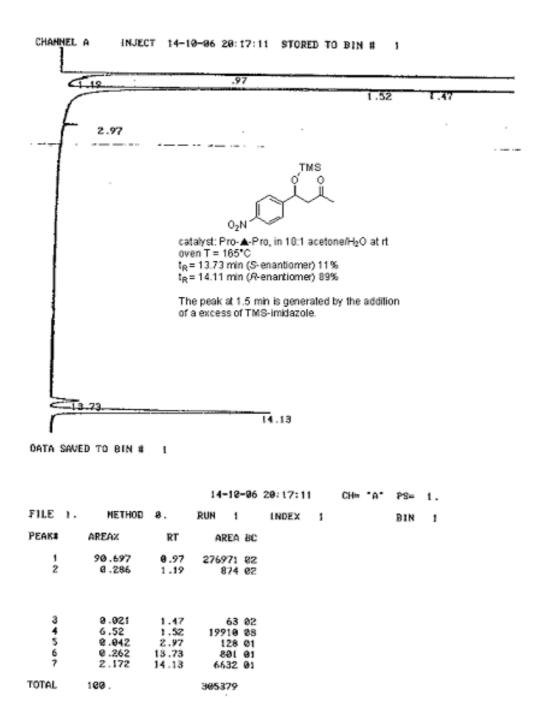


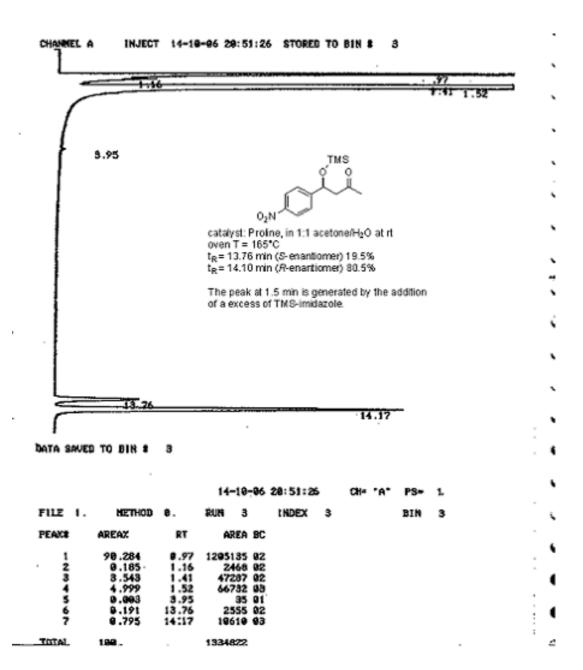


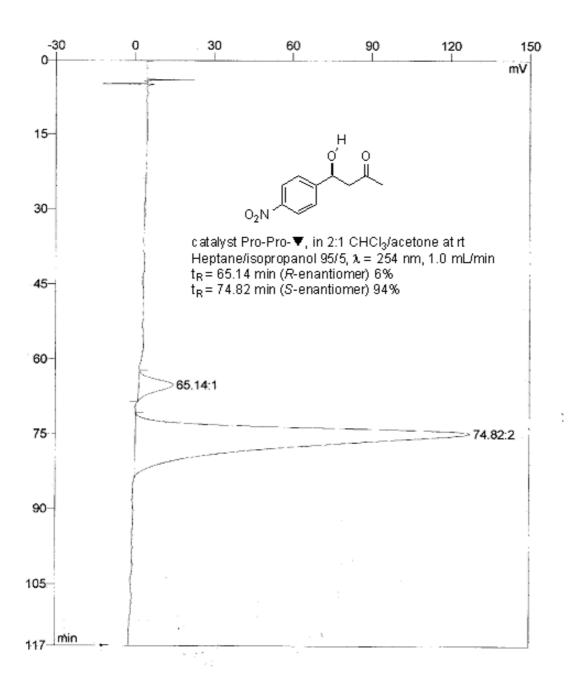


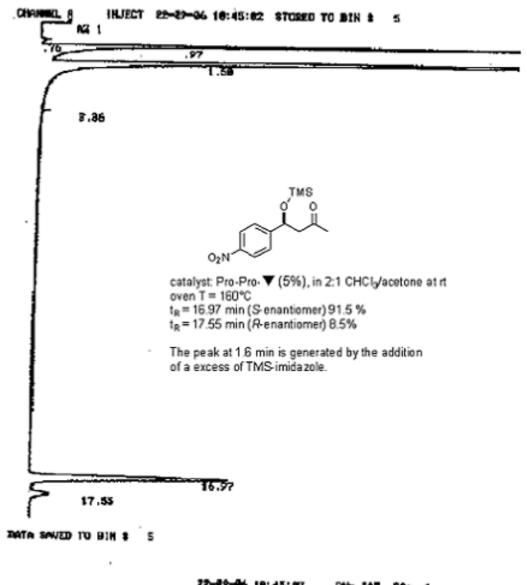
Copies of GC and HPLC chromatograms



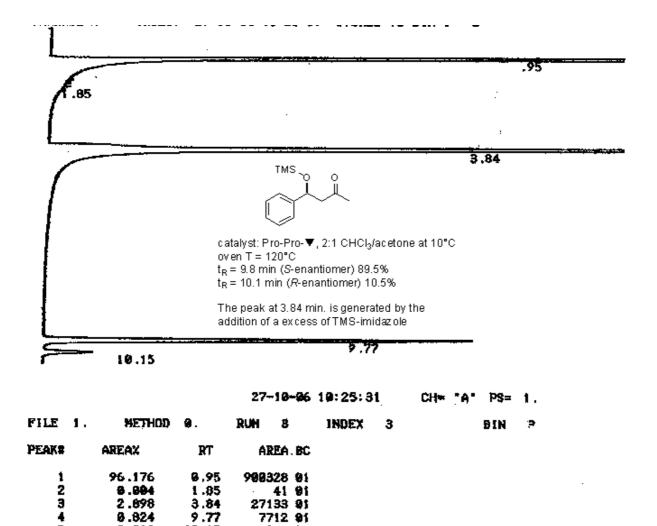








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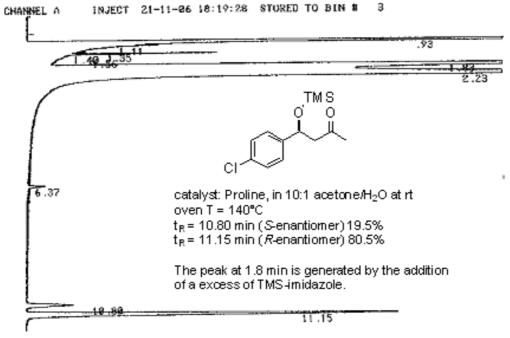
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100.

10.15

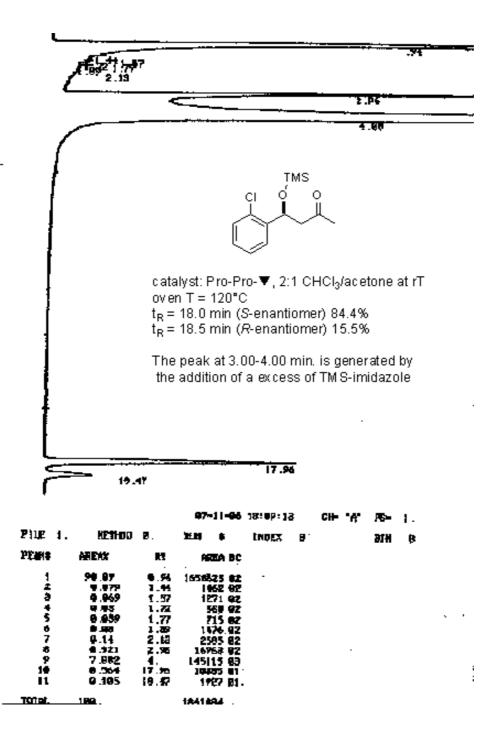
S-4	8
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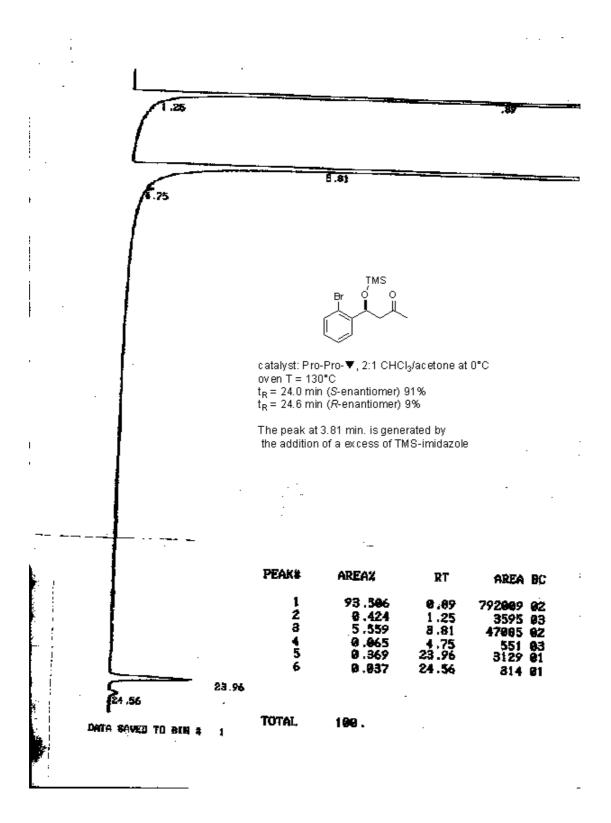


DATA SAVED TO BIN # 8

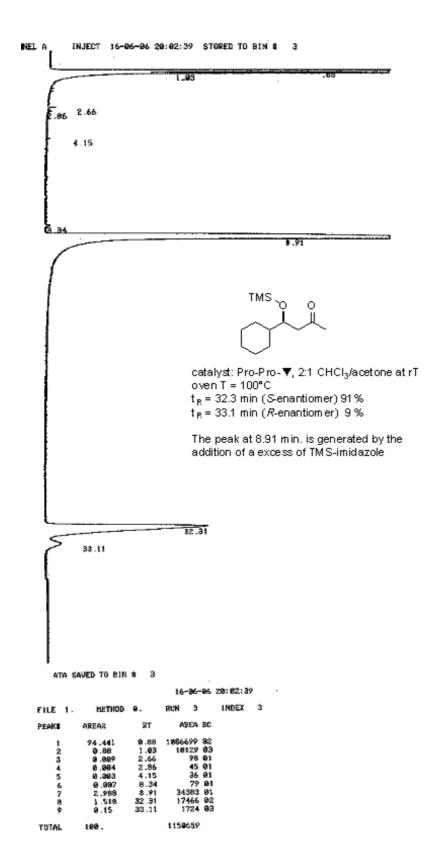
21-11-06 18:19:28

FILE 1.	NETHOR	0.	RUN 3	INDEX
PEAKE	ÁREÁ%	87	AREA	BC
1	89.592	0.93	1433966	82
	0.264	1.11	4221	92
2 3	0.027	1.35	429	92
	0.221	1.4	3536	68
5	0.991	1.56	9	05
6	3.198	1.83	49743	92
?	6,159	2.23	98580	
8	8.014	6.37	228	01
9	0.961	19.8	978	81
18	0.554	11.15	8870	01
TOTAL.	100		1600560	

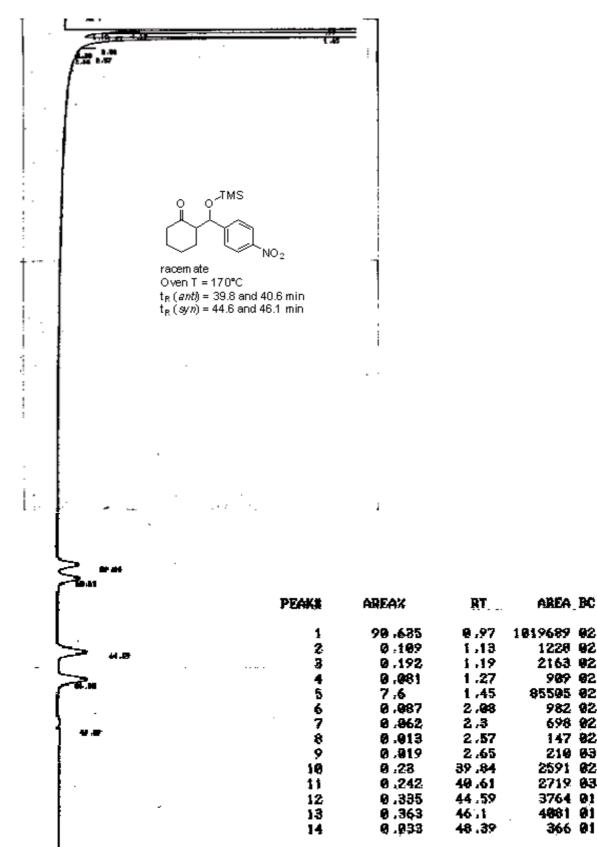




S-51



ĺ	2.6	7 2.29		. <u></u>	1.2	U	<u></u>	\$? \$3 1.1.59
		10 .55 11 .70						8:15 NO2 0 0
INPUT	ove	RRANGE AT R	:T= 0.	0.99 14-1 RUN	12-07 6	15:53:53 INDEX	6	catalyst: Pro-▲-Pro, 10:1 acetone/H₂O at rT oven T = 160°C t _R = 8.15 min (S-enantiomer) 95.5% t _R = 10.5 min (<i>R</i> -enantiomer) 4.5% The peak at 1.59 min. is generated by the addition of a excess of TM S-imidazole
PEAK#	2 1	AREAX	RT		EA BC		v	
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9		85.166 9.398 7.155 4.959 9.94 9.991 2.176 9.1	0.99 1.2 1.43 1.59 2.29 2.67 8.15 10.55	13690 9425 76 2 4130	57 82			



TOTAL

100.

1125052

AREA_BC

1228 92

2163 02

85505 02

989 82

982 92

698 92

147 82

210 03

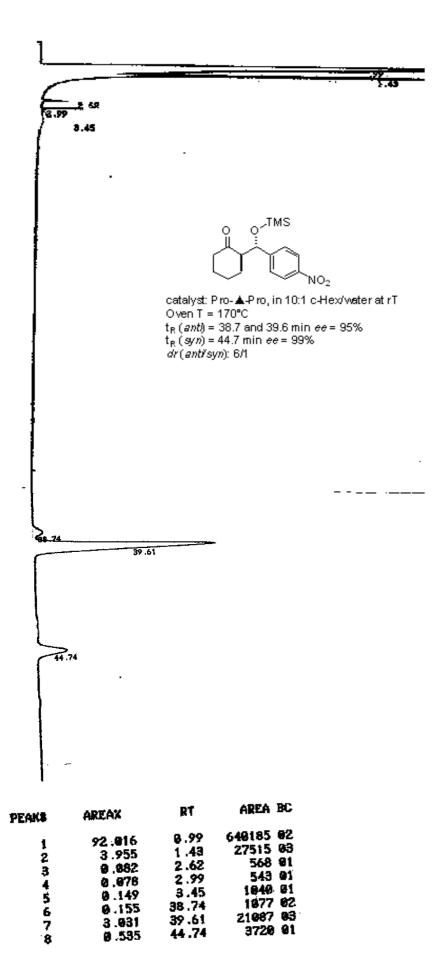
2591 82

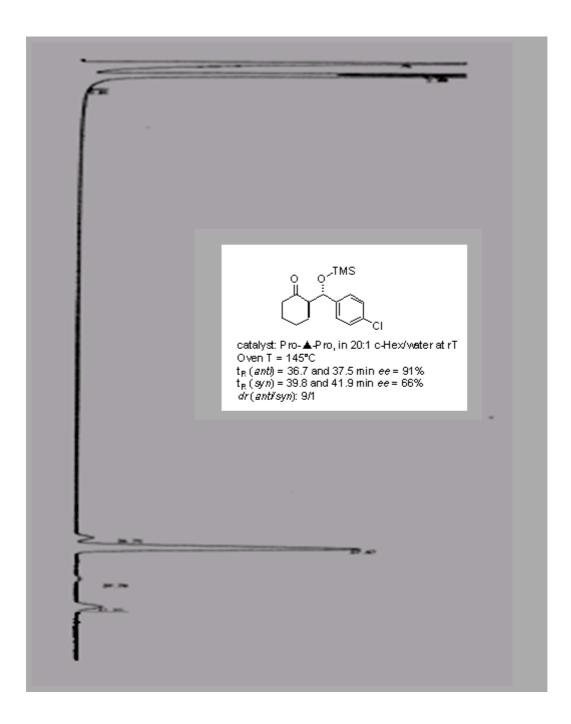
2719 03

3764 01

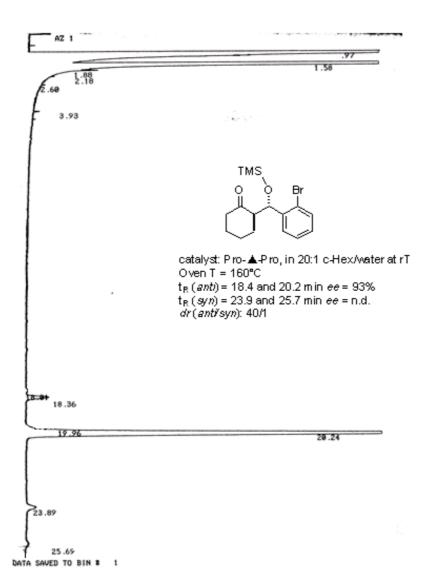
4061 01

366 01

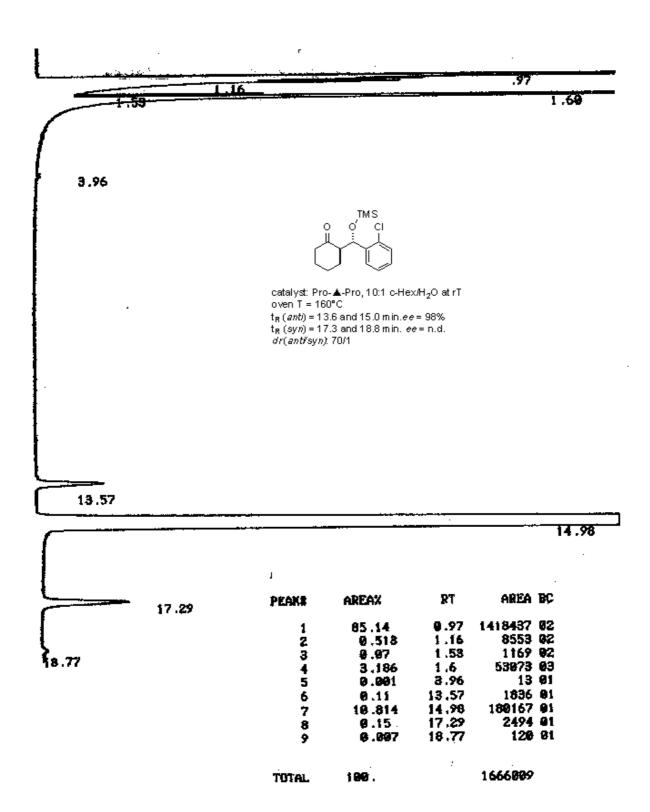


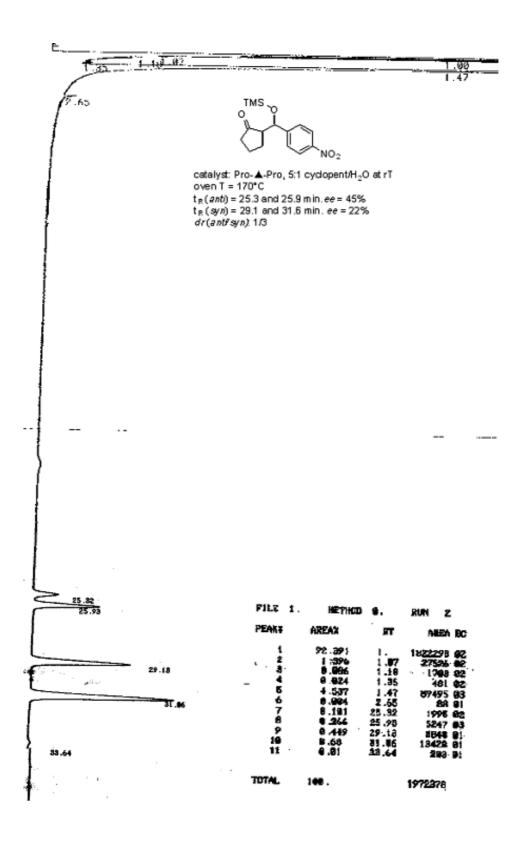


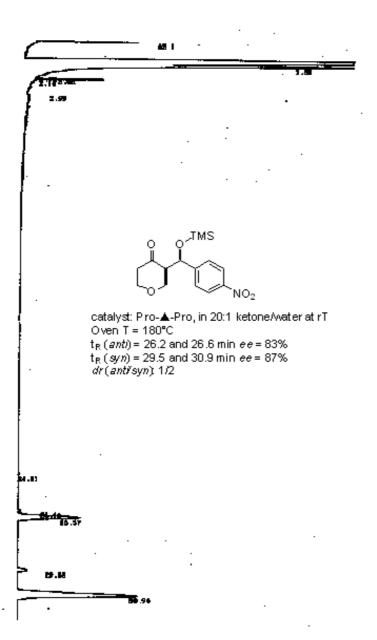
PEAK#	AREA%	RT	AREA BC
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	95.085 0.751 2.552 0.007 0.064 1.383 0.021 0.137	0.96 1.79 2. 3.01 36.71 37.47 39.78 41.89	1940578 02 15323 02 52076 03 144 01 1310 02 28233 03 421 01 2803 01
TOTAL	100.		2040888



PEAK#	AREA%	RT	AREA BC
1	91.452	0.97	1740630 02
2	6.55	1.58	124678 02
3	0.154	1.88	2926 02
4	0.055	2.18	1039 02
5	0.007	2.6	126 03
6	0.004	3.93	75 01
7	0.007	18.01	127 02
8	0.062	18.36	1186 03
9	0.06	19.96	1141 02
10	1.609	20.24	30628 03
11	0.031	23.89	585 01
12	0.01	25.69	195 01
TOTAL	100.		1903336



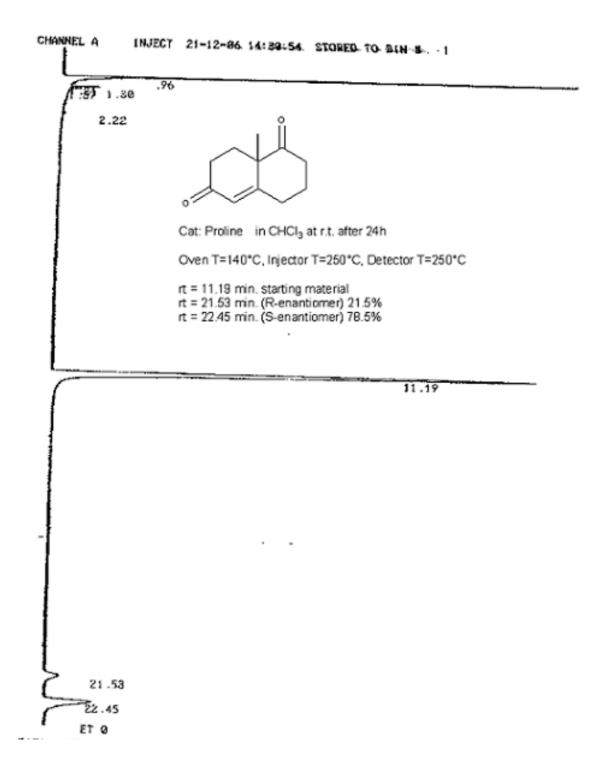


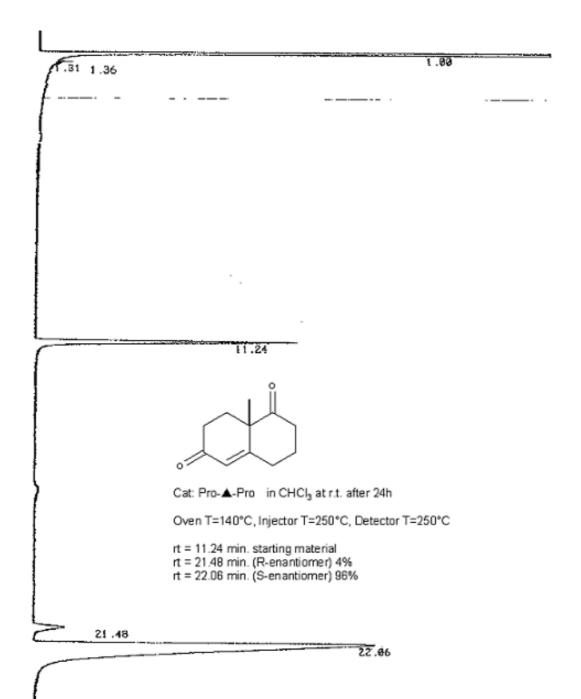


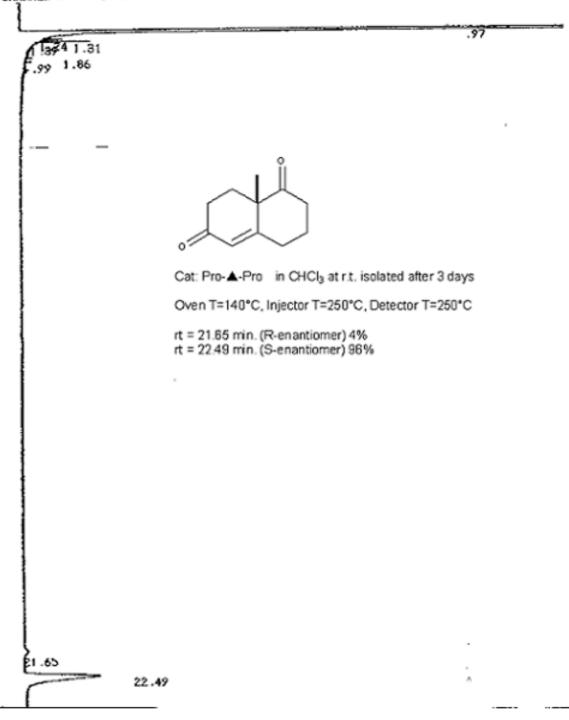
PEAK#	AREA%	RT	AREA BC
1	93.498	0.99	1632826 02
2 3	5.284	1.31	92278 02
3	0.024	1.92	420 02
4	0.006	2.02	110 02
5	0.055	2.14	965 03
6	0.001	2.99	14 01
7	0.023	24.11	403 01
8	0.025	26.18	438 02
9	0.315	26.57	5507 03
10	0.066	29.53	1145 01
11	0.703	30.94	12269 01
TOTAL	100.		1746375

	oven t _R = 1	T = 155°C 6.22 min (<i>R</i> -en	antiomer) 8.5%	I.
		<u></u>	<u></u>	6.56
6				י= 13= 1. BIN ≇
				-
6.97 1.23 1.71 2.17	949 19	03 01		
	8. RT 6.97 1.23 5.71	catal oven t _R = 1 t _R = 1 t _R = 1 6. RUN 5 8. 1. 1. 2. 3 9.49 5. 7. 1. 19	ectalyst: Pro-▲-Pro oven T = 155°C t _R = 6.22 min (<i>R</i> -en t _R = 6.56 min (<i>S</i> -en 07-05-07 20:09:25 6. RUN 5 INDEX RT AREA BC 9.97 496312 92 1.23 949 03 5.71 19 01	e=c catalyst: Pro-▲-Pro, in CHCl ₃ at rT oven T = 155°C t _R = 6.22 min (<i>R</i> -enantiomer) 8.5% t _R = 6.56 min (S-enantiomer) 91.59 07-05-07 20:09:29 CH⇒ A 6. RUN 5 INDEX 5 RT AREA BC 9.97 496312 92 1.23 949 93 1.71 19 01

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CHANNEL A INJECT 09-01-07 19:19:43 STORED TO BIN # 6