# Dynamic kinetic resolution of (S)-mandelate-derived $\alpha$ -bromo esters in nucleophilic substitution and asymmetric syntheses of 3-substituted morpholin-2-ones

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#### Abstract

Dynamic kinetic resolution of (S)-mandelate-derived  $\alpha$ -bromo esters in nucleophilic substitution reaction has been investigated. Substitutions with various alkyl amine nucleophiles in the presence of TBAI and DIEA can provide various  $\alpha$ -amino esters up to 81% yield and 97:3 dr. Also, the substitution of  $\alpha$ -bromo esters with N-substituted 2-aminoethanol nucleophiles and following spontaneous cyclization provides a practical protocol for asymmetric syntheses of 3-substituted morpholin-2-ones up to 95:5 er.

**Keywords:** Chiral auxiliary, dynamic kinetic resolution, nucleophilic substitution, asymmetric synthesis, morpholinone

### Introduction

Dynamic kinetic resolution of chiral alcohol-derived  $\alpha$ -halo esters has been recently recognized as an effective synthetic method for asymmetric syntheses of  $\alpha$ -heteroatom substituted carboxylic acid derivatives. While the chiral auxiliaries can achieve a useful level of stereoselectivity, it is still desirable to find novel ways to utilize the methodology for practical asymmetric syntheses. We have previously reported (*S*)-mandelate-mediated dynamic kinetic resolution of  $\alpha$ -bromo esters with various aryl amines for asymmetric syntheses of dihydroquinoxalinones and dihydrobenzoxazinones. Herein we report our recent results on the asymmetric nucleophilic substitution of (*S*)-mandelate-derived  $\alpha$ -bromo esters with various alkyl amines for practical asymmetric syntheses of morpholin-2-ones.

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#### **Results and Discussion**

Initial studies on (S)-mandelate-mediated dynamic kinetic resolution were carried out with  $\alpha$ -bromo phenylacetate **1** and dibenzylamine (Bn<sub>2</sub>NH). When the diastereomeric mixture (1:1) of ( $\alpha$ RS)-**1** was treated with tetrabutylammonium iodide (TBAI, 1.0 equiv), diisopropylethylamine (DIEA, 1.0 equiv) and dibenzylamine (1.5 equiv) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> at room temperature for 12 h, the amino acid derivative ( $\alpha$ R)-**2** was produced in 81% yield with 97:3 diastereomeric ratio (dr) as shown in Scheme 1. Subsequent reductive cleavage of ( $\alpha$ R)-**2** using LiAlH<sub>4</sub> furnished the enantioenriched N,N-dibenzyl 2-aminoalcohol (R)-**3** in 86% yield with 97:3 enantiomeric ratio (er). The results imply that the  $\alpha$ -bromo stereogenic center is configurationally labile with respect to the rate of substitution and ( $\alpha$ RS)-**1** is dynamically resolved under the reaction condition.

Br., O Ph  

$$CO_2Me$$
 TBAI  
 $(\alpha S)$ -1

 $Bn_2NH$ 
 $O$  Ph  
 $(\alpha R)$ -1

 $Bn_2NH$ 
 $O$  Ph  
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 $O$  CO $_2Me$  Ph

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**Scheme 1.** Dynamic kinetic resolution in nucleophilic substitution.

The scope of the observed dynamic kinetic resolution has been examined with  $\alpha$ -bromo propionate **4** as shown in Table 1. When the diastereomeric mixture (1:1) of ( $\alpha RS$ )-**4** was treated with dibenzylamine (1.5 equiv), TBAI (1.0 equiv) and DIEA (1.0 equiv) for 24 h, the amino ester ( $\alpha R$ )-**11** was obtained in 62% yield with 90:10 dr. (entry 1) In the absence of DIEA, the rate of the substitution was substantially decreased to provide **11** in 38% yield after 24 h with the same selectivity (entry 2). The reaction of **4** in the absence of TBAI, however, gave **11** with a lower stereoselectivity. (entry 3) The substitution of **4** was very slow in the absence of both TBAI and DIEA to provide **11** in 19% yield with 86:14 dr. (entry 4). The results in entries 2-4 pointed to the importance of the presence of halide ion and base for sufficient rate acceleration and selectivity. The lack of an extraneous halide ion would inhibit the rapid epimerization of **4** thereby decreasing the stereoselection. As shown in entries 5-9, most of the solvents explored

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gave similar selectivities to give 11 with 90:10 dr in CH<sub>3</sub>CN, 87:13 dr in THF, 89:11 dr in dioxane, 87:13 dr in acetone and 88:12 dr in ethyl acetate. However, the selectivity was reduced in DMSO or in DMF (entries 10-11) and the reaction was very slow in n-hexane or in diethyl ether. Decreasing the reaction temperature reduced the rate of the reaction significantly and a slightly lower selectivity (88:12dr) of 11 was observed at  $0^{\circ}$ C.

Ph

**Table 1.** Substitutions under various reaction conditions

Ρh

Ö

	I	Bry	Bn <sub>2</sub> NH ────	Bn <sub>2</sub> N	X	
		R O		R R	0	
		4-10		(αR)- <b>1</b>	1-17	
Entry <sup>a</sup>	R	X	Solvent	Condition	Yield <sup>b</sup> (%)	Dr <sup>c</sup>
1	Me	OMe (4)	$CH_2Cl_2$	DIEA, TBAI	62 (11)	90:10
2	Me	OMe (4)	$CH_2Cl_2$	TBAI	38 (11)	90:10
3	Me	OMe (4)	$CH_2Cl_2$	DIEA	39 (11)	84:16
4	Me	OMe (4)	$CH_2Cl_2$	none	19 ( <b>11</b> )	86:14
5	Me	OMe (4)	CH <sub>3</sub> CN	DIEA, TBAI	70 (11)	90:10
6	Me	OMe (4)	THF	DIEA, TBAI	48 (11)	87:13
7	Me	OMe (4)	Dioxane	DIEA, TBAI	52 (11)	89:11
8	Me	OMe (4)	Acetone	DIEA, TBAI	66 (11)	87:13
9	Me	OMe (4)	Ethyl Acetate	DIEA, TBAI	46 ( <b>11</b> )	88:12
10	Me	OMe (4)	DMSO	DIEA, TBAI	69 (11)	83:17
11	Me	OMe (4)	DMF	DIEA, TBAI	66 (11)	83:17
12	Me	O <i>i</i> Pr ( <b>5</b> )	$CH_2Cl_2$	DIEA, TBAI	49 ( <b>12</b> )	91:9
13	Me	NHBn ( <b>6</b> )	$CH_2Cl_2$	DIEA, TBAI	45 <b>(13)</b>	72:28
14	Me	N(CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>4</sub> (7)	$CH_2Cl_2$	DIEA, TBAI	91 ( <b>14</b> )	67:33
15	Ph	O <i>i</i> Pr ( <b>8</b> )	$CH_2Cl_2$	DIEA, TBAI	84 (15)	97:3
16	Ph	NHBn ( <b>9</b> )	$CH_2Cl_2$	DIEA, TBAI	50 (16)	79:21
17	Ph	N(CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>4</sub> (10)	CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>	DIEA, TBAI	77 ( <b>17</b> )	67:33

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> The reactions were carried out for 24 h. <sup>b</sup> Isolated yields. <sup>c</sup> The drs are determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR of reaction mixture.

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In an effort to improve the stereoselectivity, we examined the substitutions of  $\alpha$ -bromo propionates with three different chiral auxiliaries derived from (S)-mandelic acid. No substantial difference has been found in the reaction of 5 derived from isopropyl mandelate. However, much lower stereoselectivities were noted for the substitution reactions of 6 and 7 derived from mandelamides. (entries 12-14) Also, a similar trend in stereoselectivity was observed with  $\alpha$ -bromo phenylacetates 8, 9 and 10. (entries 15-17)

**Table 2.** Substitutions with various alkyl amine nucleophiles

Entry <sup>a</sup>	Nucleophile	R	Yield <sup>b</sup> (%)	Dr <sup>c</sup>
1		Ph	92 ( <b>20</b> )	91:9
2	Ĥ	Me	88 (21)	88:12
3	N/	Ph	86 (22)	90:10
4		Me	82 ( <b>23</b> )	88:12
5	^	Me	75 (24)	68:32
6	NH	Et	82 ( <b>25</b> )	72:28
7	Ť	Bu	69 ( <b>26</b> )	75:25
8		Ph	87 ( <b>27</b> )	82:18
9	Ν̈́Η	Me	92 ( <b>28</b> )	78:22
10	Ph Ph NH <sub>2</sub>	Ph	43 ( <b>29</b> )	93:7
11		Me	72 <b>(30</b> )	78:22
12		Ph	88 (31)	88:12
13	Ph´ `NH <sub>2</sub>	Et	79 <b>(32</b> )	78:22

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> The reactions were carried out for 24 h. <sup>b</sup> Isolated yields. <sup>c</sup> The drs are determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR of reaction mixture.

Next, we examined six different alkyl amine nucleophiles to evaluate the scope of the dynamic kinetic resolution as shown in Table 2. The treatment of  $\alpha$ -bromo phenylacetate 1 with

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dibutylamine (1.5 equiv) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> for 24 h at room temperature gave **20** in 92% yield with 91:9 dr. (entry 1) Under the same reaction conditions, the reaction of  $\alpha$ -bromo propionate **4** with the secondary amine gave N,N-dibutyl amino ester **21** with a slightly lower dr. (entry 2) In the reactions with diallylamine nucleophile, similar stereoselectivities were obtained in the reactions of  $\alpha$ -bromo acetates **1** and **4**. (entries 3-4) Notably, when cyclic secondary amine nucleophiles were used, the reactions gave much lower stereoselectivities (entries 5-9). Also, the reactions with two primary amines provided the products **29-32** with lower selectivities compared to the reactions of the corresponding  $\alpha$ -bromo acetates with dibenzylamine (entries 10-13). Limited results in Table 2 indicate that both the size of amine nucleophiles and the nature of the  $\alpha$ -substituent of  $\alpha$ -bromo acetates significantly affect the stereoselectivity of the nucleophilic substitution.

**Table 3.** Asymmetric synthesis of 3-substituted morpholin-2-one

Entry <sup>a</sup>	R	R'	Yield <sup>b</sup> (%)	Erc
1	Ph	- Stra	81 (33)	90:10
2	Me	Control of the contro	77 (34)	84:16
3	n-Bu	Lord Lord	72 (35)	67:33
4	Ph	Me	60 ( <b>36</b> )	87:13
5	Ph	MeO	58 (37)	91:9

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Entry <sup>a</sup>	R	R'	Yield <sup>b</sup> (%)	Er <sup>c</sup>
6	Ph	root of the second of the seco	55 (38)	91:9
7	Ph	MeO	66 (39)	95:5

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> The reactions were carried out for 24-72 h. <sup>b</sup> Isolated yields. <sup>c</sup> The ers are determined by chiral stationary phase-HPLC.

Encouraged by the high enantioselectivities in the reactions of  $\alpha$ -bromo acetates with various secondary amines, we set out to examine the substitutions with N-substituted 2-aminoethanol nucleophiles for asymmetric syntheses of 3-substituted morpholin-2-ones as shown in Table 3. When α-bromo phenylacetate 1 was treated with N-benzyl 2-aminoethanol, TBAI and DIEA in CH<sub>3</sub>CN for 24 h at room temperature, we were pleased to observe that the substitution and following spontaneous cyclization gave N-benzyl 3-phenyl-morpholin-2-one 33 in 81% yield with 90:10 er<sup>5</sup> (entry 1). The reactions of  $\alpha$ -bromo acetates 4 and 19 the reactions in CH<sub>3</sub>CN afforded 3-alkyl substituted morpholin-2-ones 34 and 35 with lower stereoselectivities of 84:16 er and 67:33 er, respectively (entries 2-3). In an effort to improve the stereoselectivity, we tested various 2-aminoethanol nucleophiles with different N-substituents. The reactions of  $\alpha$ -bromo phenylacetate 1 with three different N-alkyl 2-aminoethanol nucleophiles produced morpholin-2ones 36-38 with similar yields and enantioselectivities. (entries 4-6) methoxyphenyl 2-aminoethanol nucleophile, the reaction of  $\alpha$ -bromo acetate 1 provided 3phenyl-morpholin-2-one 39 with higher stereoselectivity (95:5 dr) compared to the reaction with N-benzyl 2-aminoethanol. (entry 7) The spontaneous cyclization in the reaction with N-aryl substituted 2-aminoethanol was relatively slower and N-aryl morpholin-2-one 39 was obtained in 66% yield after 3 d stirring.

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**Scheme 2.** Asymmetric synthesis of key intermediates of aprepitant.

As an application of the methodology we demonstrated the practical asymmetric syntheses of 3-(4-fluorophenyl)-morpholin-2-ones **41** and **42**, the key intermediates in the synthesis of aprepitant known as a potent  $NK_1$  receptor antagonist.<sup>6</sup> When  $\alpha$ -bromo acetate **40** was treated with *N*-substituted 2-aminoethanol in the presence of TBAI and DIEA in CH<sub>3</sub>CN, the substitution and spontaneous cyclization gave 3-(4-fluorophenyl)-morpholin-2-ones **41** and **42** with 91:9 er and 94:6 er, respectively as shown in Scheme 2.

#### **Conclusions**

We conclude that dynamic kinetic resolution of (S)-mandelate-derived  $\alpha$ -bromo esters in nucleophilic substitution with alkyl amines can be successfully applied towards the preparation of various enantioenriched amino acid derivatives. The results showed that stereoselectivity depends critically on the  $\alpha$ -substituent of the  $\alpha$ -bromo acetate and the structure of the amine nucleophiles. The substitution with N-substituted 2-aminoethanol nucleophiles and subsequent spontaneous cyclization can provide a general procedure for asymmetric syntheses of 3-

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substituted (*R*)-morpholin-2-ones. The mild and practical synthetic method for optically active amino acid derivatives suggests that this DKR approach should be further developed.

## **Experimental Section**

**General.** All reactions were performed in oven-dried glassware under nitrogen atmosphere with freshly distilled solvents. Analytical thin layer chromatography (TLC) was performed on silica gel plates with QF-254 indicator and TLC visualization was carried out with UV-light. Flash column chromatography was performed with 230–400 mesh silica gel. Analytical chiral stationary phase HPLC was performed on pump system coupled to absorbance detector (254nm). Chiral stationary phase columns (25cm×4.6mm i.d.) with isopropanol/hexane mobile phase were used to determine enantiomeric ratios. <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were acquired on U400 (400MHz <sup>1</sup>H, 100.6MHz <sup>13</sup>C) spectrometer using chloroform-*d* (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) and purity of the compounds was established to be >95% based on <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra.

General procedure for the preparation of  $\alpha$ -halo esters 1, 4-10, 18, 19 and 40. Mandelic acid derived ester or amide (1.0 equiv), racemic  $\alpha$ -bromo acid (1.0 equiv), DCC (1.0 equiv) and DMAP (0.2 equiv) were dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and stirred at room temperature for 3-10 h. The precipitate was filtered off and the organic phase was washed with water. The organic phase was dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and concentrated to provide the crude product that was purified by column chromatography on silica gel.

- **(2-Methoxy-2-oxo-(S)-1-phenylethyl)** α-bromo-phenylacetate **1.** A pale yellow oil was obtained in 54% yield as a mixture of two diastereomers.  $^{1}$ H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz, two diastereomers) 7.57-7.32 (m, 5H), 5.98, 5.97 (s, 1H), 5.51, 5.49 (s, 1H), 3.69, 3.63 (s, 3H);  $^{13}$ C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz) 168.9, 168.1, 135.8, 133.4, 129.9, 129.8, 129.3, 129.2, 128.0, 76.2, 53.2, 46.5; Anal. calcd for  $C_{17}$ H<sub>15</sub>BrO<sub>4</sub>: C, 56.22; H, 4.16; Found: C, 56.26; H, 4.35.
- (2-Methoxy-2-oxo-(*S*)-1-phenylethyl) α-bromo-propanoate 4. A pale yellow oil was obtained in 43% yield as a mixture of two diastereomers.  $^{1}$ H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz, two diastereomers) 7.48-7.38 (m, 5H), 5.97, 5.96 (s, 1H), 4.52, 4.47 (q, J = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 3.70 (s, 3H), 1.87 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H);  $^{13}$ C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>,100 MHz) 170.0, 169.1, 133.5, 129.9, 129.3, 128.0, 75.8, 53.1, 39.8, 22.0; Anal. calcd for  $C_{12}H_{13}BrO_4$ : C, 47.86; H, 4.35; Found: C, 47.84; H, 4.45.
- **(2-Isopropoxy-2-oxo-**(*S*)**-1-phenylethyl**) α-bromo-propanoate **5.** A pale yellow oil was obtained in 61% yield as a mixture of two diastereomers. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz, two diastereomers) 7.50-7.39 (m, 5H), 5.90, (s, 1H), 5.06 (m, 1H), 4.53, 4.48 (q, J = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 1.89 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H), 1.27 (d, J = 6.3 Hz, 3H), 1.14 (m, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>,100 MHz) 169.9, 168.1, 133.8, 129.7, 129.2, 127.9, 76.1, 70.2, 39.7, 22.1; HRMS calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>18</sub>BrO<sub>4</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>+1): 329.0388. Found: 329.0388.
- (2-Benzylamino-2-oxo-(S)-1-phenylethyl)  $\alpha$ -bromo-propanoate 6. A pale yellow oil was obtained in 31% yield as a mixture of two diastereomers. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz, two

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diastereomers) 7.47-7.20 (m, 10H), 6.74, 6.61 (br, 1H), 6.20, 6.12 (s, 1H), 4.45 (m, 3H), 1.81 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>,100 MHz) 168.2, 137.9, 135.1, 129.6, 129.3, 128.2, 128.1, 127.9, 127.7, 76.9, 43.9, 40.3, 22.0; C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>18</sub>BrNO<sub>3</sub>: C, 57.46; H, 4.82; N, 3.72; Found: C, 57.35; H, 4.93; N, 3.89.

- **(2-Oxo-2-(1-pyrrolidinyl)-(***S***)-1-phenylethyl)** α-bromo-propanoate **7.** A pale yellow oil was obtained in 38% yield as a mixture of two diastereomers.  $^{1}$ H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz, two diastereomers) 7.51-7.29 (m, 5H), 6.05, 6.04 (s, 1H), 4.50 (m, 1H), 3.59 (m, 2H), 3.41 (m, 1H), 3.14 (m, 1H), 1.94-1.75 (m, 7H);  $^{13}$ C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz) 170.5, 166.1, 133.7, 129.9, 129.4, 129.0, 76.0, 46.7, 46.3, 40.5, 26.5, 24.2, 22.2; Anal. calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>18</sub>BrNO<sub>3</sub>: C, 52.96; H, 5.33; N, 4.12; Found: C, 52.83; H, 5.44; N, 4.13.
- (2-Isopropoxy-2-oxo-(*S*)-1-phenylethyl) α-bromo-phenylacetate 8. A pale yellow oil was obtained in 71% yield as a mixture of two diastereomers.  $^{1}$ H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz, two diastereomers) 7.57-7.30 (m, 10H), 5.92, 5.90 (s, 1H), 5.49, 5.47 (s, 1H), 5.06-4.96 (m, 1H), 1.23, 1.17, 1.10, 1.03 (d, J = 6.3 Hz, 6H);  $^{13}$ C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz) 168.1, 167.9, 153.8, 133.7, 133.6, 129.8, 129.4, 129.3, 129.2, 127.9, 76.7, 70.1, 46.7, 22.0, 21.8; Anal. calcd for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>19</sub>BrO<sub>4</sub>: C, 58.33; H, 4.89; Found: C, 58.22; H, 4.96.
- **(2-Benzylamino-2-oxo-(S)-1-phenylethyl)** α-bromo-phenylacetate 9. A pale yellow oil was obtained in 40% yield as a mixture of two diastereomers.  $^{1}$ H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz, two diastereomers) 7.38-7.05 (m, 15H), 6.52, 6.36 (br, 1H), 6.17, 6.15 (s, 1H), 5,45, 5.42 (s, 1H), 4.43-4.32 (m, 2H);  $^{13}$ C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz) 168.0, 166.8, 137.8, 135.0, 130.0, 129.7, 129.5, 129.3, 129.2, 128.9, 128.2, 128.1, 127.8, 127.7, 77.2, 47.4, 43.8; Anal. calcd for  $C_{23}H_{20}BrNO_{3}$ : C, 63.02; H, 4.60; N, 3.20; Found: C, 63.08; H, 4.70; N, 3.23.
- (2-Oxo-2-(1-pyrrolidinyl)-(*S*)-1-phenylethyl) α-bromo-phenylacetate 10. A pale yellow oil was obtained in 32% yield as a mixture of two diastereomers. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz, two diastereomers) 7.56-7.28 (m, 10H), 6.08, 6.06 (s, 1H), 5.51, 5.50 (s, 1H), 3.59 (m, 2H), 3.39 (m, 1H), 3.14 (m, 1H), 1.93-1.73 (m, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz) 168.6, 165.9, 136.1, 133.6, 129.9, 129.4, 129.3, 129.2, 129.0, 128.4, 76.3, 46.8, 46.7, 46.4, 26.5, 24.2. The spectral data of 10 were identical to those of the authentic material reported previously. <sup>1e</sup>
- (2-Methoxy-2-oxo-(S)-1-phenylethyl)  $\alpha$ -bromo-butanoate 18. A pale yellow oil was obtained in 77% yield as a mixture of two diastereomers.  $^{1}$ H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz, two diastereomers) 7.48-7.38 (m, 5H), 5.97 (s, 1H), 4.33, 4.28 (t, J = 7.5 and 6.8 Hz, 1H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 2.23~2.03 (m, 2H), 1.08, 1.06 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H). The spectral data of 18 were identical to those of the authentic material reported previously.  $^{1}$ e
- (2-Methoxy-2-oxo-(*S*)-1-phenylethyl) α-bromo-haxanoate 19. A pale yellow oil was obtained in 47% yield as a mixture of two diastereomers.  $^{1}$ H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz, two diastereomers) 7.47-7.35 (m, 5H), 5.96 (s, 1H), 4.37, 4.32 (t, J = 7.6 and 7.2 Hz, 1H), 3.66 (s, 3H), 2.17 (m, 1H), 2.03 (m, 1H), 1.42-1.32 (m, 4H), 0.89 (m, 3H);  $^{13}$ C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz) 169.4, 168.9, 133.6, 129.7, 129.2, 128.0, 75.3, 52.8, 45.7, 35.0, 29.6, 21.4, 14.2; Anal. calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>19</sub>BrO<sub>4</sub>: C, 52.49; H, 5.58; Found: C, 52.54; H, 5.70.

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(2-Methoxy-2-oxo-(*S*)-1-phenylethyl) α-bromo-(*p*-fluorophenyl)acetate 40. A pale yellow oil was obtained in 77% yield as a mixture of two diastereomers. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz, two diastereomers) 7.57-7.35 (m, 5H), 7.03 (m, 2H), 5.98, 5.97 (s, 1H), 5.50, 5.47 (s, 1H), 3.70, 3.65 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz) 168.8, 167.9, 163.5 (d, J = 247.9 Hz, 1H), 133.4, 131.7, 131.6, 131.3 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 130.0, 129.3, 128.0, 116.3 (d, J = 21.6 Hz, 1H), 76.4, 53.2, 45.5; Anal. calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>14</sub>BrFO<sub>4</sub>: C, 53.56; H, 3.70; Found: C, 53.44; H, 3.57.

General procedure for the asymmetric preparation of 2, 11-17, 20-39 and 41-42. To a solution of  $\alpha$ -bromo ester (1, 4-10, 18, 19 and 40) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> or CH<sub>3</sub>CN (ca. 0.1 M) at room temperature were added DIEA (1.0 equiv), TBAI (1.0 equiv) and a nucleophile (1.5 equiv). After the resulting reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 12-72 h, the solvent was evaporated and the crude material was purified by column chromatography to give a  $\alpha$ -amino ester. The drs of 2, 11-17, 20-32 were determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR integration of  $\alpha$ -hydrogens of two diastereomers and the ers of 3, 33-39 and 41-42 were determined by chiral stationary phase HPLC.

- (2-Methoxy-2-oxo-(*S*)-1-phenylethyl) (*R*)-α-dibenzylamino-phenylacetate 2.  $^{1}$ H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz, major diastereomer) 7.43-7.22(m, 20H), 6.05 (s, 1H), 4.81 (s, 1H), 3.83 (s, 4H), 3.79 (s, 3H);  $^{13}$ C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz) 172.2, 169.7, 140.0, 136.7, 133.9, 129.7, 129.4, 129.2, 128.8, 128.7, 128.3, 128.1, 127.5, 75.1, 65.8, 54.5, 53.2; Anal. calcd for C<sub>31</sub>H<sub>29</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>: C, 77.64; H, 6.10; N, 2.92; Found: C, 77.20; H, 6.18; N, 2.84.
- (*R*)-2-dibenzylamino-2-phenylethanol 3. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) 7.44-7.25 (m, 15H), 4.14 (dd, J = 10.6, 10.6 Hz, 1H), 3.96-3.90 (m, 3H), 3.62 (m, 1H), 3.15 (d, J = 13.4 Hz, 1H), 3.01 (br, 1H). The enantiomeric ratio of 3 was determined to be 97:3 in favor of the *R* enantiomer by CSP-HPLC using racemic material as a standard. (Chiralcel OD column; 10% 2-propanol in hexane; 0.5 mL/min): 12.7 min (*R*), 19.4 min (*S*).
- (2-Methoxy-2-oxo-(*S*)-1-phenylethyl) (*R*)-α-dibenzylamino-propanoate 11. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) 7.51-7.21 (m, 15H), 5.97 (s, 3H), 3.89 (d, J = 14.0 Hz, 2H), 3.80 (d, J = 14.0 Hz, 2H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 3.65 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 1.35 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz) 173.6, 169.8, 140.4, 134.4, 129.7, 129.3, 129.2, 128.7, 128.1, 127.4, 74.9, 56.3, 54.7, 53.1, 15.5; Anal. calcd for  $C_{26}H_{27}NO_4$ : C, 74.80; H, 6.52; N, 3.35; Found: C, 74.86; H, 6.67; N, 3.15.
- (2-Isopropoxy-2-oxo-(*S*)-1-phenylethyl) (*R*)-α-dibenzylamino-propanoate 12. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) 7.51-7.22 (m, 15H), 5.90 (s, 1H), 5.09 (m, 1H), 3.89 (d, J = 14.0 Hz, 2H), 3.79 (d, J = 14.0 Hz, 2H), 3.64 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 1.36 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H), 1.29 (d, J = 6.2 Hz, 3H), 1.15 (d, J = 6.3 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>,100 MHz) 173.6, 168.8, 140.3, 134.5, 129.2, 129.1, 129.0, 128.6, 128.0, 127.3, 75.3, 69.9, 56.3, 54.6, 22.1, 21.9, 15.6; HRMS calcd for C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>32</sub>NO<sub>4</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>+1): 446.2331. Found: 446.2332.
- (2-Benzylamino-2-oxo-(*S*)-1-phenylethyl) (*R*)-α-dibenzylamino-propanoate 13. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) 7.37-7.21 (m, 20H), 6.43 (br, 1H), 6.15 (s, 1H), 4.45 (m, 2H), 3.77 (d, J = 14.1 Hz, 2H), 3.69 (d, J = 14.1 Hz, 2H), 3.60 (m, 1H), 1.32 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz) 172.4, 168.7, 139.9, 138.1, 136.0, 129.4, 129.2, 128.9, 128.8, 128.1, 128.0,

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127.7, 127.5, 75.9, 56.6, 54.8, 43.7, 14.1; Anal. calcd for  $C_{32}H_{32}N_2O_3$ : C, 78.02; H, 6.55; N, 5.69; Found: C, 78.03; H, 6.62; N, 5.77.

- (2-Oxo-2-(1-pyrrolidinyl)-(S)-1-phenylethyl) (R)-α-dibenzylamino-propanoate 14. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) 7.54-7.15 (m, 15H), 6.04 (s, 1H), 3.87 (s, 4H), 3.66-3.58 (m, 3H), 3.44-3.41 (m, 1H), 3.19-3.13 (m, 1H), 1.92-1.68 (m, 4H), 1.33 (d, J =7.0 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz) 173.9, 166.8, 140.6, 134.5, 129.4, 129.3, 129.2, 129.1, 128.6, 127.2, 75.0, 56.2, 54.6, 46.8, 46.4, 26.6, 24.3, 15.9; Anal. calcd for C<sub>29</sub>H<sub>32</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>: C, 76.29; H, 7.06; N, 6.14; Found: C, 76.24; H, 7.06; N, 6.13.
- (2-Isopropoxy-2-oxo-(*S*)-1-phenylethyl) (*R*)-α-dibenzylamino-phenylacetate 15. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) 7.44-7.23 (m, 20H), 5.97 (s, 1H), 5.13 (m, 1H), 4.79 (s, 1H), 3.82 (s, 4H), 1.33 (d, J = 6.3 Hz, 3H), 1.18 (d, J = 6.3 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz) 172.1, 168.7, 140.0, 136.8, 134.2, 129.5, 129.4, 129.2, 129.1, 128.7, 128.6, 128.2, 128.0, 127.4, 75.5, 70.0, 65.8, 54.4, 22.2, 21.9; HRMS calcd for C<sub>33</sub>H<sub>34</sub>NO<sub>4</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>+1): 508.2488. Found: 508.2489.
- (2-Benzylamino-2-oxo-(*S*)-1-phenylethyl) (*R*)-α-dibenzylamino-phenylacetate 16.  $^{1}$ H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) 7.41-7.16 (m, 25H), 6.36 (br, 1H), 6.29 (s, 1H), 4.70 (s, 1H), 4.40 (m, 2H), 3.74 (m, 4H);  $^{13}$ C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>,100 MHz) 170.7, 168.5, 139.6, 138.1, 136.2, 135.8, 129.2, 129.1, 129.0, 128.8, 128.7, 128.1, 128.0, 127.5, 76.0, 66.3, 54.5, 43.7; Anal. calcd for  $C_{37}H_{34}N_2O_3$ : C, 80.12; H, 6.18; N, 5.05; Found: C, 80.10; H, 6.08; N, 5.01.
- (2-(1-Pyrrolidinyl)-2-oxo-(*S*)-1-phenylethyl) (*R*)-α-dibenzylamino-phenylacetate 17.  $^{1}$ H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) 7.48-7.18 (m, 20H), 6.12 (s, 1H), 4.74(s, 1H), 3.87 (d, *J* = 13.9 Hz, 2H), 3.79 (d, *J* = 13.9 Hz, 2H), 3.69 (m, 2H), 3.46 (m, 1H), 3.21 (m, 1H), 1.99-1.77 (m, 4H);  $^{13}$ C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz) 172.5, 166.7, 140.2, 137.1, 134.1, 129.7, 129.5, 129.3, 129.2, 129.1, 128.6, 128.5, 128.1, 127.3, 75.3, 65.6, 54.4, 46.8, 46.4, 26.6, 24.3; HRMS calcd for  $C_{34}H_{35}N_2O_3$  (M\*+1): 519.2648. Found: 519.2646.
- (2-Methoxy-2-oxo-(*S*)-1-phenylethyl) (*R*)-α-dibutylamino-phenylacetate 20.  $^{1}$ H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) 7.49-7.29 (m, 10H), 5.97 (s, 1H), 4.77 (s, 1H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 2.59 (m, 4H), 1.42 (m, 4H), 1.21 (m, 4H), 0.81 (t, *J* =7.4 Hz, 6H);  $^{13}$ C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz) 172.3, 169.6, 137.4, 134.1, 129.5, 129.2, 129.1, 128.6, 128.4, 128.0, 74.9, 68.7, 52.9, 50.7, 30.3, 20.7, 14.4; Anal. calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>33</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>: C, 72.96; H, 8.08; N, 3.40. Found: C, 73.01; H, 7.72; N, 3.41.
- (2-Methoxy-2-oxo-(*S*)-1-phenylethyl) (*R*)-α-dibutylamino-propanoate 21.  $^{1}$ H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) 7.48-7.26 (m, 5H), 5.91 (s, 1H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 3.67 (q, *J* =7.0 Hz, 1H), 2.64-2.58 (m, 4H), 1.43-1.26 (m, 11H), 0.88 (m, 6H);  $^{13}$ C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz) 174.0, 169.8, 134.4, 129.5, 129.1, 128.0, 74.7, 58.3, 53.0, 51.3, 31.6, 20.8, 16.2, 14.5; Anal. calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>31</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>: C, 68.74; H, 8.94; N, 4.01; Found: C, 68.70; H, 6.52; N, 3.35.
- (2-Methoxy-2-oxo-(*S*)-1-phenylethyl) (*R*)-α-diallylamino-phenylacetate 22. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) 7.42-7.25 (m, 10H), 5.97 (s, 1H), 5.83 (m, 2H), 5.25 (d, J = 17.0 Hz, 2H), 5.14 (d, J = 10.1 Hz, 2H), 4.85 (s, 1H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 3.29 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz) 172.2, 169.6, 136.8, 136.1, 134.0, 129.6, 129.2, 129.1, 128.8, 128.4, 128.0, 118.2, 75.1, 67.4, 53.3, 53.0; Anal. calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>25</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>: C, 72.80; H, 6.64; N, 3.69. Found: C, 73.21; H, 6.38; N, 3.62.

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(2-Methoxy-2-oxo-(*S*)-1-phenylethyl) (*R*)-α-diallylamino-propanoate 23. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) 7.49-7.38 (m, 5H), 5.92 (s, 1H), 5.80 (m, 2H), 5.26 (dd, J = 17.1 and 1.3 Hz, 2H), 5.12 (d, J = 10.2 Hz, 2H), 3.78 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 3.36 (dd, J = 14.5 and 5.2 Hz, 2H), 3.24 (d, J = 14.5 and 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.31 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz) 173.7, 169.7, 137.1, 134.3, 129.6, 129.2, 128.0, 117.5, 74.8, 57.3, 53.8, 53.0, 15.7; Anal. calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>: C, 68.12; H, 7.30; N, 4.41; Found: C, 68.18; H, 7.32; N, 4.16.

- (2-Methoxy-2-oxo-(*S*)-1-phenylethyl) (*R*)-α-(1-piperidinyl)-propanoate 24. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) 7.49-7.38 (m, 5H), 5.93 (s, 1H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 3.46 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 2.73 (m, 1H), 2.58 (m, 3H), 1.59 (m, 4H), 1.45 (m, 2H), 1.34 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz) 173.1, 169.7, 134.3, 129.6, 129.2, 128.0, 74.7, 63.2, 53.0, 50.8, 26.8, 25.0, 15.3; Anal. calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>: C, 66.86; H, 7.59; N, 4.59; O, 20.96. Found: C, 66.80; H, 7.74; N, 4.62.
- (2-Methoxy-2-oxo-(*S*)-1-phenylethyl) (*R*)-α-(1-piperidinyl)-butanoate 25. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) 7.49-7.38 (m, 5H), 5.93 (s, 1H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 3.21 (dd, J = 6.3 and 8.2 Hz 1H), 2.75 (m, 1H), 2.55 (m, 3H), 1.78 (m, 2H), 1.58-1.43 (m, 6H), 0.92 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz) 172.5, 169.7, 134.4, 129.6, 129.2, 128.0, 74.6, 69.9, 52.9, 50.8, 27.0, 25.1, 23.3, 11.1; Anal. calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>25</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>: C, 67.69; H, 7.89; N, 4.39; Found: C, 67.75; H, 8.11; N, 4.54.
- (2-Methoxy-2-oxo-(*S*)-1-phenylethyl) (*R*)-α-(1-piperidinyl)-hexanoate 26.  $^{1}$ H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) 7.49-7.35 (m, 5H), 5.92 (s, 1H), 3,72 (s, 1H), 3.29 (m, 1H), 2.77 (m, 1H), 2.63 (m, 1H), 2.54 (m, 2H), 1.85-1.29 (m, 10H), 0.88 (t, J = 6.9 Hz, 3H);  $^{13}$ C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz) 172.5, 169.7, 134.3, 129.6, 129.2, 128.0, 74.6, 68.3, 52.9, 50.7, 29.7, 28.7, 27.0, 25.1, 23.0, 14.4; Anal. calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>29</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>: C, 69.14; H, 8.41; N, 4.03; Found C, 69.10; H, 8.58; N, 4.02.
- (2-Methoxy-2-oxo-(*S*)-1-phenylethyl) (*R*)-α-(3,4-dihydro-2(*1H*)-isoquinolinyl)-phenyl acetate 27.  $^{1}$ H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) 7.52-7.07 (m, 14H), 5.93 (s, 1H), 4.44 (s, 1H), 3.75 (s, 2H), 3.69 (s, 3H), 2.87 (m, 4H);  $^{13}$ C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz) 171.6, 169.5, 136.1, 134.9, 133.1, 129.6, 129.4, 129.2, 129.1, 129.0, 128.9, 128.0, 127.2, 126.6, 126.1, 75.2, 73.2, 54.1, 53.1, 48.7, 29.4; Anal. calcd for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>25</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>: C, 75.16; H, 6.06; N, 3.37; Found: C, 75.03; H, 6.12 N, 3.15.
- (2-Methoxy-2-oxo-(*S*)-1-phenylethyl) (*R*)-α-(3,4-dihydro-2(*1H*)-isoquinolinyl)-propanoate 28.  $^{1}$ H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) 7.49-7.00 (m, 9H), 5.95 (s, 1H), 3.99 (d, J = 14.6 Hz, 1H), 3.90 (d, J = 14.6 Hz, 1H), 3.72 (m, 1H), 3.70 (s, 1H), 3.12 (m, 1H), 2.91 (m, 3H), 1.45 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H);  $^{13}$ C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz) 172.9, 169.6, 135.4, 134.8, 134.1, 129.7, 129.3, 129.1, 128.1, 127.0, 126.4, 125.9, 74.9, 62.2, 53.0, 52.3, 47.4, 30.2, 15.6; Anal. calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>: C, 71.37; H, 6.56; N, 3.96; Found: C, 71.48; H, 6.59; N, 3.85.
- (2-Methoxy-2-oxo-(*S*)-1-phenylethyl) (*R*)-α-diphenylmethylamino-phenylacetate 29. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) 7.50-7.23 (m, 20H), 5.96 (s, 1H), 4.89 (s, 1H), 4.51 (s, 1H), 3.75 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz) 173.3, 169.4, 143.8, 143.3, 138.0, 133.9, 129.2, 129.1, 129.0, 128.5, 128.1, 128.0, 127.9, 127.7, 75.3, 65.0, 63.2, 53.1; Anal. calcd for C<sub>30</sub>H<sub>27</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>: C, 77.40; H, 5.85; N, 3.01;. Found: C, 77.42; H, 6.07; N, 3.00.
- (2-Methoxy-2-oxo-(S)-1-phenylethyl) (R)- $\alpha$ -diphenylmethylamino-propanoate 30. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) 7.51-7.18 (m, 15H), 5.97 (s, 1H), 4.95 (s, 1H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 3.46 (q, J = 7.0

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Hz, 1H), 2.17 (br, 1H), 1.34 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz) 170.1, 169.5, 144.6, 134.1, 129.7, 129.2, 128.9, 128.1, 127.8, 127.7, 75.0, 65.5, 54.8, 53.1, 19.8; HRMS calcd for  $C_{25}H_{26}NO_4(M^++1)$ : 404.1862. Found: 404.1861.

(2-Methoxy-2-oxo-(*S*)-1-phenylethyl) (*R*)-α-benzylamino-phenylacetate 31. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) 7.47-7.21 (m, 15H), 5.94 (s, 1H), 4.59 (s, 1H), 3.80 (m, 2H), 3.70 (s, 3H), 2.30 (br, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz) 173.1, 169.5, 139.9, 137.9, 133.9, 129.6, 129.1, 128.9, 128.8, 128.6, 128.0, 127.8, 127.6, 75.3, 64.7, 53.1, 51.8; Anal. calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>: C, 74.02; H, 5.95; N, 3.60;. Found: C, 74.04; H, 5.93 N, 3.64.

(2-Methoxy-2-oxo-(*S*)-1-phenylethyl) (*R*)- $\alpha$ -benzylamino-butanoate 32. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz, major diastereomer) 7.47-7.25 (s, 10H), 5.98 (s, 1H), 3.87 (d, *J* = 12.9 Hz, 1H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 3.67 (d, *J* = 12.9 Hz, 1H), 3.36 (m, 1H), 1.73 (m, 2H), 0.93 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H). The spectral data of 32 were identical to those of the authentic material reported previously. <sup>1e</sup>

*N*-Benzyl-3-(*R*)-phenyl-morpholin-2-one 33. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) 7.58-7.24 (m, 10H), 4.55 (dt, J = 11.0 Hz, 3.1 Hz, 1H), 4.37 (m, 1H), 4.26 (s, 1H), 3.77 (d, J = 13.4 Hz, 1H), 3.17 (d, J = 13.3 Hz, 1H), 2.99 (m, 1H), 2.64 (m, 1H). The spectral data of 33 were identical to those of the authentic material reported previously. <sup>6a</sup> CSP-HPLC (Chiralpak AD-H column; 10% 2-propanol in hexane; 0.5mL/min) 90:10 er, 20.9 min (major enantiomer), 24.7 min (minor enantiomer).

*N*-Benzyl-3-(*R*)-methyl-morpholin-2-one 34. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) 7.34-7.28 (m, 5H), 4.32 (m, 2H), 3.96 (d, J = 13.4 Hz, 1H), 3.42 (q, J = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 3.33 (d, J = 13.4 Hz, 1H), 2.86 (dt, J = 12.9 Hz, 3.7 Hz, 1H), 2.52 (m, 1H), 1.56 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 3H). The spectral data of 35 were identical to those of the authentic material reported previously. <sup>7</sup> CSP-HPLC (Chiralpak OJ-H column; 5% 2-propanol in hexane; 0.5mL/min) 84:16 er, 54.6 min (major enantiomer), 56.4 min (minor enantiomer).

**N-Benzyl-3-(R)-butyl-morpholin-2-one 35.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) 7.37-7.26 (m, 5H), 4.35-4.26 (m, 1H), 3.97 (d, J = 13.4 Hz, 1H), 3.36 (t, J = 4.5 Hz, 1H), 3.29 (d, J = 13.4 Hz, 1H), 2.88 (m, 1H), 2.50 (m, 1H), 2.09-1.86 (m, 2H), 1.62 (m, 1H), 1.36-1.31 (m, 3H), 0.92 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz) 171.4, 137.8, 129.2, 129.0, 127.9, 68.2, 65.3, 59.1, 47.1, 30.9, 27.6, 23.1, 14.4; Anal. calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>21</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>: C, 72.84; H, 8.56; N, 5.66; Found: C, 72.77; H, 8.67; N, 5.73; CSP-HPLC (Chiralpak OD column; 5% 2-propanol in hexane; 0.5mL/min) 68:32 er, 22.2 min (minor enantiomer), 28.2 min (major enantiomer).

*N*-(*m*-Methylbenzyl)-3-(*R*)-phenyl-morpholin-2-one 36. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) 7.58-7.03 (m, 9H), 4.54 (dt, J = 11.4 Hz, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 4.34 (m, 1H), 4.24 (s, 1H), 3.73 (d, J = 13.3 Hz, 1H), 3.12 (d, J = 13.3 Hz, 1H), 2.97 (m, 1H), 2.62 (m, 1H), 2.32 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz) 169.3, 138.5, 137.9, 137.2, 130.0, 129.3, 129.2, 128.9, 128.8, 128.7, 126.3, 71.0, 69.1, 59.2, 47.3, 21.8; HRMS calcd for  $C_{18}H_{20}NO_2$  (M<sup>+</sup>+1): 282.1494. Found: 282.1497; CSP-HPLC (Chiralpak AD-H column; 10% 2-propanol in hexane; 0.5mL/min) 81:19 er, 17.0min (major enantiomer), 19.8min (minor enantiomer).

*N*-(*p*-Methoxybenzyl)-3-(*R*)-phenyl-morpholin-2-one 37.  $^{1}$ H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) 7.58-7.31 (m, 5H), 7.16 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 6.85 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 4.54 (dt, J = 11.0 Hz, 3.0 Hz,

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1H), 4.37 (m, 1H), 4.24 (s, 1H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 3.71 (d, J = 13.2 Hz, 1H), 3.12 (d, J = 13.2 Hz, 1H), 2.99 (m, 1H), 2.64 (m, 1 H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz) 169.3, 159.5, 138.0, 130.5, 129.3, 129.2, 129.1, 128.8, 114.2, 70.8, 69.1, 58.6, 55.7, 47.1; HRMS calcd for  $C_{18}H_{20}NO_3$  (M<sup>+</sup>+1): 298.1443. Found: 298.1445; CSP-HPLC (Chiralpak AD-H column; 10% 2-propanol in hexane; 0.5mL/min) 91:9 er, 27.1 min (major enantiomer), 33.7 min (minor enantiomer).

*N*-(1-Naphtylmethyl)-3-(*S*)-phenyl-morpholin-2-one 38. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) 7.82-7.38 (m, 12H), 4.43 (dt, J = 10.9 Hz, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 4.29 (s, 1H), 4.28 (m, 1H), 4.19 (d, J = 13.0 Hz, 1H), 3.51 (d, J = 13.0 Hz, 1H), 2.89 (m, 1H), 2.62 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz) 169.4, 138.0, 134.3, 133.0, 132.6, 129.7, 129.2, 129.1, 129.0, 128.9, 128.3, 126.3, 126.2, 125.5, 124.9, 72.2, 69.1, 58.0, 47.3; Anal. calcd for C<sub>21</sub>O<sub>19</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>: C, 79.47; H, 6.03; N, 4.41; Found: C, 79.38; H, 6.20; N, 4.41; CSP-HPLC (Chiralpak AD-H column; 10% 2-propanol in hexane; 0.5mL/min) 91:9 er, 22.6 min (major enantiomer), 27.8 min (minor enantiomer).

*N*-(*p*-Methoxyphenyl)-3-(*S*)-phenyl-morpholin-2-one 39. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) 7.52-7.33 (m, 5H), 6.83 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 6.61 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 5.43 (s, 1H), 4.47 (m, 2H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 3.68 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz) 169.0, 153.4, 142.0, 136.9, 129.5, 128.8, 119.8, 115.4, 114.3, 65.4, 65.0, 56.1, 44.4; HRMS calcd for  $C_{17}H_{17}NO_3$  (M<sup>+</sup>): 283.1208. Found: 283.1208; CSP-HPLC (Chiralpak AD-H column; 10% 2-propanol in hexane; 0.5mL/min) 95:5 er, 38.1 min (major enantiomer), 42.8 min (minor enantiomer).

*N*-Benzyl-3-(*R*)-(*p*-fluorophenyl)-morpholin-2-one 41.  $^{1}$ H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) 7.58-7.07 (m, 9H), 4.54 (dt, J = 11.1 and 3.0 Hz, 1H), 4.37 (m, 1H), 4.24 (s, 1H), 3.77 (d, J = 13.3 Hz, 1H), 3.16 (d, J = 13.4 Hz, 1H), 2.99 (dd, J = 12.9 and 2.1 Hz, 1H), 2.65 (m, 1H). The spectral data of 41 were identical to those of the authentic material reported previously.  $^{6c}$  CSP-HPLC (Chiralpak AD-H column; 10% 2-propanol in hexane; 0.5mL/min) 90:10 er, 20.0 min (major enantiomer), 23.3 min (minor enantiomer).

*N*-(*p*-Methoxyphenyl)-3-(*S*)-(*p*-fluorophenyl)-morpholin-2-one 42. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz) 7.49 (dd, J = 5.6 and 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.06 (t, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 6.83 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 6.61 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 5.36 (s, 1H), 4.49 (m, 2H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 3.65 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 100 MHz) 168.9, 163.0 (d, J = 246.2 Hz, 2H), 153.7, 141.8, 132.7, 128.6 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 116.5 (d, J = 21.5 Hz, 2H), 115.4, 114.7, 65.6, 64.7, 56.1, 44.6; HRMS calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>16</sub>FNO<sub>3</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>): 301.1114. Found: 301.1116; CSP-HPLC (Chiralpak AD-H column; 10% 2-propanol in hexane; 0.5mL/min) 94:6 er, 41.6 min (major enantiomer), 43.2 min (minor enantiomer).

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