# **Supporting Information for:**

# Ni-Catalyzed Carboxylation of Aziridines en Route to β-Amino Acids

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## 1 Synthesis of Starting Materials

#### 1.1 General Remarks

**Reagents**. Commercially available materials were used as received without further purification. NiCl<sub>2</sub>glyme (98% purity), Manganese powder ( $\geq$ 99.9 trace metal basis), 1,3-Dimethyl-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2(1H)-pyrimidinone (DMPU, H<sub>2</sub>O  $\leq$ 0.03%), Chloramine-T trihydrate and Trimethylphenylammonium tribromide were purchased from Aldrich. 6,6'-dimethyl-2,2'-bipyridine was purchased from Fluorochem. 4-Toluenesulfonyl chloride, anhydrous MeOH (99.8% purity), anhydrous *N*, *N*-Dimethylacetamide (DMA, 99.5% purity) and anhydrous *N*-Methyl-2-Pyrrolidone (NMP, 99.5% purity) were purchased from Acros.

Analytical methods. <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C NMR and <sup>19</sup>F spectra were recorded on Bruker 300 MHz, Bruker 400 MHz and Bruker 500 MHz at 20 °C. All <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra are reported in parts per million (ppm) downfield of TMS and were calibrated using the residual solvent peak of CHCl<sub>3</sub> (7.26 ppm), unless otherwise indicated. All <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra are reported in ppm relative to TMS, were calibrated using the signal of CDCl<sub>3</sub> (77.16 ppm). Coupling constants, *J*, are reported in Hertz. Melting points were measured using open glass capillaries in a Büchi B540 apparatus. Flash chromatography was performed with EM Science silica gel 60 (230-400 mesh). Thin layer chromatography was used to monitor reaction progress and analyze fractions from column chromatography. To this purpose, TLC Silica gel 60 F254 aluminium sheets from Merck were used and visualization was achieved using UV irradiation and/or staining with KMnO<sub>4</sub> or Bromocresol green solution. MALDI-TOF mass spectra were collected on a Bruker Autoflex MALDI-TOF mass spectrometer. Samples were prepared by the dried-droplet protocol, from solutions containing the charge-transfer matrix pyrene or trans-2-[3-(4-tert-Butylphenyl)-2-methyl-2-propenylidene]malononitrile (DCTB) in THF.

## 1.2 Synthesis of L1 and LNiCl<sub>2</sub> complexes

L3 (HETCAT) and L5 (Aldrich) are commercially available and were used as received. L2<sup>1</sup>, L4<sup>2</sup>, L5NiCl<sub>2</sub><sup>3</sup> and L5<sub>2</sub>Ni<sup>4</sup> were present in-house having been synthesized according to the described procedures.

## Synthesis of 4,4'-dimethoxy-6,6'-dimethyl-2,2'-bipyridine (L1)

This ligand can be accessed via two routes depending on the quantity required. For synthesis of small quantities, a reductive cross-coupling of 2-chloro-4-methoxy-6-methylpyridine can be carried out.<sup>5</sup> The low efficiency of this reaction and the high cost of the starting pyridine precursor, however, meant an alternative route was selected for gram scale synthesis.

**2-Chloro-4-methoxy-6-methylpyridine**: To 2,6-chloro-4-methoxy-pyridine (1.0 g, 5.6 mmol) and Fe(acac)<sub>3</sub> (0.10 g, 0.28 mmol, 0.05 equiv.) in THF: NMP (25 ml: 6.0 ml) at 0 °C was added MeMgBr (3.0 M in Et<sub>2</sub>O, 2.4 ml., 7.3 mmol) drop wise. The reaction was stirred for 30 minutes at this temperature before being quenched with NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (sat.). The mixture was diluted with H<sub>2</sub>O and extracted with EtOAc (3 × 25 ml). The combined organic layers were then washed with brine, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), filtered and reduced *in vacuo* to give 2-chloro-4-methoxy-6-methylpyridine (0.78 g, 88%) which was used in the next step without further purification. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  6.66 (d, J = 1.9 Hz, 1H), 6.59 (d, J = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 2.46 (s, 2H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  167.7, 160.2, 151.7, 108.9, 106.8, 55.6, 24.5 ppm.

**4,4'-Dimethoxy-6,6'-dimethyl-2,2'-bipyridine** (**L1**): Following a modified literature procedure<sup>5</sup>, Ni(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (0.65 g, 1.0 mmol, 0.20 equiv.), Zn powder (0.55 g, 8.4 mmol, 1.7 equiv.) and Bu<sub>4</sub>NI (1.8 g, 4.9 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) were stirred in THF (0.25 M, 20 ml) for 30 minutes at room temperature. 2-chloro-4-methoxy-6-methylpyridine (0.78 g, 4.9 mmol) was then added as a solution in THF (20 ml) and the mixture was heated to 50 °C for 20 h. After allowing to cool to room temperature, the reaction mixture was poured into 2.0 M aqueous NH<sub>3</sub> solution (170 ml) and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>

(280 ml) and stirred for 30 minutes. The resultant precipitate was removed by filtration, the phases were separated and the organic layer was dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), filtered and reduced *in vacuo*. Purification by column chromatography (EtOAc) gave **L1** (0.30 g, 50%) as a white solid.  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.79 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 2H), 6.69 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 2H), 3.93 (s, 6H), 2.58 (s, 6H) ppm.  $^{13}$ C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  167.1, 159.3, 157.5, 109.9, 104.3, 55.4, 24.7 ppm. Spectroscopic data matched those previously reported in the literature.  $^{6}$ 

**6,6'-Dimethyl-[2,2'-bipyridine] 1,1'-dioxide**: Following literature procedure, <sup>7</sup> to 6,6'-dimethyl-2,2'-bipyridine (6.0 g, 33 mmol) in CHCl<sub>3</sub> (0.50 M) was added mCPBA (15 g, 2.6 equiv., 85 mmol) as a solution in CHCl<sub>3</sub>. The use of excess mCPBA ensured compete consumption of the intermediate mono-N-oxide. After stirring for 48 h, the solvent was evaporated and the crude purified by flash chromatography (hexane: EtOAc) gave 6,6'-dimethyl-[2,2'-bipyridine] 1,1'-dioxide (4.4 g, 62%) as a white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.42 – 7.34 (m, 4H), 7.29 – 7.21 (m, 2H), 2.58 (s, 6H) ppm. Spectroscopic data matched those previously reported in the literature. <sup>8</sup>

**6,6'-Dimethyl-4,4'-dinitro-[2,2'-bipyridine] 1,1'-dioxide**: Following literature procedure<sup>7</sup>, to 6,6'-dimethyl-[2,2'-bipyridine] 1,1'-dioxide (4.4 g, 20 mmol) dissolved in conc.  $H_2SO_4$  (16 ml) and cooled to 0 °C was added fuming HNO<sub>3</sub> (13 ml) drop wise. The mixture was warmed to room temperature and then heated to 100 °C for 6 h. After cooling to 0 °C, crushed ice (100 g) was added and the resultant precipitate filtered, washed with  $H_2O$  (50 ml) and dried under air current. This solid was then dissolved in CHCl<sub>3</sub> and neutralized with solid NaOH (~30 g) to pH~6. The resultant orange solid was then filtered and washed with  $H_2O$  and  $CH_2Cl_2$  giving 6,6'-dimethyl-4,4'-dinitro-[2,2'-bipyridine] 1,1'-dioxide (5.8 g, 92%) which was used without further purification. H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  8.60 (dd, J = 3.4, 0.8 Hz, 2H), 8.53 (dd, J = 3.3, 0.7 Hz, 2H), 2.48 (s, 6H) ppm. Spectroscopic data matched those previously reported in the literature.

**4,4'-Dimethoxy-6,6'-dimethyl-[2,2'-bipyridine] 1,1'-dioxide**: Following literature procedure adapted to our substrate<sup>9</sup>, to 6,6'-dimethyl-4,4'-dinitro-[2,2'-bipyridine] 1,1'-dioxide (5.8 g, 19 mmol) dissolved in dry MeOH (190 ml) was added NaOMe (25% solution in MeOH, 3.5 equiv., 15 ml) drop wise. The mixture was then heated to 80 °C for 90 minutes. After allowing to cool to room temperature, the solution was neutralized with HCl (conc.) and the precipitate filtered off. The collected filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo* giving 4,4'-dimethoxy-6,6'-dimethyl-[2,2'-bipyridine] 1,1'-dioxide (4.1 g, 79%) as an orange solid which was used without and further purification.  $^1$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  6.93 (d, J = 3.5 Hz, 2H), 6.88 (d, J = 3.4 Hz, 2H), 3.83 (s, 6H), 2.54 (s, 6H) ppm. Spectroscopic data matched those previously reported in the literature.  $^6$ 

**4,4'-Dimethoxy-6,6'-dimethyl-2,2'-bipyridine** (**L1**): Following literature procedure<sup>9</sup>, to 4,4'-dimethoxy-6,6'-dimethyl-[2,2'-bipyridine] 1,1'-dioxide (4.1 g, 15 mmol) dissolved in dry CHCl<sub>3</sub> was added PCl<sub>3</sub> (26.0 ml, 20.0 equiv.) drop-wise before being heated to reflux for 3 h. After allowing to cool to room temperature, the reaction mixture was poured onto ice ( $\sim$ 500 g) and the chloroform was removed *in vacuo*. The resultant aqueous solution was basified with solid NaOH until pH $\sim$ 10 and then extracted with CHCl<sub>3</sub> (4 × 200 ml). The collected organic layers were dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), filtered and evaporated. The resultant pale brown solid was carefully washed with cold EtOH to give 4,4'-dimethoxy-6,6'-dimethyl-2,2'-bipyridine (3.4 g, 92%) as a white powder. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.79 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 2H), 6.69 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 2H), 3.93 (s, 6H), 2.58 (s, 6H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  167.1, 159.3, 157.5, 109.9, 104.3, 55.4, 24.7 ppm. Spectroscopic data matched those previously reported in the literature. <sup>6</sup>

(4,4'-MeO-6,6'-Me-bpy)NiCl<sub>2</sub> (Ni-1): L1 (0.30 g, 1.2 mmol) and NiCl<sub>2</sub> (0.15 g, 1.2 mmol) were dissolved in THF (0.10 M, 12 ml) and refluxed for 24 h. After this time, the reaction mixture was cooled to RT and filtered. The collected solid was then dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, precipitated with hexane, filtered again and dried *in vacuo* to give Ni-1 (0.44 g, 98%) as a purple solid. Note: This complex is highly hygroscopic and should be stored under inert atmosphere. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, paramagnetic) δ 79.2 (s, 2H), 59.9 (s, 2H), 47.8 (s, br, 6H), 12.6 (s, 6H) ppm.

(4,4'-tBu-6,6'-Me-bpy)NiCl<sub>2</sub> (Ni-2): L2 (0.15 g, 0.52 mmol) and NiCl<sub>2</sub> (64 mg, 0.50 mmol) were dissolved in THF (0.10 M, 5.0 ml) and refluxed for 24 h. After this time, the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and filtered. The collected solid was then dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, precipitated with hexane, filtered again and dried *in vacuo* to give Ni-2 (0.20 g, 94%) as a purple solid. Note: This complex is highly hygroscopic and should be stored under inert atmosphere. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, paramagnetic) δ 76.9 (s, 2H), 60.6 (s, 2H), 31.1 (s, br, 6H), 1.9 (s, 18H) ppm.

### 1.3 Synthesis of Aziridines

#### General procedure 1 (GP1): Synthesis of (enantiopure) aziridines from amino alcohols.

Following a literature procedure,<sup>10</sup> tosyl chloride (2.2 equiv.) was added portion wise at RT to a stirred mixture of the amino alcohol (1.0 equiv.) and K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (4.0 equiv.) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN (0.50 M). After 6 h, the solid was filtered off and washed with EtOAc. The filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo* and purified by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane: EtOAc) to afford the pure *N*-tosyl aziridines.

### General procedure 2 (GP2): Alternative synthesis of aziridines from amino alcohols.

Following a literature procedure, <sup>10</sup> tosyl chloride (2.5 equiv.) was added portion wise at RT under vigorous stirring to a mixture of KOH (35 equiv.), the amino alcohol (1.0 equiv.), water (0.50 M) and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (0.50 M). After 30 min, ice and water were added and diluted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The organic layer was separated and washed with water, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), filtered and concentrated *in vacuo*. Flash column chromatography on silica gel (hexane: EtOAc) afforded the pure *N*-tosyl aziridines.

## General procedure 3 (GP3): Synthesis of racemic aziridines from alkenes.

Following a literature procedure, <sup>11,12</sup> to a mixture of Chloramine-T trihydrate (1.1 equiv.) and alkene (1.0 equiv.) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN (25 mL) at ambient temperature was added PhNMe<sub>3</sub>Br<sub>3</sub> (0.10 equiv.). The reaction was stirred vigorously for 16 h, the solid was filtered off and the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo*. Flash column chromatography (hexane: EtOAc) afforded the pure *N*-tosyl aziridines.

# General procedure 4 (GP4): Base cyclisation of aziridines containing uncyclized reaction intermediates.

Note: In certain cases, cyclization to the aziridine was less favourable and trace uncyclized intermediates often co-eluted with the aziridine. A subsequent base cyclisation was performed to obtain high purity aziridine in these cases. The resulting material isolated from **GP1-3** was dissolved in CH<sub>3</sub>CN (5-10 ml),  $K_2CO_3$  (1.0 equiv.) was added and the mixture was stirred vigorously at 45 °C for 3 h. The mixture was cooled to RT, filtered and concentrated *in vacuo*. The material was then dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (~1 mL) and filtered through a short plug of silica gel (3 × 4 cm) eluting with hexane: EtOAc (1:1).

**2-Hexyl-1-tosylaziridine** (**1a**): Following **GP3** with 1-octene (15 mL, 100 mmol), purification by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane: EtOAc 95:5) afforded **1a** as a colorless oil (19 g, 68%).  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.82 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 2.71 (tt, J = 7.3, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 2.63 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 2.05 (d, J = 4.6 Hz, 1H), 1.57 – 1.47 (m, 1H), 1.39 – 1.10 (m, 9H), 0.85 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H) ppm.  $^{13}$ C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  144.5, 135.4, 129.7, 128.1, 40.6, 33.9, 31.7, 31.4, 28.8, 26.8, 22.6, 21.7, 14.2 ppm. Spectroscopic data for **1a** match those previously reported in the literature.  $^{13}$ 

$$\mathsf{Me} \underbrace{\hspace{1cm} \mathsf{H}_{\mathsf{I}_{\mathsf{I}_{\mathsf{I}}}} \mathsf{NTs}}_{\mathsf{H}_{\mathsf{I}_{\mathsf{I}}} \mathsf{D}}$$

trans-2-Hexyl-1-tosylaziridine-3-d (1a-d<sub>I</sub>): Following GP3 with (*E*)-oct-1-ene-1-d (0.56 g, 5.0 mmol), which was synthesized using a literature procedure<sup>14</sup>, purification by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane: EtOAc 95:5) afforded 1a-d<sub>I</sub> as a colorless oil (0.30 g, 21%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.87 – 7.79 (m, 2H), 7.37 – 7.30 (m, 2H), 2.71 (dt, J = 7.6, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 2.05 (d, J = 4.7 Hz, 1H), 1.55 – 1.49 (m, 1H), 1.39 – 1.09 (m, 9H), 0.85 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 144.5, 135.4, 129.8, 128.2, 40.6, 33.68 (t, J = 25.5 Hz), 31.8, 31.4, 28.8, 26.9, 22.6, 21.8, 14.2 ppm. Spectroscopic data for 1a-d<sub>I</sub> match with the non-deuterated analogue 1a.

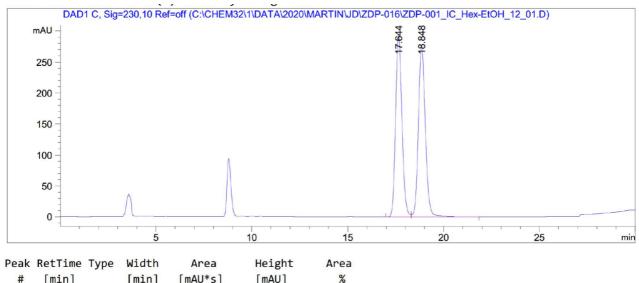
**2-Methyl-1-tosylaziridine** (**1b**): Following **GP1** with (±)-2-amino-1-propanol (1.5 g, 20 mmol), purification by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane: EtOAc 8:2) afforded **1b** as a white solid (0.93 g, 22%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.82 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 2.90 – 2.76 (m, 1H), 2.61 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 2.02 (d, J = 4.6 Hz, 1H), 1.25 (d, J = 5.6 Hz, 3H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  144.5, 135.6, 129.8, 128.0, 36.0, 34.9, 21.8, 16.9 ppm. LRMS (ESI): 234 (M+Na)<sup>+</sup>, 212 (M+H)<sup>+</sup>. Spectroscopic data for **1b** match those previously reported in the literature. <sup>15</sup>

**2-Isobutyl-1-tosylaziridine** (**1d**): Following **GP1** with ( $\pm$ )-leucinol (1.2 g, 10 mmol), purification by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane: EtOAc 9:1) afforded **1d** as a white solid (1.2 g, 48%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.82 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 2.78 (tdd, J = 7.0, 5.9, 4.6 Hz, 1H), 2.62 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 2.02 (d, J = 4.6 Hz, 1H), 1.67 – 1.55 (m, 1H), 1.40 – 1.26 (m, 2H), 0.88 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 3H), 0.87 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 3H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  144.5, 135.4, 129.8, 128.1, 40.6, 39.2, 34.2, 26.9, 22.9, 22.06, 21.8 ppm. LRMS (ESI): 253, 238, 224, 212, 155, 139, 98, 91. Spectroscopic data for **1d** match those previously reported in the literature. <sup>16</sup>

**2-Isopropyl-1-tosylaziridine** (**1e**): Following **GP1** with (±)-valinol (1.0 g, 10 mmol), purification by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane: EtOAc 9:1) afforded **1e** as a white solid (1.6 g, 56%).  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.83 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 2.61 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 2.51 (ddd, J = 7.7, 7.0, 4.6 Hz, 1H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 2.10 (d, J = 4.6 Hz, 1H), 1.42 (dp, J = 7.5, 6.7 Hz, 1H), 0.90 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 3H), 0.80 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 3H).  $^{13}$ C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  144.6, 135.3, 129.7, 128.2, 46.4, 32.9, 30.3, 21.8, 19.7, 19.2. LRMS (ESI): 239, 224, 155, 146, 139, 91, 84. Spectroscopic data for **1e** match those previously reported in the literature.  $^{17}$ 

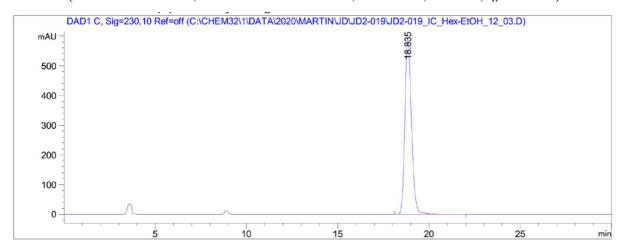
(±)-2-Benzyl-1-tosylaziridine (1f): Following GP3 with allylbenzene (0.59 g, 5.0 mmol), purification by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane: EtOAc 9:1  $\rightarrow$ 5:1) afforded 1f as a white solid (0.67 g, 47%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.71 – 7.67 (m, 2H), 7.24 – 7.20 (m, 2H), 7.18 – 7.13 (m, 3H), 7.07 – 7.02 (m, 2H), 2.95 (tdd, J = 7.0, 5.2, 4.5 Hz, 1H), 2.81 (dd, J = 14.5, 5.2 Hz, 1H), 2.73 – 2.66 (m, 2H), 2.42 (s, 3H), 2.16 (d, J = 4.5 Hz, 1H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  144.4, 137.1, 135.0, 129.7, 128.9, 128.6, 128.0, 126.6, 41.3, 37.6, 33.0, 21.7 ppm. LRMS (ESI): 287, 172, 155, 132, 117, 105, 91, 77. Spectroscopic data for 1f match those previously reported in the literature. <sup>18</sup>

HPLC: rac (CHIRALPAK<sup>®</sup> IC, hexane/ EtOH = 88:12, 1 mL/min, 220 nm,  $t_R$ = 17.644; 18.848).



Totals: 1.38108e4 571.37994

(*S*)-2-benzyl-1-tosylaziridine ((*S*)-1*f*): Following GP1 with (-)-2-amino-3-phenyl-1-propanol (0.60 g, 4.0 mmol), purification by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane: EtOAc 9:1 $\rightarrow$ 5:1) afforded (*S*)-1*f* as a white solid (0.72 g, 63%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.69 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.21 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.20 - 7.10 (m, 3H), 7.09 - 7.00 (m, 2H), 2.95 (tt, J = 7.0, 5.0 Hz, 1H), 2.81 (dd, J = 14.5, 5.2 Hz, 1H), 2.74 - 2.64 (m, 2H), 2.42 (s, 3H), 2.16 (d, J = 4.5 Hz, 1H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  144.4, 137.1, 135.0, 129.7, 128.9, 128.6, 128.0, 126.6, 41.3, 37.6, 33.0, 21.7 ppm. Spectroscopic data for (*S*)-1*f* match those previously reported in the literature. <sup>18</sup> HPLC: >99% ee (CHIRALPAK® IC, hexane/*i*-PrOH = 85/15, 1 mL/min, 220 nm,  $t_R$ = 18.835).



Totals: 1.47844e4 585.94495

**3-((1-Tosylaziridin-2-yl)methyl)-1H-indole** (**1g**): Following literature procedure<sup>19</sup> with tryptophanol (0.48 g, 2.5 mmol), purification by column chromatography (hexane: EtOAc 8:2→6:4) afforded **1g** as a pale yellow solid (0.17 g, 20%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.95 (s, br, 1H), 7.69 − 7.62 (m, 2H), 7.46 (dq, J = 7.9, 0.9 Hz, 2H), 7.31 (dt, J = 8.2, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (ddd, J = 8.2, 7.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.17 − 7.09 (m, 1H), 7.07 (ddd, J = 8.0, 7.0, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 6.99 (d, J = 2.3 Hz, 1H), 3.11 − 3.05 (m, 1H), 3.01 (ddd, J = 15.1, 5.1, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 2.85 (ddd, J = 15.0, 6.8, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 2.71 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 1H), 2.39 (s, 3H), 2.20 (d, J = 4.5 Hz, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  144.3, 136.2, 134.9, 129.5, 127.9, 127.3, 122.4, 122.2, 119.6, 118.7, 111.4, 111.2, 40.8, 33.5, 27.3, 21.8. LRMS: 349 (M+Na)<sup>+</sup>, 327 (M+H)<sup>+</sup>. Spectroscopic data for **1g** match those previously reported in the literature. <sup>19</sup>

**4-**((**1-Tosylaziridin-2-yl)methyl)phenyl 4-methylbenzenesulfonate** (**1h**): Following **GP1** using L-tyrosinol hydrochloride (0.20 g, 1.0 mmol), purification by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane: EtOAc 9:1 →6:4) afforded **1h** as a colorless oil (0.15 g, 32%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.72 − 7.61 (m, 4H), 7.31 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.23 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 6.99 − 6.91 (m, 2H), 6.80 − 6.71 (m, 2H), 2.93 − 2.78 (m, 2H), 2.70 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 1H), 2.56 (dd, J = 14.3, 7.4 Hz, 1H), 2.45 (d, J = 3.1 Hz, 6H), 2.12 (d, J = 4.3 Hz, 1H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  148.5, 145.5, 144.9, 136.3, 134.9, 132.6, 130.0, 129.9, 129.8, 128.6, 128.0, 122.4, 41.0, 37.0, 32.9, 21.9, 21.8 ppm. HRMS calcd. for (C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NNaO<sub>5</sub>S<sub>2</sub>) [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 480.0910 found 480.0909. This compound is reported in literature, but no spectroscopic data is provided. <sup>10, 20</sup>

Methyl 3-(1-tosylaziridin-2-yl) propanoate (1i): Following GP3 with methyl-4-pentanoate (0.23 g, 2.0 mmol), purification by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane: EtOAc 9:1  $\rightarrow$ 7:3) afforded

**1i** along with uncyclized intermediate **1i**'<sup>i</sup>. This mixture was submitted to a base cyclisation step (**GP4**) to afforded **1i** (0.15 g, 22%) as a colorless oil.  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.83 – 7.78 (m, 2H), 7.38 – 7.30 (m, 2H), 3.65 (s, 3H), 2.82 (ddt, J = 7.9, 6.9, 4.6 Hz, 1H), 2.65 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 2.45 (s, 3H), 2.36 – 2.19 (m, 2H), 2.11 (d, J = 4.5 Hz, 1H), 1.99 (dtd, J = 14.3, 7.7, 4.6 Hz, 1H), 1.55 (dtd, J = 14.0, 7.7, 6.1 Hz, 1H) ppm.  $^{13}$ C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 172.8, 144.6, 134.8, 129.7, 128.0, 51.6, 39.1, 33.9, 30.8, 26.4, 21.6 ppm. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2999, 2953, 1732, 1597, 1494, 1438, 1365, 1320, 1206, 1156, 1091. HRMS calcd. for ( $C_{13}H_{17}NNaO_4S$ ) [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 306.0770 found 306.0770.

**5-Chloropent-1-ene** (**S1**): Following literature procedure<sup>21</sup>, pent-4-en-1-ol (10 g, 0.12 mol) was dissolved in the mixture of CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (30 ml) and pyridine (1.0 ml). The mixture was cooled to 10 °C, and SOCl<sub>2</sub> (15 g, 0.13 mol) was added drop wise with stirring. Vigorous gas evolution occurred. The reaction was stirred overnight at RT and poured over ice. The organic phase was separated and washed additionally with NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (sat.) and brine, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>) and distilled under atmospheric pressure. The target product **S1** (B.P. = 104 - 105 °C) was obtained as a colorless liquid (1.5 g, 12%) and used in the next synthetic step without any further purification. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  5.78 (ddt, J = 16.9, 10.2, 6.7 Hz, 1H), 5.11 – 4.99 (m, 2H), 3.55 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 2.26 – 2.17 (m, 2H), 1.92 – 1.82 (m, 2H). Spectroscopic data for **S1** match those previously reported in the literature.<sup>22</sup>

**2-(3-Chloropropyl)-1-tosylaziridine** (**1j**): Following **GP3** with **S1** (0.28 g, 2.7 mmol), purification by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane: EtOAc 9:1  $\rightarrow$ 5:1) afforded **1j** as a colorless oil (0.26 g, 36%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.85 – 7.80 (m, 2H), 7.37 – 7.33 (m, 2H), 3.54 – 3.45 (m, 2H), 2.79 – 2.72 (m, 1H), 2.64 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 2.45 (s, 3H), 2.09 (d, J = 4.5 Hz, 1H), 1.90 – 1.81 (m, 1H), 1.80 – 1.73 (m, 2H), 1.46 – 1.37 (m, 1H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  144.8, 135.2, 129.9, 128.1, 44.1, 39.3, 34.0, 29.9, 28.7, 21.8 ppm. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2999, 2957, 2871, 1597, 1446, 1402, 1319, 1305, 1291, 1235, 1156, 1090, 929, 875, 815, 712, 690, 659, 567, 549. HRMS calcd. for (C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>16</sub>ClNNaO<sub>2</sub>S) [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 296.0482 found 296.0479.

S12

NHTs Li': MeO<sub>2</sub>C CI

**2-(4-Chlorobutyl)-1-tosylaziridine** (**1k**): Following **GP3** with 6-chloro-1-hexene (0.66 mL, 5.0 mmol), purification by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane: EtOAc 9:1) afforded **1k** as a colorless oil (1.4 g, 91%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.82 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 3.42 (td, J = 6.6, 1.0 Hz, 2H), 2.71 (tt, J = 6.9, 4.5 Hz, 1H), 2.64 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 2.07 (d, J = 4.5 Hz, 1H), 1.84 – 1.54 (m, 3H), 1.48 – 1.22 (m, 3H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  144.7, 135.2, 129.8, 128.1, 44.7, 40.1, 33.8, 31.9, 30.7, 24.3, 21.8 ppm. LRMS: 287 (M+), 252, 238, 210, 184, 172, 155, 132, 91. Spectroscopic data for **1k** match those previously reported in the literature. <sup>11</sup>

**2-Phenethyl-1-tosylaziridine** (**1l**): Following **GP3** with 4-phenyl-1-butene (4.5 mL, 30 mmol), purification by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane: EtOAc 9:1) afforded **1l** as a colorless solid (5.7 g, 63%).  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.84 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.37 – 7.32 (m, 2H), 7.30 – 7.24 (m, 2H), 7.21 – 7.16 (m, 1H), 7.14 – 7.10 (m, 2H), 2.78 (tt, J = 7.7, 4.7 Hz, 1H), 2.67 – 2.54 (m, 3H), 2.45 (s, 3H), 2.06 (d, J = 4.6 Hz, 1H), 1.93 – 1.83 (m, 1H), 1.73 – 1.62 (m, 1H) ppm.  $^{13}$ C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  144.6, 140.8, 135.2, 129.8, 128.6, 128.4, 128.1, 126.2, 39.9, 34.0, 33.3, 33.1, 21.8 ppm. LRMS (ESI): 301 (M+), 260, 184, 155, 117, 91, 77. Spectroscopic data for **1l** match those previously reported in the literature.  $^{13}$ 

#### General procedure 5 (GP5): Synthesis of propenylated and butenylated arenes (S2-4).

To a flame-dried 250 mL round-bottom flask was added aryl or benzyl bromide (1.0 equiv.) and anhydrous THF (0.50 M). The reaction flask was cooled to 0 °C while under an atmosphere of nitrogen and allylmagnesium bromide was added drop wise (1.0 M in Et<sub>2</sub>O, 1.1 equiv.). The reaction was stirred for 2 h at 0 °C and then allowed to warm to RT before being quenched with H<sub>2</sub>O. The layers were separated and the aqueous layer was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (3 times). The combined organic fractions were washed with Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> (sat.), brine and dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>). Purification of the crude reaction mixture by column chromatography was carried out when necessary.

**1-(But-3-en-1-yl)-4-chlorobenzene** (**S2**): Following **GP5** with 4-chlorobenzyl bromide (3.1 g, 15 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), purification by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane: EtOAc 95:5) afforded **S2** (1.9 g, 76%) as a colorless oil.  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.26 – 7.22 (m, 2H), 7.13 – 7.09 (m, 2H), 5.82 (ddt, J = 16.9, 10.2, 6.6 Hz, 1H), 5.08 – 4.94 (m, 2H), 2.68 (dd, J = 8.8, 6.7 Hz, 2H), 2.35 (qq, J = 7.8, 6.5, 1.4, 0.6 Hz, 2H) ppm.  $^{13}$ C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  140.4, 137.8, 131.7, 129.9, 128.5, 115.4, 35.5, 34.8 ppm. Spectroscopic data for **S2** match those previously reported in the literature.  $^{23}$ 

**2-(4-Chlorophenethyl)-1-tosylaziridine** (**1m**): Following **GP3** with **S2** (2.0 g, 12 mmol) purification by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane: EtOAc 9:1) afforded **1m** as a white solid (1.05 g, 26%). M.P: 46 - 48 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.92 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.44 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.15 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 2.86 (ddt, J = 7.8, 7.0, 4.6 Hz, 1H), 2.77 - 2.61 (m, 3H), 2.55 (s, 3H), 2.15 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 1.97 (dddd, J = 13.6, 8.7, 7.5, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 1.73 (dtd, J = 14.2, 8.1, 6.3 Hz, 1H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  144.7, 139.2, 135.1, 132.0, 129.8, 129,8 128.6, 128.1, 39.5, 34.1, 33.1, 32.4, 21.7 ppm. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2926, 2862, 1597, 1492, 1452, 1405, 1320, 1305, 1231, 1157, 1090, 1015. HRMS calcd. for (C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>18</sub>ClNNaO<sub>2</sub>S) [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 358.0639 found 358.0633.

**1-(But-3-en-1-yl)-4-trifluoromethylbenzene** (**S3**): Following **GP5**, 4-trifluoromethylbenzyl bromide (1.5 ml, 10 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) afforded **S3** (1.4 g, 68%) as a colourless oil. In this case, no purification was carried out.  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.53 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 5.83 (ddt, J = 16.9, 10.2, 6.6 Hz, 1H), 5.10 – 4.97 (m, 2H), 2.77 (dd, J = 8.7, 6.8 Hz, 2H), 2.39 (tdt, J = 7.8, 6.6, 1.4 Hz, 2H) ppm.  $^{13}$ C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 146.1, 137.5, 128.9, 128.4 (q, J = 32.0 Hz), 125.9, 124.5 (q, J = 271.0 Hz), 125.4 (q, J = 3.8 Hz), 115.6, 35.3, 35.2 ppm.  $^{19}$ F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -62.02. Spectroscopic data for **S3** match those previously reported in the literature.  $^{24}$ 

$$F_3C$$

**1-Tosyl-2-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenethyl) aziridine** (**1n**): Following **GP3** with **S3** (1.4 g, 7.0 mmol), purification by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane: EtOAc 9:1) afforded **1n** as a white solid (0.95 g, 37%). M.P: 80 - 83 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.88 – 7.76 (m, 2H), 7.52 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.38 – 7.31 (m, 2H), 7.24 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 2.77 (ddt, J = 8.0, 6.9, 4.6 Hz, 1H), 2.72 – 2.66 (m, 2H), 2.61 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 2.45 (s, 3H), 2.06 (d, J = 4.5 Hz, 1H), 1.94 (dddd, J = 13.2, 8.7, 7.6, 4.6 Hz, 1H), 1.65 (dtd, J = 14.4, 8.1, 6.6 Hz, 1H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  144.9 (q, J = 1.1 Hz), 144.8, 134.9, 129.8, 128.8, 128.5 (q, J = 32.3 Hz), 128.1,  $\delta$  125.4 (q, J = 3.9 Hz), 124.3 (d, J = 269.4 Hz), 39.3, 34.1, 32.9, 32.8, 21.7 ppm. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -62.45. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3067, 2936, 1615, 1456, 1415, 1317, 1234, 1154, 1115, 1093, 1063, 1017. HRMS calcd. for (C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>18</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NNaO<sub>2</sub>S) [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 392.0903 found 392.0892.

**1-(But-3-en-1-yl)-4-chlorobenzene** (**S4**): Following **GP5**, 4-bromobenzyl bromide (6.8 g, 27 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) gave **S4** (5.4 g, 89%) as a colourless oil. In this case, no purification was carried out.  $^{1}$ H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.45 – 7.32 (m, 2H), 7.11 – 6.95 (m, 2H), 5.82 (ddt, J = 16.9, 10.2, 6.6 Hz, 1H), 5.10 – 4.93 (m, 2H), 2.66 (dd, J = 8.8, 6.6 Hz, 2H), 2.42 – 2.27 (m, 2H) ppm. Spectroscopic data for **S4** match those previously reported in the literature.  $^{24}$ 

**2-(4-Bromophenethyl)-1-tosylaziridine (S5)**: Following **GP3** with **S4** (3.2 g, 15 mmol, 1.0 equiv.), purification by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane: EtOAc 9:1) afforded **S5** (2.5 g, 44%) as a white solid. M.P. = 46 - 49 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.86 – 7.78 (m, 2H), 7.40 – 7.36 (m, 2H), 7.38 – 7.31 (m, 2H), 7.04 – 6.96 (m, 2H), 2.75 (ddt, J = 7.9, 7.0, 4.7 Hz, 1H), 2.62 – 2.54 (m, 3H), 2.45 (s, 3H), 2.04 (d, J = 4.6 Hz, 1H), 1.87 (dddd, J = 13.6, 8.7, 7.5, 4.7 Hz, 1H), 1.62 (dtd, J = 14.3, 8.1, 6.4 Hz, 1H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  144.7, 139.8, 135.1, 131.7, 130.3, 129.8, 128.2, 120.1, 39.5, 34.1, 33.1, 32.6, 21.8 ppm. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3274, 3055, 2956, 2931, 2892, 1596, 1488, 1450, 1399, 1317, 1291, 1223, 1151, 1112, 1088, 1007. HRMS calcd. for (C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>18</sub>BrNNaO<sub>2</sub>S) [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 402.0134 found 402.0122.

#### General procedure 6 (GP6): Cross-coupling of S5 with aryl-boronic acids

A flame dried Schlenk flask was charged with **S5**, boronic acid (1.3 equiv.),  $PdCl_2(dppf)$  (2.0 mol%) and  $Na_2CO_3$  (aq. 1.0 M) under a flow of argon. Then a mixture of PhMe:EtOH: $H_2O$  (3:2:1, 0.08 M), degassed in advance, was added into the flask. The resulting reaction was heated to 80 °C and stirred at this temperature overnight (the reaction progress can be monitored by TLC). Upon completion, the reaction was cooled to RT and diluted with  $H_2O$ . The organic phase was separated and the aqueous phase was extracted with EtOAc. The combined organic fractions were dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane: EtOAc 2:1  $\rightarrow$ 1:1) to afford the product. If necessary, the product can be washed with Et<sub>2</sub>O for additional purification.

**1-(4'-(2-(1-Tosylaziridin-2-yl)ethyl)-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl) ethan-1-one** (**1o**): Following **GP6** with (4-acetylphenyl)boronic acid (0.49 g, 1.5 equiv.), **S5** (0.76 g, 2.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) afforded **1o** as a white solid (0.72 g, 86%) after purification by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane: EtOAc 9:1). M.P. = 126 - 127 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.02 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.85 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.66 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.54 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.35 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.24 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 2.87 – 2.76 (m, 1H), 2.68 (m, 2H), 2.67 – 2.64 (m, 4H), 2.45 (s, 3H), 2.08 (d, J = 4.6 Hz, 1H), 1.94 (dddd, J = 13.6, 8.7, 7.5, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 1.70 (dtd, J = 14.2, 8.1, 6.4 Hz, 1H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 197.9, 145.6, 144.7, 141.1, 137.9, 135.9, 135.2, 129.8, 129.2, 129.1, 128.2, 127.5, 127.2, 39.7, 34.2, 33.2, 32.8, 26.8, 21.8 ppm. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3004, 2925, 1672, 1601, 1527, 1493, 1446, 1421, 1398, 1360, 1336, 1308, 1264, 1234, 1160, 1088. HRMS calcd. for (C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>25</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>S) [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 442.1447 found 442.1463.

tert-Butyl 2-(4-(2-(1-tosylaziridin-2-yl)ethyl)phenyl)-1H-pyrrole-1-carboxylate (1p): Following GP6 with *N*-Boc-2-pyrroleboronic acid (0.82 g, 1.3 equiv.), S5 (1.1 g, 2.9 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) afforded 1p as a yellow viscous oil (0.55 g, 39%) after purification by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane: EtOAc 8:2).  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.85 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.35 (d, J =

7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (dd, J = 3.3, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.25 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.09 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 6.21 (t, J = 3.3 Hz, 1H), 6.15 (dd, J = 3.3, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 2.79 (ddt, J = 7.8, 6.9, 4.7 Hz, 1H), 2.66 – 2.58 (m, 3H), 2.45 (s, 3H), 2.09 (d, J = 4.6 Hz, 1H), 1.91 (dddd, J = 13.5, 8.6, 7.5, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 1.67 (dtd, J = 14.5, 8.0, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 1.36 (s, 9H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  149.5, 144.7, 139.8, 135.2, 135.0, 132.4, 129.8, 129.4, 128.2, 127.7, 122.6, 114.4, 110.7, 83.6, 39.9, 34.1, 33.3, 32.9, 27.8, 21.8 ppm. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2979, 2931, 1734, 1597, 1515, 1474, 1456, 1393, 1370, 1309, 1255, 1144, 1091. HRMS calcd. for (C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>30</sub>N<sub>2</sub>NaO<sub>4</sub>S) [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 489.1818 found 489.1822.

**Pent-4-en-1-yl benzoate** (**S6**): To a 100 mL round-bottomed flask under nitrogen, pent-4-en-1-ol (2.9 mL, 1.0 equiv., 28 mmol) and Et<sub>3</sub>N (7.8 mL, 2.0 equiv., 56 mmol) were dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (20 mL),. To this solution cooled to 0 °C, benzoyl chloride (3.9 g, 3.3 mL, 28 mmol) was added drop wise over 10 min. The reaction mixture was stirred for an additional 50 min at 0 °C and at room temperature for 3 h. The reaction mixture was quenched with HCl (1.0 M, 50 mL), the layers were separated and the aqueous layer was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (30 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (50 mL), dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>) and filtered. After evaporation of the solvent under reduced pressure, purification by column chromatography on silica gel, eluting with hexane: Et<sub>2</sub>O (98:2) gave **S6** (4.6 g, 87 %). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.09 – 7.99 (m, 2H), 7.62 – 7.49 (m, 1H), 7.48 – 7.38 (m, 2H), 5.85 (ddt, J = 16.9, 10.2, 6.6 Hz, 1H), 5.07 (dq, J = 17.1, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 5.04 – 4.99 (m, 1H), 4.34 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 2.27 – 2.17 (m, 2H), 1.93 – 1.80 (m, 2H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 166.7, 137.6, 132.9, 130.5, 130.3, 129.6, 128.4, 115.5, 64.4, 30.3, 28.0 ppm. Spectroscopic data for **S6** match those previously reported in the literature.<sup>25</sup>

**3-(1-Tosylaziridin-2-yl) propyl benzoate** (**1q**): Following **GP3** with **S6** (0.57 g, 3.0 mmol), purification by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane: EtOAc 9:1) afforded **1q** as a white solid (0.44 g, 41%).  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.04 – 7.97 (m, 2H), 7.87 – 7.73 (m, 2H), 7.61 – 7.52 (m, 1H), 7.49 – 7.39 (m, 2H), 7.33 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 4.26 (td, J = 6.3, 2.2 Hz, 2H), 2.86 – 2.76 (m, 1H), 2.67 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 2.42 (s, 3H), 2.11 (d, J = 4.5 Hz, 1H), 1.86 – 1.68 (m, 3H), 1.53 – 1.40 (m, 1H).  $^{13}$ C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  166.6, 144.7, 135.2, 133.1, 130.3, 129.8, 129.7,

128.5, 128.2, 64.1, 39.7, 34.0, 28.1, 26.3, 21.7. LRMS (ESI): 359, 254, 237, 204, 155, 105, 91. Spectroscopic data for **1q** match those previously reported in the literature.<sup>11</sup>

**Pent-4-en-1-yl furan-3-carboxylate** (S7): Following literature procedure,  $^{26}$  a round-bottom flask was flame dried and charged with furan-3-carboxylic acid (0.56 g, 5.0 mmol), CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (25 ml), DMAP (61 mg, 0.50 mmol) and pent-4-en-1-ol (0.43 g, 5.0 mmol). A solution of DCC (1.0 g, 5.0 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (1.0 M, 5.0 ml) was then added and reaction was stirred at RT overnight. The resulting mixture was filtered through a pad of silica gel eluted with hexane: EtOAc (95:5) and the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo* to afford S7 as a colorless liquid (0.79 g, 88%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.01 (dd, J = 1.6, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.42 (t, J = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 6.74 (dd, J = 1.9, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 5.83 (ddt, J = 16.9, 10.2, 6.6 Hz, 1H), 5.09 – 4.98 (m, 2H), 4.26 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 2.22 – 2.14 (m, 2H), 1.87 – 1.78 (m, 2H) ppm. Spectroscopic data for S7 match those previously reported in the literature. <sup>26</sup>

**3-(1-Tosylaziridin-2-yl) propyl furan-3-carboxylate (1r)**: Following **GP3** with **S7** (0.80 g, 4.4 mmol), purification by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane: EtOAc 9:1 →8:2) afforded **1r** as a colorless oil (0.53 g, 34%).  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.98 (dd, J = 1.6, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.85 − 7.80 (m, 2H), 7.42 (t, J = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.36 − 7.31 (m, 2H), 6.72 (dd, J = 1.9, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 4.24 − 4.14 (m, 2H), 2.83 − 2.77 (m, 1H), 2.65 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 2.09 (d, J = 4.6 Hz, 1H), 1.79 − 1.66 (m, 3H), 1.47 − 1.39 (m, 1H) ppm.  $^{13}$ C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  163.1, 147.8, 144.8, 143.9, 135.1, 129.8, 128.1, 119.4, 109.9, 63.7, 39.7, 34.0, 28.2, 26.2, 21.8 ppm. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3149, 2957, 1718, 1597, 1578, 1507, 1452, 1404, 1304, 1234, 1155, 1076, 1007, 970, 942, 898, 873, 815, 762, 712, 691, 660, 603, 568, 550. HRMS calcd. for (C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>19</sub>NNaO<sub>5</sub>S) [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 372.0876 found 372.0871.

#### General procedure 7 (GP7): Synthesis of pentenylated phenols (S8-11).

To the phenol (1.1 equiv.) and  $K_2CO_3$  (2.0 equiv.) in  $CH_3CN$  (1.0 M) was added 5-bromopent-1-ene (1.0 equiv.). The reaction mixture was heated to 80 °C for 16 h and then allowed to cool to RT. The mixture was diluted with  $Et_2O$  (25 ml) and filtered, washing with  $Et_2O$  until all product had eluted. Purification was carried out by column chromatography (hexane: EtOAc 95:5).

**Methyl 4-(pent-4-en-1-yloxy) benzoate** (**S8**): Following **GP7**, methyl 4-hydroxybenzoate (2.43 g, 1.1 equiv.) afforded **S8** (2.9 g, 87%) as an oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.02 – 7.94 (m, 2H), 6.94 – 6.86 (m, 2H), 5.85 (ddt, J = 16.9, 10.2, 6.7 Hz, 1H), 5.07 (dq, J = 17.1, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 5.01 (ddt, J = 10.2, 2.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 4.02 (t, J = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 2.30 – 2.19 (m, 2H), 1.96 – 1.85 (m, 2H) ppm. Spectroscopic data for **S8** match those previously reported in the literature.<sup>27</sup>

**Methyl 4-(3-(1-tosylaziridin-2-yl)propoxy) benzoate** (**1s**): Following **GP3** with **S8** (0.44 g, 2.0 mmol), purification by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane: EtOAc 9:1 →8:2) afforded **1s** as a white solid (0.21 g, 27%). M.P: 67 - 69 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.99 – 7.95 (m, 2H), 7.83 – 7.78 (m, 2H), 7.33 – 7.29 (m, 2H), 6.87 – 6.83 (m, 2H), 3.97 (td, J = 6.2, 2.3 Hz, 2H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 2.83 (ddt, J = 8.1, 6.9, 4.5 Hz, 1H), 2.65 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 2.42 (s, 3H), 2.09 (d, J = 4.6 Hz, 1H), 1.88 (dddd, J = 13.3, 8.9, 6.3, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 1.85 – 1.76 (m, 2H), 1.53 – 1.42 (m, 1H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 167.0, 162.7, 144.7, 135.2, 131.7, 129.8, 128.1, 122.7, 114.2, 67.1, 52.0, 39.8, 34.0, 28.0, 26.6, 21.8 ppm. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2953, 2923, 2880, 1700, 1611, 1513, 1442, 1397, 1318, 1292, 1269, 1218, 1193, 1173, 1154, 1118, 1098, 1029, 1005. HRMS calcd. for (C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NNaO<sub>5</sub>S) [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 412.1189 found 412.1180.

**1-Fluoro-4-(pent-4-en-1-yloxy) benzene (S9)**: Following **GP7**, 4-fluorophenol (1.8 g, 1.1 equiv.) gave **S9** (2.0 g, 74%) as a colorless oil.  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.01 - 6.91 (m, 2H), 6.87 - 6.78 (m, 2H), 5.85 (ddtd, J = 16.9, 10.1, 6.7, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 5.06 (dp, J = 17.2, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 5.00 (ddt,

J = 10.2, 2.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 3.93 (t, J = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 2.29 - 2.19 (m, 2H), 1.93 - 1.81 (m, 2H) ppm.<sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -124.10 ppm. Spectroscopic data for **S9** match those previously reported in the literature.<sup>28</sup>

**2-(3-(4-Fluorophenoxy)propyl)-1-tosylaziridine** (**1t**): Following **GP3** with **S9** (0.90 g, 5.0 mmol), purification by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane: EtOAc 9:1  $\rightarrow$  8:2) afforded **1t** as a colorless oil (0.37 g. 41%). M.P: 55 – 57 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.84 – 7.77 (m, 2H), 7.34 – 7.30 (m, 2H), 7.01 – 6.90 (m, 2H), 6.85 – 6.73 (m, 2H), 3.94 – 3.79 (m, 2H), 2.82 (ddt, J = 8.1, 7.0, 4.5 Hz, 1H), 2.64 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 2.09 (d, J = 4.6 Hz, 1H), 1.91 – 1.80 (m, 1H), 1.82 – 1.71 (m, 2H), 1.54 – 1.41 (m, 1H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  158.5, 156.1, 155.1 (d, J = 2.2 Hz), 144.7, 135.2, 128.9 (d, J = 172.8 Hz), 115.9 (d, J = 23.0 Hz), 115.5 (d, J = 8.0 Hz).67.5, 39.9, 34.0, 28.1, 26.7, 21.7. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -124.19 (tt, J = 8.3, 4.3 Hz) ppm. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3071, 3055, 2953, 2932, 2879, 1595, 1504, 1474, 1392, 1318, 1293, 1245, 1200, 1154, 1095, 1028. HRMS calcd. for (C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>21</sub>FNO<sub>3</sub>S) [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 350.1221 found 350.1225.

**4-(Pent-4-en-1-yloxy) benzonitrile (S10)**: Following **GP7**, 4-hydroxybenzonitrile (1.2 g, 10 mmol), gave **S10** as a colorless oil (1.9 g, 99%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.61 – 7.53 (m, 2H), 6.97 – 6.89 (m, 2H), 5.84 (ddt, J = 16.9, 10.2, 6.7 Hz, 1H), 5.06 (dq, J = 17.0, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 5.02 (ddt, J = 10.2, 1.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 4.01 (t, J = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 2.29 – 2.19 (m, 2H), 1.91 (tt, J = 7.0, 6.4 Hz, 2H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  162.5, 137.5, 134.1, 119.4, 115.7, 115.3, 103.9, 67.7, 30.1, 28.2 ppm. Spectroscopic data for **S10** match those previously reported in the literature.<sup>29</sup>

**4-(3-(1-Tosylaziridin-2-yl)propoxy)** benzonitrile (**1u**): Following **GP3** with **S10** (0.94 g, 5.0 mmol), purification by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane: EtOAc 9:1  $\rightarrow$ 6:4) gave **1u** as a white solid (0.93 g, 52%). M.P: 63 – 65 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.82 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.59 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 7.32 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.93 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 4.02 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H),

2.87 (ddt, J = 8.7, 7.0, 4.3 Hz, 1H), 2.65 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 2.45 (s, 3H), 2.10 (d, J = 4.5 Hz, 1H), 1.99 – 1.79 (m, 3H), 1.55 – 1.42 (m, 1H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  162.3, 144.8, 135.1, 134.1, 129.8, 128.1, 119.4, 115.3, 104.0, 67.2, 39.6, 34.1, 28.0, 26.5, 21.8 ppm. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2915, 2223, 1604, 1573, 1506, 1476, 1403, 1304, 1259, 1157, 1087, 1019. HRMS calcd. for (C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>21</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>S) [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 357.1267 found 357.1260.

**9-(1-Tosylaziridin-2-yl) nonan-1-ol** (**1v**): Following literature procedure<sup>30</sup> with 10-undecen-1-ol (4.0 ml, 20 mmol, 2.0 equiv.), **1v** was isolated with trace uncyclized intermediate after purification by column chromatography on silica gel (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>: Et<sub>2</sub>O 2:1). This mixture was submitted to a base cyclization (**GP4**) to give **1v** in >98% purity (2.5 g, 74%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.86 – 7.79 (m, 2H), 7.37 – 7.29 (m, 2H), 3.63 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 2.72 (tt, J = 7.3, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 2.63 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 2.05 (d, J = 4.6 Hz, 1H), 1.61 – 1.47 (m, 4H), 1.41 – 1.13 (m, 12H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  144.5, 135.4, 129.8, 128.1, 63.2, 40.6, 34.0, 32.9, 31.4, 29.5, 29.5, 29.4, 29.1, 26.9, 25.8, 21.8 ppm. LRMS (ESI): 701 (2M+Na), 679 (2M+H), 362 (M+Na), 340 (M+H). Spectroscopic data for **1v** match those previously reported in the literature.<sup>30</sup>

**Hex-5-en-1-yl 4-methylbenzenesulfonate** (**S11**): A solution of hex-5-en-1-ol (3.6 ml, 30 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (60 mL) was cooled down to 0 °C. Et<sub>3</sub>N (5.0 mL, 36 mmol, 1.2 equiv) and p-toluenesulfonyl chloride (5.7 g, 30 mmol, 1.0 equiv) were added subsequently. After addition, the reaction mixture was warmed to RT and stirred for 5 h. A aqueous solution of NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (sat.) was then added and the aqueous phase was extracted with EtOAc (3 × 60 ml). The combined organic phases were washed with brine (30 ml), dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), filtered and concentrated *in vacuo*. Purification by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane: EtOAc 96:4  $\rightarrow$ 92:8) gave (6.4 g, 83%) as a colorless liquid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.81 – 7.77 (m, 2H), 7.37 – 7.31 (m, 2H), 5.72 (ddt, J = 17.0, 10.2, 6.7 Hz, 1H), 4.99 – 4.91 (m, 2H), 4.03 (t, J = 6.4 Hz, 2H), 2.45 (s, 3H), 2.00 (m, 2H), 1.65 (m, 2H), 1.46 – 1.36 (m, 2H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 144.8, 138.0, 133.4, 130.0, 128.0, 115.2, 100.1, 70.6, 33.0, 28.4, 24.7, 21.8 ppm. Spectroscopic data for **S11** match those previously reported in the literature.<sup>31</sup>

**4-(1-Tosylaziridin-2-yl) butyl 4-methylbenzenesulfonate** (**1w**): Following **GP3** with **S11** (0.64 g, 2.5 mmol), purification by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane: EtOAc 9:1 →8:2) afforded **1w** as a colorless oil (0.57 g, 55%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.84 − 7.76 (m, 2H), 7.80 − 7.73 (m, 2H), 7.38 − 7.33 (m, 2H), 7.36 − 7.30 (m, 2H), 3.91 (td, J = 6.4, 1.1 Hz, 2H), 2.67 (tt, J = 7.1, 4.5 Hz, 1H), 2.59 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 2.45 (s, 6H), 2.01 (d, J = 4.5 Hz, 1H), 1.65 − 1.51 (m, 3H), 1.37 − 1.18 (m, 3H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  144.9, 144.8, 135.1, 133.2, 130.0, 129.8, 128.1, 128.0, 70.2, 39.8, 33.8, 30.7, 28.2, 22.9, 21.8 ppm. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2927, 2867, 1597, 1495, 1455, 1354, 1320, 1232, 1174, 1157, 1094, 1019. HRMS calcd. for (C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>25</sub>NNaO<sub>5</sub>S<sub>2</sub>) [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 446.1066 found 446.1060.

**4-(1-Tosylaziridin-2-yl) butanenitrile (1x)**: Following **GP3** but keeping the reaction scale to 1.0 mmol, hex-5-enenitrile (3 × 0.12 mL, 3 × 1 mmol) afforded **1x** as a yellow oil (0.20 g, 25%) after purification of the combined reactions by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane: EtOAc 8:2  $\rightarrow$ 6:4). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.83 - 7.77 (m, 2H), 7.38 - 7.31 (m, 2H), 2.73 (ddt, J = 8.5, 7.0, 4.2 Hz, 1H), 2.61 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 2.36 (td, J = 7.1, 2.5 Hz, 2H), 2.07 (d, J = 4.5 Hz, 1H), 1.89 (dddd, J = 14.3, 8.4, 6.5, 3.9 Hz, 1H), 1.67 (dqd, J = 8.9, 7.1, 1.9 Hz, 2H), 1.42 - 1.28 (m, 1H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  145.0, 134.8, 129.9, 128.1, 119.2, 38.7, 33.8, 30.0, 23.0, 21.7, 16.5 ppm. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2941, 2246, 1597, 1455, 1404, 1319, 1291, 1233, 1157, 1091. HRMS calcd. for (C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sub>2</sub>NaO<sub>2</sub>S) [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 287.0825 found 287.0820.

**Ethyl 9-(1-tosylaziridin-2-yl) nonanoate** (**1y**): Following **GP3** with ethyl undec-10-enoate (1.2 mL, 5.0 mmol), purification by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane: EtOAc 9:1 →8:2) afforded **1y** as a colourless oil (1.2 g, 63%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.92 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.43 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 4.22 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.81 (tt, J = 7.3, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 2.73 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 2.54 (s, 3H), 2.37 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 2.15 (d, J = 4.6 Hz, 1H), 1.75 − 1.58 (m, 3H), 1.47 − 1.24 (m, 14H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 174.0, 144.5, 135.4, 129.8, 128.2, 60.3, 40.6, 34.5, 33.9, 31.4, 29.3, 29.2, 29.2, 29.1, 26.9, 25.1, 21.8, 14.4. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2928, 2855, 1731, 1597, 1457, 1373,

1323, 1305, 1232, 1184, 1158, 1090, 1033. HRMS calcd. for  $(C_{20}H_{31}NNaO_4S)$  [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 404.1866 found 404.1859.

**7-Tosyl-7-azabicyclo[4.1.0]heptane** (**1z**) Following **GP3** with cyclohexene (4.1 ml, 40 mmol), purification by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane: EtOAc 9:1) afforded **1z** as a white solid (2.5 g, 25%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.84 – 7.79 (m, 2H), 7.35 – 7.29 (m, 2H), 2.97 (p, J = 1.6 Hz, 2H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 1.83 – 1.73 (m, 4H), 1.45 – 1.33 (m, 2H), 1.27 – 1.16 (m, 2H) ppm. LRMS: 251, 223, 210, 197, 155, 96, 91. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  144.1, 136.1, 129.7, 127.8, 39.9, 22.9, 21.8, 19.6 ppm. Spectroscopic data for **1z** match those previously reported in the literature. <sup>19</sup>

**2-Ethyl-1-**((**4-methoxyphenyl**)**sulfonyl**) **aziridine** (**1aa**): Following **GP1** but with 4-methoxybenzenesulfonyl chloride (6.7 g, 2.2 equiv., 33 mmol) instead of TsCl, ( $\pm$ )-2-amino-1-butanol (1.4 mL, 15 mmol) afforded **1aa** as a white solid (1.4 g, 39%) after purification by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane: EtOAc 3:1). M.P. = 59 - 61 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.87 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 7.00 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 2.67 (tt, J = 7.4, 4.7 Hz, 1H), 2.61 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 1H), 2.06 (d, J = 4.5 Hz, 1H), 1.64 – 1.56 (m, 1H), 1.30 –1.38 (m, 1H), 0.84 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  163.7, 130.3, 129.9, 114.3, 55.8, 41.8, 33.7, 24.6, 11.0. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3098, 3995, 2980, 2969, 2931, 2873, 2849, 1592, 1578, 1501, 1462, 1445, 1320, 1304, 1258, 1229, 1154, 1143, 1098, 1020. HRMS calcd. for ( $C_{11}H_{15}NNaO_2S$ ) [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 264.0665 found 264.0663.

**2-Ethyl-1-tosylaziridine** (**1ab**): Following **GP2**, ( $\pm$ )-2-amino-1-butanol (8.7 g, 98 mmol) afforded **1ab** as a colourless oil (18 g, 81%) after purification by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane: EtOAc 9:1). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.82 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 2.69 (tt, J = 7.2, 4.7 Hz, 1H), 2.62 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 2.07 (d, J = 4.6 Hz, 1H), 1.67 – 1.52 (m, 1H), 1.30 – 1.38 (m, 1H), 0.83 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 3H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)

 $\delta$  144.5, 135.3, 129.7, 128.1, 41.8, 33.7, 24.6, 21.7, 11.0 ppm. Spectroscopic data for **1ab** match those previously reported in the literature.<sup>32</sup>

**2-Ethyl-1-((3-methoxyphenyl)sulfonyl)** aziridine (1ac): Following GP1 but with 3-methoxybenzenesulfonyl chloride (3.6 g, 2.2 equiv., 18 mmol) instead of TsCl, ( $\pm$ )-2-amino-1-butanol (0.76 mL, 8.0 mmol) afforded 1ac as a colourless oil (0.84 g, 44%) after purification by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane: EtOAc 3:1). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.50 (ddd, J = 7.7, 1.7, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.45 – 7.39 (m, 2H), 7.13 (ddd, J = 8.3, 2.7, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 2.71 (tt, J = 7.1, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 2.63 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 2.08 (d, J = 4.7 Hz, 1H), 1.60 (dqd, J = 14.8, 7.5, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 1.35 (dp, J = 14.8, 7.4 Hz, 1H), 0.83 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  159.9, 139.3, 130.1, 120.2, 120.1, 112.6, 55.8, 41.9, 33.8, 24.5, 10.9 ppm. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3074, 2968, 2938, 2879, 2839, 1598, 1483, 1464, 1433, 1311, 1287, 1241, 1152, 1099, 1031. HRMS calcd. for (C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>15</sub>NNaO<sub>2</sub>S) [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 264.0665 found 264.0668.

**2-Ethyl-1-((4-fluorophenyl)sulfonyl)** aziridine (1ad): Following GP1 but with 4-fluorobenzenesulfonyl chloride (13 g, 66 mmol) instead of TsCl, ( $\pm$ )-2-amino-1-butanol (2.8 mL, 30 mmol) afforded 1ad as a colourless oil (2.5 g, 36%) after purification by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane: EtOAc 9:1). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.99 – 7.94 (m, 2H), 7.24 – 7.19 (m, 2H), 2.72 (tt, J = 7.3, 4.7 Hz, 1H), 2.65 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 2.10 (d, J = 4.6 Hz, 1H), 1.62 (dqd, J = 14.8, 7.4, 5.0 Hz, 1H), 1.34 (dq, J = 14.7, 7.4 Hz, 1H), 0.83 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 3H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) 165.8 (d, J = 255.8 Hz), 134.5 (d, J = 3.3 Hz), 130.9 (d, J = 9.5 Hz), 116.4 (d, J = 22.7 Hz), 42.1, 33.9, 24.6, 10.9 ppm. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -103.63 (tt, J = 8.2, 5.0 Hz) ppm. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3106, 3075, 2970, 2937, 2880, 1591, 1493, 1461, 1405, 1323, 1291, 1230, 1166, 1152, 1096, 1085, 1026. 920. HRMS calcd. for (C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>12</sub>FNNaO<sub>2</sub>S) [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 252.0465 found 252.0461.

$$CF_3$$
 $O > S > O$ 
Et

**2-Ethyl-1-**((**4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)sulfonyl) aziridine** (**1ae**): Following **GP1** but with a 3 h reaction time and using 4-trifluoromethyl benzenesulfonyl chloride (0.65 g, 2.6 mmol) instead of TsCl, ( $\pm$ )-2-amino-1-butanol (0.11 mL, 1.2 mmol) afforded **1ae** as a colorless oil (0.56 g, 80%) after purification by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane: EtOAc 9:1). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.14 – 8.06 (m, 2H), 7.86 – 7.77 (m, 2H), 2.82 (tt, J = 7.2, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 2.70 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 2.14 (d, J = 4.7 Hz, 1H), 1.64 (dtd, J = 14.8, 7.4, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 1.40 (dp, J = 14.7, 7.4 Hz, 1H), 0.87 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  142.1 (q, J = 1.0 Hz), 135.3 (q, J = 33.0 Hz), 128.6, 126.3 (q, J = 3.7 Hz), 123.3 (q, J = 273.0 Hz), 42.4, 34.2, 24.5, 10.9. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -62.92. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2972, 2938, ,1461, 1404, 1319, 1233, 1162, 1129, 1106, 1087, 1061, 1016. HRMS calcd. for (C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>12</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NNaOS) [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 302.0433 found 302.0434.

**5-Allylbenzo[d][1,3]dioxole** (**S12**): 5-bromobenzo[d][1,3]dioxole (6.0 g, 30 mmol) was dissolved in dry THF (20 ml) and Mg stirrings (1.1 g, 45 mmol) were added. Formation of the organomagnesium compound was promoted by addition of catalytic amount of  $I_2$  at room temperature (caution! reaction is very exothermic; condenser is required). After reaction completion, the resulting solution was added drop wise to a solution of allyl bromide (2.6 ml, 30 mmol) in dry THF (20 ml). After addition, the reaction was stirred at RT for 1 hour. Then reaction mixture was quenched with aqueous NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (sat.), the layers were separated and the organic phase was washed with water. After drying (MgSO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrating *in vacuo*, the crude material was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (pure pentane) to afford **S12** (4.3 g, 88%) as a colorless liquid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  6.75 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 6.70 (d, J = 1.4 Hz, 1H), 6.67 – 6.63 (m, 1H), 5.98 – 5.94 (m, 1H), 5.93 (s, 2H), 5.11 – 5.04 (m, 2H), 3.34 – 3.29 (m, 2H) ppm. Spectroscopic data for **S12** match those previously reported in the literature.<sup>33</sup>

**2-(Benzo[d][1,3]dioxol-5-ylmethyl)-1-tosylaziridine** (**1af**): Following **GP3** with **S12** (4.3 g, 27 mmol), purification by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane: EtOAc 9:1  $\rightarrow$ 5:1) afforded **1af** as a white solid (2.9 g, 32%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.71 – 7.65 (m, 2H), 7.25 – 7.21 (m, 2H), 6.60 – 6.56 (m, 1H), 6.50 – 6.46 (m, 2H), 5.90 (q, J = 1.4 Hz, 1H), 2.91 – 2.83 (m, 1H), 2.76 (dd, J = 14.5, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 2.72 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 2.52 (dd, J = 14.5, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 2.15 (d, J = 4.5 Hz, 1H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  147.6, 146.4, 144.5, 135.0, 130.9, 129.6, 128.1, 121.9, 109.3, 108.3, 101.0, 41.6, 37.3, 32.9, 21.7 ppm. LRMS (ESI): 331, 176, 161, 148, 135, 119, 105, 91, 77. Spectroscopic data for **1af** match those previously reported in the literature.<sup>34</sup>

**1-Allyl-2,4,5-trifluorobenzene** (**S13**): Following a modified literature procedure,<sup>34</sup> an oven dried RBF was charged with 1-bromo-2,4,5-trifluorobenzene (4.4 g, 20 mmol) and dry THF (5.0 ml) under Ar atmosphere. The solution was cooled to -10 °C in an ice/ salt bath and then *i*PrMgCl·LiCl (1.2 M in THF, 21 mmol) was added drop wise to reaction mixture. After stirring at 0 °C for 1 h, allyl bromide (1.8 ml, 21 mmol) was added drop wise. The obtained mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 1 h and then allowed to warm to RT and stirred overnight. The reaction was quenched with water and acidified to pH = 1 with aqueous HCl (2.0 M). The layers were separated and the aqueous phase was extracted with EtOAc. The combined organic fractions were washed with brine, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), filtered and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude mixture was purified by flushing through a plug of silica gel using pentane as eluent to afford **S13** as a colorless liquid (2.9 g, 85%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.00 (ddd, J = 10.8, 8.8, 6.8 Hz, 1H), 6.89 (ddd, J = 10.2, 9.1, 6.6 Hz, 1H), 5.89 (ddt, J = 16.8, 10.1, 6.5 Hz, 1H), 5.13 (dq, J = 10.1, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 5.09 (dqd, J = 16.9, 1.6, 0.5 Hz, 1H), 3.36 – 3.32 (m, 2H) ppm.

(Tosylimino) phenyliodinane (S14): Following literature procedure,<sup>35</sup> toluenesulfonamide (2.8 g, 16 mmol) and KOH (2.3 g, 41 mmol) were dissolved in MeOH (60 ml). The resulting solution was cooled to -10 °C in an ice/ salt bath and (diacetoxy) iodosobenzene (5.3 g, 17 mmol) was added portion wise. The reaction was stirred for 30 minutes at -10 °C and then an additional 3 h at RT. Ice cold water (100 ml) was then added and resulting mixture was cooled to 0 °C. The formed precipitate was collected by filtration and washed with cold MeOH (20 ml) and EtOAc (100 ml) to afford S14 (3.2 g, 53%) as a white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  7.71 - 7.67 (m, 2H), 7.49 - 7.41 (m, 3H), 7.29 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.09 - 7.03 (m, 2H), 2.27 (s, 3H) ppm. Spectroscopic data for S14 match those previously reported in the literature.<sup>35</sup>

1-Tosyl-2-(2,4,5-trifluorobenzyl) aziridine (1ag): An oven dried Schlenk flask was charged with anhydrous Cu(OTf)<sub>2</sub> (0.27 mg, 0.74 mmol) and a solution of 1-allyl-2,4,5-trifluorobenzene (S13) (1.3 g, 3.0 equiv., 7.5 mmol) in dry CH<sub>3</sub>CN (8.0 ml). **S14** (0.93 g, 1.0 equiv., 2.5 mmol) was then added into the reaction solution in one portion under a flow of Ar and the resulting mixture was stirred at RT for 2 hours. The reaction mixture was then diluted with EtOAc (10 ml) and filtered through a pad of silica gel followed by elution with additional EtOAc (20 ml). The obtained solution was concentrated in vacuo, and the crude material was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane: EtOAc 9:1  $\rightarrow$ 5:1) to afford **1ag** as a white solid (0.53 g, 42%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ )  $\delta$  7.65 – 7.61 (m, 2H), 7.22 – 7.18 (m, 2H), 6.79 – 6.66 (m, 2H), 3.07 – 3.01 (m, 1H), 2.87 – 2.79 (m, 2H), 2.42 (s, 3H), 2.28 (ddd, J = 14.5, 8.3, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 2.20 (d, J = 4.2 Hz, 1H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  155.6 (ddd, J = 244.5, 9.3, 2.7 Hz), 149.2 (ddd, J = 250.0, 14.5, 12.2 Hz), 146.4 (ddd, J = 244.8, 12.6, 3.7 Hz), 145.0, 134.6, 129.7, 127.9, 120.8 (ddd, J = 18.4, 5.7, 4.2 Hz), 118.7 (ddd, J = 19.2, 5.9, 1.4 Hz), 105.2 (dd, J = 28.2, 20.8 Hz), 40.1, 32.8, 30.5, 21.6 ppm. <sup>19</sup>F (367) MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (-119.9) – (-120.1) (m), -135.64 (dtd, J = 21.9, 9.6, 3.4 Hz), -142.54 (dddd, J = 21.6, 15.2, 10.3, 6.5 Hz) ppm. LRMS (ESI): 321, 176, 161, 148, 135, 119, 105, 91, 77. Spectroscopic data for **lag** match those previously reported in the literature.<sup>34</sup>

## **2** Optimization of the Reaction Conditions

The Ni-catalyzed carboxylation of aziridines was initially assessed with a batch of **1a** (95% purity) that contained minor impurities (see page S57 for the identity of these compounds), hoping that these might not interfere with productive formation of **2a**. After considerable optimization, it was revealed that the presence of MeOH and amide solvents (DMA, NMP, DMPU) with Mn as reducing agent was critical for success. Notably, (a) the utilization of alcohols other than MeOH resulted in traces, if any, of **2a** and (2) **L1**, **L2** and **L5** gave rise to **2a** in 50-60% yield whereas less electron-rich **L3** or less hindered **L4** resulted in complete loss of reactivity (Scheme S1), thus showing the importance of both MeOH and the ligand environment in this carboxylation reaction. Unfortunately, reproducibility issues came into play with different batches of **1a**, suggesting that the purity might be a critical factor for success. Gratifyingly, this was indeed the case and reproducible results were found for **1a** (>99% purity). In addition, we observed a similar trend to that shown for **1a** (95% purity) in terms of the ligand employed and the critical role found for MeOH. To this end, we continued the optimization with **1a** (>99% purity).

Ts 
$$R^2$$
  $R^1$ =Me;  $R^2$ =OMe (L1)  $R^1$ =Me;  $R^2$ = $E$ -Bu (L2)  $R^1$ =Me;  $R^2$ = $E$ -Bu (L3)  $R^1$ =Me;  $R^2$ = $E$ -Me (L3)  $R^1$ =Me;  $R^2$ =OMe (L4)  $R^1$ = $E$ -Me (L5)  $R^1$ = $E$ -Me (R5)  $R^1$ = $E$ -Me

Scheme S1: Ligands employed in the catalytic carboxylation of 1a (95% purity)

### General procedure for the optimization of 2a from aziridine 1a (>99% purity):

To an oven dried Schlenk tube in the glove box was added Ni(II) pre-catalyst, ligand and manganese (Mn). A stirrer bar was added and the Schlenk was capped before being removed from the glove box. An atmosphere of  $CO_2$  was then generated by 3 cycles between vacuum (<1 mbar pressure) and  $CO_2$  line (1 bar). Under a flow of  $CO_2$ , dry DMPU (or other solvent) was added followed by  $\mathbf{1a}$  (52  $\mu$ l, 1 equiv. 0.2 mmol) and finally MeOH (40  $\mu$ l, 5 equiv. 1.0 mmol . Note: between each addition, the Schlenk tube was agitated for ~10 s to ensure the components were well dissolved. The Schlenk tube was then tightly capped and stirred at 10 °C (or other specified temperature) for the noted time. The reaction was quenched by careful addition of HCl (1.0 M, 2.0 ml) at 10 °C, diluted with EtOAc and then stirred at RT. Trimethoxybenzene (11 mg, 0.33 equiv.) internal standard was added as a stock solution in EtOAc, the layers were separated and the aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc (3 × 5.0 ml). The combined organic layers were then washed twice with HCl (1.0 M, 15 ml), dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), filtered and concentrated *in vacuo*. Quantification was carried out by integration of  $^1$ H NMR against the TMB internal standard.

**Table S1**. Influence of the Ni(II) precatalyst and ligand on the carboxylation of **1a**.

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{Ni(II) precatalyst (10 mol\%)} \\ \text{L (20 mol\%)} \\ \text{MeOH (5.0 equiv)} \\ \hline \\ \text{MeOH (5.0 equiv)} \\ \hline \\ \text{MeOH (5.0 equiv)} \\ \hline \\ \text{Mi(II) precatalyst / L} \\ \hline \\ \text{Ni(II) precatalyst / L} \\ \hline \\ \text{Conv. (\%)} \\ \hline \\ \text{2a} \\ \hline \\ \text{Mn (3.0 equiv), 10°C} \\ \hline \\ \text{DMPU (0.40 M), 48 h} \\ \hline \\ \text{NiCl}_2 \cdot \text{glyme / L1} \\ \hline \\ \text{NiCl}_2 \cdot \text{glyme / L1} \\ \text{NiCl}_2 \cdot \text{glyme / L1 (10 mol\%)} \\ \text{S3} \\ \hline \text{32} \\ \text{8} \\ \text{NiCl}_2 \cdot \text{glyme / L1 (15 mol\%)} \\ \text{92} \\ \text{61} \\ \text{11} \\ \text{11} \\ \text{11} \\ \text{R1 = Me; R2 = OMe (L1)} \\ \text{R1 = Me; R2 = Me (L3)} \\ \text{R1 = Me; R2 = Me (L3)} \\ \text{NiCl}_2 \cdot \text{glyme / L2} \\ \text{99} \\ \text{47} \\ \text{46} \\ \text{R1 = H; R2 = OMe (L4)} \\ \text{NiCl}_2 \cdot \text{glyme / L3} \\ \text{NiCl}_2 \cdot \text{glyme / L3} \\ \text{NiCl}_2 \cdot \text{glyme / L4} \\ \text{NiCl}_2 \cdot \text{glyme / L5} \\ \hline \\ \text{87} \\ \text{56} \\ \text{20} \\ \text{Me} \\ \text{L5} \\ \text{Me} \\ \\ \text{L5} \\ \text{Me} \\ \\ \text{L5} \\ \text{Me} \\ \\ \text{MeOH (5.0 equiv)} \\ \text{NHTS} \\ \text{NH$$

**Table S2**. Influence of the temperature, solvent and Mn equivalent.

**Table S3**. Influence of the reaction time and CO<sub>2</sub> pressure.

n-hex N	+ CO <sub>2</sub> - (0.5-3.25 bar)	NiCl <sub>2</sub> ·glyme (10 mol%) L1 (20 mol%) MeOH (5.0 equiv)		NHTs CO <sub>2</sub> H	+ TsNH <sub>2</sub>			
1a		Mn (3.0 equiv), DMPU (0.40 M)		2a				
	CO <sub>2</sub> (bar)	Conv. (%)	2a (%)	TsNH <sub>2</sub> (%)				
	1.0	94	76	12				
	0.5	93	71	20				
	1.75	80	69	10				
	2.5	76	65	9				
	3.25	62	62	8				
	1.0	20 <sup>a</sup>	0 <sup>a</sup>	3 <sup>a</sup>				
	1.0	0 <sup>b</sup>	$0^{b}$	$0^b$				
<sup>a</sup> No MeOH <sup>b</sup> No NiCl <sub>2</sub> ·glyme or <b>L1</b>								

# 3 Ni-Catalyzed Reductive Carboxylation of Aziridines

## 3.1 Table 2 Substrate Scope

## General procedure 8 (GP8): Ni-catalyzed coupling of aziridines with CO<sub>2</sub> (2a - 2ag)

To an oven dried Schlenk tube in the glove box was added NiCl<sub>2</sub>glyme (4.4 mg, 0.020 mmol), L1 (9.8 mg, 0.040 mmol), Mn (33 mg, 0.60 mmol) and the aziridine (1.0 equiv., 0.20 mmol) if solid. A stirrer bar was added and the Schlenk was capped before being removed from the glove box. An atmosphere of CO<sub>2</sub> was generated by 3 cycles between vacuum (< 1 mbar pressure) and CO<sub>2</sub> line (1 atm). Under a flow of CO<sub>2</sub>, dry DMPU (0.40 M, 0.50 ml) was added followed by the aziridine (1.0 equiv. 0.20 mmol) if liquid and MeOH (40 µl, 1.0 mmol). Note: between each addition, the Schlenk tube was manually agitated for ~10 s. The Schlenk tube was then capped and stirred at 10 °C for the specified time<sup>ii</sup>. The reaction was quenched by addition of HCl (1.0 M, 2.0 ml) at 10 °C, diluted with EtOAc and then stirred at RT. The layers were separated and the aqueous layer extracted with EtOAc (3 × 5 ml). The combined organic layers were washed twice with HCl (1.0 M, 15 ml), dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), filtered and concentrated in vacuo. Purification was carried out by column chromatography on silica gel. The crude reaction mixture was dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>: Et<sub>3</sub>N (1.0 ml:0.2 ml) and loaded onto a short plug of silica equilibrated with hexane: EtOAc (1:1). A second wash of the flask was performed using CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>: Et<sub>3</sub>N (1.0 ml:0.2 ml) and a third with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (1.0 ml). The impurities of the reaction were removed by flushing through hexane: EtOAc (1:1, 100 ml) and the product was eluted with EtOAc: AcOH (98:2).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>ii</sup> Although high yields and conversions can be obtained after 48 h, the inability to monitor the progress of these pressurized reactions meant that they were generally run for 72 h to ensure complete consumption of the aziridine and the maximum possible yield. In certain cases, the reaction stalled with significant aziridine remaining and prolonged reaction times did not lead to more acid being generated.

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{NHTs} \\ \text{Me} \\ \hline \end{array} \\ \text{CO}_2 \\ \text{H} \\ \end{array}$$

**3-((4-Methylphenyl)sulfonamido) nonanoic acid (2a)**: Following **GP8** with a reaction time of 3 days, **1a** (52 µl, 0.20 mmol) gave **2a** (45 mg, 69%) as a white solid. In a scale up experiment **1a** (0.13 ml, 0.50 mmol) gave **2a** (0.12 g,73%) giving an average yield of 71%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.78 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.32 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 5.39 (d, J = 9.1 Hz, 1H), 3.57 – 3.48 (m, 1H), 2.57 – 2.50 (m, 2H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 1.54 – 1.43 (m, 2H), 1.29 – 1.05 (m, 8H), 0.86 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  143.6, 138.0, 129.8, 127.2, 50.7, 39.0, 34.7, 31.7, 28.8, 25.8, 22.6, 21.6, 14.2 ppm. LRMS (ESI): 653 (2M–H), 440 (M+TFA<sup>-</sup>), 326 (M–H). Spectroscopic data for **2a** match those previously reported in the literature. <sup>36</sup>

**3-((4-Methylphenyl)sulfonamido) butanoic acid (2b)**: Following **GP8** with a reaction time of 3 days, **1b** (42 mg, 0.20 mmol) gave **2b** (34 mg, 66%) as a white solid. In a separate independent experiment **2b** (33 mg, 64%) was isolated giving an average yield of 65%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.76 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.32 – 7.29 (m, 2H), 5.38 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 3.77 – 3.66 (m, 1H), 2.51 (d, J = 5.3 Hz, 2H), 2.42 (s, 3H), 1.16 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 3H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  176.0, 143.7, 137.9, 129.9, 127.2, 46.4, 40.6, 21.7, 21.0 ppm. Spectroscopic data for **2b** match those previously reported in the literature.<sup>37</sup>

**3-((4-Methylphenyl)sulfonamido) propanoic acid (2c)**: Following **GP8** with a reaction time of 2 days, iii *N*-tosylaziridine (40 mg, 0.20 mmol) gave **2c** (20 mg, 41%) as a white solid. In a separate independent experiment **2c** (19 mg, 39%) was isolated giving an average yield of 40%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.75 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.34 – 7.29 (m, 2H), 5.81 (t, J = 6.7 Hz, 1H), 3.23 – 3.15 (m, 2H), 2.62 (t, J = 5.7 Hz, 2H), 2.43 (s, 3H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  176.0, 143.8, 137.0, 130.0, 127.2, 38.4, 34.0, 21.7 ppm. LRMS (ESI): 485 (2M–H), 278 (M+Cl), 242 (M–H). Spectroscopic data for **2c** match those previously reported in the literature.<sup>37</sup>

**5-Methyl-3-((4-methylphenyl)sulfonamido) hexanoic acid (2d)**: Following **GP8** with a reaction time of 5 days, <sup>iv</sup> **1d** (46 μl, 0.20 mmol) gave **2d** (43 mg, 72%) as a white solid. In a separate independent experiment **2d** (49 mg, 82%) was isolated giving an average yield of 77%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.76 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.32 - 7.27 (m, 2H), 5.43 (d, J = 9.1 Hz, 1H), 3.57 (tq, J = 10.0, 5.1 Hz, 1H), 2.47 (d, J = 5.0 Hz, 2H), 2.42 (s, 3H), 1.59 - 1.47 (m, 1H), 1.41 (ddd, J = 14.4, 8.9, 5.6 Hz, 1H), 1.30 - 1.22 (m, 2H), 0.80 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 3H), 0.69 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 3H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 176.7, 143.7, 138.0, 129.9, 127.2, 48.7, 43.9, 39.1, 24.6, 22.8, 21.8, 21.7

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The reaction was complete after 48 h due to the reduced steric environment of the aziridine. Although most by-products generated in this reaction are volatile and hence not observed, the large amount of  $TsNH_2$  (45%) generated suggests β-hydride and deamination pathways are more prevalent.

The steric hindrance of the *i*Bu group reduces the rate of the reaction but complete conversion is reached if a longer reaction time is used. Conversely, the reaction is more selective for the desired β-amino acid with the highest yield (80-83% by  $^{1}$ H NMR) observed of all aziridines tested and only trace amounts of TsNH<sub>2</sub> (5-10%) generated.

ppm. LRMS (ESI): 597 (2M–H), 298 (M–H). Spectroscopic data for **2d** match those previously reported in the literature.<sup>38</sup>

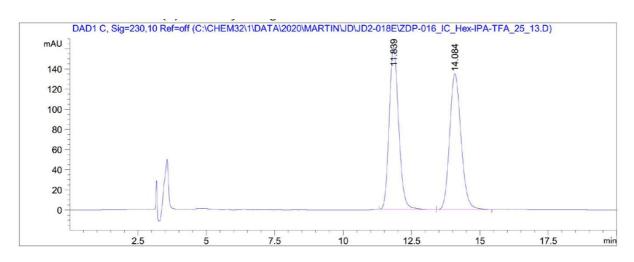
Me 
$$CO_2H$$

**4-Methyl-3-((4-methylphenyl)sulfonamido) pentanoic acid (2e)**: Following **GP8** with a reaction time of 7 days, <sup>v</sup> **1e** (48 mg, 0.20 mmol) gave **2e** (24 mg, 42%) as a white solid. In a separate independent experiment **2e** (23 mg, 40%) was isolated giving an average yield of 41%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.76 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 5.33 (d, J = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 3.40 – 3.28 (m, 1H), 2.50 (dd, J = 16.2, 5.1 Hz, 1H), 2.45 – 2.38 (m, 4H), 1.83 (hept, J = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 0.83 (dd, J = 6.8, 5.8 Hz, 6H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  176.8, 143.6, 137.9, 129.8, 127.3, 56.2, 36.4, 31.7, 21.7, 19.1, 18.7 ppm. LRMS (ESI): 569 (2M–H), 284 (M–H). Spectroscopic data for **2e** match those previously reported in the literature.<sup>39</sup>

NHTs 
$$Ph \downarrow CO_2H$$

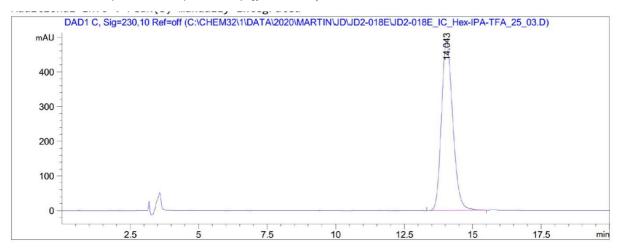
**3-((4-Methylphenyl)sulfonamido)-4-phenyl butanoic acid (2f)**: Following **GP8** with a reaction time of 3 days and the temperature maintained at 10 - 13 °C for the duration, **1f** (0.29 g, 1.0 mmol) gave **2f** (0.21 g, 63%) as a white solid. In a separate independent experiment **2f** (0.20 g, 60%) was isolated giving an average yield of 62%. Note: when performing the reaction on larger scale, it is important to ensure efficient stirring due to the non-homogenous nature of the reaction. M.P. = 103 - 106 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.63 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.24 – 7.18 (m, 5H), 7.04 – 7.00 (m, 2H), 5.58 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 3.84 – 3.68 (m, 1H), 2.87 (dd, J = 13.7, 7.6 Hz, 1H), 2.79 (dd, J = 13.7, 6.7 Hz, 1H), 2.56 (d, J = 5.3 Hz, 2H), 2.40 (s, 3H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  176.4, 143.6, 137.3, 136.9, 129.8, 129.4, 128.8, 127.1, 127.0, 51.9, 40.7, 37.9, 21.6 ppm. LRMS (ESI): 334 (M+H)<sup>+</sup>, 356 (M+Na)<sup>+</sup>. Spectroscopic data for **2f** match those previously reported in the literature. <sup>37</sup> HPLC: rac (CHIRALPAK® IC, hexane/ i-PrOH/ TFA = 75:25:0.1, 1 mL/min, 220 nm,  $t_R$ = 11.839; 14.084).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>v</sup> After 3 days with this hindered substrate, 27% of **2f** was observed by <sup>1</sup>H NMR and 66% **1f** remained. After 7 days, 41% of **2f** was observed by and 45% **1f** remained. After 10 days, 42% of **2f** was observed and 50% **1f** still remained suggesting the reaction had stalled and the maximum amount of **2f** had been reached. Other reaction variables were modified to try and improve the yield such as increasing the [Ni] to 20 mol%, switching to less hindered **L4** and increasing the temperature but without success.



Totals: 7805.59204 295.60611

(*S*)-3-((4-Methylphenyl)sulfonamido)-4-phenyl butanoic acid (7): Following GP8 with a reaction time of 3 days, (*S*)-1f (57 mg, 0.20 mmol) gave 7 (47 mg, 70%) as a white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.63 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.24 – 7.18 (m, 5H), 7.04 – 7.00 (m, 2H), 5.58 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 3.84 – 3.68 (m, 1H), 2.87 (dd, J = 13.7, 7.6 Hz, 1H), 2.79 (dd, J = 13.7, 6.7 Hz, 1H), 2.56 (d, J = 5.3 Hz, 2H), 2.40 (s, 3H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  176.4, 143.6, 137.3, 136.9, 129.8, 129.4, 128.8, 127.1, 127.0, 51.9, 40.7, 37.9, 21.6 ppm. Spectroscopic data for 7 match those previously reported in the literature.<sup>37</sup> HPLC: rac (CHIRALPAK® IC, hexane/ i-PrOH/TFA = 75:25:0.1, 1 mL/min, 220 nm,  $t_R$ = 14.043).



**4-(1H-Indol-3-yl)-3-((4-methylphenyl)sulfonamido)** butanoic acid (2g): Following GP8 with a reaction time of 6 days, <sup>vi</sup> 1g (65 mg, 0.20 mmol) gave 2g (39 mg, 52%) as a pink solid. In a separate independent experiment 2g (40 mg, 54%) was isolated giving an average yield of 53%. M.P: 178-180 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, MeOD) <sup>vii</sup> δ 7.40 – 7.36 (m, 2H), 7.34 (dt, J = 8.0, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.24 (dt, J = 8.2, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 7.04 (ddd, J = 8.1, 7.0, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 6.97 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.93 (s, 1H), 6.89 (ddd, J = 8.0, 7.0, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 3.82 (tt, J = 7.7, 5.4 Hz, 1H), 2.94 (dd, J = 14.4, 5.7 Hz, 1H), 2.74 (dd, J = 14.3, 7.9 Hz, 1H), 2.60 (dd, J = 15.9, 5.1 Hz, 1H), 2.48 (dd, J = 15.9, 7.7 Hz, 1H), 2.27 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, MeOD) δ 144.0, 138.7, 138.1, 130.1, 128.5, 127.6, 124.5, 122.2, 119.6, 119.3, 112.2, 111.5, 52.6, 41.3, 31.7, 21.5. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3410, 3276, 3055, 2922, 1707, 1598, 1457, 1419, 1317, 1290, 1150, 1088, 1019. HRMS calcd. for (C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>19</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>S) [M–H]<sup>-</sup>: 371.1071 found 371.1073.

**3-((4-Methylphenyl)sulfonamido)-4-(4-(tosyloxy)phenyl) butanoic acid (2h)**: Following **GP8** with a reaction time of 7 days, viii **1h** (92 mg, 0.20 mmol) gave **2h** (44 mg, 44%) as a white solid. In a separate independent experiment **2h** (38 mg, 38%) was isolated giving an average yield of 41%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.68 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.57 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.30 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.21 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.93 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 6.79 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 5.62 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 1H), 3.69 (h, J = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 2.82 (dd, J = 13.8, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 2.74 (dd, J = 13.9, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 2.60 – 2.44 (m, 2H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 2.40 (s, 3H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)  $\delta$  176.2, 148.9, 146.2, 144.2, 137.6, 136.5, 132.6, 130.8, 130.3, 130.1, 128.8, 127.2, 122.8, 52.1, 40.3, 38.5, 21.8, 21.6. ppm

vi A shorter reaction time was not attempted in this case but trace **1g** was observed in the crude <sup>1</sup>H NMR suggesting that the prolonged reaction time was necessary. The free indole may coordinate to Ni and slow the rate of reaction.

vii The NH indole and NHTs signals were not observed in MeOD.

viii After a 4 day reaction, 28% of **2h** was observed by <sup>1</sup>H NMR and 27% **1h** remained. Therefore, a prolonged reaction time was used to maximize the yield. Many trace by-products were observed in this reaction but were not identified.

IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3590, 3366, 3290, 3239, 2929, 1728, 1701, 1598, 1502, 1416, 1374, 1318, 1300, 1199, 1175, 1152, 1093, 1071, 1019. HRMS calcd. for  $(C_{24}H_{24}NO_7S_2)$  [M–H]<sup>-</sup>: 502.1000 found 502.0986.

MeO<sub>2</sub>C NHTs 
$$CO_2H$$

**6-Methoxy-3-((4-methylphenyl)sulfonamido)-6-oxo hexanoic acid (2i)**: Following **GP8** with a reaction time of 3 days, **1i** 57 mg, 0.20 mmol) gave **2i** (37 mg, 56%) as a white solid. In a separate independent experiment **2i** (33 mg, 50%) was isolated giving an average yield of 53%. M.P:  $108 - 108 \,^{\circ}$ C.  $^{1}$ H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.77 – 7.71 (m, 2H), 7.30 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 5.69 (d, J = 9.3 Hz, 1H), 3.63 (s, 3H), 3.57 (tq, J = 9.5, 5.0 Hz, 1H), 2.45 (dd, J = 7.5, 4.9 Hz, 2H), 2.42 (s, 3H), 2.32 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.91 – 1.76 (m, 2H) ppm.  $^{13}$ C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  175.7, 174.0, 143.8, 137.8, 129.9, 127.1, 52.0, 50.1, 38.7, 30.4, 29.4, 21.7 ppm. IR (neat, cm $^{-1}$ ): 3289, 2964, 2931, 1711, 1598, 1436, 1417, 1342, 1327, 1255, 1232, 1192, 1157, 1080. HRMS calcd. for ( $C_{14}H_{18}NO_6S$ ) [M–H] $^{-1}$ : 328.0860 found 328.0860.

**6-Chloro-3-((4-methylphenyl)sulfonamido) hexanoic acid (2j)**: Following **GP8** with a reaction time of 3 days, **1j** (55 mg, 0.20 mmol) gave **2j** (33 mg, 52%) as a white solid. In a separate independent experiment **2j** (38 mg, 58%) was isolated giving an average yield of 55%. M.P. = 118 – 121 °C.  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.78 – 7.73 (m, 2H), 7.34 – 7.29 (m, 2H), 5.42 (d, J = 9.5 Hz, 1H), 3.58 – 3.50 (m, 1H), 3.49 – 3.39 (m, 2H), 2.46 (d, J = 4.9 Hz, 2H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 1.84 – 1.62 (m, 4H) ppm.  $^{13}$ C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  176.0, 143.9, 137.8, 130.0, 127.1, 49.9, 44.4, 38.6, 31.9, 28.9, 21.7 ppm. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3337, 3294, 3067, 2948, 2924, 2867, 2690, 2590, 1691, 1597, 1494, 1448, 1424, 1327, 1307, 1156, 1086, 1023, 984, 938, 903, 815, 729, 663, 580, 545, 514. HRMS calcd. for (C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>17</sub>ClNO<sub>4</sub>S) [M–H]<sup>-</sup>: 318.0572 found 318.0571.

**7-Chloro-3-((4-methylphenyl)sulfonamido) heptanoic acid (2k)**: Following **GP8** with a reaction time of 3 days, **1k** (57 mg, 0.20 mmol) gave **2k** (48 mg, 72%) as a white solid. In a separate independent experiment **2k** (45 mg, 67%) was isolated giving an average yield of 70%. M.P. = 78 – 80 °C.  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  9.02 (s, br, 1H), 7.75 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.30 (d, J = 8.0 Hz,

2H), 5.56 (d, J = 9.1 Hz, 1H), 3.51 (q, J = 7.0, 6.5 Hz, 1H), 3.37 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 2.56 – 2.45 (m, 2H), 2.41 (s, 3H), 1.59 (p, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.55 – 1.45 (m, 2H), 1.44 – 1.29 (m, 1H), 1.29 – 1.15 (m, 1H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  176.4, 143.8, 137.8, 129.9, 127.2, 50.3, 44.7, 38.9, 33.9, 31.9, 23.2, 21.7 ppm. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3271, 2926, 2867, 1707, 1598, 1414, 1320, 1304, 1152, 1088. HRMS calcd. for (C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>19</sub>ClNO<sub>4</sub>S) [M–H]<sup>-</sup>: 332.0729 found 332.0736.

**3-((4-Methylphenyl)sulfonamido)-5-phenyl pentanoic acid (2l)**: Following **GP8** with a reaction time of 3 days, **1l** (60 mg, 0.20 mmol) gave **2l** (48 mg, 69%) as a white solid. In a separate independent experiment **2l** (47 mg, 67%) was isolated giving an average yield of 68%.  $^{1}$ H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.79 – 7.73 (m, 2H), 7.32 – 7.27 (m, 2H), 7.25 – 7.21 (m, 2H), 7.19 – 7.15 (m, 1H), 7.05 – 6.99 (m, 2H), 5.64 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 3.69 – 3.46 (m, 1H), 2.60 (ddd, J = 14.0, 9.5, 6.2 Hz, 1H), 2.49 (d, J = 5.1 Hz, 2H), 2.50 – 2.43 (m, 1H), 2.42 (s, 3H), 1.90 – 1.74 (m, 2H) ppm.  $^{13}$ C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  176.6, 143.8, 141.0, 138.0, 130.0, 128.7, 128.5, 127.3, 126.3, 50.3, 38.8, 36.4, 32.2, 21.8 ppm. LRMS (ESI): 693 (2M–H), 346 (M–H). Spectroscopic data for **2l** match those previously reported in the literature.  $^{40}$ 

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{NHTs} \\ \text{CO}_2\text{H} \end{array}$$

**5-(4-Chlorophenyl)-3-((4-methylphenyl)sulfonamido) pentanoic acid (2m)**: Following **GP8** with a reaction time of 3 days, **1m** (67 mg, 0.20 mmol) gave **2m** (40 mg, 52%) as a white solid. In a separate independent experiment **2m** 38 mg, 50%) was isolated giving an average yield of 51%. M.P. = 150 - 152 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, MeOD)  $\delta$  7.76 – 7.69 (m, 2H), 7.39 – 7.31 (m, 2H), 7.22 – 7.12 (m, 2H), 7.03 – 6.95 (m, 2H), 3.61 – 3.49 (m, 1H), 2.55 (ddd, J = 13.8, 9.8, 5.6 Hz, 1H), 2.42 (s, 3H), 2.45 – 2.34 (m, 3H), 1.76 (dddd, J = 14.3, 9.8, 6.4, 4.6 Hz, 1H), 1.62 (dddd, J = 13.9, 9.8, 8.4, 5.6 Hz, 1H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, MeOD)  $\delta$  174.4, 144.7, 141.5, 140.0, 132.6, 130.9, 130.8, 129.3, 128.1, 51.5, 41.0, 37.4, 32.1, 21.5 ppm. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>):3310, 2922, 1695, 1491, 1466, 1444, 1408, 1322, 1305, 1285, 1206, 1151, 1089, 1013. HRMS calcd. for (C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>19</sub>CINO<sub>4</sub>S) [M–H]<sup>-</sup>: 380.0729 found 380.0725.

$$\mathsf{F}_3\mathsf{C}$$
 NHTs  $\mathsf{CO}_2\mathsf{H}$ 

**3-((4-Methylphenyl)sulfonamido)-5-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl) pentanoic acid (2n)**: Following **GP8** with a reaction time of 3 days, **1n** (74 mg, 0.20 mmol) gave **2n** (48 mg, 58%) as a white solid. In a separate independent experiment **2n** (45 mg, 54%) was isolated giving an average yield of 56%. M.P. = 194 – 196 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, MeOD)<sup>ix</sup> δ 7.79 – 7.72 (m, 2H), 7.52 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.38 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.24 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 3.65 – 3.54 (m, 1H), 2.69 (ddd, J = 14.8, 9.8, 5.5 Hz, 1H), 2.54 (ddd, J = 14.0, 9.7, 6.5 Hz, 1H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 2.39 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 1H), 2.38 (d, J = 3.1 Hz, 1H), 1.84 (dddd, J = 14.2, 9.8, 6.5, 4.5 Hz, 1H), 1.69 (dddd, J = 14.0, 9.8, 8.5, 5.6 Hz, 1H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, MeOD) δ 173.0, 146.0, 143.3, 138.7, 129.4, 128.6, 127.8 (q, J = 32.0 Hz),), 126.7, 125.8, 124.8 (q, J = 3.8 Hz), 124.5 (q, J = 270.8 Hz), 123.1, 50.1, 39.6, 35.8, 31.1, 20.1 ppm. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, MeOD, decoupled) δ -63.84 ppm. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3312, 2927, 1687, 1616, 1467, 1445, 1417, 1320, 1284, 1208, 1151, 1114, 1093, 1066, 1017. HRMS calcd. for (C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>19</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>S) [M–H]<sup>-</sup>: 414.0992 found 414.0991.

**5-(4'-Acetyl-[1,1'-biphenyl]-4-yl)-3-((4-methylphenyl)sulfonamido) pentanoic acid (20)**: Following **GP8** with a reaction time of 5 days, <sup>x</sup> **1o** (84 mg, 0.20 mmol) gave **2o** (45 mg, 48%) as a white solid. In a separate independent experiment **2o** (48 mg, 52%) was isolated giving an average yield of 50%. M.P. = 180 - 182 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO)<sup>xi</sup>  $\delta$  8.02 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.79 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.70 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.61 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.40 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.11 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 3.56 – 3.43 (m, 1H), 2.60 (s, 3H), 2.39 (s, 3H), 2.36 – 2.26 (m, 3H), 1.75 – 1.49 (m, 2H) ppm. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.06 – 7.97 (m, 2H), 7.80 – 7.73 (m, 2H), 7.67 – 7.63 (m, 2H), 7.54 – 7.48 (m, 2H), 7.30 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.18 – 7.12 (m, 2H), 5.50 (d, J = 9.4 Hz, 1H), 3.65 – 3.53 (m, 1H), 2.69 (ddd, J = 15.2, 9.5, 5.9 Hz, 1H), 2.64 (s, 3H), 2.61 – 2.51 (m, 1H), 2.49 (d,

ix The NH signal was not observed in MeOD.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>x</sup> After a 3 day reaction, 47% **20** was observed by <sup>1</sup>H NMR and 15% **10** remained. Therefore, a prolonged reaction time was used to maximize the yield. The high molecular weight allowed the accurate quantification of by-products with 26% terminal olefin and 40% TsNH<sub>2</sub> observed along with other trace by-products.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>xi</sup> The NH signal was not observed and the α-carboxylic acid protons were obscured by the DMSO- $d_6$  solvent peak. The solubility of **20** in CDCl<sub>3</sub> is very low by the <sup>1</sup>H NMR has been included for clarity.

J = 4.8 Hz, 2H), 2.42 (s, 3H), 1.98 – 1.77 (m, 2H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO)  $\delta$  197.4, 172.0, 144.4, 142.5, 141.8, 138.9, 136.3, 135.4, 129.6, 128.9, 128.9, 126.8, 126.6, 126.5, 50.2, 35.8, 30.6, 26.7, 21.0 ppm. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3248, 2957, 2916, 1722, 1645, 1600, 1451, 1427, 1399, 1362, 1327, 1280, 1244, 1152, 1092, 1073. HRMS calcd. for ( $C_{26}H_{26}NO_{5}S$ ) [M–H]<sup>-</sup>: 464.1537 found 414.1530.

### 5-(4-(1-(tert-Butoxycarbonyl)-1H-pyrrol-2-yl)phenyl)-3-((4-methylphenyl)sulfonamido)

**pentanoic acid (2p)**: Following **GP8** with a reaction time of 6 days, <sup>xii</sup> **1p** (93 mg, 0.20 mmol) gave **2p** (63 mg, 61%) as a purple oil. In a separate independent experiment **2p** (52 mg, 51%) was isolated giving an average yield of 56%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.78 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (dd, J = 3.3, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.21 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.00 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 6.21 (t, J = 3.3 Hz, 1H), 6.15 (dd, J = 3.3, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 5.61 (d, J = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 3.65 – 3.52 (m, 1H), 2.63 (ddd, J = 15.1, 9.6, 6.0 Hz, 1H), 2.55 – 2.42 (m, 3H), 2.42 (s, 3H), 1.94 – 1.75 (m, 2H), 1.37 (s, 9H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  176.3, 149.5, 143.7, 139.8, 137.9, 135.0, 132.3, 129.9, 129.3, 127.6, 127.2, 122.6, 114.4, 110.7, 83.7, 50.2, 38.7, 36.3, 27.8, 21.7 ppm. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3275, 2890, 2930, 1709, 1394, 1370, 1310, 1256, 1144, 1092, 1074. HRMS calcd. for (C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>31</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>6</sub>S) [M–H]<sup>-</sup>: 511.1908 found 511.1888.

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{NHTs} \\ \text{Ph} \\ \text{O} \end{array}$$

**6-(Benzoyloxy)-3-((4-methylphenyl)sulfonamido) hexanoic acid (2q)**: Following **GP8** with a reaction time of 3 days, **1q** (72 mg, 0.20 mmol) gave **2q** (51 mg, 62%) as a white solid. In a separate independent experiment **2q** (56 mg, 69%) was isolated giving an average yield of 66%. M.P. = 122–124 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.02 – 7.94 (m, 2H), 7.75 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.59 – 7.50 (m, 1H), 7.46 – 7.38 (m, 2H), 7.25 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 6.46 (s, br, 1H), 5.71 (d, J = 4.7 Hz, 1H), 4.25 – 4.08 (m, 2H), 3.60 (s, br, 1H), 2.49 (d, J = 4.4 Hz, 1H), 2.34 (s, 3H), 1.80 – 1.56 (m, 4H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  175.5, 166.8, 143.8, 137.8, 133.1, 130.2, 129.9, 129.7, 128.5, 127.1,

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xii After a 3 day reaction, 40% of **2p** was observed by <sup>1</sup>H NMR and 31% **1p** remained. Therefore, a prolonged reaction time was used to reach completion.

64.3, 50.3, 38.9, 31.1, 25.3, 21.6 ppm. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3301, 3212, 2963, 2934, 1727, 1687, 1587, 1492, 1464, 1451, 1423, 1395, 1317, 1301, 1283, 1212, 1156, 1141, 1121, 1089, 1060, 1037. HRMS calcd. for (C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>22</sub>NO<sub>6</sub>S) [M–H]<sup>-</sup>: 404.1173 found 404.1164.

$$\begin{array}{c|c} & \text{NHTs} \\ & CO_2 \text{H} \\ \end{array}$$

**6-((Furan-3-carbonyl)oxy)-3-((4-methylphenyl)sulfonamido) hexanoic acid (2r)**: Following **GP8** with a reaction time of 3 days, **1r** (70 mg, 0.20 mmol) gave **2r** (49 mg, 62%) as a pale-yellow oil. In a separate independent experiment **2r** (54 mg, 68 %) was isolated giving an average yield of 65%.  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.97 (dd, J = 1.6, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 7.77 – 7.72 (m, 2H), 7.41 (t, J = 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.30 – 7.25 (m, 2H), 6.70 (dd, J = 1.9, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 5.62 (d, J = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 4.17 – 4.06 (m, 2H), 3.63 – 3.53 (m, 1H), 2.47 (d, J = 5.1 Hz, 2H), 2.38 (s, 3H), 1.78 – 1.52 (m, 4H) ppm.  $^{13}$ C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  176.0, 163.3, 147.9, 143.9, 143.8, 137.8, 129.9, 127.1, 119.4, 109. 9, 63.8, 50.2, 38.7, 31.1, 25.2, 21.6 ppm. IR (neat, cm $^{-1}$ ): 3270, 2958, 1708, 1598, 1406, 1305, 1152, 1090, 968, 873, 814, 765, 707, 663, 575, 548. HRMS calcd. for ( $C_{18}H_{20}NO_{7}S$ ) [M–H] $^{-}$ : 394.0966 found 394.0983.

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{NHTs} \\ \text{O} \\ \text{CO}_2 \text{H} \end{array}$$

**6-(4-(Methoxycarbonyl)phenoxy)-3-((4-methylphenyl)sulfonamido)** hexanoic acid (2s): Following **GP8** with a reaction time of 3 days, **1s** (78 mg, 0.20 mmol) gave **2s** (41 mg, 47%) as a white solid. In a separate independent experiment **2s** (43 mg, 48%) was isolated giving an average yield of 48%. M.P: 122-124 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.01 – 7.92 (m, 2H), 7.79 – 7.71 (m, 2H), 7.27 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 6.87 – 6.79 (m, 2H), 5.53 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.92 – 3.83 (m, 5H), 3.59 (s, br, 1H), 2.50 (dd, J = 5.0, 2.2 Hz, 2H), 2.38 (s, 3H), 1.85 – 1.64 (m, 4H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  176.0, 167.1, 162.7, 143.8, 137.9, 131.7, 129.9, 127.2, 122.8, 114.2, 67.3, 52.1, 50.2, 38.7, 31.3, 25.6, 21.7. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>):3187, 2955, 2874, 1713, 1607, 1511, 1434, 1280, 1259, 1193, 1153, 1091, 1935. HRMS calcd. for (C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>24</sub>NO<sub>7</sub>S) [M–H]<sup>-</sup>: 434.1279 found 434.1286.

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{NHTs} \\ \text{CO}_2 \text{H} \end{array}$$

**6-(4-Fluorophenoxy)-3-((4-methylphenyl)sulfonamido) hexanoic acid (2t)**: Following **GP8** with a reaction time of 3 days, **1t** (70 mg, 0.20 mmol) gave **2t** (49 mg, 62%) as a white solid. In a separate independent experiment **2t** (52 mg, 66%) was isolated giving an average yield of 64%. M.P: 93–94 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.92 (s, 1H), 7.75 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.27 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 6.99 – 6.89 (m, 2H), 6.75 (m, 2H), 5.62 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 3.78 (t, J = 5.1 Hz, 2H), 3.58 (m, 1H), 2.59 – 2.43 (m, 2H), 2.39 (s, 3H), 1.79 – 1.58 (m, 4H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 176.5, 157.4 (d, J = 238.3 Hz), 154.9 (d, J = 2.1 Hz), 143.8, 137.8, 129.9, 127.2, 115.9 (d, J = 23.0 Hz), 115.5 (d, J = 7.9 Hz), 67.8, 50.3, 38.9, 31.3, 25.7, 21.6 ppm. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -123.99 (tt, J = 8.4, 4.3 Hz) ppm. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3325, 3288, 2926, 2872, 1696, 1598, 1506, 1465, 1435, 1419, 1332, 1295, 1256, 1155, 1092, 1038. HRMS calcd. for (C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>21</sub>FNO<sub>5</sub>S) [M-H]<sup>-</sup>: 394.1130 found 392.1138.

**6-(4-Cyanophenoxy)-3-((4-methylphenyl)sulfonamido) hexanoic acid (2u)**: Following **GP8** with a reaction time of 6 days, <sup>xiii</sup> **1u** (71 mg, 0.20 mmol) gave **2u** (32 mg, 40%) as a white solid. In a separate independent experiment **2u** (34 mg, 42%) was isolated giving an average yield of 41%. M.P: 150–152 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.75 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.56 (m, 2H), 7.29 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 6.90 – 6.85 (m, 2H), 5.44 (d, J = 9.3 Hz, 1H), 3.93 – 3.89 (m, 2H), 3.59 (m, 1H), 2.48 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 2.46 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 2.40 (s, 3H), 1.83 (m, 1H), 1.72 (m, 3H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)<sup>xiv</sup>  $\delta$  175.3, 162.2, 143.9, 137.9, 134.2, 130.0, 127.2, 119.3, 115.3, 104.2, 67.5, 50.2, 38.4, 31.3, 25.6, 21.7 ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD)  $\delta$  174.4, 163.9, 144.7, 139.9, 135.1, 130.7, 128.0, 116.5, 104.5, 68.8, 51.5, 41.2, 32.2, 26.2, 21.4. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3265, 2921, 2215, 1712, 1605, 1574, 1508, 1450, 1404, 1302, 1259, 1172, 1152, 1095, 1022. HRMS calcd. for (C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>21</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>S) [M-H]<sup>-</sup>: 401.1177 found 401.1183

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xiii After a 3 day reaction, 34% of **2u** was observed by <sup>1</sup>H NMR and 25% **1u** remained. Therefore, a prolonged reaction time was used to maximize the yield.

xiv The solubility of **2u** in CDCl<sub>3</sub> is low so the <sup>13</sup>C NMR in CD<sub>3</sub>OD has also been provided.

**12-Hydroxy-3-((4-methylphenyl)sulfonamido) dodecanoic acid (2v)**: Following **GP8** with a reaction time of 6 days, <sup>xv</sup> **1v** (62 μl, 0.20 mmol) gave **2v** (49 mg, 64%) as a white solid. In a separate independent experiment **2v** (50 mg, 65%) was isolated giving an average yield of 65%. M.P.: 85–86 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.78 – 7.71 (m, 2H), 7.28 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 5.50 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 5.38 (s, br, 2H), 3.63 (t, J = 6.6 Hz, 2H), 3.57 – 3.44 (m, 1H), 2.52 – 2.35 (m, 5H), 1.60 – 1.48 (m, 2H), 1.46 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.37 – 1.04 (m, 13H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 175.5, 143.5, 138.1, 129.8, 127.2, 63.1, 50.6, 38.8, 34.6, 32.5, 29.3, 29.2, 29.1, 28.9, 25.7, 25.6, 21.7 ppm. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3467, 3310, 2918, 2854, 1707, 1430, 1333, 1298, 1258, 1157, 1136, 1094, 1040, 1004. HRMS calcd. for (C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>30</sub>NO<sub>5</sub>S) [M–H]<sup>-</sup>: 384.1850 found 384.1842.

**33-((4-Methylphenyl)sulfonamido)-7-(tosyloxy)** heptanoic acid (2w): Following GP8 with a reaction time of 3 days, 1w (85 mg, 0.20 mmol) gave 2w (40 mg, 43%) as a colourless oil. In a separate independent experiment 2w (36 mg, 38%) was isolated giving an average yield of 41%.  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.80 – 7.74 (m, 2H), 7.74 – 7.69 (m, 2H), 7.34 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.75 (s, br, 1H), 5.47 (d, J = 9.1 Hz, 1H), 3.96 – 3.83 (m, 2H), 3.46 (tq, J = 9.9, 5.6 Hz, 1H), 2.51 – 2.39 (m, 7H), 1.56 – 1.38 (m, 4H), 1.37 – 1.21 (m, 1H), 1.23 – 1.08 (m, 1H) ppm.  $^{13}$ C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  176.0, 145.0, 143.8, 137.8, 133.1, 130.0, 129.9, 128.0, 127.1, 70.2, 50.4, 38.7, 33.9, 28.3, 21.8, 21.8, 21.6 ppm. IR (neat, cm $^{-1}$ ): 3278, 2926, 1709, 1598, 1422, 1326, 1173, 1154, 1092. HRMS calcd. for ( $C_{21}H_{26}NO_{7}S_{2}$ ) [M–H] $^{-1}$ : 468.1156 found 468.1157.

**6-Cyano-3-((4-methylphenyl)sulfonamido) hexanoic acid (2x)**: Following **GP8** with a reaction time of 6 days, <sup>xvi</sup> **1x** (53 mg, 0.20 mmol) gave **2x** (31 mg, 50%) as a white solid. In a separate independent experiment **2x** (35 mg, 55%) was isolated giving an average yield of 53%. M.P.: 90–92 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.75 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.32 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 6.61 (s, br, 1H), 5.72 (d, J = 9.3 Hz, 1H), 3.58 – 3.48 (m, 1H), 2.45 – 2.39 (m, 5H), 2.32 – 2.24 (m, 2H), 1.75 – 1.48

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>xv</sup> In this case a shorter reaction was not carried out but trace **1v** (7%) observed in the crude <sup>1</sup>H NMR suggested that the prolonged reaction time was necessary.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>xvi</sup> A shorter reaction was not carried out but trace **1x** (3%) observed in the crude <sup>1</sup>H NMR suggested that the prolonged reaction time was necessary. In this case, the cyano group may coordinate to Ni and slow the reaction.

(m, 4H) ppm.  $^{13}$ C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  175.5, 144.1, 137.7, 130.1, 127.1, 119.4, 49.7, 38.7, 33.4, 21.9, 21.7, 16.7 ppm. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3302, 2947, 2924, 2244, 1704, 1597, 1426, 1350, 1324, 1206, 1154, 1090, 1070, 1013. HRMS calcd. for ( $C_{14}H_{17}N_2O_4S$ ) [M–H]<sup>-</sup>: 309.0915 found 309.0916.

**12-Ethoxy-3-((4-methylphenyl)sulfonamido)-12-oxo dodecanoic acid (2y)**: Following **GP8** with a reaction time of 3 days, **1y** (70 μl, 0.20 mmol) gave **2y** (59 mg, 69%) as a white solid. In a separate independent experiment **2y** (60 mg, 70%) was isolated giving an average yield of 70%. M.P.: 106 – 109 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.80 – 7.71 (m, 2H), 7.29 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 5.38 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 4.12 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.56 – 3.43 (m, 1H), 2.47 (dd, J = 5.2, 3.1 Hz, 2H), 2.41 (s, 3H), 2.27 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.58 (apparent p, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.46 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.24 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 1.30 – 1.06 (m, 10H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 176.26, 174.2, 143.6, 138.0, 129.8, 127.2, 60.4, 50.5, 38.8, 34.6, 34.5, 29.2, 29.1, 29.1, 29.0, 25.8, 25.0, 21.6, 14.4 ppm. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3271, 2937, 2859, 1703, 1597, 1451, 1422, 1329, 1290, 1258, 1188, 1156, 1093, 1004. HRMS calcd. for (C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>32</sub>NO<sub>6</sub>S) [M–H]<sup>-</sup>: 426.1956 found 426.1961.

**2-((4-Methylphenyl)sulfonamido)cyclohexane-1-carboxylic acid (2z)**: Following **GP8** with a reaction time of 10 days<sup>xvii</sup>, **1z** (50 mg, 0.20 mmol) gave **2z** (25 mg, 42%, d.r. 1:0.9 *cis:trans*) as a white solid. In a separate independent experiment **1z** (56 mg, 0.22 mmol) gave **2z** (25 mg, 38%) was isolated giving an average yield of 40%. H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, diastereomers)  $\delta$  7.79 – 7.72 (m, 2H), 7.33 – 7.24 (m, 2H), 5.89 (d, J = 9.4 Hz, 0.55H), 5.17 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 0.45H), 3.48 – 3.30 (m, 1H), 2.75 (q, J = 4.7 Hz, 0.55H), 2.42 (s, 1.65H), 2.40 (s, 1.35H), 2.32 (ddd, J = 11.3, 10.2, 3.8 Hz, 0.45H), 2.10 – 2.01 (m, 0.55H), 2.01 – 1.92 (m, 1H), 1.83 – 1.71 (m, 0.55H), 1.71 – 1.61 (m, 1.45H), 1.60 – 1.41 (m, 2H), 1.37 – 1.14 (m, 2.45H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, diastereomers)<sup>xviii</sup>  $\delta$  178.8<sup>m</sup>, 178.5<sup>M</sup>, 143.5<sup>m</sup>, 143.5<sup>M</sup>, 138.4<sup>M</sup>, 138.0<sup>m</sup>, 129.9<sup>M</sup>, 129.7<sup>m</sup>, 127.3<sup>m</sup>, 127.0<sup>M</sup>, 54.0<sup>m</sup>, 52.5<sup>M</sup>, 49.6<sup>m</sup>, 45.1<sup>M</sup>, 33.2<sup>m</sup>, 29.9<sup>M</sup>, 28.7<sup>m</sup>, 27.4<sup>M</sup>, 24.4<sup>m</sup>, 24.1<sup>m</sup>, 24.1<sup>m</sup>, 22.2<sup>M</sup>, 21.7<sup>m</sup>, 21.7<sup>M</sup>. LRMS (ESI):

xvii After a 7 day reaction, ~30% of 2z was observed by <sup>1</sup>H NMR and 40% 1z remained. After a 10 day reaction, ~40% of 2z was observed and 25% 1z remained. A 14 day reaction was also performed; no crude NMR was taken but the isolated yield of 2z was again 42%. Other reaction variables were modified to improve the yield such as switching to less hindered L4 and increasing the temperature but without success.

xviii Major (M) and minor (m) isomers have been assigned.

594 (2M–H), 410 (M+TFA<sup>-</sup>), 296 (M–H). Spectroscopic data for **2z** match those previously reported in the literature.<sup>41</sup>

**3-((4-Methoxyphenyl)sulfonamido) pentanoic acid (2aa)**: Following **GP8** with a reaction time of 5 days, <sup>xix</sup> **1aa** (40 µl, 0.20 mmol) gave **2aa** (38 mg, 66%) as a white solid. In a separate independent experiment **2aa** (41 mg, 73%) was isolated giving an average yield of 70%. M.P.: 104-106 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.58 (s, 1H), 7.93 – 7.74 (m, 2H), 7.09 – 6.83 (m, 2H), 5.42 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 3.56 – 3.33 (m, 1H), 2.47 (m, 2H), 1.53 (p, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 0.80 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  176.7, 163.0, 132.5, 129.3, 114.4, 55.7, 52.1, 38.6, 27.8, 10.4 ppm. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3278, 2974, 2918, 1709, 1596, 1579, 1497, 1455, 1433, 1412, 1314, 1299, 1284, 1260, 1192, 1144, 1121, 1096, 1073, 1038, 1016. HRMS calcd. for (C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>16</sub>NO<sub>5</sub>S) [M–H]<sup>-</sup>: 286.0755 found 286.0757.

**3-((4-Methylphenyl)sulfonamido) pentanoic acid (2ab)**: Following **GP8** with a reaction time of 3 days, **1ab** (39 µl, 0.20 mmol) gave **2ab** (39 mg, 73%) as a white solid. In a separate independent experiment **2ab** (41 mg, 77%) was isolated giving an average yield of 75%. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.75 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 5.41 (s, br, 1H), 3.46 (s, br, 1H), 2.56 – 2.41 (m, 2H), 2.41 (s, 3H), 1.52 (m, 2H), 0.79 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  176.8, 143.6, 138.0, 129.8, 127.2, 52.1, 38.6, 27.7, 21.6, 10.4 ppm. LRMS (ESI): 541 (2M–H), 270 (M–H). Spectroscopic data for **2ab** match those previously reported in the literature. <sup>40</sup>

xix After a 3 day reaction, ~67% of **2aa** was observed by <sup>1</sup>H NMR and 18% **1aa** remained. Therefore, a prolonged reaction time was used to reach completion.

**3-((3-Methoxyphenyl)sulfonamido) pentanoic acid (2ac)**: Following **GP8** with a reaction time of 5 days, <sup>xx</sup> **1ac** (48 mg, 0.20 mmol) gave **2ac** (33 mg, 57%) as a white solid. In a separate independent experiment **2ac** (34 mg, 59%) was isolated giving an average yield of 58%. M.P.: 89 – 91 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.35 (s, 1H), 7.46 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.43 – 7.37 (m, 2H), 7.09 (dd, J = 8.5, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 5.45 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 3.50 (q, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 2.54 – 2.41 (m, 2H), 1.54 (p, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 0.81 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  176.7, 160.1, 142.1, 130.3, 119.3, 119.3, 111.8, 55.8, 52.2, 38.5, 27.8, 10.4 ppm. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3230, 2975, 2945, 1704, 1595, 1581, 1475, 1427, 1333, 1283, 1237, 1155, 1035. HRMS calcd. for  $(C_{12}H_{16}NO_{5}S)$  [M–H]<sup>-</sup>: 286.0755 found 286.0754.

**3-((4-Fluorophenyl)sulfonamido) pentanoic acid (2ad)**: Following **GP8** with a reaction time of 3 days, **1ad** (36 µl, 0.20 mmol) gave **2ad** (25 mg, 45%) as a white solid. In a separate independent experiment **2ad** (26 mg, 47%) was isolated giving an average yield of 46%. M.P.: 97 – 99 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.00 – 7.83 (m, 2H), 7.22 – 7.12 (m, 2H), 5.50 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 3.59 – 3.38 (m, 1H), 2.50 (d, J = 5.4 Hz, 2H), 1.54 (p, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 0.79 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  176.6, 165.2 (d, J = 254.7 Hz), 137.1 (d, J = 3.3 Hz), 129.9 (d, J = 9.2 Hz), 116.4 (d, J = 22.5 Hz), 52.3, 38.7, 27.9, 10.4. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -105.31 (tt, J = 8.6, 4.9 Hz) ppm. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3206, 2980, 2960, 2925, 1695, 1593, 1496, 1451, 1430, 1407, 1332, 1289, 1238, 1152, 1117, 1091, 1070, 1034, 1011. HRMS calcd. for (C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>13</sub>FNO<sub>4</sub>S) [M–H]<sup>-</sup>: 274.0555 found 274.0544.

 $<sup>^{</sup>xx}$  A shorter reaction was not carried out but trace **1ac** (10%) observed in the crude NMR suggested that the prolonged reaction time was necessary.

**3-((4-(Trifluoromethyl)phenyl)sulfonamido) pentanoic acid (2ae)**: Following **GP8** with a reaction time of 5 days, <sup>xxi</sup> **1ae** (43 μl, 0.20 mmol) gave **2ae** (14 mg, 22%) as a white solid. In a separate independent experiment **2ae** (15 mg, 23%) was isolated giving an average yield of 23%. M.P.: 100-102 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.01 (d, J=8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.77 (d, J=8.2 Hz, 2H), 6.25 (s, br, 1H), 5.48 (d, J=9.1 Hz, 1H), 3.60 – 3.47 (m, 1H), 2.52 (d, J=5.2 Hz, 2H), 1.57 (p, J=7.3 Hz, 2H), 0.81 (t, J=7.4 Hz, 3H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 176.4, 144.7, 134.51 (q, J=33.1 Hz), 127.7, 126.39 (q, J=3.8 Hz), 123.36 (q, J=273.1 Hz), 52.5, 38.5, 28.0, 10.5 ppm. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -63.2. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>):3300, 2968, 2918, 1699, 1422, 1406, 1320, 1292, 1160, 1127, 1109, 1093, 1061, 1026 . HRMS calcd. for (C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>13</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>S) [M–H]<sup>-</sup>: 324.0523 found 324.0522.

**4-(Benzo[d][1,3]dioxol-5-yl)-3-((4-methylphenyl)sulfonamido) butanoic acid (2af)**: Following **GP8** with a reaction time of 5 days, <sup>xxii</sup> **1af** (66 mg, 0.20 mmol) gave **2af** (45 mg, 60%) as a colorless solid. In a separate independent experiment **2af** (48 mg, 64%) was isolated giving an average yield of 62%. M.P. = 113 - 116 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.64 – 7.59 (m, 2H), 7.25 – 7.21 (m, 2H), 6.64 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.50 – 6.42 (m, 2H), 5.93 – 5.90 (m, 2H), 5.40 – 5.10 (br. s., 1H), 3.72 – 3.62 (s, 1H), 2.78 (dd, J = 13.8, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 2.68 (dd, J = 13.8, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 2.58 (dd, J = 5.3, 2.6 Hz, 2H), 2.41 (s, 3H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  175.7, 148.0, 146.7, 143.6, 137.2, 130.5, 129.7, 127.2, 122.5, 109.5, 108.5, 101.1, 52.0, 40.4, 38.0, 21.7 ppm. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3315, 2917, 2635, 1710, 1599, 1501, 1491, 1445, 1407, 1326, 1293, 1248, 1232, 1192, 1157, 1088, 1065, 1031, 927, 859, 806, 665, 583, 569, 546. HRMS calcd. for (C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>19</sub>NNaO<sub>6</sub>S) [M+Na]<sup>+</sup>: 400.0831 found 400.0821.

xxi After a 3 day reaction, 16% of **2ae** was observed by <sup>1</sup>H NMR and 12% **1ae** remained.

xxii A shorter reaction was not carried out but trace **1af** (5%) observed in the crude NMR suggested that the prolonged reaction time was necessary. 25% TsNH<sub>2</sub> was also observed.

**4-(Benzo[d][1,3]dioxol-5-yl)-3-((4-methylphenyl)sulfonamido)** butanoic-1-<sup>13</sup>C acid (2af-<sup>13</sup>C): Following a modified **GP8**, to **1af** (66 mg, 0.20 mmol) and other solid reagents in a Schlenk tube under a flow of N<sub>2</sub> was added dry DMPU (0.50 ml, 0.40 M), MeOH (40 μl, 5.0 equiv.) and then frozen with liquid nitrogen.  $3 \times \text{vacuum}$  (<1 mbar)/  $^{13}\text{CO}_2$  cycles were then performed using the head-space volume between the gas canister and valve filled with  $^{13}\text{CO}_2$  for each addition. The Schlenk tube was then sealed, warmed to 10 °C and stirred for 5 days, giving **2af-**<sup>13</sup>C (47 mg, 63%) as a white solid.  $^{1}\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 9.42 (s, br, 1H), 7.61 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.22 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.62 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.50 – 6.42 (m, 2H), 5.96 – 5.86 (m, 2H), 5.46 (s, br, 1H), 3.76 – 3.61 (m, 1H), 2.76 (dd, J = 13.9, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 2.67 (dd, J = 13.9, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 2.63 – 2.49 (m, 2H), 2.40 (s, 3H) ppm.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 176.6 ( $^{13}\text{C}$ ), 147.9, 146.6, 143.6, 137.2, 130.5, 129.7, 127.1, 122.5, 109.5, 108.4, 101.1, 52.0, 40.4, 38.6, 38.0, 21.6 ppm. Spectroscopic data for **2af-**<sup>13</sup>C match that of the non-labelled analogue.

**3-((4-Methylphenyl)sulfonamido)-4-(2,4,5-trifluorophenyl) butanoic acid (2ag)**: Following **GP8** with a reaction time of 5 days, <sup>xxiii</sup> **1ag** (68 mg, 0.20 mmol) gave **2ag** (29 mg, 37%) as a white solid. In a separate independent experiment **2ag** (30 mg, 39%) was isolated giving an average yield of 38%. M.P. = 142 - 145 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.57 – 7.52 (m, 2H), 7.21 – 7.16 (m, 2H), 6.83 – 6.67 (m, 2H), 5.48 (d, J = 9.4 Hz, 1H), 3.77 – 3.67 (m, 1H), 2.88 – 2.71 (m, 3H), 2.63 (dd, J = 17.1, 4.0 Hz, 1H), 2.41 (s, 3H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  171.6, 142.3, 138.3, 129.3, 126.0, 121.6 (d, J = 18.6 Hz), 119.4 (dd, J = 19.4, 6.1 Hz), 105.4 (dd, J = 29.0, 20.9 Hz), 50.7, 40.8, 33.0, 20.9. <sup>19</sup>F (367 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ )  $\delta$  -118.7 (ddt, J = 15.8, 10.1, 5.0 Hz), -137.2 (dtd, J = 23.5, 10.9, 10.2, 3.6 Hz), -144.2 (dddd, J = 22.5, 15.4, 11.2, 6.9 Hz) ppm. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3241, 3058, 2926, 2698, 2590, 1696, 1633, 1599, 1518, 1424, 1328, 1241, 1218, 1200,1155, 1097, 1083, 1068, 964, 917, 880, 845, 835, 813, 755, 708, 654, 586, 547, 514, 483. HRMS calcd. for (C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>15</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>S) [M–H]<sup>-</sup>: 386.0679 found 386.0676.

xxiii After a 5 day reaction: 15% **1ag** was observed in the crude NMR along with 20% TsNH<sub>2</sub> Accurate quantification of **2ag** was not possible because of its' low solubility in CDCl<sub>3</sub>. Increasing the reaction time to 7 days did not improve the yield in this case.

(2,4,5-trifluorophenyl)butan-2-yl) benzenesulfonamide (3): Formally following literature procedure,<sup>34</sup> to a solution of 3-(trifluoromethyl)-5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-[1,2,4]triazolo[4,3-a]pyrazin-7ium chloride (15 mg, 0.080 mmol), EDC.HCl (28 mg, 0.14 mmol) and DMAP (35 mg, 0.29 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2.0 ml) was added drop wise a solution of **2ag** (28 mg, 0.070 mmol) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2.0 ml) and the resulting mixture was stirred at room temperature overnight. The reaction was quenched with 4.0 M HCl and acidified to pH = 1. The aqueous phase was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The combined organic fractions were dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), filtered and concentrated. The crude material was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>: MeOH 99:1  $\rightarrow$ 97:3) to afford 3 as a white solid (30 mg, 74%). The product appears as a mixture of rotamers ( $\sim$ 1:1) at RT. M.P. = 204 – 207 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>CN) δ 7.47 – 7.39 (m, 2H), 7.20 – 7.14 (m, 2H), 7.01 – 6.89 (m, 1H), 6.88 – 6.75 (m, 1H), 5.95 - 5.85 (m, 1H), 4.89 - 4.75 (m, 2H), 4.03 - 3.70 (m, 3H), 2.84 - 2.59 (m, 4H), 2.35 (s, 3H) ppm. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ , T = 115 °C)<sup>xxiv</sup>  $\delta$  7.52 – 7.43 (m, 2H), 7.33 (s, br, 1H), 7.20 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.15 (ddd, J = 11.4, 9.2, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 7.09 (ddd, J = 10.9, 9.6, 6.8 Hz, 1H), 4.84 (s, 2H), 4.17 (m, 2H), 3.92 (t, J = 5.5 Hz, 2H), 3.86 (m, 1H), 2.83 (dd, J = 14.0, 5.1 Hz, 1H), 2.75 - 2.67 (m, 2H), 2.64 (dd, J = 15.5, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 2.34 (s, 3H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ , T = 115 °C)  $\delta$  168.5, 155.3 (ddd, J = 243.5, 9.9, 2.4 Hz), 150.2, 147.6 (ddd, J = 247.1, 14.3, 12.7 Hz), 145.1 (ddd, J = 241.6, 12.3, 3.4 Hz), 142.1 (q, J = 39.6 Hz), 141.7, 138.3, 128.5, 125.5, 121.4 (ddd, J = 18.2, 5.8, 4.1 Hz), 118.7 (dd, J = 19.3, 6.2 Hz), 118.0 (q, J = 270.0 Hz), 104.6 (dd, J = 29.1, 21.1 Hz), 50.8, 42.9, 38.2 (2C), 32.9 (2C), 20.1. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (471 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ , T = 95 °C)  $\delta$  -61.7, -118.34 (d, J = 15.3 Hz), -137.21 (dd, J = 22.1, 3.0 Hz), -144.12 (dd, J = 21.9, 16.0 Hz). IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3157, 3057, 2927, 1626, 1515, 1477, 1445, 1425, 1336, 1272, 1236, 1201, 1162, 1136, 1095, 1073, 1034, 1016, 984, 969, 940, 854, 810, 709, 671, 575, 547. HRMS calcd. for  $(C_{23}H_{20}F_6N_5O_3S)$  [M-H]<sup>-</sup>: 560.1197 found 560.1184.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>xxiv</sup> The presence of rotamers of **3** at RT resulted in complicated NMR spectrum, particularly for the  $^{13}$ C in which  $^{13}$ C- $^{19}$ F couplings' make analysis challenging. Therefore, variable temperature NMR was carried out in DMSO- $d^6$  with complete resolution of the rotamers observed at 115 °C.

#### 3.2 Modification of β-Amino Acid Products

**7-Amino-3-((4-methylphenyl)sulfonamido) heptanoic acid (4)**: To **2k** (36 mg, 1.0 equiv, 1.1 mmol) in a Schlenk tube was added 5.0 M NH<sub>4</sub>OH solution (0.44 ml, 20 equiv., 2.2 mmol) under Ar atmosphere. The tube was sealed and the reaction was heated to reflux for 4 h. After this time, the solvent was removed *in vacuo* and the product purified by column chromatography on silica gel, eluting with CHCl<sub>3</sub>: MeOH: NH<sub>4</sub>OH (80:15:2  $\rightarrow$ 70:30:4) to give **4** (26 mg, 70%) as a white solid. M.P. = 212 - 214 °C (decomposition at 220 °C). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, MeOD)<sup>xxv</sup>  $\delta$  7.72 - 7.65 (m, 2H), 7.32 - 7.27 (m, 2H), 3.56 - 3.41 (m, 1H), 3.28 (s, 1H), 2.76 (td, J = 7.5, 1.4 Hz, 2H), 2.35 (s, 3H), 2.16 (m, 2H), 1.60 - 1.43 (m, 3H), 1.43 - 1.20 (m, 3H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, MeOD)<sup>xxvi</sup>  $\delta$  144.6, 140.2, 130.8, 130.8, 128.0, 52.4, 40.5, 35.3, 27.9, 23.5, 21.5 ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, D<sub>2</sub>O)  $\delta$  177.4, 144.9, 136.5, 130.1, 126.7, 51.0, 41.9, 39.2, 33.6, 26.2, 21.8, 20.7. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3327, 2918, 2861, 1634, 1557, 1396, 1315, 1229, 1155, 1093. HRMS calcd. for (C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>21</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>S) [M-H]<sup>-</sup>: 313.1228 found 313.1226.

$$N$$
 $CO_2H$ 

**2-(1-Tosylpyrrolidin-2-yl) acetic acid (5)**: NaH (60% in mineral oil, 9.5 mg, 0.23 mmol) was added in one portion to a solution of **2j** (33 mg, 0.11 mmol) in dry DMF (1.0 ml) and the resulting mixture was stirred at RT for 2 hours. The reaction mixture was diluted then with EtOAc (10 ml) and washed with 1 M HCl (2 × 10 ml). The organic phase was dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), concentrated *in vacuo*, and crude was washed several times with pentane to remove traces of mineral oil. Final product **5** was obtained as a white solid (24 mg, 81%). M.P. = 111 – 114 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.76 – 7.71 (m, 2H), 7.36 – 7.30 (m, 2H), 3.94 (ddt, J = 10.7, 7.4, 3.9 Hz, 1H), 3.50 – 3.42 (m, 1H), 3.19 – 3.09 (m, 2H), 2.57 (dd, J = 16.4, 10.0 Hz, 1H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 1.86 – 1.75 (m, 2H), 1.74 – 1.64 (m, 1H), 1.59 – 1.48 (m, 1H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  175.7, 143.8, 134.2, 129.9, 127.8, 56.5, 49.4, 41.1, 31.9, 23.9, 21.7. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3059, 2987, 2952, 2880, 2735, 2663, 1701, 1598, 1440, 1399, 1340, 1320, 1238, 1208, 1197, 1159, 1119, 1092, 1041, 988, 928, 821, 808, 709, 678, 659, 609, 583, 549. HRMS calcd. for (C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>16</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>S) [M–H]<sup>-</sup>: 282.0805 found 282.0802.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>xxv</sup> The NH<sub>2</sub> and NHTs signals were not observed in the <sup>1</sup>H spectra when taken in in CD<sub>3</sub>OD.

 $<sup>^{</sup>xxvi}$  The carboxylic acid peak was not observed in the  $^{13}$ C spectra when taken in CD<sub>3</sub>OD. Therefore, the  $^{13}$ C spectrum in D<sub>2</sub>O is also reported.

**2-(1-Tosylpiperidin-2-yl) acetic acid (6)**: To **2k** (44 mg, 1.0 equiv., 0.13 mmol) in dry DMF (1.0 ml) at 0 °C was added NaH (60% dispersion in mineral oil, 7.0 mg, 2.2 equiv. 0.29 mmol). The reaction mixture was warmed to RT and stirred overnight. After this time, the reaction was diluted with EtOAc and washed with 1.0 M HCl (2 times). The conversion was essentially quantitative and was purified by tituration with pentane to remove any grease, giving **6** (24 mg, 88%) as a white solid. M.P. = 107 - 109 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  10.04 (s, 1H), 7.73 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.30 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 4.54 (m, 1H), 3.82 (dd, J = 13.9, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 2.94 (td, J = 13.3, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 2.70 (dd, J = 15.3, 9.4 Hz, 1H), 2.54 (dd, J = 15.3, 5.4 Hz, 1H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 1.68 – 1.32 (m, 6H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  176.9, 143.4, 138.1, 129.9, 127.1, 49.5, 41.1, 34.8, 27.8, 24.7, 21.6, 18.4 ppm. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2930, 2860, 1698, 1596, 1474, 1428, 1406, 1337, 1292, 1228, 1190, 1152, 1091, 1034. HRMS calcd. for (C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>18</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>S) [M–H]<sup>-</sup>: 296.0962 found 296.0970.

## 3.3 Synthesis of Deuterium-labeled β-Amino Acid and Subsequent Modification

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{NHTs} \\ \text{CO}_2 \text{H} \\ \end{array}$$

(2S,3R)-3-((4-|Methylphenyl)sulfonamido) nonanoic-2-*d* acid (8). Following GP8 with a reaction time of 3 days, 1a-*d*<sub>I</sub> (51 μl, 0.20 mmol) gave 8 (43 mg, 66%, d.r 4:1 (major shown)) as a white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.76 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 5.48 – 5.36 (m, 1H), 3.50 (p, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 2.47 (m, 1H), 2.48 (d, J = 4.5 Hz)<sup>m</sup> & 2.46 (d, J = 5.8 Hz)<sup>M</sup> (1H), 2.41 (s, 3H), 1.63 – 1.36 (m, 2H), 1.24 – 0.98 (m, 8H), 0.83 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H). Note: NMR was also taken in CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> which gave better but not perfect resolution of the isotopic doublets. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) δ 9.24 (s, br, 1H), 7.79 – 7.70 (m, 2H), 7.32 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 5.39 – 5.14 (m, 1H), 3.50 (q, J = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 2.49 (d, J = 4.6 Hz, 0.3H), 2.45 (d, J = 5.9 Hz, 0.8H), 2.42 (s, 3H), 1.45 (q, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 1.25 – 1.01 (m, 8H), 0.84 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 176.7, 143.6, 138.0, 129.8, 127.2, 50.5, 38.8 (t, J = 18.0 Hz), 34.7, 31.7, 28.8, 25.8, 22.6, 21.6, 14.1 ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) δ 176.9, 144.1, 138.3, 130.1, 127.4, 50.9, 39.3, 39.1, 38.9, 35.0, 35.0, 32.0, 3.1, 26.0, 22.9, 21.7, 14.2. To confirm the presence of isomers in the isolated 8 and to determine their relative conformation, 2a and 8 were converted to the cyclic carbamate derivatives.

*N*-(1-Hydroxynonan-3-yl)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide (S15): To a slurry of LiAlH<sub>4</sub> (34 mg, 6.6 equiv.) in dry THF (1.0 ml) cooled to 0 °C was added 2a (45 mg) as a solution in THF (2.0 ml) drop wise. The mixture was then allowed to warm to RT and stirred for 2 h. After this time, the reaction was quenched by careful addition of H<sub>2</sub>O (~5 drops) and stirred until it turned white. CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (10 ml) was added and the mixture was filtered, washing with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2 × 5.0 ml). This gave S15 (41 mg, 95%) which was used in the following step without further purification. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.76 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.30 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 4.79 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 3.92 – 3.81 (m, 1H), 3.68 – 3.58 (m, 1H), 3.43 – 3.34 (m, 1H), 2.42 (s, 3H), 1.75 (ddt, J = 14.1, 9.2, 4.0 Hz, 1H), 1.47 – 1.35 (m, 1H), 1.37 – 1.26 (m, 2H), 1.16 (q, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 1.10 – 0.88 (m, 6H), 0.82 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 143.5, 138.1, 129.8, 127.2, 59.0, 51.6, 37.6, 35.8, 31.7, 29.0, 25.5, 22.5, 21.6, 14.2 ppm.

**4-Hexyl-3-tosyl-1,3-oxazinan-2-one** (S16): Following a modified literature procedure, <sup>42</sup> to S15 (41 mg, 0.13 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and pyridine (0.42 ml, 5.2 mmol, 40 equiv.) in dry CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (10 ml) cooled to 0 °C was added triphosgene (0.22 g, 0.65 mmol, 5.0 equiv.) as a solution in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (6.0 ml). After stirring for an hour at this temperature, the solution was warmed to RT and stirred overnight. The solution was again cooled to 0 °C, quenched with NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (sat.) and diluted with EtOAc (20 ml). The layers were separated and the aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc ( $2 \times 10$ ml). The combined organic fractions were dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. Purification by column chromatography gave S16 (16 mg, 36%) as a white solid. M.P. =  $80-82~^{\circ}C.~^{1}H~NMR~(500~MHz,~CD_{2}Cl_{2})~\delta~7.88-7.81~(m,~2H),~7.36-7.31~(m,~2H),~4.61-4.54~(m,~2H),~2.61-1.01~(m,~2H),~$  $H^{a}$ ), 4.37 (td, J = 11.6, 3.8 Hz,  $H^{d}$ ), 4.27 (dddd, J = 11.3, 5.2, 2.8, 1.1 Hz,  $H^{e}$ ), 2.44 (s, 3H), 2.12  $(ddtd, J = 14.8, 11.5, 5.2, 0.9 Hz, H^{c}), 2.04 (ddt, J = 14.6, 3.9, 3.0 Hz, H^{b}), 1.99 - 1.90 (m, 1H), 1.73$ -1.62 (m, 1H), 1.42 - 1.24 (m, 8H), 0.91 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)  $\delta$  148.9, 145.4, 136.7, 129.7, 129.2, 65.2, 55.7, 34.4, 32.1, 29.3, 26.1, 25.7, 23.0, 21.8, 14.2. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 2925, 2858, 1708, 1597, 1490, 1458, 1411, 1368, 1340, 1265, 1168, 1144, 1087, 1020. HRMS calcd. for  $(C_{17}H_{26}NO_4S)$   $[M+H]^+$ : 340.1577 found 340.1572. Note: As for **2a-d**, better resolution was obtained in CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and allowed quantification of the isotopic ratio in the case of **9-d**.

*N*-((2S,3R)-1-Hydroxynonan-3-yl-2-d)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide (S17): Following the above procedure for the synthesis of S15, 8(43 mg) gave S17 (38 mg, 93%) which was used in the following step without further purification.  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.79 – 7.73 (m, 2H), 7.32 – 7.27 (m, 2H), 3.87 – 3.80 (m, 1H), 3.62 (dd, J = 11.4, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 3.36 (tq, J = 6.5, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 2.41 (s, 3H), 1.76 – 1.65 (m, 1H), 1.36 – 1.23 (m, 2H), 1.15 (q, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 1.09 – 0.91 (m, 6H), 0.81 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H) ppm.

(4R,5S)-4-Hexyl-3-tosyl-1,3-oxazinan-2-one-5-d (9): Following the above procedure for the synthesis of S16, S17 (38 mg) gave 9 (15 mg, 37%, 4:1 d.r) as a white solid. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz,  $CD_2Cl_2$ )  $\delta$  7.87 – 7.83 (m, 2H), 7.36 – 7.32 (m, 2H), 4.59 – 4.53 (m,  $H^{a/a'}$ ), 4.37 (t, J = 11.7 Hz,  $H^c$ ) & 4.37 (dd, J = 11.3, 3.3 Hz,  $H^{c'}$ ), 4.26 (ddd, J = 11.3, 5.3, 1.1 Hz,  $H^d$ ) & 4.26 (m,  $H^{d'}$ ), 2.44 (s, 3H), 2.10 (dt, J = 11.5, 5.3 Hz, 0.8H<sup>b</sup>), 2.03 (dt, J = 4.1, 2.6 Hz, 0.2H<sup>b'</sup>), 2.00 – 1.90 (m, 1H), 1.73 – 1.64 (m, 1H), 1.43 – 1.24 (m, 9H), 0.94 – 0.87 (m, 3H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz,  $CD_2Cl_2$ , diastereomers)<sup>xxvii</sup>  $\delta$  149.0<sup>M</sup> & 148.9<sup>m</sup>, 145.4, 136.7, 129.7, 129.2, 65.2, 55.6<sup>M</sup> & 55.6<sup>m</sup>, 34.4<sup>M</sup> & 34.3<sup>m</sup>, 32.1, 29.3, 26.1<sup>m</sup> & 26.1<sup>M</sup>, 25.42 (t, J = 20.0 Hz)<sup>M&m</sup>, 23.0, 21.8, 14.2 ppm. Based on the closest available literature, <sup>43</sup> 9 has been assigned as a 4:1 *cis:trans* mixture of isomers.

xxvii The major (M) and minor (m) isomers have been assigned where the resolution was sufficient to detect separate peaks.

#### 3.4 Low Yielding and Unsuccessful Aziridines

Low yielding reactions:

**Scheme S2**: <sup>a</sup> 5 day reaction, isolated yield. <sup>b</sup> 6 day reaction, isolated yield. <sup>c</sup> <sup>1</sup>H NMR yield against internal standard. 45% of olefins were also detected. <sup>d</sup> <sup>1</sup>H NMR yield against internal standard. In this case the product was unstable to isolation. <sup>e</sup> <sup>1</sup>H NMR yield against internal standard. Quench and work-up carried out with NH<sub>4</sub>Cl instead of HCl. In this case, the product proved unstable to isolation. <sup>f</sup> 3 day reaction. 21% of product was detected by <sup>1</sup>H NMR and 45% of the aziridine remained. 7 day reaction: 15% of the product and 35% of the aziridine was observed <sup>g</sup> <sup>1</sup>H NMR yield against internal standard. In this case the product was unstable to isolation. <sup>h</sup> 5 day reaction, isolated yield. <sup>i</sup> 10 day reaction, isolated yield. Unlike with **2z**, the *trans* product was generated in high selectivity. The *cis*-cyclic carbamate was detected suggesting at a competing pathway with *cis*-intermediates.

#### 3.4.1 Characterisation of Low Yielding Aziridines and Isolated β-Amino Acids

**2-**(((*tert*-Butyldimethylsilyl)oxy)methyl)-1-tosylaziridine (S18): Following GP3 with (allyloxy)(tert-butyl)dimethylsilane (1.7 g, 10 mmol), purification by column chromatography on silica gel (hexane: EtOAc 9:1  $\rightarrow$ 5:1) afforded S18 as a colorless oil (1.2 g, 36%). H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.86 – 7.80 (m, 2H), 7.35 – 7.30 (m, 2H), 3.69 (dd, J = 11.6, 4.0 Hz, 1H), 3.59 (dd, J = 11.6, 5.3 Hz, 1H), 2.96 – 2.88 (m, 1H), 2.64 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 2.20 (d, J = 4.5 Hz,

1H), 0.81 (s, 9H), -0.03 (s, 3H), -0.04 (s, 3H) ppm. <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 144.6, 135.3, 129.8, 128.2, 62.5, 40.9, 30.7, 25.9, 21.8, 18.4, -5.3, -5.4. Spectroscopic data for **S18** match those previously reported in the literature.<sup>44</sup>

*N*-(4-(Pent-4-en-1-yloxy)phenyl) acetamide (S19): Following GP6, *N*-(4-hydroxyphenyl)acetamide (2.4 g, 16 mmol) gave S19 as a colourless oil (2.4 g, 73%).  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.41 – 7.32 (m, 2H), 7.09 (s, br, 1H), 6.91 – 6.80 (m, 2H), 5.85 (ddt, J = 16.9, 10.2, 6.6 Hz, 1H), 5.06 (dq, J = 17.1, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 4.99 (ddt, J = 10.2, 2.3, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 3.94 (t, J = 6.5 Hz, 2H), 2.28 – 2.17 (m, 2H), 2.15 (s, 3H), 1.87 (dq, J = 7.8, 6.5 Hz, 2H), 1.62 – 1.56 (m, 2H). Spectroscopic data for S19 match those previously reported in the literature.

*N*-(4-(3-(1-Tosylaziridin-2-yl)propoxy)phenyl) acetamide (S20): Following GP3 with S19 (1.8 g, 8.0 mmol), purification by column chromatography (hexane: EtOAc 8:2 → 6:4) gave S20 as a viscous oil (1.3 g, 43%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.81 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.37 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 7.32 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.17 (s, 1H), 6.79 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 3.92 − 3.81 (m, 2H), 2.86 − 2.76 (m, 1H), 2.64 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 2.14 (s, 3H), 2.09 (d, J = 4.6 Hz, 1H), 1.90 − 1.77 (m, 1H), 1.80 − 1.68 (m, 2H), 1.52 − 1.42 (m, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 168.1, 155.4, 144.4, 134.8, 130.9, 129.5, 127.8, 121.7, 114.5, 66.8, 39.7, 33.7, 27.8, 26.4, 24.1, 21.4. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3306, 3064, 2928, 1661, 1599, 1538, 1509, 1473, 1410, 1371, 1317, 1234, 1156, 1092, 1018. HRMS calcd. for (C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>25</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>S) [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 389.1530 found 389.1532.

**2-Cyclohexyl-1-tosylaziridine** (**S21**): Following **GP3** with vinylcyclohexane (0.79 g, 4.8 mmol), purification by column chromatography (hexane: EtOAc 9:1) gave **S21** as a white solid (0.51 g, 38%).  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.83 – 7.78 (m, 2H), 7.32 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 2.59 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 2.53 (td, J = 7.2, 4.5 Hz, 1H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 2.09 (d, J = 4.6 Hz, 1H), 1.73 – 1.55 (m, 4H), 1.49 (dtd, J = 12.4, 3.5, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 1.24 – 0.84 (m, 6H).  $^{13}$ C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  144.5, 135.2, 129.7, 128.2, 45.3, 39.5, 32.8, 30.3, 29.7, 26.1, 25.7, 25.5, 21.8, 21.0. LRMS (ESI): 279 (M+),

252, 238, 210, 184, 155, 132, 91. Spectroscopic data for **S21** match those previously reported in the literature.<sup>11</sup>

**6-Tosyl-6-azabicyclo[3.1.0] hexane (S22)**: Following **GP3**, cyclopentene (1.8 ml, 20 mmol) gave **S22** as a white solid (4.2 g, 88%).  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.83 – 7.78 (m, 2H), 7.36 – 7.28 (m, 2H), 3.33 (d, J = 1.4 Hz, 2H), 2.44 (s, 3H), 1.99 – 1.88 (m, 2H), 1.67 – 1.51 (m, 3H), 1.48 – 1.33 (m, 1H). Spectroscopic data for **S22** match those previously reported in the literature.  $^{46}$ 

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{NHTs} \\ \text{TBSO} \\ \begin{array}{c} \text{CO}_2\text{H} \end{array}$$

**4-(**(*tert*-Butyldimethylsilyl)oxy)-3-((4-methylphenyl)sulfonamido) butanoic acid (S23): Following GP8 with a reaction time of 6 days and quenching the reaction with NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (sat.) instead of HCl, S18 (68 mg, 0.20 mmol) gave S23 (24 mg, 32%) as a white solid. In a separate independent experiment S23 (25 mg, 32%) was isolated giving an average yield of 32%. H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.79 – 7.72 (m, 2H), 7.33 – 7.26 (m, 2H), 5.30 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 1H), 3.70 – 3.59 (m, 1H), 3.55 (dd, J = 10.1, 4.0 Hz, 1H), 3.49 (dd, J = 10.1, 5.5 Hz, 1H), 2.64 (dd, J = 16.6, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 2.50 (dd, J = 16.6, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 2.42 (s, 3H), 0.83 (s, 9H), -0.02 (s, 3H), -0.03 (s, 3H). C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 175.6, 143.7, 137.8, 129.9, 127.2, 64.0, 51.6, 35.7, 25.9, 21.6, 18.3, -5.5, -5.5. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3259, 2928, 2857, 1777, 1598, 1540, 1452, 1408, 1320, 1252, 1156, 1091. HRMS calcd. for (C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>28</sub>NO<sub>5</sub>SSi) [M–H]<sup>-</sup>: 386.1463 found 386.1475.

**6-(4-Acetamidophenoxy)-3-((4-methylphenyl)sulfonamido) hexanoic acid (S24)**: Following **GP8** with a reaction time of 6 days, <sup>xxix</sup> **S20** (78 mg, 0.20 mmol) gave **S24** (27 mg, 31%) as a white solid. In a separate independent experiment **S24** (23.5 mg, 27%) was isolated giving an average yield of 29%. M.P. = 112 - 116 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, MeOD)  $\delta$  7.77 – 7.71 (m, 2H), 7.44 – 7.35 (m, 2H), 7.33 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 6.82 – 6.74 (m, 2H), 3.75 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 3.64 – 3.52 (m, 1H), 2.45 –

xxviii Crude NMR was not taken in this case due to the instability of the **S23**. A long reaction time was used as it was proposed that the presence of the bulky TBS group would likely inhibit the reaction.

xxix In this case, accurate quantification by NMR was not possible due to the poor solubility of **S24** in CDCl<sub>3</sub>. After the 6 day reaction, however, a small amount of **S20** remained suggesting the long reaction time was necessary.

2.29 (m, 5H), 2.09 (s, 3H), 1.68 (m, 2H), 1.62 – 1.44 (m, 2H).  $^{13}$ C NMR (101 MHz, MeOD)  $\delta$  174.5, 171.4, 157.1, 144.7, 139.9, 132.8, 130.7, 128.0, 123.0, 115.6, 68.5, 51.7, 41.4, 32.3, 26.5, 23.6, 21.4. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3273, 2925, 1711, 1660, 1600, 1541, 1509, 1411, 1303, 1240, 1152, 1090, 1024. HRMS calcd. for ( $C_{21}H_{25}N_2O_6S$ ) [M–H]<sup>-</sup>: 433.1439 found 433.1434.

**3-Cyclohexyl-3-((4-methylphenyl)sulfonamido) propanoic acid (S25)**: Following **GP8** with a reaction time of 5 days, <sup>xxx</sup> **S21** (56 mg, 0.20 mmol) gave **S25** (24 mg, 37%) as a white solid. In a separate independent experiment **S25** (28 mg, 43%) was isolated giving an average yield of 40%. M.P. = 112 - 116 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.75 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.29 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 5.33 (d, J = 9.4 Hz, 1H), 3.39 – 3.29 (m, 1H), 2.55 – 2.34 (m, 5H), 1.83 – 1.40 (m, 6H), 1.20 – 1.02 (m, 3H), 0.83 (dq, J = 46.2, 12.0 Hz, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  176.3, 143.6, 138.1, 129.8, 127.2, 55.4, 41.3, 35.9, 29.6, 29.3, 26.2, 26.1, 26.0, 21.7. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>):3273, 2930, 2848, 1700, 1597, 1445, 1403, 1319, 1249, 1230, 1158, 1091, 1068, 1048. HRMS calcd. for (C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>22</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>S) [M–H]<sup>-</sup>: 324.1275 found 324.1280.

(*trans*)-2-((4-Methylphenyl)sulfonamido)cyclopentane-1-carboxylic acid (S26): Following GP8 with a reaction time of 10 days xxxi, S22 (48 mg, 0.20 mmol) gave S26 (13 mg, 22%, >10:1 *trans:cis*) as a white solid. In a separate independent experiment with a reaction time of 7 days, S26 (9 mg, 27%) was isolated. H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, diastereomers)  $\delta$  7.79 – 7.73 (m, 2H), 7.30 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 5.27 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 0.08H), 5.14 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 0.92H), 3.78 (p, J = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 2.83 (dt, J = 12.1, 6.2 Hz, 0.08H), 2.72 (dt, J = 9.3, 7.4 Hz, 0.92H), 2.41 (s, 3H), 2.09 – 1.90 (m, 1H), 1.80 (tdd, J = 15.4, 8.0, 5.9 Hz, 1H), 1.75 – 1.57 (m, 1H), 1.46 (dq, J = 12.9, 7.9 Hz, 1H).  $^{13}$ C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, major diastereomer)  $\delta$  179.3, 143.8, 137.1, 129.9, 127.4, 57.7, 50.8, 33.6, 28.3, 23.1, 21.7. LRMS (ESI): 565 (2M–H), 396 (M+TFA), 282 (M–H). Spectroscopic data for S26 match those previously reported in the literature.

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xxx After a 5 day reaction, **S21** (41%) was detected by <sup>1</sup>H NMR of the crude reaction mixture. Longer reaction times did not lead to better conversions suggesting the reaction had stalled. Other reaction variables such as increasing the temperature and changing the ligand were modified to try and improve the yield but without success.

xxxi After a 7 day reaction, 17% of **S26** was detected by <sup>1</sup>H NMR and 50% **S22** still remained. After a 10 day reaction, 25% of **S26** was detected by <sup>1</sup>H NMR and 35% **S22** still remained.

# 4 Mechanistic Investigation

#### 4.1 Impurities in Aziridine Synthesis and Poisoning Experiments

In the synthesis of aziridines from terminal olefins and Chloramine-T as reported by Sharpless<sup>12</sup> minor side-products are generated which have similar elution times to the desired aziridine and care must be taken during the purification to successfully remove these impurities. For substrate **1a**, a column of approximately 6 g of silica per mmol and keeping the eluent polarity at 95:5 hexane:EtOAc was sufficient to mostly remove these impurities but some mixed fractions were obtained. The first fractions before **1a** eluted pure contained an impurity in ~10% (Figure S1) which was identified as 1-bromooctan-2-ol (**S27**)<sup>xxxii</sup> by independent synthesis of this compound from 1-octene following literature procedure.<sup>47</sup> This impurity comes from the use of commercially available Chloramine.T trihydrate resulting in nucleophilic ring opening of the bromonium intermediate by H<sub>2</sub>O. The last fractions with **1a** contained many impurities (Figure S2) with the major impurity being *N*-(1-bromooctan-2-yl)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide (**S28**)<sup>xxxiii</sup> which was verified by independent synthesis of this compound from **1a** following literature procedure.<sup>48</sup> The opposite regioisomer of **S28** and *N*-(1-chlorooctan-2-yl)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide (**S29**)<sup>xxxiiv</sup> were also identified as minor impurities (Figure S3).

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**<sup>1-</sup>Bromoctan-2-ol (S27)**. Colourless oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 3.78 (tdd, J = 7.1, 5.6, 3.2 Hz, 1H), 3.55 (dd, J = 10.3, 3.2 Hz, 1H), 3.38 (dd, J = 10.3, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 2.08 (s, br, 1H), 1.62 – 1.22 (m, 10H), 0.95 – 0.81 (m, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 71.2, 40.8, 35.3, 31.8, 29.3, 25.7, 22.7, 14.2. GC-MS (ESI): 207/ 209 (M-H), 123/ 125 (M-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>5</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 115 (M-CH<sub>2</sub>Br). Spectroscopic data for **S27** match those previously reported in the literature. <sup>54</sup>

N-(1-Bromooctan-2-yl)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide (S28). White solid.  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.80 – 7.74 (m, 2H), 7.34 – 7.29 (m, 2H), 4.67 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 3.46 – 3.26 (m, 3H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 1.58 – 1.35 (m, 2H), 1.31 – 1.03 (m, 8H), 0.85 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H).  $^{13}$ C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 143.8, 138.0, 129.9, 127.2, 53.3, 38.5, 33.7, 31.7, 28.8, 25.4, 22.6, 21.7, 14.2. GC-MS (ESI): 361 (M+), 276/ 278 (M-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>5</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 268 (M-CH<sub>2</sub>Br), 155 (Ts), 91 (Tolyl). Spectroscopic data for **S28** match those previously reported in the literature.  $^{55}$ 

xxxiv N-(1-Chlorooctan-2-yl)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide (S29). White solid.  $^{1}$ H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.79 – 7.74 (m, 2H), 7.34 – 7.28 (m, 2H), 4.69 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 3.55 – 3.40 (m, 3H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 1.56 – 1.39 (m, 2H), 1.23 – 1.04 (m, 8H), 0.85 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H).  $^{13}$ C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 143.8, 138.0, 129.9, 127.2, 53.9, 48.3, 32.6, 31.7, 28.9, 25.5, 22.6, 21.7, 14.2. GC-MS (ESI): 317 (M+), 268 (M-CH<sub>2</sub>Cl), 232 (M-(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>5</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 155 (Ts), 91 (Tolyl); Spectroscopic data for **S29** match those previously reported in the literature.  $^{56}$ 

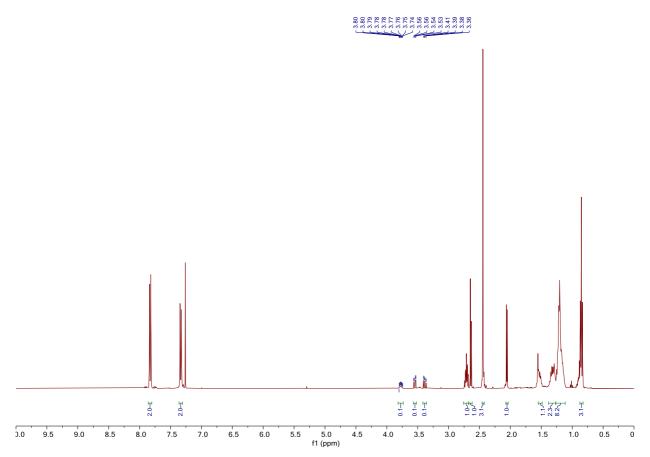


Figure S1: <sup>1</sup>H (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz)

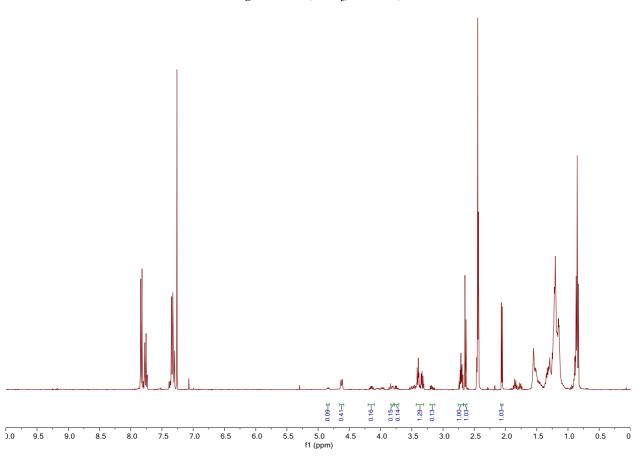


Figure S2: <sup>1</sup>H (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 400 MHz)

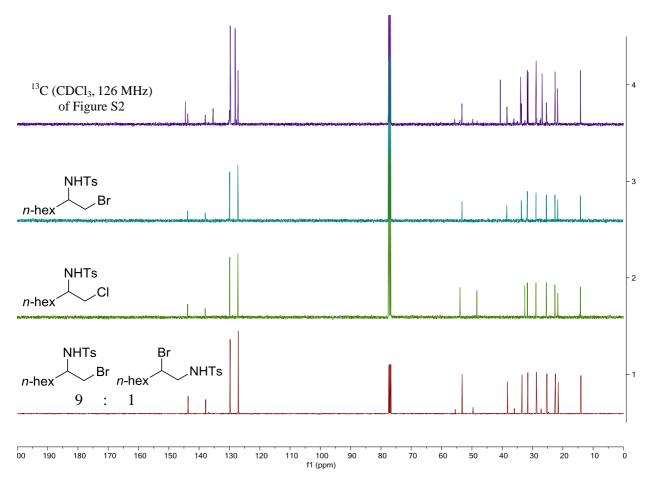


Figure S3

As mentioned during the optimization studies (see §2), it was realized that the presence of even trace amounts (2-5%) of these impurities in the batch of 1a significantly influenced the reaction outcome. Side-reactions were more prevalent resulting in quicker consumption of the aziridine and a lower yield of the desired  $\beta$ -amino acid (2a) overall. To study this under a controlled setting, poisoning experiments were conducted with the independently synthesized 827, 828 and 829, introducing them into back into the reaction in increasing amounts. The addition of 827 to the reaction decreased the yield of 828 with 8290 observed when 8291 was present as well as over twice as much 8291 (Table 84) suggesting 891-hydride and deamination pathways were promoted.

The addition of **S28** had a similar influence on the reaction outcome (Table S5) with less **2a** and more TsNH<sub>2</sub> generated as the loading of **S28** was increased. Importantly, when **S28** was used in place of **1a**, the major product was TsNH<sub>2</sub> and only small amounts of **2a** were generated. In contrast, addition of **S29** did not result in a clear trend besides a small drop in conversion and yield of **2a** (Table S6). When **S29** was used in place of **1a**, a small amount of **2a** was again generated but the conversion was low and ~10% of **1a** was also detected. The presence of **1a** in the crude reaction

mixture, along with the tolerance of the alkyl chloride in substrates **1j-k**, suggests that **2a** may be generated via the aziridine formed *in situ*.

Table S4

Table S5

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> <sup>1</sup>H-NMR yields using trimethoxybenzene as internal standard. <sup>b</sup> The mixed fractions as shown in Figure S1 were used in place of pure **1a**.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a 1</sup>H-NMR yields using trimethoxybenzene as internal standard. <sup>b</sup> 1 equiv. of **S28** was used in place of **1a**.

Table S6

It is not fully understood how these impurities influence the reaction but the use of nickel bromide pre-catalysts always resulted in worse results, suggesting that it is the presence of bromide in the reaction mixture that is detrimental. To test this theory, a reaction was performed with MnBr<sub>2</sub> added (Scheme S3) and a very similar result to that with 10 mol% of S27/28 was obtained. Although it is possible that S28 and S29 are intermediates in the reaction, the small amount of 2a observed when S28/29 were subjected to the reaction conditions suggests this is unlikely.

Scheme S3

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a 1</sup>H-NMR yields using trimethoxybenzene as internal standard. Average of 2 independent runs <sup>b</sup> 1 equiv. of **S29** was used in place of **1a**.

#### 4.2 Electrochemical Studies

Cyclic voltammetry was conducted on a PARSTAT 2273 potentiometer (Princeton Applied Research) using a 3-electrode cell configuration. A glassy carbon working electrode was employed alongside a platinum flag counter electrode and a Ag/AgCl (KCl sat.) reference electrode. Tetrabutylammonium hexafluorophosphate (Bu<sub>4</sub>NPF<sub>6</sub>) was used as a supporting electrolyte (0.10 M). Ferrocene solutions (2.0 mM) were used as an internal standard to determine the precise potential scale in different solvents. The aziridine **1ab** was made up as a 5 mM solution in CH<sub>3</sub>CN (dry). The Ni complexs: **L1NiCl<sub>2</sub>** and **L5NiCl<sub>2</sub>** were made up as 5 mM solutions in CH<sub>3</sub>CN or DMA. Argon was passed through the samples for 10 minutes before taking any measurements and an Ar atmosphere was maintained for the duration to avoid the deleterious influence of oxygen reduction. Samples were examined at scan rates from 20 to 1000 mV s<sup>-1</sup> depending on the substrate. In the situations where there is no apparent return oxidation peak, we have stated the E<sub>p</sub><sup>red</sup> (the potential corresponding to the maximum reductive current).

The reduction of aziridine **1ab** (Figure S4) showed an irreversible profile over all scan rates tested (20 to 1000 mV s<sup>-1</sup>) suggesting a rapid fragmentation upon reduction of the tosyl moiety. An oxidation peak is then observed at 0.5 V which is likely the oxidation of one of the fragments generated (no peak is observed if first scanning in the forward direction, see Figure S5). The extremely difficult reduction (– 2.4 V vs. Ag/ AgCl at 100 mVs<sup>-1</sup>) provides evidence against a single electron transfer type oxidative addition **1ab** into Ni(0) as this would be highly unfavorable. Furthermore, the addition of MeOH (5 equiv.) to **1ab** did not alter the reduction profile (Figure S5).

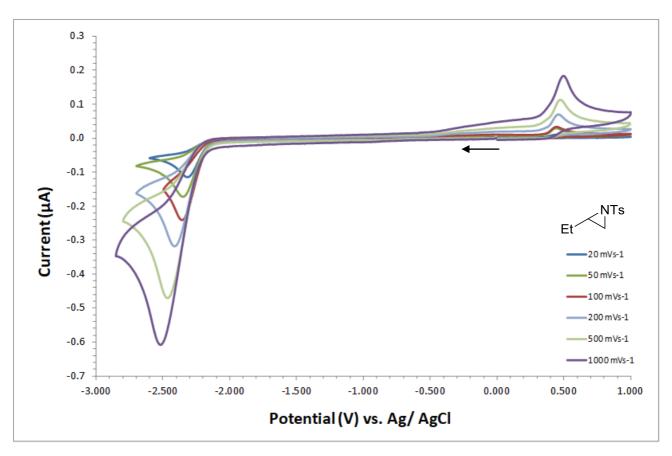


Figure S4: CV of 1ab in MeCN at different scan rates

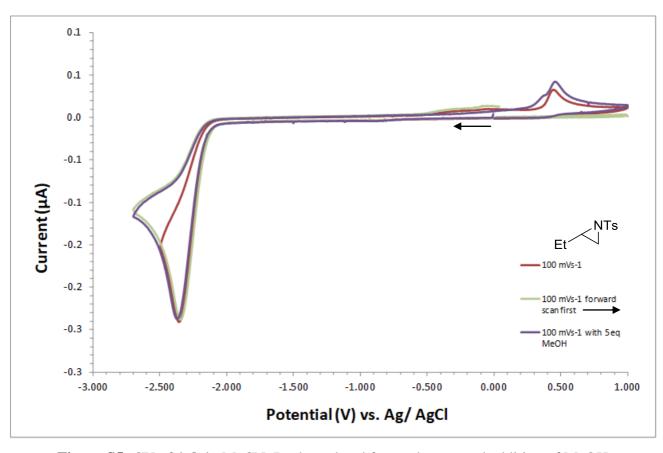


Figure S5: CV of 1ab in MeCN. Backward and forward scans and addition of MeOH

The reduction profile of Ni(II) pre-catalysts (**L1NiCl<sub>2</sub>** and **L5NiCl<sub>2</sub>**) were also measured to investigate whether there was any correlation with the experimental results. The reduction of **L5NiCl<sub>2</sub>** in CH<sub>3</sub>CN shows 3 sequential reductions at -0.75, -1.1 and -1.8 V vs. Ag/ AgCl (Figure S6). The peak currents (E<sub>p</sub>) and peak-peak separation ( $\Delta$ E<sub>p</sub>) were found to correlate linearly with the square root of the scan rate ( $\upsilon^{1/2}$ ) and therefore are tentatively assigned as quasi-reversible freely diffusing reductions to Ni(I), Ni(0) and Ni(-I) respectively. These results also suggest that the formation of Ni(0) is possible with manganese as reductant (Mn/ Mn (II) = -1.4 V vs. Ag/ AgCl)<sup>xxxv</sup> in agreement with the stoichiometric and catalytic experiments with (**L5**)<sub>2</sub>Ni(0). The reduction of **L5NiCl<sub>2</sub>** was also measured in DMA (Figure S7) to better represent the conditions under which the carboxylation of aziridines is performed. The reduction profiles observed are more complex in this solvent; the second reduction has very large  $\Delta$ E<sub>p</sub> which may be the result of interaction of DMA with the Ni-complex. The measured reductions (-0.75 V and -1.2 V vs. Ag/ AgCl), however, are very similar to that observed in CH<sub>3</sub>CN.

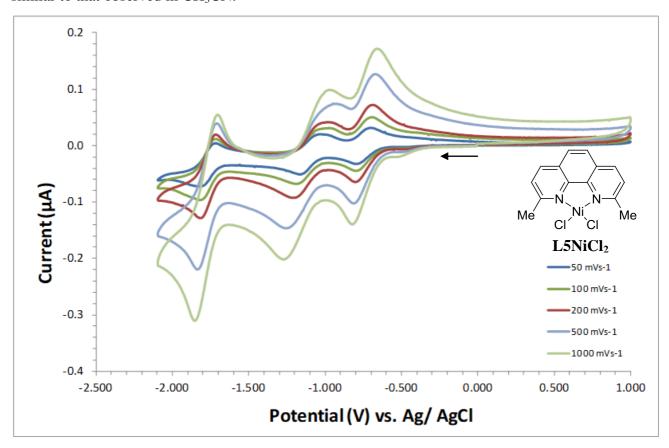


Figure S6: CV of L5NiCl<sub>2</sub> in MeCN

xxxv A conversion factor of -0.2 V was used to convert the value from that vs. normal hydrogen electrode (NHE) to Ag/AgCl reference electrode. See Bard, A. J.; Faulkner, L. R. Electrochemical Methods: Fundamentals and Applications; Wiley: New York, 1980.

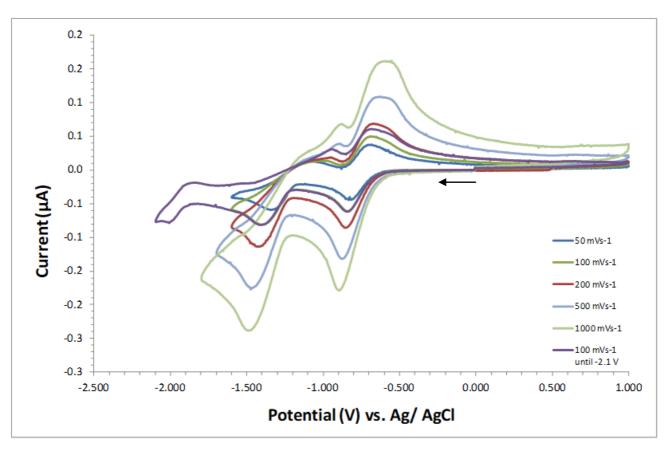


Figure S7: CV of L5NiCl<sub>2</sub> in DMA

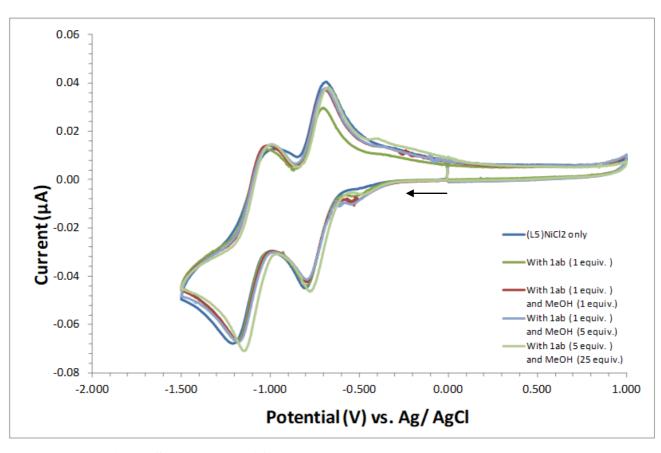


Figure S8: CV of L5NiCl2 in MeCN with additions of 1ab and MeOH

The cyclic voltammogram of  $L1NiCl_2$  was also measured and similarly shows a fairly complex reduction profile (Figure S9). In MeCN, 3 quasi-reversible reductions can be observed at -0.8, -1.2 and -1.9 V vs. Ag/ AgCl. Although slightly more difficult to reduce than  $L5NiCl_2$ , the first 2 reductions are within range of Mn and do not suggest at any difficulties in generating Ni(0). On the other hand, these investigations imply that more weakly reducing zinc (Zn/Zn (II) = -1.0 V vs. Ag/ AgCl)<sup>xxxv</sup> would not be suitable and this is indeed observed experimentally.

After the lack of success in isolation of azanickelacyclobutanes (see §4.3.2) with hindered nitrogen ligands such as **L1** and **L5**, it was theorized that evidence may be gained by changes to the cyclic voltammogram of LNiCl<sub>2</sub> complexes upon the addition of aziridine and/or MeOH. However, absolutely no difference was observed (Figure S8 & Figure S10) even under conditions similar to that of the catalytic reaction (5 equiv. of **1ab** and 25 equiv. of MeOH respective to **L5NiCl<sub>2</sub>**). On the other hand, it could be argued that this provides evidence for the oxidative addition of terminal aziridines into hindered Ni-complexes being very challenging.

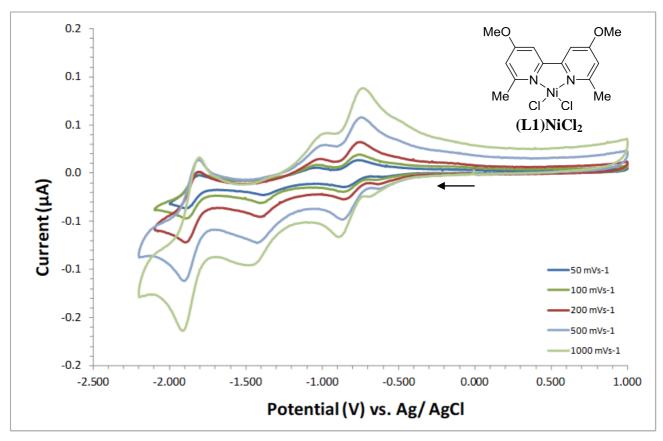


Figure S9: CV of L1NiCl<sub>2</sub> in MeCN

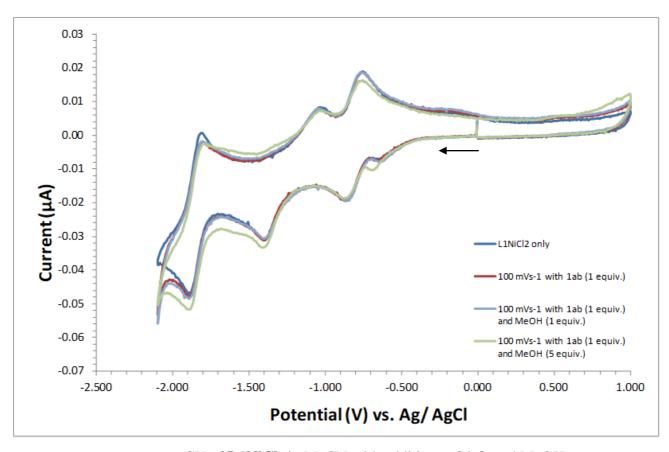


Figure S10: CV of  $L1NiCl_2$  in MeCN with additions of 1ab and MeOH

#### 4.3 Experiments with $(L5)_2Ni(0)$

#### 4.3.1 Synthesis of $(L5)_2Ni$

Following a modified literature procedure:<sup>4</sup> in the glovebox, Ni(COD)<sub>2</sub> (0.60 g, 2.2 mmol) and neocuproine (0.93 g, 4.5 mmol, 2.05 equiv.) were added to a 12 ml vial with a stirrer bar and charged with 6.0 mL of toluene. The reaction was left to stir for 16 h and the solvent was then removed to afford a brown solid. To the solid, 2.0 ml of toluene was added and stirred for 10 minutes followed by the addition of 5.0 ml of pentane. The solid was then filtered and washed with pentane (3 × 1 ml) to afford (L5)<sub>2</sub>Ni as a dark brown solid (1.0 g, 99 % yield). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  9.00 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.68 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.32 (s, 2H), 2.24 (s, 6H). Spectroscopic data for this compound matches with that reported in the literature. <sup>49,50</sup>

# 4.3.2 Stochiometric Monitoring of Ni(0) Undergoing Oxidative Addition to Aziridine and MALDI-MS Identification of (L5)Ni(Aza-metallacycle)

In the glovebox, (L5)<sub>2</sub>Ni (5.5 mg, 0.010 mmol) and 1ab (6.7 mg, 0.030 mmol) were added to a 10 ml vial and dissolved in 1.0 ml THF- $d_8$ . This solution was then added to a J-Young NMR tube and monitored by <sup>1</sup>H and paramagnetic <sup>1</sup>H NMR. After 7 h at 70 °C, a mixture of both diamagnetic (Figure S11) and paramagnetic species (Figure S12) had formed. Throughout the monitoring of this reaction, at no point were diamagnetic signals ( $\delta$  = 12-0 ppm) corresponding to (L5)Ni<sup>II</sup>(Azametallacycle) formed. However, analysis by MALDI-MS of the crude reaction mixture after 21.5 h (t<sub>4</sub>) revealed the corresponding m/z-H signal of (L5)Ni<sup>II</sup>(Aza-metallacycle) (Figure S13).<sup>51</sup> These results suggest that if (L5)Ni<sup>II</sup>(Aza-metallacycle) is formed in significant quantities, it may be as a paramagnetic species. Trace 1-butene was also detected after 7 h at 70 °C along with the formation of TsNH<sub>2</sub> with increasing amounts observed at 12.5 and 21.5 h.

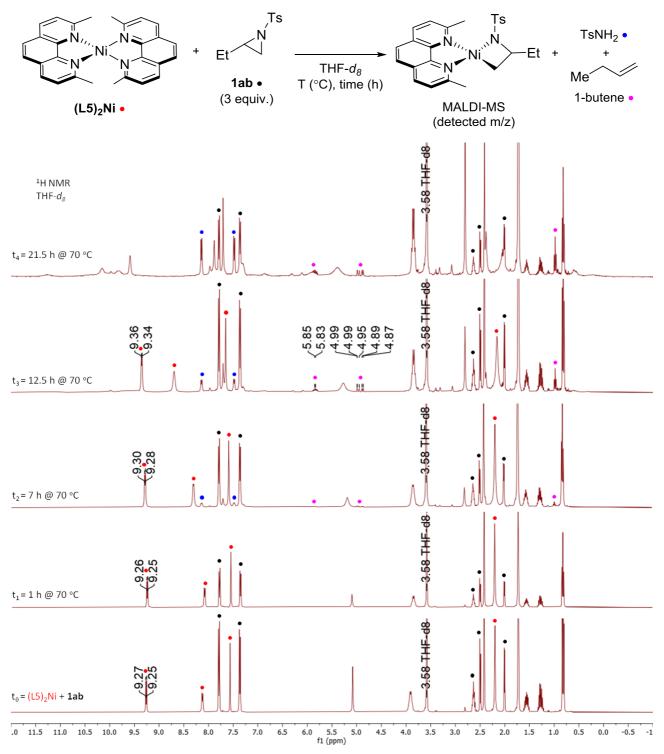


Figure S11: <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra from monitoring the reaction between (L5)<sub>2</sub>Ni (red) and 1ab (black) in THF- $d_8$  forming a mixture of products.

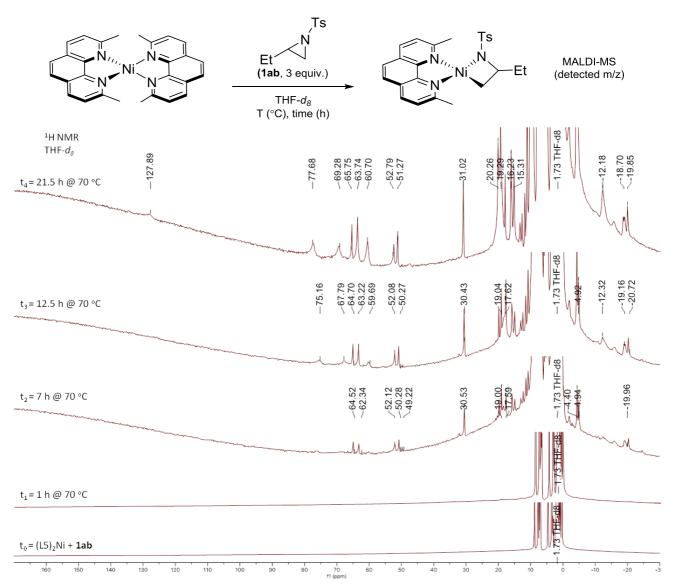
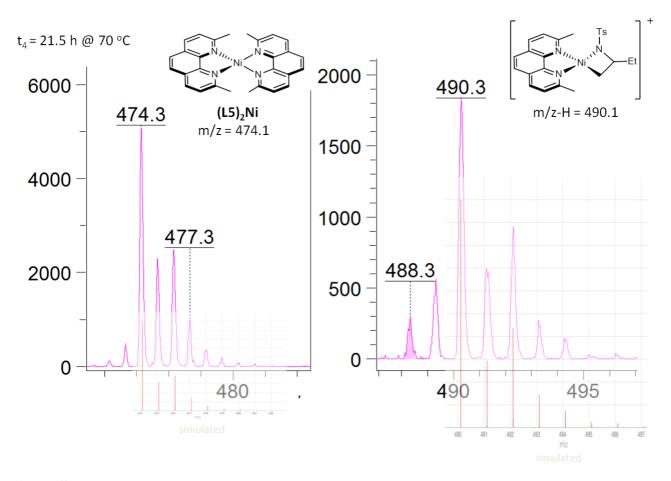


Figure S12: Paramagnetic <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra from monitoring the reaction between (L5)<sub>2</sub>Ni and 1ab in THF- $d_8$  forming a mixture of products.



**Figure S13**: MALDI-MS of the crude reaction mixture after the final timepoint  $(t_4)$ , identifying m/z-H signal of  $(L5)Ni^{II}(Aza-metallacycle)$  - right

# 4.3.3 Stochiometric Monitoring of Ni(0) Undergoing Oxidative Addition to Aziridine with Clean Formation of Organic Products Originating from Deamination of the Aziridine

In the glovebox,  $(L5)_2Ni$  (4.2 mg, 0.010 mmol), 1ad (5.7 mg, 0.030 mmol) and LiCl (2.3 mg, 0.050 mmol) were added to a 10 ml vial and dissolved in 1.0 ml THF- $d_8$ . This solution was then added to a J-Young NMR tube and monitored by  $^1H$ , paramagnetic  $^1H$  and  $^{19}F$  NMR. Again, after 3 h at 60  $^{\circ}C$ , organic product 1-butene starts to be observed, followed by an increased amount after 18 h and full conversion of  $(L5)_2Ni$  (Figure S14). While monitoring this and similar reactions, at no point were we able to identify signals that could correspond to  $(L5)Ni^{II}(Aza-metallacycle)$ .

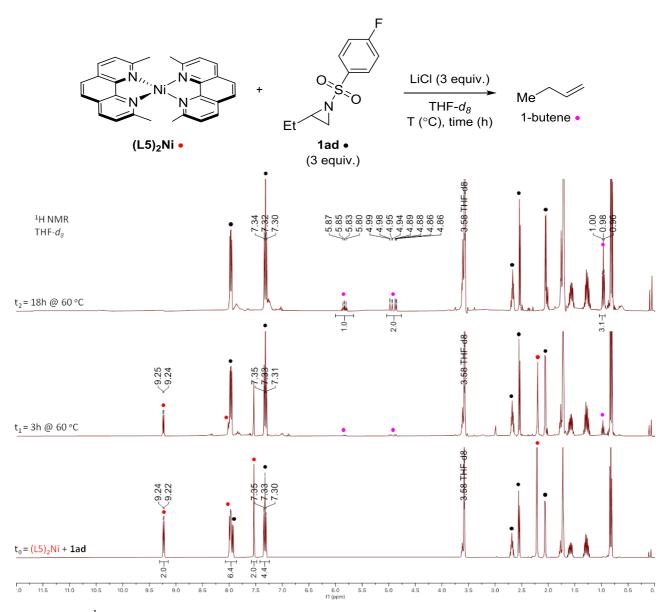


Figure S14: <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of monitoring the reaction between (L5)<sub>2</sub>Ni (red) and 1a3 (black) with clean formation of 1-butene in THF- $d_8$ .

# 4.3.4 Stochiometric Monitoring of Ni(0) Undergoing Oxidative Addition to Aziridine and Single Crystal Identification of Complexes Originating from Ligand Activation

In the glovebox, (L5)<sub>2</sub>Ni (6.9 mg, 0.010 mmol) and 1ab (11 mg, 0.050 mmol) were added to a 10 ml vial and dissolved in 1 mL THF-d<sub>8</sub>. This solution was then added to a J-Young NMR tube and monitored by <sup>1</sup>H and paramagnetic <sup>1</sup>H NMR. After 48 h at 50 °C a mixture of both diamagnetic (Figure S15) and paramagnetic species (Figure S16) had formed, with the identification of organic product 1-butene derived from deamination. Crystallization of the crude reaction mixture from THF/Pentane led to crystals of a nickel complex (Ni-II) that has undergone ligand activation shown below. The mechanism by which this complex is generated is very much uncertain, particularly as the formation of a quaternary carbon is required in the ligand activation. This suggests at the formation of an enamine intermediate via β-hydride elimination which acts as a base to deprotonate the *ortho*-Me of L5 (Scheme S4). Finally, addition of INT-II to the imine forms the quaternary centre leading to Ni-II. Note: the nature of INT-I is uncertain so has been written with an ambiguous R group, but the presence of a ligated NHTs group in Ni-II suggests at the possibility of a nickel nitrene complex (e.g. INT-III, Scheme S5).

$$(L5)_2Ni \xrightarrow{1ab} (N)_{N} = 0$$

$$N_{N} = 0$$

Scheme S4: Possible mechanism for the formation of Ni-II

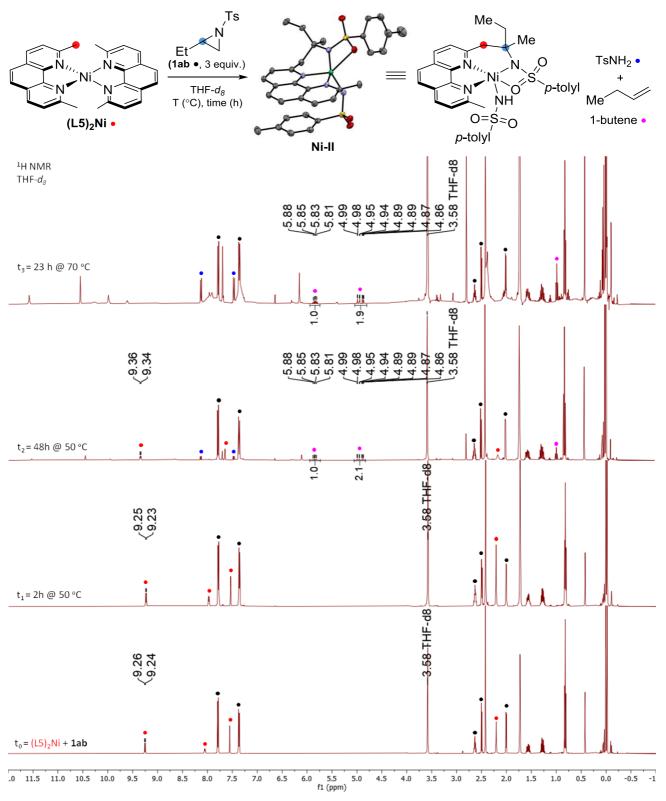
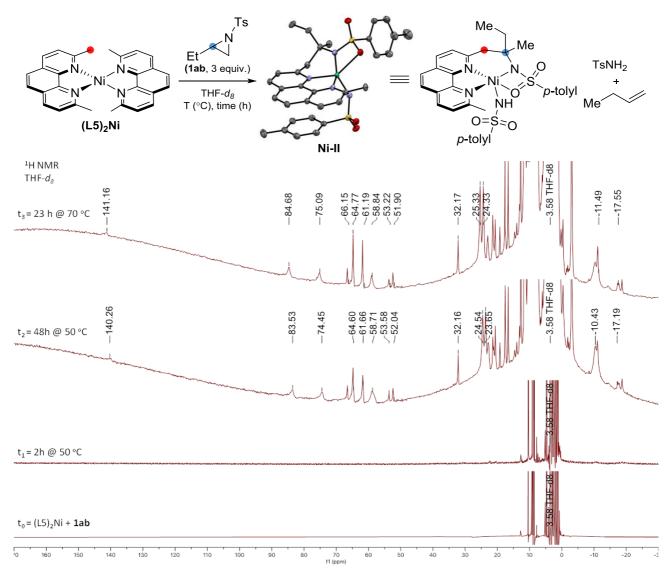


Figure S15: <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of monitoring the reaction between (L5)<sub>2</sub>Ni (red) and 1ab (black) in THF- $d_8$ .



**Figure S16**: Paramagnetic <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra monitoring the reaction between (**L5**)<sub>2</sub>**Ni** and **1ab** in THF- $d_8$ .

#### 4.3.5 Isolating An Aziridine Derived Complex Post Oxidative Addition

In the glovebox, (**L5**)<sub>2</sub>**Ni** (30.6 mg, 0.050 mmol) and **1ab** (37.0 mg, 0.16 mmol) were added to a 10 ml Schlenk flask and dissolved in 6.0 mL of THF with a stirrer bar. This stirred solution was then heated at 70 °C for 4 days where a gradual color change from brown to purple/ blue was observed. To this solution, Et<sub>2</sub>O (8.0 ml) was added and a blue solid precipitated which was then filtered and washed with pentane (3 × 1 ml) to afford (L5)Ni(N,N-ditosyl-1-ethyl-diamine) **Ni-I** (12 mg, 29%) as a blue powder. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, Toluene- $d_8$ )  $\delta$  78.15 (s, 1H), 62.11 (s, 1H), 59.25 (s, 1H), 22.90 (s, 7H), 15.00 (d, J = 325.3 Hz, 2H), -4.05 (s, 3H), -11.47 (s, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR is omitted due to paramagnetic line broadening. Although only a hypothesis, it is possible that a nickel nitrene species is generated from deamination of an azanickelacyclobutane intermediate, which then undergoes cycloaddition into another molecule of **1ab** to form diazanickelacyclopentene **Ni-I** (Scheme S5).

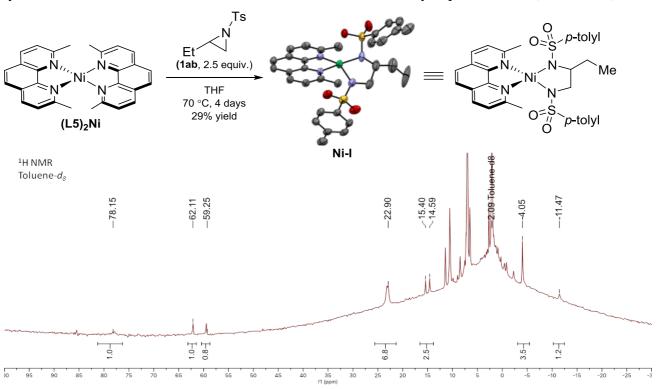


Figure S17: Paramagnetic <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of Ni-I in Toluene- $d_8$ .

Scheme S5: Possible mechanism for the formation of Ni-I

# 4.3.6 Confirmation of $(L5)_2Ni$ as a competent catalyst in the carboxylation of aziridines and quantification of by-products

The reaction was set up following **GP8** except that (**L5**)<sub>2</sub>**Ni** (10 mol%) was used in place of NiCl<sub>2</sub>glyme and **L1**. Also, special care was taken when removing the solvent after work-up with pressures no lower than 100 mbar employed to avoid removal of volatile compounds. Under these conditions, 47% of **2l** was detected (Figure S18) which is in agreement to that with NiCl<sub>2</sub> (10 mol%) and **L5** (20 mol%). In addition, 25% of TsNH<sub>2</sub> was observed which is likely generated via 2 side reactions. Firstly, β-hydride elimination from a Ni(II)-**11** intermediate would give an iminium which after tautomerization and hydrolysis generates 4-phenylbutan-2-one and TsNH<sub>2</sub>. Secondly, supported by isolation of Ni-NTs complexes in stoichiometric experiments (see §4.3.4 & 4.3.5), deamination of a Ni(II)-**11** intermediate generates 4-phenyl-1-butene and subsequently TsNH<sub>2</sub>.

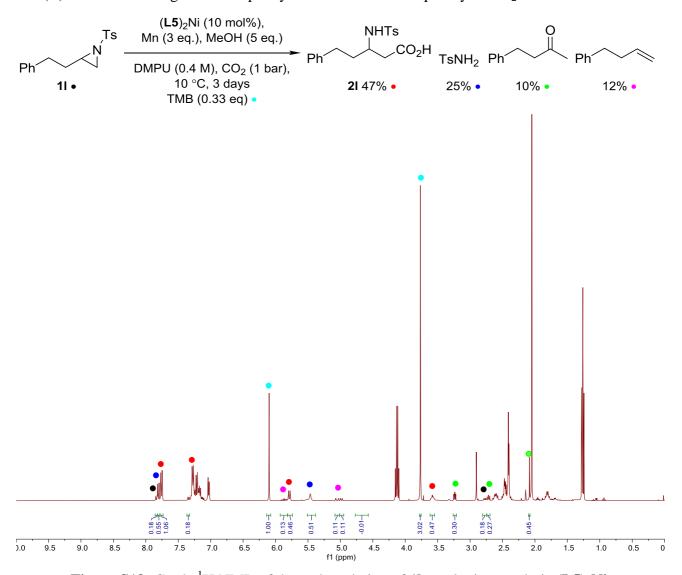


Figure S18: Crude <sup>1</sup>H NMR of the carboxylation of 1l employing catalytic (L5)<sub>2</sub>Ni.

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xxxvi A 3 day reaction with **11** under the standard conditions but with **L5** (20 mol%) in place of **L1** gave 48% **21**, 28% TsNH<sub>2</sub>, 10% 4-phenyl-1-butene and 7% 4-phenylbutan-2-one.

Addition of glyme (10 mol%) to the above reaction with (**L5**)<sub>2</sub>**Ni** (10 mol%) resulted in a decrease in reaction rate and a lower yield of **2l** (Scheme S6) possibly a result of competitive ligation to Ni. In contrast, addition of MnCl<sub>2</sub> or MnBr<sub>2</sub> resulted in complete consumption of **1l** and a detrimental effect on the yield of **2l** in the case of MnBr<sub>2</sub>, as observed in the previous poisoning experiments (§4.1).

#### Scheme S6

An experiment was also conducted under the standard reaction conditions (**GP8**) but without CO<sub>2</sub> atmosphere (Scheme S7). The aziridine **11** was consumed with 4-phenylbutan-2-one (25%) and 4-phenyl-1-butene (38%) again observed. The quantification of these products agrees with the amount of TsNH<sub>2</sub> generated and provides further evidence for the 2 side reactions that compete with acid formation.

Scheme S7

4.3.7 Experiments with stoichiometric (L5)<sub>2</sub>Ni and aziridine in the presence of Mn and/ or MeOH Having established (L5)<sub>2</sub>Ni as a competent catalyst in the aziridine carboxylation reaction, stoichiometric experiments were then carried out omitting certain components to probe the reaction mechanism. The reaction was set up following GP8 with the exception that (L5)<sub>2</sub>Ni (1.0 equiv.) was used in place of NiCl<sub>2</sub>glyme and L1 and the reaction was run under higher dilution (0.20 M) due to the poor solubility of (L5)<sub>2</sub>Ni. The acid 2l was only observed in the presence of both MeOH and Mn, suggesting at the intervention of Ni(I) species within the catalytic cycle (Scheme S8)<sup>52</sup>. Interestingly, when MeOH is present but not Mn, aliphatic carbamate S30<sup>xxxvii</sup> is generated apparently via the oxazolidinone intermediate followed by ring opening with MeOH. Yet without Mn or MeOH, trace if any cyclic oxazolidinones are observed in the crude NMR. Note: it was also confirmed that S30 is not a reaction intermediate as submitting it to the standard reaction conditions in place of the aziridine did not generate any 2l.

Ts 
$$(L5)_2Ni (1 eq.),$$
  $NHTs$   $NHTs$   $CO_2H$   $Ph$   $CO_2H$   $Ph$   $O$   $OMe$   $OMe$ 

**Scheme S8** 

#### 4.3.8 Preservation of the chiral integrity with enantioenriched aziridines

It is plausible that the carboxylation event might occur via nucleophilic addition of in situ generated metalla-enamines onto  $CO_2$ . To probe this possibility, enantiopure (*S*)-**1f** was submitted to the reaction conditions and **7** was isolated with complete preservation of the chiral integrity at the  $sp^3$  C-N site (Scheme S9). Therefore, it is highly unlikely that the reaction proceeds via the formation of an enamine intermediate and instead we propose the insertion of  $CO_2$  into the C-Ni bond, likely in oxidation state I (§4.3.7), to be the most plausible scenario.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Example 1.2\*\* **Methyl (2-((4-methylphenyl)sulfonamido)-4-phenylbutyl) carbonate (S30)**. Colorless oil. <sup>1</sup>H NMR: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.79 – 7.71 (m, 2H), 7.32 – 7.25 (m, 2H), 7.25 – 7.21 (m, 2H), 7.19 – 7.13 (m, 1H), 7.07 – 7.00 (m, 2H), 5.18 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 4.07 (dd, J = 11.1, 4.6 Hz, 1H), 3.99 (dd, J = 11.1, 4.5 Hz, 1H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 3.51 (tdt, J = 8.5, 5.6, 4.6 Hz, 1H), 2.60 (ddd, J = 13.9, 9.6, 6.2 Hz, 1H), 2.49 (ddd, J = 14.0, 9.7, 6.3 Hz, 1H), 2.42 (s, 3H), 1.89 – 1.67 (m, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 155.5, 143.5, 140.8, 137.9, 129.8, 128.5, 128.4, 127.1, 126.13, 69.1, 55.0, 52.4, 33.7, 31.7, 21.6. IR (neat, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 3281, 3027, 2956, 2862, 1748, 1599, 1495, 1442, 1385, 1326, 1261, 1154, 1090. HRMS calcd. for (C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NNaO<sub>5</sub>S) [M+Na]\*: 400.1189 found 400.1191.

#### Scheme S9

#### 4.3.9 Stereochemical course of the reaction via isotope-labelling

Next, we turned our attention to studying the stereochemical course of the reaction (Scheme S10). We found that the carboxylation of *trans* 1a- $d_I$  followed by reduction and a cyclization event resulted in 9 with a 4:1 *cis/trans* ratio. It is possible that 8 could isomerise under the reaction conditions so it was resubmitted to the standard reaction conditions in place of the aziridine. However, no change in the *cis/trans* ratio was observed. While the identity of the major product might be explained via an  $S_N2$  type insertion of Ni(0) into the aziridine backbone, the presence of the *trans* isomer, together with the lack of diastereocontrol in formation of 2z, suggests that other conceivable pathways might come into play such as (1) single-electron transfer type oxidative addition or (2) homolytic cleavage/ recombination events of Ni-intermediates. The high reduction potential of 1ab ( $E_p^{red} = -2.4$  V vs. Ag/ AgCl in MeCN) argues against the former scenario, however (see §4.2).

NiCl<sub>2</sub>glyme (10 mol%),  

$$n$$
-hex  $\stackrel{\square}{\overset{\square}{D}}$   $\frac{\text{L1 (20 mol%), Mn (3 equiv.)}}{\text{MeOH (5 equiv.), DMPU (0.40M),}}$   $\frac{\text{NHTs}}{n$ -hex  $\frac{\text{CO}_2\text{H}}{D}}$   $\frac{\text{(1) reduction}}{\text{(2) "COCl}_2"}$   $\frac{\text{NHTs}}{n}$   $\frac{\text{N$ 

Scheme S10

#### 4.3.10 Influence of different reductants on product distribution

Finally, experiments were conducted with reductants other than Mn to investigate whether there was a correlation between the reductant strength and the experimental outcome. Intriguingly, the utilization of homogeneous reductants such as DMAP-OED or cobaltocene resulted in no conversion of 11 to 21 (Scheme S11). Instead, we again obtained substantial amounts of S30 in the presence of MeOH. This was somewhat unexpected, particularly with Cp\*<sub>2</sub>Co which has a reduction potential very similar to that of Mn.<sup>53</sup> The formation of S30 is sub-stoichiometric in DMAP-OED, suggesting its' role is to generate Ni(0) which then acts catalytically. This was confirmed by using (L5)<sub>2</sub>Ni (10 mol%) without any reductant with S30 (35%) observed in the presence of MeOH (Scheme S12). Again, without MeOH, only trace (<5%) of cyclic oxazolidinone product was observed. These results provide evidence for MeOH playing an important role in the oxidative addition of the aziridine to Ni(0), with neither β-amino acid nor carbamate observed without it. Conversely, the slow conversion of aziridine to 21 or S30 suggests this is still challenging, which is supported by the inability to isolate (L)Ni-Azametallacycles and the electrochemical studies.

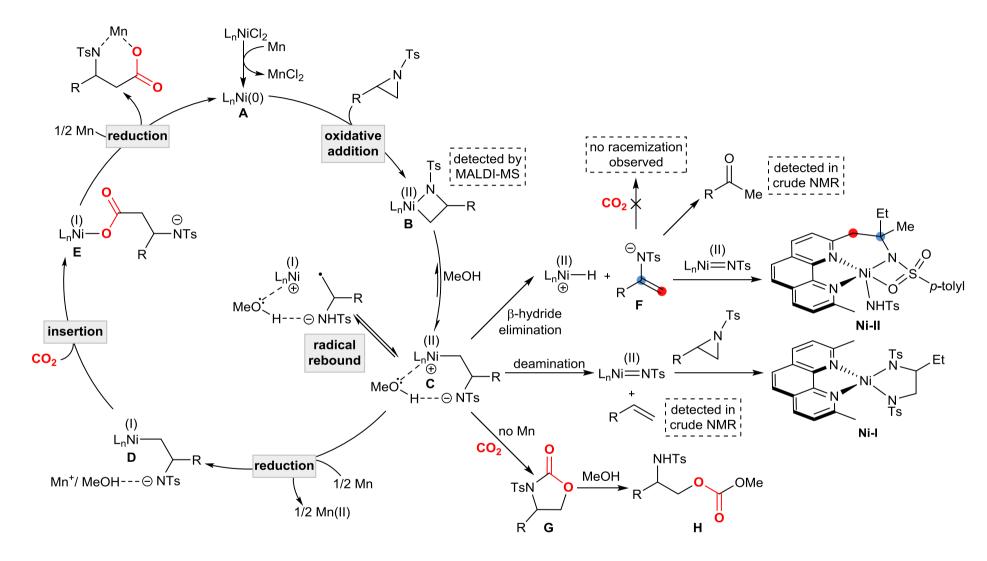
11	NiCl <sub>2</sub> glyme (10 mol%), L1 (20 mol%), reductant (equiv.)	11	41 01		
	MeOH (5 equiv.), DMPU (0.40M), CO <sub>2</sub> (1 bar), 10 °C, 3 days	11	21	S30	
	Zn (3):	66%	5%	0%	
	Cp <sub>2</sub> Co (1.5):	65%	0%	10%	
	DMAP-OED (1.5):	0%	0%	98%	
	DMAP-OED (0.2):	43%	0%	56%	
	Cp <sup>*</sup> <sub>2</sub> Co (1.5):	trace	0%	80%	
	Mn:	trace	75%	0%	
	Scho	eme S11			
11	<b>(L5)<sub>2</sub>Ni</b> (10 mol%),	_			
	MeOH (x equiv.), DMPU (0.40M), CO <sub>2</sub> (1 bar), 10 °C, 3 days	11	21	S30	
	x=5	56%	0%	35%	
	x=0	75%	0%	-	
	Scho	eme S12			

S81

#### 4.4 Mechanistic Hypothesis

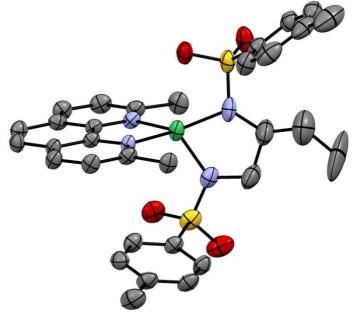
Despite the complex mechanistic picture suggested by the evidence presented above, we have provided a mechanistic rational for the Ni catalyzed reductive carboxylation of aziridines as well as other deleterious side reaction that occur. Firstly, the Ni(II) precatalyst is reduced by manganese (Mn) to Ni(0) complex **A** which can then undergo oxidative addition with the aziridine to give **B**. The stability of azanickelacyclobutane **B** is proposed to be low with hindered *ortho*-substituted bipyridine or phenanthroline ligands and could only be detected *in situ* by MALDI-MS (§4.3.2). Therefore, it is proposed that ring opened zwitterionic form **C** dominates and may be stabilized by complexation/ H-bonding with methanol. Note: evidence for complex **C** undergoing Ni–C bond homolysis/ radical rebound is provided by the *cis:trans* mixtures obtained with the deuterium labelled aziridine **1a**- $d_I$  (§4.3.9) and with 2,3-substituted aziridine **1z**. Reduction of **C** to Ni(I) complex **D** is then required before CO<sub>2</sub> insertion which is supported by Mn, as well as MeOH, being necessary for acid formation in stoichiometric experiments with (L5)<sub>2</sub>Ni (§4.3.7). Finally, reduction of complex **E** regenerates **A** and releases the manganese carboxylate.

Several deleterious side reactions can also take place.  $\beta$ -hydride elimination from C results in enamine F which undergoes tautomerization/ hydrolysis to generate the ketone and  $TsNH_2$ , both of which were detected in the crude reaction mixture (§4.3.6). Although nucleophilic addition of F to  $CO_2$  would result in a  $\beta$ -amino acid, the preservation of the stereocenter of enantiopure aziridines disproves this as being a possible mechanism under the reaction conditions. On the other hand, F in combination with a Ni-nitrene species may be involved in the formation of Ni-II (§4.3.4), though whether this pathway occurs under the reaction conditions is unknown at present. Alternatively, deamination can occur to give the terminal olefin which was also detected in the crude reaction mixture (§4.3.6) and a Ni-nitrene species, which might also be an intermediate in the formation of Ni-I (§4.3.5). Finally, although not relevant under the reaction conditions, in the absence of Mn, nucleophilic addition of the N-tosylate to  $CO_2$  followed by displacement of Ni generates cyclic carbamate G. In the presence of MeOH, this undergoes ring opening forming H which was isolated during stoichiometric experiments with (L5)<sub>2</sub>Ni (§4.3.7) and when using reductants other than Mn (§4.3.10).

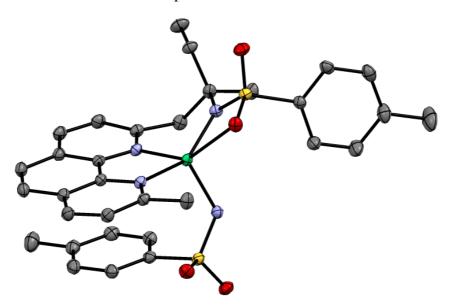


Scheme S13

## 5 Crystallographic Data



**Figure S19**: ORTEP Diagram **Ni-I** CCSD deposition number 2049250



**Figure S20**: ORTEP Diagram of **Ni-II**CCSD deposition number 2049249

Table 1. Crystal data and structure refinement for Ni-I

Identification code mo_CS	CSD0356A_0m
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Empirical formula C36 H42 N4 Ni O5 S2

Formula weight 733.56

Temperature 100(2)K

Wavelength 0.71073 Å

Crystal system triclinic

Space group P -1

Unit cell dimensions a = 10.3280(8) Å  $\alpha = 107.062(2)^{\circ}$ .

b = 11.2508(8) Å  $\beta = 91.452(2)^{\circ}.$  c = 15.8254(13) Å  $\gamma = 95.082(2)^{\circ}.$ 

Volume 1748.5(2) Å<sup>3</sup>

 $\mathbf{Z}$ 

Density (calculated) 1.393 Mg/m<sup>3</sup>
Absorption coefficient 0.722 mm<sup>-1</sup>

F(000) 772

Crystal size  $0.100 \times 0.050 \times 0.010 \text{ mm}^3$ 

Theta range for data collection 1.979 to 24.782°.

Index ranges -12 <= h <= 8, -13 <= k <= 13, -18 <= l <= 18

Reflections collected 17694

Independent reflections 5870[R(int) = 0.0490]

Completeness to theta = $24.782^{\circ}$  97.7% Absorption correction Multi-scan Max. and min. transmission 0.74 and 0.63

Refinement method Full-matrix least-squares on F<sup>2</sup>

Data / restraints / parameters 5870/ 0/ 438

Goodness-of-fit on  $F^2$  1.033

Final R indices [I>2sigma(I)] R1 = 0.0623, wR2 = 0.1579 R indices (all data) R1 = 0.1070, wR2 = 0.1824 Largest diff. peak and hole  $1.531 \text{ and } -0.403 \text{ e.Å}^{-3}$ 

Table 2. Bond lengths [Å] and angles [°] for **Ni-I**.

#### Bond lengths----

- Ni1 N1 1.913(4)
- Ni1 N2 1.968(4)
- Ni1 N3 2.014(4)
- Ni1 N4 2.019(4)
- S1 O1 1.436(4)
- S1 O2 1.451(4)
- S1 N1 1.573(5)
- S1 C5 1.769(5)
- S2 O3 1.429(4)
- S2 O4 1.447(4)
- S2 N2 1.572(5)
- S2 C12 1.784(5)
- 22 012 1.70.(8)
- N1 C1 1.495(7)
- N2 C2 1.459(7)
- N3 C19 1.336(5)
- N3 C23 1.367(6)
- N4 C30 1.335(6)
- N4 C27 1.351(6)
- C1 C3 1.488(9)
- C1 C2 1.517(9)
- C3 C4 1.551(11)
- C5 C6 1.366(7)
- C5 C10 1.398(7)
- C6 C7 1.396(8)
- C7 C8 1.366(9)
- C8 C9 1.392(9)
- C8 C11 1.519(8)
- C9 C10 1.386(8)
- C12 C17 1.384(7)
- C12 C13 1.398(7)
- C13 C14 1.389(7)
- C14 C15 1.392(8)
- C15 C16 1.391(7)
- C15 C18 1.502(7)
- C16 C17 1.389(7)

- C19 C20 1.400(7)
- C19 C31 1.499(6)
- C20 C21 1.376(7)
- C21 C22 1.412(6)
- C22 C23 1.392(6)
- C22 C24 1.431(6)
- C23 C27 1.438(6)
- C24 C25 1.353(7)
- C25 C26 1.437(7)
- C26 C27 1.397(6)
- C26 C28 1.401(6)
- C28 C29 1.364(7)
- C29 C30 1.406(7)
- C30 C32 1.504(7)
- O1S C4S 1.383(10)
- 012 012 11202(10)
- O1S C1S 1.451(9)
- C1S C2S 1.456(12)
- C2S C3S 1.478(14)
- C3S C4S 1.409(13)

#### Angles-----

- N1 Ni1 N2 83.04(19)
- N1 Ni1 N3 128.73(17)
- N2 Ni1 N3 116.21(17)
- N1 Ni1 N4 139.71(18)
- N2 Ni1 N4 108.33(16)
- N3 Ni1 N4 81.81(15)
- O1 S1 O2 116.4(2)
- O1 S1 N1 114.8(2)
- O2 S1 N1 103.5(2)
- O1 S1 C5 106.6(2)
- O2 S1 C5 107.6(2)
- N1 S1 C5 107.5(2)
- O3 S2 O4 117.4(2)
- O3 S2 N2 112.5(2)
- O4 S2 N2 107.5(2)
- O3 S2 C12 106.5(2)
- O4 S2 C12 104.8(2)

- N2 S2 C12 107.5(2)
- C1 N1 S1 123.2(4)
- C1 N1 Ni1 114.5(4)
- S1 N1 Ni1 110.6(2)
- C2 N2 S2 118.1(4)
- C2 N2 Ni1 112.4(4)
- S2 N2 Ni1 123.9(3)
- C19 N3 C23 118.5(4)
- C19 N3 Ni1 128.6(3)
- C23 N3 Ni1 112.9(3)
- C30 N4 C27 119.2(4)
- C30 N4 Ni1 128.0(3)
- C27 N4 Ni1 112.8(3)
- C3 C1 N1 114.8(6)
- C3 C1 C2 111.1(6)
- N1 C1 C2 105.1(5)
- NA GO GI 105 0(5)
- N2 C2 C1 107.2(5)
- C1 C3 C4 111.4(7)
- C6 C5 C10 120.4(5)
- C6 C5 S1 120.7(4)
- C10 C5 S1 118.8(4)
- C5 C6 C7 119.3(5)
- C8 C7 C6 121.4(6)
- C7 C8 C9 119.1(5)
- C7 C8 C11 121.6(7)
- C9 C8 C11 119.3(6)
- C10 C9 C8 120.3(6)
- C9 C10 C5 119.4(6)
- C17 C12 C13 119.8(5)
- C17 C12 S2 119.8(4)
- C13 C12 S2 120.3(4)
- C14 C13 C12 118.8(5)
- C13 C14 C15 122.1(5)
- C16 C15 C14 118.1(5)
- C16 C15 C18 120.7(5)
- C14 C15 C18 121.2(5)
- C17 C16 C15 120.7(5)
- C12 C17 C16 120.6(5)

- C19 C20 121.0(4) N3
- C19 N3 C31 118.0(4)
- C20 C19 C31 120.9(4)
- C21 C20 C19 120.8(4)
- C20 C21 C22 119.1(5)
- C23 C22 C21 116.8(4)
- C23 C22 C24 118.9(4)
- C22 C24 C21 124.3(4)
- C23 C22 N3 123.8(4)
- N3 C23 C27 115.7(4)
- C22 C23 C27 120.5(4)
- C25 C24 C22 121.2(5)
- C24 C25 C26 120.8(4)
- C27 C26 C28 116.2(5)
- C27 C26 C25 119.3(4)
- C28 C26 C25 124.4(4)
- C27 C26 N4 123.8(4)
- N4 C27 C23 116.8(4)
- C26 C27 C23 119.4(4)
- C29 C28 C26 119.9(5)
- C28 C29 C30 120.6(4)
- N4 C30 C29 120.1(5)

C30

N4

- C32 C29 C30 C32 122.2(4)
- C4S O1S C1S 103.6(7)
- O1S C1S C2S 104.9(7)
- C1S C2S C3S 104.8(8)
- C4S C3S C2S 104.5(8)
- O1S C4S C3S 105.6(8)

117.7(4)

Table 3. Torsion angles  $[^{\circ}]$  for **Ni-I**.

01	S1	N1	C1	38.8(5)
O2	<b>S</b> 1	N1	C1	166.7(4)
C5	<b>S</b> 1	N1	<b>C</b> 1	-79.6(5)
O1	<b>S</b> 1	N1	Ni1	-101.9(3)
O2	<b>S</b> 1	N1	Ni1	25.9(3)
C5	<b>S</b> 1	N1	Ni1	139.6(2)
O3	S2	N2	C2	-37.2(5)
O4	<b>S</b> 2	N2	C2	-168.0(4)
C12	<b>S</b> 2	N2	C2	79.6(5)
O3	<b>S</b> 2	N2	Ni1	171.1(2)
O4	<b>S</b> 2	N2	Ni1	40.4(3)
C12	<b>S</b> 2	N2	Ni1	-72.0(3)
<b>S</b> 1	N1	C1	C3	63.4(8)
Ni1	N1	C1	C3	-157.1(6)
<b>S</b> 1	N1	C1	C2	-174.1(4)
Ni1	N1	C1	C2	-34.7(6)
<b>S</b> 2	N2	C2	C1	168.1(4)
Ni1	N2	C2	C1	-37.1(6)
C3	<b>C</b> 1	C2	N2	169.1(6)
N1	<b>C</b> 1	C2	N2	44.4(7)
N1	<b>C</b> 1	C3	C4	173.8(8)
C2	<b>C</b> 1	C3	C4	54.7(10)
<b>O</b> 1	<b>S</b> 1	C5	C6	-1.9(5)
O2	<b>S</b> 1	C5	C6	-127.4(5)
N1	<b>S</b> 1	C5	C6	121.7(5)
<b>O</b> 1	<b>S</b> 1	C5	C10	179.8(4)
O2	<b>S</b> 1	C5	C10	54.3(5)
N1	<b>S</b> 1	C5	C10	-56.6(5)
C10	C5	C6	C7	1.0(8)
<b>S</b> 1	C5	C6	<b>C</b> 7	-177.2(4)
C5	C6	C7	C8	-0.3(9)
C6	<b>C</b> 7	C8	C9	-0.9(9)
C6	<b>C</b> 7	C8	C11	178.9(6)
C7	C8	C9	C10	1.3(9)
C11	C8	C9	C10	-178.5(5)
C8	C9	C10	C5	-0.5(9)
		-	•	` /

- C6 C5 C10 C9 -0.6(8)
- S1 C5 C10 C9 177.6(4)
- O3 S2 C12 C17 -141.8(4)
- O4 S2 C12 C17 -16.7(5)
- N2 S2 C12 C17 97.5(4)
- O3 S2 C12 C13 41.0(5)
- O4 S2 C12 C13 166.1(4)
- N2 S2 C12 C13 -79.7(5)
- C17 C12 C13 C14 -0.7(8)
- S2 C12 C13 C14 176.5(4)
- C12 C13 C14 C15 0.9(8)
- C13 C14 C15 C16 -0.7(8)
- C13 C14 C15 C18 -179.5(5)
- C14 C15 C16 C17 0.3(8)
- C18 C15 C16 C17 179.1(5)
- C13 C12 C17 C16 0.4(8)
- S2 C12 C17 C16 -176.8(4)
- C15 C16 C17 C12 -0.2(8)
- C23 N3 C19 C20 -0.5(7)
- Ni1 N3 C19 C20 179.3(4)
- C23 N3 C19 C31 176.6(4)
- Ni1 N3 C19 C31 -3.6(7)
- N3 C19 C20 C21 0.4(8)
- C31 C19 C20 C21 -176.6(5)
- C19 C20 C21 C22 0.6(8)
- C20 C21 C22 C23 -1.4(7)
- C20 C21 C22 C24 179.3(5)
- C19 N3 C23 C22 -0.3(7)
- Ni1 N3 C23 C22 179.8(4)
- C19 N3 C23 C27 180.0(4)
- Ni1 N3 C23 C27 0.2(5)
- C21 C22 C23 N3 1.3(7)
- C24 C22 C23 N3 -179.3(5)
- C21 C22 C23 C27 -179.1(4)
- C24 C22 C23 C27 0.3(7)
- C23 C22 C24 C25 -0.2(8)
- C21 C22 C24 C25 179.1(5)
- C22 C24 C25 C26 0.0(8)

```
C25 C26 C27 0.1(7)
C24
C24
     C25
          C26
               C28
                     178.7(5)
C30
     N4
          C27 C26
                     -1.7(7)
Ni1
     N4
          C27 C26
                     -179.4(4)
C30
          C27
               C23
     N4
                     178.3(4)
          C27 C23
Ni1
     N4
                     0.6(5)
C28
     C26
          C27
                N4
                     1.3(7)
C25
          C27
     C26
                N4
                     179.9(5)
C28
     C26
          C27
                C23
                     -178.7(4)
C25
     C26
          C27
                C23
                     -0.1(7)
N3
     C23
          C27
               N4
                     -0.5(6)
C22
     C23
          C27
                N4
                     179.9(4)
N3
     C23
          C27
               C26
                     179.5(4)
    C23
          C27
C22
                C26
                     -0.1(7)
C27
     C26
          C28
                C29
                     -0.2(7)
C25
     C26
          C28
                C29
                     -178.8(5)
          C29
C26
     C28
               C30
                     -0.3(8)
C27
     N4
          C30
               C29
                     1.2(7)
Ni1
          C30
               C29
     N4
                     178.5(4)
C27
          C30
               C32
     N4
                     -177.9(4)
Ni1
     N4
          C30 C32
                     -0.6(7)
C28
     C29
          C30
               N4
                     -0.2(8)
C28
     C29
          C30
               C32
                     178.8(5)
C4S
     O1S
          C1S C2S
                     -32.2(9)
           C2S
O1S
     C1S
                C3S
                     11.2(11)
C1S
     C2S
          C3S
                C4S
                      13.3(12)
C1S
     O1S
          C4S
                C3S
                     41.8(10)
C2S
     C3S
          C4S O1S
                      -34.4(12)
```

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#### Symmetry operations

1 'x, y, z'

2'-x, -y, -z'

Table 1. Crystal data and structure refinement for Ni-II.

Identification code CSD-3-22
Empirical formula C32 H34 N4 Ni O4 S2
Formula weight 661.46

Temperature 100(2)K
Wavelength 0.71073 Å
Crystal system triclinic

Space group P-1

Unit cell dimensions a = 10.03268(11) Å  $\alpha = 89.2731(7)^{\circ}$ .

b = 11.52248(10) Å  $\beta = 71.8705(8)^{\circ}$ .

c = 14.40581(12) Å  $\gamma = 70.1261(9)^{\circ}$ .

Volume 1480.30(3) Å<sup>3</sup>

Z 2

Density (calculated) 1.484 Mg/m<sup>3</sup>
Absorption coefficient 0.842 mm<sup>-1</sup>

F(000) 692

Crystal size  $0.300 \times 0.200 \times 0.050 \text{ mm}^3$ 

Theta range for data collection 2.284 to 32.185°.

Index ranges -14 <= h <= 14, -17 <= k <= 17, -21 <= l <= 21

Reflections collected 113880

Independent reflections 10027[R(int) = 0.0364]

Completeness to theta =32.185° 96.0%

Absorption correction Multi-scan

Max. and min. transmission 1.00 and 0.60

Refinement method Full-matrix least-squares on F<sup>2</sup>

Data / restraints / parameters 10027/ 0/ 418

Goodness-of-fit on  $F^2$  1.048

Final R indices [I>2sigma(I)] R1 = 0.0301, wR2 = 0.0799 R indices (all data) R1 = 0.0329, wR2 = 0.0810 Largest diff. peak and hole 0.545 and -0.567 e.Å<sup>-3</sup>

Table 2. Bond lengths [Å] and angles [°] for **Ni-II**.

#### Bond lengths----

- C1 N2 1.3354(14)
- C1 C2 1.4095(16)
- C1 C13 1.4916(16)
- N1 C12 1.3331(14)
- N1 C9 1.3514(14)
- N1 Ni1 1.9960(9)
- S1 O2 1.4477(9)
- S1 O1 1.4755(8)
- S1 N3 1.5658(10)
- S1 C20 1.7686(12)
- S1 Ni1 2.7652(3)
- O1 Ni1 2.3305(9)
- NIA NA 4.0504(0)
- Ni1 N4 1.9734(9)
- Ni1 N3 1.9786(9)
- Ni1 N2 2.0622(9)
- C2 C3 1.3739(17)
- C2 H2 0.9500
- S2 O3 1.4445(9)
- S2 O4 1.4550(9)
- S2 N4 1.5814(10)
- S2 C27 1.7809(12)
- N2 C5 1.3650(14)
- N3 C15 1.4825(14)
- C3 C4 1.4113(16)
- C3 H3 0.9500
- C4 C5 1.4024(15)
- C4 C6 1.4373(16)
- N4 H4N 0.9062
- C5 C9 1.4335(15)
- C6 C7 1.3601(18)
- C6 H6 0.9500
- C7 C8 1.4333(17)
- C7 H7 0.9500
- C8 C9 1.4022(15)
- C8 C10 1.4113(16)

- C10 C11 1.3763(18)
- C10 H10 0.9500
- C11 C12 1.4082(16)
- C11 H11 0.9500
- C12 C14 1.5033(16)
- C13 H13A 0.9800
- C13 H13B 0.9800
- C13 H13C 0.9800
- C13 H13D 0.9800
- C13 H13E 0.9800
- C13 H13F 0.9800
- C14 C15 1.5516(17)
- C14 H14A 0.9900
- C14 H14B 0.9900
- C15 C16 1.505(3)
- C15 C16' 1.515(9)
- C15 C18 1.549(2)
- C15 C18' 1.681(12)
- C20 C21 1.3897(16)
- C20 C25 1.3901(16)
- C21 C22 1.3889(18)
- C21 H21 0.9500
- C22 C23 1.385(2)
- C22 H22 0.9500
- C23 C24 1.401(2)
- C23 C26 1.5083(19)
- C24 C25 1.3895(17)
- C24 H24 0.9500
- C25 H25 0.9500
- C26 H26A 0.9800
- C26 H26B 0.9800
- C26 H26C 0.9800
- C26 H26D 0.9800
- C26 H26E 0.9800
- C26 H26F 0.9800
- C27 C28 1.3878(16)
- C27 C32 1.3972(16)
- C28 C29 1.3967(18)

- C28 H28 0.9500
- C29 C30 1.3937(19)
- C29 H29 0.9500
- C30 C31 1.3976(18)
- C30 C33 1.5061(19)
- C31 C32 1.3892(17)
- C31 H31 0.9500
- C32 H32 0.9500
- C33 H33A 0.9800
- C33 H33B 0.9800
- C33 H33C 0.9800
- C33 H33D 0.9800
- C33 H33E 0.9800
- C33 H33F 0.9800
- C16 C17 1.517(3)
- C16 H16A 0.9900
- ~....
- C16 H16B 0.9900
- C17 H17A 0.9800
- C17 H17B 0.9800
- C17 H17C 0.9800
- C18 H18A 0.9800
- C18 H18B 0.9800
- C18 H18C 0.9800
- C16' C17' 1.537(12)
- C16' H16D 0.9900
- C16' H16E 0.9900
- C17' H17D 0.9800
- C17' H17E 0.9800
- C17' H17F 0.9800
- C18' H18F 0.9800
- C18' H18D 0.9800
- C18' H18E 0.9800

### Angles-----

- N2 C1 C2 120.97(10)
- N2 C1 C13 118.00(10)
- C2 C1 C13 121.04(10)
- C12 N1 C9 120.20(10)

- C12 N1 Ni1 125.41(8)
- C9 N1 Ni1 114.15(7)
- O2 S1 O1 115.63(5)
- O2 S1 N3 116.62(5)
- O1 S1 N3 101.87(5)
- O2 S1 C20 105.94(5)
- O1 S1 C20 106.51(5)
- N3 S1 C20 109.88(5)
- O2 S1 Ni1 133.53(4)
- O1 S1 Ni1 57.44(3)
- N3 S1 Ni1 44.44(3)
- C20 S1 Ni1 120.27(4)
- S1 O1 Ni1 90.32(4)
- N4 Ni1 N3 106.97(4)
- N4 Ni1 N1 110.13(4)
- N3 Ni1 N1 89.50(4)
- N4 Ni1 N2 103.62(4)
- N3 Ni1 N2 149.37(4)
- N1 Ni1 N2 81.43(4)
- N4 Ni1 O1 104.43(4)
- N3 Ni1 O1 65.89(3)
- N1 Ni1 O1 142.27(3)
- N2 Ni1 O1 104.96(3)
- N4 Ni1 S1 109.05(3)
- N3 Ni1 S1 33.64(3)
- N1 Ni1 S1 118.20(3)
- N2 Ni1 S1 131.09(3)
- O1 Ni1 S1 32.25(2)
- C3 C2 C1 120.70(10)
- C3 C2 H2 119.6
- C1 C2 H2 119.6
- O3 S2 O4 116.53(5)
- O3 S2 N4 109.95(5)
- O4 S2 N4 110.81(5)
- O3 S2 C27 105.94(5)
- O4 S2 C27 106.08(5)
- N4 S2 C27 106.92(5)
- C1 N2 C5 118.51(9)

- C1 N2 Ni1 130.20(8)
- C5 N2 Ni1 111.25(7)
- C15 N3 S1 127.22(8)
- C15 N3 Ni1 130.57(7)
- S1 N3 Ni1 101.92(5)
- C2 C3 C4 119.31(10)
- C2 C3 H3 120.3
- C4 C3 H3 120.3
- C5 C4 C3 116.58(10)
- C5 C4 C6 119.10(10)
- C3 C4 C6 124.31(11)
- S2 N4 Ni1 125.97(6)
- S2 N4 H4N 108.2
- Ni1 N4 H4N 113.7
- N2 C5 C4 123.90(10)
- N2 C5 C9 116.69(10)
- C4 C5 C9 119.41(10)
- C7 C6 C4 121.11(11)
- C7 C6 H6 119.4
- C4 C6 H6 119.4
- C6 C7 C8 120.84(11)
- C6 C7 H7 119.6
- C8 C7 H7 119.6
- C9 C8 C10 116.62(11)
- C9 C8 C7 118.74(10)
- C10 C8 C7 124.64(11)
- N1 C9 C8 123.05(10)
- N1 C9 C5 116.31(9)
- C8 C9 C5 120.63(10)
- C11 C10 C8 119.47(11)
- C11 C10 H10 120.3
- C8 C10 H10 120.3
- C10 C11 C12 120.57(11)
- C10 C11 H11 119.7
- C12 C11 H11 119.7
- N1 C12 C11 119.99(11)
- N1 C12 C14 117.14(10)
- C11 C12 C14 122.78(10)

- C1 C13 H13A 109.5
- C1 C13 H13B 109.5
- H13A C13 H13B 109.5
- C1 C13 H13C 109.5
- H13A C13 H13C 109.5
- H13B C13 H13C 109.5
- C1 C13 H13D 109.5
- H13A C13 H13D 141.1
- H13B C13 H13D 56.3
- H13C C13 H13D 56.3
- C1 C13 H13E 109.5
- H13A C13 H13E 56.3
- H13B C13 H13E 141.1
- H13C C13 H13E 56.3
- H13D C13 H13E 109.5
- C1 C13 H13F 109.5
- H13A C13 H13F 56.3
- H13B C13 H13F 56.3
- H13C C13 H13F 141.1
- H13D C13 H13F 109.5
- H13E C13 H13F 109.5
- C12 C14 C15 116.37(9)
- C12 C14 H14A 108.2
- C15 C14 H14A 108.2
- C12 C14 H14B 108.2
- C15 C14 H14B 108.2
- H14A C14 H14B 107.3
- N3 C15 C16 112.81(12)
- N3 C15 C16' 117.3(3)
- N3 C15 C18 110.14(11)
- C16 C15 C18 112.21(14)
- N3 C15 C14 105.59(9)
- C16 C15 C14 110.64(14)
- C16' C15 C14 117.7(4)
- C18 C15 C14 104.95(12)
- N3 C15 C18' 103.5(4)
- C16' C15 C18' 101.5(5)
- C14 C15 C18' 110.2(5)

- C21 C20 C25 120.76(11)
- C21 C20 S1 119.23(9)
- C25 C20 S1 119.92(9)
- C22 C21 C20 119.69(12)
- C22 C21 H21 120.2
- C20 C21 H21 120.2
- C23 C22 C21 120.76(12)
- C23 C22 H22 119.6
- C21 C22 H22 119.6
- C22 C23 C24 118.77(12)
- C22 C23 C26 120.37(14)
- C24 C23 C26 120.86(14)
- C25 C24 C23 121.25(12)
- C25 C24 H24 119.4
- C23 C24 H24 119.4
- C24 C25 C20 118.77(12)
- C24 C25 H25 120.6
- C20 C25 H25 120.6
- C23 C26 H26A 109.5
- C23 C26 H26B 109.5
- H26A C26 H26B 109.5
- C23 C26 H26C 109.5
- H26A C26 H26C 109.5
- H26B C26 H26C 109.5
- C23 C26 H26D 109.5
- H26A C26 H26D 141.1
- H26B C26 H26D 56.3
- H26C C26 H26D 56.3
- C23 C26 H26E 109.5
- H26A C26 H26E 56.3
- H26B C26 H26E 141.1
- H26C C26 H26E 56.3
- H26D C26 H26E 109.5
- C23 C26 H26F 109.5
- H26A C26 H26F 56.3
- H26B C26 H26F 56.3
- H26C C26 H26F 141.1
- H26D C26 H26F 109.5

- H26E C26 H26F 109.5
- C28 C27 C32 120.16(11)
- C28 C27 S2 121.11(9)
- C32 C27 S2 118.61(9)
- C27 C28 C29 119.52(11)
- C27 C28 H28 120.2
- C29 C28 H28 120.2
- C30 C29 C28 121.25(11)
- C30 C29 H29 119.4
- C28 C29 H29 119.4
- C29 C30 C31 118.25(11)
- C29 C30 C33 121.07(12)
- C31 C30 C33 120.67(12)
- C32 C31 C30 121.23(11)
- C32 C31 H31 119.4
- C30 C31 H31 119.4
- C31 C32 C27 119.56(11)
- C31 C32 H32 120.2
- C27 C32 H32 120.2
- C30 C33 H33A 109.5
- C30 C33 H33B 109.5
- H33A C33 H33B 109.5
- C30 C33 H33C 109.5
- H33A C33 H33C 109.5
- H33B C33 H33C 109.5
- C30 C33 H33D 109.5
- H33A C33 H33D 141.1
- H33B C33 H33D 56.3
- H33C C33 H33D 56.3
- C30 C33 H33E 109.5
- H33A C33 H33E 56.3
- H33B C33 H33E 141.1
- H33C C33 H33E 56.3
- H33D C33 H33E 109.5
- C30 C33 H33F 109.5
- H33A C33 H33F 56.3
- H33B C33 H33F 56.3
- H33C C33 H33F 141.1

- H33D C33 H33F 109.5
- H33E C33 H33F 109.5
- C15 C16 C17 116.92(16)
- C15 C16 H16A 108.1
- C17 C16 H16A 108.1
- C15 C16 H16B 108.1
- C17 C16 H16B 108.1
- H16A C16 H16B 107.3
- C16 C17 H17A 109.5
- C16 C17 H17B 109.5
- H17A C17 H17B 109.5
- C16 C17 H17C 109.5
- H17A C17 H17C 109.5
- H17B C17 H17C 109.5
- C15 C18 H18A 109.5
- C15 C18 H18B 109.5
- H18A C18 H18B 109.5
- C15 C18 H18C 109.5
- H18A C18 H18C 109.5
- H18B C18 H18C 109.5
- C15 C16' C17' 109.6(6)
- C15 C16' H16D 109.7
- C17' C16' H16D 109.7
- C15 C16' H16E 109.7
- C17' C16' H16E 109.7
- H16D C16' H16E 108.2
- C16' C17' H17D 109.5
- C16' C17' H17E 109.5
- H17D C17' H17E 109.5
- C16' C17' H17F 109.5
- H17D C17' H17F 109.5
- H17E C17' H17F 109.5
- C15 C18' H18F 109.5
- C15 C18' H18D 109.5
- H18F C18' H18D 109.5
- C15 C18' H18E 109.5
- H18F C18' H18E 109.5
- H18D C18' H18E 109.5

Table 3. Torsion angles  $[^{\circ}]$  for **Ni-II**..

O2	<b>S</b> 1	O1	Ni1	126.87(5)
N3	<b>S</b> 1	O1	Ni1	-0.62(5)
C20	<b>S</b> 1	O1	Ni1	-115.75(4)
N2	<b>C</b> 1	C2	C3	-0.10(17)
C13	C1	C2	C3	-179.95(11)
C2	<b>C</b> 1	N2	C5	1.37(16)
C13	C1	N2	C5	-178.77(10)
C2	<b>C</b> 1	N2	Ni1	-175.96(8)
C13	C1	N2	Ni1	3.90(15)
O2	<b>S</b> 1	N3	C15	48.21(11)
O1	<b>S</b> 1	N3	C15	175.06(9)
C20	<b>S</b> 1	N3	C15	-72.31(10)
Ni1	<b>S</b> 1	N3	C15	174.32(12)
O2	<b>S</b> 1	N3	Ni1	-126.11(5)
O1	<b>S</b> 1	N3	Ni1	0.74(6)
C20	<b>S</b> 1	N3	Ni1	113.37(5)
C1	C2	C3	C4	-1.55(17)
C2	C3	C4	C5	1.83(16)
C2	C3	C4	C6	-177.02(11)
O3	<b>S</b> 2	N4	Ni1	-61.06(8)
O4	<b>S</b> 2	N4	Ni1	168.68(6)
C27	<b>S</b> 2	N4	Ni1	53.51(8)
C1	N2	C5	C4	-1.04(16)
Ni1	N2	C5	C4	176.78(9)
C1	N2	C5	C9	178.80(9)
Ni1	N2	C5	C9	-3.39(12)
C3	C4	C5	N2	-0.57(16)
C6	C4	C5	N2	178.34(10)
C3	C4	C5	C9	179.60(10)
C6	C4	C5	C9	-1.49(16)
C5	C4	C6	C7	-1.94(17)
C3	C4	C6	C7	176.89(12)
C4	C6	C7	C8	2.60(18)
C6	C7	C8	<b>C</b> 9	0.21(17)
C6	C7	C8	C10	179.24(12)
C12	N1	C9	C8	2.02(16)

- Ni1 N1 C9 C8 176.72(8)
- C12 N1 C9 C5 -178.27(10)
- Ni1 N1 C9 C5 -3.57(12)
- C10 C8 C9 N1 -3.07(16)
- C7 C8 C9 N1 176.05(10)
- C10 C8 C9 C5 177.24(10)
- C7 C8 C9 C5 -3.65(16)
- N2 C5 C9 N1 4.73(14)
- C4 C5 C9 N1 -175.43(10)
- N2 C5 C9 C8 -175.55(10)
- C4 C5 C9 C8 4.29(16)
- C9 C8 C10 C11 1.27(17)
- C7 C8 C10 C11 -177.79(11)
- C8 C10 C11 C12 1.42(18)
- C9 N1 C12 C11 0.86(16)
- Ni1 N1 C12 C11 -173.20(8)
- C9 N1 C12 C14 -175.75(10)
- Ni1 N1 C12 C14 10.19(14)
- C10 C11 C12 N1 -2.58(18)
- C10 C11 C12 C14 173.83(11)
- N1 C12 C14 C15 -63.37(14)
- C11 C12 C14 C15 120.12(12)
- S1 N3 C15 C16 -62.64(17)
- Ni1 N3 C15 C16 110.04(15)
- S1 N3 C15 C16' 43.0(4)
- Ni1 N3 C15 C16' -144.4(4)
- S1 N3 C15 C18 63.60(15)
- Ni1 N3 C15 C18 -123.73(13)
- S1 N3 C15 C14 176.41(8)
- Ni1 N3 C15 C14 -10.92(13)
- S1 N3 C15 C18' -67.8(5)
- Ni1 N3 C15 C18' 104.9(5)
- C12 C14 C15 N3 59.78(12)
- C12 C14 C15 C16 -62.58(14)
- C12 C14 C15 C16' -167.0(4)
- C12 C14 C15 C18 176.17(12)
- C12 C14 C15 C18' -51.3(4)
- O2 S1 C20 C21 -5.30(11)

- O1 S1 C20 C21 -128.92(9)
- N3 S1 C20 C21 121.49(9)
- Ni1 S1 C20 C21 169.57(8)
- O2 S1 C20 C25 178.04(10)
- O1 S1 C20 C25 54.41(11)
- N3 S1 C20 C25 -55.18(11)
- Ni1 S1 C20 C25 -7.10(11)
- C25 C20 C21 C22 0.66(18)
- S1 C20 C21 C22 -175.97(9)
- C20 C21 C22 C23 -0.57(19)
- C21 C22 C23 C24 0.1(2)
- C21 C22 C23 C26 -179.90(14)
- C22 C23 C24 C25 0.2(2)
- C26 C23 C24 C25 -179.74(15)
- C23 C24 C25 C20 -0.1(2)
- C21 C20 C25 C24 -0.32(19)
- S1 C20 C25 C24 176.30(10)
- O3 S2 C27 C28 -7.69(11)
- O4 S2 C27 C28 116.76(10)
- N4 S2 C27 C28 -124.94(10)
- O3 S2 C27 C32 168.42(9)
- O4 S2 C27 C32 -67.12(10)
- N4 S2 C27 C32 51.17(10)
- C32 C27 C28 C29 -0.66(17)
- S2 C27 C28 C29 175.39(9)
- C27 C28 C29 C30 -0.53(18)
- C28 C29 C30 C31 0.70(18)
- C28 C29 C30 C33 -179.41(12)
- C29 C30 C31 C32 0.33(18)
- C33 C30 C31 C32 -179.56(12)
- C30 C31 C32 C27 -1.50(18)
- C28 C27 C32 C31 1.66(17)
- S2 C27 C32 C31 -174.49(9)
- N3 C15 C16 C17 -176.80(16)
- C18 C15 C16 C17 58.1(2)
- C14 C15 C16 C17 -58.8(2)
- N3 C15 C16' C17' 70.9(6)
- C14 C15 C16' C17' -56.9(6)

C18'	C15	C16'	C17'	-177.2(6)	
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Symmetry operations

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<sup>1 &#</sup>x27;x, y, z'

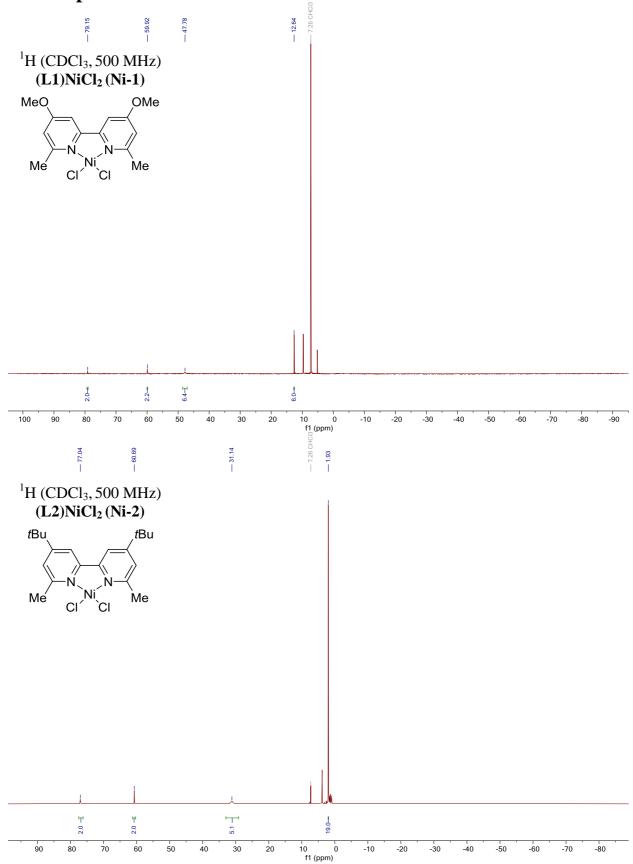
<sup>2 &#</sup>x27;-x, -y, -z'

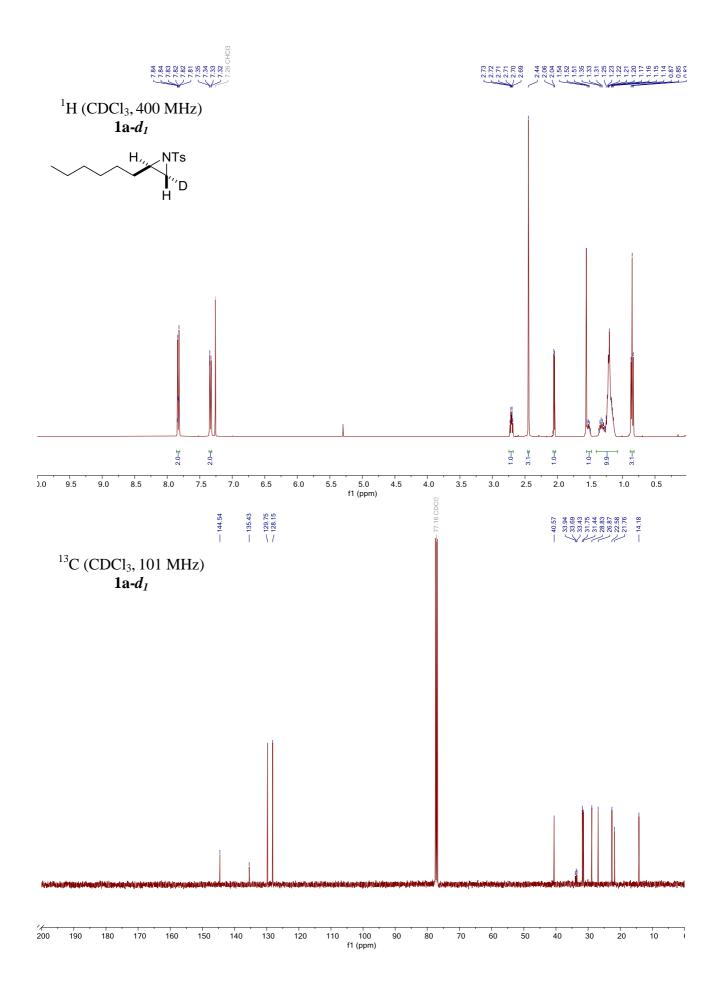
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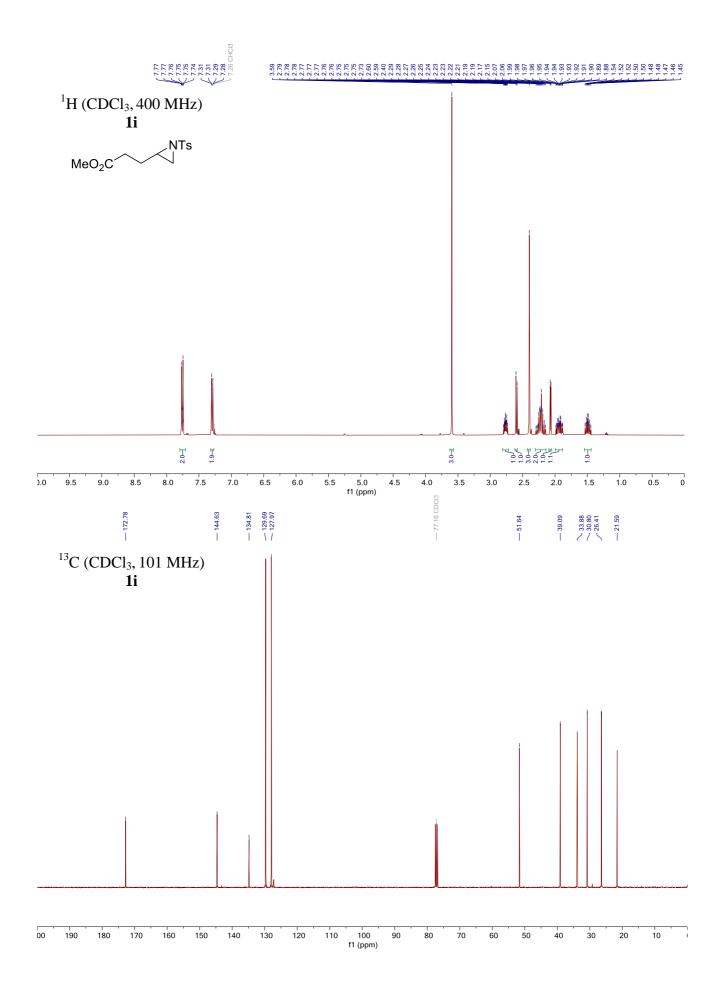
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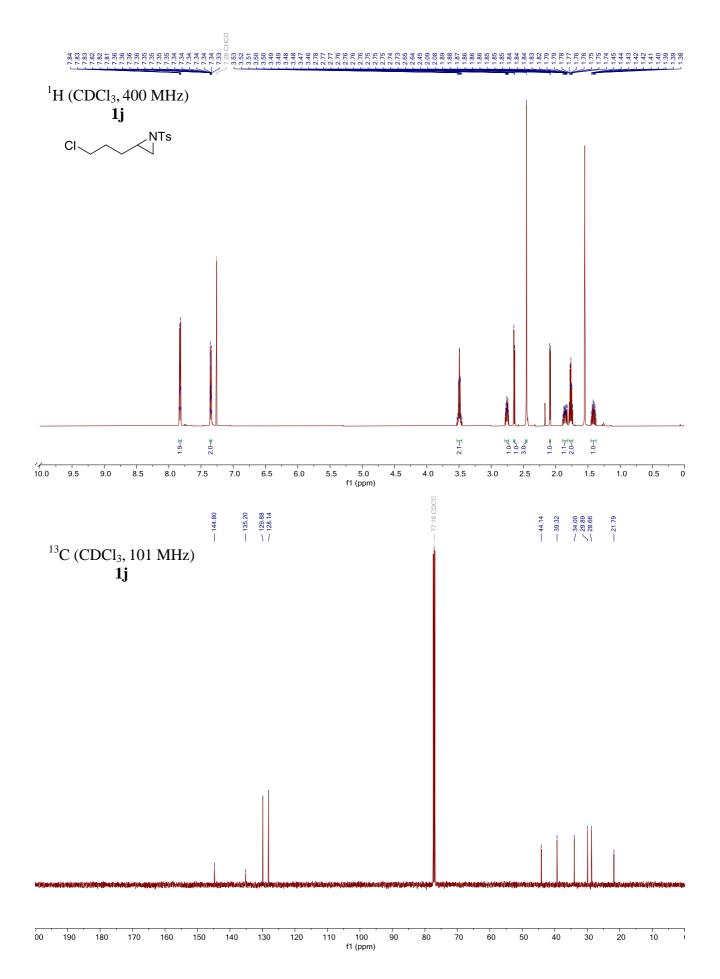
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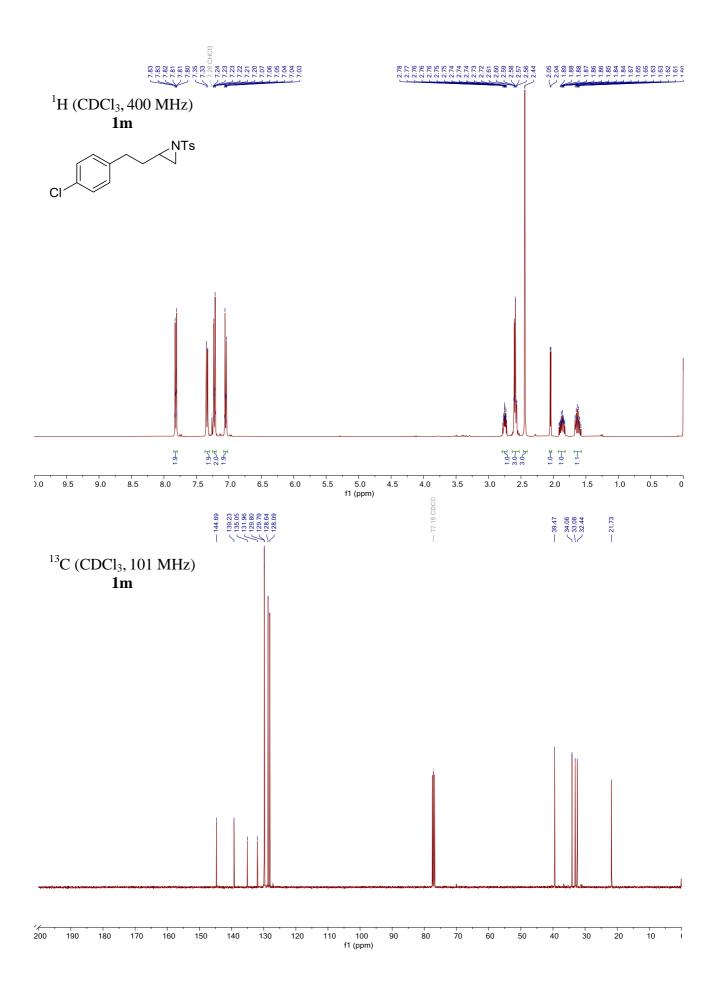
## 7 NMR Spectra

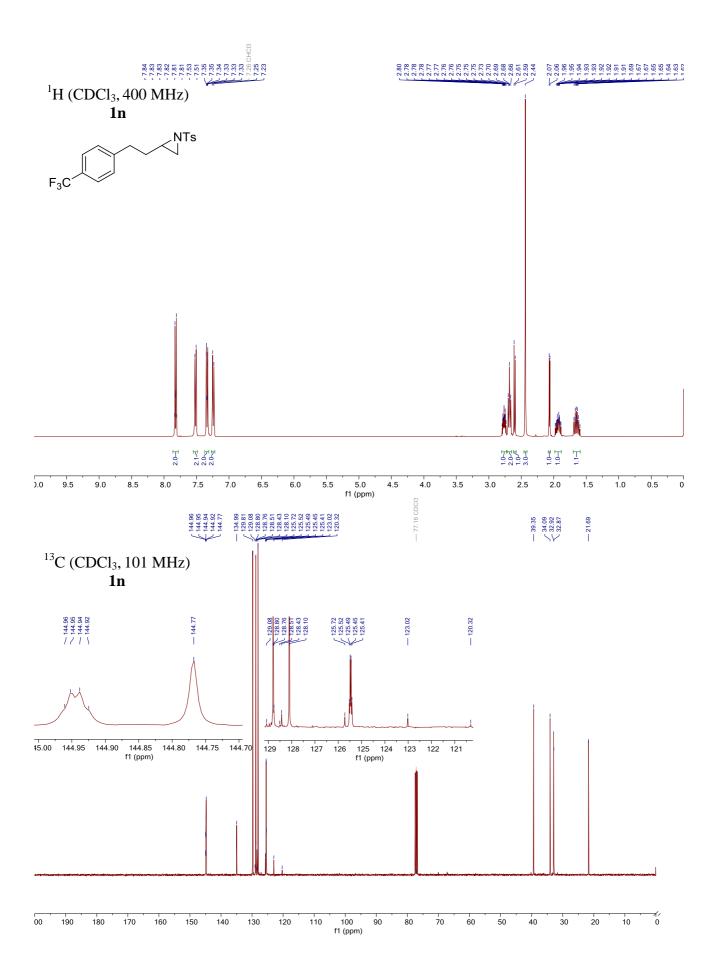


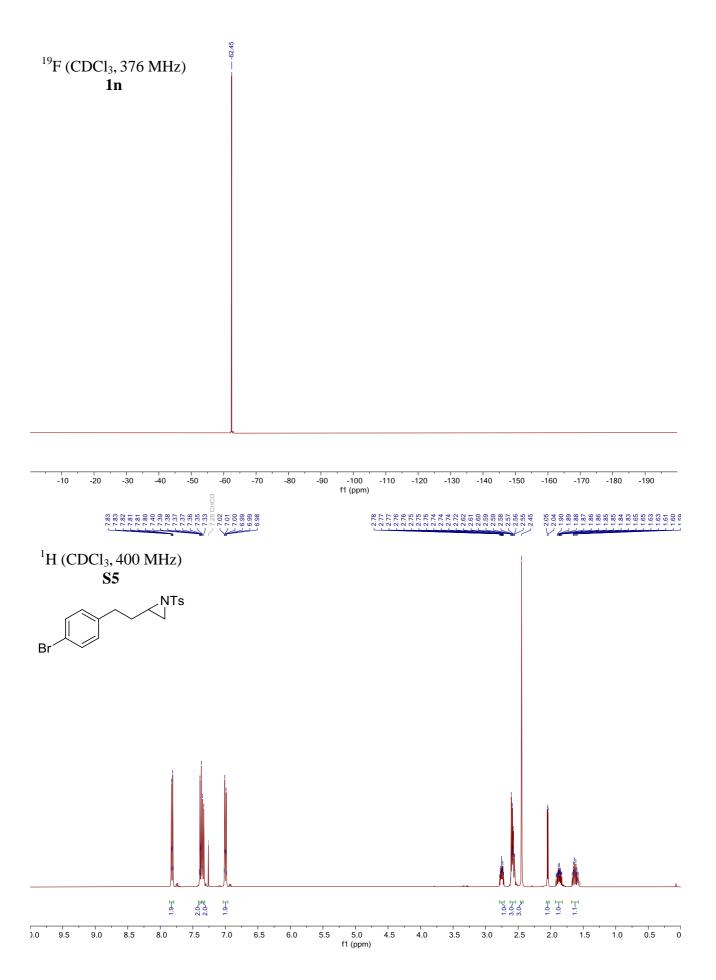


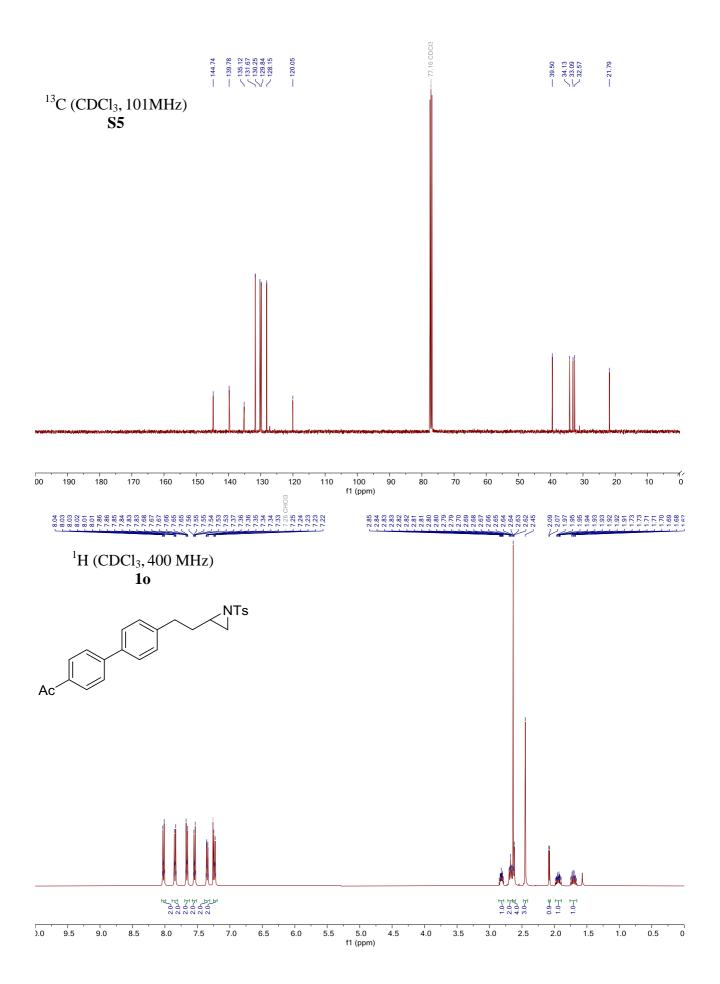


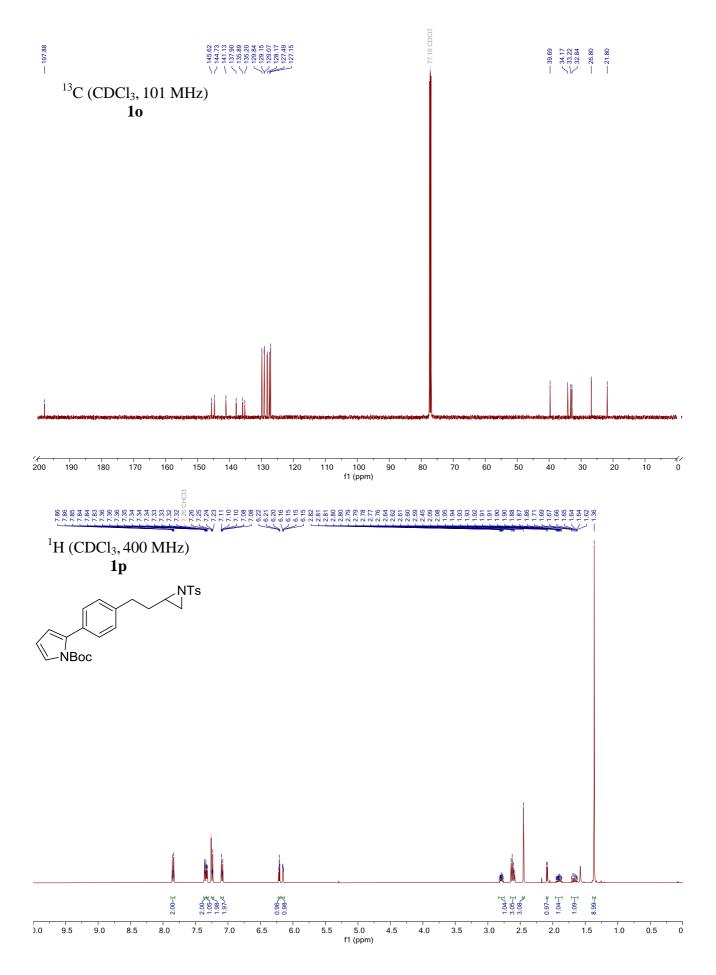


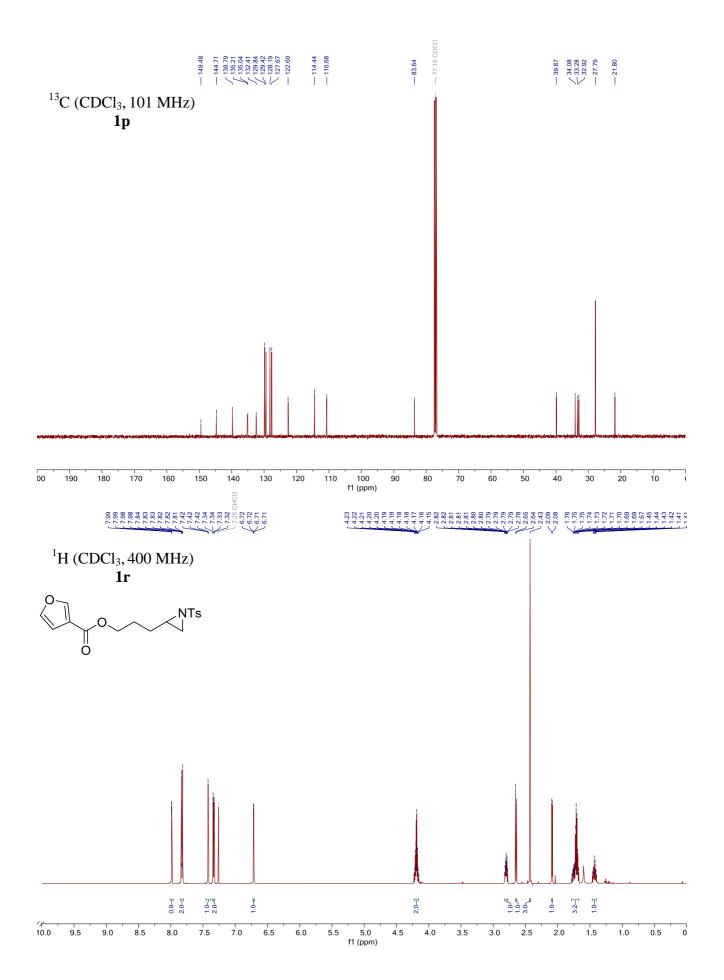


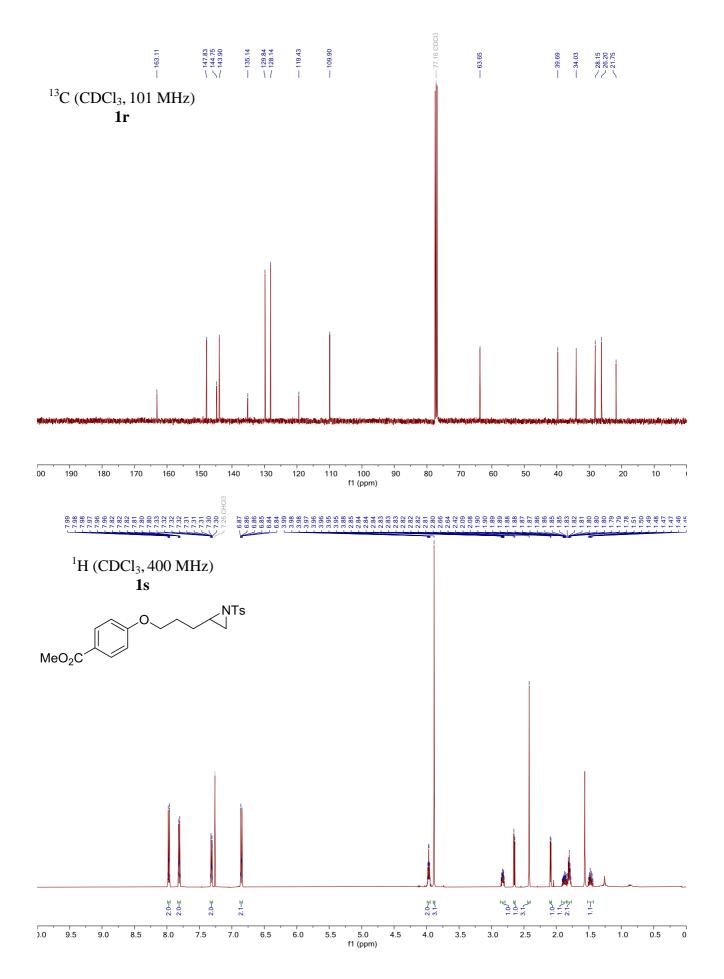


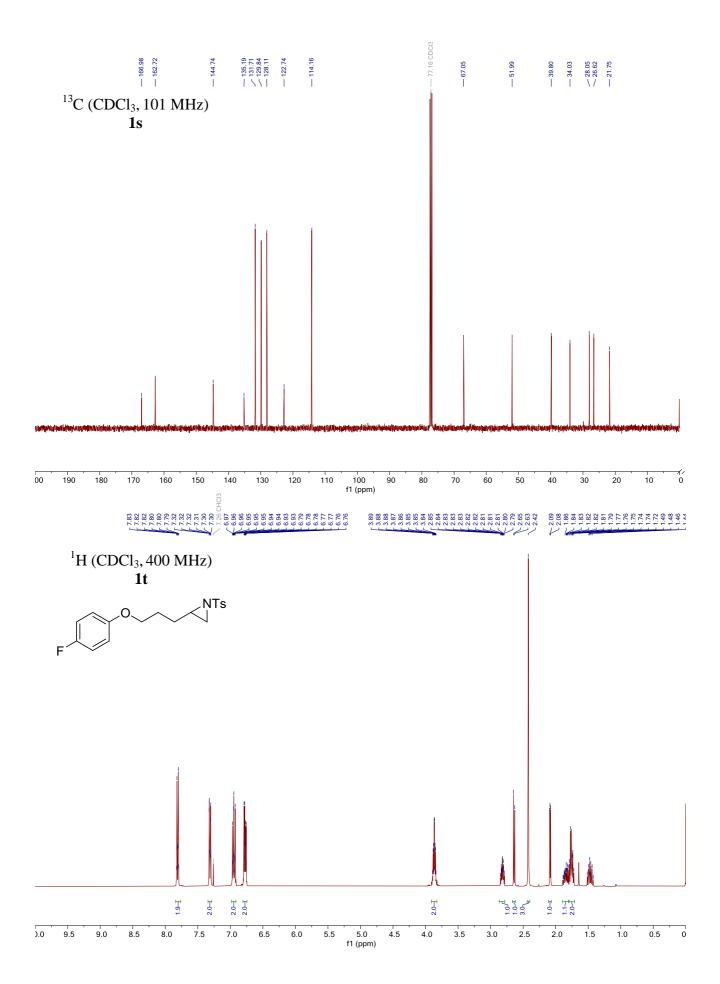


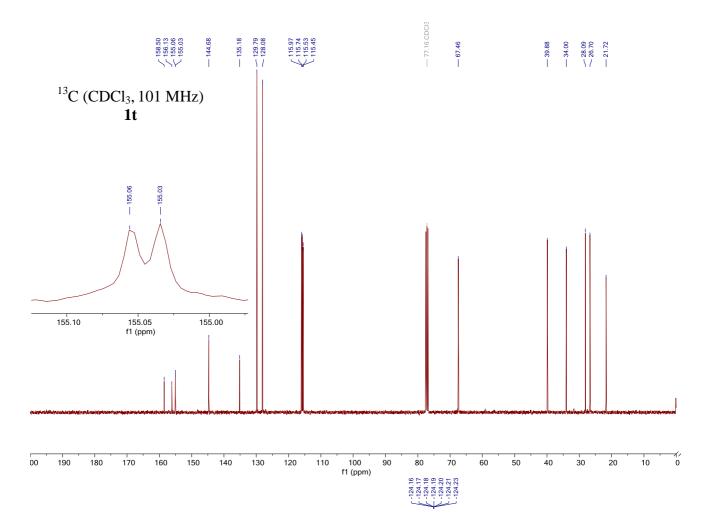


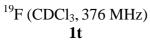


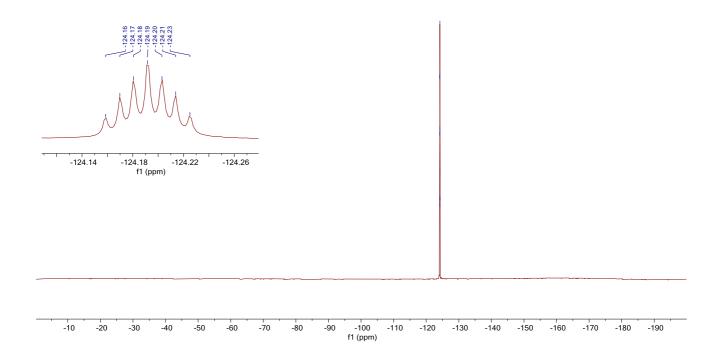


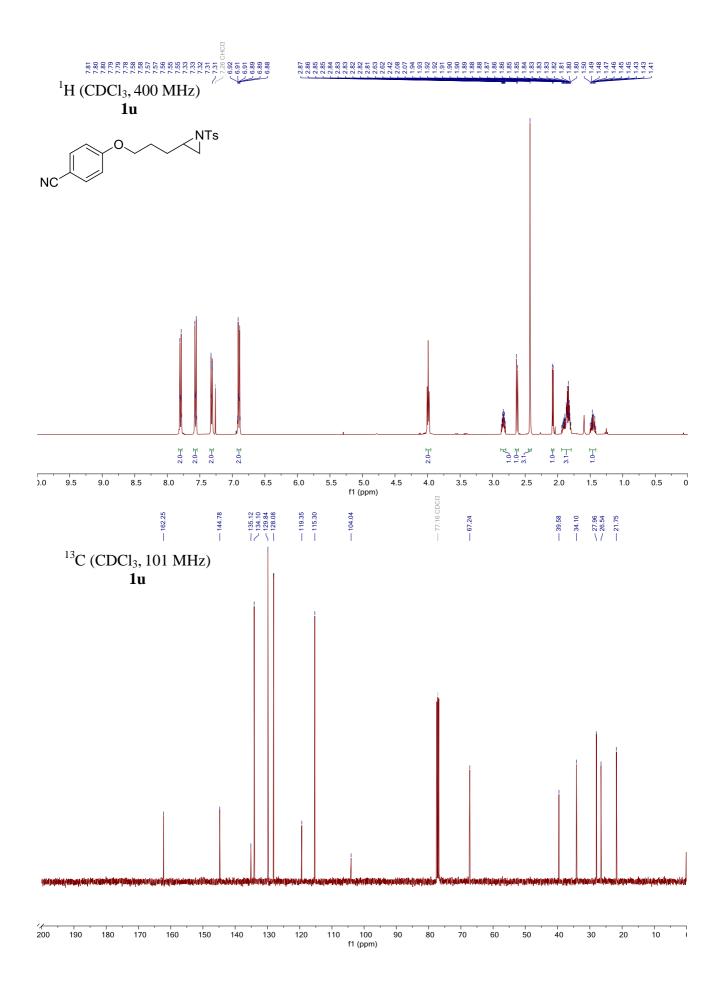


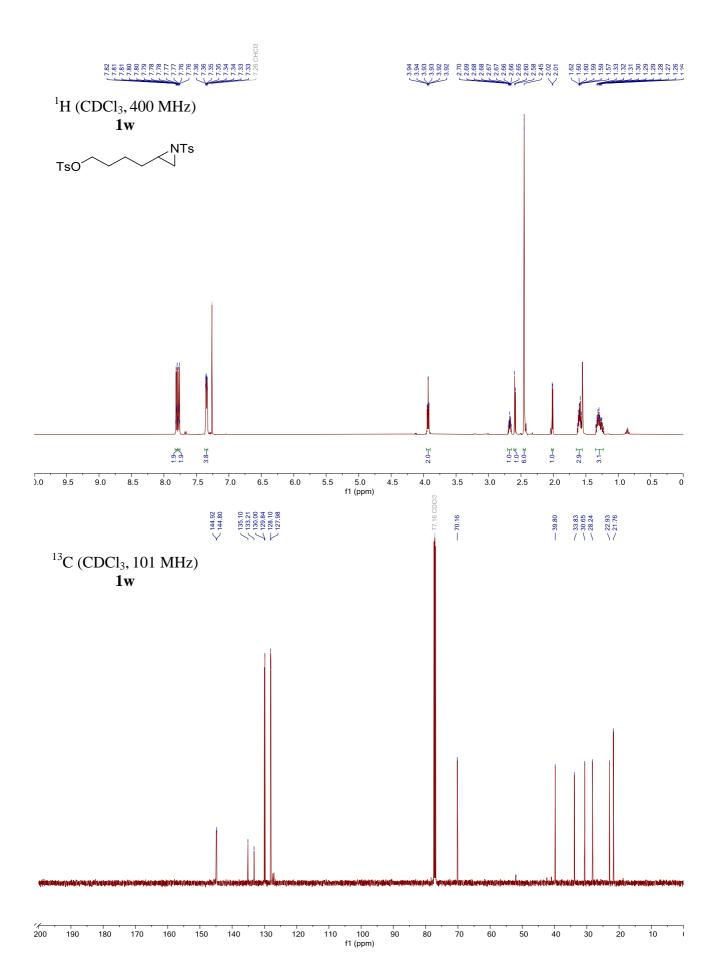


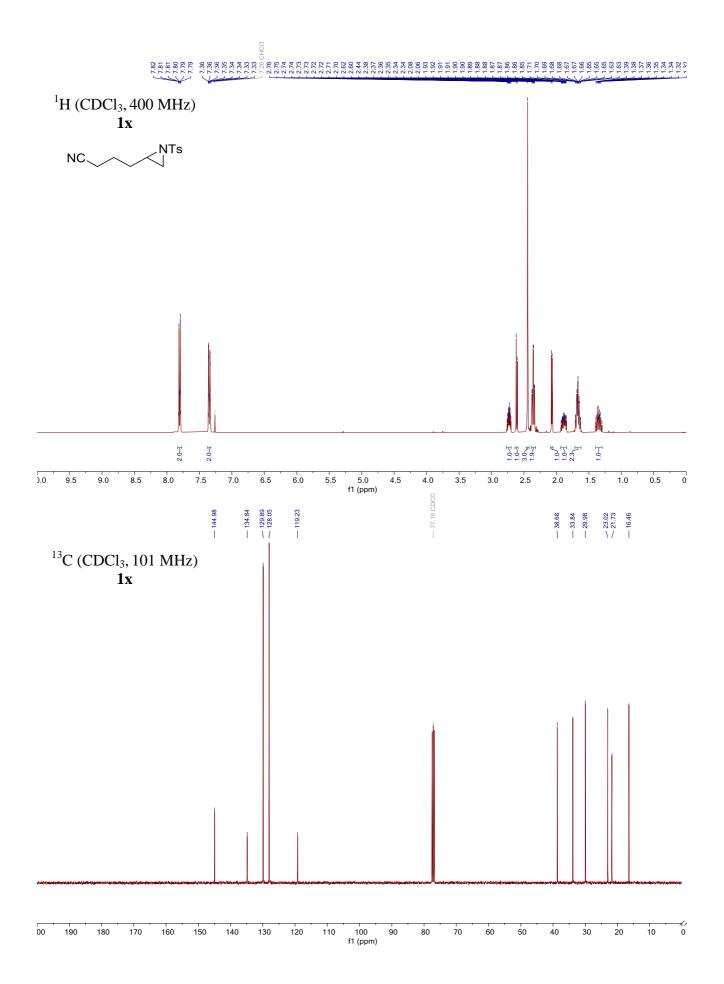


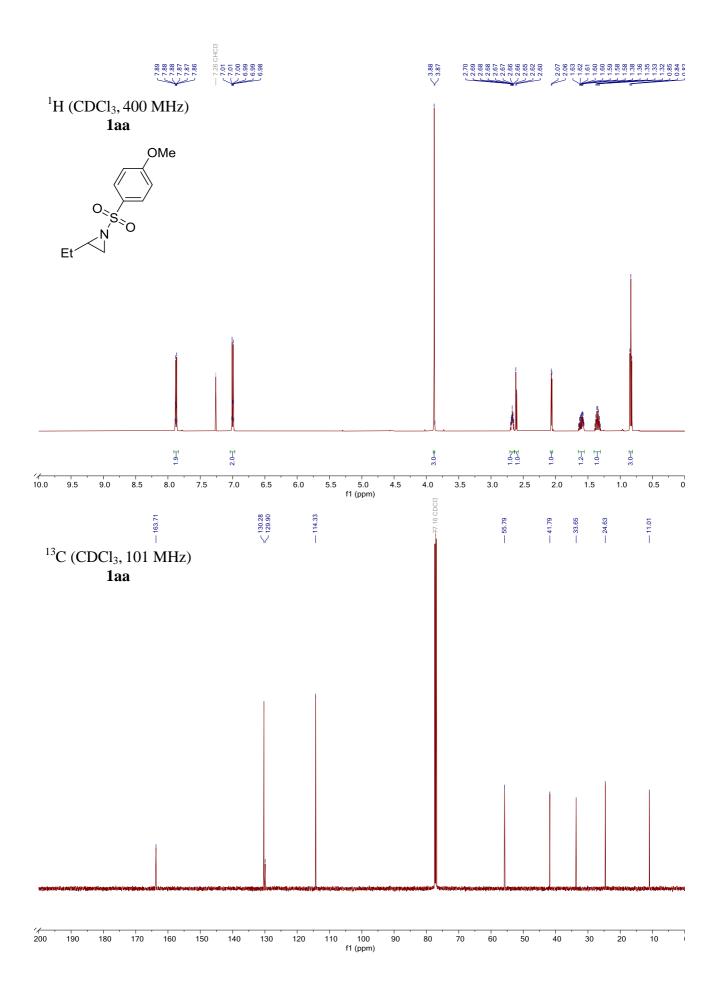


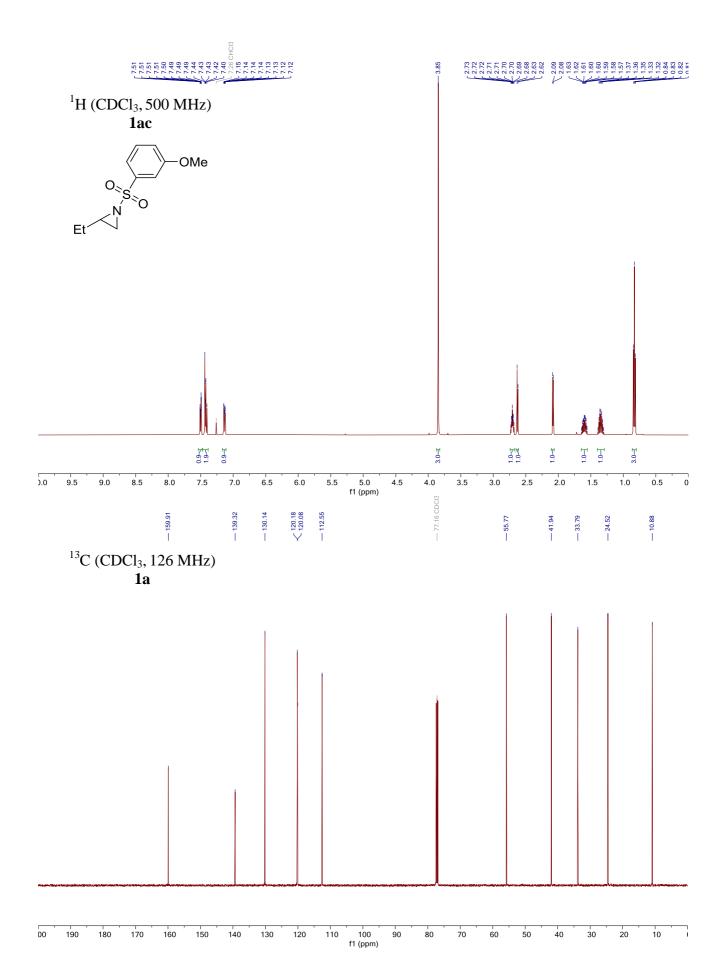


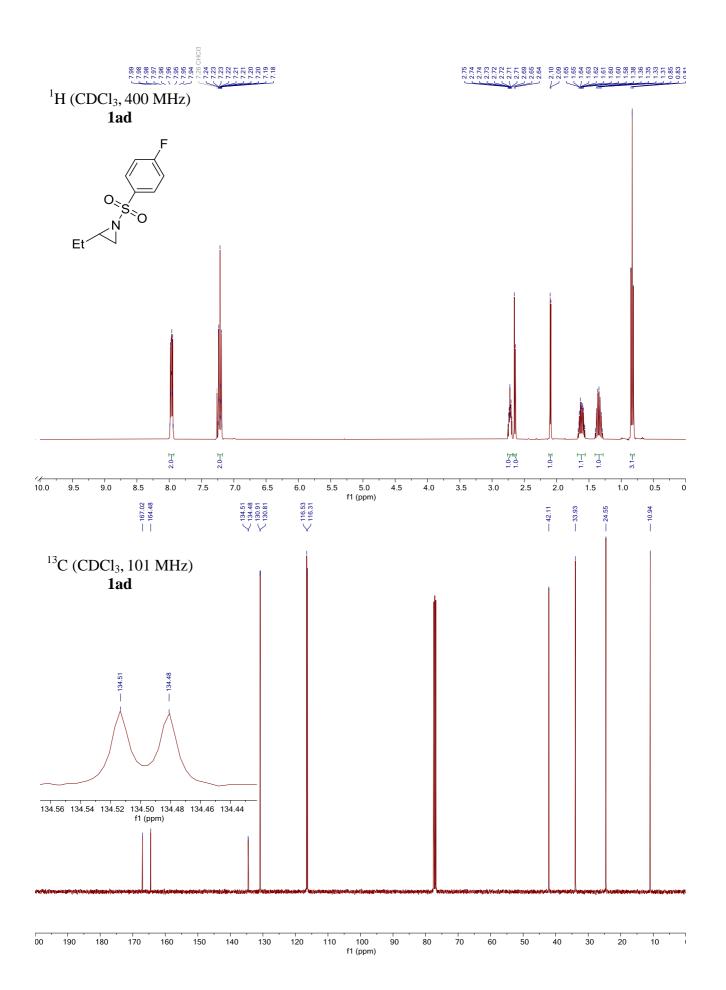


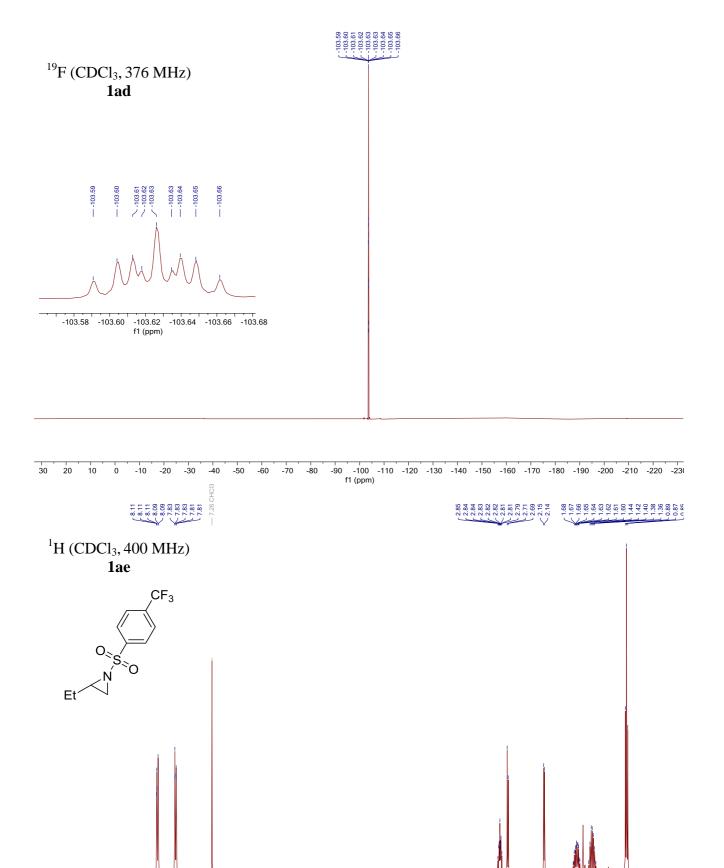












5.0 f1 (ppm)

5.5

4.0

3.5

4.5

20T

8.0

8.5

7.5

7.0

6.5

6.0

9.5

9.0

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3.0

2.5

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1.5

3.17

1.0

0.5

7

2.0

