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# One-pot asymmetric synthesis of  $\alpha$ -trifluoromethylated amines from a-trifluoromethyl ketones

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## ABSTRACT

Diastereoselective reduction of  $(Rs)$ -N-tert-butanesulfinyl  $\alpha$ -trifluoromethyl ketimines formed in situ from the corresponding a-trifluoromethyl ketones and N-tert-butanesulfinamide has been achieved, and either diastereomer of N-tert-butanesulfinyl  $\alpha$ -trifluoromethyl amines was obtained in good yields with excellent diastereoselectivities (up to 99:1 dr) using NaBH4 and L-Selectride as the reductants, respectively.

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#### 1. Introduction

Trifluoromethyl-containing compounds have gained growing interest in the field of agrochemistry, pharmaceutical industry, and materials science during the past decades<sup>[1](#page-4-0)</sup> because the introduction of a trifluoromethyl group with strong electron-withdrawing ability can lead to significant changes in the physical, chemical, and biological properties of the molecules. Among such compounds enantiomerically pure a-trifluoromethyl amines have attracted considerable attention since these chiral synthons are important and common subunits in the synthesis of chiral fluorinated pharmaceuticals and agrochemicals.[1a,b,d](#page-4-0) Based on its prime importance in the drug industry, a variety of methodologies have been developed for their asymmetric synthesis, $2-6$  $2-6$  such as nucleophilic trifluoromethylation of  $N-(tert-butylsulfinyl)-imines<sup>3</sup>$  $N-(tert-butylsulfinyl)-imines<sup>3</sup>$  $N-(tert-butylsulfinyl)-imines<sup>3</sup>$  addition of organometallic reagents to chiral trifluoromethyl imines or analogues,<sup>[4](#page-4-0)</sup> reduction of enantiopure trifluoromethyl imines<sup>[5a,b](#page-4-0)</sup> or catalytic asymmetric reduction of prochiral trifluoromethyl ketimines<sup>[5c](#page-4-0)</sup> and so on.<sup>[6](#page-4-0)</sup> However, most of them have suffered from some drawbacks, like for instance, only one enantiomer obtained, or restricted by the availability of organometallic derivatives, or having a narrow substrate scope. Therefore, there is still desirable

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to develop a more practical and general method suitable for the rapid synthesis of chiral  $\alpha$ -trifluoromethyl amines.

Recently, much attention has been paid to the synthesis of chiral  $CF_3$ -substituted N-sulfinyl imines and their applications in the diastereoselective synthesis of trifluoromethyl amine derivatives.<sup>[7](#page-4-0)</sup> During our studies on the reactions of  $CF_3$ -containing ketones,  $8$  we have synthesized a new class of chiral CF<sub>3</sub>-substituted  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ -unsaturated N-tert-butanesulfinyl ketimines and explored their preliminary applications in the asymmetric synthesis of either diastereomer of trifluoromethyl allylic amines.<sup>[9](#page-4-0)</sup> As part of our ongoing research in the development of practical methods for the synthesis of chiral  $\alpha$ -CF<sub>3</sub> amines, we herein wish to report a facile one-pot approach for the asymmetric synthesis of either  $(Rs, R)$  or  $(Rs, S)$  isomer of N-tert-butanesulfinyl  $\alpha$ -trifluoromethyl amines by the diastereoselective reduction of  $(Rs)$ -N-tert-butanesulfinyl  $\alpha$ trifluoromethyl ketimines, which are generated in situ from the condensation of  $\alpha$ -trifluoromethyl ketones and (Rs)-N-tertbutanesulfinamide.

## 2. Results and discussion

We began our investigation with the NaBH4-mediated one-pot reductive amination of 2,2,2-trifluoroacetophenone (1a) according to the conditions previously reported by Ellman and co-workers for the one-pot reductive amination of ketones with N-tert-butane-sulfinamide.<sup>[10](#page-4-0)</sup> Condensation of **1a** with **2** in dry THF in the presence of 2.5 equiv of Ti(Oi-Pr)<sub>4</sub> under reflux for 24 h,<sup>[11](#page-4-0)</sup> followed by in situ reduction with 3.0 equiv of NaBH<sub>4</sub> at  $-78$  °C for 3 h afforded the





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 $\alpha$ -trifluoromethyl sulfinamide 3a in 52% yield and with a diastereomeric ratio of 98:2 (Table 1, entry 1). To achieve better results, the effect of the solvent was then surveyed. As shown in Table 1, using  $Et<sub>2</sub>O$  instead of THF as the solvent, the yield of 3a could be dramatically improved to 85% without any loss in the diastereomeric ratio ( $3a/4a=98:2$ , entry 2). When *n*-hexane was used as the solvent, the reaction gave similar yield and diastereoselectivity as using THF (entry 3). Other solvents, such as toluene,  $CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>$ , and CH<sub>3</sub>CN furnished the  $\alpha$ -trifluoromethyl sulfinamides 3a and 4a in moderate selectivity but gave lower yields (entries  $4-6$ ).

With the two optimized reaction conditions in hand (Table 2, entries 1 and 7), a variety of  $\alpha$ -trifluoromethyl ketones were employed as the substrate to explore the scope of the one-pot reductive amination procedures and test the generality of the reversal in diastereofacial selectivity upon using NaBH4 versus L-Selectride. As summarized in [Table 3,](#page-2-0) all the one-pot reductive aminations of both  $\alpha$ -trifluoromethyl aryl and  $\alpha$ -trifluoromethyl alkyl ketones went smoothly and afforded the corresponding  $\alpha$ -trifluoromethyl amines from 1 in good to excellent yields as well as high diastereoselectivities. a-Trifluoromethyl aryl ketones containing both

#### Table 1

Solvent screen for the NaBH<sub>4</sub>-mediated one-pot reductive amination of 1a







All reductions were performed using 3.0 equiv of NaBH<sub>4</sub> in the appropriate solvent for 3 h. Isolated yield of **3a** in two steps unless otherwise noted.

Diastereomeric ratios were determined by <sup>19</sup>F NMR of the crude reaction mixture.

 $d$  The overall yield of 3a and 4a in two steps. Determined by  $19F$  NMR of the crude reaction mixture.

Encouraged by the above results, we then examined a series of metal hydrides to test the possibility of stereoselectivity reversal using ether as the solvent.<sup>9,10a,12</sup> The results were promising, as revealed in Table 2. When DIBAL-H was used instead of NaBH $_4$  as the reductant, a slight improvement in diastereoselectivity  $(3a/4a)$ 99:1) was observed but in a lower yield (entry 2). Catecholborane was less reactive and only 14% overall yield of 3a and 4a was obtained after 3 h (entry 3). NaBH<sub>3</sub>CN and LiBH<sub>4</sub> exhibited poor levels of diastereoselection in favor of isomer  $3a$  (entries  $4-5$ ). We were gratified to find the reversal of the diastereofacial selectivity when LiBHEt<sub>3</sub> was used as the reducing agent (entry 6). More excitingly, performing the reduction with L-Selectride resulted in the opposite stereoisomer 4a in good yield with high diastereoselectivity  $(4a/3a=98:2,$  entry 7).<sup>[13](#page-4-0)</sup>

electron-donating and electron-withdrawing substituents at the para position proved to be excellent substrates in both systems, giving  $90-96%$  de (entries  $1-8$ ). It is worth to be mentioned that both systems gave even better diastereoselectivities (dr up to 99:1) for  $\alpha$ -trifluoromethyl alkyl ketones (entries 9-12). Thus, with two different reduction systems, the opposite stereocontrol could be easily achieved. The absolute configuration of product 3a and 3d, 4a and 4d was unequivocally assigned as  $(Rs, R)$  and  $(Rs, S)$  by cleaving the sulfinamide with HCl and examining the optical rotation of the known salts. By analogy, the absolute configuration of products **3b–c, e–f,** and **4b–c, e–f** is tentatively assigned as  $(Rs, R)$  and  $(Rs, S)$ .

On the basis of the diastereoselectivity observed [\(Table 3\)](#page-2-0), the rationale of the reversal in diastereofacial selectivity upon changing reductant from NaBH4 to L-Selectride may be explained via a cyclic

#### Table 2

The one-pot reductive amination of 1a with various reducing agents





<sup>a</sup> All reductions were performed using 3.0 equiv of reducing agent in Et<sub>2</sub>O at  $-78$  °C for 3 h.

**b** Isolated yield of 3a or 4a in two steps unless otherwise noted.

Diastereomeric ratios were determined by <sup>19</sup>F NMR of crude reaction mixture.

<sup>d</sup> The overall yield of 3a and 4a in two steps. Determined by <sup>19</sup>F NMR of crude reaction mixture.

#### <span id="page-2-0"></span>Table 3

The one-pot reductive amination of  $1$  with NaBH<sub>4</sub> and L-Selectride





<sup>a</sup> All reductions were performed using 3.0 equiv of NaBH<sub>4</sub> or L-Selectride in Et<sub>2</sub>O at  $-78$  °C for 3 h.

 $^{\rm b}$  Isolated yield of 3a–f or 4a–f in two steps.

 $\rm ^c$  Diastereomeric ratios were determined by  $\rm ^{19}F$  NMR of the crude reaction mixture.

transition state in the former reduction (NaBH $_4$ ) and an open transition state in the latter case (L-Selectride) as previously pro-posed by Andersen and co-workers<sup>[12c](#page-4-0)</sup> (Scheme 1). Although the steric hindrance of  $CF_3$  group is similar to phenyl and between those of <sup>i</sup>Pr and <sup>t</sup>Bu,<sup>14</sup> high diastereoselectivities were observed in all the cases examined (Table 3). These results indicated that the electronic effect of the  $C-F$  bond in the  $CF_3$  group might play an important role in achieving high diastereoselectivities in both re-duction systems. The electrostatic repulsion<sup>[15](#page-4-0)</sup> of the lone pairs between the sulfur atom and the fluorine atom makes  $CF_3$  group be far away from the sulfur atoms in both systems. Therefore TS-A is more stable than TS-B in the six-membered chairlike models under the NaBH4 reduction and TS-D is more favored than TS-C in the open transition state under the L-Selectride reduction. Hence, the six-membered transition state in which the sulfinyl oxygen participates in the delivery of hydride in the NaBH4 system gives (Rs, R)-3 as the major product, while an open transition state in the L-Selectride system affords the major product (Rs, S)-4.



Scheme 1. Proposed transition state for the one-pot reductive amination of 1.

### 3. Conclusions

In summary, we have developed a facile protocol for the asymmetric synthesis of either stereoisomer of  $\alpha$ -trifluoromethylated amines. The diastereoselective reduction of  $\alpha$ -trifluoromethyl N-tertbutanesulfinyl ketoimines formed in situ from the corresponding a-trifluoromethyl ketones and N-tert-butanesulfinamide took place readily to give either diastereomer of the tert-butanesulfinyl-protected trifluoromethylated amines in good yields and with excellent diastereoselectivities by simply choosing the appropriate reducing agents. Further studies on the application of this method in the preparation of CF3-containing natural product analogues are in progress in our laboratory.

## 4. Experimental section

#### 4.1. General experimental methods

Unless otherwise mentioned, solvents, and reagents were purchased from commercial sources and used as received.  $Et<sub>2</sub>O$  and THF were freshly distilled over Na/benzophenone. Melting points were measured on a Melt-Temp apparatus and uncorrected. <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker AM-300 or Mercury 300 (300 MHz) spectrometers with TMS as internal standard.  $^{19}$ F NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker AM-300 or Mercury 300 (282 MHz) spectrometers with CFCl<sub>3</sub> as an external standard. <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker 300 (75.5 MHz) or DPX-400 (100.7 MHz) spectrometers. IR spectra were obtained with a Nicolet AV-360 spectrophotometer. Mass spectra were taken on a HP5989A spectrometer. High-resolution mass data were obtained on a highresolution mass spectrometer in the EI or MALDI mode.

## 4.2. General procedure for the one-pot reductive amination of 1 with NaBH<sub>4</sub>

Trifluoromethyl ketones 1 (0.4 mmol) were added to a solution of  $(R)$ -2 (0.5 mmol) and Ti $(Oi-Pr)_4$  (1.0 mmol) in Et<sub>2</sub>O (4 mL) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred under reflux and the reaction was monitored by  $19$ F NMR. After the reaction was complete, the mixture was cooled to room temperature and then to  $-78$  °C NaBH<sub>4</sub> (1.2 mmol) was added dropwise, and the resulted mixture was stirred at  $-78$  °C for 3 h (monitored by TLC). After reaction, the mixture was quenched with saturated NaCl solution  $(5 \text{ mL})$  at  $-78$  °C and then warmed to room temperature while being rapidly stirred. The resulting suspension was filtered through a plug of Celite, and the filter cake was washed with EtOAc. The filtrate was washed with saturated NaCl solution. The aqueous layer

was extracted with EtOAc (10 mL $\times$ 3). The combined organic solution was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. After the removal of volatile solvents under vacuum, the crude product was further purified by column chromatography on silica gel to give product 3.

4.2.1. (Rs,R)-N-(2,2,2-Trifluoro-1-phenylethyl)-tert-butanesulfina*mide (3a).* Colorless viscous oil, yield 85%; FT-IR (film,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ):  $\nu$ 3196, 2962, 2930, 2872, 1495, 1366, 1265, 1173, 1125, 1073, 693; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.46–7.40 (m, 5H), 4.94–4.81 (m, 1H), 3.90 (s, 1H), 1.24 (s, 9H); <sup>19</sup>F NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  -74.33 (d, J=7.1 Hz, 3F); <sup>13</sup>C NMR  $(CDCI_3)$ :  $\delta$  131.67, 129.70, 129.26, 128.73, 124.47 (q, J=281.8 Hz), 60.52 (q, J=30.4 Hz), 56.35, 22.31; EIMS ( $m/z$ , %): 280 (M<sup>+</sup>+1, 4.29),  $223 (M<sup>+</sup> – <sup>t</sup>Bu+1, 9.94), 159 (17.29), 57 (100.00); HRMS (EI) calcd for$  $C_{12}H_{16}F_3NOS$  [M<sup>+</sup>]: 279.0905; found: 279.0901.

4.2.2. (Rs,R)-N-(2,2,2-Trifluoro-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)ethyl)-tert-butanesulfinamide (3b). Colorless viscous oil, yield 78%; FT-IR (film, cm $^{-1}$ ):  $\nu$  3209, 2962, 2910, 2871, 1615, 1518, 1466, 1366, 1253, 1172, 1126, 1073, 829, 732, 585; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.29 (d, J=8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.86 (d, J=8.7 Hz, 2H), 4.83–4.68 (m, 1H), 3.84 (s, 1H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 1.24 (s, 9H); <sup>19</sup>F NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  –74.70 (d, J=5.6 Hz, 3F); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  160.57, 130.58, 123.32, 114.13, 124.55 (q, J=281.5 Hz), 59.85 (q, J=30.4 Hz), 56.16, 55.17, 22.31; EIMS (m/z, %): 310 (M<sup>+</sup>+1, 5.26), 253 (M<sup>+</sup>-<sup>t</sup>Bu+1, 6.01), 189 (100.00), 57 (84.83); HRMS(EI) calcd for  $C_{13}H_{18}F_3NO_2S$  [M<sup>+</sup>]: 309.1010; found: 309.1012.

4.2.3. (Rs,R)-N-(2,2,2-Trifluoro-1-p-tolylethyl)-tert-butanesulfinamide ( $\bf{3c}$ ). Colorless viscous oil, yield 72%; FT-IR (film, cm $^{-1}$ ):  $\nu$ 3198, 2960, 2929, 2870, 1458, 1365, 1266, 1172, 1126, 1075, 811, 728, 670; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.32 (d, J=7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.22 (d, J=7.2 Hz, 2H), 4.80–4.85 (m, 1H), 3.84 (s, 1H), 2.38 (s, 3H), 1.24 (s, 9H); <sup>19</sup>F NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  -74.50 (d, J=7.1 Hz, 3F); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  139.55, 129.34, 129.05, 128.60, 124.48 (q, J=281.7 Hz), 60.19 (q, J=30.2 Hz), 56.16, 22.20, 21.05; EIMS  $(m/z, %):$  294  $(M^{+}+1, 1.52),$  237  $(M<sup>+</sup> –<sup>t</sup>Bu+1, 12.76)$ , 173 (36.95), 57 (100.00); HRMS (EI) calcd for  $C_{13}H_{18}F_3NOS$  [M<sup>+</sup>]: 293.1061; found: 293.1073.

4.2.4. (Rs,R)-N-(1-(4-Bromophenyl)-2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)-tert-butanesulfinamide (3d). Colorless viscous oil, yield 66%; FT-IR (film, cm $^{-1}$ ):  $\nu$  3198, 2962, 2929, 2872, 1493, 1366, 1266, 1175, 1126, 1075, 728, 670; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.56 (d, J=7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.32 (d, J=7.5 Hz, 2H), 4.75–4.94 (m, 1H), 3.85 (s, 1H), 1.24 (s, 9H); <sup>19</sup>F NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  -74.41 (d, J=6.5 Hz, 3F); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  135.78, 132.06, 130.53, 127.59, 124.16 (q, J=281.6 Hz), 59.98 (q, J=31.0 Hz), 56.55, 22.24; EIMS  $(m/z, %): 357 (M<sup>+</sup>, 2.40), 301 (M<sup>+</sup> – <sup>t</sup>Bu+1, 1.82), 237$ (10.46), 57 (100.00); HRMS (EI) calcd for  $C_{12}H_{15}BrF_3NOS$  [M<sup>+</sup>]: 357.0010; found: 357.0017.

4.2.5. (Rs,R)-N-(1,1,1-Trifluoro-5-phenylpentan-2-yl)-tert-butanesulfinamide (3e). White solid, yield 69%; mp  $68-70$  °C; FT-IR (KBr, cm $^{-1}$ ):  $\nu$  3207, 3029, 2959, 2933, 2870, 1604, 1541, 1498, 1465, 1365, 1275, 1180, 1163, 1126, 1067, 749, 700; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.37-7.14  $(m, 5H)$ , 3.77-3.56  $(m, 1H)$ , 3.44  $(d, J=9.0$  Hz, 1H), 2.66  $(t, J=4.5$  Hz, 2H), 2.05-1.80 (m, 2H), 1.78-1.65 (m, 2H), 1.18 (s, 9H); <sup>19</sup>F NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  -75.13 (d, J=7.6 Hz, 3F); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  141.14, 128.36, 128.23, 125.97, 125.24 (q, J=282.8 Hz), 57.83 (q, J=29.0 Hz), 56.94, 35.15, 28.71, 26.85, 22.42; EIMS  $(m/z, %):$  265  $(M<sup>+</sup>-<sup>t</sup>Bu+1,$ 11.18), 217 (2.68), 57 (100.00); HRMS (EI) calcd for  $C_{11}H_{14}F_3NOS$  $[M<sup>+</sup>-<sup>t</sup>Bu+1]$ : 265.0748; found: 265.0755.

4.2.6. (Rs,R)-N-(1,1,1-Trifluorodecan-2-yl)-tert-butanesulfinamide (**3f**). Colorless viscous oil, yield 79%; FT-IR (film, cm $^{-1}$ ):  $\nu$  3297, 2958, 2928, 2859, 1468, 1366, 1276, 1168, 1133, 1112, 1066, 940, 885, 847, 795, 693, 580; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  3.72–3.55 (m, 1H), 3.43 (s, 1H), 1.90-1.47 (m, 4H), 1.37-1.26 (m, 10H), 1.25 (s, 9H), 0.88 (t, J=5.7 Hz, 3H); <sup>19</sup>F NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ – 75.26 (d, J=6.5 Hz, 3F); <sup>13</sup>C NMR

(CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  125.30 (q, J=283.1 Hz), 57.99 (q, J=29.6 Hz), 56.90, 31.65, 29.12, 29.03, 28.94, 25.18, 22.49, 22.40, 13.90; EIMS (m/z, %): 316  $(M^+ + 1, 6.09)$  259  $(M^+ - {}^t\!Bu+1, 2.70)$ , 57 (100.00); HRMS (EI) calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>28</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NOS [M<sup>+</sup>]: 315.1844; found: 315.1833.

## 4.3. General procedure for the one-pot reductive amination of 1 with L-Selectride

Trifluoromethyl ketones 1 (0.4 mmol) were added to a solution of  $(R)$ -2 (0.5 mmol) and Ti(Oi-Pr)<sub>4</sub> (1.0 mmol) in Et<sub>2</sub>O (4 mL) at room temperature. The reaction mixture was stirred under reflux and the reaction was monitored by  $19$ F NMR. After the reaction was completed, the mixture was cooled to room temperature and then to  $-78$  °C. A solution of L-Selectride (1.2 mL, 1.2 mmol, 1.0 M solution in THF) was added slowly, and the resulted mixture was stirred at  $-78$  °C for 3 h (monitored by TLC). After reaction, the mixture was quenched with saturated NaCl solution (5 mL) at  $-78$  °C and then warmed to room temperature while being rapidly stirred. The resulting suspension was filtered through a plug of Celite, and the filter cake was washed with EtOAc. The filtrate was washed with saturated NaCl solution. The aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc (10 mL $\times$ 3). The combined organic solution was dried over  $Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>$ . After the removal of volatile solvents under vacuum, the crude product was further purified by column chromatography on silica gel to give product 4.

4.3.1. (Rs,S)-N-(2,2,2-Trifluoro-1-phenylethyl)-tert-butanesulfinamide (4a)<sup>3a</sup>. White solid, yield 78%; mp 139–141 °C; FT-IR (KBr,  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ):  $\nu$  2995, 2964, 1498, 1460, 1365, 1265, 1155, 1123, 1058, 1014, 930, 761, 702; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.47–7.36 (m, 5H), 4.90–4.76 (m, 1H), 3.70 (s, 1H), 1.24 (s, 9H); <sup>19</sup>F NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  –73.29 (d, J=7.1 Hz, 3F); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 133.68, 129.70, 129.12, 127.90, 124.58 (q, J=281.1 Hz), 61.35 (q, J=30.9 Hz), 58.89, 22.28; EIMS ( $m/z$ , %): 223  $(M<sup>+</sup> –<sup>t</sup>Bu+1, 7.80), 159 (13.71), 57 (100.00); HRMS (EI) calcd for$  $C_8H_7F_3NOS$  [M<sup>+</sup>-<sup>t</sup>Bu]: 222.02000; found: 222.0193.

4.3.2. (Rs,S)-N-(2,2,2-Trifluoro-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)ethyl)-tert-butanesulfinamide (4b). White solid, yield 68%; mp 164-167 °C; FT-IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>):  $\nu$  3247, 3116, 2989, 2966, 2906, 1616, 1519, 1467, 1365, 1263, 1183, 1121, 1058, 812, 711, 528; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.28 (d, J=8.1 Hz, 2H), 6.85 (d, J=8.1 Hz, 2H), 4.88-4.64 (m, 1H), 3.54 (s, 1H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 1.18 (s, 9H); <sup>19</sup>F NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  -73.52 (d, J=7.3 Hz, 3F); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  160.40, 129.20, 125.78, 114.54, 124.69 (q,  $J=281.4$  Hz), 60.84 (q, J=30.9 Hz), 56.84, 55.29, 22.31; EIMS (m/z, %):  $310 (M^+ + 1, 0.78), 253 (M^+ - {}^t\text{Bu} + 1, 3.13), 189 (51.20), 57 (100.00);$ HRMS (EI) calcd for  $C_{13}H_{18}F_3NO_2S$  [M<sup>+</sup>]: 309.1010; found: 309.1013.

4.3.3. (Rs,S)-N-(2,2,2-Trifluoro-1-p-tolylethyl)-tert-butanesulfinamide (4c). White solid, yield 70%; mp 174-176 °C; FT-IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>):  $\nu$  3198, 2971, 2927, 1517, 1458, 1365, 1268, 1156, 1124, 1064, 806, 724, 547; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.31 (d, J=8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.10 (d, J=8.1 Hz, 2H), 4.95-4.76 (m, 1H), 3.69 (s, 1H), 2.35 (s, 3H), 1.26 (s, 9H); <sup>19</sup>F NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  –73.38 (d, J=6.8 Hz, 3F); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  139.56, 130.78, 129.83, 127.78, 124.67 (q, J=281.6 Hz), 61.16 (q, J=30.2 Hz), 56.88, 22.32, 21.13; EIMS  $(m/z, %):$  237  $(M<sup>+</sup>-<sup>t</sup>Bu+1,$ 7.44), 173 (26.30), 57 (100.00); HRMS (EI) calcd for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>9</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NOS  $[M<sup>+</sup>-<sup>t</sup>Bu]$ : 236.0357; found: 236.0365.

4.3.4. (Rs,S)-N-(1-(4-Bromophenyl)-2,2,2-trifluoroethyl)-tert-butanesulfinamide ( $4d$ ) $^{3a}$  $^{3a}$  $^{3a}$ . White solid, yield 60%; mp 164–167 °C; FT-IR (KBr, cm<sup>-1</sup>):  $\nu$  2968, 2928, 1493, 1365, 1265, 1161, 1123, 1058, 1014, 917, 811, 728; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.56 (d, J=7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.32 (d, J=7.5 Hz, 2H), 4.88–4.72 (m, 1H), 3.56 (s, 1H), 1.24 (s, 9H); <sup>19</sup>F NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  –73.95 (d, J=7.1 Hz, 3F); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  135.63, 132.35, 131.54, 127.54, 123.96 (q, J=281.1 Hz), 61.35 (q, J=30.9 Hz), 57.25, 22.17; EIMS  $(m/z, %): 301 (M<sup>+</sup>-<sup>t</sup>Bu+1, 0.66), 237 (4.07), 57$ 

<span id="page-4-0"></span>(100.00); HRMS (EI) calcd for  $C_8H_6BrF_3NOS$  [M<sup>+</sup>-<sup>t</sup>Bu]: 299.9306; found: 299.9304.

4.3.5. (Rs,S)-N-(1,1,1-Trifluoro-5-phenylpentan-2-yl)-tert-butanesulfinamide (4e). White solid, yield 68%; mp 74-76 °C; FT-IR (KBr, cm $^{-1}$ ):  $\nu$  3219, 3031, 2962, 2871, 1605, 1498, 1456, 1365, 1275, 1180, 1163, 1126, 1058, 750, 696; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  7.37–7.14 (m, 5H),  $3.77 - 3.56$  (m, 1H),  $3.07$  (s, 1H),  $2.80 - 2.55$  (m, 2H),  $2.10 - 1.72$  (m, 2H), 1.69–1.44 (m, 2H), 1.23 (s, 9H); <sup>19</sup>F NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  –75.83 (d, J=7.2 Hz, 3F); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  141.03, 128.36, 128.33, 125.89, 125.26 (q, J=288.8 Hz), 58.56 (q, J=29.6 Hz), 56.65, 34.93, 28.77, 26.30, 22.28; EIMS  $(m/z, %)$ : 322  $(M<sup>+</sup>+1, 0.75)$ , 265  $(M<sup>+</sup>-<sup>t</sup>Bu+1,$ 14.95), 217 (3.25), 57 (100); HRMS (EI) calcd for  $C_{11}H_{14}F_3NOS$  $[M<sup>+</sup>-<sup>t</sup>Bu+1]$ : 265.0748; found: 265.0760.

4.3.6. (Rs,S)-N-(1,1,1-Trifluorodecan-2-yl)-tert-butanesulfinamide (**4f**). Colorless viscous oil, yield 84%; FT-IR (film, cm $^{-1}$ ):  $\nu$  3209, 2958, 2929, 2860, 1495, 1366, 1276, 1168, 1133, 1111, 1046, 887, 723, 697; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  3.72–3.59 (m, 1H), 3.08 (d, J=7.2 Hz, 1H),  $1.67-1.40$  (m, 4H),  $1.36-1.26$  (m, 10H),  $1.24$  (s, 9H), 0.88 (t, J=5.7 Hz, 3H); <sup>19</sup>F NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  –75.94 (d, J=7.1 Hz, 3F); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  124.36 (q, J=281.1 Hz), 58.75 (q, J=30.2 Hz), 56.70, 31.74, 29.56, 29.14, 28.05, 24.87, 22.55, 22.33, 13.98; EIMS  $(m|z, \mathcal{X})$ : 316  $(M^+ + 1,$ 1.22), 259 ( $M^+$ -<sup>t</sup>Bu+1, 4.02), 57 (100.00); HRMS (EI) calcd for  $C_{14}H_{28}F_3NOS$  [M<sup>+</sup>]: 315.1844; found: 315.1857.

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#### Supplementary data

Supplementary data associated with this article can be found in the online version, at doi:10.1016/j.tet.2010.09.047. These data include MOL files and InChiKeys of the most important compounds described in this article.

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