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Enantioselective desymmetrization of *meso*-aziridines with benzenethiols catalyzed by chiral bifunctional quaternary phosphonium salts derived from α -amino acids

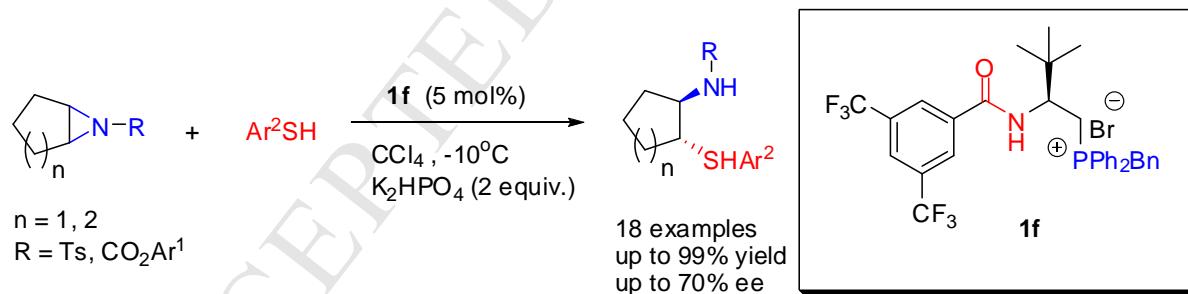
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Enantioselective desymmetrization of *meso*-aziridines with aromatic thiols catalyzed by chiral bifunctional quaternary phosphonium salts derived from α -amino acids

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Abstract: Desymmetrization of *meso*-aziridines with aromatic thiols was realized by using α -amino acids-derived chiral quaternary phosphonium salts catalysts to provide chiral β -amino sulfides with high yields (up to 99%) and in moderate enantioselectivities (up to 70%).

Keywords: Desymmetrization, *meso*-aziridine, aromatic thiols, chiral quaternary phosphonium salt, chiral β -amino sulfide.

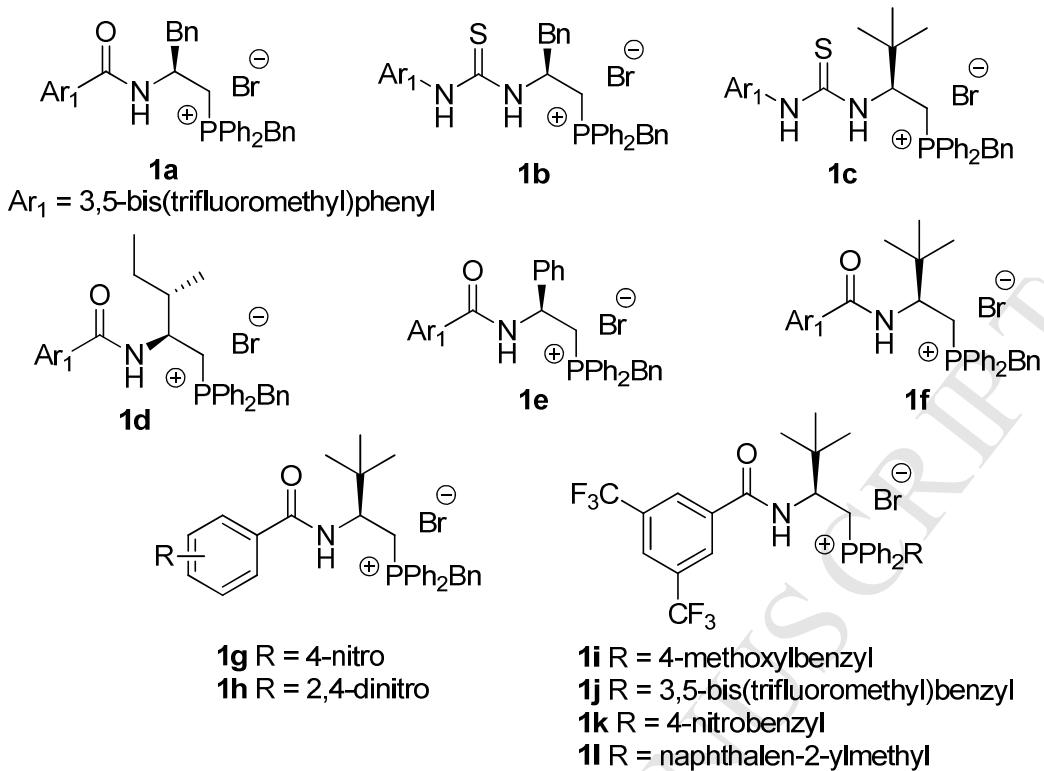
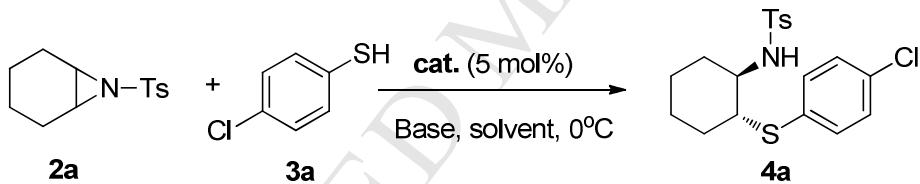
1. Introduction

The enantioselective desymmetrization of *meso*-aziridines via ring opening with various nucleophiles is a powerful synthetic method for the preparation of a variety of substituted chiral amines.¹ In this field, different kinds of nucleophiles have been used through chiral metal catalysis² or organocatalysis.³ In particular, the catalytic asymmetric ring openings of *meso*-aziridines with sulfur-based nucleophiles provide facile access to various chiral β -aminosulfur compounds, which are both useful synthons in stereoselective synthesis and also have great values in pharmaceutical industry.⁴ Della Sala⁵ and Antilla et al.⁶ have achieved excellent enantioselectivities in the ring-opening of *meso*-aziridines with thiols (TMS-SPh and HSPh) by using chiral phosphoric acid catalysts. Other strategies using chiral cinchona alkaloid derivatives,⁷ prolinols⁸ and guanidines⁹ as catalysts or using α -isothiocyanato imides¹⁰ as sulfur-based nucleophiles have also been reported, however these methods only obtain moderate enantioselectivities or have limitations of substrates.

On the other hand, the asymmetric phase-transfer catalysis has been proven to be an efficient tool in synthesizing chiral compounds.¹¹ Although a few of chiral phosphonium salts catalysts have been developed and used in asymmetric reactions,¹² chiral phosphonium salts have been rarely studied compared to chiral ammonium salts. Especially, the asymmetric ring-opening reaction of aziridines under phase-transfer conditions has only been achieved by using chiral quaternary ammonium catalysts.¹³ Our group have focused on the development of amino acid-derived catalysts and their applications to various enantioselective reactions.¹⁴ Recently, we have developed chiral bifunctional phosphonium salts from amino acids as efficient asymmetric phase-transfer catalysts, with which excellent enantioselectivity could be obtained in aza-Henry reaction¹⁵ and Michael addition reaction¹⁶. Herein, we wish to describe the application of chiral phosphonium salts to catalyze the desymmetrization of *meso*-aziridines with thiols.

2. Results and discussion

Using the reaction between *N*-tosylaziridine **2a** and 4-Cl benzenethiol **3a** as the model reaction, we first investigated the catalytic efficiency of different phosphonium salt catalysts (Figure 1) bearing different chiral skeletons and differently protected amino groups (Table 1). We found that both structural elements have significant influence on the reaction, and the catalyst **1f** derived from *L*-tert-Leucine with the amide structure gave the highest enantioselectivity (entries 1-6). Then the effect of solvent and base were examined by using **1f** as a catalyst (entries 7-14). Apparently, halohydrocarbon solvents and mild bases are favoured for the enantioselectivity, and when CCl₄ and K₂HPO₄ were used, an improved enantioselectivity of 60%ee was obtained (entry 14). To further increase the enantioselectivity, we made more efforts in modifying the structure of the catalyst **1f** by varying both the substitutions of the amide moiety and the phosphonium center (entries 15-20), but no better enantioselectivity was obtained. When we lowered the reaction temperature to -10°C, the product **4a** was obtained in 64% ee with 94% yield, but lowering the temperature further to -20°C led to significantly decreased ee and yield (entries 21-22). The absolute configuration of **4a** was assigned to be (1*S*, 2*S*) by comparison of the optical rotation values with the literature data.^{7b}

**Fig. 1** Chiral phosphonium salts**Table 1** Screening of catalysts, solvents and bases^a

Entry	Catalyst	Solvent	Base	Yield ^b (%)	Ee ^c (%)
1	1a	toluene	33% aq K_2CO_3	90	25
2	1b	toluene	33% aq K_2CO_3	88	-5
3	1c	toluene	33% aq. K_2CO_3	88	-23
4	1d	toluene	33% aq. K_2CO_3	91	36
5	1e	toluene	33% aq. K_2CO_3	90	17
6	1f	toluene	33% aq. K_2CO_3	90	45
7	1f	CH_2Cl_2	33% aq. K_2CO_3	92	16
8	1f	TBME	33% aq. K_2CO_3	94	5
9	1f	CHCl_3	33% aq. K_2CO_3	90	36
10	1f	CCl_4	33% aq. K_2CO_3	95	51
11	1f	CCl_4	50% aq. K_2HPO_4	92	60
12	1f	CCl_4	50% aq. Cs_2CO_3	97	53
13	1f	CCl_4	KHCO_3	99	56
14	1f	CCl_4	K_2HPO_4	99	60
15	1g	CCl_4	K_2HPO_4	99	30
16	1h	CCl_4	K_2HPO_4	99	33
17	1i	CCl_4	K_2HPO_4	99	58

18	1j	CCl ₄	K ₂ HPO ₄	99	50
19	1k	CCl ₄	K ₂ HPO ₄	99	55
20	1l	CCl ₄	K ₂ HPO ₄	99	59
21 ^d	1f	CCl ₄	K ₂ HPO ₄	94	64
22 ^e	1f	CCl ₄	K ₂ HPO ₄	40	53

^a Reactions were carried out using 0.1 mmol of **2a**, 0.15 mmol of **3a**, 5 mol% of catalyst **1**, 0.2 mmol or 0.16 mL of base, 12 h. ^b Isolated yields. ^c Determined by chiral stationary phase HPLC. ^d Reaction at -10 °C, 24 h. ^e Reaction at -20 °C, 48 h.

The influence of the N-protecting group of the aziridine was also investigated with catalyst **1f** or **1c** (Table 2). Under the similar reaction conditions, *N*-tosylaziridine **2a** gave the product with 60% ee (entry 1), while *N*-Boc-aziridine **2b** and 4-nitrobenzoyl aziridine **2c** gave very low enantioselectivity (entries 2-3). 3,5-Dinitrobenzoyl aziridine **2d** and 3,5-bistrifluoromethylbenzoyl aziridine **2e** gave 17% ee and 30% ee, respectively. To our surprise, the same reactions of the aziridines **2d** and **2e** with catalyst **1c** gave the desired products in 62% ee and 33% ee, respectively, with the opposite absolute configurations to those obtained with catalyst **1f** (entries 4-5).

Table 2 Screening of *N*-substituted aziridines **2**^a

Entry	2 (R)	Catalyst	Time (h)	Yield ^b (%)	Ee ^c (%)
1	2a (Ts)	1f	9	99	60
2	2b (Boc)	1f	9	99	0
3	2c (4-nitrobenzoyl)	1f	12	95	20
4	2d (3,5-dinitrobenzoyl)	1f	11	99	17
		1c	20	98	-62
5	2e (3,5-bisCF ₃ benzoyl)	1f	18	99	30
		1c	18	99	-33

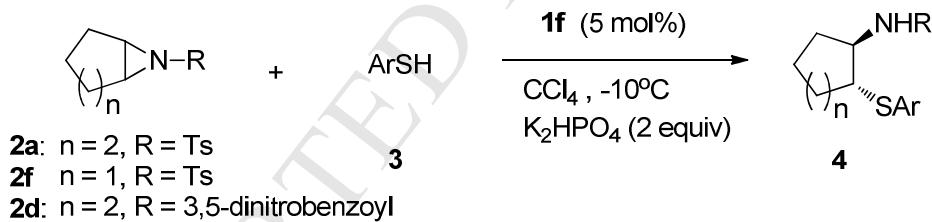
^a Reactions were carried out using 0.1 mmol of **2**, 0.15 mmol **3a**, 5 mol% of **1**. ^b Isolated yields. ^c Determined by chiral stationary phase HPLC.

Next, a series of aromatic thiols **3** were subjected to the reaction with

N-tosylaziridine **2a** under the optimized conditions [catalyst **1f** (5 mol%), CCl_4 , K_2HPO_4 (2 equiv), -10 °C] (Table 3). In general, excellent yields and moderate enantioselectivities were obtained. For thiols **3** bearing differently substituted benzene groups, those with electron-donating substituents provided relatively lower ee values and yields (entries 5, 6 and 12) than those with electron-withdrawing ones. Notably, a *meta* effect was observed: *m*-substituted aryl thiols gave slightly higher ee values (70%) (entries 3 and 10). Moreover, naphthyl-1-thiol **3n** and naphthyl-2-thiol **3o** gave the desired products in similarly excellent yields and moderate enantioselectivities (entries 14 and 15). However, the use of heteroaryl thiol **3m** led to significantly reduced yield and enantioselectivity, in which only 60% yield and 30% ee were obtained (entry 13). To our delight, the useful aziridine **2f** derived from cyclopentene was also worked to provide comparable results (entry 16).

In addition, the *o*-bromo-substituted product **4k** was subjected to a Pd-catalyzed cyclization to provide the phenothiazine product **5** in 70% yield without appreciable decrease in the ee (Scheme 3).

Table 3 Scope study with different thiols **3^a**

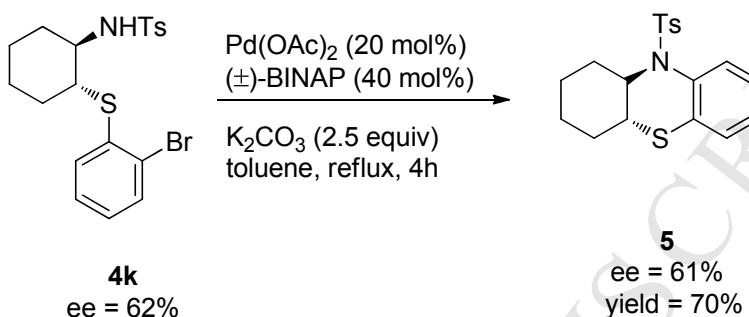


Entry	2	3	Ar	4	Yield ^b (%)	Ee ^c (%)
1	2a	3a	4-ClC ₆ H ₄	4a	98	64
2	2a	3b	Ph	4b	83	59
3	2a	3c	2-ClC ₆ H ₄	4c	97	62
4	2a	3d	3-ClC ₆ H ₄	4d	98	70
5	2a	3e	4-CH ₃ C ₆ H ₄	4e	70	56
6	2a	3f	4-OCH ₃ C ₆ H ₄	4f	80	57
7	2a	3g	4-FC ₆ H ₄	4g	96	62
8	2a	3h	4-NO ₂ C ₆ H ₄	4h	98	60
9	2a	3i	4-BrC ₆ H ₄	4i	94	67
10	2a	3j	3-BrC ₆ H ₄	4j	94	70
11	2a	3k	2-BrC ₆ H ₄	4k	90	62
12	2a	3l	2-NH ₂ C ₆ H ₄	4l	93	44
13	2a	3m	4-pyridyl	4m	60	30

14	2a	3n	1-naphthyl	4n	90	54
15	2a	3o	2-naphthyl	4o	92	57
16	2f	3b	Ph	4p	95	51
17 ^d	2d	3a	Ph	4q	98	-62

^a Reactions were carried out using 0.1 mmol of **2**, 0.15 mmol of **3**, 5 mol% of **1f**, 24 h.

^b Isolated yields. ^c Determined by chiral stationary phase HPLC. ^d 5 mol% of catalyst **1c** was used.



Scheme 3 Transformation of the compound **4k**

3. Conclusion

In conclusion, we have developed a new approach for the desymmetrization of *meso*-aziridines with aromatic thiols by using chiral bifunctional quaternary phosphonium salts as catalysts. A series of β -amino sulfides were obtained in high yields and in moderate enantioselectivities. This work expands the application scope of asymmetric phase-transfer catalysis with α -amino acid-derived chiral phosphonium salts.

4. Experimental

4.1 General information

The ^1H NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker (400 MHz) spectrometer. All chemical shifts (δ) were given in ppm. Data were reported as follows: chemical shift, integration, multiplicity (s = single, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, br = broad, m = multiplet) and coupling constants (Hz). ^{13}C NMR spectra were recorded on a DPX-400 (400 MHz). Flash column chromatography was performed using H silica gel. For thin-layer chromatography (TLC), silica gel plates (HSGF 254) were used and compounds were visualized by irradiation with UV light. Analytical high performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) was carried out on SHIMADZU equipment using chiral columns. Melting points were determined on a SGW X-4 melting point apparatus and were uncorrected. Optical rotations were measured on a JASCO P-1010 Polarimeter at $\lambda = 589$ nm. IR spectra were recorded on a Perkin-Elmer 983G instrument. Mass spectra analysis was performed on API 200 LC/MS system (Applied Biosystems Co. Ltd.).

All reagents purchased from commercial sources were purified by standard techniques prior to use. Aziridines were prepared according to literature procedures.^{2b}³ Preparation and characterization of the catalysts **1a-1e** were reported in the published literatures.¹⁵

4.2 Preparation of catalysts **1f** to **1l**

To a solution of the corresponding α -amino acid-derived bifunctional phosphine (1.0 equiv) in anhydrous toluene was added the corresponding benzylic halide (1.2 equiv), and the resulting mixture was stirred at 110 °C for 8 h. Then the mixture was allowed to cool to ambient temperature and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude mixture was purified by flash column chromatography to afford the desired phase transfer catalyst ($\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2/\text{MeOH} = 20 : 1$).

4.2.1. (S)-Benzyl(2-(3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)benzamido)-3,3-dimethylbutyl)diphenyl phosphonium bromide(**1f**).

Yield: 90%; White solid. m.p. = 137-138°C; $[\alpha]_D^{24} = 48.6$ ($c = 1.0, \text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$); $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 9.22 (bs, 1H), 8.53 (s, 2H), 7.90-7.93 (m, 3H), 7.65-7.69 (m, 3H), 7.46-7.54 (m, 5H), 7.11-7.21 (m, 4H), 6.91-6.93 (m, 2H), 5.32-5.34 (m, 1H), 4.89 (d, $J = 14.4$ Hz, 1H), 4.44-4.53 (m, 1H), 4.10-4.11 (m, 1H), 2.57-2.64 (m, 1H), 1.00 (s, 9H); $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 164.2, 134.7, 134.3 (d, $J_{\text{C-P}} = 3.1$ Hz), 134.0 (d, $J_{\text{C-P}} = 9.5$ Hz), 133.8 (d, $J_{\text{C-P}} = 5.0$ Hz), 131.2 (q, $J_{\text{C-F}} = 36$ Hz), 130.3 (d, $J_{\text{C-P}} = 5.5$ Hz), 129.8 (d, $J_{\text{C-P}} = 12.3$ Hz), 129.6 (d, $J_{\text{C-P}} = 12.3$ Hz), 128.8 (d, $J_{\text{C-P}} = 2.9$ Hz), 128.6 (d, $J_{\text{C-P}} = 2.5$ Hz), 128.4 (d, $J_{\text{C-P}} = 3.5$ Hz), 127.1, 127.0, 124.7, 123.0 (q, $J_{\text{C-F}} = 271.7$ Hz), 117.6, 117.0, 116.7, 116.1, 52.3 (d, $J_{\text{C-P}} = 5.6$ Hz), 37.3 (d, $J_{\text{C-P}} = 11.7$ Hz), 30.5, 30.1, 26.4, 22.5, 22.0; $^{31}\text{P-NMR}$ (163 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 25.2; $^{19}\text{F-NMR}$ (282 MHz, CDCl_3): δ -62.5; IR (Neat) 3227, 2963, 1662, 1539, 1438, 1337, 1279, 1181, 1136, 1134, 803, 743, 700; HRMS(MALDI): calcd. for $[\text{M-Br}]^+$ ($\text{C}_{34}\text{H}_{33}\text{NOF}_6\text{P}$) requires 616.2204, found 616.2197.

4.2.2. (S)-Benzyl(3,3-dimethyl-2-(4-nitrobenzamido)butyl)diphenylphosphonium bromide(**1g**)

Yield: 90%; yellow solid. m.p. = 153-154°C; $[\alpha]_D^{24} = 222.6$ ($c = 0.5, \text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$); $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.96 (d, $J = 9.2$ Hz, 1H), 8.29 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 2H), 8.20 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 2H), 7.89-7.94 (m, 2H), 7.62-7.69 (m, 3H), 7.53-7.55 (m, 8H), 7.16-7.20 (m, 1H), 7.09 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H), 6.88-6.90 (m, 2H), 5.26-5.33 (m, 1H), 4.98 (t, $J = 14.2$ Hz, 1H), 4.37-4.46 (m, 1H), 4.03-4.10 (m, 1H), 2.55-2.62 (m, 1H), 0.96 (s, 9H); $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 164.9, 149.3, 137.9, 134.7 (d, $J_{\text{C-P}} = 2.6$ Hz), 134.5 (d, $J_{\text{C-P}} = 2.9$ Hz), 133.9 (d, $J_{\text{C-P}} = 8.5$ Hz), 133.7 (q, $J_{\text{C-P}} = 11.1$ Hz), 130.3 (d, $J_{\text{C-P}} = 5.5$ Hz), 129.8 (d, $J_{\text{C-P}} = 2.4$ Hz), 129.7 (d, $J_{\text{C-P}} = 2.6$ Hz), 129.4, 128.8 (d, $J_{\text{C-P}} = 3.0$ Hz), 128.3 (d, $J_{\text{C-P}} = 3.6$ Hz), 127.1, 127.0, 123.0, 117.2, 117.0, 116.4, 116.2, 52.1 (d, $J_{\text{C-P}} = 5.5$ Hz), 37.2 (d, $J_{\text{C-P}} = 11.8$ Hz), 29.9, 29.5, 26.3, 22.9, 22.4; $^{31}\text{P-NMR}$ (163 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 26.1; IR (Neat) 3240, 3057, 2964, 1659, 1601, 1524, 1489, 1341, 1110, 1015, 841, 744; HRMS(MALDI): calcd. for $[\text{M-Br}]^+$ ($\text{C}_{32}\text{H}_{34}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3\text{P}$) requires 525.2307, found 525.2286.

4.2.3 .(S)-Benzyl(2-(3,5-dinitrobenzamido)-3,3-dimethylbutyl)diphenylphosphonium bromide(**1h**)

Yield: 88%; yellow solid. m.p. = 166-167°C; $[\alpha]_D^{24} = 99.5$ ($c = 0.5, \text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$); $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 9.48 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 1H), 9.08 (s, 2H), 9.03 (s, 1H),

7.92-7.97 (m, 2H), 7.51-7.79 (m, 8H), 7.07-7.18 (m, 3H), 6.89-6.90 (m, 2H), 4.85-5.01 (m, 2H), 4.23-4.49 (m, 2H), 3.00 (t, $J = 14.4$ Hz, 1H), 2.51 (s, 1H), 1.02 (s, 9H); ^{13}C -NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 163.2, 148.0, 136.5, 134.8 (d, $J_{\text{C-P}} = 3.1$ Hz), 134.5 (d, $J_{\text{C-P}} = 2.7$ Hz), 134.1 (d, $J_{\text{C-P}} = 9.5$ Hz), 133.8 (q, $J_{\text{C-P}} = 9.0$ Hz), 130.4 (d, $J_{\text{C-P}} = 5.6$ Hz), 130.0, 129.9 (d, $J_{\text{C-P}} = 0.8$ Hz), 129.8, 128.9 (d, $J_{\text{C-P}} = 3.1$ Hz), 128.5, 128.4, 127.0, 126.9, 120.9, 117.4, 117.0, 116.6, 116.1, 110.0, 52.6 (d, $J_{\text{C-P}} = 5.5$ Hz), 37.5 (d, $J_{\text{C-P}} = 11.5$ Hz), 30.4, 30.0, 26.4, 22.6, 22.1; ^{31}P -NMR (163 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 25.9; IR (Neat) 3220, 2962, 1664, 1541, 1343, 1110, 1076, 803, 729, 689; HRMS(MALDI): calcd. for $[\text{M-Br}]^+$ ($\text{C}_{32}\text{H}_{33}\text{N}_3\text{O}_5\text{P}$) requires 570.2154, found 570.2167.

4.2.4.(S)-(2-(3,5-Bis(trifluoromethyl)benzamido)-3,3-dimethylbutyl)(4-methoxybenzyl)diphenylphosphonium bromide(**1i**)

Yield: 94%; White solid. m.p. = 131-133°C; $[\alpha]_D^{24} = 38.7$ ($c = 0.5$, CH_2Cl_2); ^1H -NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 9.16 (d, $J = 4.4$ Hz, 1H), 8.51 (s, 2H), 7.88-7.92 (m, 3H), 7.64-7.69 (m, 3H), 7.54-7.55 (m, 2H), 7.42-7.43 (m, 3H), 6.82-6.85 (m, 2H), 6.65 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2H), 5.25-5.32 (m, 1H), 4.78-4.86 (m, 1H), 4.43-4.52 (m, 1H), 4.00-4.05 (m, 1H), 3.72 (s, 3H), 2.59 (t, $J = 14.2$ Hz, 1H), 1.01 (s, 9H); ^{13}C -NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 164.2, 159.5 (d, $J_{\text{C-P}} = 3.6$ Hz), 134.6, 134.2 (d, $J_{\text{C-P}} = 2.9$ Hz), 134.1, 134.0, 133.8, 133.7, 131.5 (d, $J_{\text{C-P}} = 5.4$ Hz), 131.2 (q, $J_{\text{C-F}} = 33.5$ Hz), 129.9, 129.8, 129.7, 129.5, 128.6 (d, $J_{\text{C-P}} = 2.2$ Hz), 124.7, 123.0 (q, $J_{\text{C-F}} = 271.8$ Hz), 118.4, 118.3, 117.7, 117.2, 116.9, 116.3, 114.3 (d, $J_{\text{C-P}} = 2.9$ Hz), 55.1, 52.3 (d, $J_{\text{C-P}} = 5.6$ Hz), 37.4 (d, $J_{\text{C-P}} = 11.6$ Hz), 29.9, 29.4, 26.4, 22.2, 21.7; ^{31}P -NMR (163 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 24.4; ^{19}F -NMR (282 MHz, CDCl_3): δ -62.5; IR (Neat) 3225, 3050, 2963, 1662, 1539, 1514, 1439, 1280, 1181, 1136, 1019, 801, 743, 681; HRMS(MALDI): calcd. for $[\text{M-Br}]^+$ ($\text{C}_{35}\text{H}_{35}\text{NO}_2\text{F}_6\text{P}$) requires 646.2310, found 646.2288.

4.2.5.(S)-(2-(3,5-Bis(trifluoromethyl)benzamido)-3,3-dimethylbutyl)(3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)benzyl)diphenylphosphonium bromide(**1j**)

Yield: 94%; White solid. m.p. = 147-149°C; $[\alpha]_D^{24} = 47.7$ ($c = 0.3$, CH_2Cl_2); ^1H -NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 9.09-9.12 (m, 1H), 8.53 (s, 2H), 7.95-8.01 (m, 3H), 7.54-7.76 (m, 9H), 7.29 (s, 2H), 5.43-5.50 (m, 2H), 4.39-4.48 (m, 2H), 2.78-2.88 (m, 1H), 0.99 (s, 9H); ^{13}C -NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 164.3, 135.4 (d, $J_{\text{C-P}} = 2.6$ Hz), 134.8 (d, $J_{\text{C-P}} = 3.0$ Hz), 134.7, 134.2, 134.1, 134.0, 133.9, 132.1 (d, $J_{\text{C-P}} = 3.2$ Hz), 131.8 (d, $J_{\text{C-P}} = 3.3$ Hz), 131.4 (q, $J_{\text{C-F}} = 33.6$ Hz), 130.9, 130.8, 130.6, 130.5 (d, $J_{\text{C-P}} = 4.8$ Hz), 130.3, 130.2, 130.0, 129.8, 128.5 (d, $J_{\text{C-P}} = 2.3$ Hz), 124.9 (d, $J_{\text{C-P}} = 3.3$ Hz), 123.0 (q, $J_{\text{C-F}} = 271.6$ Hz), 122.4 (q, $J_{\text{C-F}} = 271.5$ Hz), 121.9 (d, $J_{\text{C-P}} = 3.6$ Hz), 115.7, 115.5, 114.9, 114.6, 52.4 (d, $J_{\text{C-P}} = 5.8$ Hz), 37.4 (d, $J_{\text{C-P}} = 11.9$ Hz), 30.8, 30.3, 23.5, 23.0; ^{31}P -NMR (163 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 27.7; ^{19}F -NMR (282 MHz, CDCl_3): δ -62.6, -63.2; IR (Neat) 3237, 2969, 2925, 1666, 1374, 1279, 1179, 1135, 903, 801, 682; HRMS(MALDI): calcd. for $[\text{M-Br}]^+$ ($\text{C}_{36}\text{H}_{31}\text{NOF}_{12}\text{P}$) requires 752.1952, found 752.1939.

4.2.6.(S)-(2-(3,5-Bis(trifluoromethyl)benzamido)-3,3-dimethylbutyl)(4-nitrobenzyl)diphenylphosphonium bromide(**1k**)

Yield: 92%; White solid. m.p. = 145-146°C; $[\alpha]_D^{24} = 51.9$ ($c = 1.0$, CH_2Cl_2); ^1H -NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 9.09 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 8.50 (s, 2H), 7.93-8.02 (m, 4H), 7.61-7.79 (m, 5H), 7.48-7.49 (m, 3H), 7.18 (d, $J = 2.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.16 (d, $J = 2.0$ Hz, 1H), 5.37-5.53 (m, 2H), 4.22-4.47 (m, 2H), 2.75 (t, $J = 14.4$ Hz, 1H), 0.99 (s, 9H); ^{13}C -NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 164.1, 147.4 (d, $J_{\text{C-P}} = 4.2$ Hz), 135.7, 135.6, 135.2 (d,

$J_{\text{C}-\text{P}} = 2.8$ Hz), 134.8, 134.5 (d, $J_{\text{C}-\text{P}} = 2.7$ Hz), 134.2, 134.1, 134.0, 133.99, 131.7, 131.5, 131.42, 131.40, 131.1, 130.7, 130.1 (d, $J_{\text{C}-\text{P}} = 12.2$ Hz), 129.7 (d, $J_{\text{C}-\text{P}} = 12.5$ Hz), 128.8, 128.7, 128.4 (d, $J_{\text{C}-\text{P}} = 2.9$ Hz), 124.8, 123.6 (d, $J_{\text{C}-\text{P}} = 3.0$ Hz), 123.0 (q, $J_{\text{C}-\text{F}} = 271.7$ Hz), 116.2, 115.7, 115.4, 114.9, 52.4 (d, $J_{\text{C}-\text{P}} = 5.7$ Hz), 37.3 (d, $J_{\text{C}-\text{P}} = 11.8$ Hz), 31.0, 30.5, 26.3, 26.1, 23.5, 23.1; ^{31}P -NMR (163 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 26.6; ^{19}F -NMR (282 MHz, CDCl_3): δ -62.5; IR (Neat) 3232, 3056, 2963, 1666, 1526, 1439, 1347, 1280, 1182, 1136, 1017, 859, 801, 743, 698; HRMS(MALDI): calcd. for $[\text{M}-\text{Br}]^+$ ($\text{C}_{34}\text{H}_{32}\text{N}_2\text{F}_6\text{O}_3\text{P}$) requires 661.2055, found 661.2045.

4.2.7.(S)-(2-(3,5-Bis(trifluoromethyl)benzamido)-3,3-dimethylbutyl)(naphthalen-1-yl methyl)diphenylphosphonium bromide(**1I**)

Yield: 90%; White solid. m.p. = 133-134°C; $[\alpha]_D^{24} = 41.9$ ($c = 0.5$, CH_2Cl_2); ^1H -NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 9.36 (br, 1H), 8.55 (s, 2H), 7.91-7.95 (m, 3H), 7.36-7.66 (m, 14H), 6.97 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 1H), 5.40-5.43 (m, 1H), 4.98-5.06 (m, 1H), 4.26-4.27 (m, 1H), 2.62 (t, $J = 14.0$ Hz, 1H), 0.99 (s, 9H); ^{13}C -NMR (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 164.3, 134.7, 134.3 (d, $J_{\text{C}-\text{P}} = 3.0$ Hz), 134.1 (d, $J_{\text{C}-\text{P}} = 9.6$ Hz), 133.8 (d, $J_{\text{C}-\text{P}} = 8.9$ Hz), 132.8 (d, $J_{\text{C}-\text{P}} = 3.3$ Hz), 132.5 (d, $J_{\text{C}-\text{P}} = 2.7$ Hz), 131.3 (q, $J_{\text{C}-\text{F}} = 33.6$ Hz), 130.0 (d, $J_{\text{C}-\text{P}} = 7.2$ Hz), 129.9, 129.7 (d, $J_{\text{C}-\text{P}} = 12.4$ Hz), 128.7, 128.6 (d, $J_{\text{C}-\text{P}} = 2.5$ Hz), 127.5 (d, $J_{\text{C}-\text{P}} = 1.6$ Hz), 127.4 (d, $J_{\text{C}-\text{P}} = 1.4$ Hz), 127.35, 127.31, 126.69, 126.67, 124.8, 124.3, 124.2, 123.2 (q, $J_{\text{C}-\text{F}} = 271.8$ Hz), 117.6, 117.1, 116.8, 116.3, 52.4 (d, $J_{\text{C}-\text{P}} = 5.7$ Hz), 37.4 (d, $J_{\text{C}-\text{P}} = 11.7$ Hz), 30.8, 30.4, 26.4, 26.2, 22.5, 22.0; ^{31}P -NMR (163 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 25.2; ^{19}F -NMR (282 MHz, CDCl_3): δ -62.5; IR (Neat) 3229, 2963, 2926, 2907, 1663, 1541, 14383, 1363, 1279, 1181, 1136, 821, 742, 681; HRMS(MALDI): calcd. for $[\text{M}-\text{Br}]^+$ ($\text{C}_{38}\text{H}_{35}\text{NOF}_6\text{P}$) requires 666.2360, found 666.2347.

4.3 General procedure for the enantioselective desymmetrization of *meso*-aziridines with benzenethiols

To a suspension of the corresponding benzenethiol **3** (0.15 mmol) in CCl_4 (1.0 ml) was added catalyst **1f** (5 mol%) and K_2HPO_4 (0.2 mmol) sequentially, and the resulting mixture was stirred at -10 °C for 5 min. Then aziridine **2** (0.1 mmol) was added. The resulting suspension was vigorously stirred at -10 °C for 24 h, and then directly purified by column chromatography (silica gel: petroleum ether/AcOEt = 10:1 – 5:1) on silica gel to afford the product **4**.

4.3.1. *N*-(*(1R,2R)*-2-((4-Chlorophenyl)thio)cyclohexyl)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide (**4a**)¹⁷

Yield: 94%; white solid. Enantiomeric excess: 64%, $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -20.2$ ($c = 2.7$, CHCl_3), determined by HPLC (Chiralpak AD-H column, hexane/*i*-PrOH 9:1, flow rate 0.7 ml/min, $t_{\text{minor}} = 23.1$ min, $t_{\text{major}} = 21.1$ min, $\lambda = 254$ nm); ^1H -NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.74 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.28 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.20-7.26 (m, 4H), 5.32-5.37 (m, 1H), 2.92-3.01 (m, 2H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 2.17-2.20 (m, 1H), 1.98-2.01 (m, 1H), 1.26-1.69 (m, 6H).

4.3.2. *N*-(*(1R,2R)*-2-(Phenylthio)cyclohexyl)-3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)benzamide (**4b**)¹⁷

Yield: 85%; white solid. Enantiomeric excess: 59%, $[\alpha]_D^{28} = -11.3$ ($c = 1.4$, CHCl_3), determined by HPLC (Chiralpak AD-H column, hexane/*i*-PrOH 85:15, flow rate 1.0 ml/min, $t_{\text{minor}} = 12.2$ min, $t_{\text{major}} = 11.1$ min, $\lambda = 254$ nm); ^1H -NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.74 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.28 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.22-7.26 (m, 5H), 5.25 (d, $J =$

3.6 Hz, 1H), 2.88-3.00 (m, 2H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 2.25-2.27 (m, 1H), 2.00-2.03 (m, 1H), 1.57-1.62 (m, 3H), 1.25-1.42 (m, 3H); MS (ESI): m/z 384.1 ($M^+ + Na$).

4.3.3. *N*-((1*R*,2*R*)-2-((2-Chlorophenyl)thio)cyclohexyl)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide (**4c**)¹⁷

Yield: 95%; white solid. Enantiomeric excess: 62%, $[\alpha]_D^{26} = -4.1$ ($c = 1.85$, CHCl₃), determined by HPLC (Phenomenex Cellulose-2 column, hexane/*i*-PrOH 9:1, flow rate 1.0 ml/min, $t_{\text{minor}} = 28.8$ min, $t_{\text{major}} = 23.0$ min, $\lambda = 254$ nm); ¹H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.67 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.28-7.33 (m, 2H), 7.21 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.10-7.12 (m, 2H), 5.08-5.10 (m, 1H), 3.01-3.02 (m, 2H), 2.35 (s, 3H), 2.19-2.21 (m, 1H), 1.95-1.98 (m, 1H), 1.41-1.57 (m, 3H), 1.19-1.29 (m, 3H); MS (ESI): m/z 418.0 ($M^+ + Na$).

4.3.4. *N*-((1*R*,2*R*)-2-((3-Chlorophenyl)thio)cyclohexyl)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide (**4d**)

Yield: 95%; white solid. m.p. = 71-73°C. Enantiomeric excess: 70%, $[\alpha]_D^{27} = 1.99$ ($c = 1.85$, CHCl₃), determined by HPLC (Chiralpak AD-H column, hexane/*i*-PrOH 85:15, flow rate 1.0 ml/min, $t_{\text{minor}} = 11.1$ min, $t_{\text{major}} = 9.9$ min, $\lambda = 254$ nm); ¹H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.67 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.22 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.08-7.12 (m, 4H), 4.98-5.01 (m, 1H), 2.91-2.98 (m, 2H), 2.36 (s, 3H), 2.15-2.17 (m, 1H), 1.96-1.98 (m, 1H), 1.53-1.55 (m, 1H), 1.19-1.37 (m, 5H); ¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 143.4, 137.5, 135.7, 134.6, 131.8, 130.2, 130.0, 129.7, 127.4, 127.2, 55.1, 51.0, 32.0, 31.2, 24.2, 23.1, 21.6; IR (Neat) 3278, 2932, 2870, 1580, 1543, 1459, 1330, 1158, 1093, 820, 778, 670, 569, 551; HRMS(MALDI): calcd. for [M+Na]⁺ (C₁₉H₂₂NCIS₂O₂) requires 418.0678, found 418.0682.

4.3.5. 4-Methyl-*N*-((1*R*,2*R*)-2-(*p*-tolylthio)cyclohexyl)benzenesulfonamide (**4e**)¹⁷

Yield: 80%; white solid. Enantiomeric excess: 57%, $[\alpha]_D^{28} = -14.6$ ($c = 1.3$, CHCl₃), determined by HPLC (Chiralpak AS-H column, hexane/*i*-PrOH 1:4, flow rate 0.3 ml/min, $t_{\text{minor}} = 86.5$ min, $t_{\text{major}} = 41.7$ min, $\lambda = 254$ nm); ¹H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.68 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.23 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.08 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 6.98 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 5.16-5.17 (m, 1H), 2.83-2.85 (m, 1H), 2.68-2.71 (m, 1H), 2.37 (s, 3H), 2.26 (s, 3H), 1.50-1.54 (m, 1H), 1.15-1.28 (m, 6H); MS (ESI): m/z 398.2 ($M^+ + Na$).

4.3.6.

N-((1*R*,2*R*)-2-((4-Methoxyphenyl)thio)cyclohexyl)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide (**4f**)¹⁷

Yield: 70%; white solid. Enantiomeric excess: 56%, $[\alpha]_D^{28} = -21.3$ ($c = 1.05$, CHCl₃), determined by HPLC (Chiralpak AS-H column, hexane/*i*-PrOH 1:4, flow rate 0.3 ml/min, $t_{\text{minor}} = 80.1$ min, $t_{\text{major}} = 61.7$ min, $\lambda = 254$ nm); ¹H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.69 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.23 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.12 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 2H), 6.70 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 2H), 5.21-5.24 (m, 1H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 2.79-2.84 (m, 1H), 2.56-2.60 (m, 1H), 2.37 (s, 3H), 2.23-2.26 (m, 1H), 1.88-1.93 (m, 1H), 1.50-1.54 (m, 1H), 1.14-1.24 (m, 5H); ¹³C-NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 159.9, 143.3, 137.6, 136.4, 129.7, 127.3, 122.3, 114.5, 55.3, 52.3, 32.5, 31.8, 24.9, 23.5, 21.6; HRMS(MALDI): calcd. for [M+Na]⁺ (C₂₀H₂₅NS₂O₃) requires 414.1174, found 414.1173.

4.3.7. *N*-((1*R*,2*R*)-2-((4-Fluorophenyl)thio)cyclohexyl)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide (**4g**)¹⁷

Yield: 99%; white solid. Enantiomeric excess: 61%, $[\alpha]_D^{27} = -17.6$ ($c = 2.1$, CHCl_3), determined by HPLC (Phenomenex Cellulose-2 column, hexane/*i*-PrOH 95:5, flow rate 0.7 ml/min, $t_{\text{minor}} = 74.6$ min, $t_{\text{major}} = 61.7$ min, $\lambda = 254$ nm); $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.78 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.32 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.28 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 2H), 6.97 (t, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 2H), 5.29-5.31 (m, 1H), 2.98-3.00 (m, 1H), 2.81-2.86 (m, 1H), 2.47 (s, 3H), 2.26-2.27 (m, 1H), 1.98-2.00 (m, 1H), 1.60-1.64 (m, 2H), 1.26-1.40(m, 4H); MS (ESI): m/z 402.0 ($\text{M}^+ + \text{Na}$).

4.3.8. 4-Methyl-*N*-(*(1R,2R)*-2-((4-nitrophenyl)thio)cyclohexyl)benzenesulfonamide (**4h**)

Yield: 99%; yellow solid. m.p. = 64-65°C. Enantiomeric excess: 60%, $[\alpha]_D^{26} = 58.2$ ($c = 2.35$, CHCl_3), determined by HPLC (Chiralpak AD-H column, hexane/*i*-PrOH 4:1, flow rate 1.0 ml/min, $t_{\text{minor}} = 20.4$ min, $t_{\text{major}} = 16.6$ min, $\lambda = 254$ nm); $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.12 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 2H), 7.76 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.36 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 2H), 7.32 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 5.03 (d, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 1H), 3.24-3.38 (m, 2H), 2.47 (s, 3H), 2.16-2.17 (m, 2H), 1.60-1.65 (m, 4H), 1.29-1.45(m, 2H); $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 145.5, 143.7, 137.,5, 129.7, 128.4, 127.1, 123.9, 54.7, 49.1, 31.3, 30.4, 23.6, 22.7, 21.5; IR (Neat) 3276, 2932, 1577, 1510, 1337, 1157, 1093, 853, 814, 742, 666, 572; HRMS(MALDI): calcd. for $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ ($\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{22}\text{N}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_4$) requires 429.0919, found 429.0900.

4.3.9. *N*-(*(1R,2R)*-2-((4-Bromophenyl)thio)cyclohexyl)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide (**4i**)¹⁷

Yield: 93%; white solid. Enantiomeric excess: 67%, $[\alpha]_D^{28} = 4.28$ ($c = 2.0$, CHCl_3), determined by HPLC (Chiralpak AD-H column, hexane/*i*-PrOH 85:15, flow rate 1.0 ml/min, $t_{\text{minor}} = 14.1$ min, $t_{\text{major}} = 12.0$ min, $\lambda = 254$ nm); $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.66 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.27 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 2H), 7.20 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.05 (d, $J = 8.8$ Hz, 2H), 5.29 (d, $J = 4.8$ Hz, 1H), 2.87-2.94 (m, 2H), 2.36 (s, 3H), 2.10-2.12 (m, 1H), 1.91-1.97 (m, 1H), 1.49-1.51 (m, 2H), 1.29-1.35(m, 1H), 1.18-2.00 (m, 3H); MS (ESI): m/z 462.0 ($\text{M}^+ + \text{Na}$).

4.3.10.

N-(*(1R,2R)*-2-((3-Bromophenyl)thio)cyclohexyl)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide (**4j**)

Yield: 94%; white solid. m.p. = 80-82°C. Enantiomeric excess: 71%, $[\alpha]_D^{26} = 3.5$ ($c = 2.0$, CHCl_3), determined by HPLC (Phenomenex Cellulose-2 column, hexane/*i*-PrOH 9:1, flow rate 1.0 ml/min, $t_{\text{minor}} = 26.7$ min, $t_{\text{major}} = 20.9$ min, $\lambda = 254$ nm); $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.66 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.39 (s, 1H), 7.31 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.22 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.13-7.19 (m, 1H), 7.05 (t, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 4.94 (d, $J = 4.4$ Hz, 1H), 2.91-2.99 (m, 2H), 2.36 (s, 3H), 2.15-2.17 (m, 1H), 1.93-1.97 (m, 1H), 1.53-1.55 (m, 1H), 1.33-1.35 (m, 1H), 1.19-1.23 (m, 4H); $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 143.4, 137.4, 136.1, 134.6, 130.7, 130.3, 129.7, 127.2, 122.7, 55.1, 51.1, 32.0, 31.2, 24.2, 23.1, 21.6; IR (Neat) 3276, 2934, 2857, 1574, 1556, 1459, 1327, 1156, 1093, 813, 778, 754, 666, 572, 551; HRMS(MALDI): calcd. for $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ ($\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{22}\text{NBrS}_2\text{O}_2$) requires 462.0173, found 462.0170.

4.3.11.

N-(*(1R,2R)*-2-((2-Bromophenyl)thio)cyclohexyl)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide (**4k**)

Yield: 90%; white solid. m.p. = 93-95°C. Enantiomeric excess: 63%, $[\alpha]_D^{22} = -6.48$ ($c = 1.13$, CH_2Cl_2), determined by HPLC (Chiralpak AD-H column, hexane/*i*-PrOH 9:1,

flow rate 1.0 ml/min, $t_{\text{minor}} = 20.6$ min, $t_{\text{major}} = 15.3$ min, $\lambda = 254$ nm); $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.67 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.50 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.28-7.30 (m, 1H), 7.14-7.22 (m, 3H), 7.02 (t, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 5.12-5.19 (m, 1H), 3.00-3.03 (m, 2H), 2.35 (s, 3H), 2.20-2.22 (m, 1H), 1.95-1.98 (m, 1H), 1.43-1.55 (m, 3H), 1.18-1.31 (m, 3H); $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 143.4, 137.1, 135.3, 133.4, 132.8, 129.7, 128.4, 127.9, 127.3, 127.0, 55.1, 50.4, 32.3, 31.1, 24.2, 23.1, 21.6; IR (Neat) 3277, 2934, 2857, 1448, 1327, 1157, 1093, 1019, 895, 814, 749, 667, 571, 551; HRMS(MALDI): calcd. for $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ ($\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{23}\text{NBrS}_2\text{O}_2$) requires 440.0343, found 440.0348.

4.3.12.

N-((1*R*,2*R*)-2-((2-Aminophenyl)thio)cyclohexyl)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide (**4l**)¹⁷

Yield: 93%; white solid. Enantiomeric excess: 44%, $[\alpha]_D^{26} = -26.5$ ($c = 1.7$, CHCl_3), determined by HPLC (Chiralpak AD-H column, hexane/*i*-PrOH 4:1, flow rate 1.0 ml/min, $t_{\text{minor}} = 27.4$ min, $t_{\text{major}} = 19.1$ min, $\lambda = 254$ nm); $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.68 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.21 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.03-7.10 (m, 2H), 7.63 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 6.55 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 5.12-5.16 (m, 1H), 4.26 (s, 2H), 2.97-3.00 (m, 1H), 2.63-2.69 (m, 1H), 2.35 (s, 3H), 2.10-2.11 (m, 1H), 1.88-1.89 (m, 1H), 1.48-1.54 (m, 2H), 1.28-1.37 (m, 1H), 1.08-1.18 (m, 3H); MS (ESI): m/z 377.0 ($\text{M}^+ + \text{H}$).

4.3.13. 4-Methyl-*N*-((1*R*,2*R*)-2-(pyridin-4-ylthio)cyclohexyl)benzenesulfonamide (**4m**)

Yield: 60%; yellow solid. m.p. = 116-118°C. Enantiomeric excess: 30%, $[\alpha]_D^{26} = 58.2$ ($c = 2.35$, CHCl_3), determined by HPLC (Chiralpak AD-H column, hexane/*i*-PrOH 4:1, flow rate 1.0 ml/min, $t_{\text{minor}} = 15.5$ min, $t_{\text{major}} = 11.6$ min, $\lambda = 254$ nm); $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.41 (d, $J = 6.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.76 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.20 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.11 (d, $J = 6.0$ Hz, 2H), 4.98 (d, $J = 6.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.39-3.40 (m, 1H), 3.23-3.26 (m, 1H), 2.46 (s, 3H), 2.18-2.20 (m, 2H), 1.29-1.44 (m, 6H); $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 149.2, 147.8, 143.5, 137.6, 129.7, 127.1, 122.1, 54.5, 47.6, 31.3, 30.4, 23.6, 22.7, 21.5; IR (Neat) 3058, 2934, 2858, 1580, 1449, 1326, 1157, 1093, 813, 571, 594; HRMS(MALDI): calcd. for $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$ ($\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{22}\text{N}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_2$) requires 385.1020, found 385.1020.

4.3.14. 4-Methyl-*N*-((1*R*,2*R*)-2-(naphthalen-1-ylthio)cyclohexyl)benzenesulfonamide (**4n**)

Yield: 90%; white solid. m.p. = 88-91°C. Enantiomeric excess: 54%, $[\alpha]_D^{27} = -23.0$ ($c = 1.8$, CHCl_3), determined by HPLC (Chiralpak AD-H column, hexane/*i*-PrOH 85:15, flow rate 1.0 ml/min, $t_{\text{minor}} = 14.1$ min, $t_{\text{major}} = 10.8$ min, $\lambda = 254$ nm); $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 8.39 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.88-7.90 (m, 1H), 7.83 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.73 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.53-7.60 (m, 3H), 7.40 (t, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.24 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 5.29 (d, $J = 4.4$ Hz, 1H), 3.04-3.21 (m, 2H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 2.30-2.32 (m, 1H), 1.95-1.98 (m, 1H), 1.29-1.44 (m, 6H); $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 143.3, 137.4, 134.4, 134.1, 132.4, 130.8, 129.6, 128.8, 128.6, 127.3, 126.7, 126.3, 125.6, 125.5, 55.5, 51.5, 32.2, 31.4, 24.2, 23.2, 21.6; IR (Neat) 3276, 2934, 2857, 1628, 1254, 1157; HRMS(MALDI): calcd. for $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ ($\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{26}\text{NS}_2\text{O}_2$) requires 412.1394, found 412.1399.

4.3.15. 4-Methyl-*N*-((1*R*,2*R*)-2-(naphthalen-2-ylthio)cyclohexyl)benzenesulfonamide (**4o**)¹⁷

Yield: 91%; white solid. Enantiomeric excess: 57%, $[\alpha]_D^{28} = 19.4$ ($c = 1.85$, CHCl_3), determined by HPLC (Chiralpak AD-H column, hexane/*i*-PrOH 4:1, flow rate 1.0

ml/min, $t_{\text{minor}} = 13.1$ min, $t_{\text{major}} = 10.1$ min, $\lambda = 254$ nm); $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.74-7.86 (m, 6H), 7.51-7.53 (m, 2H), 7.37-7.39 (m, 1H), 7.22 (d, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 2H), 5.42-5.43 (m, 1H), 3.10-3.14 (m, 2H), 2.41 (s, 3H), 2.29-2.31 (m, 1H), 2.09-2.12 (m, 1H), 1.60-1.62 (m, 2H), 1.31-1.33 (m, 4H); MS (ESI): m/z 434.1 ($\text{M}^+ + \text{Na}$).

4.3.16. 4-Methyl-*N*-((1*R*,2*R*)-2-(phenylthio)cyclopentyl)benzenesulfonamide (**4p**)¹⁷

Yield: 95%; white solid. Enantiomeric excess: 51%, $[\alpha]_D^{26} = 11.2$ ($c = 1.6$, CHCl_3), determined by HPLC (Chiralpak AD-H column, hexane/*i*-PrOH 95:5, flow rate 1.0 ml/min, $t_{\text{minor}} = 29.7$ min, $t_{\text{major}} = 32.5$ min, $\lambda = 254$ nm); $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.59 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.17-7.20 (m, 7H), 4.71 (d, $J = 4.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.21-3.27 (m, 2H), 2.36 (s, 3H), 2.00-2.01 (m, 2H), 1.58-1.65 (m, 2H), 1.39-1.54 (m, 2H); MS (ESI): m/z 370.1 ($\text{M}^+ + \text{Na}$).

4.3.17. *N*-((1*S*,2*S*)-2-((4-Chlorophenyl)thio)cyclohexyl)-3,5-dinitrobenzamide (**4q**)

Yield: 99%; yellow solid. m.p. = 191-192°C. Enantiomeric excess: 62%, $[\alpha]_D^{22} = 33.2$ ($c = 0.83$, CHCl_3), determined by HPLC (Chiralpak AD-H column hexane/*i*-PrOH 9:1, flow rate 1.0 ml/min, $t_{\text{minor}} = 18.2$ min, $t_{\text{major}} = 14.2$ min, $\lambda = 254$ nm); $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 9.05-9.07 (m, 1H), 8.68 (d, $J = 1.6$ Hz, 2H), 7.33-7.35 (m, 2H), 7.07-7.18 (m, 3H), 6.19 (d, $J = 6.8$ Hz, 1H), 3.94-3.96 (m, 1H), 3.07 (td, $J = 3.6$ Hz, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 2.14-2.24 (m, 2H), 1.72-1.75 (m, 2H), 1.28-1.46 (m, 4H); $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (100 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 162.0, 148.5, 137.9, 134.2, 132.1, 129.2, 127.1, 121.0, 68.0, 54.8, 53.5, 51.7, 33.6, 32.9, 29.7, 25.9, 25.6, 24.6; IR (Neat) 3306, 3096, 2937, 1644, 1541, 1476, 1343, 1095, 1013, 918, 821, 730; HRMS(MALDI): calcd. for $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ ($\text{C}_{23}\text{H}_{26}\text{NS}_2\text{O}_2$) requires 412.1394, found 412.1399; HRMS(MALDI): calcd. for $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ ($\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{19}\text{N}_3\text{ClSO}_5$) requires 436.0722, found 436.0728.

4.3.18. (4a*R*,10a*R*)-10-Tosyl-2,3,4,4a,10,10a-hexahydro-1*H*-phenothiazine(**5**)¹⁸

Yield: 70%; yellow oil. Enantiomeric excess: 61%, $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -22.8$ ($c = 1.7$, CH_2Cl_2), determined by HPLC (Phenomenex Cellulose-2 column, hexane/*i*-PrOH 85:15, flow rate 1.0 ml/min, $t_{\text{minor}} = 6.98$ min, $t_{\text{major}} = 6.22$ min, $\lambda = 254$ nm); $^1\text{H-NMR}$ (400 MHz, CDCl_3): δ 7.59 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.17-7.20 (m, 7H), 4.71 (d, $J = 4.0$ Hz, 1H), 3.21-3.27 (m, 2H), 2.36 (s, 3H), 2.00-2.01 (m, 2H), 1.58-1.65 (m, 2H), 1.39-1.54 (m, 2H); MS (ESI): m/z 382.2 ($\text{M}^+ + \text{Na}$).

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Supplementary data

Supplementary data associated with this article can be found in the online version at doi:

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Electronic Supplementary Information

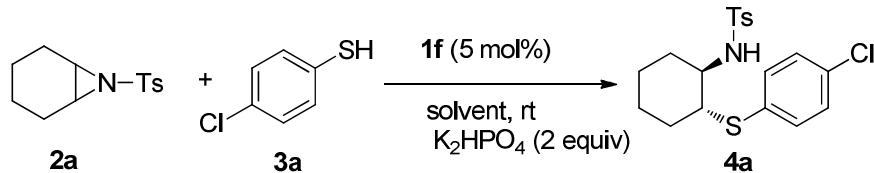
Enantioselective desymmetrization of *meso*-aziridines with benzenethiols catalyzed by chiral bifunctional quaternary phosphonium salts

Jiaxing Zhang,^a Dongdong Cao,^b Hongyu Wang,^b Gang Zhao,^{b,*} and Yongjia Shang^{a,*}

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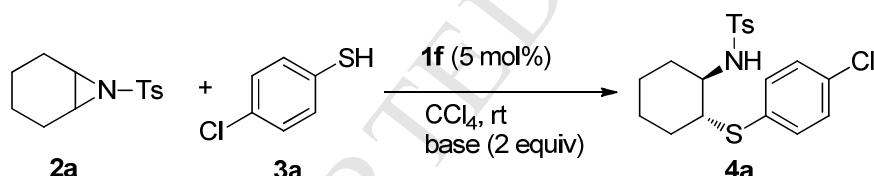
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1. Optimization of reaction conditions with catalyst **1f** (TableS1, Table S2)

Table S1 Screening of solvents^a

Entry	Solvent	Time (h)	Ee ^b (%)
1	CCl ₄	4	41
2	CHCl ₂ CH ₂ Cl	4	3
3	1,2-dichlorobenzene	4	16
4	<i>p</i> -xylene	4	25
5	PhCF ₃	4	21
6	mesitylene	4	11
7	CH ₃ CN	12	4
8	MTBE	12	14
9	THF	12	-10
10	EtOH	12	-

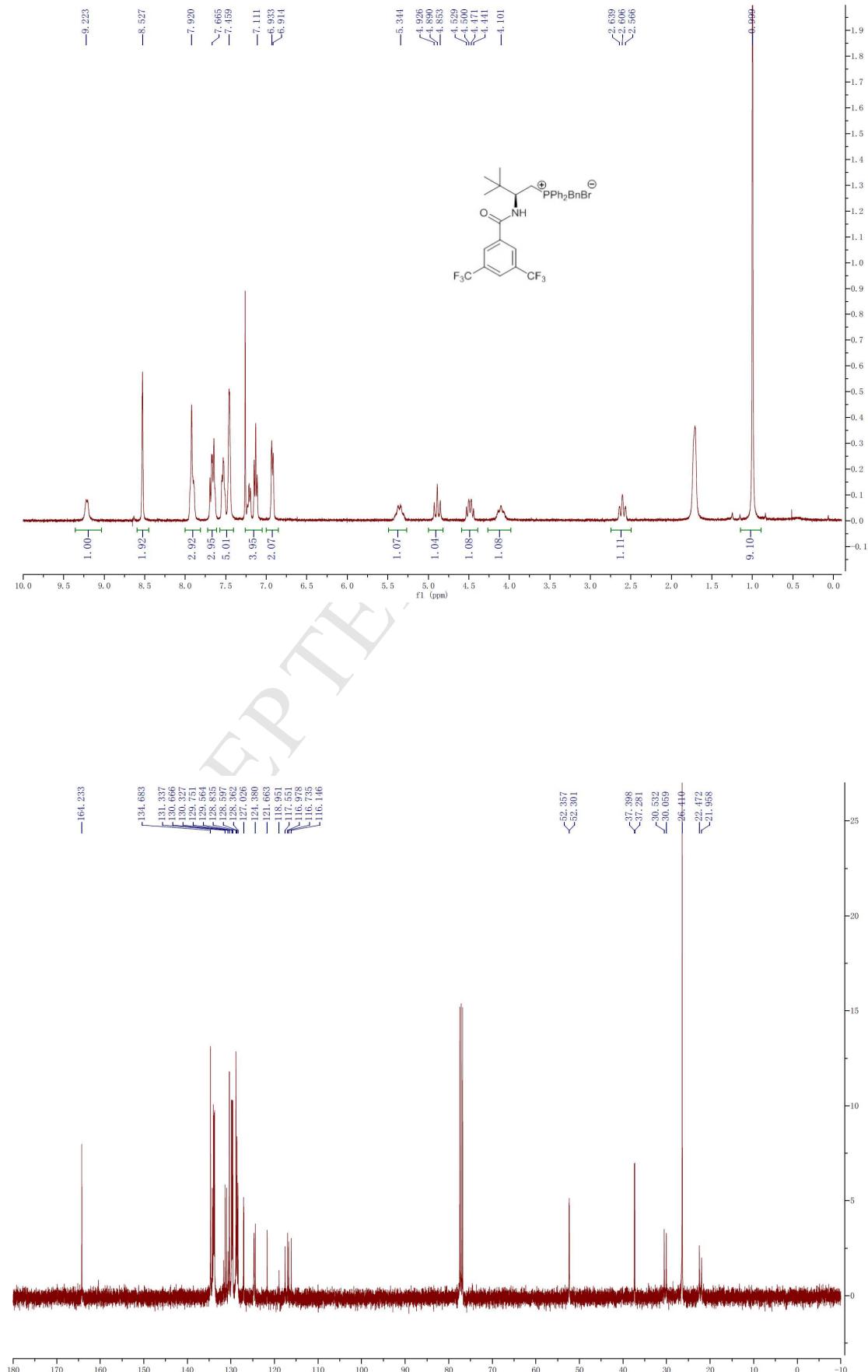
^aReactions were carried out using (0.1 mmol) of **2a**, (0.15 mmol) **3a**, 5 mol% of **1f**, 0.2 mmol of K₂HPO₄. ^bDetermined by chiral stationary phase HPLC.

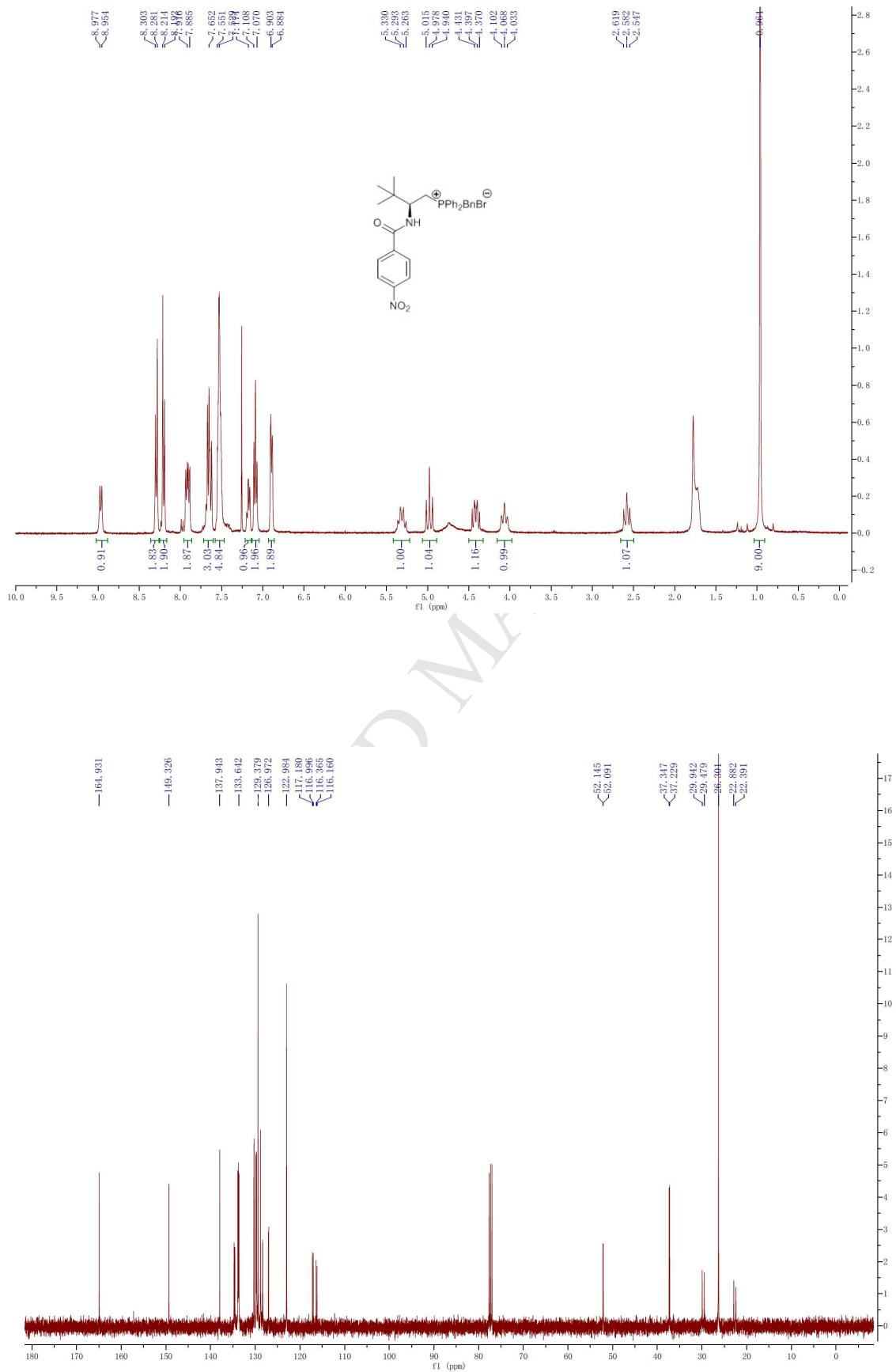
Table S2 Screening of bases^a

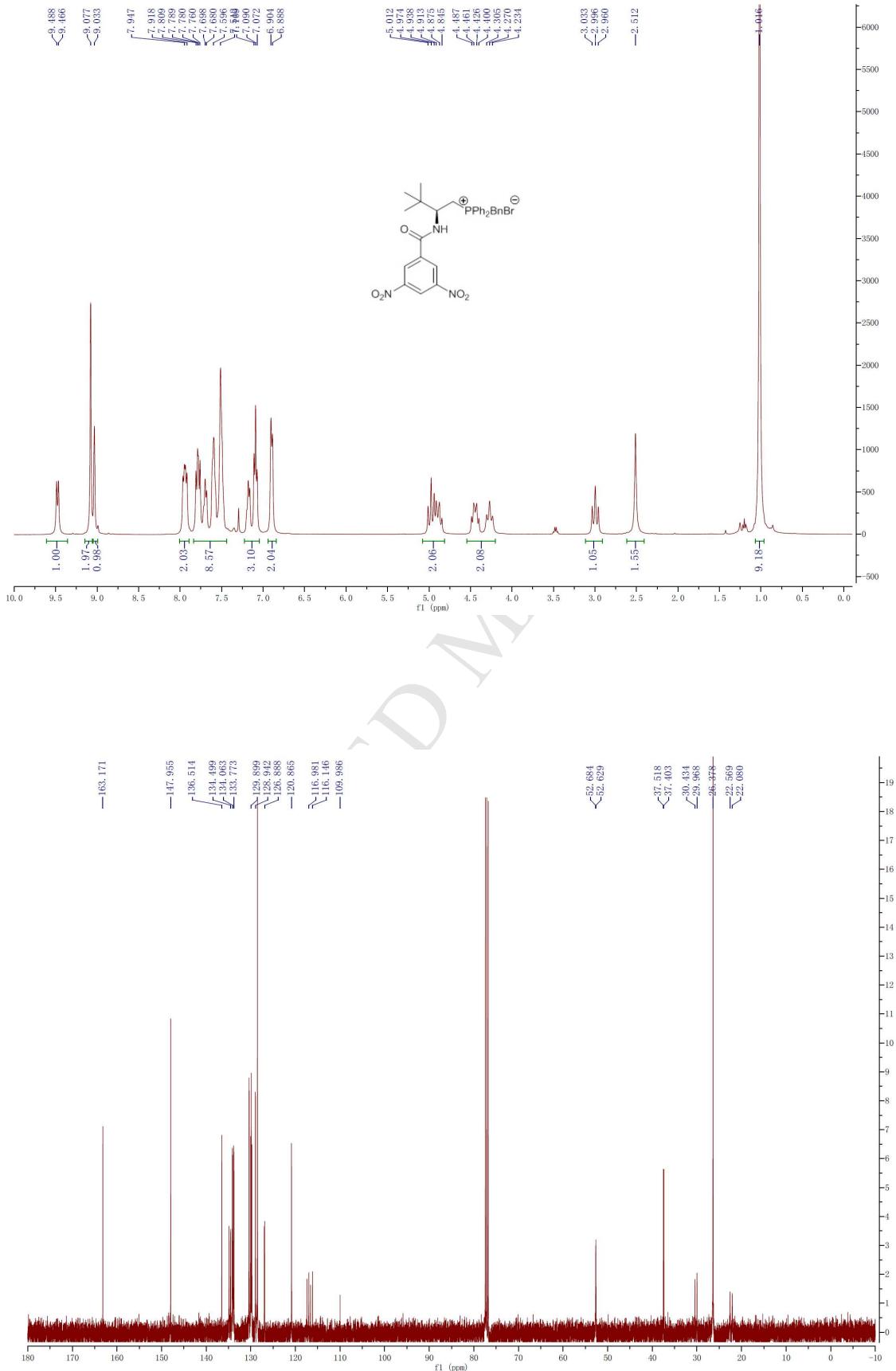
Entry	Base	Time (h)	Yield ^b (%)	Ee ^c (%)
1	PhCOONa	4	99	47
2	DABCO	4	99	37
3	DBU	4	99	0
4	DIPEA	4	99	19
5	DMAP	4	99	27
6	KF	4	99	43(59 ^d)
7	CsF	4	99	27
8	CH ₃ COOK	4	99	34
9	PhCOOK	4	90	48(57 ^d)
10	Et ₃ N	4	99	48(32 ^d)
11	KHCO ₃	12	99	56 ^d

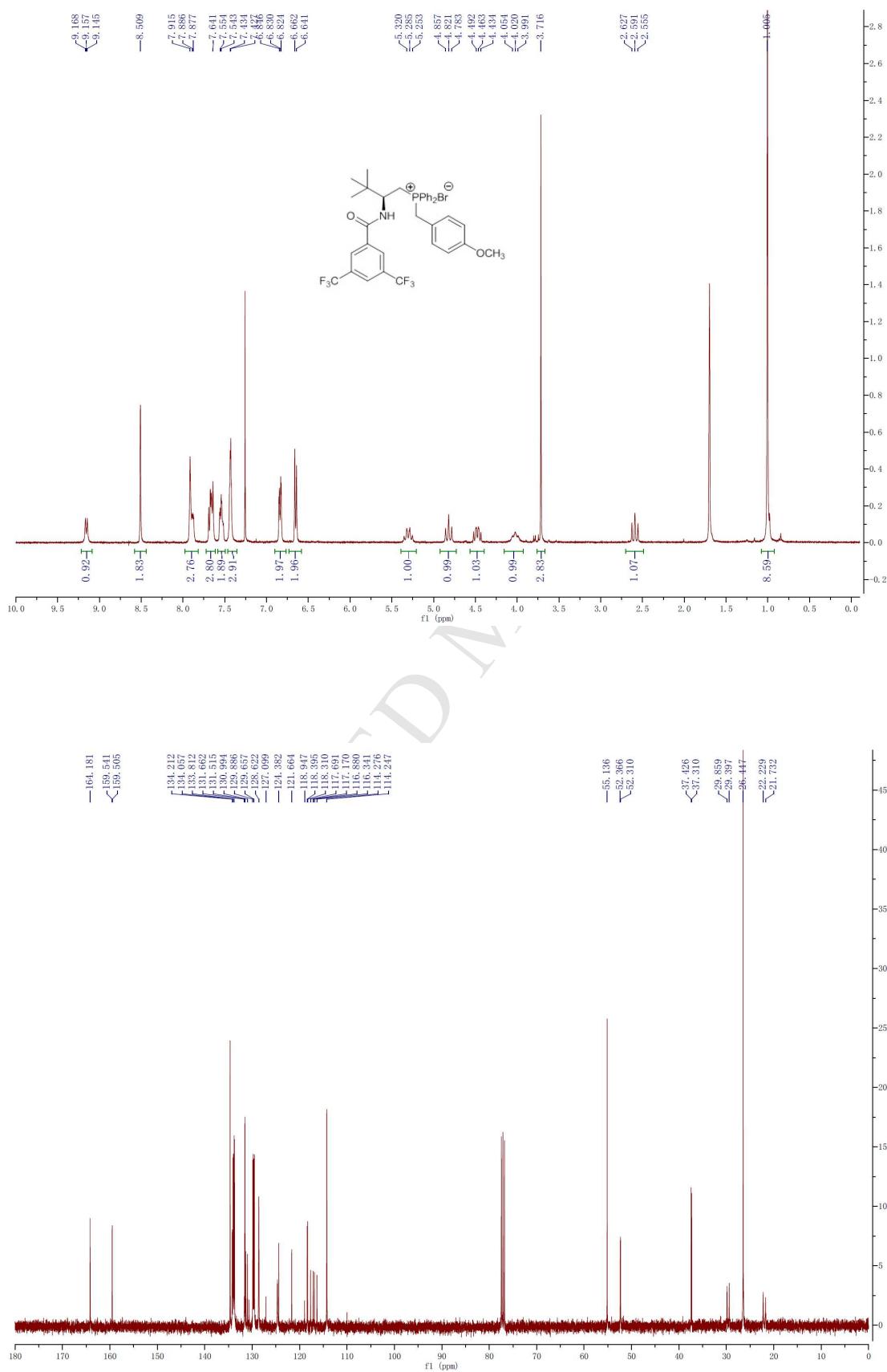
^aReactions were carried out using (0.1 mmol) of **2a**, (0.15 mmol) **3a**, 5 mol% of **1f**. ^b Isolated yields. ^c Determined by chiral stationary phase HPLC. ^d Reaction at 0°C.

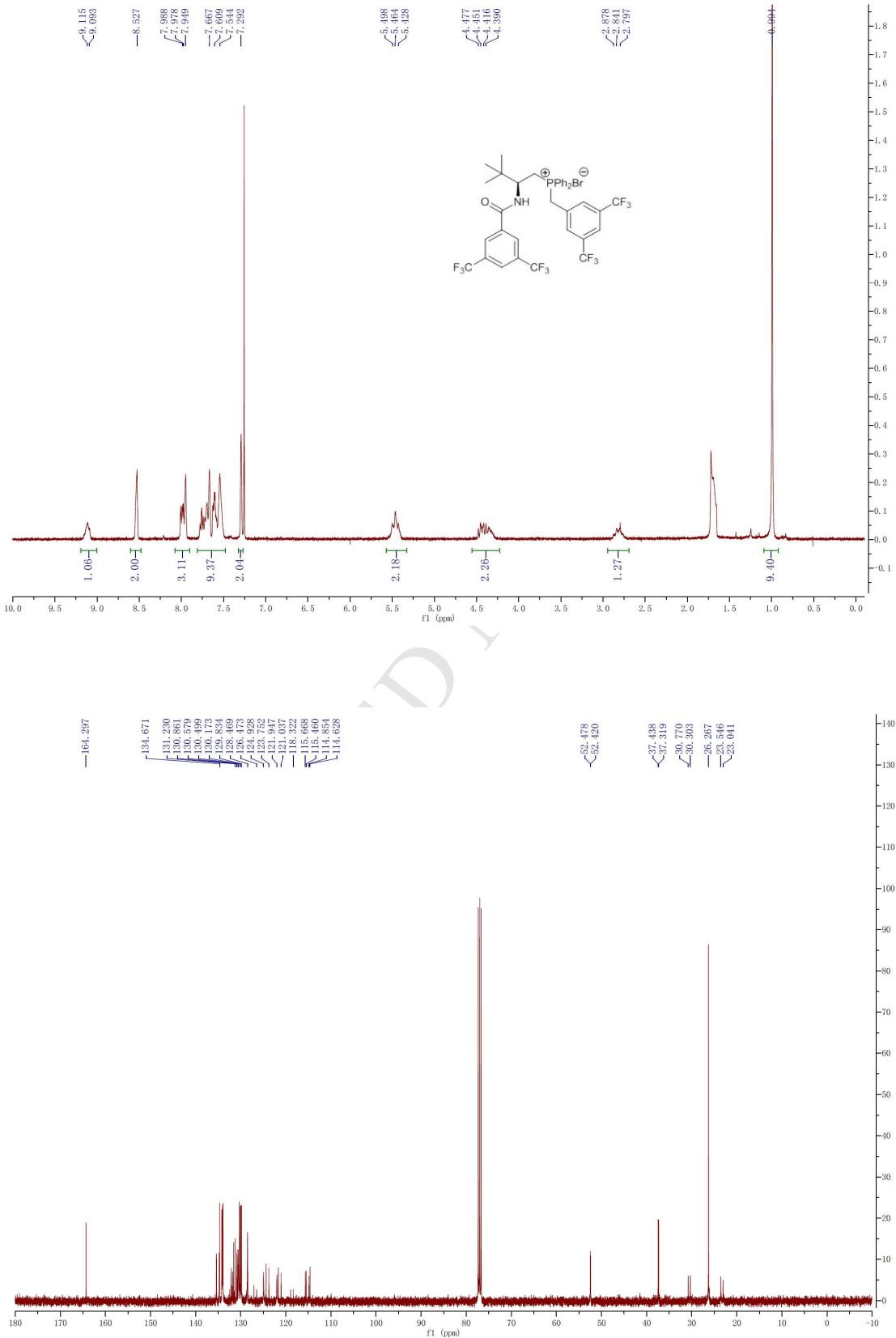
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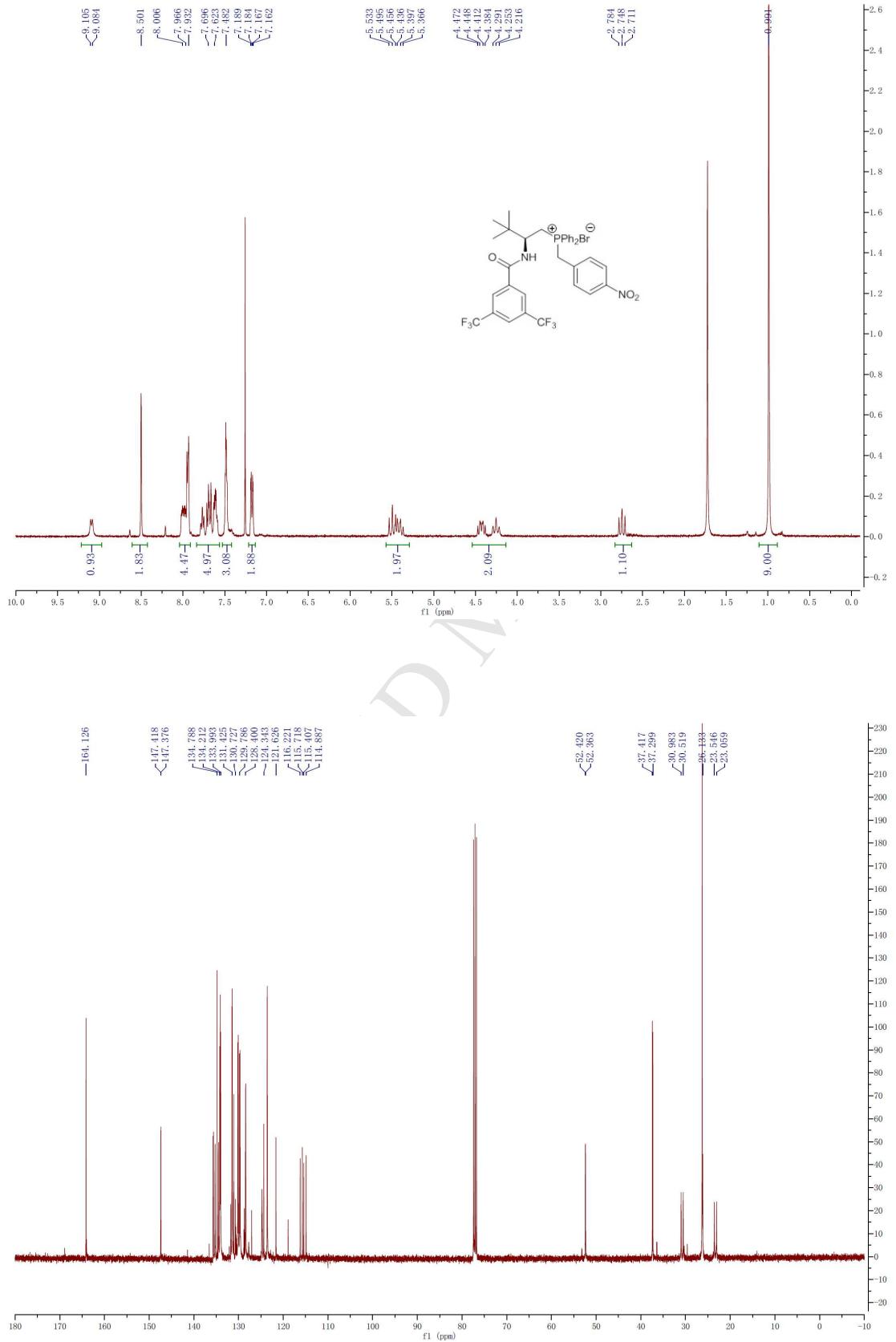


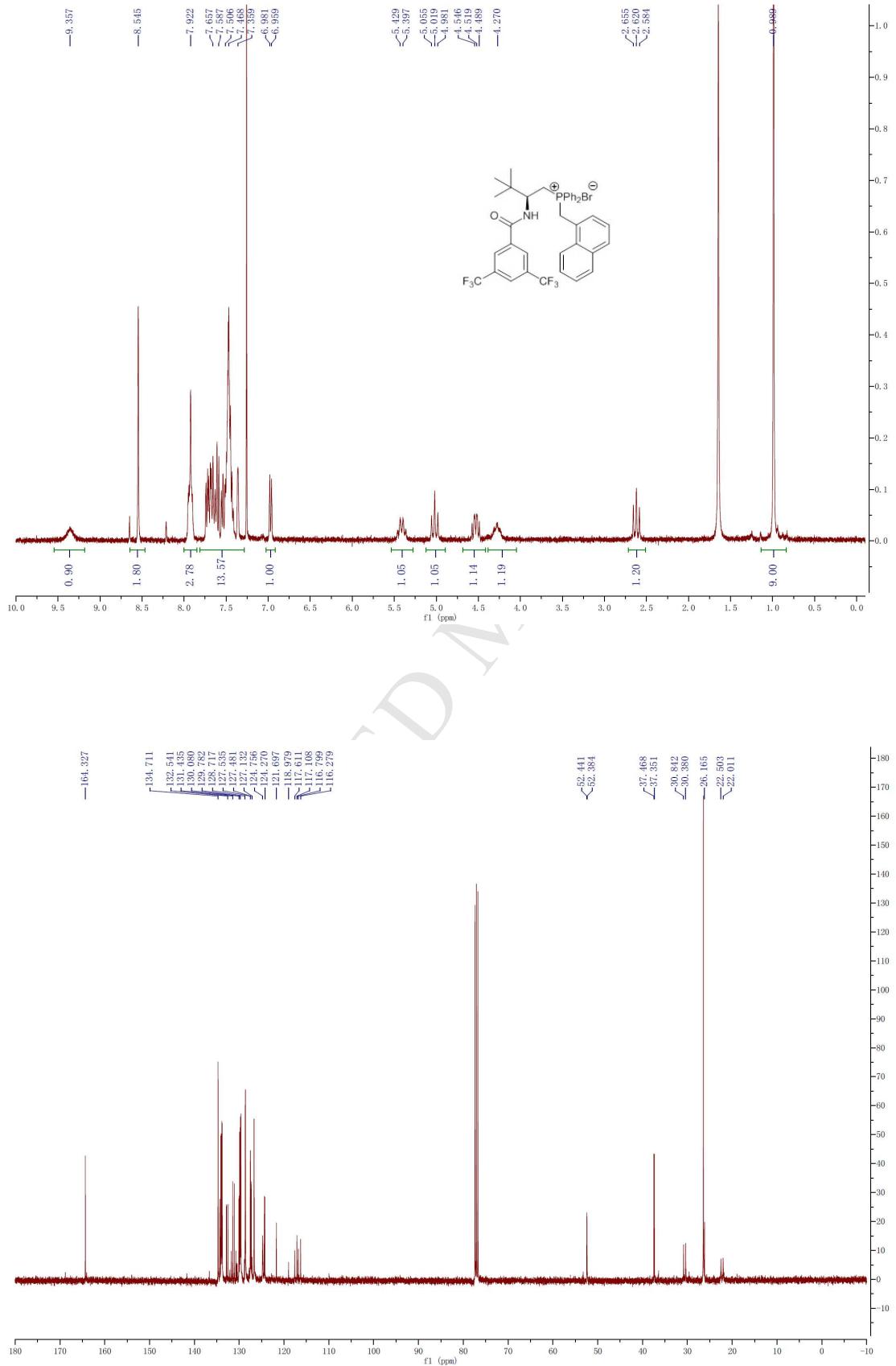


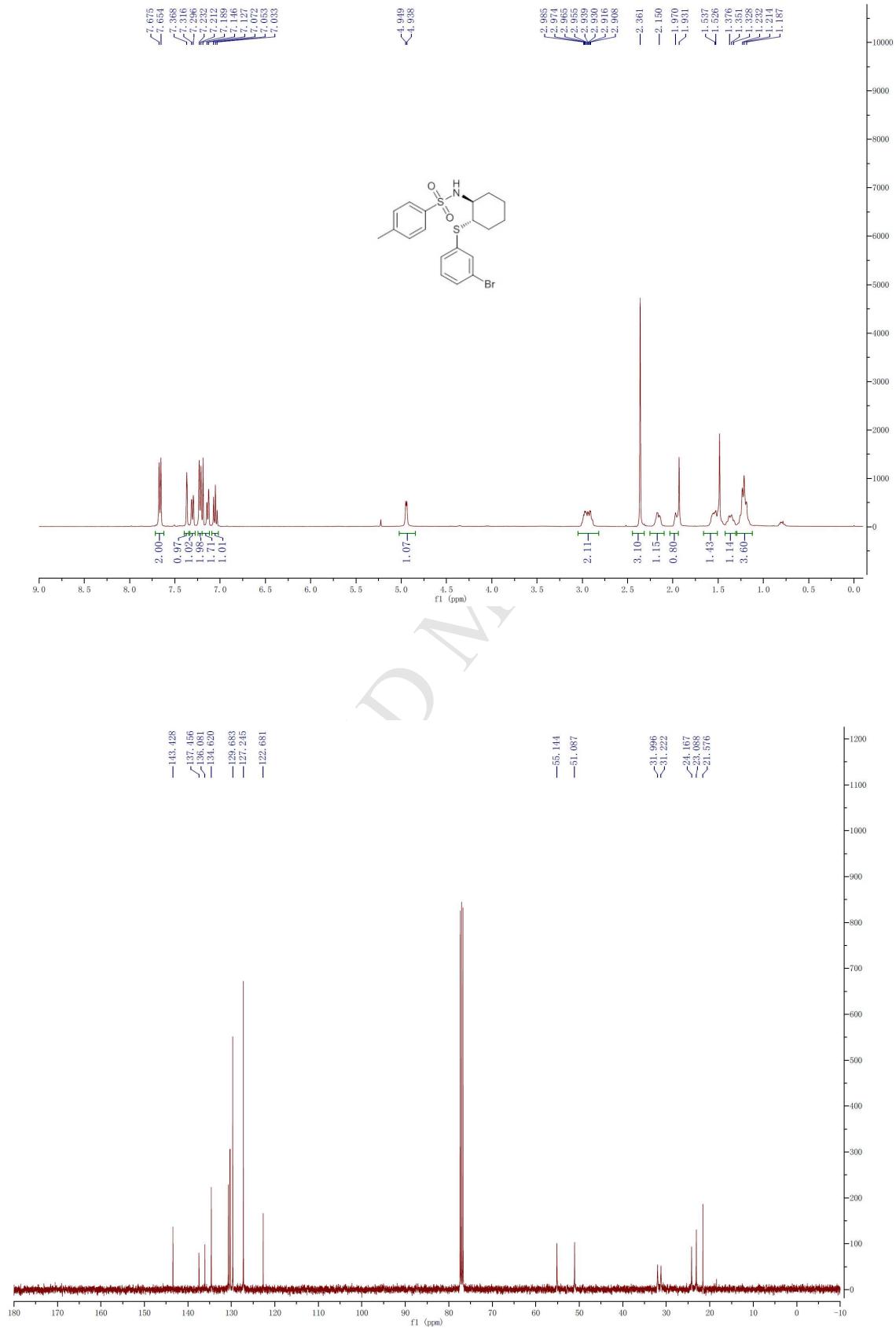


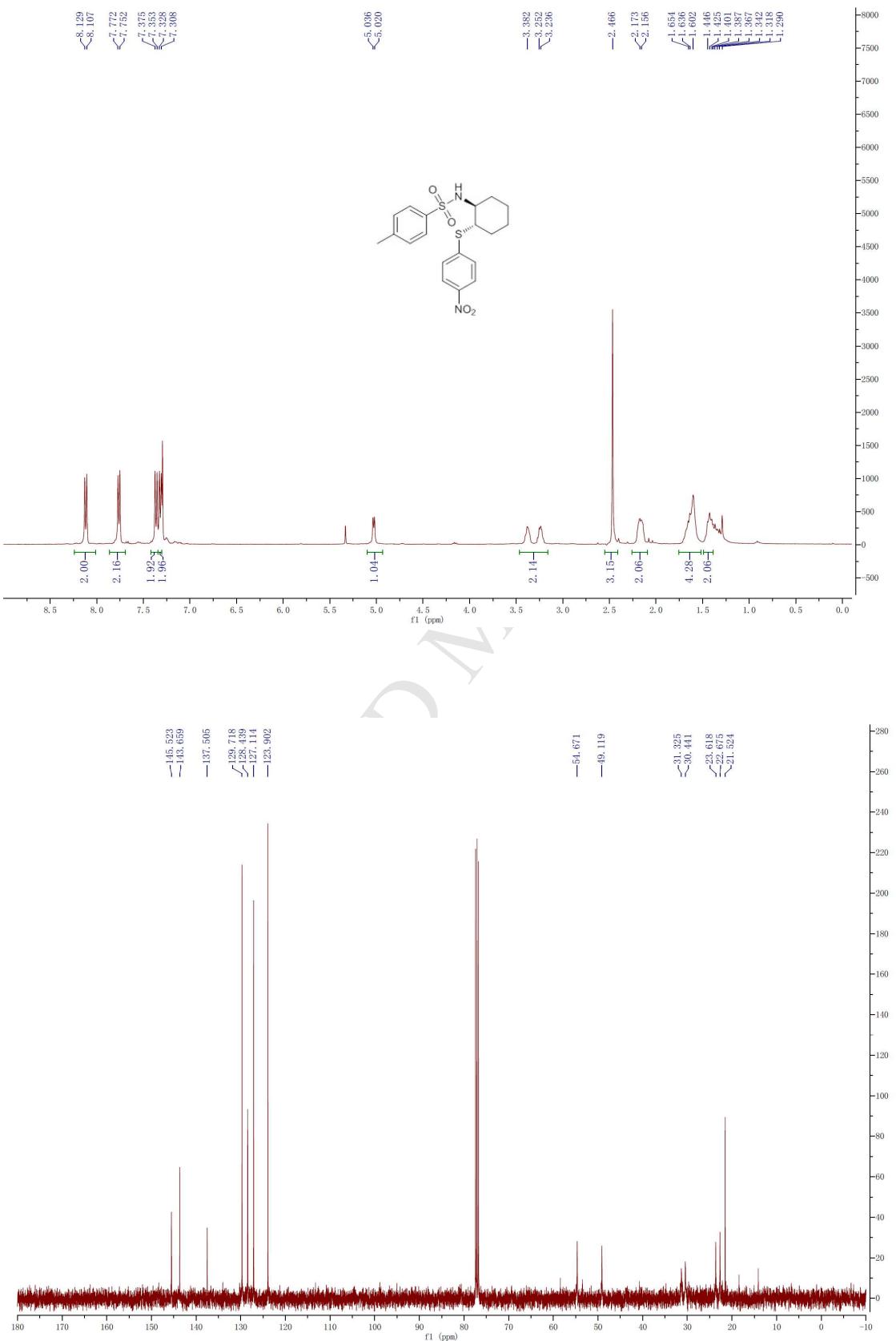


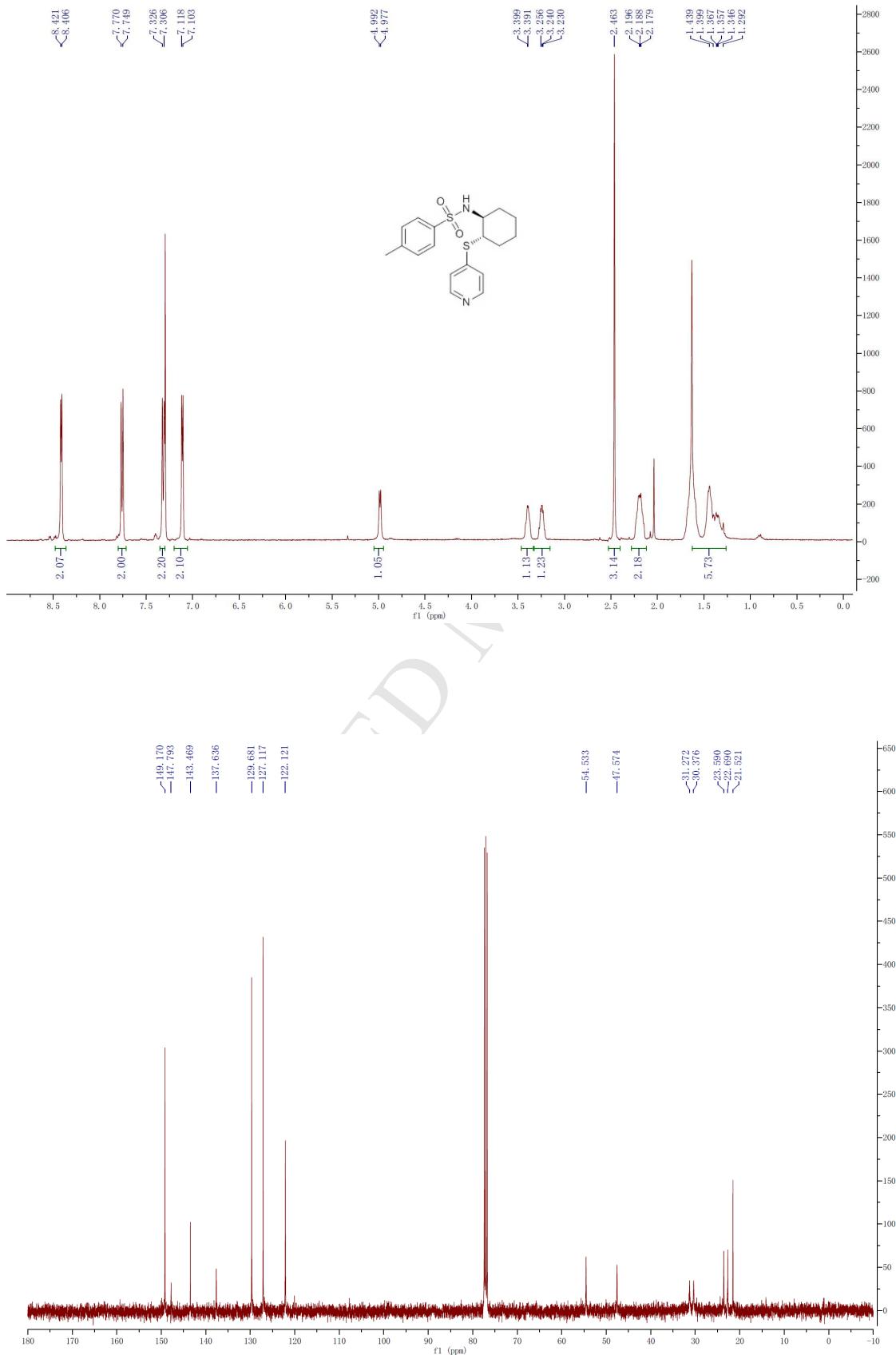


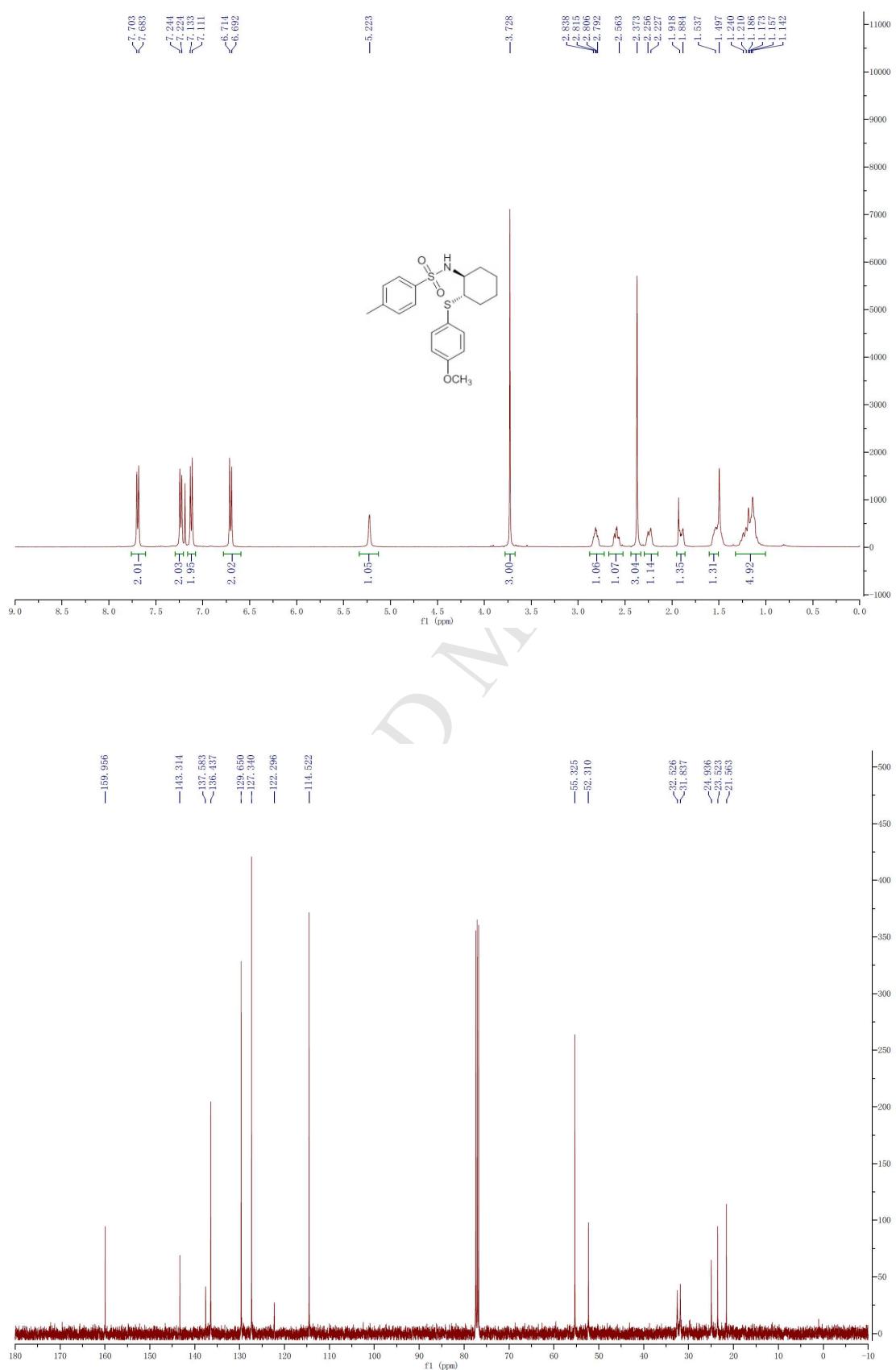


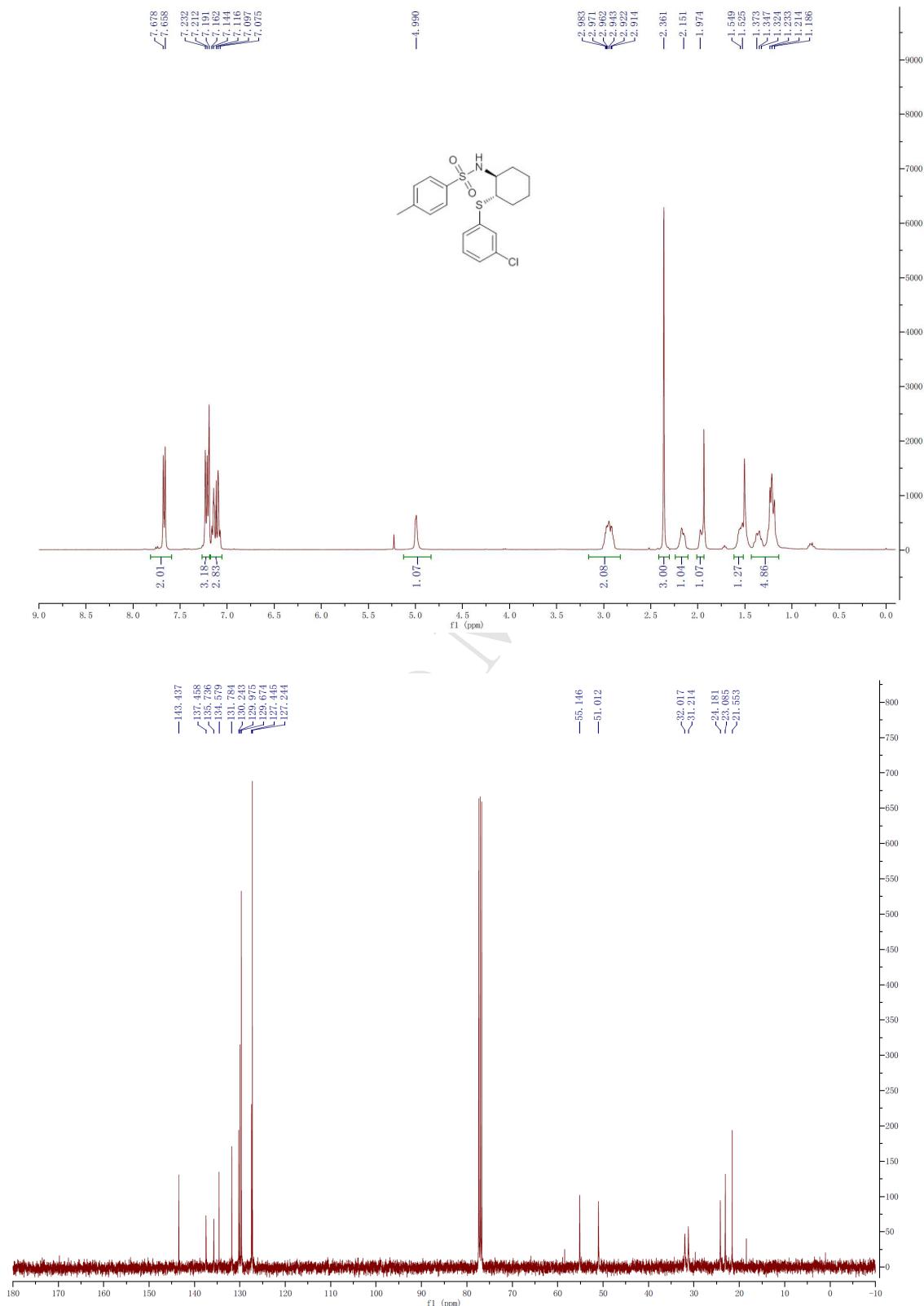




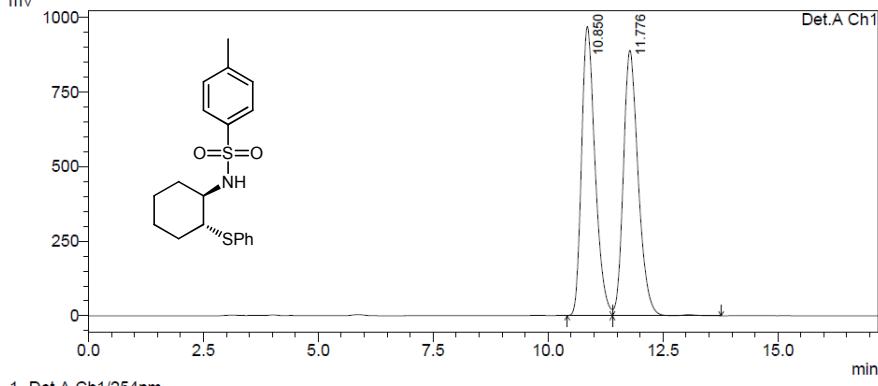
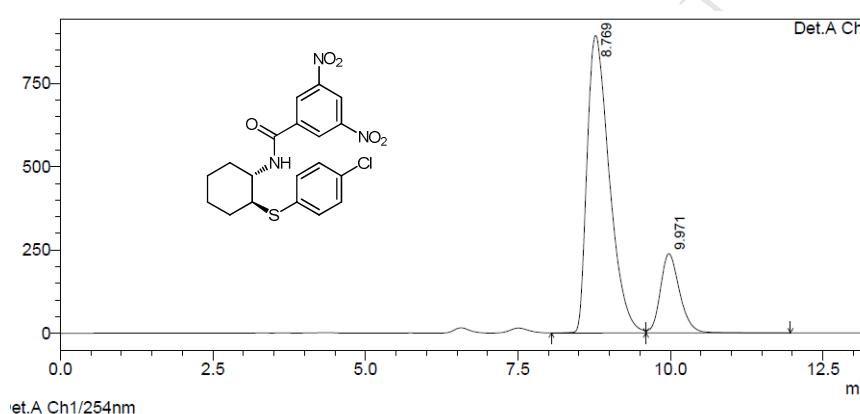
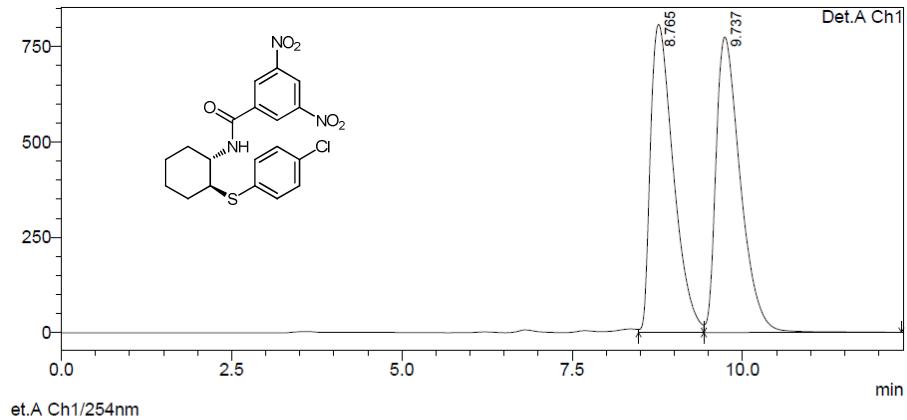


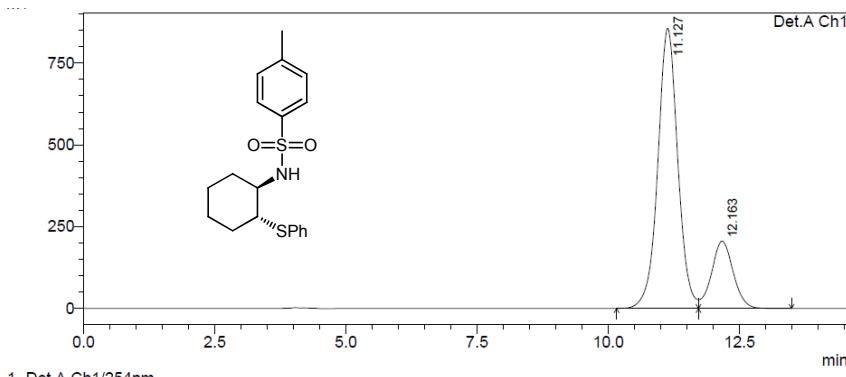






3. HPLC spectra for compounds

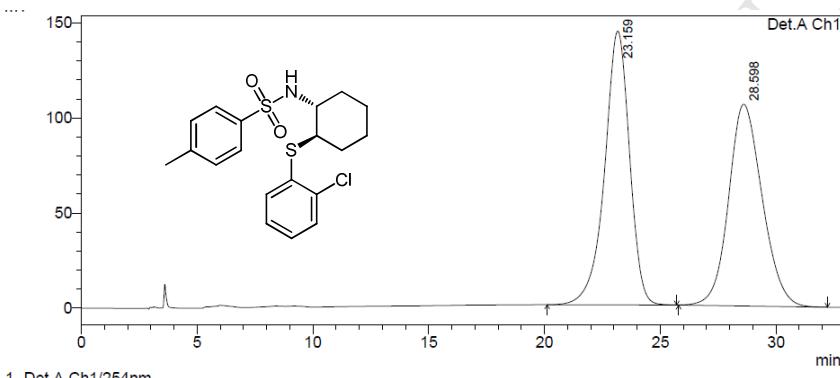




PeakTable

Detector A Ch1 254nm

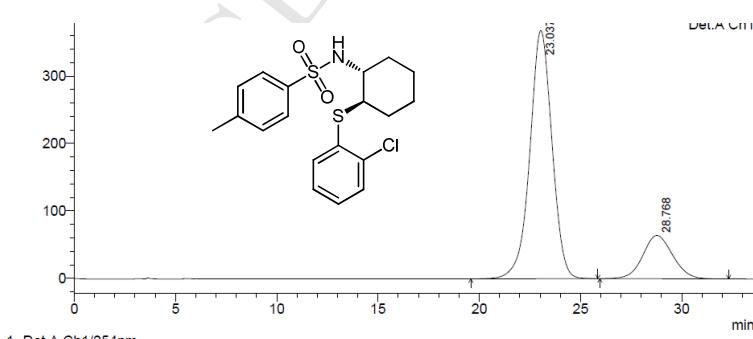
Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Height	Area %	Height %
1	11.127	22672175	856942	79.339	80.614
2	12.163	5904178	206083	20.661	19.386
Total		28576353	1063025	100.000	100.000



PeakTable

Detector A Ch1 254nm

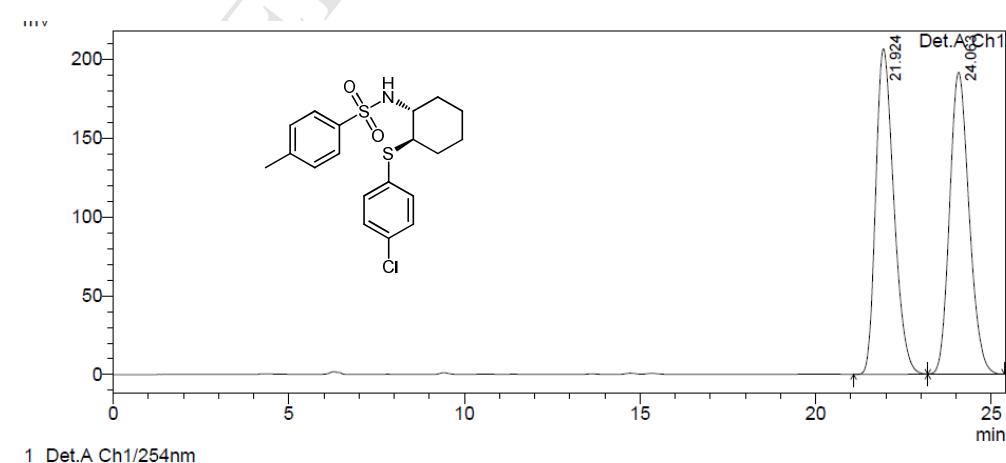
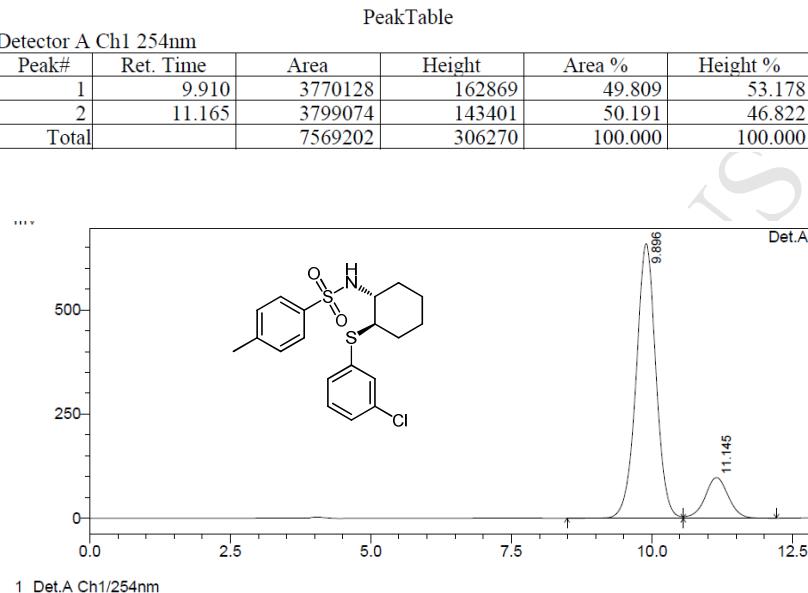
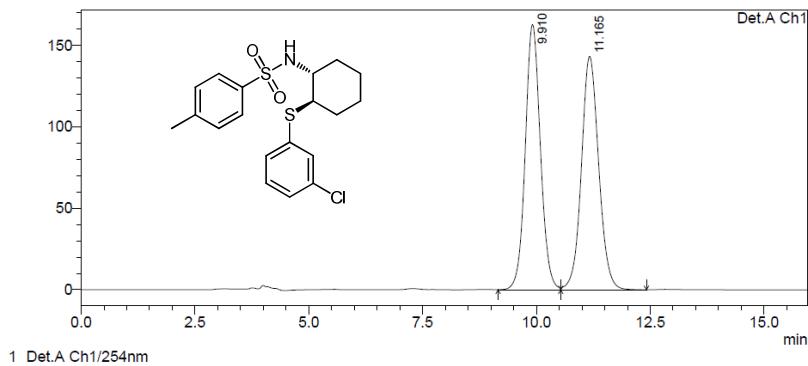
Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Height	Area %	Height %
1	23.159	10786913	144007	50.182	57.587
2	28.598	10708468	106064	49.818	42.413
Total		21495381	250071	100.000	100.000

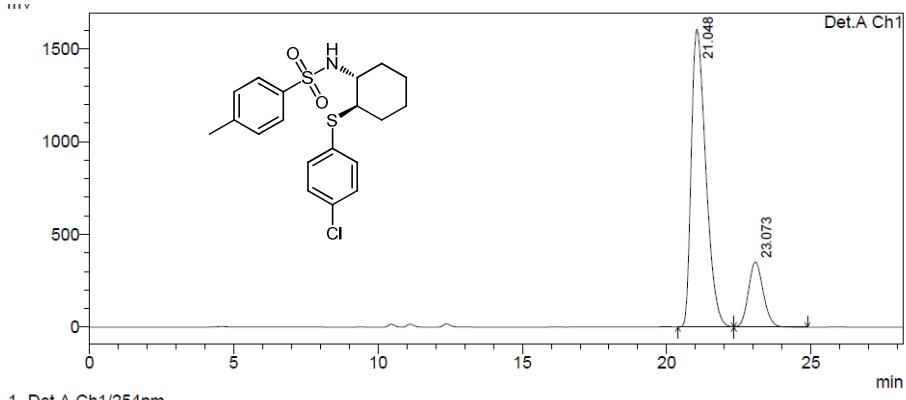


PeakTable

Detector A Ch1 254nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Height	Area %	Height %
1	23.037	28041665	367969	80.973	85.157
2	28.768	6589084	64139	19.027	14.843
Total		34630748	432108	100.000	100.000

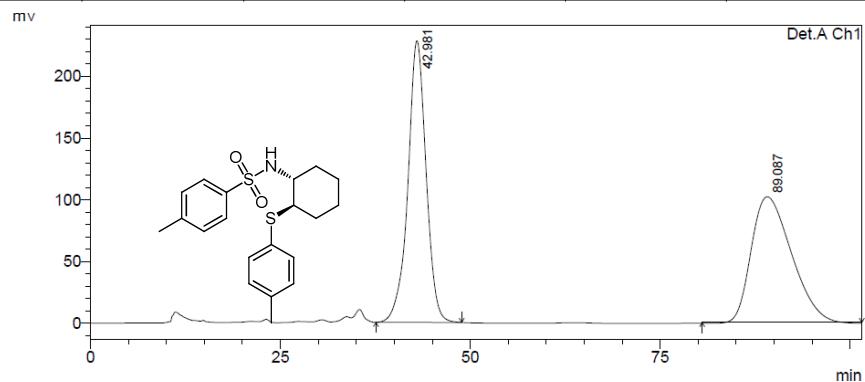




PeakTable

Detector A Ch1 254nm

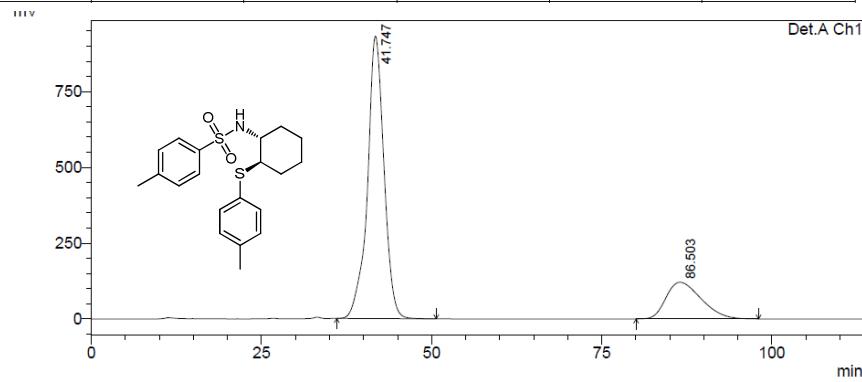
Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Height	Area %	Height %
1	21.048	56284240	1605221	81.803	82.079
2	23.073	12520398	350485	18.197	17.921
Total		68804638	1955706	100.000	100.000



PeakTable

Detector A Ch1 254nm

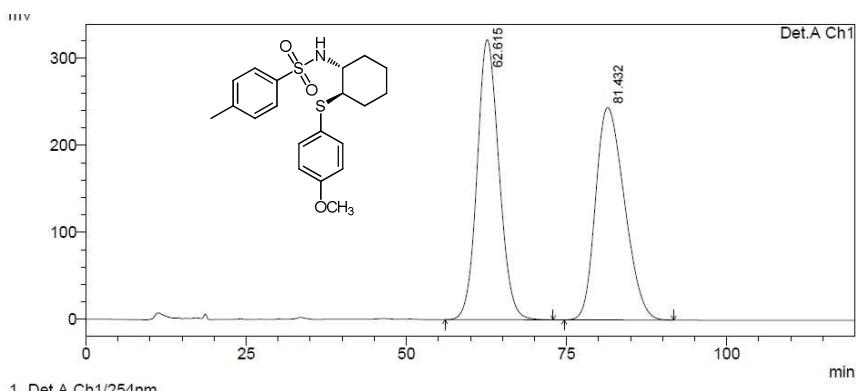
Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Height	Area %	Height %
1	42.981	38074106	228100	50.509	69.137
2	89.087	37306450	101824	49.491	30.863
Total		75380555	329924	100.000	100.000



PeakTable

Detector A Ch1 254nm

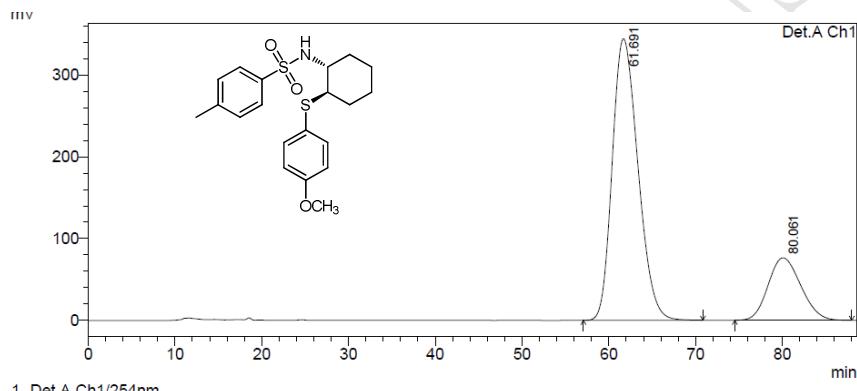
Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Height	Area %	Height %
1	41.747	157723190	931885	78.388	88.509
2	86.503	43486070	120987	21.612	11.491
Total		201209260	1052872	100.000	100.000



PeakTable

Detector A Ch1 254nm

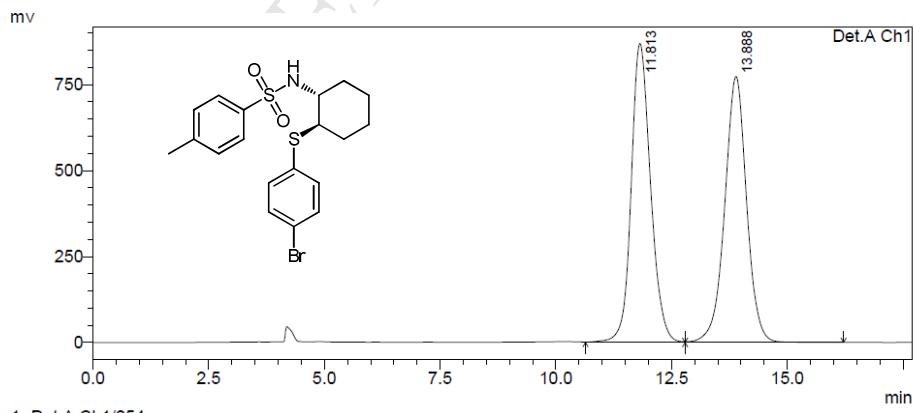
Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Height	Area %	Height %
1	62.615	76647306	321852	49.948	56.857
2	81.432	76806769	244217	50.052	43.143
Total		153454075	566069	100.000	100.000



PeakTable

Detector A Ch1 254nm

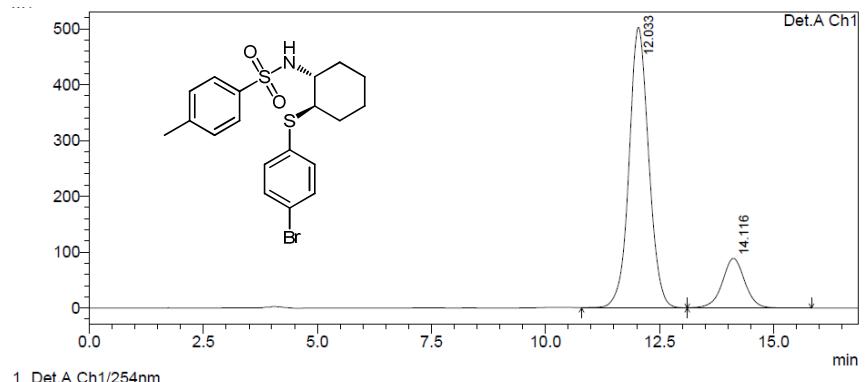
Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Height	Area %	Height %
1	61.691	70914584	343878	77.982	81.832
2	80.061	20022714	76348	22.018	18.168
Total		90937298	420226	100.000	100.000



PeakTable

Detector A Ch1 254nm

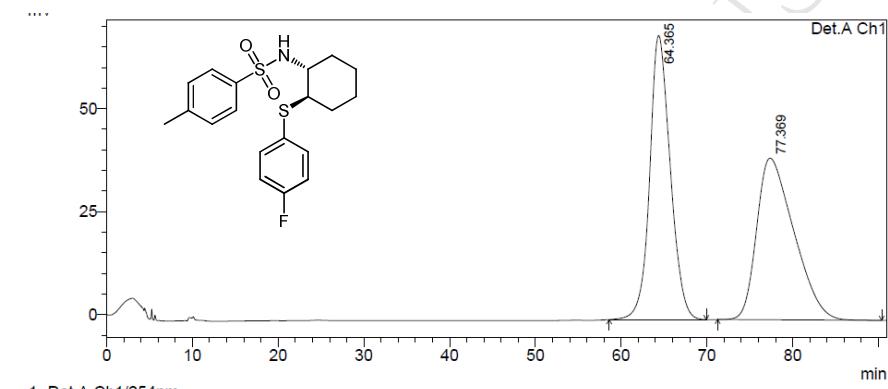
Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Height	Area %	Height %
1	11.813	25352265	870097	49.923	52.928
2	13.888	25430760	773839	50.077	47.072
Total		50783026	1643937	100.000	100.000



PeakTable

Detector A Ch1 254nm

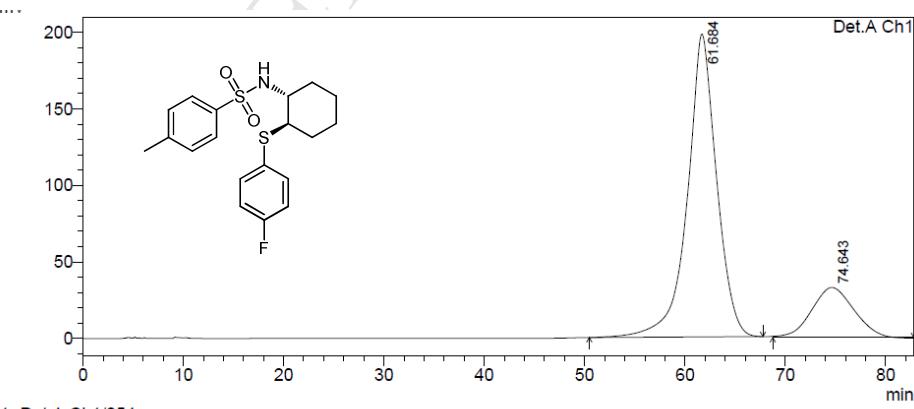
Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Height	Area %	Height %
1	12.033	15126532	502549	83.205	84.986
2	14.116	3053351	88779	16.795	15.014
Total		18179883	591328	100.000	100.000



PeakTable

Detector A Ch1 254nm

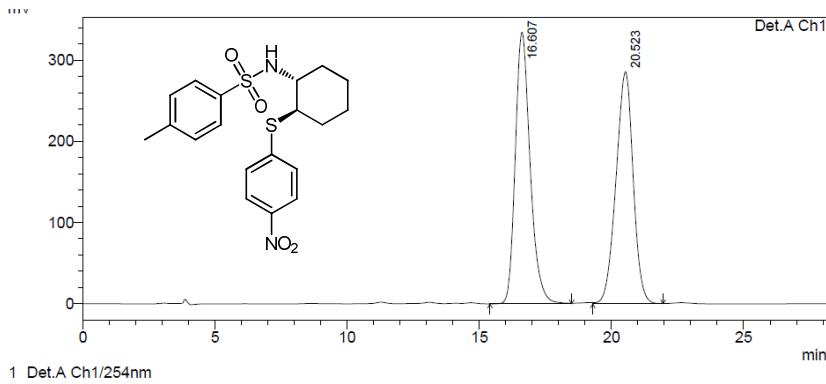
Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Height	Area %	Height %
1	64.365	11528682	68982	49.373	63.740
2	77.369	11821496	39242	50.627	36.260
Total		23350178	108225	100.000	100.000



PeakTable

Detector A Ch1 254nm

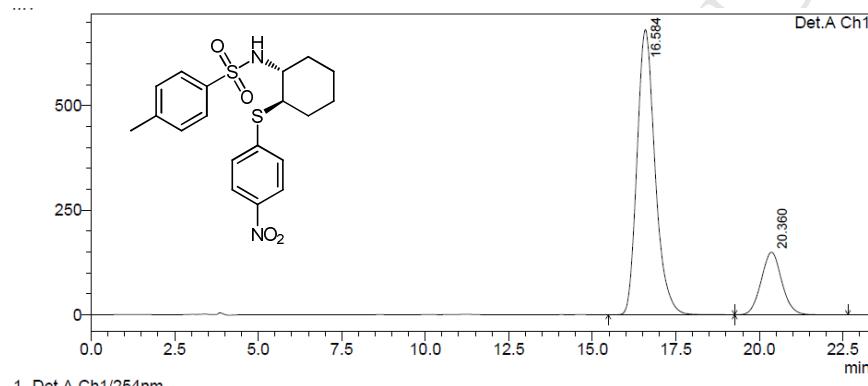
Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Height	Area %	Height %
1	61.684	40018097	197841	80.648	85.797
2	74.643	9602902	32750	19.352	14.203
Total		49620999	230590	100.000	100.000



PeakTable

Detector A Ch1 254nm

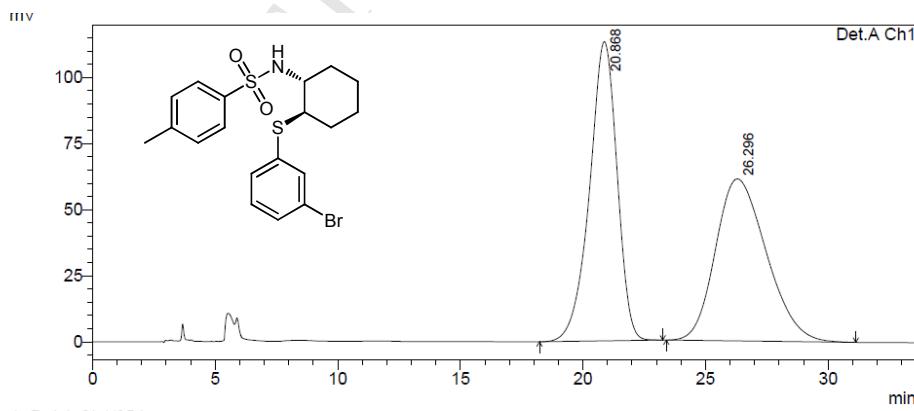
Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Height	Area %	Height %
1	16.607	13119878	334757	50.296	53.926
2	20.523	12965270	286017	49.704	46.074
Total		26085148	620774	100.000	100.000



PeakTable

Detector A Ch1 254nm

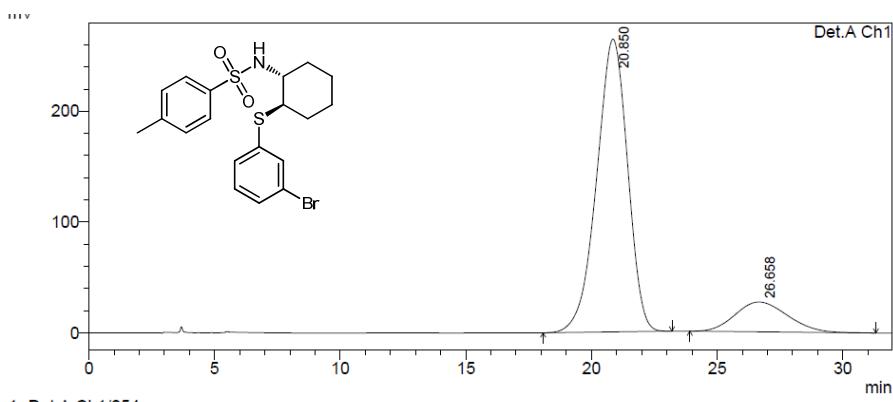
Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Height	Area %	Height %
1	16.584	25625309	681299	79.993	82.012
2	20.360	6409161	149433	20.007	17.988
Total		32034470	830732	100.000	100.000



PeakTable

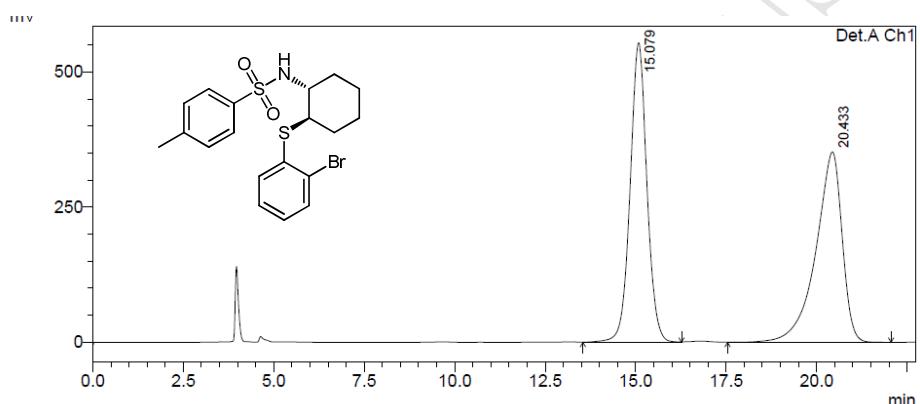
Detector A Ch1 254nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Height	Area %	Height %
1	20.868	8843332	113201	49.969	64.879
2	26.296	8854249	61280	50.031	35.121
Total		17697581	174481	100.000	100.000



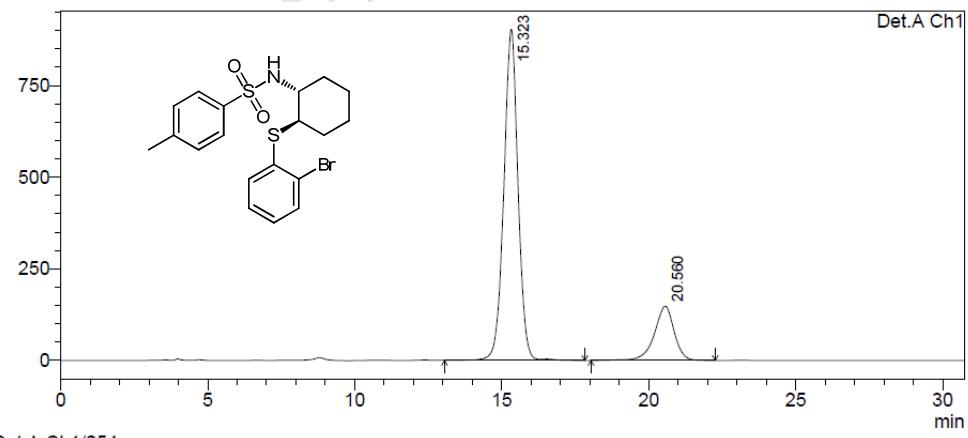
Detector A Ch1 254nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Height	Area %	Height %
1	20.850	22651781	264167	85.284	90.765
2	26.658	3908757	26879	14.716	9.235
Total		26560538	291046	100.000	100.000



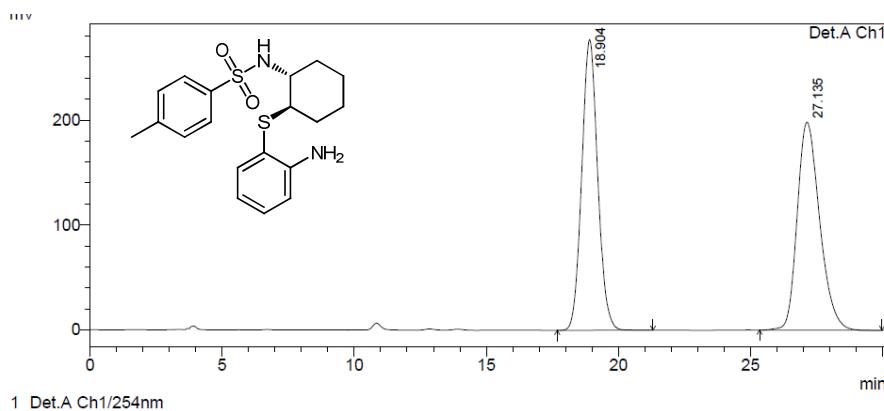
Detector A Ch1 254nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Height	Area %	Height %
1	15.079	17944872	554426	50.153	61.139
2	20.433	17835069	352410	49.847	38.861
Total		35779941	906836	100.000	100.000



Detector A Ch1 254nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Height	Area %	Height %
1	15.323	30325295	903634	81.354	85.920
2	20.560	6950411	148084	18.646	14.080
Total		37275706	1051718	100.000	100.000

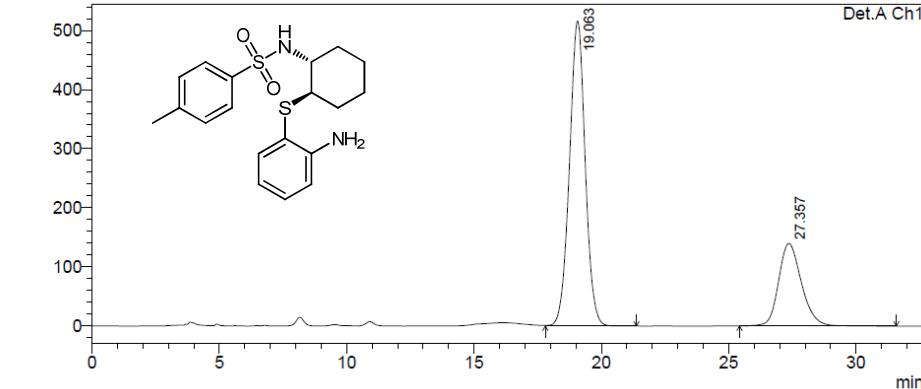


PeakTable

Detector A Ch1 254nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Height	Area %	Height %
1	18.904	11637367	277044	49.793	58.266
2	27.135	11734151	198436	50.207	41.734
Total		23371518	475480	100.000	100.000

mv

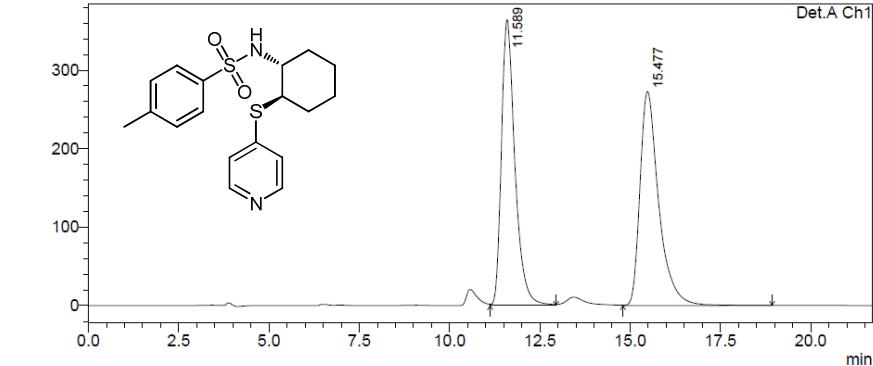


PeakTable

Detector A Ch1 254nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Height	Area %	Height %
1	19.063	22205831	516060	71.811	78.687
2	27.357	8716921	139778	28.189	21.313
Total		30922752	655838	100.000	100.000

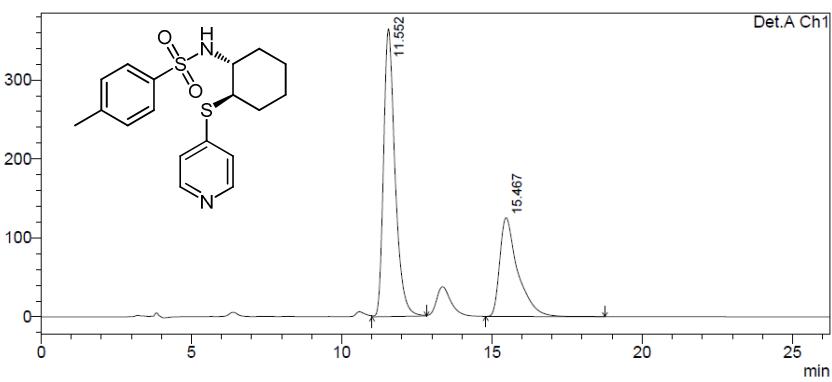
mv



PeakTable

Detector A Ch1 254nm

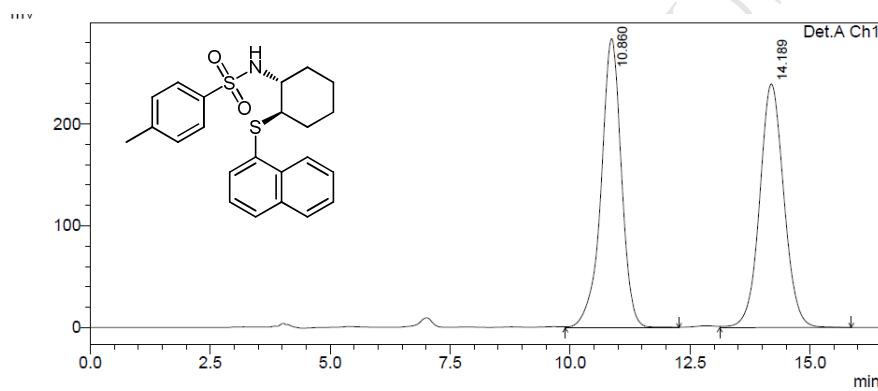
Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Height	Area %	Height %
1	11.589	9501245	364398	49.151	57.189
2	15.477	9829469	272783	50.849	42.811
Total		19330714	637181	100.000	100.000



PeakTable

Detector A Ch1 254nm

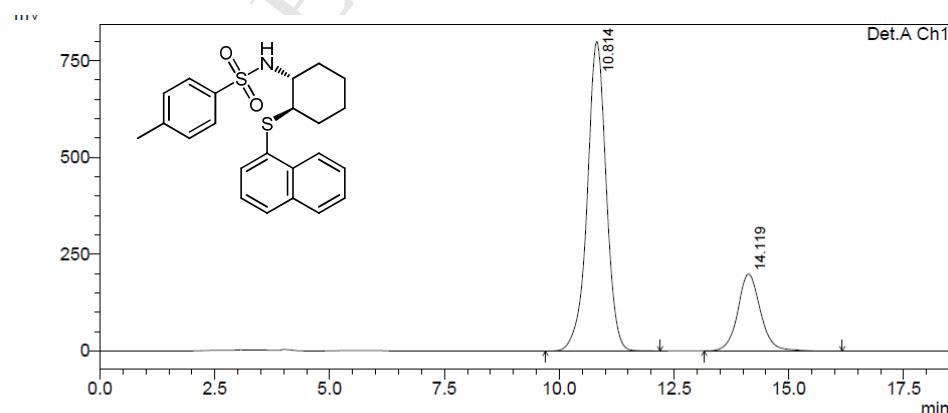
Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Height	Area %	Height %
1	11.552	9702577	364545	65.035	74.433
2	15.467	5216444	125217	34.965	25.567
Total		14919021	489762	100.000	100.000



PeakTable

Detector A Ch1 254nm

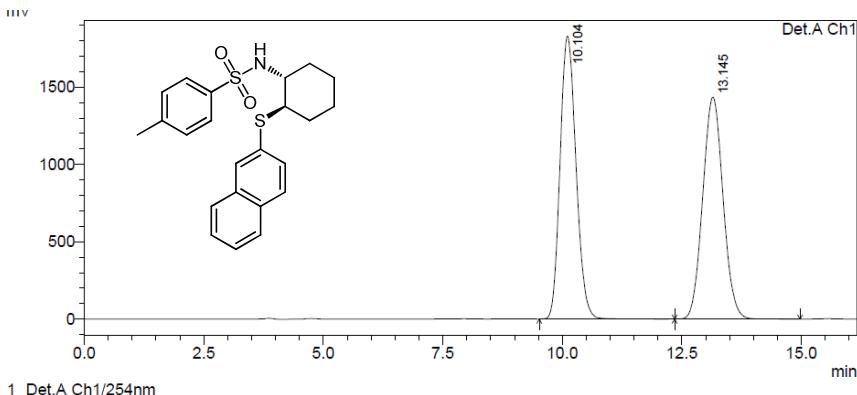
Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Height	Area %	Height %
1	10.860	8399800	283927	49.953	54.264
2	14.189	8415500	239302	50.047	45.736
Total		16815299	523228	100.000	100.000



PeakTable

Detector A Ch1 254nm

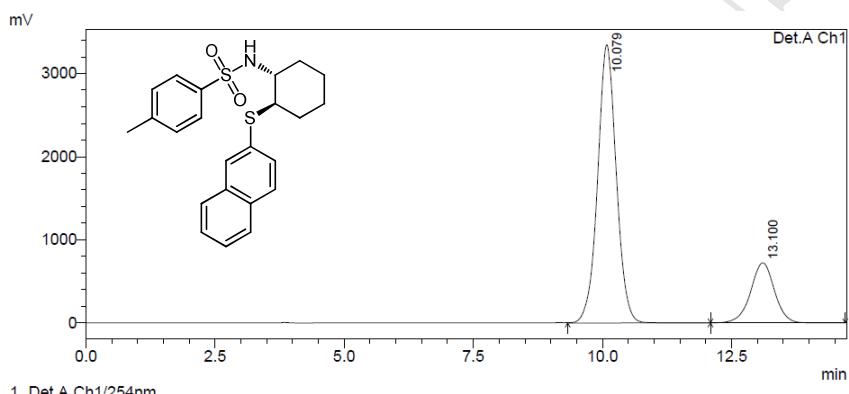
Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Height	Area %	Height %
1	10.814	22981273	799609	76.966	80.078
2	14.119	6877773	198930	23.034	19.922
Total		29859045	998539	100.000	100.000



PeakTable

Detector A Ch1 254nm

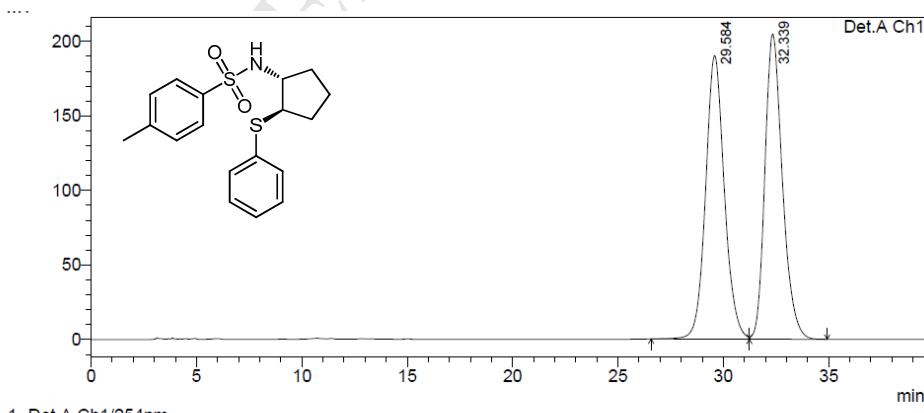
Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Height	Area %	Height %
1	10.104	42627782	1830857	50.063	56.047
2	13.145	42520837	1435781	49.937	43.953
Total		85148619	3266639	100.000	100.000



PeakTable

Detector A Ch1 254nm

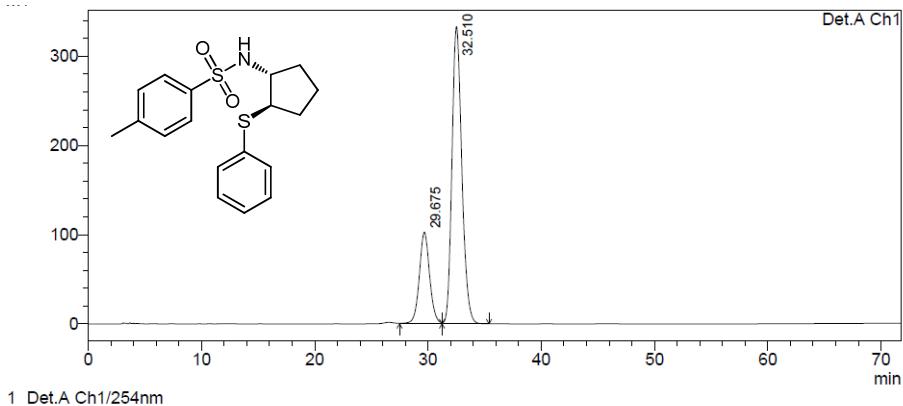
Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Height	Area %	Height %
1	10.079	84114649	3347770	78.313	82.238
2	13.100	23293140	723081	21.687	17.762
Total		107407789	4070851	100.000	100.000



PeakTable

Detector A Ch1 254nm

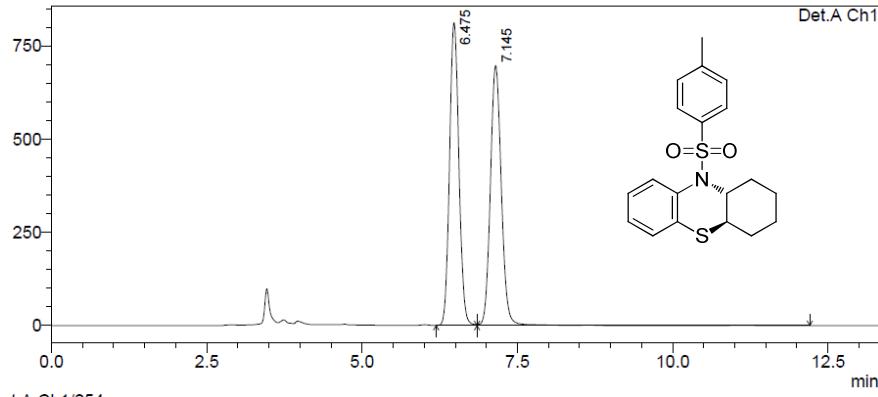
Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Height	Area %	Height %
1	29.584	11778506	190123	49.838	48.163
2	32.339	11855189	204623	50.162	51.837
Total		23633695	394745	100.000	100.000



PeakTable

Detector A Ch1 254nm

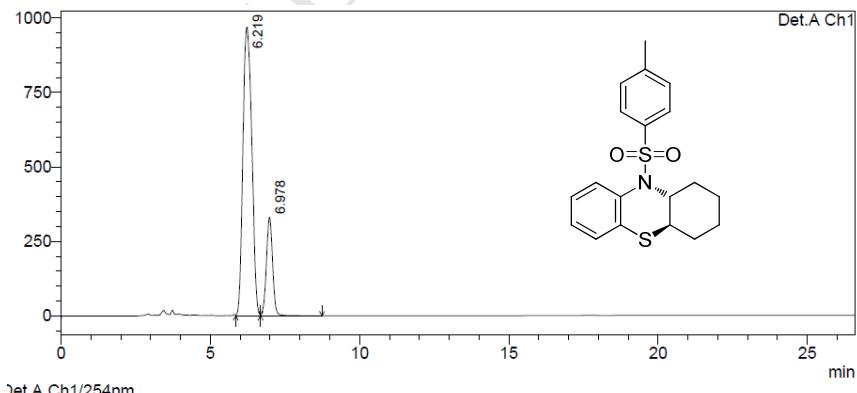
Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Height	Area %	Height %
1	29.675	6526084	102751	24.407	23.567
2	32.510	20211985	333249	75.593	76.433
Total		26738070	435999	100.000	100.000



PeakTable

Detector A Ch1 254nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Height	Area %	Height %
1	6.475	8515079	813087	49.874	53.802
2	7.145	8558096	698175	50.126	46.198
Total		17073175	1511262	100.000	100.000



PeakTable

Detector A Ch1 254nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Area	Height	Area %	Height %
1	6.219	20073517	969510	80.693	74.554
2	6.978	4802909	330901	19.307	25.446
Total		24876427	1300411	100.000	100.000