pubs.acs.org/joc

Rigidified Bis(sulfonyl)ethylenes as Effective Michael Acceptors for Asymmetric Catalysis: Application to the Enantioselective Synthesis of Quaternary Hydantoins

Leire Villaescusa, Iker Hernández, Laura Azcune, Ainhoa Rudi, José M. Mercero, Aitor Landa,* Mikel Oiarbide,* and Claudio Palomo*



developed, thus overcoming the inability of commonly employed β substituted vinylic sulfones to react. Adducts are transformed in enantioenriched 5,5-disubstituted hydantoins through hydrolysis and reductive desulfonylation processes providing new structures for eventual bioassays. Density functional theory studies that rationalize the observed reactivity and stereoselectivity trends are also provided.



■ INTRODUCTION

Hydantoins are widespread heterocyclic scaffolds within biologically active compounds,¹ and consequently, their chemical synthesis has raised considerable current interest.² In particular, 5,5-disubstituted (quaternary) hydantoin structural subunits are found in marketed drugs³ and promising clinical candidates for the treatment of psoriasis⁴ as well as selective androgen receptor modulators.⁵ Compounds possessing α -quaternary hydantoin units also include new potent inhibitors of aggrecanase ADAMTS-5 (involved in cartilage degradation during osteoarthritis⁶) and inhibitors of the decaprenylphospho- β -D-ribofuranose 2-oxidase (DprE1), useful as antimycobacterial inhibitors.⁷ However, the number of stereoselective synthetic approaches to quaternary hydantoins, and more specifically methods involving direct and selective Cfunctionalization of preformed hydantoins, is still scarce.⁸ Recently, our laboratory has introduced sulfur-substituted dihydroimidazol-4-ones of general structures I and II as useful hydantoin surrogates amenable for base-promoted C-H functionalization (Figure 1a). More specifically, in the presence of a chiral Brønsted base/H-bonding (BB/HB) bifunctional catalyst, they can react smoothly with active electrophiles, for example, nitroolefins, enones, and aldehydes, affording the α addition adducts in high yields and very high enantioselectivity for most cases. The resulting adducts may deliver the corresponding 5,5-disubstituted hydantoins or related α modified α -amino acid derivatives with preserved configuration via hydrolytic protocols.9

In order to expand this technology onto a broader range of α, α -disubstituted hydantoins and α -amino acid derivatives, we envisioned vinyl sulfones as an attractive category of

a) Previous work from this laboratory (ref 9)



b) Unsaturated sulfones as electrophilic partners: challenges and opportunities



c) **This work:** Enantioselective hydantoin functionalization with vinyliden bis(sulfones)



Figure 1. Enantioselective synthesis of quaternary hydantoins from templates I/II and the new extension using sulfonyl electrophiles.

Received: October 6, 2022 Published: January 11, 2023



electrophilic reaction partners. Sulfones are recognized as versatile intermediates in synthesis.^{10,11} For instance, they may be transformed into the parent alkanes through reductive desulfonylation or be further elaborated via well-established α -carbanion chemistry. However, preliminary experiments using simple sulfonyl (A) and β -substituted bis(sulfonyl)ethylene (B) reagents (Figure 1b) in conjunction with surrogates I/II and suitable BB/HB catalysts led to the recovery of unreacted materials mainly. This observation is ascribable to the relatively low reactivity of α , β -unsaturated sulfonyl systems, particularly the β -substituted ones (vide infra). Here, we present bis(sulfonyl)ethylenes C (Figure 2) as competent Michael



b) Rigidified bis(sulfone) as electrophile: hypothesis and rationalization





acceptors in catalytic enantioselective reactions for which common acyclic congeners **B** are not. More specifically, the addition reaction of *N*-acyl surrogates **II** to **C** in the presence of suitable BB/HB catalysts proceeded smoothly at room temperature, affording the Michael reaction adducts as essentially single diastereomers in generally good yields and very high enantioselectivity (Figure 1c). This finding allows us to significantly broaden the range of 5,5-disubstituted hydantoin structures available in optically pure form for eventual biological activity screening programs.

Our selection of C as a potentially more reactive Michael acceptor sulfonyl system was routed on previous inspirational observations from the literature. On the one hand, lower reactivity of acyclic versus cyclic bis-sulfonyl alkanes as nucleophiles in iminium-mediated catalytic addition reactions has been reported by our group and others (Figure 2a).¹² Similarly, the lower Michael acceptor reactivity of (acyclic) alkyliden malonates versus (cyclic) alkyliden Meldrum's acids, which correlates with the lower carbon acidity of malonic esters versus Meldrum's acid, is well recognized in the literature.¹³ In addition, Mayr has reported¹⁴ that, based on kinetic data, aryl-substituted cyclic bis(sulfones) are approximately 1 order of magnitude more electrophilic than their acyclic counterparts. Several attempts to rationalize theoretically these acidity and reactivity trends when comparing acrylic versus cyclic (rigidified) systems are known.¹⁵ With these precedents in mind, we hypothesized that given the fluxional nature of the four C-S bonds in the acyclic bissulfonyl system B, its low reactivity may be ascribed to the unfavorable relative orientation of the S=O dipoles of one SO₂Ph group relative to the other and the two aryl rings

relative to one another as a result of steric repulsions. In sharp contrast, the rigid structure of C would keep the S=O groups well aligned for catalyst coordination while the π aryl and olefin systems would stand perfectly coplanar, ultimately leading to highly ordered and compact transition structures.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Assessment of Pronucleophile Reactivity Trends Using β -Unsubstituted Ethylene Bis(sulfone) 1a. Since the first organocatalytic conjugate addition to vinyl bis-(sulfone) 1a reported by Mossé and Alexakis in 2005,¹⁶ the implementation of enantioselective catalytic C-C bondforming methods involving vinylic sulfones, and vinylidene bis(sulfones) in particular, has progressed unevenly. Reagent **1a** exhibits high reactivity $(E = -7.50 \text{ on the Mayr scale})^{14}$ and has been often employed as an electrophilic reaction partner under various catalytic activation approaches. However, the sterically more congested β -substituted congeners, for example, **1b**, have been used less often¹⁷ because of their relatively lower electrophilicity (≈ 1 unit lower *E* values were reported)¹⁴ and the appearance of retro-Knoevenagel side reaction.^{16c} In this study, both bis(sulfonyl)olefins 1a and 1b along with related reagent 2 displaying a rigidified skeleton were tested in catalytic additions of hydantoin surrogates I/II.

The study was initiated by evaluating the addition reaction of various dihydroimidazol-4-ones 3 and 4 to bis(sulfonyl)ethylene 1a using representative bifunctional BB/HB catalysts such as squaramide C1, Scheme 2. To our delight, the reaction

Scheme 1. Vinylidene Bis(sulfones) and Pronucleophilic Heterocycles Employed in This Study



of *N*-benzoyl dihydroimidazol-4-one **3a** in the presence of 10 mol % **C1** in dichloromethane as the solvent at 0 °C proceeded to almost completion within 24 h to afford product **10a** in 88% ee. Surprisingly, the *N*-acetyl analogue **4a** resulted completely unreactive under the same conditions. Differences in carbon acidity may be invoked to rationalize this huge difference in the reactivity of *N*-phenyl versus *N*-acetyl analogue. In a first estimate, the p K_a values according to Grzybowski's prediction tool¹⁸ for **3a** and **4a** in DMSO are 15 and 16, respectively. In its turn, the "tautomeric" **8** reacted to a significant 80% conversion but produced essentially a racemic material. These results indicated that the present catalytic reaction system is quite sensitive in terms of both reactivity and selectivity to



tinny structural variations on the substrate heterocycle. For comparative purposes, the reaction using azlactone 9 was also carried out, which led to full conversion with the formation of adduct 13 in 58% ee. Thus, the relatively higher reactivity of azlactones in this type of catalytic additions¹⁹ was corroborated.

After this brief substrate screening, several other catalysts C2–C6 with varying structure and functionality were evaluated for the model reaction between 1a and 3a. As the results in Table 1 show, catalyst C2, which has been developed in our group and presents an additional amide NH available for engaging in H-bonding interactions,^{9,20} afforded an increased 98% ee (entry 2 vs 1). Takemoto's catalyst C6²¹ (entry 6) and the related urea and thiourea catalysts C3²² and C4²³ (entries 3 and 4) did also promote the reaction, although neither yields nor enantioselectivities were improved. Finally, the ureidoaminal C5, which also has an additional NH group and demonstrated highly active and selective catalysts for various reactions,²⁴ failed to promote this reaction effectively (entry 5).

With C2 selected as an optimal catalyst, the scope of the reaction was briefly explored. As the results in Scheme 3a show, the reaction of 1a with 3 bearing simple alkyl or allyl substituents at C5 proceeded satisfactorily giving rise to products 10b-e in ee's in between 93 and 98% and generally high yields (adduct 10b was an exception). The reactions leading to adducts 10f and 10g also worked well, affording the respective product in 91%/98% yield and 92%/96% ee, thus showing that substrates bearing thioether and ester functions are well tolerated. However, as data in Scheme 3b show, phenyl-substituted bis(sulfonyl)ethene 1b was not reactive enough, and only marginal conversion was attained after prolonged time at room temperature.

Catalytic Addition Reactions Using Rigidified β -Substituted Ethylene Bis(sulfone) 2. Prompted by this result, our attention turned to the rigidified reagents C. Preparation of 2-benzylidene-2*H*-benzo[*d*][1,3]dithiole

Table 1. Catalyst Screening for the Addition of 1a to 3a



^{*a*}Reaction conditions: **3a** (0.1 mmol), **1a** (0.12 mmol), and catalyst (10 mol %) in CH_2Cl_2 (1.0 mL). ^{*b*}Conversion determined by ¹H NMR. ^{*c*}ee determined by HPLC.





1,1,3,3-tetraoxides **2a** and **2b** in one step from benzodithiole tetroxide was reported by Mayr in 75 and 77% yields, respectively. Following a slightly modified three-step sequence from commercially available *o*-benzenedithiol (Scheme 1), the remaining compounds 2c-f were obtained in an overall 31-53% yield.²⁵ With reagent **2a** at hand, its behavior as a Michael acceptor in the above catalytic reactions was investigated (Scheme 4). Gratifyingly, the reaction of **2a** with **3a** in the presence of 10 mol % C1 proceeded to almost completion after

Scheme 4. Initial Assessment of Reagent 2a as a Michael Acceptor in Catalysis



24 h at 0 °C, from which 60% of adduct **15aa** of 91% ee could be isolated. Once again, catalyst **C2** imparted almost perfect stereoinduction providing a single enantiomer of **15aa** in 79% yield after 48 h at the same temperature. The *N*-acyl analogues **4–6** and the "tautomeric" dihydroimidazol-4-one 8 were less efficient pronucleophiles against the new reagent **2a** (Scheme 4). Not surprisingly, the *N*-benzyl analogue 7a was also totally unreactive under the present catalytic conditions.

Encouraged by the good reactivity profile showed by reagent 2a, the remaining analogues 2b-2f were also evaluated in combination with a variety of pronucleophiles 3 (Table 2). In the first set of reactions in the presence of C2, 2a was submitted to the reaction with alkyl- and allyl-substituted dihydroimidazolones 3c, 3d, and 3e which led to the corresponding adducts 15ca, 15da, and 15ea as single diastereomer in high yields and enantioselectivities of 96, 92, and 95%, respectively. The thioether- and methyl ester-bearing substrates 3f and 3g also led to the addition of adducts 15fa and 15ga in high yield and diastereoselectivity, although the latter was obtained with slightly diminished enantioselectivity unless reaction temperature was decreased to -20 °C. The reaction of unsaturated ester-bearing 3h to afford 15ha proceeded exceedingly (91% ee), demonstrating that the present catalytic conjugate addition reactions may proceed chemoselectively in the presence of additional Michael acceptor units in the substrate. Then, several aryl-substituted acceptors 2 were screened. p-Methoxyphenyl-substituted acceptor 2b was equally competent to give rise to 15ab in a highly selective manner. Similarly, the p-chlorophenyl-substituted analogue 2c reacted to completion within 2 days regardless of the temperature with the dihydroimidazolones 3a, 3b, and 3e, affording products 15ac, 15bc, and 15ec in good yields and excellent enantiocontrol. The reactions with 1naphthyl and 2-naphthyl-bearing vinyl sulfones 2g and 2h did also work satisfactorily to produce compounds 15ge and 15ah in good yields and high stereoselectivity. Interestingly, 15ah presented split signals in ¹H NMR, which were assigned to the existence of rotameric isomers. That is why this compound was characterized as the corresponding hydantoin derivative after hydrolytically removing both the N-benzoyl and benzylthio groups (see the Supporting Information for details). On the other hand, bis(sulfones) 2d-f, bearing a heteroaryl β -

Table 2. Scope of the Reaction between HydantoinSurrogate 3 and Acceptor 2 in the Presence of Catalyst C2^a



^{*a*}Reactions conducted on a 0.1 mmol scale in 1 mL of CH₂Cl₂; mol ratio of 3/2/C2 1:1.2:0.1. Yield of isolated product after column chromatography. ee's determined by HPLC analysis using a chiral stationary phase. ^{*b*}Reaction run at a 4 mmol scale using 5 mol % C2 as a catalyst. ^{*c*}Obtained as a mixture of rotamers.

substituent, were also tolerated. The furyl and pyridyl derivatives **15ad** and **15af** were obtained in good yields and very high stereoselectivity. The thiophenyl-substituted adducts **15ae** and **15ge** were isolated with somewhat reduced yields and, in the latter case, diminished selectivity too. Finally, the method is applicable at a larger scale without any significant variation in yields or selectivities. For instance, in reactions carried out at a 4 mmol scale, 2.18 g (77%) and 2.43 g (82%) of adducts **15aa** and **15ac**, respectively, were obtained in both cases with almost perfect enantioselectivity of 99% ee (see the Supporting Information for details).

Having established 2 as a competent Michael acceptor

reagent for the enantioconvergent transformations involving chiral racemic pronucleophiles 3, the likelihood of the parent unsubstituted dihydroimidazolone 21 participating in such enantioselective transformations was assessed next (Scheme 5). It could be anticipated that a major difficulty would be

Scheme 5. Enantio- and Diastereoselective Addition of 5-Unsubstituted Dihydroimidazol-4-One 21 to Acceptors 2



associated with the configurational integrity of the C_{α} stereocenter in the product **22** in the presence of the basic catalyst. Accordingly, reactions were carried out in cryogenic conditions. As the results in Scheme 5 show, it was delighting to observe that even at -25 °C, the reaction of **21** with bis(sulfone) **2a** in the presence of 10 mol % **C2** proceeded to afford product **22a** as a single diastereomer in reasonably good yield (61, 70% conv.) and 95% ee. Similarly, the reaction with *p*-chlorophenyl derivative **2b** afforded product **22b** in 74%

yield and 88% ee. At this point, it is important to note that product **22** did not epimerize during column chromatography purifications on silica gel.

Then, some possibilities of further chemical elaboration of enantioenriched adducts were explored, particularly the hydrolysis of the heterocyclic ring and the reductive elimination of the sulfonyl moiety (Scheme 6). For example, treatment of 10a with 6 M HCl in 1,4-dioxane at 65 °C led to hydantoin 23 in 73% yield. Desulfonylation²⁶ of 23 with Mg/ TMSCl/1,2-dibromoethane in methanol at room temperature afforded, unexpectedly and selectively, the monodesulfonylation product 24 in 51% yield. This case of selective monodesulfonylation of a bis-sulfonylated adduct is relevant because the alternative and direct route to the monosulfonyl derivative through catalytic addition of the dihydroimidazolone 3a to phenylsulfonylethene did not work even at 70 °C overnight. Acidic hydrolysis at 80 °C (bath temperature) of adducts 15aa and 15ac gave rise to N-benzoyl hydantoins 25a and **25b** in good yields.²⁷ An X-ray crystal structure analysis of 25b allowed us to establish its absolute and relative configurations.²⁸ The configuration of the remaining adducts was assigned assuming a uniform reaction mechanism. Double desulfonylation of 25a under the above conditions yielded the 5,5-disubstituted hydantoin 26 in 67% yield over the two steps from 15aa. On the other hand, removing the N-benzoyl group from 15aa could be carried out by treatment with TFA at 40

Scheme 6. Chemical Elaboration of Adducts into Hydantoins and Derivatives Thereof



pubs.acs.org/joc



Figure 3. Catalyst-reactant complex, reaction TS1 for the reactant deprotonation, and protonated catalyst-enolate complex corresponding to the proton transfer step for both 3a and 4a. Energies in kcal/mol.



Figure 4. Structures participating in steps 2 and 3 of the reaction. In the first row, the transition state TS2 of the C-C formation step, with the corresponding intermediates, and in the third row, TS3 for the third step corresponding to the proton transfer from protonated C2 to the final product 15aa.

°C, leading to 27 in essentially quantitative yield. With the NH derivative 27 in hand, hydrolysis led to hydantoin 32a; alternatively, various alkyl and allyl groups could be installed at nitrogen via standard *N*-alkylation protocols leading to 28–31 and thus overcoming the inability of *N*-alkyl dihydroimidazol-4-ones (e.g., 7a, Scheme 4) to participate in the above catalytic addition reaction. Submission of the *N*-alkyl derivatives 28–30 to acid hydrolysis led to *N*-alkyl hydantoins 32b–d. Surprisingly, hydrolysis of adduct 31 followed a divergent pathway and afforded bicyclic isothiourea 33, probably through a chloride anion-promoted *S*-debenzylation/intramolecular *S*-alkylation cascade. Determination of the enantiomeric purity of product 32c (98% ee) served to prove that the full sequence, including *N*-deprotection, *N*-alkylation, and final hydrolysis, proceeded with preserved stereochemistry.

Theoretical Rationalization of the Observed Reactivity Trends and Stereoselectivity. A theoretical analysis was undertaken in order to understand (a) the huge differences in reactivity between the *N*-benzoyl heterocycle **3** and the *N*- acetyl analogue 4 observed experimentally and (b) the stereoselectivity and sense of chiral induction in the above catalytic reactions. To ascertain whether the higher reactivity of 3a versus 4a was attributable, as hypothesized above, to differences in the carbon acidities among these two pronucleophiles, we first calculated the pK_a values for 3a and 4a using the Jaguar pK_a module²⁹ as implemented in the Schrodinger 2021-01³⁰ program suite. In both water and DMSO as a solvent, the calculated pK_a of 3a is smaller than that of 4a, 11.56 versus 12.51 in water and 19.71 versus 21.15 in DMSO, respectively. These differences are in agreement with our initial gross estimates (vide supra) and correlate well with the observed reactivity trend. Subsequently, the energy barrier was calculated for the deprotonation step of both 3a and 4a by the action of catalyst C2. In this step, a proton from the α -position of either substrate is transferred to the catalyst quinuclidine nitrogen via TS1 leading to complexes C2-H· 3a_{enolate} and C2-H·4a_{enolate}, with energy barriers of 13.03 and 16.95 kcal/mol, respectively (Figure 3). The difference

between both energy barriers (3.92 kcal/mol) is appreciable and may justify the significant reactivity difference observed experimentally for both substrates.

In an attempt to understand the stereoselectivity of the reaction, we have analyzed the C-C formation step, which will dictate both the product relative and absolute configuration. Four different transition states were located (see Supporting Information for calculations details) that correspond to different orientations of reactants, out of which TS2 was the lowest in energy (Figure 4). In this transition state, each squaramide NH group of the catalyst interacts with the enolate from 3a in accordance with the so-called Pápai model. In comparison, transition state TS2-B (see Supporting Information), which would lead to the corresponding enantiomeric product, is 4.40 kcal/mol higher in energy. The energy difference could be attributed to the additional H-bond formed between the protonated quinuclidine moiety of the catalyst and the enolate oxygen in TS2. The remaining two transition states TS2-C and TS2-D are 5.9 and 9.3 kcal/mol higher in energy than TS2 and present a single H-bond interaction between the enolate oxygen and the catalyst (see Supporting Information for details).

In the last step of the catalytic cycle, the proton will be transferred back from the protonated catalyst to the formed Michael adduct delivering product **15aa** via **TS3**. In **TS3**, the product–catalyst interaction involving the dihydroimidazolinone and the squaramide moieties, respectively, changes, and now the squaramide two NH groups interact with one of the dihydroimidazolinone carbonyls only. This new arrangement of the H-bonds causes this transition state to be around 15 kcal/mol higher in energy. Note though that the final proton transfer to the anionic reaction adduct might also occur via other alternative mechanisms. Figure 5 shows collectively the various reaction elementary steps for the lowest in the energy pathway from reactants **3a** and **2a** in the presence of catalyst **C2**.



Figure 5. Reaction profile. Relative Gibbs free energy values in kcal mol^{-1} calculated with Orca 5 (see Supporting Information for more details).

CONCLUSIONS

In conclusion, the catalytic asymmetric conjugate addition of hydantoin surrogates to vinyl sulfones has been developed using a secondary amide-bearing tertiary amine/squaramide bifunctional catalyst. N-Benzoyl 2-(benzylthio)-1,5-dihydro-4H-imidazole-4-ones, for example, **3**, are able to act as hydantoin surrogates and react with vinyl bis(sulfone) 1a smoothly to provide the corresponding adducts in good yield and stereoselectivity. In contrast, the β -substituted vinyl bis(sulfones), such as 1b, proved to be completely unreactive under the above catalytic conditions. This problem could be circumvented by employing the "rigidified" β -substituted vinyl sulfones 2 instead. Ulterior acid hydrolysis of the heterocycle system in adducts combined with a desulfonylation process allowed to access a variety of 5-substituted hydantoins, including the 5,5-disubstituted quaternary ones, in essentially optically pure form for eventual applications in medicinal chemistry. The suitability of "rigidified" β -substituted vinyl sulfones 2 as Michael acceptors in other unrelated catalytic addition reactions may be foreseen.

EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

General Information. All nonaqueous reactions were performed under an inert atmosphere using oven-dried glassware and were magnetically stirred. For reactions that require heating, an oil bath was used. Yields refer to chromatographically purified samples unless otherwise stated. Wet organic layers were dried over MgSO4, and solvents were evaporated under reduced pressure. For trace solvent removal, a vacuum pump (\approx 0.5 mmHg) was applied. Column chromatography was performed on ROCC 60 silica gel 40–63 μ m as the stationary phase and a suitable mixture of solvents (typically hexane: ethyl acetate) as the eluent. Optical rotations were recorded using a Jasco P-2000 polarimeter. Melting points were determined in open capillaries in a Stuart SHP3 melting point apparatus. ¹H NMR and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded at 300 or 500 MHz and 75 or 126 MHz, respectively. The chemical shifts are reported in ppm relative to CDCl₃ (δ = 7.26) and CD₂Cl₂ (δ = 5.32) for ¹H NMR and relative to the central resonances of CDCl₃ (δ = 77.2) and CD₂Cl₂ (δ = 53.8) for ¹³C NMR. Peaks are labeled as singlet (s), broad singlet (bs), doublet (d), triplet (t), quartet (q), double doublet (dd), double triplet (dt), double of doublet of triplets (ddt), quartets of doublets (qd), or multiplet (m). Coupling constants (J) are reported in Hertz (Hz). Mass spectra were recorded on an ESI-ion trap mass spectrometer (Agilent 1100 series LC/MSD, SL model) and a UPLC-DAD-QTOF, ultra-high-performance liquid chromatography-mass spectrometer. Enantiomeric (ee) values were determined by HPLC performed on Waters 600-E (equipped with a 2998 photodiode array UV detector) employing Daicel Chiralpack columns (IA, IB, IC, and IF). Infrared spectra were measured employing a Bruker ALPHA-P compact FT-IR spectrometer. The X-ray diffraction analysis was conducted by the General Research Service (SGIker) of UPV/EHU.

All reagents were purchased from commercial suppliers and used without further purification, unless otherwise stated. Substrates 1a, 1b, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3f, 4a, 5a, 6a, 7a, 8, and 9 were synthesized according to the reported procedures (see the Supporting Information for details). Triethylamine was purified by distillation. Dichloromethane and acetonitrile were dried over CaH₂, and DMF was dried over molecular sieves. Analytical reagent-grade MeOH and toluene were used without further drying.

General Procedure for the Catalytic Addition of Hydantoin Surrogates 3 to 1a. In a 5 mL test tube, the corresponding pronucleophile (0.1 mmol, 1 equiv) was dissolved in CH_2Cl_2 (1 mL) at room temperature, and after cooling the solution down to 0 °C, the corresponding vinylic sulfone (37 mg, 0.12 mmol, 1.2 equiv) and catalyst C2 (8 mg, 0.01 mmol, 10 mol %) were added. The mixture was stirred at 0 °C until the reaction was finished as monitored by ¹H NMR. The crude product was directly submitted to silica gel flash column chromatography (eluent: hexane/ethyl acetate, from 3:1 to 1:1).

(S)-1-Benzoyl-5-benzyl-2-(benzylthio)-5-(2,2-bis(phenylsulfonyl)ethyl)-1,5-dihydro-4H-imidazole-4-one (10a). The title compound was prepared from 1-benzoyl-5-benzyl-2-(benzylthio)-1,5-dihydro-4H-imidazole-4-one (40 mg, 0.1 mmol) according to the general procedure. Silica gel flash column chromatography (eluent: hexane/ ethyl acetate, from 3:1 to 1:1). White foam. Yield: 67 mg, 95%. $[\alpha]_D^{20}$ + 47.0 (*c* = 1, 98% ee, CH₂Cl₂). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.15–6.94 (m, 25H), 5.67 (dd, *J* = 6.1, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 4.20 (d, *J* = 13.3 Hz, 1H), 4.04 (d, *J* = 13.3 Hz, 1H), 3.54 (d, *J* = 13.6 Hz, 1H), 3.33 (dd, *J* = 16.6, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 3.22 (d, *J* = 13.8 Hz, 1H), 3.19–3.11 (m, 1H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 186.2, 185.0, 168.2, 138.0, 137.0, 134.9, 134.7, 134.4, 134.0, 133.1, 132.1, 130.3, 130.2, 130.0, 129.8, 129.3, 129.1, 128.9, 128.78, 128.76, 128.6, 128.0, 127.7, 77.9, 73.2, 41.2, 39.7, 31.6. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M + H]⁺ calcd for C₃₈H₃₃N₂O₆S₃, 709.1501; found, 709.1506. IR (cm⁻¹): 3062, 3056, 2940, 1725, 1600. The ee value was determined by HPLC analysis (Daicel Chiralpak IC, hexane/isopropanol 30:70), flow rate: 0.5 mL/ min, retention times: 43.8 min (major) and 52.0 min (minor).

(S)-1-Benzoyl-2-(benzylthio)-5-(2,2-bis(phenylsulfonyl)ethyl)-5methyl-1,5-dihydro-4H-imidazole-4-one (10b). The title compound was prepared from 1-benzoyl-2-(benzylthio)-5-methyl-1,5-dihydro-4H-imidazole-4-one (32 mg, 0.1 mmol) according to the general procedure. Silica gel flash column chromatography (eluent: hexane/ ethyl acetate, from 3:1 to 1:1). Yellow foam. Yield: 23 mg, 36%. (conv. 55%). $[\alpha]_D^{20} - 3.3$ (c = 1, 97% ee, CH₂Cl₂). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.14-8.05 (m, 2H), 8.02-7.93 (m, 2H), 7.75-7.36 (m, 12H), 7.24 (m, 4H), 5.56 (dd, J = 5.8, 3.1 Hz, 1H), 4.47–4.34 (m, 2H), 3.19 (dd, J = 16.5, 3.1 Hz, 1H), 2.99 (dd, J = 16.5, 5.8 Hz, 1H), 1.57 (s, 3H). ${}^{13}C{}^{1}H$ NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 186.9, 183.9, 168.0, 138.2, 136.8, 134.9, 134.61, 134.56, 133.3, 133.2, 130.4, 130.0, 129.29, 129.26, 129.1, 128.9, 128.8, 128.1, 77.3, 68.1, 39.6, 31.5, 22.4. HRMS (ESI) m/z: $[M + H]^+$ calcd for $C_{32}H_{29}N_2O_6S_3$, 633.1182; found, 633.1192. IR (cm $^{-1}$): 3062, 2931, 1728, 1681. The ee value was determined by HPLC analysis (Daicel Chiralpak IA, hexane/ isopropanol 30:70), flow rate: 0.5 mL/min, retention times: 32.8 min (major) and 39.7 min (minor).

(S)-1-Benzoyl-2-(benzylthio)-5-(2,2-bis(phenylsulfonyl)ethyl)-5ethyl-1,5-dihydro-4H-imidazole-4-one (10c). The title compound was prepared from 1-benzoyl-2-(benzylthio)-5-ethyl-1,5-dihydro-4Himidazole-4-one (34 mg, 0.1 mmol) according to the general procedure. Silica gel flash column chromatography (eluent: hexane/ ethyl acetate, from 3:1 to 1:1). White foam. Yield: 62 mg, 96%. $[\alpha]_D^{20}$ + 19.7 (c = 1, 93% ee, CH₂Cl₂). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.11-8.03 (m, 2H), 7.98-7.92 (m, 2H), 7.74-7.63 (m, 2H), 7.62-7.52 (m, 8H), 7.48–7.35 (m, 2H), 7.23 (m, 4H), 5.56 (dd, J = 6.0, 2.9 Hz, 1H), 4.39 (s, 2H), 3.13 (dd, J = 16.6, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 3.00 (dd, J = 16.6, 6.0 Hz, 1H), 2.27 (dq, J = 14.5, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 1.82 (dq, J = 14.4, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 0.72 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 3H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (75 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 186.3, 184.8, 167.9, 138.2, 136.9, 134.8, 134.7, 134.6, 133.3, 133.2, 130.3, 130.1, 129.29, 129.26, 129.1, 128.92, 128.85, 128.1, 77.4, 72.8, 39.7, 31.4, 28.9, 8.2. HRMS (ESI) m/z: $[M + H]^+$ calcd for $C_{33}H_{31}N_2O_6S_3$, 647.1344; found, 647.1340. IR (cm⁻¹): 3062, 2971, 2934, 1726, 1682. The ee value was determined by HPLC analysis (Daicel Chiralpak IF, hexane/isopropanol 30:70), flow rate: 0.5 mL/min, retention times: 44.9 min (major) and 97.4 min (minor)

(S)-1-Benzoyl-2-(benzylthio)-5-(2,2-bis(phenylsulfonyl)ethyl)-5isobutyl-1,5-dihydro-4H-imidazole-4-one (10d). The title compound was prepared from 1-benzoyl-2-(benzylthio)-5-isobutyl-1,5dihydro-4H-imidazole-4-one (37 mg, 0.1 mmol) according to the general procedure. Silica gel flash column chromatography (eluent: hexane/ethyl acetate, from 3:1 to 1:1). White foam. Yield: 56 mg, 83%. $[\alpha]_{D}^{20}$ + 11.5 (c = 1, 97% ee, CH₂Cl₂). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.16-8.04 (m, 2H), 8.04-7.93 (m, 2H), 7.75-7.39 (m, 12H), 7.23 (s, 4H), 5.51 (dd, J = 5.9, 2.9 Hz, 1H), 4.39 (s, 2H), 3.14 (dd, *J* = 16.6, 2.9 Hz, 1H), 2.95 (dd, *J* = 16.6, 5.9 Hz, 1H), 2.10 (dd, *J* = 14.2, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 1.53 (dd, J = 14.1, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 1.39 (dq, J = 19.4, 6.5 Hz, 1H), 0.75 (dd, J = 7.3, 6.6 Hz, 6H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (75) MHz, CDCl₃): δ 186.5, 184.4, 167.9, 138.3, 137.2, 134.8, 134.7, 134.6, 133.3, 133.1, 130.2, 130.1, 129.3, 129.2, 129.1, 128.81, 128.76, 128.7, 128.0, 77.5, 71.5, 43.0, 39.6, 32.8, 24.9, 23.8, 22.8. HRMS (ESI) m/z: $[M + H]^+$ calcd For $C_{35}H_{35}N_2O_6S_3$, 675.1657; found, 675.1650. IR (cm⁻¹): 3062, 2958, 2916, 1728, 1682. The ee value was determined by HPLC analysis (Daicel Chiralpak IF, hexane/

isopropanol 30:70), flow rate: 0.5 mL/min, retention times: 44.2 min (major) and 86.0 min (minor).

(S)-5-Allyl-1-benzoyl-2-(benzylthio)-5-(2,2-bis(phenylsulfonyl)ethyl)-1,5-dihydro-4H-imidazole-4-one (10e). The title compound was prepared from 5-allyl-1-benzoyl-2-(benzylthio)-1,5-dihydro-4Himidazole-4-one (35 mg, 0.1 mmol) according to the general procedure. Silica gel flash column chromatography (eluent: hexane/ ethyl acetate, from 3:1 to 1:1). White foam. Yield: 56 mg, 85%. $[\alpha]_{D}^{20}$ + 27.3 (c = 1, 98% ee, CH₂Cl₂). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.12-7.15 (m, 20H), 5.56 (dd, J = 6.0, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 5.44 (m, 1H), 5.19-5.04 (m, 2H), 4.36 (s, 2H), 3.21 (dd, J = 16.6, 3.1 Hz, 1H), 3.05 (dd, I = 10.8, 5.8 Hz, 1H), 3.02-2.95 (m, 1H), 2.57 (ddt, I =13.9, 5.4, 1.4 Hz, 1H). $^{13}\mathrm{C}\{^{1}\mathrm{H}\}$ NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 186.1, 184.9, 168.2, 138.3, 137.1, 135.1, 134.9, 133.5, 133.3, 130.6, 130.3, 130.2, 129.5, 129.3, 129.2, 129.0, 129.0, 128.8, 128.3, 121.9, 77.7, 71.8, 39.9, 39.6, 31.3. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M + H]⁺ calcd for C₃₄H₃₁N₂O₆S₃, 659.1344; found, 659.1346. IR (cm⁻¹): 3061, 2923, 1728, 1683. The ee value was determined by HPLC analysis (Daicel Chiralpak IC, hexane/isopropanol 30:70), flow rate: 0.5 mL/min, retention times: 34.6 min (major) and 42.5 min (minor).

(S)-1-Benzoyl-2-(benzylthio)-5-(2,2-bis(phenylsulfonyl)ethyl)-5-(2-(methylthio)ethyl)-1,5-dihydro-4H-imidazole-4-one (10f). The title compound was prepared from 1-benzoyl-2-(benzylthio)-5-(2-(methylthio)ethyl)-1,5-dihydro-4H-imidazole-4-one (38 mg, 0.1 mmol) according to the general procedure. Silica gel flash column chromatography (eluent: hexane/ethyl acetate, from 3:1 to 1:1). White foam. Yield: 63 mg, 91%. $[\alpha]_D^{20}$ + 19.7 (*c* = 1, 92% ee, CH₂Cl₂). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 8.18–8.06 (m, 2H), 8.05–7.95 (m, 2H), 7.85-7.38 (m, 12H), 7.25 (m, 4H), 5.57 (dd, J = 5.9, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 4.41 (s, 2H), 3.16 (dd, J = 16.6, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 3.00 (dd, J = 16.6, 5.9 Hz, 1H), 2.51 (ddd, J = 14.0, 9.2, 5.4 Hz, 1H), 2.30–2.14 (m, 2H), 2.07 (ddd, J = 8.0, 5.6, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 2.02 (s, 3H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 185.7, 184.7, 168.0, 138.1, 136.9, 135.0, 134.7, 134.6, 133.3, 133.1, 130.3, 130.1, 129.4, 129.3, 129.2, 129.0, 128.90, 128.86, 128.2, 77.3, 71.4, 39.7, 34.3, 31.7, 28.4, 15.6. HRMS (ESI) m/ *z*: $[M + H]^+$ calcd for $C_{34}H_{33}N_2O_6S_4$, 693.1221; found, 693.1227. IR (cm⁻¹): 3060, 2928, 2849, 1727, 1681. The ee value was determined by HPLC analysis (Daicel Chiralpak IF, hexane/isopropanol 30:70), flow rate: 0.5 mL/min, retention times: 58.9 min (major) and 114.1 min (minor).

Methyl (S)-2-(1-Benzoyl-2-(benzylthio)-5-(2,2- bis(phenylsulfonyl)ethyl)-4-oxo-4,5-dihydro-1H-imidazole-5-yl)acetate (10g). The title compound was prepared from methyl 2-(1-benzoyl-2-(benzylthio)-4-oxo-4,5-dihydro-1H-imidazole-5-yl)acetate (38 mg, 0.1 mmol) according to the general procedure. Silica gel flash column chromatography (eluent: hexane/ethyl acetate, from 3:1 to 1:1). Yellow foam. Yield: 68 mg, 98%. $[\alpha]_D^{20} - 17.9$ (c = 1, 96% ee, CH₂Cl₂). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₂): δ 8.12–7.98 (m, 4H), 7.96– 7.88 (m, 1H), 7.77–7.37 (m, 12H), 7.24–7.22 (m, 3H), 5.50 (dd, J = 4.8, 3.3 Hz, 1H), 4.53 (d, J = 13.3 Hz, 1H), 4.34 (d, J = 13.3 Hz, 1H), 3.64 (s, 3H), 3.39 (d, J = 17.9 Hz, 1H), 3.31 (dd, J = 16.6, 3.3 Hz, 1H), 3.11 (d, J = 17.8 Hz, 1H), 2.88 (dd, J = 16.6, 4.8 Hz, 1H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 185.4, 184.7, 169.8, 168.2, 137.9, 136.6, 135.1, 135.0, 134.71, 134.65, 133.22, 133.16, 130.6, 130.1, 129.9, 129.4, 129.3, 129.2, 129.1, 128.9, 128.8, 128.1, 77.1, 68.3, 52.3, 39.8, 36.6, 31.6. HRMS (ESI) m/z: $[M + H]^+$ calcd for C₃₄H₃₁N₂O₈S₃, 691.1237; found, 691.1240. IR (cm⁻¹): 3063, 2951, 1731, 1680. The ee value was determined by HPLC analysis (Daicel Chiralpak IC, hexane/isopropanol 30:70), flow rate: 0.5 mL/min, retention times: 47.5 min (minor) and 67.6 min (major).

General Procedure for the Catalytic Addition of Surrogates 3 to 2. In a 5 mL test tube, the corresponding dihydroimidazole-5one (0.1 mmol) was dissolved in 1 mL of CH_2Cl_2 at room temperature. Then, the reaction was cooled down to 0 °C, and the vinyl sulfone (1.2 equiv, 0.12 mmol) and 10 mol % of C2 (8 mg, 0.01 mmol) were added. Once the addition was completed, the mixture was stirred at 0 °C until the reaction was finished as monitored by NMR. The crude was purified directly by silica gel flash column chromatography (eluent: hexane/ethyl acetate, from 3:1 to 1:1).

(S)-1-Benzoyl-5-benzyl-2-(benzylthio)-5-((R)-phenyl(1,1,3,3-tetraoxido-2H-benzo[d][1,3]dithiol-2-yl)methyl)-1,5-dihydro-4H-imidazole-4-one (15aa). The title compound was prepared from 1benzoyl-5-benzyl-2-(benzylthio)-1,5-dihydro-4H-imidazole-4-one (40 mg, 0.1 mmol) and 2-benzylidene-2H-benzo[d][1,3]dithiole 1,1,3,3tetraoxide (37 mg, 0.12 mmol, 1.2 equiv) according to the general procedure. Silica gel flash column chromatography (eluent: hexane/ ethyl acetate, from 3:1 to 1:1). White foam. Yield: 56 mg, 79%. $\left[\alpha\right]_{D}^{20}$ + 35.1 (c = 1, 99% ee, CH₂Cl₂). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.19-7.77 (m, 6H), 7.65-7.29 (m, 8H), 7.25-7.15 (m, 8H), 6.95-6.89 (m, 2H), 6.32 (d, J = 9.7 Hz, 1H), 5.21 (d, J = 9.8 Hz, 1H), 4.30 (d, J = 13.2 Hz, 1H), 4.08 (d, J = 13.2 Hz, 1H), 3.92 (d, J = 12.9 Hz, 1H), 3.77 (d, J = 12.9 Hz, 1H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 186.7, 185.2, 167.3, 137.9, 136.5, 135.2, 135.0, 134.4, 133.8, 133.1, 132.8, 132.62, 132.55, 130.9, 130.0, 129.5, 129.2, 128.7, 128.64, 128.56, 128.4, 128.23, 128.18, 128.0, 127.6, 123.0, 122.2, 77.7, 73.9, 46.6, 41.9, 40.0. HRMS (ESI) m/z: $[M + H]^+$ calcd for C₃₈H₃₁N₂O₆S₃, 707.1344; found, 707.1339. IR (cm⁻¹): 3060, 3025, 2968, 1697, 1652. The ee value was determined by HPLC analysis (Daicel Chiralpak IA, hexane/isopropanol 30:70), flow rate: 0.5 mL/ min, retention times: 37.0 min (minor) and 55.5 min (major).

(S)-1-Benzoyl-2-(benzylthio)-5-ethyl-5-((R)-phenyl(1,1,3,3-tetraoxido-2H-benzo[d][1,3]dithiol-2-yl)methyl)-1,5-dihydro-4H-imidazole-4-one (15ca). The title compound was prepared from 1benzoyl-2-(benzylthio)-5-ethyl-1,5-dihydro-4H-imidazole-4-one (34 mg, 0.1 mmol) and 2-benzylidene-2H-benzo[d][1,3]dithiole 1,1,3,3tetraoxide (37 mg, 0.12 mmol, 1.2 equiv) according to the general procedure. Silica gel flash column chromatography (eluent: hexane/ ethyl acetate, from 3:1 to 1:1). White solid, mp: 115-120 °C. Yield: 50 mg, 78%. $[\alpha]_{D}^{20}$ + 24.1 (c = 1, 96% ee, CH₂Cl₂). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.16-8.02 (m, 1H), 8.00-7.69 (m, 4H), 7.51-7.04 (m, 14H), 6.15 (d, J = 9.4 Hz, 1H), 4.95 (d, J = 9.4 Hz, 1H), 4.27 (d, *J* = 13.4 Hz, 1H), 4.11 (d, *J* = 13.4 Hz, 1H), 2.95–2.77 (m, 2H), 0.76 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 186.9, 184.8, 166.9, 138.0, 136.7, 135.2, 135.0, 134.6, 133.12, 133.07, 132.6, 131.3, 129.5, 129.3, 128.92, 128.86, 128.7, 128.5, 128.4, 128.1, 127.9, 123.0, 122.2, 77.8, 73.9, 46.4, 39.7, 30.0, 8.7. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M + H] calcd for $C_{33}H_{29}N_2O_6S_3$, 645.1182; found, 645.1192. IR (cm⁻¹): 3083, 3022, 2850, 1724, 1681. The ee value was determined by HPLC analysis (Daicel Chiralpak IC, hexane/isopropanol 30:70), flow rate: 0.5 mL/min, retention times: 38.1 min (minor) and 55.8 min (maior).

(S)-1-Benzoyl-2-(benzylthio)-5-isobutyl-5-((R)-phenyl-(1,1,3,3tetraoxido-2H-benzo[d][1,3]dithiol-2-yl)methyl)-1,5-dihydro-4Himidazole-4-one (15da). The title compound was prepared from 1benzoyl-2-(benzylthio)-5-isobutyl-1,5-dihydro-4H-imidazole-4-one (37 mg, 0.1 mmol) and 2-benzylidene-2H-benzo[d][1,3]dithiole 1,1,3,3-tetraoxide (37 mg, 0.12 mmol, 1.2 equiv) according to the general procedure. Silica gel flash column chromatography (eluent: hexane/ethyl acetate, from 3:1 to 1:1). White solid, mp 213-217 °C. Yield: 65 mg, 97%. $[\alpha]_{D}^{20}$ + 14.3 (c = 1, 92% ee, CH₂Cl₂). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.19-8.06 (m, 1H), 7.97-7.73 (m, 3H), 7.52–7.21 (m, 13H), 7.13 (m, 2H), 6.13 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 5.00 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 4.28 (d, J = 13.3 Hz, 1H), 4.09 (d, J = 13.4 Hz, 1H), 2.85 (dd, J = 13.9, 4.7 Hz, 1H), 2.76 (dd, J = 13.9, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 1.42 (dt, J = 11.5, 6.7 Hz, 1H), 0.95 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 3H), 0.88 (d, J = 6.6Hz, 3H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 187.2, 184.7, 167.0, 138.2, 136.8, 135.1, 135.0, 134.6, 133.3, 133.0, 132.9, 130.7, 129.6, 129.4, 128.78, 128.75, 128.6, 128.5, 128.3, 128.1, 123.0, 122.3, 76.3, 73.9, 47.7, 44.3, 39.8, 25.8, 24.4, 23.2. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M + H]⁺ calcd for $C_{35}H_{33}N_2O_6S_3$, 673.1501; found, 673.1492. IR (cm⁻¹): 2982, 2868, 1720, 1683. The ee value was determined by HPLC analysis (Daicel Chiralpak IC, hexane/isopropanol 30:70), flow rate: 0.5 mL/min, retention times: 29.4 min (minor) and 75.1 min (major).

(5)-5-Allyl-1-benzoyl-2-(benzylthio)-5-((R)-phenyl(1,1,3,3-tetraoxido-2H-benzo[d][1,3]dithiol-2-yl)methyl)-1,5-dihydro-4H-imidazole-4-one (**15ea**). The title compound was prepared from 5-allyl-1-benzoyl-2-(benzylthio)-1,5-dihydro-4H-imidazole-4-one (**35** mg, 0.1 mmol) and 2-benzylidene-2H-benzo[d][1,3]dithiole 1,1,3,3tetraoxide (**37** mg, 0.12 mmol, 1.2 equiv) according to the general procedure. Silica gel flash column chromatography (eluent: hexane/ ethyl acetate, from 3:1 to 1:1). White solid, mp 225–228 °C. Yield: 52.5 mg, 80%. $[\alpha]_{D}^{20}$ + 54.9 (*c* = 1, 95% ee, CH₂Cl₂). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.21–6.99 (m, 19H), 6.18 (d, *J* = 9.7 Hz, 1H), 5.43 (m, 1H), 5.23 (m, 1H), 5.12–4.95 (m, 2H), 4.26 (d, *J* = 13.4 Hz, 1H), 4.06 (d, *J* = 13.4 Hz, 1H), 3.68–3.49 (m, 2H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 186.3, 184.8, 166.9, 142.7, 137.9, 136.5, 135.3, 135.22, 135.17, 135.1, 134.6, 133.8, 132.9, 132.8, 132.7, 132.6, 130.9, 130.0, 129.5, 129.3, 128.7, 128.6, 128.3, 128.0, 122.9, 122.4, 122.2, 122.1, 121.5, 76.3, 73.7, 46.0, 40.4, 39.5. HRMS (ESI) *m/z*: [M + H]⁺ calcd for C₃₄H₂₉N₂O₆S₃, 657.1188; found, 657.1179. IR (cm⁻¹): 2978, 1714, 1694. The ee value was determined by HPLC analysis (Daicel Chiralpak IC, hexane/isopropanol 30:70), flow rate: 0.5 mL/ min, retention times: 49.0 min (minor) and 57.9 min (major).

(S)-1-Benzoyl-2-(benzylthio)-5-(2-(methylthio)ethyl)-5-((R)phenyl(1,1,3,3-tetraoxido-2H-benzo[d][1,3]dithiol-2-yl)methyl)-1,5dihydro-4H-imidazole-4-one (15fa). The title compound was prepared from 1-benzoyl-2 (benzylthio)-5-(2-(methylthio)ethyl)-1,5dihydro-4H-imidazole-4-one (38 mg, 0.1 mmol) and 2-benzylidene-2H-benzo[d][1,3]dithiole 1,1,3,3-tetraoxide (37 mg, 0.12 mmol, 1.2 equiv) according to the general procedure. Silica gel flash column chromatography (eluent: hexane/ethyl acetate, from 3:1 to 1:1). White foam. Yield: 64 mg, 93%. $[\alpha]_{D}^{20}$ + 30.6 (*c* = 1, 96% ee, CH₂Cl₂). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.16-8.07 (m, 1H), 8.03-7.77 (m, 4H), 7.51-7.10 (m, 14H), 6.14 (d, J = 9.4 Hz, 1H), 4.99 (d, J = 9.5Hz, 1H), 4.28 (d, J = 13.3 Hz, 1H), 4.12 (d, J = 13.4 Hz, 1H), 3.27-3.09 (m, 2H), 2.37–2.14 (m, 2H), 2.12 (s, 3H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 186.3, 184.8, 167.0, 138.1, 136.7, 135.2, 135.0, 134.5, 133.3, 133.2, 132.5, 130.6, 129.7, 129.4, 129.0, 128.9, 128.8, 128.4, 128.2, 128.1, 123.1, 122.3, 76.2, 73.9, 46.7, 39.8, 35.5, 28.6, 15.4. HRMS (ESI) $m/z\colon$ [M + $H]^+$ calcd for $C_{34}H_{31}N_2O_6S_4,$ 691.1065; found, 691.1061. IR (cm⁻¹): 3060, 3029, 2915, 1723, 1682. The ee value was determined by HPLC analysis (Daicel Chiralpak IC, hexane/isopropanol 30:70), flow rate: 0.5 mL/min, retention times: 40.6 min (minor) and 74.2 min (major).

Methyl 2-((S)-1-benzoyl-2-(benzylthio)-4-oxo-5-((R)-phenyl-(1,1,3,3-tetraoxido-2H-benzo[d][1,3]dithiol-2-yl)methyl)-4,5-dihydro-1H-imidazole-5-yl)acetate (15ga). The title compound was prepared from methyl 2-(1-benzoyl-2-(benzylthio)-4-oxo-4,5-dihydro-1H-imidazole-5-yl)acetate (38 mg, 0.1 mmol) and 2-benzylidene-2Hbenzo[d][1,3]dithiole 1,1,3,3-tetraoxide (37 mg, 0.12 mmol, 1.2 equiv) according to the general procedure. Silica gel flash column chromatography (eluent: hexane/ethyl acetate, from 3:1 to 1:1). White foam. Yield: 62 mg, 91%. $[\alpha]_D^{20} - 6.5$ (*c* = 1, 84% ee, CH₂Cl₂) $(-20 \ ^{\circ}C)$. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.16–8.08 (m, 1H), 7.98-7.78 (m, 3H), 7.54-7.26 (m, 9H), 7.25-7.04 (m, 6H), 5.94 (d, *J* = 10.1 Hz, 1H), 5.11 (d, *J* = 10.1 Hz, 1H), 4.25–4.16 (m, 2H), 4.07 (d, J = 13.1 Hz, 1H), 3.89 (d, J = 16.6 Hz, 1H), 3.65 (s, 3H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 185.6, 185.2, 169.7, 167.1, 138.1, 136.2, 135.4, 135.1, 134.2, 133.0, 132.91, 132.87, 129.8, 129.5, 129.3, 129.0, 128.8, 128.7, 128.6, 128.4, 128.1, 127.6, 123.0, 122.4, 73.5, 72.4, 52.3, 47.1, 40.1, 38.7. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M + H]⁺ calcd for C₃₄H₂₉N₂O₈S₃, 689.1086; found, 689.1092. IR (cm⁻¹): 2952, 2936, 1725, 1679. The ee value was determined by HPLC analysis (Daicel Chiralpak IC, hexane/isopropanol 30:70), flow rate: 0.5 mL/min, retention times: 63.9 min (minor) and 80.6 min (major).

Methyl 2-(((S)-1-benzoyl-2-(benzylthio)-4-oxo-5-((R)-phenyl-(1,1,3,3-tetraoxido-2H-benzo[d][1,3]dithiol-2-yl)methyl)-4,5-dihydro-1H-imidazole-5-yl)methyl)acrylate (**15ha**). The title compound was prepared from a sample of **3h** containing its dialkylated analogue **3h**' (mol ratio of **3h**/**3h**' 2:1; 41 mg, 0.1 mmol) and 2-benzylidene-2H-benzo[d][1,3]dithiole 1,1,3,3-tetraoxide (37 mg, 0.12 mmol, 1.2 equiv) according to the general procedure. Silica gel flash column chromatography (eluent: hexane/ethyl acetate, from 3:1 to 1:1). White foam. Yield: 47 mg, 98%. $[\alpha]_D^{20} + 20.1 (c = 1, 91\%$ ee, CH₂Cl₂). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.17–8.08 (m, 1H), 7.95–7.78 (m, 3H), 7.64–7.19 (m, 13H), 7.15–7.06 (m, 2H), 6.35 (d, J = 9.7 Hz, 1H), 6.25 (d, J = 1.4 Hz, 1H), 5.80 (d, J = 1.3 Hz, 1H), 5.14 (d, J =9.7 Hz, 1H), 4.13 (q, J = 13.1 Hz, 2H), 4.04–3.90 (m, 2H), 3.65 (s, 3H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 185.6, 184.8, 167.0, 166.9, 138.2, 136.6, 135.4, 135.2, 135.0, 134.7, 134.3, 133.6, 133.4, 132.9, 132.8, 131.8, 130.8, 130.0, 129.6, 129.5, 129.4, 128.83, 128.77, 128.6, 128.5, 128.4, 128.2, 128.1, 128.0, 123.0, 122.7, 122.6, 122.3, 76.0, 74.0, 52.1, 46.3, 40.0, 37.8. HRMS (ESI) m/z: $[M + H]^+$ calcd for $C_{36}H_{31}N_2O_8S_3$, 715.1237; found, 715.1244. IR (cm⁻¹): 1717, 1683. The ee value was determined by HPLC analysis (Daicel Chiralpak IA, hexane/isopropanol 30:70, flow rate: 0.5 mL/min, retention times: 56.8 min (minor) and 134.3 min (major).

(S)-1-Benzoyl-5-benzyl-2-(benzylthio)-5-((R)-(4-methoxyphenyl)-(1,1,3,3-tetraoxido-2H-benzo[d][1,3]dithiol-2-yl)methyl)-1,5-dihydro-4H-imidazole-4-one (15ab). The title compound was prepared from 1-benzoyl-5-benzyl-2-(benzylthio)-1,5-dihydro-4H-imidazole-4one (40 mg, 0.1 mmol) and 2-(4-methoxybenzylidene)-2H-benzo-[d][1,3]dithiole 1,1,3,3-tetraoxide (40 mg, 0.12 mmol, 1.2 equiv) according to the general procedure. Silica gel flash column chromatography (eluent: hexane/ethyl acetate, from 3:1 to 1:1). White foam. Yield: 45 mg, 61%. $[\alpha]_D^{20}$ + 28.0 (*c* = 1, 97% ee, CH₂Cl₂). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, \breve{CDCl}_3): δ 8.20–8.11 (m, 1H), 8.04–7.79 (m, 3H), 7.47-7.09 (m, 14H), 7.02-6.91 (m, 2H), 6.91-6.68 (m, 3H), 6.30 (d, J = 9.8 Hz, 1H), 5.21 (d, J = 9.9 Hz, 1H), 4.34 (d, J = 13.2 Hz, 1H), 4.08 (d, J = 13.2 Hz, 1H), 3.97 (d, J = 12.8 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (s, 1H), 3.80 (s, 3H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 186.9, 185.3, 167.3, 160.5, 138.1, 136.7, 135.2, 135.0, 134.6, 134.5, 133.90, 132.88, 132.7, 130.1, 129.5, 129.3, 128.74, 128.66, 128.1, 127.6, 123.0, 122.7, 122.3, 113.8, 113.7, 78.1, 74.1, 55.4, 46.0, 41.8, 40.2. HRMS (ESI) m/ z: $[M + H]^+$ calcd for $C_{39}H_{33}N_2O_7S_3$, 737.1444; found, 737.1441. IR (cm⁻¹): 3060, 3029, 2929, 2836, 1720, 1682. The ee value was determined by HPLC analysis (Daicel Chiralpak IA, hexane/ isopropanol 50:50), flow rate: 0.5 mL/min, retention times: 66.4 min (minor) and 121.7 min (major).

(S)-1-Benzoyl-5-benzyl-2-(benzylthio)-5-((R)-(4-chlorophenyl)-(1,1,3,3-tetraoxido-2H-benzo[d][1,3]dithiol-2-yl)methyl)-1,5-dihydro-4H-imidazole-4-one (15ac). The title compound was prepared from 1-benzoyl-5-benzyl-2-(benzylthio)-1,5-dihydro-4H-imidazole-4one (40 mg, 0.1 mmol) and 2-(4-chlorobenzylidene)-2H-benzo[d]-[1,3]dithiole 1,1,3,3-tetraoxide (40.8 mg, 0.12 mmol, 1.2 equiv) according to the general procedure. Silica gel flash column chromatography (eluent: hexane/ethyl acetate, from 3:1 to 1:1). White foam. Yield: 59 mg, 80%. $[\alpha]_{D}^{20}$ + 35.9 (*c* = 1, 99% ee, CH₂Cl₂). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.18-8.11 (m, 1H), 8.00-7.81 (m, 3H), 7.56-7.12 (m, 17H), 7.01-6.91 (m, 2H), 6.26 (d, J = 9.7 Hz, 1H), 5.22 (d, J = 9.7 Hz, 1H), 4.30 (d, J = 13.2 Hz, 1H), 4.01 (d, J = 13.3 Hz, 1H), 3.95 (d, J = 12.9 Hz, 1H), 3.79 (d, J = 12.9 Hz, 1H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 186.2, 185.3, 167.1, 137.3, 136.0, 135.3, 135.1, 134.2, 134.1, 133.4, 132.9, 132.1, 129.8, 129.5, 129.2, 129.1, 128.6, 128.5, 128.1, 128.0, 127.9, 127.6, 122.8, 122.1, 77.4, 73.3, 46.2, 41.3, 39.9. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M + H]⁺ calcd for C₃₈H₃₀ClN₂O₆S₃, 741.0955, found, 741.0955. IR (cm⁻¹): 3061, 3029, 2931, 1722, 1682. The ee value was determined by HPLC analysis (Daicel Chiralpak IC, hexane/isopropanol 30:70), flow rate: 0.5 mL/ min, retention times: 33.4 min (minor) and 37.6 min (major).

(S)-1-Benzoyl-2-(benzylthio)-5-((R)-(4-chlorophenyl)(1,1,3,3-tetraoxido-2H-benzo[d][1,3]dithiol-2-yl)methyl)-5-methyl-1,5-dihydro-4H-imidazole-4-one (15bc). The title compound was prepared from 1-benzoyl-2-(benzylthio)-5-methyl-1,5-dihydro-4H-imidazole-4one (32 mg, 0.1 mmol) and 2-(4-chlorobenzylidene)-2H-benzo[d]-[1,3]dithiole 1,1,3,3-tetraoxide (40.8 mg, 0.12 mmol, 1.2 equiv) according to the general procedure. Silica gel flash column chromatography (eluent: hexane/ethyl acetate, from 3:1 to 1:1). White foam. Yield: 46 mg, 69%. $[\alpha]_{D}^{20}$ + 13.4 (*c* = 1, 91% ee, CH₂Cl₂). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.17–8.07 (m, 1H), 7.98–7.79 (m, 3H), 7.56-7.45 (m, 1H), 7.37-7.10 (m, 11H), 6.86 (m, 2H), 6.15 (d, J = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 5.01 (d, J = 9.9 Hz, 1H), 4.30-4.16 (m, 2H),2.27 (s, 3H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 187.6, 184.6, 167.5, 138.4, 137.3, 136.2, 135.8, 135.7, 135.0, 134.8, 134.0, 133.1, 130.4, 129.9, 129.7, 129.6, 129.5, 129.06, 128.93, 128.8, 123.6, 122.9, 73.9, 73.6, 46.2, 40.4, 24.8. HRMS (ESI) m/z: $[M + H]^+$ calcd for C₃₂H₂₆ClN₂O₆S₃, 665.0636; found, 665.0634. IR (cm⁻¹): 3065, 2946, 1724, 1665. The ee value was determined by HPLC analysis (Daicel

Chiralpak IF, hexane/ethanol 30:70), flow rate: 0.5 mL/min, retention times: 32.6 min (minor) and 37.2 min (major).

(S)-5-Allyl-1-benzoyl-2-(benzylthio)-5-((R)-(4-chlorophenyl)-(1,1,3,3-tetraoxido-2H-benzo[d][1,3]dithiol-2-yl)methyl)-1,5-díhydro-4H-imidazole-4-one (15ec). The title compound was prepared from 5-allyl-1-benzoyl-2-(benzylthio)-1,5-dihydro-4H-imidazole-4one (35 mg, 0.1 mmol) and 2-(4-chlorobenzylidene)-2H-benzo[d]-[1,3]dithiole 1,1,3,3-tetraoxide (40.8 mg, 0.12 mmol, 1.2 equiv) according to the general procedure. Silica gel flash column chromatography (eluent: hexane/ethyl acetate, from 3:1 to 1:1). White foam. Yield: 50 mg, 72%. $[\alpha]_{D}^{20} + 16.8$ (*c* = 1, 95% ee, CH₂Cl₂). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 8.18–8.06 (m, 1H), 7.98–7.78 (m, 3H), 7.49-7.04 (m, 14H), 6.12 (d, J = 9.6 Hz, 1H), 5.55-5.34 (m, 1H), 5.23 (dt, J = 17.1, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 5.05 (dd, J = 9.8, 1.9 Hz, 2H), 4.22 (d, J = 13.3 Hz, 1H), 4.09 (d, J = 13.3 Hz, 1H), 3.61 (ddt, J =13.4, 5.5, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 3.50 (dd, J = 13.4, 9.2 Hz, 1H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 186.1, 185.1, 167.0, 137.9, 136.6, 135.7, 135.3, 135.2, 134.4, 134.3, 133.2, 132.6, 130.0, 129.5, 128.9, 128.79, 128.76, 128.5, 128.4, 128.2, 123.1, 122.3, 121.7, 76.3, 73.4, 45.7, 40.0, 39.7. HRMS (ESI) m/z: $[M + H]^+$ calcd for $C_{34}H_{28}ClN_2O_6S_3$, 691.0793; found, 691.0788. IR (cm⁻¹): 3062, 3030, 1723, 1684. The ee value was determined by HPLC analysis (Daicel Chiralpak IA, hexane/ isopropanol 50:50), flow rate: 0.5 mL/min, retention times: 45.4 min (minor) and 84.5 min (major).

(S)-1-Benzoyl-5-benzyl-2-(benzylthio)-5-((S)-furan-2-yl(1,1, 3,3tetraoxido-2H-benzo[d][1,3]dithiol-2-yl)methyl)-1,5-dihy dro-4Himidazole-4-one (15ad). The title compound was prepared from 1benzoyl-5-benzyl-2-(benzylthio)-1,5-dihydro-4H-imidazole-4-one (40 mg, 0.1 mmol) and 2-(furan-2-ylmethylene)-2H-benzo[d][1,3]dithiole 1,1,3,3-tetraoxide (35.5 mg, 0.12 mmol, 1.2 equiv) according to the general procedure. Silica gel flash column chromatography (eluent: hexane/ethyl acetate, from 3:1 to 1:1). Brown foam. Yield: 50 mg, 72%. $[\alpha]_{D}^{20}$ + 76.0 (*c* = 1, 92% ee, CH₂Cl₂). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.15 (m, 1H), 8.01–7.88 (m, 3H), 7.53–7.18 (m, 12H), 7.04–6.97 (m, 2H), 6.94–6.72 (m, 2H), 6.51 (d, J = 3.3 Hz, 1H), 6.38 (dd, J = 3.3, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 6.27 (dd, J = 9.6, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 5.46 (d, J = 9.6 Hz, 1H), 4.23 (d, J = 13.1 Hz, 1H), 4.11–4.01 (m, 2H), 3.84 (d, J = 13.1 Hz, 1H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 185.9, 184.6, 167.3, 145.3, 143.7, 138.2, 137.0, 135.2, 135.1, 135.0, 134.3, 134.2, 132.9, 130.1, 129.4, 128.73, 128.67, 128.0, 127.7, 125.6, 125.3, 123.2, 122.5, 122.4, 122.1, 114.7, 113.4, 76.1, 72.9, 41.4, 40.0, 39.8. HRMS (ESI) m/z: $[M + H]^+$ calcd for $C_{36}H_{29}N_2O_7S_3$, 697.1131; found, 697.1138. IR (cm⁻¹): 2924, 1730, 1682. The ee value was determined by HPLC analysis (Daicel Chiralpak IC, hexane/ isopropanol 30:70), flow rate: 0.5 mL/min, retention times: 66.9 min (minor) and 83.4 min (major).

(S)-1-Benzoyl-5-benzyl-2-(benzylthio)-5-((S)-(1,1,3,3-tetraoxido-2H-benzo[d][1,3]dithiol-2-yl)(thiophen-2-yl)methyl)-1,5-dihydro-4H-imidazole-4-one (15ae). The title compound was prepared from 1-benzoyl-5-benzyl-2-(benzylthio)-1,5-dihydro-4H-imidazole-4-one (40 mg, 0.1 mmol) and 2-(thiophen-2-ylmethylene)-2H-benzo[d]-[1,3]dithiole 1,1,3,3-tetraoxide (37.6 mg, 0.12 mmol, 1.2 equiv) according to the general procedure. Silica gel flash column chromatography (eluent: hexane/ethyl acetate, from 3:1 to 1:1). White foam. Yield: 33 mg, 46%. $[\alpha]_D^{20}$ + 12.2 (*c* = 1, 95% ee, CH₂Cl₂). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.20–8.06 (m, 1H), 7.96–7.85 (m, 3H), 7.62–6.83 (m, 18H), 6.26 (d, J = 9.5 Hz, 1H), 5.57 (d, J = 9.6 Hz, 1H), 4.27 (d, J = 13.2 Hz, 1H), 4.10–3.93 (m, 2H), 3.79 (d, J = 13.0 Hz, 1H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 186.4, 185.5, 167.4, 138.0, 136.4, 135.3, 135.1, 134.5, 133.9, 133.0, 132.7, 130.1, 129.4, 128.7, 128.3, 128.0, 127.7, 126.8, 123.0, 122.3, 78.2, 74.2, 41.2, 40.0. HRMS (ESI) m/z: $[M + H]^+$ calcd for $C_{36}H_{29}N_2O_6S_4$, 713.0903; found, 713.0905. IR (cm⁻¹): 3061, 3029, 2934, 1721, 1681. The ee value was determined by HPLC analysis (Daicel Chiralpak IC, hexane/isopropanol 30:70), flow rate: 0.5 mL/min, retention times: 113.0 min (minor) and 136.3 min (major).

Methyl 2-((S)-1-Benzoyl-2-(benzylthio)-4-oxo-5-((S)-(1,1,3,3-tetraoxido-2H-benzo[d][1,3]dithiol-2-yl)(thiophen-2-yl)methyl)-4,5-dihydro-1H-imidazole-5-yl)acetate (**15ge**). The title compound was prepared from methyl 2-(1-benzoyl-2-(benzylthio)-4-oxo-4,5-dihydro1H-imidazole-5-yl)acetate (38 mg, 0.1 mmol) and 2-(thiophen-2ylmethylene)-2H-benzo[d][1,3]dithiole 1,1,3,3-tetraoxide (37.6 mg, 0.12 mmol, 1.2 equiv) according to the general procedure. Silica gel flash column chromatography (eluent: hexane/ethyl acetate, from 3:1 to 1:1). White foam. Yield: 34.5 mg, 50%. $[\alpha]_D^{20} - 5.1$ (c = 1, 72% ee, CH₂Cl₂). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.20-8.04 (m, 1H), 8.00-7.77 (m, 3H), 7.55–6.74 (m, 13H), 5.93 (d, J = 9.8 Hz, 1H), 5.43 (d, J = 9.8 Hz, 1H), 4.27–4.05 (m, 3H), 3.82 (d, J = 16.6 Hz, 1H), 3.66 (s, 3H). ${}^{13}C{}^{1}H$ NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 185.9, 184.9, 169.7, 167.3, 138.1, 135.9, 135.5, 135.2, 134.3, 133.1, 132.9, 129.6, 129.0, 128.8, 128.6, 128.1, 126.4, 123.0, 122.5, 73.5, 73.0, 52.4, 41.3, 40.0, 37.9. HRMS (ESI) m/z: $[M + H]^+$ calcd for $C_{32}H_{27}N_2O_8S_4$ 695.0650; found, 695.0647. IR (cm⁻¹): 3092, 2953, 1727, 1680. The ee value was determined by HPLC analysis (Daicel Chiralpak IC, hexane/isopropanol 30:70), flow rate: 0.5 mL/min, retention times: 71.4 min (minor) and 89.6 min (major).

(S)-1-Benzoyl-5-benzyl-2-(benzylthio)-5-((S)-pyridin-2-yl(1,1,3,3tetraoxido-2H-benzo[d][1,3]dithiol-2-yl)methyl)-1,5-dihydro-4Himidazole-4-one (15af). The title compound was prepared from 1benzoyl-5-benzyl-2-(benzylthio)-1,5-dihydro-4H-imidazole-4-one (40 mg, 0.1 mmol) and 2-(pyridin-2-ylmethylene)-2H-benzo[d][1,3]dithiole 1,1,3,3-tetraoxide (37 mg, 0.12 mmol, 1.2 equiv) according to the general procedure. Silica gel flash column chromatography (eluent: hexane/ethyl acetate, from 3:1 to 1:1). White foam. Yield: 48 mg, 68%. $[\alpha]_{D}^{20}$ + 70.9 (c = 1, >99% ee, CH₂Cl₂). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.50 (m, 1H), 8.21–8.11 (m, 1H), 8.03–7.79 (m, 3H), 7.70–6.77 (m, 18H), 6.46 (d, J = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 5.36 (d, J = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 4.31 (d, J = 13.2 Hz, 1H), 4.09 (d, J = 13.2 Hz, 1H), 4.00 (d, J = 13.0 Hz, 1H), 3.80 (d, J = 13.0 Hz, 1H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 185.5, 183.1, 167.3, 152.8, 149.4, 138.0, 137.0, 136.6, 135.2, 135.1, 134.4, 134.3, 132.9, 132.7, 130.3, 129.4, 128.7, 128.6, 127.9, 127.6, 126.8, 123.9, 123.1, 122.3, 76.3, 74.5, 48.5, 42.0, 39.8. HRMS (ESI) m/z: $[M + H]^+$ calcd for $C_{37}H_{30}N_3O_6S_{34}$ 708.1291; found, 708.1299. IR (cm⁻¹): 3059, 2919, 2849, 1733, 1677. The ee value was determined by HPLC analysis (Daicel Chiralpak IC, hexane/isopropanol 30:70), flow rate: 0.5 mL/min, retention times: 86.3 min (major) and 110.8 min (minor).

(S)-5-Allyl-1-benzoyl-2-(benzylthio)-5-((R)-naphthalen-1-yl-(1,1,3,3-tetraoxido-2H-benzo[d][1,3]dithiol-2-yl)methyl)-1,5-dihydro-4H-imidazole-4-one (15eg). The title compound was prepared from 5-allyl-1-benzoyl-2-(benzylthio)-1,5-dihydro-4H-imidazole-4one (35 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1 equiv) and 2-(naphthalen-1-ylmethylene)-2H-benzo[d][1,3]dithiole 1,1,3,3-tetraoxide (43 mg, 0.12 mmol, 1.2 equiv) according to the general procedure. Yellow foam. Yield: 45.3 mg, 0.064 mmol, 64% (81% conv, 4 d, r.t.). $[\alpha]_D^{20} - 88.1$ (c = 1, 99% ee, CH₂Cl₂). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.25 (m, 1H), 8.19-8.07 (m, 2H), 8.06-7.50 (m, 9H), 7.49-7.28 (m, 4H), 7.23 (m, 2H), 7.08 (m, J = 2.9 Hz, 3H), 6.50 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 5.99 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 5.53–5.34 (m, 1H), 5.25 (d, J = 16.6 Hz, 1H), 5.03 (dd, J = 10.1, 2.2 Hz, 1H), 4.19 (d, I = 13.5 Hz, 1H), 4.03 (d, I = 13.5 Hz, 1H), 3.78 (dd, *J* = 13.0, 8.9 Hz, 1H), 3.64 (dd, *J* = 13.0, 5.6 Hz, 1H). $^{13}\text{C}\{^{1}\text{H}\}$ NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 187.1, 184.8, 166.7, 140.8, 137.9, 136.2, 135.2, 135.1, 134.7, 134.4, 134.0, 132.6, 132.5, 132.3, 130.04 130.00, 129.2, 128.6, 128.5, 128.0, 127.8, 127.2, 126.7, 126.2, 125.2, 124.5, 122.9, 122.1, 121.5, 76.6, 73.9, 41.0, 39.6, 39.5. HRMS (ESI) m/z: $[M + H]^+$ calcd for $C_{38}H_{31}N_2O_6S_3$, 707.1339; found, 707.1342. IR (cm^{-1}) : 3059, 2928, 1720, 1686. The ee value was determined by HPLC analysis (Daicel Chiralpak IB, hexane/isopropanol 50:50), flow rate: 0.5 mL/min, retention times: 36.2 (minor) and 40.8 (maior).

(Ś)-1-Benzoyl-5-benzyl-2-(benzylthio)-5-((R)-naphthalen-2-yl-(1,1,3,3-tetraoxido-2H-benzo[d][1,3]dithiol-2-yl)methyl)-1,5-dihydro-4H-imidazole-4-one (**15ah**). The title compound was prepared from 1-benzoyl-5 benzyl-2-(benzylthio)-1,5-dihydro-4H-imidazole-4one (120 mg, 0.3 mmol, 1 equiv) and 2-(naphthalen-2-ylmethylene)-2H-benzo[d][1,3]dithiole 1,1,3,3-tetraoxide (129 mg, 0.36 mmol, 1.2 equiv) according to the general procedure. Yellow foam. Yield: 171 mg, 0.22 mmol, 75% (0 °C, 48 h). The obtained product exhibited two sets of signals of similar intensities in ¹H NMR, which were attributed to rotational isomers due to severe steric constrain. Thus, obtained material was converted into the corresponding hydantoin upon TFA-promoted *N*-debenzoylation and subsequent acidic hydrolysis and characterized as it. See the Supporting Information for details about these transformations and final product characterization.

(S)-5-Benzyl-2-(benzylthio)-5-((R)-phenyl(1,1,3,3-tetraoxido-2Hbenzo[d][1,3]dithiol-2-yl)methyl)-1-(2-phenylacetyl)-1,5-dihydro-4H-imidazole-4-one (18). The title compound was prepared from 5benzyl-2-(benzylthio)-1-(2-phenylacetyl)-1,5-dihydro-4H-imidazole-4-one (41.5 mg, 0.1 mmol) and 2-benzylidene-2H-benzo[d][1,3]dithiole 1,1,3,3-tetraoxide (37 mg, 0.12 mmol, 1.2 equiv) according to the general procedure. Reaction time for >95% conversion was 9 days. Silica gel flash column chromatography (eluent: hexane/ethyl acetate, from 3:1 to 1:1). White foam. Yield: 65.6 mg, 91%. $[\alpha]_{D}^{20} + 28.1$ (c = 1, 98% ee, CH_2Cl_2). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 8.15–8.03 (m, 1H), 7.96-7.74 (m, 3H), 7.50-6.99 (m, 20H), 6.20 (d, J = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 5.14 (d, J = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 4.25 (s, 2H), 4.16 (d, J = 13.3 Hz, 1H), 3.91 (d, J = 13.2 Hz, 1H), 3.53 (d, J = 17.0 Hz, 1H), 3.45-3.32 (m, 1H). ${}^{13}C{}^{1}H$ NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 186.5, 168.8, 137.9, 136.6, 135.2, 135.0, 134.4, 134.0, 132.2, 131.7, 130.7, 129.9, 129.6, 129.5, 129.4, 128.9, 128.8, 128.5, 128.4, 128.1, 128.0, 127.9, 127.6, 122.9, 122.2, 78.3, 73.6, 46.2, 44.3, 41.1, 39.4. HRMS (ESI) m/z: M + $H]^{\ast}$ calcd for $C_{39}H_{33}N_2O_6S_3,$ 721.1495; found, 721.1486. IR (cm^-1): 3029, 2928, 1718, 1701. The ee value was determined by HPLC analysis (Daicel Chiralpak IA, hexane/isopropanol 50:50), flow rate: 0.5 mL/min, retention times: 51.8 min (minor) and 60.7 min (major).

Catalytic Addition Reaction of Unsubstituted Hydantoin Surrogates 21 to 2. The same procedure as above was followed using 1-benzoyl-2-(benzylthio)-1,5-dihydro-4*H*-imidazole-4-one as pronucleophile.

(S)-1-Benzoyl-2-(benzylthio)-5-((R)-phenyl(1,1,3,3-tetraoxido-2H-benzo[d][1,3]dithiol-2-yl)methyl)-1,5-dihydro-4H-imidazole-4one (22a). The title compound was prepared from 1-benzoyl-2-(benzylthio)-1,5-dihydro-4H-imidazole-4-one (31 mg, 0.1 mmol) and 2-benzylidene-2H-benzo[d][1,3]dithiole 1,1,3,3-tetraoxide (37 mg, 0.12 mmol, 1.2 equiv) according to the general procedure. Silica gel flash column chromatography (eluent: hexane/ethyl acetate, from 3:1 to 1:1). White solid, mp 228–230 °C. Yield: 37.6 mg, 61%. $[\alpha]_{\rm D}^{20}$ + 6.7 (c = 1, 95% ee, CH₂Cl₂) (reaction at -25 °C). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.07-8.01 (m, 1H), 7.92-7.81 (m, 3H), 7.68-7.16 (m, 15H), 6.18 (d, I = 11.4 Hz, 1H), 5.44 (d, I = 5.0 Hz, 1H), 4.26 (q, J = 13.4 Hz, 2H), 4.10 (dd, J = 11.5, 4.9 Hz, 1H).¹³C $\{^{1}\text{H}\}$ NMR (75 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): δ 187.0, 183.4, 167.3, 138.6, 137.2, 136.1, 135.9, 135.7, 133.9, 132.9, 130.4, 129.9, 129.7, 129.2, 128.9, 128.4, 123.0, 71.8, 64.3, 41.3, 38.8. HRMS (ESI) m/z: $[M + H]^+$ calcd for C31H25N2O6S3, 617.0875; found, 617.0878. IR (cm⁻¹): 3035, 2968, 2855, 1725, 1668. The ee value was determined by HPLC analysis (Daicel Chiralpak IF, hexane/ethanol 30:70), flow rate: 0.5 mL/min, retention times: 46.4 min (minor) and 78.0 min (major).

(S)-1-Benzoyl-2-(benzylthio)-5-((R)-(4-chlorophenyl) (1,1,3, 3-tetraoxido-2H-benzo[d][1,3]dithiol-2-yl)methyl)-1,5-dihydro-4H-imidazole-4-one (22b). The title compound was prepared from 1benzoyl-2-(benzylthio)-1,5-dihydro-4H-imidazole-4-one (31 mg, 0.1 mmol) and 2-(4-chlorobenzylidene)-2H-benzo[d][1,3]dithiole 1,1,3,3-tetraoxide (40.8 mg, 0.12 mmol, 1.2 equiv) according to the general procedure. Silica gel flash column chromatography (eluent: hexane/ethyl acetate, from 3:1 to 1:1). White solid, mp 237-240 °C. Yield: 48 mg, 74%. $[\alpha]_{D}^{20}$ + 50.29 (c = 1, 88% ee, CH₂Cl₂). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): δ 8.10-8.02 (m, 1H), 8.01-7.78 (m, 4H), 7.71–7.50 (m, 6H), 7.41–7.16 (m, 7H), 6.10 (d, J = 11.5 Hz, 1H), 5.38 (d, J = 4.9 Hz, 1H), 4.26 (d, J = 2.7 Hz, 2H), 4.07 (dd, J = 11.5, 4.9 Hz, 1H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (126 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): δ 187.2, 183.2, 167.2, 138.5, 137.2, 136.5, 136.2, 136.0, 135.5, 134.0, 132.7, 130.0, 129.7, 129.3, 128.9, 128.5, 128.0, 123.1, 71.6, 64.1, 40.8, 38.9. HRMS (ESI) m/z: $[M + H]^+$ calcd for $C_{31}H_{24}ClN_2O_6S_3$, 651.0480; found, 651.0488. IR (cm⁻¹): 3059, 2945, 1723, 1672. The ee value was determined by HPLC analysis (Daicel Chiralpak IF, hexane/ethanol 30:70), flow rate: 0.5 mL/min, retention times: 40.4 min (minor) and 76.3 min (major).

Elaboration of Adducts. Hydrolysis of 10a to Hydantoin 23. An aqueous solution of HCl 6 M (2.76 mL) was added dropwise to a solution of 10a (1.07 g, 1.51 mmol) in 1,4-dioxane (15 mL) at 0 °C. Once the addition was complete, the reaction was stirred at 65 °C in an oil bath for 3 h. Then, an additional 2.76 mL of 6 M HCl was added dropwise, and the mixture was stirred at 65 °C for an additional 3 h. Afterward, the reaction was cooled to 0 °C, and saturated NaHCO3 was added until basic pH was obtained. The aqueous layer was extracted with dichloromethane twice, and the combined organic layers were dried over MgSO4 and the solvent evaporated under reduced pressure. The crude product was purified by silica gel flash column chromatography (hexane/EtOAc, 3:1 to 1:1) to obtain (S)-1benzoyl-5-benzyl-5-(2,2-bis(phenylsulfonyl)ethyl) imidazolidine-2,4dione (23) as a white solid. mp: 154-158 °C. Yield: 0.66 g, 73%. $\left[\alpha\right]_{D}^{20} - 35.0 \ (c = 1, CH_{2}Cl_{2}).$ ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) 8.10-8.01 (m, 3H), 7.99–7.19 (m, 16H), 7.10–6.99 (m, 2H), 5.45 (dd, J = 5.3, 4.2 Hz, 1H), 3.64-3.42 (m, 2H), 3.23 (d, J = 13.9 Hz, 1H), 3.15 (dd, I = 16.6, 5.3 Hz, 1H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 173.0, 169.6, 151.6, 137.8, 136.3, 135.1, 134.7, 134.1, 133.2, 132.0, 130.5, 129.79, 129.76, 129.3, 129.2, 128.9, 128.3, 128.0, 127.8, 78.2, 69.9, 39.2, 31.8. HRMS (ESI) m/z: $[M + H]^+$ calcd For C31H27N2O7S2, 603.1254; found, 603.1252. IR (cm⁻¹): 3270, 3063, 2930, 1799, 1734, 1681.

Hydrolysis of Adducts **15aa**/**15ab** to *Hydantoins* **25a**/**25b**. The same procedure as above was followed, but in this case, the mixture was stirred at 80 °C in an oil bath for 6 h. Compound **25a** was not isolated, and the crude material was used in the next transformation into **26** (vide infra).

(S)-1-Benzoyl-5-benzyl-5-((R)-(4-chlorophenyl) (1,1,3,3-tetraoxido-2H-benzo[d][1,3]dithiol-2-yl)methyl)imidazolidine-2,4-dione (25b). The title compound was prepared from (S)-1-benzoyl-5benzyl-2-(benzylthio)-5-((R)-(4-chlorophenyl) (1,1,3,3-tetraoxido-2H-benzo[d][1,3]dithiol-2-yl)methyl)-1,5-dihydro-4H-imidazole-4one (150 mg, 0.20 mmol) according to the general procedure. Silica gel flash column chromatography (eluent: hexane/ethyl acetate, from 3:1 to 1:1). White solid, mp 213–216 °C. Yield: 99 mg, 78%. $[\alpha]_{D}^{20}$ + 13.3 (c = 1, CH₂Cl₂). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): δ 8.19–8.11 (m, 1H), 8.02-7.84 (m, 3H), 7.49-7.16 (m, 13H), 6.84-6.72 (m, 2H), 6.09 (d, J = 9.8 Hz, 1H), 5.22 (d, J = 9.8 Hz, 1H), 4.23 (d, J = 13.4Hz, 1H), 4.07 (d, J = 13.5 Hz, 1H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CD_2Cl_2): δ 172.7, 169.2, 150.6, 137.7, 136.4, 135.9, 135.8, 135.7, 134.8, 133.9, 132.1, 130.1, 129.8, 129.5, 129.3, 129.2, 128.9, 128.3, 128.0, 127.7, 123.2, 122.5, 74.5, 45.7, 40.3, 29.9. HRMS (ESI) m/z: $[M + H]^+$ calcd for $C_{31}H_{24}ClN_2O_7S_2$, 635.0708; found, 635.0701. IR (cm^{-1}) : 3086, 2923, 1798, 1736, 1680.

Synthesis of 24 (Monodesulfonylation of 23). Compound 23 (805 mg, 1.36 mmol, 1 equiv) was dissolved in MeOH (40 mL) and Mg turnings (667 mg, 27.2 mmol, 20 equiv), and TMSCl (0.35 mL, 2.72 mmol, 2 equiv) and 1,2-dibromomethane (0.48 mL, 5.44 mmol, 4 equiv) were added successively. The reaction mixture was then stirred for 9 days at room temperature. The solid formed was filtered through celite and washed with dichloromethane. The obtained filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure and partitioned between water and dichloromethane. The aqueous layer was extracted three times with dichloromethane, and the combined organic layer was dried over MgSO₄. The solvent was evaporated, and the crude colorless oil was purified by silica gel flash column chromatography (hexane/AcOEt, 3:1) to obtain (S)-5-benzyl-5-(2-(phenylsulfonyl)ethyl)imidazolidine-2,4-dione (24) as a white solid. Yield: 249 mg, 51%. mp: 189–194 °C. $[\alpha]_{D}^{20}$ + 15.2. 0 (c = 1, CH₂Cl₂). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): δ 8.24 (s, 1H), 7.92–7.55 (m, 5H), 7.31–7.24 (m, 3H), 7.13 (m, 2H), 6.14 (bs, 1H), 3.29–3.10 (m, 2H), 3.08 (d, J = 13.7 Hz, 1H), 2.90 (d, J = 13.7 Hz, 1H), 2.22 (m, 2H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): δ 175.3, 156.3, 139.1, 134.7, 134.0, 130.7, 130.1, 129.1, 128.6, 128.2, 66.7, 51.4, 43.3, 29.7. HRMS (ESI) m/z: $[M + H]^+$ calcd for $C_{18}H_{19}N_2O_4S$, 359.1060; found, 359.1066. IR (cm⁻¹): 3031, 2923, 1748, 1715.

Synthesis of Hydantoin 26 (Double Desulfonylation of 25a). Compound 15aa (352 mg, 0.585 mmol) was submitted to the same conditions used for the hydrolysis of 15ab, and the crude material 25a

was then submitted directly to desulfonylation under the above conditions at room temperature for 6 days. After the usual work-up and aftermath purification of the crude material by flash column chromatography (hexane/AcOEt, 3:1), pure compound 26 was obtained. (S)-5-Benzyl-5-((R)-1-phenylethyl)imidazolidine-2,4-dione (26). White solid, mp: 244–249 °C. Yield: 115 mg, 67%. $[\alpha]_{\rm D}^{20}$ – 55.45 (c = 1, 96% ee, CH₂Cl₂). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.43-7.18 (m, 8H), 7.07 (s, 1H), 7.04-6.94 (m, 2H), 5.20 (bs, 1H), 3.32 (q, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 3.12 (d, J = 13.7 Hz, 1H), 2.46 (d, J = 13.7 Hz, 1H), 1.37 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (126 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 175.3, 155.5, 140.4, 134.0, 130.6, 130.2, 129.1, 128.7, 128.64, 128.62, 128.0, 127.6, 71.3, 45.6, 42.7, 15.7. HRMS (ESI) m/z: $[M + H]^+$ calcd for $C_{18}H_{19}N_2O_2$, 295.1441; found, 295.1448. IR (cm⁻¹): 3061, 3029, 2969, 2926, 1761, 1704. The ee value was determined by HPLC analysis (Daicel Chiralpak IC, hexane/ isopropanol 90:10), flow rate: 0.5 mL/min, retention times: 11.4 min (minor) and 16.6 min (major).

Synthesis of 27. A solution of compound 15aa (0.55 g, 0.78 mmol) in TFA (7.8 mL) was stirred at 40 °C for 48 h. Afterward, saturated NaHCO₃ was added to the reaction mixture until the pH \geq 7 and extracted with dichloromethane, and the organic solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure to obtain compound 27, which was used in the next step with no further purification. White foam. Yield: 0.465 g, 0.77 mmol, 99%. $[\alpha]_{D}^{20} - 146.1$ (c = 1, CH₂Cl₂). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.83 (m, 5H), 7.66–7.36 (m, 6H), 7.22 (s, 1H), 7.17-7.03 (m, 5H), 6.96-6.85 (m, 2H), 6.81-6.70 (m, 1H), 4.56-4.44 (m, 2H), 4.33 (d, J = 10.3 Hz, 1H), 4.25 (d, J = 14.2 Hz, 1H), 2.64 (d, J = 12.7 Hz, 1H), 2.52 (d, J = 12.7 Hz, 1H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 182.8, 161.0, 143.1, 138.4, 137.2, 136.8, 135.8, 135.6, 135.3, 135.1, 134.4, 132.9, 132.3, 130.7, 130.3, 129.6, 129.4, 129.3, 129.0, 128.6, 128.5, 128.0, 127.3, 127.2, 122.7, 122.5, 77.7, 76.7, 46.0, 43.8, 34.5. HRMS (ESI) m/z: $[M + H]^+$ calcd for C31H27N2O5S3, 603.1077; found, 603.1088. IR (cm⁻¹): 3341, 3028, 2913, 1743, 1562.

N-Alkylation of **27**. To a solution of **27** in CH_2Cl_2 , 1.2 equiv of the corresponding halide compound was added, and the reaction mixture was cooled to 0 °C. Afterward, 1 equiv of K_2CO_3 and 0.1 equiv of DBU were added, and the mixture was stirred at room temperature until the reaction was over as monitored by ¹H NMR (reaction times in the range of 1–2 days). Once finished, the reaction mixture was cooled to 0 °C, and HCl 0.1 M was added until neutral pH was obtained. The phases were separated, and the aqueous one was extracted three times with CH_2Cl_2 . The combined organic layers were dried over MgSO₄ and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude product was purified by silica gel flash column chromatography (hexane/EtOAc, 3:1 to 1:1), affording the desired pure product.

(S)-5-Benzyl-2-(benzylthio)-1-methyl-5-((R)-phenyl(1,1,3,3-tetraoxido-2H-benzo[d][1,3]dithiol-2-yl)methyl)-1,5-dihydro-4H-imidazole-4-one (28). The title compound was prepared from 27 (0.181 g, 0.298 mmol, 1 equiv), methyl iodide (23.5 µL, 0.36 mmol, 1.2 equiv), K₂CO₃ (43 mg, 0.298 mmol, 1 equiv), and DBU (4.5 μL, 0.03 mmol, 0.1 equiv) in CH2Cl2 (5 mL) according to the general procedure (reaction time 1 day). Silica gel flash column chromatography (eluent: hexane/ethyl acetate, from 3:1 to 1:1). White foam. Yield: 0.169 g, 0.274 mmol, 92%. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): δ 8.05 (s, 1H), 7.93–7.75 (m, 4H), 7.64–7.38 (m, 6H), 7.19-7.00 (m, 5H), 6.89-6.71 (m, 3H), 4.54 (d, J = 14.2 Hz, 1H),4.42 (d, J = 10.3 Hz, 1H), 4.30 (d, J = 14.2 Hz, 1H), 4.23 (d, J = 10.3 Hz, 1H), 2.55 (d, J = 12.5 Hz, 1H), 2.48 (s, 3H), 2.40 (d, J = 12.5 Hz, 1H). ${}^{13}C{}^{1}H$ NMR (75 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): δ 181.0, 164.2, 138.8, 137.4, 137.2, 135.6, 135.4, 134.8, 132.7, 130.5, 129.5, 129.4, 128.7, 128.6, 127.8, 127.5, 127.4, 122.8, 122.7, 77.4, 77.1, 45.8, 44.1, 34.6, 26.2. HRMS (ESI) m/z: $[M + H]^+$ calcd for $C_{32}H_{29}N_2O_5S_3$, 617.1233; found, 617.1243. IR (cm⁻¹): 3060, 3028, 2919, 1731.

(S)-1,5-Dibenzyl-2-(benzylthio)-5-((R)-phenyl(1,1,3,3-tetraoxido-2H-benzo[d][1,3]dithiol-2-yl)methyl)-1,5-dihydro-4H-imidazole-4one (**29**). The title compound was prepared from **27** (0.5 g, 0.83 mmol, 1 equiv), benzyl bromide (1.2 mL, 1 mmol, 1.2 equiv), K_2CO_3 (0.115 g, 0.83 mmol, 1 equiv), and DBU (12.6 μ L, 0.083 mmol, 0.1 equiv) in CH₂Cl₂ (11 mL) according to the general procedure (reaction time 16 h). Silica gel flash column chromatography (eluent: hexane/ethyl acetate, from 3:1 to 1:1). White foam. Yield: 0.39 g, 67%. $[\alpha]_D^{20} - 155.6$ (c = 1, 98% ee, CH₂Cl₂). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.13–7.74 (m, 5H), 7.61–7.34 (m, 6H), 7.23–6.89 (m, 10H), 6.68–6.60 (m, 1H), 6.38–6.30 (m, 2H), 4.81 (d, J = 16.3 Hz, 1H), 4.58 (d, J = 14.5 Hz, 1H), 4.34 (d, J = 10.3 Hz, 1H), 4.21 (d, J = 10.3 Hz, 1H), 4.17 (d, J = 1.3 Hz, 1H), 4.11 (s, 1H), 2.68 (d, J = 12.8 Hz, 1H), 2.56 (d, J = 12.8 Hz, 1H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 181.1, 164.0, 138.2, 136.7, 136.5, 134.93, 134.88, 134.7, 134.3, 131.9, 130.4, 129.0, 128.7, 128.3, 128.11, 128.08, 128.0, 127.11, 127.07, 126.9, 126.8, 122.2, 76.6, 76.4, 46.4, 44.7, 43.4, 34.3 HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M + H]⁺ calcd for C₃₈H₃₃N₂O₅S₃, 693.1546; found, 693.1543. IR (cm⁻¹): 3028, 2917, 1734, 1557.

(S)-1-Allyl-5-benzyl-2-(benzylthio)-5-((R)-phenyl(1,1,3,3-tetraoxido-2H-benzo[d][1,3]dithiol-2-yl)methyl)-1,5-dihydro-4H-imidazole-4-one (30). The title compound was prepared from 27 (0.141 g, 0.23 mmol), 3-bromoprop-1-ene (25 μ L, 0.28 mmol, 1.2 equiv), K₂CO₃ (34 mg, 0.23 mmol, 1 equiv), and DBU (3.45 µL, 0.02 mmol, 0.1 equiv) in CH_2Cl_2 (5 mL) according to the general procedure (reaction time 16 h). Silica gel flash column chromatography (eluent: hexane/ethyl acetate, from 3:1 to 1:1). White solid, mp: 214-217 °C. Yield: 0.130 g, 88%. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.41-7.37 (m, 11H), 7.20–6.99 (m, 5H), 6.93–6.84 (m, 2H), 6.76–6.66 (m, 1H), 4.87-4.73 (m, 2H), 4.67-4.52 (m, 2H), 4.32 (d, J = 0.9 Hz, 2H), 4.26 (d, J = 14.3 Hz, 1H), 4.06–3.95 (m, 1H), 3.61–3.49 (m, 1H), 2.62 (d, J = 12.6 Hz, 1H), 2.48 (d, J = 12.6 Hz, 1H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (75 MHz, $CDCl_3$): δ 180.4, 163.8, 138.4, 136.81, 136.78, 134.9, 134.7, 134.3, 132.0, 131.3, 130.4, 129.0, 129.0, 128.3, 128.2, 127.8, 126.98, 126.95, 122.3, 117.9, 76.7, 76.5, 45.7, 43.6, 42.9, 34.4. HRMS (ESI) m/z: $[M + H]^+$ calcd for $C_{34}H_{31}N_2O_5S_3$, 643.1390; found, 643.1383. IR (cm⁻¹): 3082, 3028, 2906, 1723.

(S)-5-Benzyl-2-(benzylthio)-1-(2-chloroethyl)-5-((R)-phenyl-(1,1,3,3-tetraoxido-2H-benzo[d][1,3]dithiol-2-yl)methyl)-1,5-dihydro-4H-imidazole-4-one (**31**). (S)-5-Benzyl-2-(benzylthio)-5-((R)phenyl(1,1,3,3-tetraoxido-2H-benzo[d-1,3]dithiol-2-yl)methyl)-1,5dihydro-4H-imidazole-4-one **27** (121 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1 equiv), 1bromo-2-chloroethane (20 μ L, 0.24 mmol, 1.2 equiv), K₂CO₃ (29 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1 equiv), and DBU (3 μ L, 0.02 mmol, 0.1 equiv) in DCE (4 mL) were mixed according to the general procedure (reaction stirred at 60 °C for 2 days). Upon the usual work-up, compound **31** was obtained with traces of an unknown side product that could not be eliminated after chromatography. This material was employed without further purification in the next hydrolytic step.

Hydrolysis of Compounds 27–30 to Hydrolysis 32a-d. The same procedure as for the hydrolysis of adducts 15 was followed.

(S)-5-Benzyl-5-(phenyl(1,1,3,3-tetraoxido-2H-benzo[d][1,3]dithiol-2-yl)methyl)imidazolidine-2,4-dione (32a). The title compound was prepared from 5-benzyl-2-(benzylthio)-5-(phenyl(1,1,3,3tetraoxido-2*H*-benzo[*d*][1,3]dithiol-2-yl)methyl)-1,5-dihydro-4*H*imidazole-4-one (0.198 g, 0.33 mmol, 1 equiv) and HCl (6 M) (1.3 mL, 7.59 mmol, 23 equiv) in 1,4-dioxane (12 mL) according to the general procedure. Silica gel flash column chromatography (eluent: hexane/ethyl acetate, from 3:1 to 1:1). White solid, mp: 249-254 °C. Yield: 0.103 g, 63%. $[\alpha]_{D}^{20}$ – 50.6 (c = 1, CH₂Cl₂). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): δ 8.08-7.80 (m, 4H), 7.48 (m, 5H), 7.37-7.21 (m, 5H), 7.14–7.04 (m, 2H), 5.42 (d, J = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 4.40 (d, J = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 3.28 (d, J = 13.6 Hz, 1H), 2.64 (d, J = 13.6 Hz, 1H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (126 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): δ 182.3, 174.0, 138.5, 136.8, 136.2, 136.0, 133.1, 131.3, 130.9, 130.3, 129.5, 129.2, 128.5, 123.12, 123.09, 76.0, 73.3, 47.9, 43.4. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M + H]⁺ calcd for C₂₄H₂₁N₂O₆S₂, 497.0836; found, 497.0824. IR (cm⁻¹): 3063, 3030, 2948, 1732, 1698.

(*R*)-5-Benzyl-1-methyl-5-(phenyl(1,1,3,3-tetraoxido-2H-benzo [d][1,3]dithiol-2-yl)methyl)imidazolidine-2,4-dione (**32b**). The title compound was prepared from **28** (0.215 g, 0.35 mmol, 1 equiv) and 6 M HCl (1.3 mL, 8.05 mmol, 23 equiv) in 1,4-dioxane (12 mL) according to the general procedure. Silica gel flash column chromatography (eluent: hexane/ethyl acetate, from 3:1 to 1:1). White solid, mp 269–272 °C. Yield: 0.118 g, 66%. $[\alpha]_D^{20} - 57.3$ (*c* = 1, CH₂Cl₂). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): δ 8.03–7.77 (m, 3H),

7.49 (m, 6H), 7.28–7.13 (m, 3H), 7.06–6.94 (m, 2H), 5.33 (d, J = 10.5 Hz, 2H), 4.45 (d, J = 10.1 Hz, 1H), 3.11 (d, J = 13.5 Hz, 1H), 2.79 (s, 3H), 2.46 (d, J = 13.5 Hz, 1H). $^{13}C{}^{1}H$ NMR (126 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): δ 185.2, 174.0, 138.4, 136.9, 136.0, 135.9, 133.0, 131.6, 130.6, 130.2, 129.6, 128.9, 128.4, 123.01, 122.99, 76.3, 71.1, 47.3, 43.9, 27.7. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M + H]⁺ calcd for C₂₅H₂₃N₂O₆S₂, 511.0992; found, 511.0992. IR (cm⁻¹): 3063, 2930, 1731, 1684.

(S)-1,5-Dibenzyl-5-((R)-phenyl(1,1,3,3-tetraoxido-2H-benzo[d]-[1,3]*dithiol-2-yl*)*methyl*)*imidazolidine-2,4-dione* (**32c**). The title compound was prepared from 29 (0.25 g, 0.36 mmol) and 6 M HCl (1.65 mL, 8.28 mmol, 23 equiv) in 1,4-dioxane (4 mL) according to the general procedure. Silica gel flash column chromatography (eluent: hexane/ethyl acetate, from 3:1 to 1:1). White solid, mp 227-231 °C. Yield: 0.12 g, 0.2 mmol, 55%. $[\alpha]_{\rm D}^{20}$ – 55.6 (c = 1, 98% ee, CH₂Cl₂). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.06-7.72 (m, 4H), 7.40 (s, 5H), 7.25–6.83 (m, 11H), 5.35 (d, J = 10.1 Hz, 1H), 4.79–4.64 (m, 2H), 4.43 (d, J = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 3.31 (d, J = 13.7 Hz, 1H), 2.60 (d, I = 13.7 Hz, 1H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 184.1, 173.7, 137.9, 136.3, 135.3, 135.2, 134.7, 131.9, 130.8, 130.2, 129.8, 129.1, 128.6, 128.4, 127.9, 127.5, 122.7, 122.5, 75.6, 70.0, 47.8, 45.4, 43.0. HRMS (ESI) m/z: $[M + H]^+$ calcd for $C_{31}H_{27}N_2O_6S_{24}$ 587.1305; found, 587.1298. IR (cm⁻¹): 3319, 3063, 3030, 2929, 1733, 1480. The ee value was determined by HPLC analysis (Daicel Chiralpak IA, hexane/isopropanol 30:70), flow rate: 0.5 mL/min, retention times: 60.6 min (major) and 77.2 min (minor).

(R)-Allyl-5-benzyl-5-(phenyl(1,1,3,3-tetraoxido-2H-benzo[d][1,3]dithiol-2-yl)methyl)imidazolidine-2,4-dione (32d). The title compound was prepared from 30 (67 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1 equiv) and 6 M HCl (0.5 mL, 0.23 mmol, 23 equiv) in 1,4-dioxane (4 mL) according to the general procedure. Silica gel flash column chromatography (eluent: hexane/ethyl acetate, from 3:1 to 1:1). White solid, mp: 261–266 °C. Yield: 39 mg, 72%. $[\alpha]_{D}^{20}$ – 44.5 (c = 1, CH₂Cl₂). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): δ 8.03-7.98 (m, 1H), 7.92-7.79 (m, 3H), 7.48 (m, 6H), 7.26-7.17 (m, 3H), 7.07-6.99 (m, 2H), 5.36 (d, *J* = 10.1 Hz, 1H), 5.07 (m, 1H), 4.90 (dd, *J* = 10.2, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 4.81 (dd, J = 17.1, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 4.41 (d, J = 10.1 Hz, 1H), 4.09 (ddt, J = 15.1, 5.7, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 4.01 (ddt, J = 15.1, 6.4, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 3.20 (d, J = 13.6 Hz, 1H), 2.54 (d, J = 13.7 Hz, 1H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (126 MHz, CD_2Cl_2): δ 184.3, 173.5, 138.2, 136.7, 136.0, 135.9, 132.9, 131.4, 130.85, 130.83, 130.1, 129.4, 129.0, 128.3, 123.0, 122.9, 118.6, 76.0, 71.0, 47.6, 44.3, 43.6. HRMS (ESI) m/z: $[M + H]^+$ calcd for $C_{27}H_{25}N_2O_6S_2$, 537.1149; found, 537.1156. IR (cm⁻¹): 3030, 2927, 1732, 1716.

Synthesis of 33. Aqueous HCl (6 M, 0.36 mL) was added dropwise to a solution of crude material 31 obtained in the previous step in 1,4-dioxane (6 mL) at 0 °C. Once the addition was complete, the reaction was stirred for 6 h at 80 °C. Then, the second portion of 6 M HCl (0.40 mL) was added dropwise, and the mixture was stirred at 80 °C for an additional 9 h. Afterward, the reaction was cooled to 0 °C, and saturated NaHCO₃ was added until basic pH was obtained. The aqueous layer was extracted with dichloromethane twice, and the combined organic layers were dried over MgSO4 and the solvent evaporated under reduced pressure. The crude product was purified by silica gel flash column chromatography (eluent: hexane/ethyl acetate, from 3:1 to 1:1) to obtain product 33. White solid, mp 253-256 °C. Yield from 27: 53 mg, 49%. $[\alpha]_{D}^{20}$ – 54.5 (c = 1, CH₂Cl₂). ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): δ 8.15-7.74 (m, 5H), 7.60-7.38 (m, 4H), 7.18 (m, 3H), 7.08-6.95 (m, 2H), 5.20 (d, J = 10.4 Hz, 1H), 4.32 (d, J = 10.4 Hz, 1H), 3.55 (m, 1H), 3.43 (m, 1H), 3.07 (m, 1H), 2.91 (m, 1H), 2.61 (d, J = 12.7 Hz, 1H), 2.43 (d, J = 12.7 Hz, 1H). ¹³C{¹H} NMR (126 MHz, CD₂Cl₂): δ 177.1, 170.1, 138.7, 137.1, 135.8, 135.6, 134.9, 132.6, 130.8, 129.5, 127.9, 127.6, 122.9, 122.6, 86.3, 77.6, 46.1, 44.2, 40.1, 34.3. HRMS (ESI) m/z: [M + H]⁺ calcd for $C_{26}H_{23}N_2O_5S_3$, 539.0764; found, 539.0770. IR (cm⁻¹): 3060, 3035, 2906, 2850, 1725, 1596.

Data Availability Statement

Data availability statement: The data underlying this study are available in the published article and its online Supporting Information.

Supporting Information

The Supporting Information is available free of charge at https://pubs.acs.org/doi/10.1021/acs.joc.2c02403.

Crystallographic data for **25b**, experimental and computational details, and copies of NMR spectra and HPLC chromatograms (PDF)

Accession Codes

CCDC 2183172 contains the supplementary crystallographic data for this paper. These data can be obtained free of charge via www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data_request/cif, or by emailing data_request@ccdc.cam.ac.uk, or by contacting The Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre, 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB2 1EZ, UK; fax: +44 1223 336033.

AUTHOR INFORMATION

Corresponding Authors

- Aitor Landa Departamento de Química Orgánica I, Facultad de Química, Universidad del País Vasco UPV/ EHU, Donostia-San Sebastián 20018, Spain; Email: a.landa@ehu.eus
- Mikel Oiarbide Departamento de Química Orgánica I, Facultad de Química, Universidad del País Vasco UPV/ EHU, Donostia-San Sebastián 20018, Spain; o orcid.org/ 0000-0003-0362-0136; Email: mikel.oiarbide@ehu.eus
- Claudio Palomo Departamento de Química Orgánica I, Facultad de Química, Universidad del País Vasco UPV/ EHU, Donostia-San Sebastián 20018, Spain; o orcid.org/ 0000-0001-9809-2799; Email: claudio.palomo@ehu.es

Authors

- Leire Villaescusa Departamento de Química Orgánica I, Facultad de Química, Universidad del País Vasco UPV/ EHU, Donostia-San Sebastián 20018, Spain
- Iker Hernández Departamento de Química Orgánica I, Facultad de Química, Universidad del País Vasco UPV/ EHU, Donostia-San Sebastián 20018, Spain
- Laura Azcune Departamento de Química Orgánica I, Facultad de Química, Universidad del País Vasco UPV/ EHU, Donostia-San Sebastián 20018, Spain
- Ainhoa Rudi Departamento de Química Orgánica I, Facultad de Química, Universidad del País Vasco UPV/ EHU, Donostia-San Sebastián 20018, Spain
- José M. Mercero Kimika Fakultatea, Euskal Herriko Unibertsitatea (UPV/EHU) & Donostia International Physics Center (DIPC), Donostia 20018, Spain

Complete contact information is available at: https://pubs.acs.org/10.1021/acs.joc.2c02403

Notes

The authors declare no competing financial interest.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We thank the Basque Government (EJ, grant IT-1583-22) and Agencia Estatal de Investigación (grant PID2019-109633GB-C21/AEI/10.13039/501100011033) for financial support. L.V. thanks AEI and I.H. and E.J. for a fellowship. The authors are grateful for the technical and human support provided by SGIker (UPV/EHU/ERDF, EU).

DEDICATION

Dedicated to Prof. Joan Bosch on occasion of his retirement.

REFERENCES

(1) For a review, see: (a) Cho, S. H.; Kim, S. H.; Shin, D. Recent applications of hydantoin and thiohydantoin in medicinal chemistry. *Eur. J. Med. Chem.* **2019**, *164*, 517–545. Selected recent examples: (b) Wang, Q.; Tang, X.; Luo, X.; de Voogd, N. J.; Li, P.; Li, G. (+)-and (-)-Spiroreticulatine, A Pair of Unusual Spiro Bisheterocyclic Quinoline-imidazole Alkaloids from the South China Sea Sponge Fascaplysinopsis Reticulate. *Org. Lett.* **2015**, *17*, 3458–3461.

(2) (a) Konnert, L.; Lamaty, F.; Martinez, J.; Colacino, E. Recent Advances in the Synthesis of Hydantoins: The State of the Art of a Valuable Scaffold. *Chem. Rev.* **2017**, *117*, 13757–13809. (b) Keenan, T.; Jean, A.; Arseniyadis, S. Phase-Transfer-Catalyzed Alkylation of Hydantoins. *ACS Org. Inorg. Au* **2022**, *2*, 312–317.

(3) Examples of marketed drugs containing a 5,5-disubstituted hydantoin core structure are: mephenytoin and phosphenytoin (anticovulsant), nilutamide (nonsteroidal antiandrogenic used in the treatment of prostate cancer), BIRT-377 (potent negative allosteric modulator of LFA-1 for treatment of leukemia).

(4) For studies related to candidate BMS-587101, see: https:// clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/NCT00162253. For its synthesis, see: (b) Potin, D.; Launay, M.; Monatlik, F.; Malabre, P.; Fabreguettes, M.; Fouquet, A.; Maillet, M.; Nicolai, E.; Dorgeret, L.; Chevallier, F.; et al. Discovery and Development of 5-[(5S,9R)-9-(4-Cyanophenyl)-3-(3,5-dichlorophenyl)-1-methyl-2,4-dioxo-1,3,7-triazaspiro[4.4]non-7-yl-methyl]-3-thiophenecarboxylic Acid (BMS-587101)-a Small Molecule Antagonist Leukocyte Function Associated Antigen-1. J. Med. Chem. 2006, 49, 6946–6949.

(5) For studies related to candidate GLGP 049, see: Nique, F.; Hebbe, S.; Triballeau, N.; Peixoto, C.; Lefrançois, J.-M.; Jary, H.; Alvey, L.; Manioc, M.; Housseman, C.; Klaassen, H.; et al. Identification of a 4-(Hydroxymethyl)diarylhydantoin as a Selective Androgen Receptor Modulator. J. Med. Chem. 2012, 55, 8236–8247.

(6) (a) Brebion, F.; Gosmini, R.; Deprez, P.; Varin, M.; Peixoto, C.; Alvey, L.; Jary, H.; Bienvenu, N.; Triballeau, N.; Blanque, R.; Cottereaux, C.; Christophe, T.; Vandervoort, N.; Mollat, P.; Touitou, R.; Leonard, F.; Ceuninck, F.; Botez, J.; Monjardet, A.; van der Aar, E.; Amantini, D. Discovery of GLPG1972/S201086, a Potent, Selective, and Orally Bioavailable ADAMTS-5 Inhibitor for the Treatment of Osteoarthritis. *J. Med. Chem.* **2021**, *64*, 2937–2952. (b) Durham, T. B.; Marimuthu, J.; Toth, J. L.; Liu, C.; Adams, L.; Mudra, D. R.; Swearingen, C.; Lin, C.; Chambers, M. G.; Thirunavukkarasu, K.; Wiley, M. R. A Highly Selective Hydantoin Inhibitor of Aggrecanase-1 and Aggrecanase-2 with a Low Projected Human Dose. *J. Med. Chem.* **2017**, *60*, 5933–5939.

(7) (a) Rogacki, M. K.; Pitta, E.; Balabon, O.; Huss, S.; Lopez-Roman, E. M.; Argyrou, A.; Blanco-Ruano, D.; Cacho, M.; Vande Velde, C. M. L.; Augustyns, K.; Ballell, L.; Barros, D.; Bates, R. H.; Cunningham, F.; Van der Veken, P. Identification and Profiling of Hydantoins—A Novel Class of Potent Antimycobacterial DprE1 Inhibitors. J. Med. Chem. 2018, 61, 11221–11249. (b) Balabon, O.; Pitta, E.; Rogacki, M. K.; Meiler, E.; Casanueva, R.; Guijarro, L.; Huss, S.; Lopez-Roman, E. M.; Santos-Villarejo, A.; Augustyns, K.; Ballell, L.; Aguirre, D. B.; Bates, R. H.; Cunningham, F.; Cacho, M.; Van der Veken, P. Optimization of Hydantoins as Potent Antimycobacterial Decaprenylphosphoryl- β -D-Ribose Oxidase (DprE1) Inhibitors. J. Med. Chem. 2020, 63, 5367–5386.

(8) Selected recent examples of enantioselective synthesis of 5,5-disubstituted hydantoins: (a) Großkopf, J.; Plaza, M.; Seitz, A.; Breitenlechner, S.; Storch, G.; Bach, T. Photochemical Deracemization at sp³-Hybridized Carbon Centers via a Reversible Hydrogen Atom Transfer. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2021, 143, 21241–21245.
(b) Atkinson, R. C.; Fernández-Nieto, F.; Mas Roselló, J. M.;

Clayden, J. Pseudoephedrine-Directed Asymmetric α -Arylation of α -Amino Acid Derivatives. Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. **2015**, 54, 8961–8965. (c) Maury, J.; Clayden, J. α -Quaternary Proline Derivatives by Intramolecular Diastereoselective Arylation of N-Carboxamido Proline Ester Enolates. J. Org. Chem. **2015**, 80, 10757–10768. (d) Kondoh, A.; Ota, Y.; Komuro, T.; Egawa, F.; Kanomata, K.; Terada, M. Chiral Brønsted Acid-Catalyzed Enantioselective Friedel– Crafts Reaction of 2-Methoxyfuran with Aliphatic Ketimines Generated In Situ. Chem. Sci. **2016**, 7, 1057–1062. See also: (e) Tomohara, K.; Yoshimura, T.; Hyakutake, R.; Yang, P.; Kawabata, T. Asymmetric α -Arylation of Amino Acid Derivatives by Clayden Rearrangement of Ester Enolates via Memory of Chirality. J. Am. Chem. Soc. **2013**, 135, 13294–13297.

(9) (a) Etxabe, J.; Izquierdo, J.; Landa, A.; Oiarbide, M.; Palomo, C. Catalytic Enantioselective Synthesis of N,C^{α},C^{α} -Trisubstituted α -Amino Acid Derivatives Using 1*H*-Imidazole-4(5*H*)-ones as Key Templates. Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. **2015**, 54, 6883–6886. (b) Izquierdo, J.; Etxabe, J.; Duñabeitia, E.; Landa, A.; Oiarbide, M.; Palomo, C. Enantioselective Synthesis of 5,5-Disubstituted Hydantoins by Brønsted Base/H-Bond Catalyst Assisted Michael Reactions of a Design Template. Chem.—Eur. J. **2018**, 24, 7217–7227. (c) Izquierdo, J.; Demurget, N.; Landa, A.; Brinck, T.; Mercero, J. M.; Dinér, P.; Oiarbide, M.; Palomo, C. Asymmetric Synthesis of Adjacent Tri- and Tetrasubstituted Carbon Stereocenters. Organocatalytic Aldol Reaction of a Hydantoin Surrogate with Azaarene 2-Carbaldehydes. Chem.—Eur. J. **2019**, 25, 12431–12438.

(10) Sulfones in synthesis: (a) Simpkins, N. S. Sulfones in Organic Synthesis; Pergamon Press: Oxford, 1993. (b) Simpkins, N. S. The Chemistry of Vinyl Sulphones. Tetrahedron 1990, 46, 6951-6984.
(c) Hudlicky, T.; Reed, J. W. The Way of Synthesis; Wiley-VCH: Weinheim, 2007. (d) Carretero, J. C.; Gómez-Arrayás, R.; Adrio, J. Organosulfur Chemistry in Asymmetric Synthesis; Toru, T., Bolm, C., Eds.; Wiley-VCH: Weinheim; 2008; pp 291-320. (e) Trost, B. M.; Kalnmals, C. A. Sulfones as Chemical Chameleons: Versatile Synthetic Equivalents of Small-Molecule Synthons. Chem.—Eur. J. 2019, 25, 11193-11213. (f) Huang, Y.; Li, J.; Chen, H.; He, Z.; Zeng, Q. Recent Progress on the Synthesis of Chiral Sulfones. Chem. Rec. 2021, 21, 1-25.

(11) Reviews on the use of sulfones in asymmetric (organo)catalysis: (a) Zhu, Q.; Lu, Y. Chiral Amine-Mediated Asymmetric Conjugate Additions to Vinyl Sulfones. *Aust. J. Chem.* **2009**, *62*, 951–955. (b) Nielsen, M.; Jacobsen, C. B.; Holub, N.; Paixão, M. W.; Jørgensen, K. A. Asymmetric Organocatalysis with Sulfones. *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.* **2010**, *49*, 2668–2679. (c) Alba, A.-R. N.; Companyó, X.; Rios, R. Sulfones: New Reagents in Organocatalysis. *Chem. Soc. Rev.* **2010**, *39*, 2018–2033. (d) Liang, X.; Shen, Y. Advances in Synthesis of Enantioenriched Chiral Sulfones by Enantioselective Conjugate Addition Reactions. *Asian J. Org. Chem.* **2021**, *10*, No. e202100598.

(12) (a) Landa, A.; Puente, A.; Santos, J. I.; Vera, S.; Oiarbide, M.; Palomo, C. Catalytic Conjugate Additions of Geminal Bis(sulfone)s: Expanding the Chemistry of Sulfones as Simple Alkyl Anion Equivalents. *Chem.—Eur. J.* **2009**, *15*, 11954–11962. (b) Zhang, S.; Li, J.; Zhao, S.; Wang, W. 1,3-Benzodithiole-1,1,3,3-Tetraoxide (BDT) as a Versatile Methylation Reagent in Catalytic Enantioselective Michael Addition Reaction with Enals. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2010**, *51*, 1766–1769. See, also (c) Kündig, E. P.; Cunningham, A. F., Jr. 1,3-Benzodithiole tetraoxide as a CH22- synthon. *Tetrahedron* **1988**, *44*, 6855–6860.

(13) (a) Dumas, A. M.; Fillion, E. Meldrum's Acids and 5-Alkylidene Meldrum's Acids in Catalytic Carbon-Carbon Bond-Forming Processes. Acc. Chem. Res. 2010, 43, 440–454. (b) Kaumanns, O.; Mayr, H. Electrophilicity Parameters of 5-Benzylidene-2,2-dimethyl-[1,3]dioxane-4,6-diones (Benzylidene Meldrum's Acids). J. Org. Chem. 2008, 73, 2738–2745.

(14) Asahara, H.; Mayr, H. Electrophilicities of Bissulfonyl Ethylenes. *Chem.*—*Asian J.* **2012**, *7*, 1401–1407.

(15) (a) Arnett, E. M.; Harrelson, J. A., Jr. Ion pairing and reactivity of enolate anions. 7. A spectacular example of the importance of

rotational barriers: the ionization of Meldrum's acid. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1987, 109, 809–812. (b) Wang, X.; Houk, K. N. Theoretical Elucidation of the Origin of the Anomalously High Acidity of Meldrum's Acid. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1988, 110, 1870–1872. (c) Wiberg, K. B.; Laidig, K. E. Acidity of (Z)- and (E)-Methyl Acetates: Relationship to Meldrum's Acid. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1988, 110, 1872– 1874. (d) Nakamura, S.; Hirao, H.; Ohwada, T. Rationale for the Acidity of Meldrum's Acid. Consistent Relation of C-H Acidities to the Properties of Localized Reactive Orbital. J. Org. Chem. 2004, 69, 4309–4316.

(16) (a) Mossé, S.; Alexakis, A. First Organocatalyzed Asymmetric Michael Addition of Aldehydes to Vinyl Sulfones. Org. Lett. 2005, 7, 4361–4364. See also: (b) Quintard, A.; Alexakis, A. Organocatalytic Addition on 1,2-Bis(sulfone)vinylenes Leading to an Unprecedented Rearrangement. Chem.—Eur. J. 2009, 15, 11109–11113. (c) Sulzer-Moss, S.; Alexakis, A.; Mareda, J.; Bollot, G.; Bernardinelli, G.; Filinchuk, Y. Enantioselective Organocatalytic Conjugate Addition of Aldehydes to Vinyl Sulfones and Vinyl Phosphonates as Challenging Michael Acceptors. Chem.—Eur. J. 2009, 15, 3204–3220.

(17) Representative examples: (a) Zhu, Q.; Lu, Y. Organocatalytic Michael Addition of Aldehydes to Vinyl Sulfones: Enantioselective α -Alkylations of Aldehydes and Their Derivatives. Org. Lett. 2008, 10, 4803-4806. (b) Dou, X.; Lu, Y. Enantioselective Conjugate Addition of 3-Fluoro- Oxindoles to Vinyl Sulfone: an Organocatalytic Access to Chiral 3-Fluoro-3-Substituted Oxindoles. Org. Biomol. Chem. 2013, 11, 5217-5221. (c) Liu, Q.; Qiao, B.; Chin, K. F.; Tan, C. H.; Jiang, Z. Asymmetric Michael Addition of 5H-Oxazol-4-ones to Vinyl Sulfones: Stereoselective Synthesis of Monofluorinated Analogs of 2-Tertiary Hydroxyl-3-Methyl-Substituted Carboxylic Acid Derivatives. Adv. Synth. Catal. 2014, 356, 3777-3783. (d) Wei, Y.; Guo, R.; Dang, Y.; Nie, J.; Ma, J. A. Organocatalytic Enantioselective Decarboxylative Michael Addition of β -Keto Acids to Dicyanoolefins and Disulfonylolefins. Adv. Synth. Catal. 2016, 358, 2721-2726. (e) Nishimura, T.; Takiguchi, Y.; Hayashi, T. Effect of Chiral Diene Ligands in Rhodium-Catalyzed Asymmetric Addition of Arylboronic Acids to α,β -Unsaturated Sulfonyl Compounds. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2012, 134, 9086-9089. (f) Quintard, A.; AlexakisMazet, C. Access to High Levels of Molecular Complexity by One-Pot Iridium/Enamine Asymmetric Catalysis. Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. 2011, 50, 2354-2358. (g) McLaughlin, C.; Slawin, A. M. Z.; Smith, A. D. Base-free Enantioselective C(1)-Ammonium Enolate Catalysis Exploiting Aryloxides: A Synthetic and Mechanistic Study. Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. 2019, 58, 15111-15119. (h) Li, H.; Song, J.; Deng, L. Catalytic enantioselective conjugate additions with $\alpha_{\mu}\beta$ -unsaturated sulfones. Tetrahedron 2009, 65, 3139-3148.

(18) Use friendly tool is available at https://pka.allchemy.net/. For details, see: Roszak, R.; Beker, W.; Molga, K.; Grzybowski, B. A. Rapid and Accurate Prediction of pKa Values of CH Acids Using Graph Convolutional Neural Networks. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2019, 141, 17142–17149.

(19) (a) Alba, A.-N. R.; Companyó, X.; Valero, G.; Moyano, A.; Rios, R. Enantioselective Organocatalytic Addition of Oxazolones to 1,1-Bis(phenylsulfonyl)ethylene: A Convenient Asymmetric Synthesis of Quaternary α -Amino Acids. *Chem.—Eur. J.* **2010**, *16*, 5354–5361. For a review, see: (b) Alba, A.-N. R.; Rios, R. Oxazolones in Organocatalysis, New Tricks for an Old Reagent. *Chem.—Asian J.* **2011**, *6*, 720–734.

(20) Badiola, E.; Olaizola, J.; Vázquez, A.; Vera, S.; Mielgo, A.; Palomo, C. $\beta^{2,2}$ -Amino Acid N-Carboxyanhydrides Relying on Sequential Enantioselective C(4)-Functionalization of Pyrrolidin-2,3-diones and Regioselective Baeyer–Villiger Oxidation. *Chem.*—*Eur. J.* **2017**, *23*, 8185–8195.

(21) Okino, T.; Hoashi, Y.; Takemoto, Y. Enantioselective Michael Reaction of Malonates to Nitroolefins Catalyzed by Bifunctional Organocatalysts. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2003, 125, 12672–12673.

(22) McCooey, S. H.; Connon, S. Urea- and Thiourea-Substituted Cinchona Alkaloid Derivatives as Highly Efficient Bifunctional Organocatalysts for the Asymmetric Addition of Malonate to Nitroalkenes: Inversion of Configuration at C9 Dramatically Improves Catalyst Performance. Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. **2005**, 44, 6367–6370. (23) (a) Ye, J.; Dixon, D. J.; Hynes, P. S. Enantioselective Organocatalytic Michael Addition of Malonate Esters to Nitro Olefins Using Bifunctional Cinchonine Derivatives. Chem. Commun. **2005**, 4481–4483. (b) Vakulya, B.; Varga, S.; Csámpai, A.; Soós, T. Highly Enantioselective Conjugate Addition of Nitromethane to Chalcones Using Bifunctional Cinchona Organocatalysts. Org. Lett. **2005**, 7, 1967–1969. (c) Li, B.-J.; Jiang, L.; Liu, M.; Chen, Y.-C.; Ding, L.-S.; Wu, Y. Asymmetric Michael Addition of Arylthiols to α,β -Unsaturated Carbonyl Compounds Catalyzed by Bifunctional Organocatalysts. Synlett **2005**, 603–606.

(24) (a) Diosdado, S.; Etxabe, J.; Izquierdo, J.; Landa, A.; Mielgo, I.; Olaizola, A.; López, R.; Palomo, C. Catalytic Enantioselective Synthesis of Tertiary Thiols From 5H-Thiazol-4-ones and Nitroolefins: Bifunctional Ureidopeptide-Based Brønsted Base Catalysis. Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. **2013**, 52, 11846–11851. (b) Diosdado, S.; López, R.; Palomo, C. Ureidopeptide-Based Brønsted Bases: Design, Synthesis and Application to the Catalytic Enantioselective Synthesis of β -Amino Nitriles from (Arylsulfonyl)acetonitriles. Chem.—Eur. J. **2014**, 20, 6526–6531.

(25) See the Supporting Information for details.

(26) Brown, A. C.; Carpino, L. A. Magnesium in Methanol: Substitute for Sodium Amalgam in Desulfonylation Reactions. *J. Org. Chem.* **1985**, *50*, 1749–1750.

(27) Yield of **25b**, 78%; **25a** was not isolated and the crude material was submitted to ulterior desulfonylation to afford **26** in 67% yield over two steps. It should be noted that hydrolysis of adducts **15** under basic conditions (11 equiv of NaOH 6 M, 20 °C, 2 h, 1,4-dioxane) was unpractical because the occurrence of retro-Michael reaction to a variable extent.

(28) Single crystal X-ray crystallographic data have been deposited at the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre under deposition number CCDC-2183172.

(29) (a) Bochevarov, A. D.; Watson, M. A.; Greenwood, J. R.; Philipp, D. M. Multiconformation, Density Functional Theory-Based pKa Prediction in Application to Large, Flexible Organic Molecules with Diverse Functional Groups. J. Chem. Theory Comput. 2016, 12, 6001–6019. (b) Yu, H. S.; Watson, M. A.; Bochevarov, A. D. Weighted Averaging Scheme and Local Atomic Descriptor for pKa Prediction Based on Density Functional Theory. J. Chem. Inf. Model. 2018, 58, 271–286. (c) Klicić, J. J.; Friesner, R. A.; Liu, S.-Y.; Guida, W. C. Accurate Prediction of Acidity Constants in Aqueous Solution via Density Functional Theory and Self-Consistent Reaction Field Methods. J. Phys. Chem. A 2002, 106, 1327–1335.

(30) *Schrödinger Release 2021-1: Jaguar pK_a*; Schrödinger, LLC: New York, NY, 2020.

Recommended by ACS

Enantioselective Sulfonium-Claisen Rearrangement with Cinnamyl Thioethers

Jiwon Jang, Seunghoon Shin, et al. MAY 23, 2023 ORGANIC LETTERS

READ 🗹

Enantioselective Synthesis of Chiral Organosilicon Compounds by Organocatalytic Asymmetric Conjugate Addition of Boronic Acids to β-Silyl-α,β-Unsaturated Ket...

Xiao Wang, Junbiao Chang, et al. FEBRUARY 22, 2023 THE JOURNAL OF ORGANIC CHEMISTRY

READ 🗹

Insight into Stereocontrol in the Asymmetric Intramolecular Allylation with a *tert*-Butylsulfinamide Nucleophile: Application in the Synthesis of Chiral Isoindoline-1-Carbo...

Chun-Tai Hung, Cheng-Che Tsai, *et al.* DECEMBER 22, 2022 THE JOURNAL OF ORGANIC CHEMISTRY

			_
	-	•	
~	-	~	
• •			

RFAD

Regioselective and Diastereoselective Halofunctionalization of Alkenes Promoted by Organophotocatalytic Solar Catalysis

Huili Li, Wenxiang Wang, *et al.* MAY 08, 2023 THE JOURNAL OF ORGANIC CHEMISTRY

Get More Suggestions >