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# $S_{_{\! N}}^2$ vs E2 on Quaternary Centers: An Easy Approach to Chiral $\beta^2$ ,²-Amino Acids from Cyclic Sulfamidates

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## $S_N2$ vs E2 on Quaternary Centers: An Easy Approach to Chiral $\beta^{2,2}$ -Amino Acids from Cyclic Sulfamidates

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#### INTRODUCTION

The combination of the catalytic asymmetric dihydroxylation (AD)<sup>1</sup> and the synthesis of five-membered cyclic sulfamidates from 1,2-diols and Burgess-type reagents (BR),<sup>2</sup> has contributed to the expansion of the chemistry of such intermediates in organic synthesis.<sup>3</sup>

### RESULTS

In this sense, we focused our attention on two five-membered cyclic  $\alpha\text{-methylisoserine-derived}$  sulfamidates, believing that these two compounds would be excellent chiral building blocks for the synthesis of  $\alpha\text{-methyl-}\beta\text{-amino}$  acids by a  $S_N2$  reaction, as a key step.

Although the synthesis and reactivity of several sulfamidates has been well documented, little is known about five-membered cyclic sulfamidates that are *gem*-disubstituted at the 5 position and, to the best of our knowledge, it is the first time that such compounds have been opened by nucleophiles via  $S_N2$  reaction on the quaternary carbon. Following this strategy, we have recently reported an easy synthetic approach to a varied collection of enantiopure  $\beta^{2,2}$ -amino acids. Competitive E2 reaction appeared when basic nucleophiles were used to give  $\alpha$ -methylen- $\beta$ -alanines, but it was suppressed simply changing the amide group by the ester group in the cyclic sulfamidate.

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**SCHEME 1** Synthesis of  $\alpha$ -methyl- $\beta$ -amino acids from cyclic sulfamidates.

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