Peptide Synthesis by Asymmetric Transamination of α-Keto Amides

**Significance:** Peptide synthesis is important in drug discovery and medicinal chemistry. The authors have developed an asymmetric transamination method for synthesizing peptides from α-keto amides.

**Comment:** By using an N-quaternized axially chiral pyridoxamine as a catalyst, a wide range of dipeptides can be synthesized from α-keto amides in good to excellent yields. This transamination method can also be applied in peptide elongation to synthesize peptide chains containing unnatural amino acids.

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