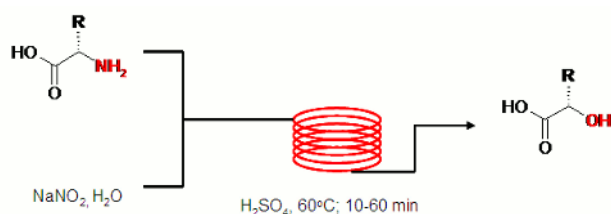


Publication 23: Stereospecific synthesis of Alpha-Hydroxyacids by Diazotisation of Amino Acids



Alpha-hydroxy acids are useful chiral starting materials in total synthesis. They may be conveniently obtained by direct diazotisation and hydrolysis of the corresponding alpha-amino acids. Under continuous flow-through conditions, diazotisation may be achieved safely on scale.

In addition, a flexible and fully automated protocol for continuous liquid-liquid extraction is presented which allows for the continuous extractive work-up and isolation of multi-gram quantities of these useful compounds.

[D.X. Hu, M. O'Brien, and S. V. Ley, *Org. Lett.*, 2012, 14 \(16\), pp 4246–4249](#)