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Synthesis and Purity:

- 1. (S)-tert-Butyl 4-selenocyanato-2-(tert-butoxycarbonylamino)butanoate (15)
- 2. (S)-tert-Butyl 4-trifluoromethylselanyl-2-(tert-butoxycarbonylamino) butanoate (16)
- 3. (S)-1-Carboxy-3-((trifluoromethyl)selanyl)propan-1-aminium 2,2,2-trifluoroacetate (7a)
- 4. (S)-1-Carboxy-3-((trifluoromethyl)selanyl)propan-1-aminium chloride (7b)

# X-ray Crystal Data and Structure Refinement

Crystal data and structure refinement for (S)-tert-butyl 4-selenocyanato-2-(tert-butycarbonylamino)butanoate (15).

Empirical formula	$C_{14}H_{24}N_2O_4Se$						
Formula weight	363.31	363.31					
Temperature	100(2) K	100(2) K					
Wavelength	0.71073 Å						
Crystal system	Orthorhombic						
Space group	$P2_{1}2_{1}2_{1}$						
Unit cell dimensions	a = 5.3393(16) Å	a= 90°.					
	b = 16.636(5) Å	b= 90°.					
	c = 19.468(6)  Å	$g = 90^{\circ}$ .					
Volume	1729.3(9) Å <sup>3</sup>						
Z	4						
Density (calculated)	1.395 Mg/m <sup>3</sup>						
Absorption coefficient	2.187 mm <sup>-1</sup>						
F(000)	752						
Crystal size	0.52 x 0.15 x 0.12 mm	0.52 x 0.15 x 0.12 mm <sup>3</sup>					
Theta range for data collection	1.61 to 28.30°.	1.61 to 28.30°.					
Index ranges	-7<=h<=7,-21<=k<=2	-7<=h<=7, -21<=k<=21, -25<=l<=25					
Reflections collected	14681	14681					
Independent reflections	4011 [R(int) = 0.1339	]					
Completeness to theta = $25.00^{\circ}$	100.0 %						
Absorption correction	Semi-empirical from e	equivalents					
Max. and min. transmission	0.7793 and 0.3959	0.7793 and 0.3959					
Refinement method	Full-matrix least-squa	res on F <sup>2</sup>					
Data / restraints / parameters	4011 / 0 / 199						
Goodness-of-fit on F <sup>2</sup>	1.004						
Final R indices [I>2 $\sigma$ (I)]	R1 = 0.0505, wR2 = 0	R1 = 0.0505, wR2 = 0.0950					
R indices (all data)	R1 = 0.0672, wR2 = 0	R1 = 0.0672, wR2 = 0.1008					
Absolute structure parameter	-0.010(12)	-0.010(12)					
Largest diff. peak and hole	1.606 and -0.648 e·Å-	3					

Se(1)-C(1)	1.859(4)
Se(1)-C(2)	1.981(4)
N(1)-C(5)	1.351(5)
N(1)-C(4)	1.439(4)
N(2)-C(1)	1.147(5)
O(1)-C(5)	1.211(4)
O(2)-C(5)	1.349(5)
O(2)-C(6)	1.481(4)
O(3)-C(10)	1.207(5)
O(4)-C(10)	1.317(5)
O(4)-C(11)	1.496(4)
C(2)-C(3)	1.513(5)
C(3)-C(4)	1.533(5)
C(4)-C(10)	1.534(5)
C(6)-C(7)	1.515(5)
C(6)-C(8)	1.518(5)
C(6)-C(9)	1.524(5)
C(11)-C(13)	1.500(5)
C(11)-C(14)	1.509(6)
C(11)-C(12)	1.527(5)
C(1)-Se(1)-C(2)	97.66(18)
C(5)-N(1)-C(4)	118.7(3)
C(5)-O(2)-C(6)	120.4(3)
C(10)-O(4)-C(11)	120.9(3)
N(2)-C(1)-Se(1)	175.2(4)
C(3)-C(2)-Se(1)	112.9(3)
C(2)-C(3)-C(4)	113.3(3)
N(1)-C(4)-C(3)	110.8(3)
N(1)-C(4)-C(10)	114.5(3)
C(3)-C(4)-C(10)	111.1(3)
O(1)-C(5)-O(2)	126.6(3)
O(1)-C(5)-N(1)	124.0(4)
O(2)-C(5)-N(1)	109.4(3)
O(2)-C(6)-C(7)	109.9(3)
O(2)-C(6)-C(8)	103.1(3)

Table S1. Bond lengths [E] and angles [°] for 15

C(7)-C(6)-C(8)	110.3(4)
O(2)-C(6)-C(9)	110.2(3)
C(7)-C(6)-C(9)	112.0(3)
C(8)-C(6)-C(9)	110.9(3)
O(3)-C(10)-O(4)	127.1(3)
O(3)-C(10)-C(4)	120.1(4)
O(4)-C(10)-C(4)	112.9(3)
O(4)-C(11)-C(13)	111.4(3)
O(4)-C(11)-C(14)	107.9(3)
C(13)-C(11)-C(14)	113.6(3)
O(4)-C(11)-C(12)	101.3(3)
C(13)-C(11)-C(12)	111.3(3)

### Gaussian archive log entries for optimized geometries:

### Methionine, Met

1\1\GINC-N312\FOpt\RB3LYP\6-311+G(2df,2p)\C6H13N1O2S1\MJPUSHIE\05-Jul-2012\0\\#p RB3LYP/6-311+G(2df,2p) opt=(redundant,maxcycle=60) nosymm f req guess=read iop(1/8=8)\\[methionine]charge neutral without continuu m geom opt and freqs\\0,1\N,-1.2009253799,-3.6070091481,0.4665526731\C ,-0.5250778152,-2.7895917017,-0.5521547126\C,0.7192459179,-3.541338326 1,-1.0559233224\0,1.168684072,-4.4836583095,-0.2145592961\0,1.26253976 91,-3.2904403802,-2.096980694\H,-1.149554406,-2.6036981997,-1.42926766 01\C,-0.1159557302,-1.4363042365,0.0592114485\C,0.431349163,-0.4174971 09.-0.9432383666\C.0.8205310829.0.8886629221.-0.2550284302\S.1.3816126 968,2.1162876793,-1.4866970586\C,1.7636484159,3.5062882386,-0.38105685 73\H,0.5150853095,-4.5270274232,0.5139464406\H,-1.7166846884,-3.039164 9331,1.1254122467\H,-1.8460441327,-4.2690103243,0.0543316576\H,-1.0056 062262,-1.0169568412,0.5400905681\H,0.6128819931,-1.6131026023,0.85519 72174\H,-0.3259985521,-0.2160812487,-1.7045198017\H,1.2916563112,-0.83 18653227.-1.4673388452\H.-0.0292989842.1.306266058.0.2894272479\H.1.62 74641377.0.7166910421.0.4598406937\H.2.111261415.4.3234778574.-1.00930 58613\H,2.5526371,3.2441924663,0.3224077727\H,0.8779775997,3.833102661 5,0.1621726908\\Version=EM64L-G09RevC.01\HF=-840.0677176\RMSD=6.139e-0 9\RMSF=1.005e-05\Dipole=-1.6659205,0.46674,1.6680814\Quadrupole=2.4439 055,1.2997952,-3.7437007,13.1513255,4.9883515,-4.5766043\PG=C01 [X(C6H 13N1O2S1)]\\@

### Selenomethionine, SeM

1\1\GINC-N309\FOpt\RB3LYP\6-311+G(2df,2p)\C6H13N1O2Se1\MJPUSHIE\05-Jul -2012\0\\#p RB3LYP/6-311+G(2df,2p) opt=(redundant,maxcycle=60) nosymm freq guess=read iop(1/8=8)\\[selenomethionine]charge neutral without c ontinuum geom opt and freqs\\0,1\N,-1.2559226028,-2.6467370517,0.90565 91598\C,-0.5456578177,-1.8366948436,-0.0955127528\C,0.700714194,-2.603 4451954,-0.5707753524\O,1.1165180761,-3.5544107307,0.2778652367\O,1.27 26256142,-2.3564631386,-1.5974205206\H,-1.1466863865,-1.6424182844,-0. 9871070827\C,-0.1352139359,-0.4888177291,0.5268569126\C,0.4573781144,0 .52260356.-0.4589953035\C.0.8299662446.1.8255159701.0.239274859\Se.1.5 247183382,3.1422132124,-1.0588319549\C,1.8171082015,4.6080253027,0.212 1012943\H,0.4449162519,-3.5905420023,0.9902187612\H,-1.7774695322,-2.0 729706308,1.5547819201\H,-1.9017663248,-3.2977654113,0.4773742631\H,-1 .0326792072,-0.0558871194,0.9804172564\H,0.5672244006,-0.6745573426,1. 3441386835\H,-0.2705124801,0.7238562595,-1.2485904783\H,1.3320140698,0 .095904166,-0.9487268488\H,-0.0355173238,2.2730051247,0.7277767624\H,1 .6032078286,1.6593375173,0.988519128\H,2.2032692537,5.4462447947,-0.36 17336372\H.2.5473360729.4.3187144152.0.963048226\H.0.8802657953.4.8944 544254.0.6826466172\\Version=EM64L-G09RevC.01\HF=-2843.3965753\RMSD=4. 033e-09\RMSF=1.063e-05\Dipole=-1.7316416,0.4643737,1.6047841\Quadrupol e=0.6333541,1.1750022,-1.8083562,10.0453333,3.4856962,-0.9520797\PG=C0 1 [X(C6H13N1O2Se1)]\\@

### Trifluoromethionine (TFM)

1\1\GINC-N311\FOpt\RB3LYP\6-311+G(2df,2p)\C6H10F3N1O2S1\MJPUSHIE\06-Ju 1-2012\0\\#p RB3LYP/6-311+G(2df,2p) opt=(redundant,maxcycle=60) nosymm freq guess=read iop(1/8=8)\\[methionineCF3]charge neutral without con tinuum geom opt and freqs\\0,1\N,-1.2442268607,-2.6357104984,0.8981733 732\C,-0.5352128579,-1.8191853801,-0.0970449079\C,0.7169349463,-2.5767 223808,-0.5746207561\O,1.1236160206,-3.5455460219,0.2554596103\O,1.298 8427105,-2.3040918159,-1.5894716289\H,-1.1350888377,-1.6237449159,-0.9 892583025\C,-0.1314213084,-0.4721965376,0.5310573684\C,0.4737223126.0. 5341341118,-0.4511224362\C,0.839576013,1.8353367258,0.2605686261\S,1.5 165589164,3.0195165302,-0.9669895309\C,1.7928724419,4.4338836842,0.129 2480112\H,0.4490281326,-3.5941590294,0.9644987899\H,-1.759836445,-2.06 91337508.1.5582155314\H.-1.89452377.-3.2798366497.0.4663913021\H.-1.03 27887226.-0.0375834616.0.9743315046\H.0.5624969588.-0.6585764142.1.355 2391278\H.-0.2442252603,0.7400462832,-1.2481035927\H.1.3536026944,0.10 61520231.-0.9297240517\H.-0.0354923081.2.2873885136.0.7247422709\H.1.5 948261578,1.6600179825,1.0247484965\F,2.28175612,5.4456865557,-0.59953 24237\F,2.6708957185,4.1757244563,1.1173517983\F,0.6670736585,4.866463 6601,0.7313274021\\Version=EM64L-G09RevC.01\HF=-1137.8986607\RMSD=7.71 8e-09\RMSF=7.364e-06\Dipole=-2.040305,-0.6355008,1.1354477\Quadrupole= 3.6407449,-7.0186359,3.377891,5.3202648,2.0961734,-4.1717461\PG=C01 [X (C6H10F3N1O2S1)]\\@

### Trifluoroselenomethionine (TFSeM)

1\1\GINC-N309\FOpt\RB3LYP\6-311+G(2df,2p)\C6H10F3N1O2Se1\MJPUSHIE\06-J ul-2012\0\\#p RB3LYP/6-311+G(2df,2p) opt=(redundant,maxcycle=60) nosym m freq guess=read iop(1/8=8)\\[selenomethionineCF3]charge neutral with out continuum geom opt and freqs\\0,1\N,-1.3284999095,-2.6447392382,0. 8333955924\C.-0.4167807302.-1.8595791169.-0.0138924128\C.0.7957560918, -2.7377223783, -0.3939906797, 0.0.5974472939, -4.0472703145, -0.2074574803, -0.207457480, -0.207480, -0.2074\O,1.8184492393,-2.2981900431,-0.8460896643\H,-0.9385685342,-1.6815826 206,-0.9586358804\C,-0.0014411983,-0.502620877,0.5818677441\C,0.556733 8949,0.5021549132,-0.4337769647\C,0.8953258246,1.8291615171,0.23586897 17\Se.1.5531711046,3.1086359515,-1.1252248348\C,1.6501588115,4.6636357 747,0.0740920705\H,-0.2882061964,-4.1281588056,0.2051802258\H,-1.11382 69382,-2.5304529462,1.8172113622\H,-2.294281619,-2.3800080055,0.697086 3849\H,-0.8881445271,-0.0717015092,1.0545401349\H,0.7305977882,-0.6702 220494,1.3767397908\H,-0.1872365024,0.6671408745,-1.2181482301\H,1.438 7284722,0.0786995946,-0.9104170352\H,0.0213743981,2.2791975718,0.70147 09099\H,1.6791661804,1.7104282362,0.9797985006\F,2.0549774237,5.728519 9294,-0.6318200614\F,2.5155387442,4.4897784108,1.0886609381\F,0.463914 9639,4.9680851624,0.6335302239\\Version=EM64L-G09RevC.01\HF=-3141.2250 055\RMSD=5.328e-09\RMSF=5.987e-06\Dipole=-2.0281276,-0.5419253,0.91174 95\Quadrupole=2.6332395,-10.6480759,8.0148364,5.2179076,1.4728544,-4.2 833754\PG=C01 [X(C6H10F3N1O2Se1)]\\@

### Methionine, Met, CHelpG output from B3LYP/6-31G(d)-optimized geometry

1\1\GINC-N257\SP\RB3LYP\6-31G(d)\C6H13N1O2S1\MJPUSHIE\27-Jul-2012\0\\# p RB3LYP/6-31G(d) iop(1/8=8) pop=(chelpg)\\[methionine]charge neutral without continuum CHELPG\\0,1\N,0,-1.3740169732,-3.3538669726,0.661102 6855\C,0,-0.4792856029,-2.5295033665,-0.174227603\C,0,0.7616016665,-3. 3705461757,-0.5472705815\0,0,0.5890722754,-4.6903621899,-0.3860018133\ O,0,1.7832231287,-2.9013268259,-0.9722996392\H,0,-1.0005909862,-2.3643 681245,-1.1236293626\C,0,-0.1136135802,-1.1623309336,0.4306477061\C,0, 0.384049488,-0.1245980201,-0.5828208926\C,0,0.7022259419,1.2100274176, 0.0871555879\S.0.1.1693805288.2.4593493626.-1.1709247626\C.0.1.4862238 4,3.8868496185,-0.0827216364\H,0,-0.3033714979,-4.7902430724,0.0151877 986\H,0,-1.1658969809,-3.2338133916,1.6483999468\H,0,-2.3461610978,-3. 1024120586.0.5254166291\H.0.-1.0132245895.-0.7746967994.0.9211313886\H 0.0.6372192925.-1.3071950002.1.2152564192\H.0.-0.3877664989.0.0290423 728,-1.345369647\H,0,1.2682588875,-0.5068675916,-1.0926177558\H,0,-0.1 648568131,1.5839281624,0.639049864\H,0,1.5321948003,1.0961069914,0.789 0770933\H,0,1.7762918229,4.7157483473,-0.7276598987\H,0,2.3013556829,3 .6766631028,0.6106105426\H,0,0.5883562651,4.1661671473,0.4699409308\\V ersion=EM64L-G09RevC.01\State=1-A\HF=-839.8628473\RMSD=5.906e-09\Dipol e=-1.7992981,0.4982078,1.4882054\Quadrupole=1.5589606,-2.7066872,1.147 7266,8.880444,0.6337162,-0.3167806\PG=C01 [X(C6H13N1O2S1)]\\@

## Selenomethionine, SeM, CHelpG output from B3LYP/6-31G(d)-optimized geometry

1\1\GINC-N312\SP\RB3LYP\6-31G(d)\C6H13N1O2Se1\MJPUSHIE\27-Jul-2012\0\\ #p RB3LYP/6-31G(d) pop=(chelpg,readatradii)\\[selenomethionine]charge neutral without continuum CHELPG\\0,1\N,0,-1.4211761795,-2.5535437112, 1.0536429835\C,0,-0.7314067401,-1.7248106853,0.049197517\C,0,0.5253532 318, -2.4699022627, -0.4348058953\O,0,0.9563681747, -3.4220176126, 0.40705 75367\0.0.1.0919954562.-2.2061610554.-1.4613524931\H.0.-1.3436528783.-1.5393286154,-0.8384315148\C,0,-0.3403173292,-0.3712778747,0.673358605 5\C.0.0.2303993679.0.6520848263.-0.3150008443\C.0.0.5912660862.1.95783 58689,0.3857850317\Se,0,1.2496384773,3.2951669964,-0.9181022262\C,0,1. 5420924151,4.7594368168,0.3624830397\H,0,0.2810138405,-3.4679011038,1. 1200088306\H,0,-1.9438878025,-1.9863985342,1.7114583201\H,0,-2.0721925 56,-3.2009830581,0.6217999969\H,0,-1.2440863628,0.0464089869,1.1331035 278\H,0,0.3710714758,-0.5474572724,1.4875089916\H,0,-0.5090564615,0.84 63208226,-1.0981555775\H,0,1.1077165342,0.2375552487,-0.814077696\H,0, -0.2762132504,2.3904816588,0.8874638175\H,0,1.3792105135,1.8009088966, 1.1239035088\H.0.1.908852687,5.6072956397,-0.2133355773\H.0.2.28903213 41,4.4727193215,1.1002799815\H,0,0.6064091661,5.0293967024,0.848630135 5\\Version=EM64L-G09RevC.01\State=1-A\HF=-2841.0526939\RMSD=6.396e-09\ Dipole=-1.7497048,0.3925263,1.6030729\Quadrupole=3.3917801,-1.6102301, -1.78155,11.4669884,-0.2454874,-2.385676\PG=C01 [X(C6H13N1O2Se1)]\\@

**Trifluoromethionine (TFM), CHelpG output from B3LYP/6-31G(d)-optimized geometry** 1\1\GINC-N256\SP\RB3LYP\6-31G(d)\C6H10F3N1O2S1\MJPUSHIE\27-Jul-2012\0\ \#p RB3LYP/6-31G(d) iop(1/8=8) pop=(chelpg)\\[methionineCF3]charge neu tral without continuum CHELPG\\0,1\N,0,-1.4119816626,-2.5331339943,1.0 501443724\C,0,-0.7279139826,-1.6965950551,0.0498042992\C,0,0.526636141 4,-2.436303226,-0.4505808532\0,0,0.9512183632,-3.4117109622,0.36497373 39\O,0.1.0953383552,-2.1456598249,-1.4690622841\H.0,-1.3455703612,-1.5 028004822,-0.8323927965\C,0,-0.3316230128,-0.3488113903,0.6825310484\C ,0,0.2480675741,0.6712940254,-0.3028663128\C,0,0.611843704,1.971188664 7,0.4132071335\\$,0,1.2547349089,3.1757493837,-0.8222489961\C,0,1.49373 06908,4.5980221903,0.2737696822\H,0.0.2797031584,-3.4688198193,1.08081 96911\H.0,-1.9206891816,-1.9736307817,1.7252773383\H,0,-2.0744413776,-3.1682021835,0.6174381877\H.0,-1.2334880481,0.0730136919,1.1414029176\ H.0.0.3774118592.-0.5325897074.1.4968234338\H.0.-0.486470456.0.8760234 374.-1.0873756063\H.0.1.1256735291.0.2539135371.-0.7986539683\H.0.-0.2 608661933,2.4132442179,0.8945125709\H,0,1.3856531846,1.8006020893,1.16 17711847\F.0.1.9561127405.5.623047539.-0.4575638642\F.0.2.3796266329.4 .3651753117.1.2638068762\F.0.0.3556974335.5.0028043387.0.8768792118\\V ersion=EM64L-G09RevC.01\State=1-A\HF=-1137.5744888\RMSD=5.507e-09\Dipo le=-1.9956185,-0.5444505,1.2495399\Quadrupole=6.7771022,-6.4774269,-0. 2996753,11.0790746,-0.0787281,-6.0995991\PG=C01 [X(C6H10F3N1O2S1)]\\@

## Trifluoroselenomethionine (TFSeM), CHelpG output from B3LYP/6-31G(d)-optimized geometry

1\1\GINC-N312\SP\RB3LYP\6-31G(d)\C6H10F3N1O2Se1\MJPUSHIE\27-Jul-2012\0 \\#p RB3LYP/6-31G(d) pop=(chelpg.readatradii)\\[selenomethionineCF3]ch arge neutral without continuum CHELPG\\0,1\N,0,-1.4202119906,-2.553446 152,1.0695383216\C,0,-0.7389616132,-1.7282999042,0.0578819069\C,0,0.51 18610075,-2.4754818531,-0.4405513836\O,0,0.9372891588,-3.4444853534,0. 3820835884\O.0.1.0775480568.-2.1953321647.-1.4637825247\H.0.-1.3603995 294,-1.5423398708,-0.8233319678\C,0,-0.3367913263,-0.3749219189,0.6750 415459\C,0,0.2388002044,0.6359017687,-0.3239797879\C,0,0.6138882721,1. 9378771284,0.3770767006\Se,0,1.3049162504,3.2370411412,-0.9559412328\C .0.1.5217913278.4.7267117098.0.3096936995\H.0.0.2676347893.-3.49414900 55.1.1004374922\H.0.-1.9210121241.-1.9864292308.1.7442073661\H.0.-2.08 80748501,-3.1895143061,0.6469063637\H,0,-1.2348910224,0.0531885413,1.1 35407623\H.0.0.3773664818,-0.5516729032,1.4863825355\H.0,-0.5031692433 0.8335999144,-1.1035255377\H,0,1.1090089923,0.2071392593,-0.823339158 9\H,0,-0.2480018155,2.4001664266,0.856476186\H,0,1.3986361603,1.781106 3738,1.1154702976\F,0,1.9797083997,5.7976587799,-0.3570063905\F,0,2.39 49568139.4.452797518.1.2980128731\F.0.0.3665115997.5.0787051015.0.9092 584838\\Version=EM64L-G09RevC.01\State=1-A\HF=-3138.7646675\RMSD=6.783 e-09\Dipole=-1.9659483,-0.5288961,1.1577669\Quadrupole=6.7313934,-6.90 26622,0.1712688,12.4678408,-1.1290624,-7.3584799\PG=C01 [X(C6H10F3N1O2 Se1)]\\@

	Met	SeM	TFM	TFSeM
HOMO (AU)	-0.2246	-0.2151	-0.2698	-0.2521
LUMO (AU)	-0.0208	-0.0214	-0.0275	-0.0359
HOMO-LUMO Gap (kJ/mol)	535.2	508.7	636.1	567.7
Gap Relative to Met	0.0	-26.5	+100.9	+32.5
Gap Relative to SeM	+26.5	0.0	+127.4	+59.0

**Table S2.** HOMO and LUMO energies from B3LYP/6-311+G(2df,2p) density functional calculations.

			CHelpG	Charges	
Atom No.	Atom Type	Met	SeM	TFM	TFSeM
1	Ν	-0.904	-0.881	-0.886	-0.870
2	H1	0.330	0.326	0.329	0.324
3	H2	0.342	0.328	0.344	0.331
4	С	0.721	0.704	0.705	0.595
5	01	-0.534	-0.528	-0.520	-0.492
6	O2	-0.578	-0.578	-0.570	-0.533
7	H3	0.339	0.331	0.336	0.315
8	CA	0.309	0.361	0.295	0.469
9	HA	-0.039	-0.044	-0.026	-0.027
10	CB	-0.058	-0.226	-0.168	-0.388
11	HB1	0.029	0.059	0.068	0.064
12	HB2	0.009	0.046	0.052	0.092
13	CG	-0.048	0.164	0.002	0.330
14	HG1	0.041	-0.019	0.043	-0.058
15	HG2	0.078	0.028	0.089	-0.004
16	CD	-0.052	-0.089	-0.032	-0.135
17	HD1	0.071	0.061	0.067	0.078
18	HD2	0.080	0.065	0.072	0.069
19	Hetero (S/Se)	-0.261	-0.207	-0.193	-0.111
20	CZ	-0.049	-0.004	0.506	0.444
21	XZ1 (H/F)	0.097	0.068	-0.144	-0.144
22	XZ2 (H/F)	0.039	0.021	-0.183	-0.168

**Table S3.** CHelpG charges from B3LYP/6-311+G(2df,2p)-optimized geometries, calculated at the same level of theory.

23 XZ3 (H/F) 0	0.038 0.014	4 -0.186 -0.181
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		CHelpG Charges									
Atom No.	Atom Type	Met	SeM	TFM	TFSeM						
1	Ν	-0.956	-0.923	-0.929	-0.906						
2	H1	0.350	0.351	0.351	0.348						
3	H2	0.360	0.352	0.363	0.354						
4	С	0.521	0.617	0.613	0.618						
5	01	-0.499	-0.509	-0.503	-0.503						
6	02	-0.476	-0.526	-0.520	-0.526						
7	H3	0.343	0.342	0.346	0.341						
8	CA	0.523	0.372	0.338	0.349						
9	HA	-0.041	-0.041	-0.031	-0.027						
10	СВ	-0.285	-0.261	-0.205	-0.376						
11	HB1	0.037	0.064	0.069	0.105						
12	HB2	0.057	0.064	0.064	0.105						
13	CG	0.074	0.157	0.014	0.246						
14	HG1	0.017	-0.007	0.038	-0.018						
15	HG2	0.023	0.030	0.079	0.035						
16	CD	-0.039	-0.129	-0.019	-0.164						
17	HD1	0.071	0.076	0.063	0.082						
18	HD2	0.086	0.080	0.069	0.080						
19	Hetero (S/Se)	-0.289	-0.208	-0.213	-0.120						
20	CZ	-0.080	-0.074	0.398	0.340						
21	XZ1 (H/F)	0.110	0.094	-0.100	-0.098						
22	XZ2 (H/F)	0.049	0.042	-0.141	-0.130						

**Table S4.** CHelpG charges from B3LYP/6-31G(d)-optimized geometries, calculated at the same level of theory.

23 XZ3 (H/F) 0.044 0.037 -0.144 -0.13
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	Force Constants <sup>a</sup>											
Bond Type	Met	SeM	TFM	TFSeM								
CH <sub>2</sub> –S	33223	-	85563	-								
CH <sub>2</sub> –Se	-	69108	-	69126								
S–CH <sub>3</sub>	98422	-	-	-								
S–CF <sub>3</sub>	-	-	110004	-								
Se–CH <sub>3</sub>	-	62362	-	-								
Se–CF <sub>3</sub>	-	-	-	32235								
(S)CH <sub>2</sub> –H	389056	-	-	-								
(S)CF <sub>2</sub> –F	-	-	378016	-								
(Se)CH <sub>2</sub> –H	-	394856	-	-								
(Se)CF <sub>2</sub> –F	-	-	-	420014								

**Table S5.** Force constants for new chemical groups from B3LYP/6-31G(d)-optimized geometries, calculated at the same level of theory.

a – Units are in kJ/mol/nm<sup>2</sup>



**Figure S1.** Total ion chromatograms (TIC) of time-dependent consumption of (A) SeMet (= SeM) or (B) TFSeM in reactions with MAT. Consumption of SeMet and formation of both SeSAM and SeAH in panel A indicated MAT was active and contaminated with a methyltransferase, whereas TFSeM remained constant over 18 h, indicating it is not a suitable substrate of MAT.



**Figure S2.** Total ion chromatograms of boiled crude lysate with (A) SeM (= SeMet) or (B) TFSeM and crude lysate filtrate with (C) SeM or (D) TFSeM (= TFSeMet). In each experiment SeM and TFSeM remained constant throughout the 24 h incubation.





# <sup>13</sup>C NMR of 3-selenocyanatopropanenitrile (17)



# <sup>1</sup>H NMR of **3-(Trifluoromethylselanyl)propionitrile (18)**



# <sup>13</sup>C NMR of **3-(Trifluoromethylselanyl)propionitrile (18)**





# <sup>1</sup>H NMR in CDCl<sub>3</sub> (400 MHz)





# <sup>1</sup>H NMR in CDCl<sub>3</sub> (400 MHz)







<sup>77</sup>Se-NMR in CDCl<sub>3</sub> (95.3 MHz)



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490	480	470	460	450	440	430	420	410	400	390	380	370	360	350	340	330	320	ppm

# (S)-1-Carboxy-3-((trifluoromethyl)selanyl)propan-1-aminium 2,2,2-trifluoroacetate (7a)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR in  $D_2O$  (400 MHz)







<sup>77</sup>Se-NMR in D<sub>2</sub>O (95.3 MHz)





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490	480	470	460	450	440	430	420	410	400	390	380	370	360	350	340	330	320	ppm

# (S)-1-Carboxy-3-((trifluoromethyl)selanyl)propan-1-aminium chloride (7b)

<sup>1</sup>H NMR in D<sub>2</sub>O (400 MHz)







<sup>77</sup>Se-NMR in D<sub>2</sub>O (95.3 MHz)





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420 415	410	405	400	395	390	385	380 ppm



## Sample preparation

7.72 mg of **7a** and 2.50 mg of sodium 3-trimethylsilylpropionate (TMSP-2,2,3,3- $D_4$  internal calibrant) were transferred into standard NMR tube (5 mm) to which 0.6 mL of  $D_2O$  was added.

#### NMR Instrument/Software Controlled Parameters

 Pulse Program:
 Single pulse, without carbon decoupling ('zg' with 90° pulse [Bruker])

 Data Points (acquired):
 64 K

 Zero-Filling (SI or FN): to 256 K

 Dummy Scans:
 4

Pulse Width (P1 or PW)	90° RT
Relaxation delay (D1)	60
Acquisition time (AQ or AT)	3.63
Spectral Window (SW)	30 ppm
Transmitter Offset	7.5 ppm
Number of Scans for 600 MHz	1

#### C. Hardware dependent parameters

*Preacquisition Delay:*  $DE = 10 \ \mu s$  (600 MHz Bruker Avance III HD equipped with quadruple resonance, HPCN, QCI-P cryoprobes): 90° *Pulse Width* (P1 [Bruker] 9.60  $\mu s$ )

#### D. Post-Acquisition Processing and Measurement of Integrals

LB = 0.4 Hz	
to 256K real data	
Bruker-FP-Automatic	
5th order polynomial	

#### Calculation

$$P[\%] = \frac{n_{IC} \cdot Int_t \cdot MW_t \cdot m_{IC}}{n_t \cdot Int_{IC} \cdot MW_{IC} \cdot m_s} \cdot P_{IC} = 98.06\%$$

Where:

Weight of the internal calibrant IC  $(m_{IC})= 2.50 \text{ mg}$ Weight of the sample  $(m_S) = 7.72 \text{ mg}$ Area (integral) of the IC resonance signal being used for quantification  $(Int_{IC}) = 5.90$ Area (integral) of the target analyte (t) resonance signal being used for Quantification  $(Int_t) = 1$ Number of protons that give rise to  $Int_{IC} (n_{IC}) = 9$ Number of protons of the target analyte that give rise to  $Int_t (n_t) = 1$ Molecular weight of the internal calibrant  $(MW_{IC}) = 172.26$ Molecular weight of the target analyte  $(MW_t) = 348.96 \text{ g/mol}$ Purity of the internal calibrant, as percent value  $(P_{IC}) = 98\%$ 



### Sample preparation

5.52 mg of **7b** and 3.81 mg of sodium 3-trimethylsilylpropionate (TMSP-2,2,3,3-D<sub>4</sub> internal calibrant, IC) were transferred into standard NMR tube (5 mm) to which 0.6 mL of  $D_2O$  was added.

## NMR Instrument/Software Controlled Parameters

*Pulse Program*: Single pulse, without carbon decoupling ('zg' with 90° pulse [Bruker])

Data Points (acquired): 64 KZero-Filling (SI or FN): to 256 KDummy Scans:4

Pulse Width (P1 or PW)	90° RT	
Relaxation delay (D1)	60	
Acquisition time (AQ or AT)	3.63	

Spectral Window (SW)	30 ppm
Transmitter Offset	7.5 ppm
Number of Scans for 600 MHz	1

### C. Hardware dependent parameters

Preacquisition Delay:  $DE = 10 \ \mu s$  (600 MHz Bruker Avance III HD equipped with quadruple resonance, HPCN, QCI-P cryoprobes): 90° Pulse Width (P1 [Bruker] 9.60  $\mu s$ ).

### **D.** Post-Acquisition Processing and Measurement of Integrals

Processing Using Line Broadening:	LB = 0.1 Hz	
Zero Filling:	to 256K real data	
Phasing:	Bruker-FP- Automatic	
Baseline Correction:	5th order polynomial	

### Calculation

$$P[\%] = \frac{n_{IC} \cdot Int_t \cdot MW_t \cdot m_{IC}}{n_t \cdot Int_{IC} \cdot MW_{IC} \cdot m_s} \cdot P_{IC} = 98.40\%$$

Where:

Weight of the internal calibrant IC  $(m_{IC}) = 3.81 \text{ mg}$ 

Weight of the sample  $(m_S) = 5.52 \text{ mg}$ Area (integral) of the IC resonance signal being used for quantification  $(Int_{IC}) = 10.29$ Area (integral) of the target analyte (t) resonance signal being used for Quantification  $(Int_t) = 1$ Number of protons that give rise to  $Int_{IC} (n_{IC}) = 9$ Number of protons of the target analyte that give rise to  $Int_t (n_t) = 1$ Molecular weight of the internal calibrant  $(MW_{IC}) = 172.26$ Molecular weight of the target analyte  $(MW_t) = 286.53 \text{ g/mol}$ Purity of the internal calibrant, as percent value  $(P_{IC}) = 98\%$