

## Isomerization studies of $\Delta\Delta$ -[Ni(1,10-phen)<sub>2</sub>(S-aa)]<sup>+</sup> systems

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The  $\Delta\Delta$  isomerization of partially resolved [Ni(1,10-phen)<sub>2</sub>(S-aa)]<sup>+</sup> systems, where S-aa is S-phenylalaninate, S-isoleucinate, S-leucinate, S-valinate, or S-alaninate, has been studied at 15, 20 and 25°C in methanol as solvent. Kinetic parameters have been obtained by means of optical rotation measurements. The first-order rate constants for the isomerization process follow the order S-leu > S-ala > S-phe > S-ileu > S-val, whereas  $\Delta H^\ddagger$  and  $\Delta S^\ddagger$  are in the sequence S-phe > S-ala > S-val > S-ileu > S-leu. These results are discussed in relation to the possible influences of intramolecular noncovalent interactions on the activation parameters.