• Threonine (**Y**) is an amino acid. On the structure of (**Y**) below, identify all stereocentres in threonine with an asterisk (*).

Marks 4

$$*$$
 OH (\mathbf{Y}) $*$ COOH

How many possible stereoisomers of threonine are there?

Two chiral centres so 4 possible stereoisomers (RR, SS, RS and SR)

Give the structures of the products obtained when threonine is treated with the following reagents.

1 M HCl

(HCl is a strong acid so will protonate the amine – a weak base. It will not protonate the very, very weakly acidic oxygen atoms at this concentration). 1 M NaOH

$$H_2N$$
 CO_2

OH⁻ is a strong base and will deprotonate the carboxlic acid – a weak acid. It will not deprotonate the very, very weakly acidic N-H or alcohol O-H groups.