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# Supplementary Information for Manuscript

The logic of translating chemical knowledge into machine-processable forms: A modern playground for physical-organic chemistry.

Karol Molga<sup>1</sup>, Ewa P. Gajewska<sup>1</sup>, Sara Szymkuć<sup>1</sup>, Bartosz A. Grzybowski<sup>1,2,\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Institute of Organic Chemistry, Polish Academy of Sciences, ul. Kasprzaka 44/52, Warsaw 01-224, Poland

<sup>2</sup> IBS Center for Soft and Living Matter and Department of Chemistry, UNIST, 50, UNIST-gil, Eonyang-eup, Ulju-gun, Ulsan, 689-798, South Korea

\*Correspondence to: nanogrzybowski@gmail.com

# **Contents:**

Examples of synthetic predictions by linguistics-based (**Figure S1**) and machine-extracted, rulebased (**Figures S2-S25**) algorithms vs. predictions by Chematica (**Figures S2-S25**) using mechanism-based reaction rules. The examples are chosen to emphasize the difference in rule quality when dealing with even simple targets. For more complex synthetic examples using Chematica, see ref. 7 and the experimentally validated syntheses in ref. 9 in the main text. The examples are based on the versions of the softwares as of late October 2018.



**Figure S1**. IBM's tool (https://rxn.res.ibm.com) for predicting outcomes of organic reactions using neural sequence-to-sequence models (based on Schwaller *et. al., Chem. Sci.,* **2018**, 9, 6091) fails even for simple examples. **a**) Neural network predictions for the reaction of cinnamaldehyde with cyclopentadiene are far from the known and realistic reactivity patterns. These two compounds are known to participate in Diels-Alder (i), aldol (ii), ene (iii) or tandem ene-aldol (iv) reactions shown in the red inset. None of these reactivity patterns are proposed. Instead, formation of products returned by the neural network requires extrusion of carbon atom from enal (#1) or migration of carbon atom from cyclopentadiene to enal to form 6-4 ring system in #2 and #3. Both processes proposed by the platform would raise an eyebrow (mildly speaking...) of any practicing organic chemist. **b)** Allyl alcohols are well known to react with aldehydes under acidic conditions yielding tetrahydropyrans in Prins reaction or under metal catalysis to deliver reductive aldol adducts

(reactions shown in red in the inset). None of these reactivity patterns are rediscovered by IBM's neural network. Instead, the proposed products are made via a highly improbable (unknown in chemistry!) coupling of alkene and aldehyde with the extrusion of carbon atoms from the unactivated alkyl chain yielding products with five (#2) and six carbon (#1,#4,#5) chains. (Additionally, #1, #4 and #5 return the same main product with different confidence levels). The only reasonable suggestion (albeit predicted as only third) is the formation of acyclic acetal. For this example, comparison to Chematica is not feasible since Chematica works in the retrosynthetic, not "forward" direction.



**Figure S2.** A chemically trivial retrosynthetic analysis of indole's synthesis in MIT's ASKCOS system. The results obtained are mainly (14/25) deprotections or removals of functional groups, leading to commercially unavailable (8/14) or expensive (>30\$/g, 3/14) predecessors. Additionally,

the program produced two variants (#14 is identical with #23) of the same method – Leimgruber-Batcho cyclisation – with only minute differences in leaving groups (diethylamine vs. pyrrolidine). The proposed Bartoli indole synthesis requires *ortho*-substitution (which is missing in the examined case and in the extracted reaction core, see **Figure S3**) to proceed with any satisfactory yield – we note that such small nuances of chemical reactivity are extremely important as the small difference in structure may cause dramatic change in reactivity and virtually impossible to be covered by any automatic rule extraction system due to insufficient number of reported examples. The program also does not account for the pricing of starting materials and scores higher cyclisation of more expensive (4\$/g) nitrophenylacetonitrile (#2) over similar reaction (#6) using aniline (1\$/g) and trisetanoloamine (1\$/g) or reduction (#4) of indolinone (1\$/g). Top 25 out of 32 returned results are shown. Top predictions returned by Chematica (bottom) take advantage of inexpensive and commercially available derivatives (indoline, methyl indole-3-carboxylate or chloroindole). Alternatively, the indole skeleton is created from the phenylacetonitrile or in the Fischer, Leimgruber-Batcho, or Mandelung processes.

# Template 59c51ac605581eb9f57b9d4a

Template: [c:6] : [c;H0;D3; 233 total references Export Reaxys query for precede [c:6]:[c:H0;D3;+0:5]1:[c:4]:[nH;D	+0:5]1:[c:4]:[nH;D2;+0:3]: ents 22;+0:3][cH;D2;+0:2][cH;D2;+0:1]:	[cH;D2;+0:2]:[cH;D2;+0:1]: 1>>Br-[Mg]-[CH;D2;+0:1]=[CH2;D1;	1>>Br-[Mg]-[CH;D2;+0:1]=[ +0:2].O=[N+;H0;D3:3](-[O-])-[c:4]-[c	CH2;D1;+0:2].O=[N+;H0;D3: H;D2;+0:5][c:6]	3](-[0-])-[c:4]:[cH;D2;+0	:5]:[c:6]			
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		80.0	ammonium chloride	(none)	(none)	-40.0	unk		
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**Figure S3.** Automatically extracted core of the Bartoli indole synthesis from the ASKCOS software. The necessary *ortho*-substitution is not taken into account.



**Figure S4.** Retrosynthetic planning of methyl bicyclo[2.2.1]hept-5-ene-2-carboxylate in MIT's ASKCOS system (http://askcos.mit.edu/retro/). As a reference, this compound can be prepared in *one* step from commercially available methyl acrylate and cyclopentadiene in the must-know, synthetically powerful Diels-Alder cycloaddition – this approach is easily found by Chematica (screenshot of Chematica's top-scoring solution shown at the bottom, on black background) but was not suggested by the neural network. Instead, several disconnections of the simple methyl ester (hydrolyses, transesterifications and modifications of oxidation states) dominated the top-20 results. Additionally, nonproductive removals of functional groups were suggested. All ASKCOS-proposed results for this target are shown.



**Figure S5.** Retrosynthetic planning of methyl 4-(4-iodo-phenyl) piperazine-1-carboxylate in MIT's ASKCOS system. As a reference, the synthesis of this class of compounds is usually finalized by the formation of carbamate or electrophilic aromatic iodination – this approaches are easily found by Chematica (screenshots of the top-scoring solutions at the bottom). Although the formation of carbamate was the top ASKCOS'prediction, the electrophilic aromatic iodination was only its ninth suggestion. In addition, several other suggestions from top20 results raise reactivity concerns. For instance, Buchwald-type amination of an aryl chloride or bromide (reactions ranked #2 and #3) is virtually impossible in the presence of a more reactive aryl iodide (see main text, Figure 6).

Analogous reaction of an aryl fluoride ranked as #5 (occurring via S<sub>N</sub>Ar mechanism) has marginal chances to succeed due to lack of electron withdrawing groups activating the ring towards the nucleophilic substitution. Additionally, reactions #6 and #21 raise chemoselectivity concerns due to the presence of an aryl iodide. Moreover, ASKCOS proposed (#19,#20,#22,#23) unstable and decarboxylation-prone carbamic acid as a substrate. Inspection of the reaction template responsible for the outcome shown in #19 clearly demonstrates that automatically generated reaction rule cannot distinguish groups (here, unstable carbamic and stable carboxylic acids) of quite different reactivities. All returned results are shown.



**Figure S6.** Attempted multistep retrosynthetic planning of 2,2'-dibromo-iodobiphenyl. This class of polyhalogenated building blocks is usually prepared via iodination, Suzuki coupling, and Sandmeyer reaction. ASKCOS suggestions for this compound rise several serious selectivity and cross-reactivity concerns. For example, Suzuki coupling (#1, #19) with aryl bromide will not proceed if a more reactive aryl iodide is present (see main text, Figure 6). Additionally, an aryl halide cross coupling shown in (#2, #20), Suzuki coupling (#5,#6), and selective removal of one of the iodides (#9 and #10) will lead to a mixture of products (due to a presence of multiple nonequivalent groups). As in previous examples, multiple FG removals (here: deaminations) were also present in top20 results. Expanding one of the proposed intermediates – a substrate for Sandmeyer reaction – leads to the set of second-step suggestions (right panel) often suffering from the abovementioned selectivity and reactivity concerns: arylation of an aryl chloride

(#2,#13,#15) or phenol (#5,#20) is proposed in the presence of an incompatible aryl bromide while cross coupling of aryl halides (#4) or Suzuki coupling with dibromoaniline (#1,#11) will lead to a mixture of products. Finally, in #30 arylmagnesium reagent with protic NH<sub>2</sub> group is used as a substrate while these functional groups simply cannot exist together. Left panel: top 20 out of 28 returned results are shown, right panel: top 20 and #30 out of 41 returned results are shown. Full synthetic pathways generated autonomously by Chematica (top 3 shown in the bottom part) rely either on the electrophilic aromatic halogenations (#1, #2) or take advantage of Suzuki coupling and Sandmeyer reaction (#3). This is one example we found where some of Chematica's suggestions raise concerns: namely aromatic substitutions of substrates suggested in #1 and the second step of #2 are known to yield mainly regioisomeric products (here: 2,2'-dibromo-5-iodobiphenyl and 2,5-dibromo-4'-iodobiphenyl). This inaccuracy is due to the Hammett/Hueckel/Proton-affinity based filter evaluating aromatic substitutions (90% correct, the example here is obviously in the 10% of erroneous predictions). However, the third solution returned by Chematica does not rise any reactivity and selectivity concerns.



Figure S7. Retrosynthetic planning of Linezolid's intermediate in MIT's ASKCOS system. The target is of interest since it is found in many patented routes we describe in <sup>69</sup>. Several of ASKCOS' suggestions for this target rise serious concerns of low selectivity and/or insufficient chemical reactivity. Selective functionalization of unsymmetrical diamine (#10,#11) has never been reported and will deliver a mixture of products. Presence of the electron-donating amine group in #4 deactivating the ring towards S<sub>N</sub>Ar reaction is highly problematic and renders this transformation unfeasible to perform – even more reactive 3,4,5-trifluoroaniline required heating to 180 °C for 36 h in neat morpholine to give the product in moderate yield (Eur. J. Org. Chem. 2012, 7048-7052). Selective substitution of difluoroaniline (#4) is also a currently an unknown process – in fact, the attempted reaction with alcohol (Eur. J. Org. Chem. 2012, 7048-7052) led to a 1:1 mixture of products. As in previous examples, several (19/35) unproductive removals of protecting groups (blue) or halogen atoms (grey) were present in top35 results. Additionally, #3 (substitution/reduction) and #20 (nitration/reduction) are overlapping with the top prediction. Top 35 out of 39 returned results are shown. In contrast, synthetic pathways returned by Chematica (bottom) do not suffer from any chemical reactivity issues.



**Figure S8.** Retrosynthetic planning of a chiral acylated alcohol in the ASKCOS system. Displacement of mesylate (#15) or alkoxydiphenylphosphine (#19) with carboxylic acid occurs with inversion of configuration via  $S_N2$  mechanism. However, the reaction templates for these reactions generate substrates corresponding to a chemically incorrect stereoretentive process. See **Figure S9** for details of ASKCOS' template for #15.

# Template 59c5499f05581eb9f58ac49d

cport Reaxys query for 2]-[O;H0;D2;+0:1]-[C;H	precedents H0;D3;+0:3](=[O;D1;H0:4])-[c:5]>>0	C-c1:c:c:c(-S(=O)(=O)-[O;H0;D2;+0	0:1]-[C:2]).c:c:1.O-[C;H0;D3;+0:3](=[O;D1;H	0:4])-[c:5]					
Den ID	Instance				Reaction				Entry Date
con ID	instance	Yield [%]	Reagent(s)	Catalyst(s)	Solvent(s)	Temp. [C]	Time [h]	Other	Entry Date
903675	1 of 2			$\longrightarrow$ of	in+CLo~				2007/12/14
		95.0	<rvd.rgt> [P<sub>66614</sub>] [NTf<sub>2</sub>]  and N-ethyl-N.N- discorrendermine</rvd.rgt>	(none)	(none)	80.0	unk		

**Figure S9.** Automatically extracted core for the substitution of a mesylate with a carboxylic acid ignores inversion of configuration and generates substrates with improper stereochemistry. The same template is not limited to primary and secondary mesylates and allows for substrates bearing hardly reactive, tertiary mesylates.



**Figure S10.** Retrosynthetic planning of a chiral aryl ether in MIT's ASKCOS system. Several suggestions relying on  $S_N2$  displacements (#1, #12, #13, #15, #17, #19 and #20) use substrates corresponding to chemically incorrect stereoretentive process. Additionally, the oxidative alkoxylation proposed as #14 is feasible only when appropriate metal-coordinating group is present in the substrate to facilitate C-H activation. The reaction template for this transformation (see **Figure S12**) does not take into account this requirement.

#### Template 59c51ace05581eb9f57ba279



**Figure S11.** Automatically extracted templates for Mitsunobu displacement with a phenol nucleophile in the ASKCOS software. Top: This reaction occurs with inversion of configuration. Stereoretentive process is feasible only when anchimeric assistance (here, from a tertiary amine present in the specific literature precedent but missing in the extracted reaction transform) is possible. Bottom: The reaction template extracted from a large number of examples (>7000) also does not account for inversion of configuration for secondary alcohols.

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Template: [C:1]-[O;R0;D2;+ 188 total references	0:2]-[c;N0;D3;+0:4](:[c:3	]):[c:5]>>[C:1]-[CH;D1;+0	2].[c:3]:[cH;D2;+0:4]:[c:	:5]			$\xrightarrow{a}$	L →	ОН ОН
C(al):1 C(al):1 C(ar):5	C[al]:1-0	Clarl:5				2 Scheme 2. Reaction of	conditions: (a) NaH, D	3 PME, 4-fluorobenzot	rifluoride;
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RAIL ID	instance	Yield [%]	Reagent(s)	Catalyst(s)	Solvent(s)	Temp. [C]	Time [h]	Other	Entry Date
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		92.0	sodium hydride	(none)	N,N-dimethyl acetamide and N,N-dimethyl acetamide	50 - 55	0.75		
Note: You do not have access	to view more than a single prec	edent for this transformation. If y	ou believe this is in error, pleas	e contact ccoley@mit.edu					
Reaction IDs corresponding to th	e 500 highest-yielding examples of	this template:							
1441513, 2936196, 8940495, 894 34254384, 34254386, 34254387, 36200055, 36424152, 36461952, 38141367, 39761626, 39761627, 39985623, 39985624, 39985626, 41842019, 41842043, 42748060.	0496, 22833162, 25905353, 30455 34442272, 34442275, 34442278, 3 36461953, 36461954, 36461955, 3 39761628, 39761629, 39761630, 3 39985631, 41153000, 41485022, 4' 42748066, 42748068, 42748069, 4:	135, 30455448, 30455454, 3083251 1442279, 34442281, 34442291, 354 3461956, 36461957, 36461959, 364 3761631, 39761632, 39761633, 398 (485023, 41485026, 41485027, 414 7748070, 42748071, 44077753, 440	9, 30940064, 32052956, 33169518 22213, 36196676, 36200019, 3620 51960, 36461961, 36461962, 3646 16458, 38006459, 39806460, 3980 55030, 41485031, 41485034, 4148 77754, 44077755, 44484223, 4448	. 33169519. 33169520. 34105605. 3 0020, 36200021, 36200022, 362000 1963, 38461965, 36461966, 364619 6463, 39806446, 39806446, 39806445 5035, 41485038, 41485039, 4168171 4224, 44484225, 4448425, 444842	4105608, 34105613, 34254344, 34 24, 36200026, 36200028, 3620002 67, 38461969, 38461970, 3846197 67, 39806468, 39806469, 3980647 89, 41681803, 41762632, 4176263 27, 44484228, 44484229, 4448423	1254349, 34254355, 34254357, 3425 9, 36200030, 36200031, 36200032, 1, 36461972, 36461973, 38141340, 1, 38906473, 39806474, 39806475, 4, 41762637, 41762638, 41762639, 0, 44484233, 44484233, 44484233,	4360, 34254363, 34254366, 34254 36200033, 36200034, 36200035, 3 38141344, 38141356, 38141357, 3 39806477, 39806478, 39985611, 3 417625641, 41842010, 41842011, 4' 44484234, 44484235, 4	369, 34254370, 34254372, 342543 6200036, 36200038, 36200039, 36 8141359, 38141361, 38141362, 38 9985612, 39985614, 39985615, 39 1842012, 41842013, 41842014, 411 4484237, 44484238, 44484239, 44	76, 34254381, 34254382, 34254383, 200050, 36200052, 36200054, 141363, 38141364, 38141365, 385617, 39985620, 39985622, 842015, 41842016, 41842017, 749673

**Figure S12.** Automatically extracted core of oxidative alkoxylation in the ASKCOS software. The proposed process is feasible only if appropriate metal-coordinating group (usually pyridine, *N*-heterocycle, or amide) is present in the substrate. Additionally, the literature precedent used to support this reaction template (bottom) was erroneously deposited in the database and misses

fluoride atom being substituted in S<sub>N</sub>Ar process in the original publication (inset in top-right part).



**Figure S13.** Retrosynthetic planning of tetrahydroisoquinoline in MIT's ASKCOS system. Several of the top-scoring solutions are limited to removals of different protecting groups or reductions of an amide (#1) or cyclic imines (#13,#16). The automatically extracted reaction template (see **Figure S14**) for Pictet-Spengler cyclisation (#4) is too general and lacks information regarding the type of the reacting aromatic system. This reaction is limited to electron-rich arenes and heteroarenes while ASKCOS allows for the annulation of electron-poor pyridine. Bottom: In contrast, Chematica's top-scoring solution commences with reduction of a commercially available amide to imine and subsequent addition of an organometallic reagent derived from iodobenzene.

### Template 59c5199f05581eb9f57ad74b



1564321 1643674 1777550, 208796, 4071528, 4084182, 825453, 8951554, 8951554, 8951554, 8951554, 8951554, 8951554, 8951554, 8951554, 9960753, 9960753, 996782, 9951522, 995177, 9964398, 9969243, 10136799, 1042064, 1041437, 11039429, 11039432, 23575211, 23826411, 2383324, 27821469, 27821470, 28549685, 32260225, 32267272, 33257273, 33257300, 33257300, 33257300, 33257300, 33257300, 33257300, 33257300, 33257300, 33257300, 337199263, 307192634, 30844683, 3894683, 3894683, 3894683, 3894683, 3894683, 3894683, 3894683, 3894683, 389468

**Figure S14.** Automatically extracted core of Pictet-Spengler cyclisation from the ASKCOS software incorrectly allowing for the annulation of electron poor heteroarenes (here, pyridine in example from **Figure S13**).



**Figure S15.** Retrosynthetic planning of chiral *cis* cyclopentanone in MIT's ASKCOS system. The reaction template (see **Figure S16**) for chiral conjugated addition of an organometallic reagent to an enone (#4) does not account for the presence of mismatched substituents and allows for chemically incorrent *syn*-selective process. None of the 14 reaction templates (see **Figures S18-S22**) for substrate-controlled reductions of alkenes (#2, #7, #17, #18) accounts for the necessary structural features controlling the reaction's outcome. Bottom: In Chematica's solution, the desired 1,2-*cis* cyclopentanone is constructed via addition of an organometallic reagent followed by trapping and oxidation of an enolate and substrate-controlled reduction of an alkene. In sharp contrast to automatically extracted rules (cf. **Figures S18-S22**), the expert-coded template (shown in the inset in the bottom-left part of the Figure) accounts for the presence of substituents dictating the stereoselective reaction's outcome.

# Template 59c53d1d05581eb9f5887799

Template: [C:2]-[CR;0;D3;+0 11 total references Export Reaxys query for precedent	:3](-[CH3;D1;+0:1])-[CH2; s	D2;+0:4]-[C:5]=[O;D1;H0:6	]>>C-[Zn]-[CH3;D1;+0:1].[	C:2]-[CH;D2;+0:3]=[CH;D2;-	+0:4]-[C:5]=[O;D1;H0:6]				
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8874509	1 01 6	99.0	copper acetylacetonate, 1-[3-((S)-1-hydroxy- 2-butanylamino)-3-oxopropyl]- 3-methylbenzimidazolium iodide, and caesium carbonate	(none)	tetrahydrofuran, hexane, tetrahydrofuran, and hexane	20.0	0.25		2012/06/15
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**Figure S16.** ASKCOS' automatically extracted core of a chiral-catalyst-controlled conjugated addition allows for mismatched substrates.



**Figure S17.** Retrosynthetic planning of chiral *trans*-cyclopentanone in MIT's ASKCOS system. None of the 14 reaction templates (see **Figures S18-S22**) for substrate-controlled reductions of alkenes (#2, #7, #17, #18) accounts for the necessary structural features controlling the reaction's outcome and allows for chemically incorrect process leading to the *trans* product. Bottom: In Chematica's top-scoring suggestions, the desired 1,2-*trans* configuration is achieved enantioselectively via reduction of an enone, subsequent Saegusa type reoxidation, and substrate-controlled addition of an organometallic reagent.



# Template 59c512ac05581eb9f576407f

Template: [C:1]-[CH;0;D3;+C 501 total references Export Reaxys guery for preceden	0:2] (-[C:3])-[CH2;D2;+0:4]	-[C:5]=[0;D1;H0:6]>>[C:1	]-[C;H0;D3;+0:2](-[C:3])=	[CH;D2;+0:4]-[C:5]=[O;D1;H	0:6]				
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		100.0	ammonia and lithium	(none)	tetrahydrofuran	-78.0	2.0		
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204935, 360964, 301706, 305900, 769874, 770688, 770782, 801715, 2757826, 2760332, 2824724, 2967 4234308, 4234371, 4236254, 4237, 8540084, 85895457, 8915 06256639, 36003198, 36426856, 4	306300, 412396, 416202, 417647, 812849, 812853, 813156, 814120, 717, 3038491, 3047221, 3056497, 209, 4267784, 4324008, 4325617, 979, 8966374, 9359863, 9370550, 050050, 41783064, 42006005, 42	419270, 420593, 421059, 423002, 1087112, 1107784, 1141089, 1151 3059086, 3059087, 3091642, 3094 1325619, 4327113, 4327314, 4328 920555, 9999782, 10235253, 104 173416, 43417146, 44724561	,424084,425620,425629,427250 451,1154536,1155036,1155678, 1846,3099137,3145603,3195988, 9095,4329353,4329355,4393970, 404725,10887887,11139764,1116	420001, 430104, 430122, 433707, 1 1212691, 1273602, 1374686, 137533 3246102, 3272783, 3278254, 34204 4395040, 4409509, 4411265, 46195 7655, 25405814, 25407464, 255144	435900, 440181, 440184, 441710, 18, 1378269, 1379473, 1380884, 11 26, 3498544, 3508634, 3566645, 3 82, 4636476, 5177572, 5305279, 5 14, 25995382, 28571822, 2876652	442953, 442954, 443290, 443301, 383047, 1384135, 1384609, 20795 3618127, 3618335, 3626258, 3693; 456823, 5655671, 5710051, 57100 2, 28929712, 29008903, 29373443,	443603, 443605, 444453, 444454, 4 21, 2097657, 2175530, 2200629, 22 117, 3884987, 4057778, 4131900, 4 153, 1912841, 1987823, 8104097, 8 29723211, 29723212, 30030740, 3	447155, 440300, 440301, 448906, 4 24248, 2580525, 2609635, 2656683 141146, 4218025, 4221224, 422461 10/155, 810/469, 810/4/0, 810/4/ 0030745, 30030752, 30755404, 311	49576, 450841, 521838, 629371, 1, 2656920, 2656921, 2756505, 2, 4224613, 4225122, 4229666, 1, 8107501, 8109031, 8109034, 20354, 31416945, 34308238,

**Figure S18.** Reaction templates extracted from substrate-controlled reductions of alkenes. None of the 14 templates (with the remaining ones shown in **Figures S19-S22**) used to generate precursors for the chiral cyclopentanone from **Figure S15** accounts for necessary substituents dictating the reaction's stereoselective outcome.

#### Template 59c512c105581eb9f5764eac





Note: You do not have access to view more than a single precedent for this transformation. If you believe this is in error, please contact ccoley@mi

16086, 2019-10, 36579, 32553, 416672, 108270, 108320, 108300, 1056012, 1116/JA, 115220, 114774, 1373437, 137852, 202044, 202223, 203079, 219724, 261000, 251625, 261001, 261102, 25565, 200104, 20124, 29882, 245067, 309400, 304007, 304007, 301407, 137437, 219565, 309406, 307100, 211627, 301500, 251627, 301500, 301407, 10588, 242000, 241104, 219820, 104007, 301207, 201024, 2

# Template 59c5117305581eb9f5752dbc

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		100 0	palladium 10 on activated carbon, hydrogen, acetic acid, and ammonium hydroxide	(none)	ethanol, ethyl acetate, and water	20.0	12 0		
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1111 24576, 285102, 285102, 285102, 285102, 285102, 285102, 285102, 285002, 285502, 28

**Figure S19.** Reaction templates extracted from substrate-controlled reductions of alkenes. None of the 14 templates (with the remaining ones shown in **Figures S20-S22**) used to generate precursors for the chiral cyclopentanone from **Figure S15** accounts for necessary substituents dictating the reaction's stereoselective outcome.

### Template 59c5121405581eb9f575b73a

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		100.0	hydrogen	palladium on activated charcoal	ethanol	unk	0.5	Ambient temperature	
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**Figure S20.** Reaction templates extracted from substrate-controlled reductions of alkenes. None of the 14 templates (with the remaining ones shown in **Figures S21-S22**) used to generate precursors for the chiral cyclopentanone from **Figure S15** accounts for necessary substituents dictating the reaction's stereoselective outcome.

#### Template 59c5134405581eb9f5769aeb



458/101, 1145628, 138003, 1301094, 215227, 2564/81, 2519/65, 5562/16, 255227, 251452, 2914913, 2940/27, 900/103, 1902/7, 9102/04, 1221/16, 2123/17, 225648, 2237910, 225523, 9460/54, 372238, 40/141, 468756, 427427, 42572, 4463/91, 455752, 4463/91, 455752, 445752,

**Figure S21.** Reaction templates extracted from substrate-controlled reductions of alkenes. None of the 14 templates (with the remaining ones shown in **Figure S22**) used to generate precursors for the chiral cyclopentanone from **Figure S15** accounts for necessary substituents dictating the reaction's stereoselective outcome.

# Template 59c5163b05581eb9f578a7c0

8 total references	+0:2](-[C:3])-[CH;00;D3;+(	):4](-[C:5])-[C;D1;H3:6]≫	[c:1]-[c;H0;D3;+0:2](-[c:	3])=[C;H0;D3;+0:4](-[C:5])	-[C;D1;H3:6]				
C6 C(al):5		.5							
Call:1 Call:3	c[al]:1 c[al]	:3							
Note: this template looks like it m	ight contain chiral specifications -	tetrahedral chirality is not depicted i	in the template drawing currently						
Rxn ID	Instance				Reaction				Entry Date
		Yield [%]	Reagent(s)	Catalyst(s)	Solvent(s)	Temp. [C]	Time [h]	Other	
29658041	1 of 1		$\rightarrow$	o y					2010/09/12
		91.0	(tricyclohexylphosphine)(1,5- cyclooctadiene)pyridineiridium(l ) hexafluorophosphate and hydrogen	(none)	dichloromethane	23.0	12.0		
Note: You do not have access to Reaction IDs corresponding to the 1057404, 2150835, 4220540, 4329	o view more than a single prece 500 highest-yielding examples of t 5559, 8969385, 9903768, 29518785	dent for this transformation. If yo his template: , 29658041	ou believe this is in error, please	contact ccoley@mit.edu					
Template 59	c5135a0558	1eb9f576a5c	19						
Template: (c:1)-(c1;8);c2; 20 Idal riferences Expon Reacys query for proceden call.1 call.3 Note: Bits template should be see Note: this template should be see	+0:2](-[C:3])-[CII;52;+0:4 ts Clair: clair:	) ( - (C; D]; H3; S) ) - (C; D]; H3; G S :3 :3	]>>{c:1}={c:1}={c:10;10;+0:2};+0:2};-	[c:3])#[c;80;83;+0:4](-[c;	נו;א3:5))-(כ;כן;א3:6)				
Rxn ID	Instance	Yield (%)	Reagent(s)	Catalyst(s)	Reaction Solvent(s)	Temp. ICI	Time (b)	Other	Entry Date
Rxn ID 110/582	Instance 1 of 2		Reagent(s)	Catalyst(s)	Reaction Solvent(s)	Temp. [C]	Time [b]	Other	Entry Date
Rxm ID 1107582	Instance	Viold [N]	Reagent(s)	Catalysi(c)	Reaction Solvent(s)	Temp. [C] urik	Time [b] unk	Other	Entry Data 2007/11/13
Rxn ID 1107582 None: You do not have access to Reaction IDs corresponding to the 442940, 1107520, 130155, 13025 Template 59	Instance 1 of 2 view more than a single prace 500 inginest-yielding examples of 1 64, 3510910, 300130, 4 C5165105588	Vield [N] 9 0 dear for this transformation. If y his template. 049929, 400056, 404209, 51213 1eb9f578b888	Reagent(s) kyclogen 22. 790907, 0721532, 24271127, 4 04	Catalyst(c) platinum(V) code contact coolsy@mlt.adu 3451726	Reaction Solvenri(s)	Tomp. [C] unk	Time [b]	Giber	Entry Data
Res ID 110/582 Note: You do not have access to Reaction Da corresponding to the 424294, 1107621, 201766, 13620 Template: [c11]-[C11]-	Instance 1 of 2 to view more than a single process 500 higher sampler of 1 $d_{2}$ , 50010, 300100, 40 <b>c551655105558</b> of 21 (-[c1:1])-[c1:1]0, 50100, 41 as $d_{2}$ , $d_{2}$ ,	Vield [%]	Reagent(s)           ↓↓↓↓           bydragen           to ballow this is in error, please           rz, 7000007, 0721532, 24271127, 4           ↓↓↓           >> [0:1] - [0;#0;#32;+0:12] (-[           in the template densing currently	Catalyse(c)	Reaction       Solvent(s)       Image: solven(s)       Image: solven(s)       Image: solven(s)       Image: solven(s)       Image: solven(s)       Image: solven(s) </td <td>Temp: [C] unk</td> <td>Time [b]</td> <td>Other</td> <td>Entry Data 2007/11/13</td>	Temp: [C] unk	Time [b]	Other	Entry Data 2007/11/13
$\begin{tabular}{lllllllllllllllllllllllllllllllllll$	Instance 1 of 2 1 of	Yield [b]           Image: Control of the transformation. If you have been been been been been been been be	Reagent(s)           Image: space of the space	Catalys(s)	Reaction           Software(s)           Software(s)           Letrallydoubsan and acetic acid           al;x3:5)) - [c; bl;x3:6]           Backton           Reaction           Software(s)	Temp. [C] unk	Time [N]	Other	Entry Data
Ress ID       1107582       Note: You do not have access at Reaction ID consequently at Li2200, 107502, 130156, 13020 <b>Template 59</b> Factor (c1, -(c1, b) c3)+ Li2001 Reacy every for percedent calls       State that references       Call of the template about the use Note: this template about the use Note: this template looks like if m       Ress ID       3999331	Instance           1 of 2           overw more than a single prece- 500 higher development occupies of the second det, 5510910, 5001300, 4           cc51655105558           0:2] (-[c:1]) - (cir), D3 + 0:4]           det           calification           of or intermotecular reactions only sight contain chiral specifications           instance           1 of 1	Yield [b]       Image: problem in the transformation. If yr       99.0       dent for this transformation. If yr       his template.       020922.000056, 404209, 512137 <b>1 ED9F578b8t</b> (-(c)021,83.5)) - (c)021,83.6()       5       13       Interfaced with a lower of the standard stand	$\begin{array}{c} \text{Reagent(s)} \\ \hline \\ \begin{array}{c} \\ \end{array} \\ \text{hydrogen} \\ out believe this is in error; please \\ \text{reader of the set of the s$	Catalys(c)	Reaction           Solvenri(s)           Image: section in the section of the sec	Tomp. [C] unk iemp. [C]	Time [b]	Other	Entry Date 2007/11/13 Entry Date 2007/11/22
Res ID 110/582 110/582 Note: You do not have access to Reaction Dis corresponding to the Calego 110/502, 101/50, 1020 Template: [c:1]-[c:i, §/23+ Calego 100, 100, 100, 100, 100, 100, 100, 100	Instance 1 of 2 ordew more than a single process 500 highest-inding examples of 4 de, 551015,50105,508 0:2] (-[c:3])-[cit;23]+0:4] de texture of the information of the sector of the information of the in	Yield [b]       Image: problem in the standard and	Reagent(s) $\begin{array}{c} \downarrow $	Catalyst(s)           platinum(h) exide           contact coolsy@mit.adu           3451726           Catalyst(s)           (catalyst(s)	Reaction       Solvent(s)       Image: strangedorfunction and acetic acid       D1/H3+5() - [C/D1/H3+6]       Reaction       Solvent(s)       dct/orumethane	Tomp. [C] urik iemp. [C]	Time [h] unk ime [h] unk	Gnier	Entry Date 2007/11/13 Entry Date 2007/11/22

Reaction for Corresponding to the biolingines-rylending examples of the reinplate. 1072564, 2123394, 2580594, 2847577, 3490123, 3490124, 3998331, 4320117, 4376131, 4852629, 4852630, 7156967, 7156968

**Figure S22.** Reaction templates extracted from substrate-controlled reductions of alkenes. None of the 14 templates used to generate precursors for the chiral cyclopentanone from **Figure S15** accounts for necessary substituents dictating reaction's stereoselective outcome.



**Figure S23.** Retrosynthetic planning of a chiral lactam in MIT's ASKCOS system. Templates of stereoselective alkylations of the lactam (see **Figure S24**) do not account for necessary structural features dictating the reaction's stereoselective outcome. Bottom: In contrast, in Chematica's solution, the necessary stereocenter is created in acyclic system via alkylation controlled by a chiral auxiliary (cf. typical conditions for the second step). Subsequent removal of the auxiliary and intramolecular acylation yield the target molecule.

#### Template 59c51b1005581eb9f57bcca0

Template [#7:3]-[C:4] (=[0;D1;H0:5])-[CH;0;D3;+0:6] (-[C:7])-[CH2;D2;+0:1]-[C:2]>>I-[CH2;D2;+0:1]-[C:2].[#7:3]-[C:4] (=[0;D1;H0:5])-[CH2;D2;+0:6]-(C:7]





Note: You do not have access to view more than a single precedent for this transformation. If you believe this is in error, please contact ccoley@mit.edu

Reaction D3 corresponding to the 500 highest-yielding examples of this template. 1781832, 185291, 1916346, 2042489, 2452441, 3951727, 4478766, 4478620, 8529026, 8541946, 9027255, 9516370, 11277603, 23256867, 27580786, 27585786, 29597068, 33275286, 36189073, 36189074, 36897762

#### Template 59c51b1005581eb9f57bccac

Template: [#7:3]-[C:4] (=[0;D1;H0:5])-[C:H203;H0:6] (-[C:7])-[C:H2;D2;+0:1]-[C:2]>>I-[C:H2;D2;+0:1]-[C:2] (#7:3]-[C:4] (=[0;D1;H0:5])-[C:H2;D2;+0:6]-[C:7]



Note: this template looks like it might contain chiral specifications - tetrahedral chirality is not depicted in the template drawing current



Note: To do not have access to view more than a single precedent for this transformation. If you believe this is in error, please contact accoreging Reaction Uts corresponding to the 600 highest yielding examples of this template. Traffelds, 182565, 1825652, 1825652, 1825653, 186119, 9515613, 18225420, 20802325, 35189076, 35189076

#### Template 59c51b8905581eb9f57c18a7



Reaction IDs corresponding to the 500 highest-yielding examples of this template: 1853647, 4864749, 9305522, 10390252, 28397828, 28397831, 28898269, 33157147, 38042280, 38534108, 40696439, 43913882

Figure S24. ASKCOS' automatically extracted cores of substrate-controlled alkylation of imides do

not account for the necessary structural features controlling the reaction's outcome.



**Figure S25.** Attempted multistep retrosynthetic planning of Engelheptanoxide A in MIT's ASKCOS system. In this final exercise, we attempted to design a synthetic pathway for Engelheptanoxide A, for which a synthetic plan was previously predicted by the Chematica software and executed experimentally (see *Chem* **4**, 522, **2018**). The suggestions obtained from ASKCOS system for this target molecule and a few proposed predecessors are nonproductive and limited to deprotections, protections, and nonproductive functional group interconversions. None of the proposed disconnections allowed for the formation of the key tetrahydropyran fragment – either via Prins cyclisation utilized previously in the synthesis of this class of compounds or even via a must-know S<sub>N</sub>2 alkylation of alcohol. Top left: top 10 out of 88 returned results are shown, bottom right: top 5 out of 30 returned results are shown. Note: The statement that no proper reactions were found pertains to the full sets of results (88/47/37/30), not only the top examples shown.