# **Supporting Information**

# Synthesis of Weinreb amides using diboronic acid anhydride-catalyzed dehydrative amidation of carboxylic acids

Naoyuki Shimada,\* Naoya Takahashi, Naoki Ohse, Masayoshi Koshizuka and Kazuishi Makino

Laboratory of Organic Chemistry for Drug Development and Medical Research Laboratories, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Kitasato University, Tokyo 108-8641, Japan

#### **Table of Contents**

1.	General information	S2
2.	Supplemental data for the catalytic amidation of $\alpha$ -hydroxycarboxylic acids	S3
3.	Supplemental data for the catalytic amidation of $\beta$ -hydroxycarboxylic acids	S5
4.	Preparation of N,O-dimethylhydroxylamine (3)	S10
5.	Preparation of $\alpha$ -hydroxycarboxylic acid <b>2j</b> , <b>2k</b>	S11
6.	Procedures for the catalytic amidation of $\alpha$ -hydroxycarboxylic acids	
	and characterization of $\alpha$ -hydroxy Weinreb amides (Table 1, Scheme 1)	S14
7.	Procedure for the catalytic amidation	
	using HNMe(OMe)•HCl salt (3•HCl) (Scheme 2a)	S23
8.	Procedure for the crossover experiment (Scheme 2b)	S24
9.	Preparation of $\beta$ -hydroxycarboxylic acids 7e, 7f, 7h and 7i	S26
10.	Procedures for the catalytic amidation of $\beta$ -hydroxycarboxylic acids	
	and characterization of $\beta$ -hydroxy Weinreb amides (Scheme 3)	S28
11.	Procedures for the syntheses of $\alpha$ -hydroxyketone natural products	
	and characterization of $\alpha$ -hydroxyketone natural products (Scheme 4)	S34
12.	References	S52
13.	<sup>1</sup> H, <sup>13</sup> C and <sup>19</sup> F NMR spectra	S53

#### 1. General information

Melting points (mp) were obtained on Stanford Research Systems MPA100 melting point apparatus. IR spectra were recorded on an FT/IR460-plus IR spectrometer and absorbance bands are reported in wavenumber (cm<sup>-1</sup>). Optical rotation was recorded on a JASCO DIP-1000 polarimeter and reported as follows: [a]<sub>D</sub>, concentration (g/100 mL), and solvent. NMR spectra were recorded on Agilent Technologies 400-MR DD2 (400 MHz for <sup>1</sup>H, 100 MHz for <sup>13</sup>C, 377 MHz for <sup>19</sup>F), 400-MR (400 MHz for <sup>1</sup>H, 100 MHz for <sup>13</sup>C, 377 MHz for <sup>19</sup>F), <sup>1</sup>H NMR data are reported as follows; chemical shift in parts per million (ppm) downfield or upfield from CDCl<sub>3</sub> (§ 7.26), CD<sub>3</sub>OD (§ 3.31), DMSO-d<sub>6</sub> (§ 2.50) integration, multiplicity (br = broad, s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, dd = double doublet, ddd = double double doublet, dt = double triplet, and m = multiplet), and coupling constants(Hz). <sup>13</sup>C NMR chemical shifts are reported in ppm downfield or upfield from CDCl<sub>3</sub> ( $\delta$  77.0) or CD<sub>3</sub>OD ( $\delta$  49.0), DMSO-d<sub>6</sub> ( $\delta$  39.52). <sup>19</sup>F NMR chemical shifts are reported in ppm downfield or upfield from C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>F ( $\delta$  -113.15). Mass spectra were measured with JEOL JMS-AX505HA, JMS-700 MStation, and JEOL JMS-T100LP spectrometers. Thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was carried out on Merck 60F-254 precoated silica gel plates and were visualized by fluorescence quenching under UV light and anisaldehyde phosphomolybdic acid stain, followed by heating. Column chromatography was performed using Silica Gel 60N (spherical, neutral, 63-210 µm) (Kanto Chemical Co., Inc.). Analytical high performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) was performed on a JASCO PU-2089 intelligent HPLC pump with JASCO UV-2075 intelligent UV/VIS detector. Detection was performed at 254 nm. CHIRALPAK<sup>®</sup> IA ( $\phi$  0.46 cm × 25 cm), CHIRALPAK<sup>®</sup> IB ( $\phi$  0.46 cm × 25 cm) and CHIRALPAK<sup>®</sup> IC ( $\phi$  0.46 cm × 25 cm) from Daicel were used. Retention times ( $t_R$ ) and peak ratios were determined with ChromNAV. Air- and/or moisture-sensitive reactions were carried out under nitrogen atmosphere using oven-dried glassware. DATB<sup>1</sup>, gem-DBA<sup>2</sup>, diboronic acid anhydride  $1^3$  and carboxylic acid  $7b^3$ ,  $7c^3$ ,  $7d^3$  were synthesized according to the literatures.

#### 2. Supplemental data for the catalytic amidation of $\alpha$ -hydroxycarboxylic acids

SI-Table 1. Comparision of catalytic efficiency between 1 and the other known catalysts for amidation of  $\alpha$ -hydroxycarboxylic acid.



<sup>a</sup> Determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR of a crude mixture of products.

<sup>b</sup> Performed in toluene (0.2 M).



## SI-Table 2. Optimization of the reaction conditions for 4c

<sup>a</sup> Determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR of a crude mixture of products. <sup>b</sup> Isolated yield.

## SI-Table 3. Optimization of the reaction conditions for 4h

О Ч <sub>4</sub> ОН ОН	H、_OMe + N Me	1 (x mol%) DCE (0.2 M) reflux, 24 h	O V 4 OH Me
<b>2h</b> 1.0 equiv	<b>3</b> 3.0 equiv		4h
entry	<b>1</b> (m	iol%)	yield (%)
1	0.5		59 <sup>a</sup>
2	2	.0	98 <sup><i>b</i></sup>

## 3. Supplemental data for the catalytic amidation of $\beta$ -hydroxycarboxylic acids

SI-Table 4. Comparision of catalytic efficiency between 1 and the other known catalysts for amidation of  $\beta$ -hydroxycarboxylic acid.



<sup>a</sup> Determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR of a crude mixture of products.

<sup>b</sup> Performed in toluene (0.2 M).

SI-Table 5. Optimization of concentration for the diboronic acid anhydride-catalyzed amidation of  $\beta$ -hydroxycarboxylic acid.

O OH OH 7a 1.0 equiv	H N Me <b>3</b> 3.0 equiv	1 (0.5 mol%) DCE (x M) reflux, 4 h	O N <sup>-OMe</sup> OH <sup>Me</sup> 8a
entry	DC	CE (M)	yield (%) <sup>a</sup>
1	0.05		55
2	0.1		66
3	0.2		75
4		0.3	70
5		0.4	57
	0 OH 7a 1.0 equiv entry 1 2 3 4 5	$ \begin{array}{c} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 7a \\ 7a \\ 3 \\ 1.0 equiv \\ \hline 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \\ 5 \\ \end{array} $	$\begin{array}{c} 0\\ \hline \\ 0H\\ \hline \\ 7a\\ 1.0 equiv \\ \hline \\ 1.0 equiv \\ \hline \\ 3.0 equiv \\ \hline \\ \hline \\ 1.0 equiv \\ \hline \\ 3.0 equiv \\ \hline \\ \hline \\ 0.05\\ \hline \\ 2\\ \hline \\ 0.1\\ \hline \\ 3\\ \hline \\ 3\\ \hline \\ 5\\ \hline \\ 0.4 \\ \hline \\ \hline \\ 0.5\\ \hline \\ 0.4 \\ \hline \\ \hline \\ 0.5 \\ \hline \\ 0.1\\ \hline \\ 0.05\\ \hline \\ 0.1\\ \hline 0$

<sup>a</sup> Determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR of a crude mixture of products.

SI-Table 6. Optimization of reaction time for the diboronic acid anhydride-catalyzed amidation of  $\beta$ -hydroxycarboxylic acid.

	0 OH OH 7a 1.0 equiv	H、 <sub>N</sub> COMe Me <b>3</b> 3.0 equiv	1 (0.5 mol%) DCE (0.2 M) reflux, time	O OH Me 8a	e
-	entry	t	time (h)	yield (%) <sup>a</sup>	
	1		0.5	27	
	2		1	39	
	3	2		57	
	4		4	75	
	5		8	83	
	6		16	92	
	7		24	96 [94] <sup>b</sup>	

SI-Table 7. Temperature effect on the diboronic acid anhydride-catalyzed-amidation of  $\beta$ -hydroxycarboxylic acid.



<sup>a</sup> Determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR of a crude mixture of products. <sup>b</sup> Isolated yield.

SI-Table 8. Optimization of equivalent of amine for the diboronic acid anhydride-catalyzed amidation of  $\beta$ -hydroxycarboxylic acid.



SI-Table 9. Survey of the reaction conditions for the diboronic acid anhydride-catalyzed amidation of  $\beta$ -hydroxycarboxylic acid.



<sup>a</sup> Determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR of a crude mixture of products. <sup>b</sup> Isolated yield.

## SI-Table 10. Optimization of the reaction conditions for 8f





# SI-Table 11. Optimization of the reaction conditions for 8i



SI-Figure 1. Unsuccessful examples for the diboronic acid anhydride-catalyzed amidation of  $\beta$ -hydroxycarboxylic acid.

## 4. Preparation of *N*,*O*-dimethylhydroxylamine (3)

Preparation of N,O-dimethylhydroxylamine solution in 1,2-dichloroethane (DCE)

H、 <sub>N</sub> _OMe	NaHCO <sub>3</sub> (1.0 equiv)	H、 <sub>N</sub> _OMe	
Me•HCl	DCE, rt, 2 h	Me	
3·HCI		3	
1.0 equiv			

N,O-Dimethylhydroxylamine hydrochloride (**3**•HCl) (1.46 g, 15.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv) was added to a suspension of NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (1.26 g, 15.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in DCE (25.0 mL, 0.60 M) at room temperature. After stirring for 2 h, the resulting suspension was left to stand, furnishing 0.60 M solution of N,O-dimethylhydroxylamine (**3**) in DCE.

#### 5. Preparation of *a*-hydroxycarboxylic acid 2j, 2k

(S)-2-hydroxy-3-(4-hydroxyphenyl)propanoic acid (2j)<sup>4</sup>



A solution of (+)-DIP-Cl (1.12 g, 3.50 mmol, 1.5 equiv) in THF (3.3 mL) was added to a solution of 4-hydroxyphenylpiruvic acid (420 mg, 2.33 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and Et<sub>3</sub>N (0.33 mL, 2.33 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in THF (8.4 mL, total 0.2 M) at room temperature. After stirring for 12 h, the reaction was quenched with water (2 mL) and the resulting mixture was basified to pH 12 with 1M NaOH aq and washed by  $Et_2O$  (10 mL×2). The combined aqueous layer was acidified to pH 2 with 1M HCl aq and extracted with EtOAc (20 mL $\times$ 3). The combined organic layer was washed by brine (30 mL) and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. Filtration and concentration under reduced pressure furnished the crude product, which was purified by silica column chromatography (50%) MeOH in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) gel to give (S)-2-hydroxy-3-(4-hydroxyphenyl)propanoic acid (2j) (299 mg, 1.64 mmol, 70%, 86% ee) as a brown solid. The enantiopurity was determined by comparison of HPLC retention time with the racemic sample after conversion to a corresponding methyl ester obtained by the treatment with trimethylsilyldiazomethane.

Data for **2j**:  $R_f = 0.28$  (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH = 1:1); mp 147–157 °C;  $[\alpha]_D^{23} - 13.7^\circ$  (*c* = 1.0, MeOH); IR (KBr)  $\nu = 3245$ , 1738, 1598, 1510, 1367, 1237, 1083, 829, 626 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD)  $\delta$  7.11–7.09 (m, 2H), 6.74–6.71 (m, 2H), 4.29 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 3.04 (dd, *J* = 14.0, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 2.84 (dd, *J* = 14.0, 8.0 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OH)  $\delta$  178.9, 157.9, 132.4, 130.5, 116.9, 74.3, 41.7; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>9</sub>O<sub>4</sub> [M–H]<sup>-</sup> 181.0501, found 181.0493; HPLC (CHIRALPAK<sup>®</sup> IC ( $\phi$  0.46 cm × 25 cm), hexane/*i*-PrOH = 80:20, 254 nm, flow rate 1.0 mL/min) t<sub>R</sub> = 7.0 min (minor), 7.9 min (major) as a methyl ester.



#### (S)-2-hydroxy-3-(1H-indol-3-yl)propanoic acid (2k)<sup>5,6</sup>



A flame-dried round bottom flask was charged with a solution of indole (1.57 g, 13.4 mmol, 2.0 equiv), Yb(OTf)<sub>3</sub> (416 mg, 0.67 mmol, 10 mol%) in DCE (6.7 mL, total 1.0 M) at 90 °C under nitrogen atmosphere. After stirring for 3 h, methyl (S)-oxirane-2-carboxylate (590  $\mu$ L, 6.7 mmol, 1.0 equiv) was added dropwise and the reaction was guenched with Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> aq (6 mL). The resulting mixture was acidified to pH 2 with 1M HCl aq and extracted with  $CHCl_3$  (20 mL×2). The combined organic layer was washed by brine (20 mL) and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. Filtration and concentration under reduced pressure furnished the crude product, which was purified by silica gel column chromatography (50% EtOAc in hexane) to give corresponding ester. LiOH•H<sub>2</sub>O (383 mg, 9.2 mmol, 2.0 equiv) was added to a solution of methyl (S)-2-hydroxy-3-(1H-indol-3-yl)propanoate (1.00g, 4.6 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in solvent (MeOH / THF /  $H_2O = 3 : 1 : 1, 46 \text{ mL}$ , total 0.1 M) at 0 °C and the mixture was warmed up to room temperature. After stirring for 16 h, the reaction was basified to pH 12 with 1M NaOH aq and washed by Et<sub>2</sub>O (50 mL×2). The combined aqueous layer was acidified to pH 2 with 1M HCl aq and extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (100 mL×3). The combined organic layer was washed by brine (100 mL) and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. Filtration and concentration under reduced pressure furnished the (S)-2-hydroxy-3-(1H-indol-3-yl)propanoic acid (2k) (490 mg, 4.63 mmol, 70% over 2 steps) as a brown solid.

Data for **2k**:  $R_f = 0.55$  (EtOAc/MeOH = 1:2); mp 96–101 °C;  $[\alpha]_D^{24} + 0.9^\circ$  (*c* = 1.0, MeOH); IR (KBr)  $\nu = 3390$ , 1747, 1457, 1424, 1259, 1209, 1096, 932, 744, 665 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  10.79 (s, 1H), 7.53 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.32 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.13 (d, *J* = 2.4 Hz, 1H), 7.05 (td, *J* = 8.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 6.96 (td, *J* = 8.0, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 5.23 (br s, 1H), 4.20 (dd, *J* = 7.2, 5.2 Hz, 1H), 3.08 (dd, *J* = 14.8, 5.2 Hz, 1H), 2.93 (dd, *J* = 14.8, 7.2 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  175.6, 136.0, 127.6, 123.7, 120.8, 118.6, 118.2, 111.3, 110.3, 70.8, 30.2; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>10</sub>N<sub>1</sub>O<sub>3</sub> [M–H]<sup>-</sup> 204.0661, found 204.0654.

6. Procedures for the catalytic amidation of  $\alpha$ -hydroxycarboxylic acids and characterization of  $\alpha$ -hydroxy Weinreb amides (Table 1, Scheme 1) (S)-2-Hydroxy-N-methoxy-N-methyl-3-phenylpropanamide (4a)<sup>7</sup>



Diboronic acid anhydride 1 (1.1 mg, 2.00  $\mu$ mol, 0.5 mol%) was added to a DCE solution (total 0.20 M) of (*S*)-2-hydroxy-3-phenylpropanoic acid (**2a**) (66.5 mg, 0.400 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and *N*,*O*-dimethylhydroxylamine (**3**) (2.00 mL, 0.60 M in DCE, 1.20 mmol, 3.0 equiv) at room temperature. After stirring for 4 h under reflux (bath temp, 90 °C), the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature. Concentration under reduced pressure furnished the crude product, which was purified by silica gel column chromatography (50% EtOAc in *n*-hexane) to give (*S*)-2-hydroxy-*N*-methoxy-*N*-methyl-3-phenylpropanamide (**4a**) (78.7 mg, 0.376 mmol, 94%, >99% ee) as a colorless oil.

Data for **4a**; colorless oil;  $R_f = 0.33$  (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 1:1);  $[\alpha]_D^{23} -55.3^\circ$  (*c* = 1.0, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); IR (neat)  $\nu = 3434$ , 1455, 1373, 1367, 1178, 1078, 985, 752, 701 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.32–7.22 (m, 5H), 4.63 (br s, 1H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 3.28–3.25 (m, 4H), 3.07 (dd, J = 13.6, 3.8 Hz, 1H), 2.85 (dd, J = 13.6, 7.6 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  174.1, 137.2, 129.4, 128.3, 126.6, 69.6, 61.3, 40.9, 32.4; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>15</sub>NNaO<sub>3</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 232.0950, found 232.0948; HPLC (CHIRALPAK<sup>®</sup> IA ( $\phi$ 0.46 cm × 25 cm), hexane/*i*-PrOH = 80:20, 254 nm, flow rate 0.5 mL/min) t<sub>R</sub> = 14.9 min (minor), 17.6 min (major).





Diboronic acid anhydride 1 (1.1 mg, 2.00  $\mu$ mol, 0.5 mol%) was added to a DCE solution (total 0.20 M) of (*S*)-mandelic acid (**2b**) (60.9 mg, 0.400 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and *N*,*O*-dimethylhydroxylamine (**3**) (2.00 mL, 0.60 M in DCE, 1.20 mmol, 3.0 equiv) at room temperature. After stirring for 24 h under reflux (bath temp, 90 °C), the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature. Concentration under reduced pressure furnished the crude product, which was purified by silica gel column chromatography (60% EtOAc in *n*-hexane) to give (*S*)-2-hydroxy-*N*-methoxy-*N*-methyl-2-phenylacetamide (**4b**) (71.7 mg, 0.367 mmol, 92%, >99% ee) as a white solid.

Data for **4b**; white solid;  $R_f = 0.25$  (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 1.5:1); mp 65–66 °C;  $[\alpha]_D^{24}$ +117.2° (*c* = 1.0, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); IR (KBr) v = 3306, 2942, 1640, 1458, 1271, 1181, 1063, 991, 769, 709 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.37–7.31 (m, 5H), 5.35 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 4.27 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 3.22 (s, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  173.5, 139.6, 128.6, 128.3, 127.5, 71.5, 60.6, 32.6; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>13</sub>NNaO<sub>3</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 218.0793, found 218.0785; HPLC (CHIRALPAK<sup>®</sup> IC ( $\phi$  0.46 cm × 25 cm), hexane/*i*-PrOH = 80:20, 254 nm, flow rate 1.0 mL/min) t<sub>R</sub> = 23.5 min (minor), 25.8 min (major).

# (S)-2-Hydroxy-N-methoxy-N-methyl-2-phenylacetamide (4b)<sup>7</sup>



#### 2-Hydroxy-*N*-methoxy-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-*N*-methylacetamide (4c)

#### 2-(4-Chlorophenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-methoxy-N-methylacetamide (4d)<sup>8</sup>

Cl Compound 4d was prepared according to the procedure for 4b from Cl Ch Ne Compound 4d was prepared according to the procedure for 4b from 2-(4-chlorophenyl)-2-hydroxyacetic acid (2d) (74.6 mg, 0.400 mmol). Yield 84% (76.9 mg, 0.335 mmol). Data for 4d; white solid;  $R_f = 0.30$ (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 1:1); mp 71–74 °C; IR (KBr) v = 3443, 2946, 1646, 1174, 1075, 981, 801, 739, 636 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.35–7.28 (m, 4H), 5.32 (s, 1H), 3.30 (s, 3H), 3.22 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  173.0, 138.2, 134.1, 128.84, 128.77, 70.8, 60.7, 32.7; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>12</sub>ClNNaO<sub>3</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 252.0403, found 252.0396.

#### 2-Hydroxy-N-methoxy-N-methyl-2-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)acetamide (4e)

 $F_{3}C \qquad Compound 4e \text{ was prepared according to the procedure for 4b from 2-hydroxy-2-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)acetic acid (2e) (88.1 mg, 0.400 mmol). Yield 89% (94.1 mg, 0.357 mmol). Data for 4e; white solid; <math>R_{f} = 0.31$  (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 1:1); mp 48–50 °C; IR (KBr) v = 3400, 1650, 1422, 1335, 1163, 1120, 1069, 995, 814, 631 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.62 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 5.39 (s, 1H), 4.32 (br s, 1H), 3.33 (s, 3H), 3.23 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  172.6, 143.5, 130.4 (q, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 32.3 Hz), 127.8, 125.5 (q, <sup>3</sup>*J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 3.9 Hz), 123.9 (q, <sup>1</sup>*J*<sub>C-F</sub> = 270.2 Hz), 70.9, 60.7, 32.7; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (377 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -62.67; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>12</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NNaO<sub>3</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 286.0667, found 286.0654.

#### 2-(3-Chlorophenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-methoxy-N-methylacetamide (4f)

Compound **4f** was prepared according to the procedure for **4b** from 2-(3-chlorophenyl)-2-hydroxyacetic acid (**2f**) (74.6 mg, 0.400 mmol). Yield 91% (83.7 mg, 0.364 mmol). Data for **4f**; white solid;  $R_f = 0.35$ (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 1:1); mp 80–82 °C; IR (KBr) v = 3319, 2942, 1649, 1459, 1281, 1191, 1067, 982, 868, 786, 678 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.353–7.347 (m, 1H), 7.32–7.28 (m, 2H), 7.25–7.23 (m, 1H), 5.31 (s, 1H), 4.28 (br s, 1H), 3.31 (s, 3H), 3.23 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  172.7, 141.5, 134.4, 129.8, 128.4, 127.6, 125.6, 70.8, 60.7, 32.7; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>12</sub>ClNNaO<sub>3</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 252.0403, found 252.0391.

#### 2-(2-Chlorophenyl)-2-hydroxy-N-methoxy-N-methylacetamide (4g)

Compound 4g was prepared according to the procedure for 4b from 2-(2-chlorophenyl)-2-hydroxyacetic acid (2g) (74.6 mg, 0.400 mmol). Yield 80% (73.9 mg, 0.322 mmol). Data for 4g; white solid;  $R_f = 0.33$ (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 1:1); mp 77–79 °C; IR (KBr) v = 3442, 1655, 1474, 1367, 1262, 1177, 1067, 981, 759, 607 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.42–7.39 (m, 1H), 7.28–7.23 (m, 3H), 5.80 (s, 1H), 4.29 (br s, 1H), 3.28 (s, 3H), 3.23 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ 173.1, 137.2, 133.8, 129.7, 129.4, 128.6, 127.3, 68.2, 60.6, 32.8; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for  $C_{10}H_{12}CINNaO_3 [M+Na]^+ 252.0403$ , found 252.0391.

#### 2-Hydroxy-N-methoxy-N-methyloctanamide (4h)

Compound **4h** was prepared according to the procedure for **4b** from  $H_{4} \rightarrow H_{Me} \rightarrow H_{Me$ 

#### 2-Hydroxy-N-methoxy-N,4-dimethylpentanamide (4i)

Compound **4i** was prepared according to the procedure for **4b** from 2-hydroxy-4-methylpentanoic acid (**2i**) (52.9 mg, 0.400 mmol). Yield 83% (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 1:1); IR (neat) v = 3445, 2956, 1659, 1468, 1369, 1177, 1146, 1074, 982 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  4.41 (dd, *J* = 8.8, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 3.23 (s, 3H), 2.54 (br s, 1H), 1.99–1.89 (m, 1H), 1.50–1.38 (m, 2H), 0.96 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 3H), 0.95 (d, *J* = 8.8 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  175.8, 67.3, 61.2, 44.0, 32.5, 24.6, 23.6, 21.3; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>17</sub>NNaO<sub>3</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 198.1106, found 198.1099.

### (S)-2-Hydroxy-3-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-N-methoxy-N-methylpropanamide (4j)<sup>9</sup>

Compound **4j** was prepared according to the procedure for **4b** from (S)-2-hydroxy-3-(4-hydroxyphenyl)propanoic acid (**2j**) (18.2 mg, 0.100 mmol). Using 2.0 mol% of **1** in DCE (0.1 M). Yield 89% (20.0 mg, 0.089 mmol). Data for **4j**; yellow oil;  $R_f = 0.37$  (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 1:4);  $[\alpha]_D^{24}$  +1.1° (*c* = 0.5, MeOH); IR (neat) v = 3348, 2937, 1645, 1517, 1446, 1373, 1241, 1110, 1070, 984, 819, 756 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.09–7.06 (m, 2H), 6.75–6.71 (m, 2H), 4.58 (br s, 1H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 3.24 (s, 3H), 3.05 (dd, *J* = 14.0, 3.6 Hz, 1H), 2.81 (dd, *J* = 14.0, 7.2 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  174.1, 154.9, 130.5, 128.2, 115.3, 69.8, 61.4, 39.8, 32.5; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>15</sub>NNaO<sub>4</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 248.0899, found 248.0892; HPLC (CHIRALPAK <sup>®</sup> IC ( $\phi$  0.46 cm × 25 cm), hexane/*i*-PrOH = 80:20, 254 nm, flow rate 0.8 mL/min) t<sub>R</sub> = 12.3 min (minor), 14.8 min (major).



(S)-2-Hydroxy-3-(1*H*-indol-3-yl)-*N*-methoxy-*N*-methylpropanamide (4k)

Compound **4k** was prepared according to the procedure for **4b** from (S)-2-hydroxy-3-(1*H*-indol-3-yl)propanoic acid (**2k**) (41.0 mg, 0.200 mmol) using 2.0 mol% of **1**. Yield 97% (48.0 mg, 0.193 mmol). Data for **4k**; white solid;  $R_f = 0.30$  (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 1:4); mp 69–70 °C;  $[\alpha]_D^{24} - 40.4^{\circ}$  (*c* = 1.0, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); IR (KBr ) v = 3279, 2922, 1654, 1458, 1357, 1180, 1076, 988, 741, 610, 426 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.01 (br s, 1H), 7.60 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.20–7.16 (m, 1H), 7.14–7.09 (m, 2H), 4.69 (dd, *J* = 7.2, 3.2 Hz, 1H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 3.27–3.21 (m, 4H), 3.06 (dd, *J* = 14.8, 7.2 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  174.2, 136.1, 127.6, 123.2, 121.7, 119.2, 118.4, 111.2, 110.7, 68.9, 61.4, 32.4, 30.5; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sub>2</sub>NaO<sub>3</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 271.1059, found 271.1053; HPLC (CHIRALPAK<sup>®</sup> IA ( $\phi$  0.46 cm × 25 cm), hexane/EtOH = 90:10, 254 nm, flow rate 1.0 mL/min) t<sub>R</sub> = 31.9 min (minor), 42.7 min (major).



7. Procedure for the catalytic amidation using HNMe(OMe)•HCl salt (3•HCl) (Scheme 2a)



Diboronic acid anhydride 1 (1.1 mg, 2.00 µmol, 0.5 mol%) was added to the 0.400 suspension of (S)-mandelic acid (**2b**) (60.9 mg, mmol, 1.0 equiv), N,O-dimethylhydroxylamine hydrochloride (3•HCl) (117 mg, 1.20 mmol, 3.0 equiv) and sodium hydrogen carbonate (101 mg, 1.20 mmol, 3.0 equiv) in DCE (2.0 mL, 0.20 M). After stirring for 24 h under reflux (bath temp, 90 °C), the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, and diluted with DCM (15 mL). The resulting solution was washed by saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> aq (5 mL), brine (5 mL), successively, and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. Filtration and concentration under reduced pressure furnished the crude product, which was purified by silica gel column chromatography (60%) **EtOAc** in *n*-hexane) give to (S)-2-hydroxy-N-methoxy-N-methyl-2-phenylacetamide (4b) (62.9 mg, 0.322 mmol, 81%, >99% ee) as a white solid.



#### 8. Procedure for the crossover experiment (Scheme 2b)



Diboronic acid anhydride 1 (1.1 mg, 2.00  $\mu$ mol, 0.5 mol%) was added to a DCE solution (total 0.20 M) of (*S*)-2-hydroxy-3-phenylpropanoic acid (**2a**) (66.5 mg, 0.400 mmol, 1.0 equiv), 3-phenylpropanoic acid (**5**) (60.0 mg, 0.400 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and *N*,*O*-dimethylhydroxylamine (**3**) (2.00 mL, 0.60 M in DCE, 1.20 mmol, 3.0 equiv) at room temperature. After stirring for 24 h under reflux (bath temp, 90 °C), the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature. Concentration under reduced pressure furnished the crude product. The <sup>1</sup>H NMR yields of amide **4a** and **6**<sup>10</sup> were determined to be >99% and 6%, respectively using 1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane (2.0 mL, 0.2 M in CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 0.400 mmol, 1.0 equiv) as an internal standard.



**SI-Figure 2**. Chart A: <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of  $\alpha$ -hydroxy Weinreb amide **4a**. Chart B: <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of Weinreb amide **6**. Chart C: <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of the crude mixture for the crossover experiment shown in Scheme 2b using equimolar amount of 1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane as an internal standard (5.95 ppm).



**SI-Figure 3**. Enlarged view of SI-Figure 2. Showing the product yields of **4a** and **6**, respectively by the integration of each peaks.

#### 9. Preparation of $\beta$ -hydroxycarboxylic acids 7e, 7f, 7h and 7i

#### 3-Hydroxy-3-(thiophen-2-yl)propanoic acid (7e)



n-BuLi (6.00 mL, 1.6 M in hexane, 9.60 mmol, 1.2 equiv) was added to a stirred solution of N,N-diisopropylamine (1.47 mL, 10.4 mmol, 1.3 equiv) in dry THF (40 mL, 0.2 M) at -78 °C under nitrogen atmosphere. After stirring for 1 h, EtOAc (1.17 mL, 12.0 mmol, 1.5 equiv) was added to the solution at -78 °C and stirred for an additional 1 h. To this solution, thiophene-2-carbaldehyde (748  $\mu$ L, 8.00 mmol, 1.0 equiv) was added. After stirring for 1 h, the reaction was poured into saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl aq and the mixture was extracted with EtOAc (60 mL×3). The combined organic layer was washed by brine (60 mL), dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude product was subjected to the next step without further purification. A solution of 1 M NaOH aq (8.00 mL, 8.00 mmol, 1.0 equiv) was added to a solution of the crude product in EtOH (45 mL). After stirring for 3 h at room temperature, organic solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the mixture was washed by Et<sub>2</sub>O (5 mL $\times$ 2). Aqueous layer was acidified to pH 2 with 1 M HCl aq and extracted with  $Et_2O$  (10 mL×3). The combined organic layer was washed by brine (30 mL) and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. Filtration and concentration under reduced pressure furnished crude product, which was purified by trituration from Et<sub>2</sub>O/*n*-hexane to give 3-hydroxy-3-(thiophen-2-yl)propanoic acid (7e) (1.25 g, 7.26 mmol, 91%) as a white solid.

Data for **7e**: white solid;  $R_f = 0.38$  (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/MeOH = 19:1); mp 83–84 °C; IR (KBr) v = 3367, 3099, 1727, 1389, 1073, 842, 704 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  7.39 (dd, *J* = 4.8, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.96–6.94 (m, 2H), 5.80 (br s, 1H), 5.17 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 5.6 Hz, 1H), 2.66 (dd, *J* = 15.2, 5.6 Hz, 1H), 2.60 (dd, *J* = 15.2, 8.0 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  171.9, 149.5, 126.7, 124.4, 123.1, 65.7, 44.8; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>7</sub>O<sub>3</sub>S [M–H]<sup>-</sup> 171.0116, found 171.0113.

#### 3-Hydroxy-5-phenylpentanoic acid (7f)

Compound **7f** was prepared according to the procedure for the preparation of **7e** from 3-phenylpropanal (671 mg, 5.00 mmol). Yield 86% (834 mg, 4.29 mmol). Data for **7f**: white solid;  $R_f = 0.40$  (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/MeOH = 19:1); mp 129–130 °C; IR (KBr) v = 3221, 2642, 1683, 1455, 1271, 1089, 706 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  7.29–7.25 (m, 2H), 7.20–7.14 (m, 3H), 3.85–3.79 (m, 1H), 2.73–2.66 (m, 1H), 2.61–2.54 (m, 1H), 2.35 (dd, *J* = 14.8, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 2.27 (dd, *J* = 14.8, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 1.73–1.57 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  173.0, 142.3, 128.4, 128.3, 125.7, 66.6, 42.7, 38.9, 31.4; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>13</sub>O<sub>3</sub> [M–H]<sup>-</sup> 193.0865, found 193.0859.

#### (E)-3-Hydroxy-5-phenylpent-4-enoic acid (7h)



Compound **7h** was prepared according to the procedure for the preparation of **7e** from cinnamaldehyde (661 mg, 5.00 mmol). Yield 99% (951 mg, 4.95 mmol). Data for **7h**: white solid;  $R_f = 0.42$  (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/MeOH = 19:1); mp 96–98 °C; IR (KBr) v = 3407, 1625, 1495, 1060, 701 cm<sup>-1</sup>;

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  7.40 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.32 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.23 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.56 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1H), 6.31 (dd, *J* = 15.6, 5.6 Hz, 1H), 4.55–4.50 (m, 1H), 2.46 (ddd, *J* = 14.8, 5.6, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 2.39 (ddd, *J* = 14.8, 8.0, 1.6 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>)  $\delta$  172.3, 136.7, 133.0, 128.6, 128.4, 127.4, 126.3, 68.0, 42.8; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>11</sub>O<sub>3</sub> [M–H]<sup>-</sup> 191.0708, found 191.0706.

#### 3-Hydroxy-5-phenylpent-4-ynoic acid (7i)



10. Procedures for the catalytic amidation of  $\beta$ -hydroxycarboxylic acids and characterization of  $\beta$ -hydroxy Weinreb amides (Scheme 3)

3-Hydroxy-N-methoxy-N-methyl-3-phenylpropanamide (8a)<sup>12</sup>



Diboronic acid anhydride 1 (2.7 mg, 5.00  $\mu$ mol, 0.5 mol%) was added to a DCE solution (total 0.20 M) of 3-hydroxy-3-phenylpropanoic acid (7a) (166 mg, 1.00 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and *N*,*O*-dimethylhydroxylamine (3) (5.00 mL, 0.60 M in DCE, 3.00 mmol, 3.0 equiv) at room temperature. After stirring for 24 h under reflux (bath temp, 90 °C), the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature. Concentration under reduced pressure furnished the crude product, which was purified by silica gel column chromatography (60% EtOAc in *n*-hexane) to give 3-hydroxy-*N*-methoxy-*N*-methyl-3-phenylpropanamide (8a) (197 mg, 0.938 mmol, 94%) as a colorless oil.

Data for **8a**: colorless oil;  $R_f = 0.33$  (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 1:1.5); IR (neat) v = 3417, 2939, 1638, 1453, 1389, 1179, 1059, 702 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.43–7.34 (m, 4H), 7.31–7.27 (m, 1H), 5.16 (dd, J = 9.2, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 3.63 (s, 3H), 3.21 (s, 3H), 2.88 (dd, J = 16.8, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 2.79 (dd, J = 16.8, 9.2 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  173.0, 143.0, 128.3, 127.3, 125.6, 70.0, 61.1, 40.4, 31.7; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>15</sub>NNaO<sub>3</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 232.0950, found 232.0949.





Diboronic acid anhydride 1 (2.7 mg, 5.10 µmol, 0.5 mol %) was added to the suspension of 3-hydroxy-3-phenylpropanoic acid (7a) (166 mg, 1.00 mmol, 1.0 equiv), N,O-dimethylhydroxylamine hydrochloride (3•HCl) (293 mg, 3.00 mmol, 3.0 equiv) and sodium hydrogen carbonate (252 mg, 3.00 mmol, 3.0 equiv) in DCE (5.0 mL, 0.20 M). After stirring for 24 h under reflux (bath temp, 90 °C), the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature, and diluted with DCM (30 mL). The resulting solution was washed by saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> aq (10 mL), brine (10 mL), successively, and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. Filtration and concentration under reduced pressure furnished the crude product, which was purified by silica (60%) chromatography EtOAc gel column in *n*-hexane) to give 3-hydroxy-N-methoxy-N-methyl-3-phenyl-propanamide (8a) (189 mg, 0.900 mmol, 90%) as a colorless oil.





Diboronic acid anhydride 1 (1.1 mg, 2.00  $\mu$ mol, 0.5 mol%) was added to a DCE solution (total 0.20 M) of 3-hydroxy-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)propanoic acid (**7b**) (78.5 mg, 0.400 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and *N*,*O*-dimethylhydroxylamine (**3**) (2.00 mL, 0.60 M in DCE, 1.20 mmol, 3.0 equiv) at room temperature. After stirring for 24 h under reflux (bath temp, 90 °C), the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature. Concentration under reduced pressure furnished the crude product, which was purified by silica gel column chromatography (60% EtOAc in *n*-hexane) to give 3-hydroxy-*N*-methoxy-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-*N*-methylpropanamide (**8b**) (77.5 mg, 0.324 mmol, 81%) as a colorless oil.

Data for **8b**: colorless oil;  $R_f = 0.34$  (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 1:1.5); IR (neat) v = 3445, 2938, 1644, 1248, 1033, 834 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.35–7.31 (m, 2H), 6.92–6.88 (m, 2H), 5.10 (dd, J = 9.2, 3.2 Hz, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.64 (s, 3H), 3.21 (s, 3 H), 2.85 (dd, J = 16.8, 3.2 Hz, 1H), 2.77 (dd, J = 16.8, 9.2 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  173.2, 159.0, 135.2, 126.9, 113.8, 69.7, 61.2, 55.2, 40.4, 31.8; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>17</sub>NNaO<sub>4</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 262.1055, found 262.1057.

#### 3-Hydroxy-N-methoxy-N-methyl-3-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)propanamide (8c)



Compound **8c** was prepared according to the procedure for **8b** from 3-hydroxy-3-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)propanoic acid (**7c**) (93.7 mg, 0.400 mmol). Yield 84% (93.3 mg, 0.337 mmol). Data for **8c**: white solid;  $R_f = 0.35$  (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 1:1.5); mp 73–75 °C; IR (KBr) v

= 3356, 2948, 1649, 1332, 1158, 1118, 1067, 836, 616 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.62 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.53 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 5.20 (dd, J = 9.6, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 3.65 (s, 3H), 3.22 (s, 3H), 2.89 (dd, J = 16.8, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 2.75 (dd, J = 16.8, 9.6 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 172.8, 147.0, 129.6 (q, <sup>2</sup> $J_{C-F} = 32.1$  Hz), 126.0, 125.3 (q, <sup>3</sup> $J_{C-F} = 3.8$  Hz) 124.1 (q, <sup>1</sup> $J_{C-F} = 270.0$  Hz), 69.6, 61.2, 40.2, 31.8; <sup>19</sup>F NMR (377 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ -62.53; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>14</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NNaO<sub>3</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 300.0823, found 300.0818.

#### 3-Hydroxy-N-methoxy-N-methyl-3-(o-tolyl)propanamide (8d)



3-hydroxy-3-(o-tolyl)propanoic acid (7d) (72.1 mg, 0.400 mmol). Yield 94% (84.3 mg, 0.378 mmol). Data for 8d: white solid;  $R_f = 0.32$ 

Compound 8d was prepared according to the procedure for 8b from

8d (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 1:1.5); mp 51–54 °C; IR (KBr) v = 3448, 2925, 1638, 1393, 1065, 988, 763, cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.57 (dd, J = 7.6, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.25 (dt, J = 7.6, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (dt, J = 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H) 7.14 (dd, J = 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 5.37 (dd, J = 10.0, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 3.63 (s, 3H), 3.23 (s, 3H), 2.84 (dd, J = 16.8, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 2.71 (dd, J = 16.8, 10.0 Hz, 1H), 2.35 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 173.3, 140.9, 134.0, 130.3, 127.3, 126.3, 125.4, 66.7, 61.2, 39.1, 31.8, 19.0; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>17</sub>NNaO<sub>3</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 246.1106, found 246.1100.

#### 3-Hydroxy-N-methoxy-N-methyl-3-(thiophen-2-yl)propenamide (8e)

Compound **8e** was prepared according to the procedure for **8b** from 3-hydroxy-3-(thiophen-2-yl)propanoic acid (7e) (68.9 mg, 0.400 mmol). Yield 86% (74.0 mg, 0.344 mmol). Data for **8e**: colorless oil;  $R_f = 0.33$  **8e** (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 1:1.5); IR (neat) v = 3409, 2937, 1644, 1441, 1389, 702cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.26 (dd, J = 4.8, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.01–6.97 (m, 2H) 5.40 (dd, J = 8.8, 3.2 Hz, 1H), 3.68 (s, 3H), 3.22 (s, 3H), 3.00 (dd, J = 17.2, 3.2 Hz, 1H), 2.93 (dd, J = 17.2, 3.2 Hz, 1H), 3.93 (dd, J = 17.2, 8.8 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 172.5, 146.8, 126.5, 124.3, 123.2, 66.4, 61.2,
40.2, 31.7; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>13</sub>NNaO<sub>3</sub>S [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 238.0514, found 238.0510.

# 3-Hydroxy-N-methoxy-N-methyl-5-phenylpentanamide (8f)<sup>13</sup>



Compound **8f** was prepared according to the procedure for **8b** from 3-hydroxy-5-phenylpentanoic acid (**7f**) (38.8 mg, 0.200 mmol) using 2.0 mol% of **1**. Yield 98% (46.6 mg, 0.196 mmol). Data for **8f**: colorless oil;  $R_f = 0.38$  (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 1:1.5); IR (neat) v = 3435,

2936, 1644, 1454, 1388, 1179, 997, 701 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.30–7.16 (m, 5H), 4.07–4.01 (m, 1H), 3.67 (s, 3H), 3.19 (s, 3H), 2.89–2.82 (m, 1H), 2.76–2.64 (m, 2H), 2.48 (dd, J = 16.8, 9.6 Hz, 1H), 1.94–1.84 (m, 1H), 1.79–1.70 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  173.7, 141.9, 128.4, 128.3, 125.7, 67.1, 61.1, 38.1 (2C), 31.7 (2C); HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>19</sub>NNaO<sub>3</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 260.1263, found 260.1260.

#### 3-Hydroxy-*N*-methoxy-*N*,4,4-trimethylpentanamide (8g)



# (E)-3-Hydroxy-N-methoxy-N-methyl-5-phenylpent-4-enamide (8h)<sup>12</sup>



Compound **8h** was prepared according to the procedure for **8b** from (*E*)-3-hydroxy-5-phenylpent-4-enoic acid (**7h**) (76.9 mg, 0.400 mmol). Yield 93% (87.8 mg, 0.373 mmol). Data for **8h**: yellow oil;  $R_f = 0.37$  (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 1:1.5); IR (neat) v = 3418, 2938, 1644, 1448,

1389, 1178, 1110, 750, 695 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.41–7.38 (m, 2H), 7.33–7.29 (m, 2H), 7.26–7.21 (m, 1H), 6.68 (dd, J = 16.0, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 6.26 (dd, J = 16.0, 5.6 Hz, 1H), 4.78–4.73 (m, 1H), 3.70 (s, 3H), 3.22 (s, 3H), 2.82 (dd, J = 16.8, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 2.69 (dd, J =

16.8, 9.2 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  173.0, 136.6, 130.4, 130.2, 128.4, 127.5, 126.4, 68.6, 61.2, 38.4, 31.8; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>17</sub>NNaO<sub>3</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 258.1106, found 258.1104.

#### 3-Hydroxy-N-methoxy-N-methyl-5-phenylpent-4-ynamide (8i)



Compound **8i** was prepared according to the procedure for **8b** from 3-hydroxy-5-phenylpent-4-ynoic acid (7i) (38.0 mg, 0.200 mmol) using 2.0 mol% of **1** at 60 °C (bath temp.). Yield 82% (38.4 mg, 0.165 mmol). Data for **8i**: yellow oil;  $R_f = 0.37$  (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 1:1.5);

IR (neat)  $\nu = 3398$ , 2938, 1644, 1490, 1442, 1389, 1040, 758 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.46–7.43 (m, 2H), 7.32–7.28 (m, 3H), 5.04 (dd, J = 8.4, 3.6 Hz, 1H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 3.23 (s, 3H), 3.02 (dd, J = 16.8, 8.4 Hz, 1H), 2.93 (dd, J = 16.8, 3.6 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  172.1, 131.7, 128.4, 128,2, 122.4, 88.6, 84.6, 61.3, 59.3, 38.8, 31.8; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>15</sub>NNaO<sub>3</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 256.0950, found 256.0945.

#### 3-Hydroxy-N-methoxy-N-methyl-2-phenylpropanamide (8j)



Compound **8j** was prepared according to the procedure for **8b** from tropic acid (**7j**) (66.5 mg, 0.400 mmol). Yield 93% (77.8 mg, 0.372 mmol). Data for **8j**: white solid;  $R_f = 0.33$  (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 1:1.5); mp 59–62 °C; IR (KBr) v = 3388, 2922, 1624, 1455, 1389, 1324, 1428, 989,

747, 703 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.35–7.24 (m, 5H), 4.21 (br s, 1H) 4.09 (dd, J = 11.2, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 3.77 (dd, J = 11.2, 8.8 Hz, 1H), 3.30 (s, 3H), 3.18 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  173.7, 136.5, 128.7, 128.2, 127.3, 65.0, 60.9, 50.8, 32.0; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>15</sub>NNaO<sub>3</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 232.0950, found 232.0950.

11. Procedures for the syntheses of  $\alpha$ -hydroxyketone natural products and characterization of  $\alpha$ -hydroxyketone natural products (Scheme 4) sattabacin (9)<sup>14</sup>



Diboronic acid anhydride 1 (1.1 mg, 2.00 µmol, 2.0 mol%) was added to a DCE solution (total 0.20 M) of (*S*)-2-hydroxy-3-phenylpropanoic acid (**2a**) (16.6 mg, 0.100 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and *N*,*O*-dimethylhydroxylamine (**3**) (0.5 mL, 0.60 M in DCE, 0.30 mmol, 3.0 equiv) at room temperature. After stirring for 24 h under reflux (bath temp, 90 °C), the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature. Concentration under reduced pressure furnished the crude product, which was subjected to the next step without further purification. Isobutylmagnesium chloride (250 µL, 2.0 M in THF, 0.500 mmol, 5.0 equiv) was added dropwise to a solution of the crude mixture in THF (250 µL, total 0.2 M) at rt. After stirring for 24 h, the reaction was quenched with 1M HCl (2 mL) and the mixture was stirred for 30 min. The mixture was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (10 mL×2) and washed by water (5 mL), brine (5 mL) and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. Filtration and concentration under reduced pressure furnished the crude product, which was purified by silica gel column chromatography (10% EtOAc in *n*-hexane) to give sattabacin (**9**) (19.0 mg, 0.092 mmol, 92%)

Data for **9**; yellow oil;  $R_f = 0.32$  (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 9:1);  $[\alpha]_D^{24}$  +36.3° (*c* = 1.0, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); IR (neat) v = 3469, 3028, 1712, 1367, 1294, 1153, 1090, 1044, 748, 700 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.33–7.29 (m, 2H), 7.25–7.22 (m, 3H), 4.38 (dd, *J* = 7.2, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 3.13 (dd, *J* = 14.4, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 2.83 (dd, *J* = 14.4, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 2.37 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.23–2.13 (m, 1H), 0.924 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 3H), 0.922 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  211.2, 136.6, 129.3, 128.5, 126.8, 77.4, 47.4, 40.0, 24.5, 22.6, 22.5; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>18</sub>NaO<sub>2</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 229.1205, found 229.1196; HPLC (CHIRALPAK<sup>®</sup> IC ( $\phi$  0.46 cm × 25 cm), hexane/*i*-PrOH = 90:10, 254 nm, flow rate 1.0 mL/min) t<sub>R</sub> = 13.4 min (minor), 14.1 min (major).



Gram scale synthesis of Sattabacin (9)



*N*,*O*-Dimethylhydroxylamine (**3**) (30.0 mL, 0.60 M in DCE, 18.0 mmol, 3.0 equiv) was added dropwise over 1 h to a suspension of diboronic acid anhydride **1** (16.2 mg, 30.1 µmol, 0.5 mol%) and (*S*)-2-hydroxy-3-phenylpropanoic acid (**2a**) (1.00 g, 6.02 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in DCE (10.0 mL, total 0.15 M) under reflux (bath temp, 90 °C). After stirring for 24 h, the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature. Concentration under reduced pressure furnished the crude product, which was subjected to the next step without further purification. Isobutylmagnesium chloride (15.0 mL, 2.0 M in THF, 30.0 mmol, 5.0 equiv) was added dropwise to a solution of the crude mixture in THF (30.0 mL, total 0.2 M) at rt. After stirring for 24 h, the reaction was quenched with 1M HCl (20 mL) and the mixture was stirred for 30 min. The organic phase was evaporated *in vacuo* and the resulting water phase was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (50 mL×2). The combined organic phase was washed by water (20 mL), brine (20 mL), successively, and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. Filtration and concentration under reduced pressure furnished the crude product, which was purified by silica gel column chromatography (10% EtOAc in *n*-hexane) to give sattabacin (**9**) (929.4 mg, 4.51 mmol, 75%, >99% ee) as a colorless oil. [ $\alpha$ ]<sup>23</sup><sub>D</sub> +38.9° (*c* = 1.0, CHCl<sub>3</sub>) for gram scale synthesis of sattabacin.


4-hydroxy sattabacin (10)<sup>14</sup>



Diboronic acid anhydride 1 (1.1 mg, 2.00  $\mu$ mol, 2.0 mol%) was added to a DCE solution (total 0.10 M) of (*S*)-2-hydroxy-3-(4-hydroxyphenyl)propanoic acid (2j) (18.2 mg, 0.100 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and *N*,*O*-dimethylhydroxylamine (3) (1.0 mL, 0.30 M in DCE, 0.30 mmol, 3.0 equiv) at room temperature. After stirring for 24 h under reflux (bath temp, 90 °C), the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature. Concentration under reduced pressure furnished the crude product, which was subjected to the next step without further purification. Isobutylmagnesium chloride (250  $\mu$ L, 2.0 M in THF, 0.500 mmol, 5.0 equiv) was added dropwise to a solution of the crude mixture in THF (750  $\mu$ L, total 0.1 M) at rt. After stirring for 24 h, the reaction was quenched with 1M HCl (2 mL) and the mixture was stirred for 30 min. The mixture was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (10 mL×2) and washed by water (5 mL), brine (5 mL) and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. Filtration and concentration under reduced pressure furnished the crude product, which was purified by silica gel column chromatography (30% EtOAc in *n*-hexane) to give 4-hydroxy sattabacin (10) (15.2 mg, 0.068 mmol, 68%, 86% ee) as a colorless oil.

Data for **10**; colorless oil;  $R_f = 0.36$  (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 2:1);  $[\alpha]_D^{24}$  +37.1° (*c* = 0.50, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); IR (neat) v = 3389, 2958, 1713, 1614, 1516, 1454, 1368, 1261, 1041, 950, 828 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.11–7.08 (m, 2H), 6.76–6.73 (m, 2H), 4.87 (br s, 1H), 4.33 (dd, *J* = 7.2, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 3.44 (br s, 1H), 3.07 (dd, *J* = 14.4, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 2.76 (dd, *J* = 14.4, 7.2 Hz, 1H) 2.37 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 2.23–2.13 (m, 1H), 0.92 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  211.3, 154.6, 130.4, 128.5, 115.4, 77.6, 47.4, 39.1, 29.7, 24.6, 22.62, 22.56; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>18</sub>NaO<sub>3</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 245.1154, found 245.1144; HPLC (CHIRALPAK<sup>®</sup> IC ( $\phi$  0.46 cm × 25 cm), hexane/*i*-PrOH = 80:20, 254 nm, flow rate 1.0 mL/min) t<sub>R</sub> = 6.2 min (minor), 10.9 min (major).



kurasoin A (11)<sup>15</sup>



Diboronic acid anhydride 1 (1.1 mg, 2.00 µmol, 2.0 mol%) was added to a DCE solution (total 0.10 M) of (*S*)-2-hydroxy-3-(4-hydroxyphenyl)propanoic acid (2j) (18.2 mg, 0.100 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and *N*,*O*-dimethylhydroxylamine (3) (1.0 mL, 0.30 M in DCE, 0.30 mmol, 3.0 equiv) at room temperature. After stirring for 24 h under reflux (bath temp, 90 °C), the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature. Concentration under reduced pressure furnished the crude product, which was subjected to the next step without further purification. Benzylmagnesium chloride (250 µL, 2.0 M in THF, 0.500 mmol, 5.0 equiv) was added dropwise to a solution of the crude mixture in THF (750 µL, total 0.1 M) at rt. After stirring for 24 h, the reaction was quenched with 1M HCl (2 mL) and the mixture was stirred for 30 min. The mixture was extracted with  $CH_2Cl_2$  (10 mL×2) and washed by water (5 mL), brine (5 mL) and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. Filtration and concentration under reduced pressure furnished the crude product, which was purified by silica gel column chromatography (50% EtOAc in *n*-hexane) to give kurasoin A (11) (17.9 mg, 0.070 mmol, 70%, 86% ee) as a white solid.

Data for **11**; white solid;  $R_f = 0.48$  (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 1:1); mp 117–120 °C;  $[\alpha]_{1D}^{24}$ +8.2° (*c* = 0.50, MeOH); IR (KBr) v = 3313, 3030, 2897, 1712, 1595, 1517, 1451, 1338, 1227, 1100, 1047, 993, 809, 703 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.36–7.27 (m, 3H), 7.17–7.14 (m, 2H), 7.09–7.05 (m, 2H), 6.76–6.73 (m, 2H), 4.87 (br s, 1H), 4.47 (dd, *J* = 7.2, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 3.81 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 3.75 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 3.09 (dd, *J* = 14.4, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 2.84 (dd, *J* = 14.4, 7.2 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  209.2, 154.7, 132.9, 130.4, 129.5, 128.8, 128.2, 127.3, 115.5, 76.8, 45.7, 39.2; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>16</sub>NaO<sub>3</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 279.0997, found 279.0983. ; HPLC (CHIRALPAK<sup>®</sup> IC ( $\phi$  0.46 cm × 25 cm), hexane/*i*-PrOH = 80:20, 254 nm, flow rate 1.0 mL/min) t<sub>R</sub> = 8.8 min (minor), 12.7 min (major).



kurasoin B (12)<sup>15</sup>



Diboronic acid anhydride 1 (1.1 mg, 2.00 µmol, 2.0 mol%) was added to a DCE solution (total 0.20 M) of (*S*)-2-hydroxy-3-(1*H*-indol-3-yl)propanoic acid (2k) (20.5 mg, 0.100 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and *N*,*O*-dimethylhydroxylamine (3) (0.5 mL, 0.60 M in DCE, 0.30 mmol, 3.0 equiv) at room temperature. After stirring for 24 h under reflux (bath temp, 90 °C), the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature. Concentration under reduced pressure furnished the crude product, which was subjected to the next step without further purification. Benzylmagnesium chloride (250 µL, 2.0 M in THF, 0.500 mmol, 5.0 equiv) was added dropwise to a solution of the crude mixture in THF (750 µL, total 0.1 M) at rt. After stirring for 24 h, the reaction was quenched with 1M HCl (2 mL) and the mixture was stirred for 30 min. The mixture was extracted with  $CH_2Cl_2$  (10 mL×2) and washed by water (5 mL), brine (5 mL) and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. Filtration and concentration under reduced pressure furnished the crude product, which was purified by silica gel column chromatography (30% EtOAc in *n*-hexane) to give kurasoin B (**12**) (20.9 mg, 0.075 mmol, 75%, >99% ee) as a yellow oil.

Data for **12**; yellow oil;  $R_f = 0.38$  (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 2:1);  $[\alpha]_D^{26} + 23.6^{\circ}$  (*c* = 1.0, MeOH); IR (neat) v = 3411, 3058, 3028, 2916, 1713, 1497, 1456, 1341, 1011, 743, 701 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.07 (br s, 1H), 7.60 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.37 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H) 7.32–7.20 (m, 4H), 7.16–7.12 (m, 1H), 7.10–7.07 (m, 3H) 4.61 (dd, *J* = 6.8, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 3.81 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 3.75 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 3.33 (dd, *J* = 14.8, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 3.16 (dd, *J* = 14.8, 6.4 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  209.6, 136.1, 133.1, 129.5, 128.7, 127.4, 127.2, 123.0, 122.3, 119.7, 118.7, 111.3, 110.3, 76.1, 45.6, 29.9; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>17</sub>NNaO<sub>2</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 302.1157, found 302.1148; HPLC (CHIRALPAK<sup>®</sup> IA ( $\phi$ 0.46 cm × 25 cm), hexane/EtOH = 90:10, 254 nm, flow rate 1.0 mL/min) t<sub>R</sub> = 34.3 min (minor), 43.5 min (major).



## soraphinol A (17)<sup>16</sup>



Diboronic acid anhydride 1 (1.1 mg, 2.00 µmol, 2.0 mol%) was added to a DCE solution (total 0.20 M) of (S)-2-hydroxy-3-(1H-indol-3-yl)propanoic acid (2k) (20.5 mg, 0.100 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and N,O-dimethylhydroxylamine (3) (0.5 mL, 0.60 M in DCE, 0.30 mmol, 3.0 equiv) at room temperature. After stirring for 24 h under reflux (bath temp, 90 °C), the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature. Concentration under reduced pressure furnished the crude product, which was subjected to the next step without further purification. 4-(Benzyloxy)benzylmagnesium chloride (1.67 mL, 0.3 M in THF, 0.500 mmol, 5.0 equiv) was added dropwise to a solution of the crude mixture in THF (330 µL, total 0.05 M) at rt. After stirring for 24 h, the reaction was quenched with 1M HCl (2 mL) and the mixture was stirred for 30 min. The mixture was extracted with  $CH_2Cl_2$  (10 mL×2) and washed by water (5 mL), brine (5 mL) and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. Filtration and concentration under reduced pressure furnished the crude product, which was purified by silica gel column chromatography (5% EtOAc CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) in to give (S)-1-(4-(benzyloxy)phenyl)-3-hydroxy-4-(1H-indol-3-yl)butan-2-one (13) (30.4 mg, 0.079 mmol, 79%) as a brown gum.

Data for **13**; amorphous;  $R_f = 0.35$  (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/EtOAc = 20:1);  $[\alpha]_D^{24}$ +11.7° (*c* = 0.5, MeOH); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.05 (br s, 1H), 7.60 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.44–7.31 (m, 6H), 7.23–7.19 (m, 1H), 7.16–7.10 (m, 1H), 7.08–7.06 (m, 1H), 7.00–6.97 (m, 2H), 6.91–6.89 (m, 2H), 5.04 (s, 2H), 4.60 (dt, *J* = 6.8, 5.2 Hz, 1H), 3.74 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 3.68 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 3.34–3.23 (m, 2H), 3.15 (dd, *J* = 15.2, 6.8 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  209.9, 158.0, 136.9, 136.1, 130.5, 128.6, 128.0, 127.5, 127.4, 125.3, 122.9, 122.3, 119.7, 118.8, 115.1, 111.2, 110.4, 76.0, 70.0, 44.8, 29.9; IR (neat)  $\nu$  = 3411, 2925, 1713, 1611, 1510, 1456, 1259, 1027, 800, 741 cm<sup>-1</sup>; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C<sub>25</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NNaO<sub>3</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 408.1576, found 408.1575.

10% Pd/C (6.0 mg, 20 wt%, wet) was added to a solution of **13** (30.4 mg, 0.079 mmol) in EtOAc (2.5 mL, 0.03 M) and the mixture was stirred at room temperature under hydrogen atmosphere (balloon). After strring for 12 h, the mixture was filtered through a pad of Celite<sup>®</sup> and the resulting filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure to furnish the crude product, which was purified by silica gel column chromatography (20% MeOH in CH<sub>3</sub>Cl) to give soraphinol A (**17**) (21.0 mg, 0.071 mmol, 90%, 98% ee) as a colorless oil .

Data for **17**; colorless oil;  $R_f = 0.34$  (CHCl<sub>3</sub>/MeOH = 10:1);  $[\alpha]_p^{23} + 19.0^\circ$  (c = 1.0, MeOH); IR (neat) v = 3407, 2919, 1711, 1613, 1515, 1456, 1231, 1041, 821, 745 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD)  $\delta$  7.53–7.52 (m, 1H), 7.35–7.33 (m, 1H), 7.12–7.07 (m, 2H), 7.03–6.99 (m, 1H), 6.80–6.78 (m, 2H), 6.67–6.64 (m, 2H), 4.51 (dd, J = 6.8, 5.6 Hz, 1H), 3.62 (d, J = 16.4 Hz, 1H), 3.56 (d, J = 16.4 Hz, 1H), 3.35 (s, 1H), 3.18 (dd, J = 14.8, 5.6 Hz, 1H), 3.08 (dd, J = 14.8, 6.8 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD)  $\delta$  213.2, 157.3, 138.0, 131.8, 128.8, 126.0, 124.7, 122.4, 119.8, 119.6, 116.2, 112.2, 111.0, 77.6, 46.1, 31.2; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>17</sub>NNaO<sub>3</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 318.1106, found 318.1103; HPLC (CHIRALPAK<sup>®</sup> IA ( $\phi$  0.46 cm × 25 cm), hexane/*i*-PrOH = 80:20, 254 nm, flow rate 1.0 mL/min) t<sub>R</sub> = 16.3 min (minor), 18.1 min (major).





Diboronic acid anhydride **1** (1.1 mg, 2.00  $\mu$ mol, 2.0 mol%) was added to a DCE solution (total 0.20 M) of (*S*)-2-hydroxy-3-phenylpropanoic acid (**2a**) (16.6 mg, 0.100 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and *N*,*O*-dimethylhydroxylamine (**3**) (0.5 mL, 0.60 M in DCE, 0.30 mmol, 3.0 equiv) at room temperature. After stirring for 24 h under reflux (bath temp, 90 °C), the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature. Concentration under reduced pressure furnished the crude product, which was subjected to the next step without further purification. 4-(Benzyloxy)benzylmagnesium chloride (1.67 mL, 0.3 M in THF, 0.500 mmol, 5.0 equiv) was added dropwise to a solution of the crude mixture in THF (330  $\mu$ L, total 0.05 M) at rt. After stirring for 24 h, the reaction was quenched with 1M HCl (2 mL) and the mixture was stirred for 30 min. The mixture was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (10 mL×2) and washed by water (5 mL), brine (5 mL) and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. Filtration and concentration under reduced pressure furnished the crude product, which was purified by silica gel column chromatography (20% EtOAc in *n*-hexane) to give (*S*)-1-(4-(benzyloxy)phenyl)-3-hydroxy-4-phenylbutan-2-one (**14**) (28.1 mg, 0.081 mmol, 81%) as a white solid.

Data for 14; white solid;  $R_f = 0.46$  (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 2:1); mp 78–81 °C;  $[\alpha]_D^{24}$ +3.4° (*c* = 0.5, MeOH); IR (KBr) v = 3422, 2905, 1695, 1515, 1382, 1249, 1094, 1013, 740, 697 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.44–7.37 (m, 4H), 7.35–7.30 (m, 3H), 7.28–7.21 (m, 3H), 7.08–7.05 (m, 2H), 6.95–6.92 (m, 2H), 5.05 (s, 2H), 4.51 (ddd, *J* = 7.4, 5.6, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 3.75 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 3.69 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 3.22 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 3.15 (dd, *J* = 14.0, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 2.89 (dd, *J* = 14.0, 7.4 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  209.3, 158.0, 136.9, 136.4, 130.5, 129.3, 128.59, 128.57, 128.0, 127.4, 127.0, 125.2, 115.2, 76.6, 70.0, 44.8, 40.2; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>22</sub>NaO<sub>3</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 369.1467, found 369.1457.

10% Pd/C (5.6 mg, 20 wt%, wet) was added to a solution of **14** (28.1 mg, 0.081 mmol) in EtOAc (2.5 mL, 0.03 M) and the mixture was stirred at room temperature under

hydrogen atmosphere (balloon). After strring for 5 h, the mixture was filtered through a pad of Celite<sup>®</sup> and the resulting filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure to furnish the crude product, which was purified by silica gel column chromatography (20% MeOH in CH<sub>3</sub>Cl) to give soraphinol B (**18**) (18.2 mg, 0.071 mmol, 88%, >99% ee) as a colorless oil .

Data for **18**; colorless oil;  $R_f = 0.32$  (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/EtOAc = 10:1);  $[\alpha]_D^{24}$  +4.2° (*c* = 1.0, MeOH); IR (neat) v = 3360, 2922, 1714, 1614, 1516, 1454, 1260, 1048, 803, 750, 700 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CD<sub>3</sub>OD)  $\delta$  7.29–7.18 (m, 5H), 6.96–6.93 (m, 2H), 6.73–6.70 (m, 2H), 4.39 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 3.73 (d, *J* = 16.4 Hz, 1H), 3.67 (d, *J* = 16.4 Hz, 1H), 3.05 (dd, *J* = 14.0, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 2.80 (dd, *J* = 14.0, 8.0 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  212.5, 157.4, 138.9, 131.8, 130.6, 129.3, 127.5, 126.0, 116.3, 78.4, 45.7, 41.0; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>16</sub>NaO<sub>3</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 279.0997, found 279.0991; HPLC (CHIRALPAK<sup>®</sup> IB ( $\phi$  0.46 cm × 25 cm), hexane/*i*-PrOH = 80:20, 254 nm, flow rate 1.0 mL/min) t<sub>R</sub> = 8.6 min (minor), 9.4 min (major).





Diboronic acid anhydride 1 (1.1 mg, 2.00 µmol, 2.0 mol%) was added to a DCE solution (total 0.10 M) of (S)-2-hydroxy-3-(4-hydroxyphenyl)propanoic acid (2j) (18.2 mg, 0.100 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and N,O-dimethylhydroxylamine (3) (1.0 mL, 0.30 M in DCE, 0.30 mmol, 3.0 equiv) at room temperature. After stirring for 24 h under reflux (bath temp, 90 °C), the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature. Concentration under reduced pressure furnished the crude product, which was subjected to the next step without further purification. 4-(Benzyloxy)benzylmagnesium chloride (1.67 mL, 0.3 M in THF, 0.500 mmol, 5.0 equiv) was added dropwise to a solution of the crude mixture in THF (330 µL, total 0.05 M) at rt. After stirring for 24 h, the reaction was quenched with 1M HCl (2 mL) and the mixture was stirred for 30 min. The mixture was extracted with CH2Cl2 (10 mL×2) and washed by water (5 mL), brine (5 mL) and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. Filtration and concentration under reduced pressure furnished the crude product, which was purified by silica gel column chromatography (10% EtOAc CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) in to give (S)-1-(4-(benzyloxy)phenyl)-3-hydroxy-4-(4-hydroxyphenyl)butan-2-one (15) (21.7 mg, 0.060 mmol, 60%) as a white solid.

Data for **15**; white solid;  $R_f = 0.27$  (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/EtOAc = 10:1); mp 142–152 °C;  $[\alpha]_D^{24}$  +5.7° (*c* = 0.5, MeOH); IR (KBr) v = 3450, 1712, 1638, 1515, 1388, 1255, 1100, 790, 741, 467 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.43–7.32 (m, 5H), 7.08–7.06 (m, 4H), 6.94–6.92 (m, 2H), 6.77–6.75 (m, 2H), 5.05 (s, 2H), 4.79 (s, 1H), 4.46 (ddd, *J* = 7.2, 5.6, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 3.74 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 3.68 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 3.21 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 3.07 (dd, *J* = 14.0, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 2.83 (dd, *J* = 14.0, 7.2 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  209.4, 158.1, 154.6, 136.9, 130.53, 130.50, 128.6, 128.4, 128.0, 127.4, 125.2, 115.5, 115.2, 77.2, 70.0, 44.9, 39.3; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>22</sub>NaO<sub>4</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 385.1416, found 385.1405.

10% Pd/C (4.3 mg, 20 wt%, wet) was added to a solution of **15** (21.7 mg, 0.060 mmol) in EtOAc (2.5 mL, 0.02 M) and the mixture was stirred at room temperature under hydrogen atmosphere (balloon). After strring for 7 h, the mixture was filtered through a pad of Celite<sup>®</sup> and the resulting filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure to furnish the crude product, which was purified by silica gel column chromatography (30% MeOH in CH<sub>3</sub>Cl) to give circumcin B (**19**) (14.8 mg, 0.054 mmol, 90%, 86% ee) as a colorless oil .

Data for **19**; amorphous;  $R_f = 0.23$  (CH<sub>3</sub>Cl/MeOH = 10:1);  $[\alpha]_D^{23} + 1.1^\circ$  (*c* = 0.5, MeOH); IR (neat) v = 3356, 2922, 1718, 1599, 1515, 1448, 1233, 834 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.05–7.00 (m, 2H), 6.95–6.92 (m, 2H), 6.72–6.69 (m, 4H), 4.34 (dd, *J* = 7.6, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 3.69 (d, *J* = 16.4 Hz, 1H), 3.64 (d, *J* = 16.4 Hz, 1H), 2.95 (dd, *J* = 14.0, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 2.74 (dd, *J* = 14.0, 7.6 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, MeOH)  $\delta$  212.7, 157.4, 157.2, 131.8, 131.5, 129.4, 126.1, 116.3, 116.1, 78.6, 45.9, 40.3; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>16</sub>NaO<sub>4</sub>[M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 295.0946, found 295.0960; HPLC (CHIRALPAK<sup>®</sup> IA ( $\phi$ 0.46 cm × 25 cm), hexane/*i*-PrOH = 80:20, 254 nm, flow rate 1.0 mL/min) t<sub>R</sub> = 12.5 min (minor), 14.1 min (major).



circumcin C (16)<sup>18</sup>



Diboronic acid anhydride 1 (1.1 mg, 2.00 µmol, 2.0 mol%) was added to a DCE solution (total 0.20 M) of (*S*)-2-hydroxy-3-phenylpropanoic acid (**2a**) (16.6 mg, 0.100 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and *N*,*O*-dimethylhydroxylamine (**3**) (0.5 mL, 0.60 M in DCE, 0.30 mmol, 3.0 equiv) at room temperature. After stirring for 24 h under reflux (bath temp, 90 °C), the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature. Concentration under reduced pressure furnished the crude product, which was subjected to the next step without further purification. Benzylmagnesium chloride (250 µL, 2.0 M in THF, 0.500 mmol, 5.0 equiv) was added dropwise to a solution of the crude mixture in THF (250 µL, total 0.2 M) at rt. After stirring for 24 h, the reaction was quenched with 1M HCl (2 mL) and the mixture was stirred for 30 min. The mixture was extracted with  $CH_2Cl_2$  (10 mL×2) and washed by water (5 mL), brine (5 mL) and dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. Filtration and concentration under reduced pressure furnished the crude product, which was purified by silica gel column chromatography (20% EtOAc in *n*-hexane) to give circumcin C (**16**) (21.7 mg, 0.090 mmol, 90%, >99% ee) as a colorless oil.

Data for **16**; colorless oil;  $R_f = 0.31$  (*n*-hexane/EtOAc = 4:1);  $[\alpha]_D^{24}$  +61.2° (*c* = 1.0, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); IR (neat) v = 3437, 3029, 2929, 1715, 1603, 1496, 1454, 1331, 1049, 737, 699 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.35–7.27 (m, 6H), 7.24–7.21 (m, 2H), 7.17–7.15 (m, 2H), 4.51 (ddd, *J* = 7.2, 5.6, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 3.81 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 3.75 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 3.20 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 3.16 (dd, *J* = 14.0, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 2.90 (dd, *J* = 14.0, 7.2 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  209.0, 136.4, 132.9, 129.5, 129.3, 128.8, 128.6, 127.3, 127.0, 76.7, 45.7, 40.2; HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>16</sub>NaO<sub>2</sub> [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> 263.1048, found 263.1037; HPLC (CHIRALPAK<sup>®</sup> IB ( $\phi$  0.46 cm × 25 cm), hexane/*i*-PrOH = 95:5, 254 nm, flow rate 1.0 mL/min) t<sub>R</sub> = 13.6 min (minor), 14.2 min (major).



## 12. References

- H. Noda, M. Furutachi, Y. Asada, M. Shibasaki and N. Kumgai, *Nat. Chem.*, 2017, 9, 571–577.
- (2) K. Michigami, T. Sakaguchi and Y. Takemoto, ACS Catal., 2020, 10, 683–688.
- (3) N. Shimada, M. Hirata, M. Koshizuka, N. Ohse, R. Kaito and K. Makino, Org. Lett., 2019, 21, 4303–4308.
- (4) Z. Wang, B. La, J. M. Fortunak, X.-J. Meng and G. W. Kabalka, *Tetrahedron Lett.*, 1998, 39, 5501–5504.
- (5) S. Deechongkit, S.-L. You and W. Kelly, Org. Lett., 2004, 6, 497–500.
- (6) S. Tsuchiya, T. Sunazuka, T. Shirahata, T. Hirose, E. Kaji and S. Ōmura, *Heterocycles*, 2007, 72, 91–94.
- (7) M. Zhao, W. Li, X. Ma, W. Fan, X. Tao, X. Li, X. Xie and Z. Zhang, *Sci. China Chem.*, 2013, 56, 342–348.
- (8) C.-T. Chen, J.-Q. Kao, S. B. Salunke and Y.-H. Lin, Org. Lett., 2011, 13, 26-29.
- (9) M. R. Aronoff, N. A. Bourjaily and K. A. Miller, Tetrahedron Lett., 2010, 51, 6375–6377.
- (10) D. J. Pippel, C. M. Mapes and N. S. Mani, J. Org. Chem., 2007, 72, 5828–5831.
- (11) P. Wipf, C. Kendall and C. R. J. Stephenson, J. Am. Chem. Soc., 2003, 125, 761-768.
- (12) J. M. Andrés, R. Pedrosa, A. Pérez-Encabo, Tetrahedron, 2000, 56, 1217–1223.
- (13) D. A. Evans, M. J. Dart, J. L. Duffy and M. G. Yang, J. Am. Chem. Soc., 1996, 118, 4322–4343.
- (14) G. Lampis, D. Deidda, C. Maullu, M. A. Madeddu, R. Pompei, F. D. Monache and G. Satta, J. Antibiot., 1995, 48, 967–972.
- (15) R. Uchida, K. Shiomi, T. Sunazuka, J. Inokoshi, A. Nishizawa, T. Hirose, H. Tanaka, Y. Iwai and S. Ōmura, J. Antibiot., 1996, 49, 886–889.
- (16) X. Li, O. P. Zee, H. J. Shin, Y. Seo and J.-W. Ahn, *Bull. Korean Chem. Soc.*, 2007, 28, 835–836.
- (17) J.-W. Ahn, X. Li and O. P. Zee, Bull. Korean Chem. Soc., 2007, 28, 1215–1216.
- (18) Z. Lin, L. Marett, R. W. Hughen, M. Flores, I. Forteza, M. A. Ammon, G. P. Concepcion, S. Espino, B. M. Olivera, G. Rosenberg, M. G. Haygood, A. R. Light and E. W. Schmidt, *Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett.*, 2013, 23, 4867–4869.

## 13. <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C and <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectra




























































S82








































































S116



























