Supporting Information for:

Homogeneous Asymmetric Transfer Hydrogenation of Ketones using a Ruthenium Catalyst Anchored on Chitosan: Natural Chirality at Work

Mathieu Babin,\textsuperscript{a,b} Roxanne Clément,\textsuperscript{c} Jonathan Gagnon*\textsuperscript{b} and Frédéric-Georges Fontaine*\textsuperscript{a}

a) Département de Chimie, Université Laval, 1045 Avenue de la Médecine, Québec, QC, Canada, G1V 0A6.
b) Département de biologie, chimie et géographie, Université du Québec à Rimouski 300, allée des Ursulines, Rimouski, QC, Canada, G5L 3A1
c) Centre for Catalysis Research and Innovation, University of Ottawa 30, Marie Curie, Ottawa, ON, Canada, K1N 6N5

*Email: frederic.fontaine@chm.ulaval.ca
jonathan_gagnon@uqar.qc.ca
1. High-throughput procedures

A Freeslate core module (generation I) was used for dispensing solutions in the plate, controlling temperature and stirring. Solutions of MeONa in MeOH, tBuONa in THF and NaOEt (suspension) in MeOH were dispensed into a 96-well plate and the solvents were evaporated. iProNa and iProLi were dispensed as solutions in isopropanol, followed by the addition of solvents (isopropanol and MeOH) and acetophenone in isopropanol. The solutions were stirred for 5 minutes, at which point the catalyst in MeOH was added. The plate was sealed and stirred at 25 °C for 24 hours.

An internal standard solution (anisole) was added to the samples and aliquots of 50 μL were transferred to silica pads in a 96-well filter plate (Pall Corporation multi-well filter plates – 0.45 μm GHP 1mL wells, p/n 5054). After adsorption, 450μL of ethyl acetate was added and the plate was centrifuged.

Yields and enantiomeric excesses were determined by gas chromatography (Agilent Technologies 6850 GC), equipped with an Astec ChiralDEX B-PM column (30 m x 0.25 mm x 0.2 μm, with a guard column). The inlet/detector temperatures were set to 250 °C, initial oven temperature of 90 °C held for 3 minutes, followed by a ramp of 0.5 deg/°C to 94 °C held for 1 minute (total runtime of 12 minutes). Injections of 1 μL at a split ratio of 50:1 were performed; retention times were of 2.57, 6.03, 10.01, 10.73 minutes for anisole, acetophenone, and R/S-phenylethanol respectively. Quantitation was effected by measuring the response factor through an 11-points calibration curve.
2. Spectroscopic characterization

Figure S1. CP/MAS $^{13}$C NMR spectra of insoluble chitosan derivative

Figure S2. $^1$H and $^{13}$C NMR spectra of 2 in CD$_3$OD
Figure S3. $^{13}$C-$^1$H NMR spectra of ruthenium complex 2-Ru in CD$_3$OD
3. Results of the high-throughput experiments.

**Graph 1:**
- **Yield (%)** vs **Base Equivalents**
- Data points for different bases labeled.

**Graph 2:**
- **e.e. (%)** vs **Base Equivalents**
- Data points for different bases labeled.