Supporting Information for

# DAST-Promoted Beckmann Rearrangement/Intramolecular Cyclization of Acyclic Ketoximes: Access to 2-Oxazolines, Benzimidazoles and Benzoxazoles

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## I. General information

All reagents were purchased from commercial sources and used without treatment, unless otherwise indicated. The products were purified by column chromatography over silica gel. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR and <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectra were recorded at 25 °C on a Varian 500 MHz and 125 MHz, respectively, and TMS was used as internal standard. Mass spectra were recorded on BRUKER AutoflexIII Smartbeam MS-spectrometer. High resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were recorded on Bruck microTof by using ESI method.

#### II. Synthesis and analytical data of compounds 2a-2o



General procedure (with 1a as an example): The (*E*)-1-(1-(hydroxyimino)ethyl)-*N*-phenylcyclopropanecarboxamide 1a (0.5 mmol) was dissolved in anhydrous DCM (1.0 mL) at ambient temperature. The solution of oxime in DCM was cooled to 0 °C. The diethylaminosulfur trifluoride (DAST) was added slowly to the solution of 1a in DCM and the reaction was stirred and allowed to warm to 25 °C until the 1a was consumed (monitored by TLC). The reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo and purified by flash chromatography (petroleum ether : diethyl ether = 15 : 1) to afford compound 2a in 87% yield.



(2a) White solid, m.p. 78-79 °C; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 1.52-1.58 (m, 2H), 1.60-1.65 (m, 2H), 2.18 (s, 3H), 7.08-7.14 (m, 3H), 7.28-7.35 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz) δ 14.9, 18.7, 49.5, 122.7, 124.3, 128.7, 145.3, 161.7, 162.2; HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>12</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup> : 201.1028, found: 201.1054.



(2b) White solid, m.p. 67-68 °C; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.52-1.57 (m, 2H), 1.58-1.63 (m, 2H), 2.19 (s, 3H), 2.32 (s, 3H), 7.03 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.12 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz)  $\delta$  15.0, 18.7, 20.9, 49.5, 122.7, 129.3, 134.0, 142.7, 161.3, 162.3; HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>14</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup> : 215.1184, found: 215.1189.



(2c) Semisolid; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 1.50-1.59 (m, 2H), 1.61-1.67 (m, 2H), 2.21 (s, 3H),
7.03-7.10 (m, 2H), 7.24-7.30 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz) δ 14.9, 18.9, 49.7, 124.3,
128.8, 129.6, 143.9, 162.1, 162.5; HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>11</sub>ClN<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup> :
235.0638, found: 235.0630.

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(2d) Semisolid; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.59-1.63 (m, 4H), 2.15 (s, 3H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 6.87-6.94 (m, 2H), 6.96-7.01 (m, 1H), 7.04-7.12 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz)  $\delta$  14.8, 18.8, 49.3, 55.7, 111.5, 120.5, 122.6, 124.9, 135.0, 151.0, 162.3, 162.8; HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>14</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> : 231.1134, found: 231.1150.

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(2e) Semisolid; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.53-1.60 (m, 2H), 1.61-1.68 (m, 2H), 2.16 (s, 3H), 2.18 (s, 3H), 2.31 (s, 3H), 6.90 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.97 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.01 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz)  $\delta$  15.0, 17.7, 18.6, 20.8, 49.1, 121.0, 126.6, 129.9, 130.9, 133.5, 141.7, 160.9, 162.4; HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup> : 229.1341, found: 229.1349.

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(2f) White solid, m.p. 84-85°C; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.68-1.76 (m, 4H), 2.14 (s, 3H), 7.19 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.39-7.49 (m, 3H), 7.61 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.78-7.84 (m, 1H), 8.00-8.06 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz)  $\delta$  14.9, 19.0, 49.7, 116.8, 123.4, 124.2, 125.4, 125.6, 126.0, 127.8, 128.0, 134.0, 141.8, 162.4, 162.5; HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>14</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup> : 251.1184, found: 251.1181.



(2g) Colorless liquid; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.46-1.51 (m, 2H), 1.52-1.57 (m, 2H), 1.85 (s, 3H), 4.52 (s, 2H), 7.19-7.24 (m, 1H), 7.27-7.35 (m, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz)  $\delta$  10.0, 18.3, 30.2, 50.6, 126.5, 127.6, 128.2, 140.3, 162.9, 165.1; HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>14</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup> : 215.1184, found: 215.1186.



(2h) White solid, m.p. 57-58 °C; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 1.26 (s, 9H), 1.34-1.37 (m, 2H),
1.37-1.39 (m, 2H), 1.82 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz) δ 10.1, 18.2, 30.0, 30.7, 53.3, 158.2,
164.4; HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup> : 181.1341, found: 181.1344.



(2i) White solid, m.p. 40-41 °C; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.01 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 3H), 1.53-1.59 (m, 2H), 1.62-1.67 (m, 2H), 1.68-1.77 (m, 2H), 2.44 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.08-7.15 (m, 3H), 7.28-7.35 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz)  $\delta$  13.6, 18.8, 18.9, 30.6, 49.5, 122.9, 124.3, 128.7, 145.3, 161.8, 165.3; HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup> : 229.1341, found: 229.1337.





(2j) Semisolid; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.32 (dd, J = 5.0 Hz, J = 8.0 Hz 1H), 1.43 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 3H), 1.80 (dd, J = 5.0 Hz, J = 9.0 Hz 1H), 1.92-2.01 (m, 1H), 2.13 (d, J = 3.0 Hz, 3H), 7.06-7.16 (m, 3H), 7.27-7.35 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz)  $\delta$  10.2, 14.5, 25.0, 25.7, 52.3, 122.5, 123.9, 128.5, 145.5, 159.3, 161.2; HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>14</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup> : 215.1184, found: 215.1202.



(2k) Yellow liquid; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.30 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H), 1.86 (dd, J = 5.0 Hz, J = 8.0 Hz 1H), 2.21 (s, 3H), 2.33 (dd, J = 5.0 Hz, J = 7.5 Hz 1H), 2.60-2.65 (m, 1H), 4.20-4.28 (m, 2H), 7.10-7.17 (m, 3H), 7.29-7.35 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz)  $\delta$  14.1, 15.0, 21.6, 31.9, 55.0, 61.3, 122.9, 124.8, 128.7, 144.5, 158.9, 164.3, 167.9; HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> : 273.1239, found: 273.1269.



(21) Colorless liquid; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 1.91-2.00 (m, 6H), 2.08-2.15 (m, 5H), 7.07-7.15 (m, 3H), 7.28-7.35 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz) δ 14.7, 25.5, 40.4, 77.0, 122.5, 124.5, 128.7, 145.6, 160.1, 165.1; HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>16</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup> : 229.1341, found: 229.1324.



(2m) Colorless liquid; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  1.41 (s, 6H), 2.02 (s, 3H), 7.05-7.23 (m, 3H), 7.26-7.35 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz)  $\delta$  10.5, 23.6, 49.5, 122.9, 124.3, 128.6, 145.4, 165.4, 168.2; HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>14</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup> : 203.1184, found:

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(2n) White solid, m.p. 53-54 °C; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  0.81-0.89 (m, 6H), 1.67-1.76 (m, 2H), 1.85-1.94 (m, 2H), 1.99 (s, 3H), 7.05 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.15 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.32 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz)  $\delta$  8.9, 10.8, 29.8, 60.5, 122.7, 124.3, 128.7, 145.8, 163.8, 165.7; HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>18</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup> : 231.1497, found: 231.1503.



(20) Light yellow liquid; <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  2.14 (t, J = 1.5 Hz, 3H), 7.15 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.24-7.32 (m, 2H), 7.36 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz)  $\delta$  9.0, 114.8 (t, J = 250 Hz), 125.3, 127.4, 128.9, 142.1, 146.0 (t, J = 25 Hz), 156.1 (t, J = 25 Hz); HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>8</sub>F<sub>2</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup> : 211.0683, found: 211.0663.

### III. Synthesis and analytical data of compounds 4a-4d



General procedure (with 3a as an example): The (E)-1-(2-(phenylamino)phenyl)ethanone oxime

**3a** (0.5 mmol) was dissolved in anhydrous DCM (1.0 mL). The solution of oxime in DCM was cooled to 0 °C. The diethylaminosulfur trifluoride (DAST) was added slowly to the solution of **3a** in DCM and the reaction was stirred and allowed to warm to 25 °C until the **3a** was consumed (monitored by TLC). The reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo and purified by flash chromatography (petroleum ether : diethyl ether = 15 : 1) to afford compounds **4aa** and **4ab** in 63% and 21% yield, respectively.



(4aa) Yellow solid, <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 2.49 (s, 3H), 7.07-7.37 (m, 5H), 7.45-7.59 (m, 3H), 7.74 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz) δ 14.2, 109.7, 118.7, 122.2, 122.4, 126.8, 128.6, 129.7, 135.8, 136.2, 142.4, 151.3; HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>12</sub>N<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> : 209.1079, found: 209.1075.

CH<sub>3</sub>

(4ba) Yellow solid, <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 2.45 (s, 3H), 2.47 (s, 3H), 7.09 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.12-7.27 (m, 4H), 7.34 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.72 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz) δ 14.2, 21.1, 109.8, 118.7, 122.1, 122.3, 126.7, 130.3, 133.2, 136.4, 138.7, 142.4, 151.5;
HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>14</sub>N<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 223.1235, found: 223.1235.

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(4ca) Tan solid, <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  2.48 (s, 3H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 7.03-7.10 (m, 3H), 7.15-7.20 (m, 1H), 7.22-7.28 (m, 3H), 7.73 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz)  $\delta$ 14.2, 55.5, 109.8, 114.9, 118.8, 122.1, 122.3, 128.2, 128.5, 136.7, 142.4, 151.8, 159.6; HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>14</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup> : 239.1184, found: 239.1176.



(4da) Tan solid, <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  2.48 (s, 3H), 7.07 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.15-7.37 (m, 6H), 7.73 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz)  $\delta$  14.1, 109.5, 116.7 (d, J = 22.8 Hz), 118.9, 122.3, 122.6, 128.8 (d, J = 8.8 Hz), 132.0 (d, J = 3.4 Hz), 136.4, 142.3, 151.3, 161.3 (d, J = 248 Hz); HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>11</sub>FN<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> : 227.0985, found: 227.0989.

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(4ab) Yellow solid, <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) & 2.66 (s, 3H), 7.18-7.23 (m, 1H), 7.29-7.34 (m,

1H), 7.39-7.44 (m, 1H), 7.49-7.54 (m, 2H), 7.67-7.77 (m, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz)  $\delta$ 11.9, 110.3, 120.6, 120.8, 122.4, 125.0, 126.1, 127.1, 129.4, 139.5, 140.3, 144.0; **HRMS** (ESI) m/z calculated for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>12</sub>N<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> : 209.1079, found: 209.1075.

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(4bb) Yellow solid, <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  2.43 (s, 3H), 2.67 (s, 3H), 7.17-7.22 (m, 1H), 7.32 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.38-7.43 (m, 1H), 7.60 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.68 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.72 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz)  $\delta$  11.9, 21.0, 110.2, 120.47, 120.54, 122.3, 124.7, 126.9, 129.9, 135.9, 137.8, 139.4, 143.5; HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>14</sub>N<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup> : 223.1235, found: 223.1235.

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(4cb) Yellow solid, <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  2.65 (s, 3H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 7.00-7.06 (m, 2H), 7.17 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.36-7.41 (m, 1H), 7.54-7.61 (m, 3H), 7.70 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz)  $\delta$  11.9, 55.5, 110.0, 114.6, 120.4, 120.5, 124.2, 124.4, 126.8, 133.4, 139.6, 143.3, 158.0; HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>14</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O [M+H]<sup>+</sup> : 239.1184, found: 239.1186.

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(4db) Pale yellow solid, <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  2.64 (s, 3H), 7.16-7.22 (m, 3H), 7.40-7.43 (m, 1H), 7.57-7.66 (m, 3H), 7.69-7.74 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz)  $\delta$  11.9, 109.9, 116.1 (d, *J* = 22.6 Hz), 120.6, 120.8, 124.1(d, *J* = 8.3 Hz), 124.7, 127.2, 136.4, 139.5, 144.0, 159.8 (d, *J* = 244.5 Hz); HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>11</sub>N<sub>2</sub>F [M+H]<sup>+</sup> : 227.0985, found: 227.0989.

IV. Synthesis and analytical data of compound 6



**General procedure**: The (*E*)-1-(2-hydroxyphenyl)ethanone oxime **5** (0.5 mmol) was dissolved in anhydrous DCM (1.0 mL). The solution of **5** in DCM was cooled to 0 °C. The diethylaminosulfur trifluoride (DAST) was added slowly to the solution of oxime in DCM and the reaction was stirred and allowed to warm to 25 °C until the **5** was consumed (monitored by TLC). The reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo and purified by flash chromatography (petroleum ether : diethyl ether = 15 : 1) to afford 2-methylbenzoxazole **6** in 41% yield.



(6) Light yellow liquid, <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 2.58 (s, 3H), 7.20-7.26 (m, 2H), 7.37-7.43 (m, 1H), 7.55-7.62 (m, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 125 MHz) δ 14.5, 110.2, 119.4, 124.1, 124.4, 141.4, 150.9, 163.8; HRMS (ESI) m/z calculated for C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>7</sub>NO [M+H]<sup>+</sup> : 134.0606, found: 134.0607.

# V. NMR spectra of all compounds











S16



































S29



















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