Supporting Information

Iridium-catalyzed Direct Asymmetric Reductive Amination of Aromatic Ketones

Haizhou Huang,^a Zitong Wu, ^a Guori Gao,^b Le Zhou ^a and Mingxin Chang ^{*a}

 ^aShaanxi Key Laboratory of Natural Products & Chemical Biology, College of Chemistry and Pharmacy, Northwest A&F University, 22 Xinong Road, Yangling, Shaanxi 712100, PR China
^bCollege of Chemistry, Chemical Engineering and Materials Science, Collaborative Innovation Center of Functionalized Probes for Chemical Imaging in Universities of Shandong, Shandong Normal University, 88 Wenhuadong Road, Jinan 250014, PR China. Phone/fax: (+86)-29-8709-2662; e-mail: mxchang@nwsuaf.edu.cn

CONTENTS

Ι	General Remarks	S2
II	General Procedure for Preparation of Monophos-type Ligands	S2
III	General Procedure for Asymmetric Reductive Amination	S2
IV	General Procedure for Removal of Diphenylmethyl Group	S23
V	References	S25
VI	NMR & HRMS Spectra	S26

I. General remarks

All reactions were performed in the nitrogen-filled glovebox or under nitrogen using standard Schlenk techniques unless otherwise noted. Chemicals were purchased from Adamas, Energy Chemicals and other companies. Column chromatography was performed using silica gel 60 (200–300 mesh). ¹H NMR and ¹³C NMR spectral data were obtaineded from Bruker 500 MHz spectrometers. Chemical shifts are reported in ppm. Enantiomeric excess values were determined by chiral HPLC on an Agilent 1220 Series instrument or by ¹H NMR using (*S*)-2-acetoxy-2-phenylacetic acid as shift reagant. All new products were further characterized by HRMS. A positive ion mass spectrum of sample was acquired on a Thermo Scientific LTQ Orbitrap XL mass spectrometer with an electrospray ionization source.

II. General Procedure for Preparation of Monophos-type ligands

Ligands L1a-e were synthesized according to the reported procedures.^[1]



A 25 mL Schlenk flask was charged with (*R*)-(+)-1,1'-bi(2-naphthol) (0.57g, 2 mmol), phosphorus trichloride (2.74 g, 20 mmol, 10 equiv), 1-methyl-2-pyrrolidinone (1.6 μ L, 0.02 mmol, 0.008 equiv) under nitrogen. The reaction mixture was heated to 90 °C for 15 min, and all volatiles were removed under reduced pressure. CH₂Cl₂ (2 mL×2) was used to remove the traces of phosphorus trichloride. The resulting oil was vacummed for 3 h to give the pale solid which was used directly in next step.

A 25 mL round-bottom flask was charged with 2 mmol of corresponding amine, 3 mmol of Et_3N and 10 ml toluene. The above made chlorophosphite was dissolved in 5 mL toluene and was transfered to the reaction flask. The mixture was stirred for 3 h. The solid was removed by filtration. The filtrate was concentrated and purified by flash column chromatography (EtOAc/Hex) to yield desired ligand (yield: 75–95%).

III. General Procedure for Asymmetric Reductive amination

In a nitrogen-filled glovebox, the complex (0.5 mol%) prepared from *in situ* from $[Ir(COD)Cl]_2$ and L1d in anhydrous CH₂Cl₂ was added to 4-acetoanisole 1a (0.3 mmol) and diphenylmethylamine 2 (0.39 mmol) in anhydrous CH₂Cl₂ solution (1.0 mL). Then 4Å molecular sieves (0.15 gram), Ti(O*i*-Pr)₄ (0.2 equiv.), and trifluoroacetic acid (0.5 equiv.) were added subsequently and the total solution was made to 3.0 mL. The resulting vial was transferred to an autoclave, which was charged with 60 atm of H₂, and stirred at 50 °C for 24 h. The hydrogen gas was released slowly and the solution was neutralized with aqueous sodium bicarbonate solution. The organic phase was concentrated and passed through a short column of silica gel to remove the metal complex to give the 80mg chiral amine product, which was then analyzed by chiral HPLC to determine the enantiomeric excesses.

¹H NMR method for determination the ee values: The amine product **3** was mixed with equal amount (mol/mol) of (*S*)-2acetoxy-2-phenylacetic acid and dissolved in CDCl₃. Diastereoisomers are formed and the proton signal of amine β -methyl will be splitted. From integration ratio the ee value could be calculated.



C₂₂H₂₂NO [M+H]⁺: 318.18504, found: 318.18512.



N-(1-(4-methoxyphenyl)ethyl)aniline(4): ^[3] 77% yield, 29% ee, clear oil, known compound. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ



7.34 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.20–7.08 (m, 2H), 6.91 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.70 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 6.57 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 4.50 (q, J = 6.7 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 1.55 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 3H). Enantiomeric excess was determined by chiral HPLC: Chiralpak OD-H column, Hex/IPA = 90:10, 1mL/min, 220 nm, 8.2 min, 10.4 min.



N-benzyl-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)ethan-1-amine(5):^[4] 47% yield, 29% ee, clear oil, known compound. ¹H NMR (500 MHz,



CDCl₃) δ 7.38–7.27 (m, 7H), 6.94 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.82 (q, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 3.74–3.59 (m, 2H), 1.40 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 3H). Enantiomeric excess was determined by chiral HPLC for the corresponding acetamide: Chiralpak OD-H column, Hex/IPA = 90:10, 1 mL/min, 220 nm, 11.8 min, 13.5 min.



N-benzhydryl-1-phenylethan-1-amine (3b):^[2] 90% yield, 96% ee, clear oil, known compound. $[\alpha]^{25}_{D} = -38.2^{\circ}$ (c = 0.3, Ph HN Ph HN Ph HN Ph A = 0 (c = 0.3) $\delta 7.40$ (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 6H), 7.32 (td, J = 11.9, 9.9, 7.1 Hz, 8H), 7.25– 7.21 (m, 1H), 4.70 (s, 1H), 3.76 (q, J = 6.7 Hz, 1H), 1.43 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 3H). IR (KBr) v: 3457.6, 3063.2, 3026.4, 2966.5, 1452.0, 1116.5 cm⁻¹. Enantiomeric excess was determined by ¹H NMR using (S)-2acetoxy-2-phenylacetic acid as shift reagant.



N-benzhydryl-1-(p-tolyl)ethan-1-amine (3c): 83% yield, 99% ee, clear oil, unknown compound. $[\alpha]^{25}_{D} = -54.0^{\circ}$ (c = 0.4, Ph HN Ph HN Ph HN Ph MeOH). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.39 (dt, J = 15.9, 7.4 Hz, 6H), 7.31 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 3H), 7.22 (s, 5H), 4.72 (s, 1H), 3.74 (s, 1H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 1.42 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 144.7, 143.7, 142.6, 136.4, 129.2, 128.5, 128.4, 127.7, 127.4, 127.0, 126.8, 126.6, 63.7, 54.9, 24.5, 21.2. IR (KBr) v: 3436.1, 3022.6, 3026.4, 2966.5, 1450.8 cm⁻¹. Enantiomeric excess was determined by ¹H NMR using (*S*)-2-acetoxy-2-phenylacetic acid as shift reagant. HRMS calcd for C₂₂H₂₂N [M+H]⁺: 302.19033, found: 302.1904.



. 30 2.20 2.10 2.00 1.90 1.80 1.70 1.60 1.50 1.40 1.30 1.20 1.10 1.0



N-benzhydryl-1-(4-chlorophenyl)ethan-1-amine (3e): 87% yield, 97% ee, clear oil, unknown compound. $[\alpha]^{25}_{D} = -63.0^{\circ}$ (c =



0.3, MeOH). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.36 (dd, J = 10.7, 7.5 Hz, 6H), 7.33–7.27 (m, 5H), 7.25 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 3H), 4.64 (s, 1H), 3.71 (q, J = 6.7 Hz, 1H), 1.39 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 144.4, 144.1, 143.4, 132.4, 128.6, 128.5, 128.4, 128.1, 127.6, 127.3, 127.1, 127.0, 63.8, 54.6, 24.4. IR (KBr) *v*: 3463.7, 3061.3, 3026.9, 2969.2, 1488.2, 828.2 cm⁻¹. Enantiomeric excess was determined by chiral HPLC: Chiralpak OD-H column, Hex/IPA = 99.5:0.5, 0.9 mL/min, 220 nm,

6.2min, 6.8 min. HRMS calcd for C₂₁H₂₁ClN [M+H]⁺: 322.13570, found: 322.13556.



N-benzhydryl-1-(4-bromophenyl)ethan-1-amine (3f): 80% yield, 98% ee, clear oil, unknown compound. $[\alpha]^{25}_{D} = -66.9^{\circ}$ (c =



0.3, MeOH). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.51 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.41–7.28 (m, 9H), 7.24 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 4.65 (s, 1H), 3.71 (q, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 1.40 (d, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 144.7, 144.4, 143.4, 131.6, 128.6, 128.5, 128.4, 127.6, 127.3, 127.1, 127.0, 120.5, 63.8, 54.7, 24.4. IR (KBr) *v*: 3446.6, 2967.6, 1640.5, 1016.9 cm⁻¹. Enantiomeric excess was determined by chiral HPLC: Chiralpak OD-H column, Hex/IPA = 98:2, 1 mL/min, 220 nm, 4.4

min, 4.8 min. HRMS calcd for $C_{21}H_{21}BrN \ [M+H]^+$: 366.08519, found: 366.08524.



Peak	RetTime	Type	Width	Area	Height	Area
#	[min]		[min]	[mAU*s]	[mAU]	%
1	4.415	BV	0.1212	1645. 57019	206. 03586	48.9521
2	4.808	VV	0.1328	1716. 01917	196.65742	51.0479



N-benzhydryl-1-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)ethan-1-amine (3g): 93% yield, 97% ee, white solid, unknown compound. Mp:



52–54°C. [α]²⁵_D = -46.3° (c = 0.3, MeOH). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.65 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.44 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.42–7.28 (m, 9H), 7.25 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 4.65 (s, 1H), 3.81 (q, J = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 1.43 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 149.8, 144.2, 143.3, 128.6, 128.4, 127.6, 127.3, 127.1, 127.1, 127.0, 125.5, 125.5, 63.9, 54.9, 24.4. IR (KBr) v: 3349.3, 3061.13028.4, 2973.5, 1323.4, 1123.9 cm⁻¹. Enantiomeric excess was determined by chiral HPLC: Chiralpak IB-3

column, Hex/IPA = 99.5:0.5, 1 mL/min, 220 nm, 6.028 min, 6.689 min. HRMS calcd for $C_{22}H_{21}F_3N$ [M+H]⁺: 356.16206, found: 356.16208.



N-benzhydryl-1-(4-nitrophenyl)ethan-1-amine (3h): 86% yield, 95% ee, white solid, unknown compound. Mp: 107–110°C.

Ph HN Ph

 $[\alpha]^{25}{}_{\rm D} = -79.4^{\circ} (c = 0.3, \text{ MeOH}). {}^{1}\text{H NMR} (500 \text{ MHz, CDCl}_3) \delta 8.24 (d, J = 8.6 \text{ Hz}, 2\text{H}), 7.50 (d, J = 8.6 \text{ Hz}, 2\text{H}), 7.39 (t, J = 7.5 \text{ Hz}, 2\text{H}), 7.36-7.28 (m, 7\text{H}), 7.24 (t, J = 6.8 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}), 4.62 (s, 1\text{H}), 3.87 (q, J = 6.6 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{H}), 1.44 (d, J = 6.7 \text{ Hz}, 3\text{H}). {}^{13}\text{C NMR} (125 \text{ MHz}, \text{CDCl}_3) \delta 143.1, 128.7, 128.4, 127.6, 127.5, 127.3, 127.1, 123.9, 64.1, 55.0, 24.3. \text{ IR} (\text{KBr}) v: 3423.8, 3061.5, 3022.3, 2960.3, 1509.2, 1337.0 \text{ cm}^{-1}$. Enantiomeric excess was determined by chiral HPLC: Chiralpak OD-H column,





Methyl 4-(1-(benzhydrylamino)ethyl)benzoate (3i): 90% yield, 95% ee, white solid, unknown compound. Mp: 58-60°C.



 $[\alpha]^{25}_{D} = -75.1^{\circ}$ (c = 0.3, MeOH). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.07 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.37 (q, *J* = 8.4, 7.5 Hz, 6H), 7.33–7.27 (m, 5H), 7.23 (t, *J* = 6.4 Hz, 1H), 4.63 (s, 1H), 3.97 (s, 3H), 3.80 (q, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 1.43 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 151.1, 144.3, 143.3, 129.9, 128.9, 128.6, 128.4, 127.6, 127.3, 127.1, 127.0, 126.8, 63.9, 55.1, 52.1, 24.3. IR (KBr) *v*: 3403.1, 3318.1, 3025.2, 2959.7, 2924.2, 1711.0, 1277.9 cm⁻¹. Enantiomeric excess was determined by chiral HPLC: Chiralpak OD-H column, Hex/IPA = 70:30, 1 mL/min, 220 nm, 4.5 min, 11.1 min.





N-(4-(1-(benzhydrylamino)ethyl)phenyl)acetamide (3j): 91% yield, 92% ee, white solid, unknown compound. Mp:



92–96°C. $[\alpha]^{25}_{D} = -68.2^{\circ}$ (c = 0.3, MeOH). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.51 (s, 2H), 7.37 (d, J = 4.1 Hz, 4H), 7.33–7.21 (m, 8H), 4.66 (s, 1H), 3.70 (q, J = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 2.22 (s, 3H), 1.39 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.4, 144.6, 141.6, 136.6, 128.5, 128.4, 127.7, 127.4, 127.3, 127.0, 126.9, 120.1, 63.7, 54.7, 24.6, 24.4. IR (KBr) v: 3294.3, 3190.6, 3061.9, 3029.1, 2963.2, 1662.6, 1542.1 cm⁻¹. Enantiomeric excess was determined by chiral HPLC: Chiralpak OD-

H column, Hex/IPA = 90:10, 1 mL/min, 220 nm, 11.5 min, 13.3 min. HRMS calcd for $C_{23}H_{25}N_2O$ [M+H]⁺: 345.19614, found: 345.19614.



Hex/IPA=80:20, 1 mL/min, 220 nm, 4.5 min, 6.0 min. HRMS calcd for C₂₃H₂₄NO₂ [M+H]⁺: 346.18016, found: 346.18015.



N-benzhydryl-1-(3-methoxyphenyl)ethan-1-amine (3I): 83% yield, 98% ee, clear oil, known compound. $[\alpha]^{25}_{D} = -42^{\circ}$ (c = 0.3, MeOH). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.42–7.33 (m, 6H), 7.29 (s, 4H), 7.22 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.97–6.78 (m, 3H), 4.71 (s, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 3.72 (q, J = 6.6 Hz, 1H), 1.42 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.8, 147.4, 144.7, 143.7, 129.5, 128.5, 128.4, 127.7, 127.4, 127.0, 126.9, 119.1, 112.4, 112.2, 63.8, 55.3, 55.2, 24.4. IR (KBr) *v*: 3350.4, 3025.5, 2963.0, 2837.4, 1596.0, 1453.0, 1264.4 cm⁻¹. Enantiomeric excess was determined by ¹H NMR using (S)-2-acetoxy-2-phenylacetic acid as shift reagant. HRMS calcd for C₂₂H₂₄NO [M+H]⁺: 318.18524,







N-benzhydryl-1-(3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)ethan-1-amine (3n): 87% yield, 96% ee, clear oil, unknown compound. $[\alpha]^{25}_{D} =$



-34.7° (c = 0.3, MeOH). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.58 (s, 2H), 7.51 (q, *J* = 8.7, 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.43–7.29 (m, 9H), 7.24 (t, *J* = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 4.65 (s, 1H), 3.83 (q, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 1H), 1.44 (d, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 130.2, 128.9, 128.6, 128.4, 127.6, 127.4, 127.2, 127.0, 123.8, 123.7, 64.0, 55.1, 24.3. IR (KBr) *v*: 3457.2, 3027.1, 2968.7, 1450.7, 1327.5, 1166.9 cm⁻¹. Enantiomeric excess was determined by chiral HPLC: Chiralpak OD-H column, Hex/IPA = 99.4:0.6,

0.9 mL/min, 220 nm, 12.0 min, 14.9 min. HRMS calcd for C₂₂H₂₁F₃N [M+H]⁺: 356.16206, found: 356.16193.



N-benzhydryl-1-(o-tolyl)ethan-1-imine (3o'): white solid, unknown compound. (Major): ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ

h 7.54–7.18 (m, 13H), 6.90 (dd, J = 7.5, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 5.30 (s, 1H), 2.40 (s, 3H), 2.31 (s, 1H), 2.02 (s, 3H). HRMS calcd for C₂₂H₂₂N [M+H]⁺: 300.17577, found: 300.17526.



N-benzhydryl-1-(2-chlorophenyl)ethan-1-imine (3p'): white solid, unknown compound. (Major): ¹H NMR (500 MHz,

Ph $CDCl_3$) δ 7.50–7.19 (m, 13H), 6.89 (dd, J = 7.5, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 5.28 (s, 1H), 2.45 (s, 3H). HRMS calcd for $C_{21}H_{19}CIN [M+H]^+$: 320.12005, found: 320.12003.

excess was determined ¹H NMR using (S)-2-acetoxy-2- phenylacetic acid as shift reagant. HRMS calcd for $C_{25}H_{24}N$ [M+H]⁺: 338.19033, found: 338.19043.



N-benzhydryl-1-(pyridin-2-yl)ethan-1-amine (3r): 76% yield, 93% ee, clear oil, unknown compound. $[\alpha]^{25}_{D} = -50.4^{\circ}$ (c = 0.3, MeOH). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl3) δ 8.66 (d, J = 4.6 Hz, 1H), 7.66 (td, J = 7.6, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.37 (dd, J = 12.8, 7.3 Hz, 4H), 7.33–7.26 (m, 3H), 7.22 (dd, J = 10.9, 7.3 Hz, 3H), 4.67 (s, 1H), 3.85 (q, J = 6.7 Hz, 1H), 1.47 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.6, 149.6, 144.6, 143.6, 136.28, 128.5, 128.4, 127.7, 127.4, 127.0, 126.9, 121.9, 64.5, 56.5, 23.1. IR (KBr) *v*: 3314.8, 3060.6, 3022.0, 2969.1, 1586.1, 1442.5 cm⁻¹. Enantiomeric excess was determined by chiral HPLC: Chiralpak OD-H column, Hex/IPA = 90:10, 1 mL/min, 220 nm, 4.6 min, 5.2 min. HRMS calcd



N-benzhydryl-1-(furan-2-yl)ethan-1-amine (3s): 94% yield, 92% ee, clear oil, unknown compound. $[\alpha]^{25}_{D} = -59.4^{\circ}$ (c = 0.3,



MeOH). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.49 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.43 (s, 1H), 7.37 (d, J = 3.9 Hz, 4H), 7.31 (q, J = 7.7 Hz, 3H), 7.24 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.38 (s, 1H), 6.13 (s, 1H), 4.82 (s, 1H), 3.80 (q, J = 6.8 Hz, 1H), 1.49 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 157.9, 144.5, 143.6, 141.4, 128.5, 128.5, 127.6, 127.4, 127.0, 127.0, 109.8, 105.6, 64.3, 48.9, 21.0. IR (KBr) v: 3461.7, 3062.1, 3027.9, 2974.2, 1453.6 cm⁻¹. Enantiomeric excess was determined by ¹H NMR using (*S*)-2-acetoxy-2-phenylacetic acid as

shift reagant. HRMS calcd for $C_{19}H_{20}NO \ [M+H]^+: 278.15394$, found: 278.15436.



N-benzhydryl-1-(pyridin-2-yl)ethan-1-amine (3t): 90% yield, 86% ee, clear oil, unknown compound. $[\alpha]^{25}_{D} = -9.4^{\circ}$ (c = 0.3,



MeOH). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.62 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.57 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.38 (dt, J = 13.0, 7.6 Hz, 4H), 7.28 (q, J = 8.2, 7.4 Hz, 5H), 5.20 (s, 1H), 4.23 (t, J = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 3.03 (ddd, J = 15.8, 8.5, 3.9 Hz, 1H), 2.81 (dt, J = 15.9, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 2.59–2.46 (m, 1H), 1.88 (ddd, J = 15.3, 12.4, 8.3 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 144.9, 143.3, 128.5, 127.5, 127.4, 127.1, 127.1, 126.3, 124.7, 124.3, 65.2, 61.0, 34.6, 30.3. IR (KBr) *v*: 3427.1, 3026.6, 2944.1, 1451.1, 1026.6 cm⁻¹. Enantiomeric excess was determined by chiral HPLC: Chiralpak IA-3 column,





0.1158 5673.66553

0.1312 437.80048

736.93341

49.49916

92.8364

7.1636

1

2

6.154 BV

7.167 VB



VI General Procedure for Removal of Diphenylmethyl Group



3a (0.2 mmol), acetic anhydride (2 drops), 6 mg of $Pd(OH)_2/C$ (20%, 50% wetted with water) and CH_2Cl_2 (2.0 mL) were added to a vial. The resulting vial was transferred to an autoclave, which was charged with 25 atm of H_2 , and stirred at 40 °C for 20 h. The hydrogen gas was released slowly and the solution was filtered to remove $Pd(OH)_2/C$. The filtrate was concentrated and then purified by flash column chromatography (EtOAc/Hex) to yield the desired product **6** (95% yield).

N-(1-(4-methoxyphenyl)ethyl)acetamide (6):^[5] 95% yield, 96% ee, white solid, known compound. $[\alpha]^{25}_{D} = -138.0^{\circ}$ (c = 0.4, NHAC MeOH). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.29 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.91 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 5.72 (s, 1H), 5.13 (p, J = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 2.01 (s, 3H), 1.51 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 3H). IR (KBr) v: 3255.3, 3076.2, 3011.2, 2958.7, 1639.1, 1245.6 cm⁻¹. Enantiomeric excess was determined by chiral HPLC: Chiralpak OD-H column, Hex/IPA = 85:15, 1 mL/min, 220nm, 6.3 min, 7.4 min.



N-(1-(3-methoxyphenyl)ethyl)acetamide (7):^[5] 93% yield, 95% ee, white solid, known compound. $[\alpha]^{25}_{D} = -108.3^{\circ}$ (c = 0.4,

NH₂ MeOH). Enantiomeric excess was determined by chiral HPLC after it was transformed to the corresponding acetamide: Chiralpak OD-H column, Hex/IPA=75:25, 1 mL/min, 220nm, 5.9 min, 8.8



V References:

MeO

- [1] H. Huang, X. Liu, L. Zhou, M. Chang, X. Zhang, Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2016, 55, 5309–5312.
- [2] A. Nodzewska, K. Sidorowicz, M. Sienkiewicz, Synthesis, 2014, 46, 1475–1480.
- [3] W. J. Lu, Y. W. Chen, X. L. Hou, Adv. Synth. Catal., 2010, 352, 103–107.
- [4] C. Wang, X. J. Wu, L. Zhou, J. Sun, Chem. Eur. J., 2008, 14, 8789–8792.
- [5] G. Li, J.C. Antilla, Org. Lett., 2009, 11(5):1075-1078.
- VI NMR & HRMS Spectra









 $<_{1.39}^{1.40}$

























5 9.0 8.5 8.0 7.5 7.0 6.5 5.5 5.0 4.5 4.0 3.5 3.0 2.5 2.0 1.5 6.0 1.0 0.5 0.0 -0

