

Supporting Information

**The Open d-Shell Enforces the Active Space in 3d Metal Catalysis:
Highly Enantioselective Chromium(II) Pincer Catalysed
Hydrosilylation of Ketones**

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1. General Remarks

Reactions

Unless stated otherwise, all reactions were carried out under inert conditions in heat-gun dried glassware and under an atmosphere of argon using standard Schlenk techniques or inside of a Glovebox (M. Braun Unilab 2000). All chemicals were bought from commercial suppliers (Acros, Sigma-Aldrich, Alfa Aesar or ABCR) and were used without any further purification, unless mentioned otherwise. Dry solvents were taken from a solvent purification system (M. Braun SPS-800) and used immediately. Manual degassing of solvents, if needed, was done by performing three consecutive freeze-pump-thaw cycles. Dry DMF was purchased from Sigma-Aldrich. Deuterated solvents were purchased from Deutero GmbH or Sigma-Aldrich and dried over sodium (C_6D_6), distilled, degassed and stored under an atmosphere of argon. All chromium salts were purchased with a trace metal purity of 99.9 %. The PdmBox-ligands,¹ (*tmeda*)CrCl₂² and deuterated Silane³ were synthesized according to reported procedures.

Analytics

Nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectra were recorded on Bruker Avance II 400 and Bruker Avance III 600 at room temperature. Chemical shifts are reported in ppm, coupling constants in Hz. Chemical shifts were referenced to residual solvent protons and the ¹³C isotope of deuterated solvents.⁴ Multiplicities are indicated as: s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, m = multiplet. Atom numbering is illustrated in the respective figure shown above each procedure.

Mass spectrometry (MS) and high-resolution MS were obtained at the mass spectroscopy department of the University of Heidelberg. Electron spray ionization (ESI) was carried out on a Bruker ApexQe hybrid 9.4 T FT-IVR machine, liquid injection field desorption ionization (LIFDI) was performed on a JEOL JMS- 700 instrument.

Elemental analysis (EA) for C, H, and N was performed at a facility of the Chemistry Department at the University of Heidelberg on a vario MICRO Cube or vario EL Cube.

High Performance Liquid Chromatography (HPLC) measurements were carried out on Agilent Technologies 1260 Infinity HPLC equipped with solvent pump, auto-sampler, membrane solvent degasser and DAD detector.

Silica gel (SiO_2 , pore size 60 Å) for flash column chromatography (FCC) was purchased from Sigma-Aldrich. Thin Layer chromatography (TLC) was performed with Polygram® SIL G/UV₂₅₄ purchased from Macherey-Nagel. Components were visualized by fluorescence quenching during irradiation with UV light (254 nm) or were revealed with Hanessian's stain.

X-ray Crystal Structure Determinations

Crystal data and details of the structure determinations are compiled in Table S2. Full shells of intensity data were collected at low temperature with an Agilent Technologies Supernova-E CCD diffractometer (Mo-K α radiation, microfocus X-ray tube, multilayer mirror optics). Detector frames (typically ω -, occasionally φ -scans, scan width 0.4°) were integrated by profile fitting.^{5,6} Data were corrected for air and detector absorption, Lorentz and polarization effects⁶ and scaled essentially by application of appropriate spherical harmonic functions.^{6,7,8} Absorption by the crystal was treated with a semiempirical multiscan method (as part of the scaling process), and augmented by a spherical correction.^{7,8} The structures were solved by the charge flip procedure⁹ and refined by full-matrix least squares methods based on F^2 against all unique reflections.¹⁰ All non-hydrogen atoms were given anisotropic displacement parameters. Hydrogen atoms were input at calculated positions and refined with a riding model.¹¹

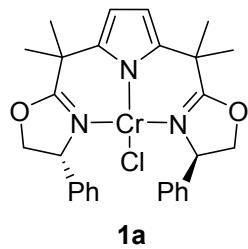
CCDC 1850233-1850234 contains the supplementary crystallographic data for this paper. These data can be obtained free of charge from The Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre via https://www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data_request/cif.

2. Synthesis of the Precatalysts $R(PdmBox)Cr(CH_2SiMe_3)$

2.1 Synthesis of the $R(PdmBox)CrCl$ Complexes

The protioligand $R(PdmBox)H$ (2.09 mmol, 1.0 eq.) was dissolved in THF (20 mL) and LiHMDS (2.30 mmol, 1.1 eq.) dissolved in THF (5 mL) was slowly added and the mixture was stirred for 30 min at rt. Subsequently, a suspension of (tmeda)CrCl₂ (2.09 mmol, 1.0 eq.) in THF (10 mL) was added dropwise to the reaction mixture and stirring was continued for 12 h at rt. Afterwards, the reaction was filtered, the solvent was removed, and the residue was redissolved in a mixture of toluene/pentane (1:3) and filtered over celite. The filtrate was evaporated to afford $R(PdmBox)CrCl$ complex as dark-violet solid. Single crystals suitable for X-ray diffraction were obtained from a saturated solution of **2b** in *n*-pentane at –40 °C.

2.1.1 $[^{(R)-Ph}(PdmBox)CrCl]$



Yield: dark-violet solid (582.3 mg, 62 %).

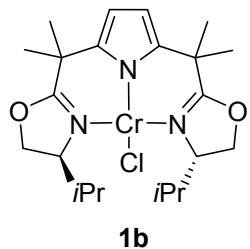
¹H NMR (C_6D_6 , 600.13 MHz, 295 K, paramagnetic): δ [ppm] = 23.34, 18.53, 5.25, 2.41, –37.81.

Magnetic Susceptibility (Evans, C_6D_6 , 295 K)¹²: $\mu_{eff} = 4.75 \mu_b$.

EA: calcd. C: 63.69 %, H: 5.72 %, N: 7.96 %; found: C: 63.09 %, H: 5.93 %, N: 7.71 %.

HR-MS (ESI⁺): m/z calcd. for $[C_{28}H_{30}ClCrN_3O_2]$, $[M]^+$: 527.1422; found: 527.1421.

2.1.2 $[^{(S)-iPr}(\text{PdmBox})\text{CrCl}]$



Yield: dark-violet solid (497.3 mg, 64 %).

$^1\text{H NMR}$ (C_6D_6 , 600.13 MHz, 295 K, paramagnetic): δ [ppm] = 32.03, 26.09, 19.23, 3.62, -36.95.

Magnetic Susceptibility (Evans, C_6D_6 , 295 K)¹²: $\mu_{\text{eff}} = 4.70 \mu_{\text{B}}$.

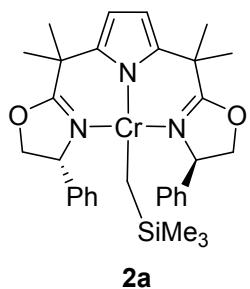
EA: calcd. C: 57.45 %, H: 7.45 %, N: 9.14 %; found: C: 57.29 %, H: 7.31 %, N: 8.91 %.

HR-MS (ESI⁺): m/z calcd. for $[\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{32}\text{ClCrN}_3\text{O}_2]^+$, $[\text{M}]^+$: 459.1817; found: 459.1818.

2.2 Syntheses of the $^{\text{R}}(\text{PdmBox})\text{Cr}(\text{CH}_2\text{SiMe}_3)$ Complexes

$^{\text{R}}(\text{PdmBox})\text{CrCl}$ complex (1.09 mmol, 1.00 eq.) was dissolved in toluene (50 mL), a solution of $\text{Mg}(\text{CH}_2\text{SiMe}_3)_2(\text{THF})_2$ (1.10 mmol, 1.01 eq.) in toluene (20 mL) was added and the reaction was stirred for 12 h at rt. The reaction mixture was filtered, the solvent was removed, and the residue was redissolved in a mixture of toluene/pentane (1:10) and filtered over Celite. The filtrate was evaporated to afford $^{\text{R}}(\text{PdmBox})\text{Cr}(\text{CH}_2\text{SiMe}_3)$ complex as dark-red solid. Single crystals suitable for X-ray diffraction were obtained from a saturated solution of **3b** in *n*-hexane at -40 °C.

2.2.1 $[^{(R)-\text{Ph}}(\text{PdmBox})\text{Cr}(\text{CH}_2\text{SiMe}_3)]$



Yield: dark-red solid (442.7 mg, 70 %).

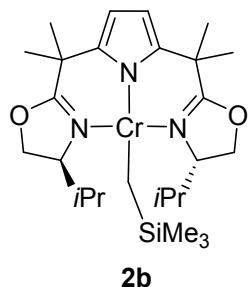
$^1\text{H NMR}$ (C_6D_6 , 600.13 MHz, 295 K, paramagnetic): δ [ppm] = 21.97, 20.21, 9.08, 4.58, -24.46.

Magnetic Susceptibility (Evans, C_6D_6 , 295 K)¹²: $\mu_{\text{eff}} = 4.73 \mu_{\text{B}}$.

EA: calcd. C: 66.29, H: 7.13, N: 7.25; found: C: 64.94, H: 6.90, N: 7.49.¹

MS (LIFDI⁺): m/z calcd. for [C₂₉H₃₁CrN₃O₂]⁺, [M-HSiMe₃]⁺: 505.6; found: 505.6.

2.2.2 [(*S*-iPr(PdmBox)Cr(CH₂SiMe₃)]



Yield: dark-red solid (409.7 mg, 73 %).

¹H NMR (C₆D₆, 600.13 MHz, 295 K, paramagnetic): δ [ppm] = 31.93, 21.99, 14.72, 6.78, 4.39, -25.59.

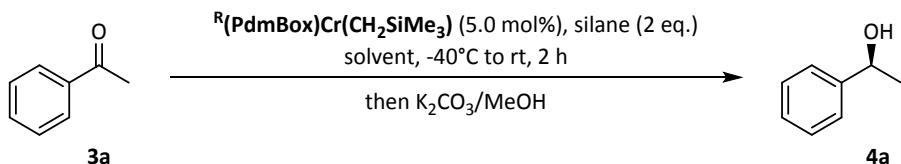
EA: calcd. C: 61.02 %, H: 8.86 %, N: 8.21 %; found: C: 59.28 %, H: 8.23 %, N: 7.93 %.¹

MS (LIFDI⁺): m/z calcd. for [C₂₃H₃₅CrN₃O₂]⁺, [M-HSiMe₃]⁺: 437.2; found: 437.2.

¹ Systematical and analytical bias due to the high air and moist sensitivity of the alkyl complexes.

3. Catalysis

3.1 Catalytic Enantioselective Reduction



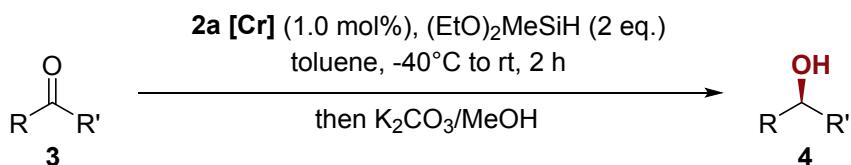
A solution of the precatalyst ^R(PdmBox)Cr(CH₂SiMe₃) **2a** or **2b** (6.20 µmol, 5.0 mol%; down to 0.12 µmol, 0.1 mol%) and acetophenone **3a** (15.0 mg, 0.12 mmol, 1.0 eq.) in 1 mL solvent was cooled to -40 °C. Neat silane (0.25 mmol, 2.0 eq.) was added in one portion and the mixture was warmed to rt over a period of 2 h. The resulting silyl ether was hydrolyzed by adding a saturated solution of K₂CO₃ in MeOH (2 mL). The mixture was stirred for 1 h and filtered through a pad of silica. The residue was eluted with DCM and analyzed by chiral HPLC.

Table S1 Optimizing the reaction conditions for the hydrosilylation of ketones.

#	R	Solvent	Silane	Cat. load. [mol%]	Conv. [%] ^a	ee [%] ^a
1	(<i>R</i>)-Ph	toluene	(EtO) ₂ MeSiH	5.0	> 99	95 (<i>S</i>)
2	(<i>S</i>)-iPr	toluene	(EtO) ₂ MeSiH	5.0	> 99	75 (<i>R</i>)
3	(<i>R</i>)-Ph	toluene	(EtO) ₃ SiH	5.0	> 99	83 (<i>S</i>)
4	(<i>R</i>)-Ph	toluene	<i>n</i> BuSiH ₃	5.0	> 99	84 (<i>S</i>)
5	(<i>R</i>)-Ph	toluene	PMHS ^b	5.0	58	84 (<i>S</i>)
6 ^c	(<i>R</i>)-Ph	toluene	PhSiH ₃	5.0	> 99	70 (<i>S</i>)
7 ^c	(<i>R</i>)-Ph	toluene	Ph ₂ SiH ₂	5.0	0	n.d.
8 ^c	(<i>R</i>)-Ph	toluene	Me ₂ PhSiH	5.0	0	n.d.
9	(<i>R</i>)-Ph	<i>n</i> -pentane	(EtO) ₂ MeSiH	5.0	> 99	90 (<i>S</i>)
10	(<i>R</i>)-Ph	<i>n</i> -hexane	(EtO) ₂ MeSiH	5.0	> 99	90 (<i>S</i>)
11	(<i>R</i>)-Ph	Et ₂ O	(EtO) ₂ MeSiH	5.0	> 99	90 (<i>S</i>)
12	(<i>R</i>)-Ph	THF	(EtO) ₂ MeSiH	5.0	> 99	86 (<i>S</i>)
13	(<i>R</i>)-Ph	tmeda	(EtO) ₂ MeSiH	5.0	> 99	80 (<i>S</i>)
14	(<i>R</i>)-Ph	DCM	(EtO) ₂ MeSiH	5.0	0	n.d.
15	(<i>R</i>)-Ph	MeCN	(EtO) ₂ MeSiH	5.0	0	n.d.
16	(<i>R</i>)-Ph	toluene	(EtO) ₂ MeSiH	2.5	> 99	95 (<i>S</i>)
17	(<i>R</i>)-Ph	toluene	(EtO) ₂ MeSiH	1.0	> 99	95 (<i>S</i>)
18	(<i>R</i>)-Ph	toluene	(EtO) ₂ MeSiH	0.5	> 99	95 (<i>S</i>)
19	(<i>R</i>)-Ph	toluene	(EtO) ₂ MeSiH	0.25	53	95 (<i>S</i>)
20	(<i>R</i>)-Ph	toluene	(EtO) ₂ MeSiH	0.1	0	n.d.

^aDetermined by chiral HPLC. ^bPMHS = Poly(methylhydrosiloxane). ^cWork-up with NaOH in iPrOH.

3.2 Enantioselective Hydrosilylation of Ketones

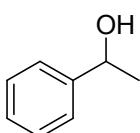


A solution of the precatalyst **2a** (0.72mg, 5.2 μ mol, 1.0 mol%) and the substrate **3** (0.52mmol, 1.0 eq.) in 1 mL toluene was cooled to -40°C in a cold bath. Neat (EtO)₂MeSiH (168 μl , 1.04 mmol, 2.0 eq.) was added in one portion and the mixture was allowed to warm to rt in that bath over a period of 2 h. The resulting silyl ether was hydrolyzed by adding a saturated solution of K₂CO₃ in MeOH (2 mL). The mixture was stirred for 1 h and filtered through a pad of silica. The residue was eluted with DCM. The organic layer was brined (5 mL) and the aqueous phase was washed with ethyl acetate (2×3 mL). The resulting alcohol **5** was purified by FCC (SiO₂, PE/EA 10:1) and analyzed by NMR spectroscopy and chiral HPLC or chiral GC. The absolute configuration was determined by comparison with reported data and commercially available samples.¹³

3.3 Characterization of Alcohols

4a

1-Phenylethanol



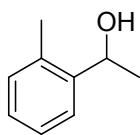
Yield: colorless liquid (56.2 mg, 89 %).

¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 600.24 MHz, 295 K): δ [ppm] = 7.36-7.32 (m, 4H), 7.26-7.23 (m, 1H), 4.87 (q, ³J_{H,H} = 6.5 Hz, 1H), 1.91 (s, 1H), 1.48 (d, ³J_{H,H} = 6.5 Hz, 1H).
¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 150.93 MHz, 295 K): δ [ppm] = 145.8, 128.5, 127.5, 125.4, 70.4, 25.1.

Chromatography: Chiralcel OD-H (Hexane/iPrOH 98:2, 1.0 mL/min, 20 °C, $\lambda = 210$ nm); t_R = 15.2 min (*R*), t_R = 19.9 min (*S*); 95 %ee (*S*).

4b

1-(2-Tolyl)ethanol



Yield: colorless liquid (61.8 mg, 87 %).

¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 600.24 MHz, 295K): δ [ppm] = 7.50 (d, ³J_{H,H} = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.25-7.22 (m, 1H), 7.19-7.13 (m, 2H), 5.15 (q, ³J_{H,H} = 6.5 Hz, 1H), 2.35 (s, 3H), 1.66 (s, 1H), 1.47 (d, ³J_{H,H} = 6.5 Hz, 1H).

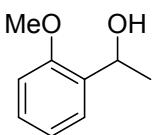
¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 150.93 MHz, 295K): δ [ppm] = 143.8, 134.3, 130.4, 127.2, 126.4, 124.5, 66.8, 23.9, 18.9.

Chromatography: Chiralpak AD-H (Hexane/iPrOH 98:2, 1.0 mL/min, 20 °C,

$\lambda = 210 \text{ nm}$); t_R = 14.2 min (*R*), t_R=16.4 min (*S*); 98 %ee (*S*).

4c

1-(2-Methoxyphenyl)ethanol



Yield: colorless solid (69.9 mg, 89 %).

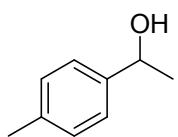
¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 600.24 MHz, 295K): δ [ppm] = 7.33-7.32 (m,1H), 7.26-7.23 (m, 1H), 6.96-6.95 (m, 1H), 6.88 (d, ³J_{H,H} = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 5.09 (q, ³J_{H,H} = 6.5 Hz, 1H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 2.55 (s, 1H), 1.50 (d, ³J_{H,H} = 6.5 Hz, 1H).

¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 150.93 MHz, 295K): δ [ppm] = 166.9, 150.9, 129.8, 129.3, 125.3, 70.0, 52.1, 25.3.

Chromatography: Chiralcel OD-H (Hexane/iPrOH 99:1, 1.0 mL/min, 25 °C, $\lambda = 210 \text{ nm}$); t_R = 25.6 min (*S*), t_R = 27.9 min (*R*); 94 %ee (*S*).

4d

1-(4-Tolyl)ethanol



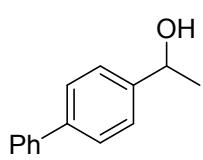
Yield: colorless liquid (63.7 mg, 91 %).

¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 600.24 MHz, 295K): δ [ppm] = 7.24 (d, ³J_{H,H} = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.15 (d, ³J_{H,H} = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 4.85 (q, ³J_{H,H} = 6.5 Hz, 1H), 2.32 (s, 3H), 1.75 (s, 1H), 1.46 (d, ³J_{H,H} = 6.5 Hz, 1H).

¹³C NMR (CDCl_3 , 150.93 MHz, 295K): δ [ppm] = 142.8, 137.2, 129.2, 125.4, 70.3, 25.1, 21.1.

Chromatography: Chiralcel OD-H (Hexane/*i*PrOH 98:2, 1.0mL/min, 20 °C, λ = 210 nm); t_R = 15.1 min (*S*), t_R = 17.8 min (*R*); 98 %ee (*S*).

4e 1-([1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-yl)ethanol



Yield: colorless solid (94.7 mg, 92 %).

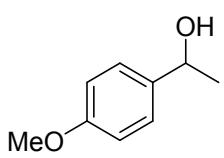
¹H NMR (CDCl_3 , 600.24 MHz, 295K): δ [ppm] = 7.60-7.58 (m, 4H), 7.46-7.42 (m, 4H), 7.36-7.33 (m, 1H), 4.97 (q, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 6.5$ Hz, 1H), 1.75 (s, 1H), 1.55 (d, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 6.5$ Hz, 1H).

¹³C NMR (CDCl_3 , 150.93 MHz, 295K): δ [ppm] = 144.8, 140.9, 140.5, 128.8, 127.3, 127.1, 125.8, 70.2, 25.2.

Chromatography: Chiraldak AD-H (Hexane/*i*PrOH 95:5, 0.8 mL/min, 20 °C,

λ = 230 nm); t_R = 16.1 min (*S*), t_R = 17.6 min (*R*); 90 %ee (*S*).

4f 1-(4-Methoxyphenyl)ethanol



Yield: yellow liquid (73.1 mg, 91 %).

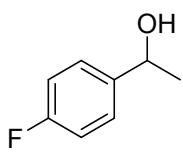
¹H NMR (CDCl_3 , 600.24 MHz, 295K): δ [ppm] = 7.27 (d, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 8.2$ Hz, 2H), 6.89 (d, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 4.87 (q, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 6.5$ Hz, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 1.72 (s, 1H), 1.50 (d, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 6.5$ Hz, 1H).

¹³C NMR (CDCl_3 , 150.93 MHz, 295K): δ [ppm] = 158.5, 137.7, 126.4, 113.6, 69.8, 55.3, 25.1.

Chromatography: Chiralcel OD-H (Hexane/*i*PrOH 98:2, 1.0 mL/min, 10 °C,

λ = 210 nm); t_R = 25.1 min (*R*), t_R = 26.8 min (*S*); 90 %ee (*S*).

4g 1-(4-Fluorophenyl)ethanol



Yield: colorless liquid (64.3 mg, 87 %).

¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 600.24 MHz, 295K): δ [ppm] = 7.36-7.32 (m, 2H), 7.05-7.00 (m, 2H), 4.90 (q, ³J_{H,H} = 6.4 Hz, 1H), 1.82 (s, 1H), 1.48 (d, ³J_{H,H} = 6.5 Hz, 1H).

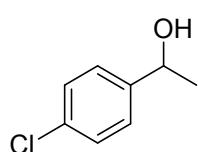
¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 150.93 MHz, 295K): δ [ppm] = 162.1 (d, *J* = 262.0 Hz), 141.4 (d, *J* = 3.4 Hz), 127.9 (d, *J* = 9.7 Hz), 115.3 (d, *J* = 23.7 Hz), 69.8, 25.3.

¹⁹F NMR (CDCl₃, 150.93 MHz, 295K): δ [ppm] = -115.3.

Chromatography: Chiraldex BP-M (mode: isothermal, 170 kPa, 120 °C); t_R = 16.4 min (*S*), t_R = 16.9 min (*R*); 90 %ee (*S*).

4h

1-(4-Chlorophenyl)ethanol



Yield: slightly yellow liquid (71.4 mg, 88 %).

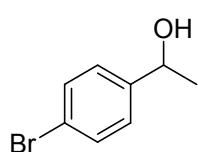
¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 600.24 MHz, 295K): δ [ppm] = 7.24-7.20 (m, 4H), 4.79 (q, ³J_{H,H} = 6.5 Hz, 1H), 2.07 (s, 1H), 1.40 (d, ³J_{H,H} = 6.5 Hz, 1H).

¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 150.93 MHz, 295K): δ [ppm] = 144.3, 133.0, 128.6, 126.8, 69.7, 25.3.

Chromatography: Chiralcel OD-H (Hexane/iPrOH 95:5, 0.7 mL/min, 20 °C, λ = 210 nm); t_R = 11.3 min (*S*), t_R = 12.1 min (*R*); 89 %ee (*S*).

4i

1-(4-Bromophenyl)ethanol



Yield: yellow liquid (97.2 mg, 92 %).

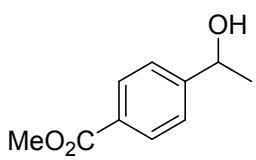
¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 600.24 MHz, 295K): δ [ppm] = 7.47 (d, ³J_{H,H} = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.26 (d, ³J_{H,H} = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 4.87 (q, ³J_{H,H} = 6.5 Hz, 1H), 1.76 (s, 1H), 1.47 (d, ³J_{H,H} = 6.5 Hz, 1H).

¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 150.93 MHz, 295K): δ [ppm] = 144.7, 131.6, 127.2, 121.2, 69.8, 25.3.

Chromatography: Chiralcel OD-H (Hexane/iPrOH 95:5, 1.0 mL/min, 20 °C, λ = 210 nm); t_R = 8.6 min (*S*), t_R = 9.2 min (*R*); 86 %ee (*S*).

4j

Methyl 4-(1-Hydroxyethyl)benzoate



Yield: colorless liquid (29.1 mg, 31 %).

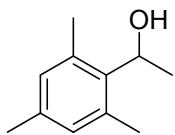
$^1\text{H NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 600.24 MHz, 295K): δ [ppm] = 8.02 (d, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 8.2$ Hz, 2H), 7.45 (d, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 4.96 (q, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 6.5$ Hz, 1H), 3.91 (s, 3H), 1.82 (s, 1H), 1.50 (d, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 6.5$ Hz, 1H).

$^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 150.93 MHz, 295K): δ [ppm] = 166.9, 150.9, 129.8, 129.3, 125.3, 70.0, 52.1, 25.3.

Chromatography: Chiralpak AD-H (Hexane/ $i\text{PrOH}$ 95:5, 1.0 mL/min, 20 °C, $\lambda = 215$ nm); $t_R = 17.2$ min (*R*), $t_R = 18.4$ min (*S*); 50 %ee (*S*).

4k

1-(2,4,6-Trimethylphenyl)ethanol



Yield: colorless solid (72.6 mg, 86 %).

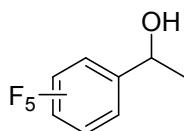
$^1\text{H NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 600.24 MHz, 295K): δ [ppm] = 6.82 (s, 2H), 5.36 (q, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 6.5$ Hz, 1H), 2.41 (s, 6H), 2.25 (s, 3H), 1.62 (s, 1H), 1.52 (d, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 6.5$ Hz, 1H).

$^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 150.93 MHz, 295K): δ [ppm] = 137.6, 136.5, 135.7, 130.2, 67.5, 52.1, 21.6, 20.7, 20.5.

Chromatography: Chiralcel OD-H (Hexane/ $i\text{PrOH}$ 99:1, 0.8 mL/min, 20 °C, $\lambda = 210$ nm); $t_R = 21.9$ min (*S*), $t_R = 25.5$ min (*R*); 85 %ee (*S*).

4l

1-(2,3,4,5,6-Pentafluorophenyl)ethanol

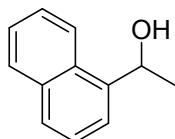


Yield: no conv.

Chromatography: Chiralpak AD-H (Hexane/ $i\text{PrOH}$ 99:1, 1.0 mL/min, 20 °C, $\lambda = 210$ nm); $t_R = 16.7$ min (*S*), $t_R = 20.1$ min (*R*).

4m

1-(Naphthalen-1-yl)ethanol



Yield: colorless solid (80.1 mg, 90 %).

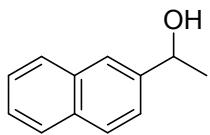
$^1\text{H NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 600.24 MHz, 295K): δ [ppm] = 8.10 (d, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 8.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.88 (d, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 8.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.78 (d, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 8.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.67 (d, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 8.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.54-7.46 (m, 3H), 5.64 (q, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 6.5$ Hz, 1H), 2.21 (s, 1H), 1.66 (d, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 6.5$ Hz, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 150.93 MHz, 295K): δ [ppm] = 141.4, 133.8, 130.3, 128.9, 127.9, 127.9, 126.0, 125.6, 123.2, 122.0, 67.1, 24.3.

Chromatography: Chiralcel OD-H (Hexane/ $i\text{PrOH}$ 90:10, 0.8 mL/min, 20 °C, $\lambda = 210$ nm); $t_R = 12.3$ min (*R*), $t_R = 19.5$ min (*S*); 96 %ee (*S*).

4n

1-(Naphthalen-2-yl)ethanol



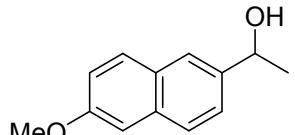
Yield: colorless solid (79.3 mg, 88 %).

$^1\text{H NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 600.24 MHz, 295K): δ [ppm] = 7.85-7.81 (m, 4H), 7.52-7.45 (m, 3H), 5.08 (q, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 6.5$ Hz, 1H), 1.88 (s, 1H), 1.59 (d, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 6.5$ Hz, 3H).
 $^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 150.93 MHz, 295K): δ [ppm] = 143.1, 133.2, 132.9, 128.3, 127.9, 127.7, 126.1, 125.8, 123.8, 70.6, 52.1, 25.2.

Chromatography: Chiralcel OD-H (Hexane/ $i\text{PrOH}$ 95:5, 1.0 mL/min, 20 °C, $\lambda = 210$ nm); $t_R = 16.5$ min (*R*), $t_R = 17.8$ min (*S*); 90 %ee (*S*).

4o

9-Methoxy-1-(Naphthalen-2-yl)ethanol



Yield: colorless solid (95.8 mg, 90 %).

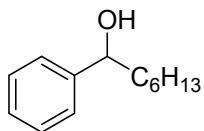
$^1\text{H NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 600.24 MHz, 295K): δ [ppm] = 7.74-7.71 (m, 3H), 7.48-7.46 (m, 1H), 7.16-7.12 (m, 2H), 5.04 (q, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 6.5$ Hz, 1H), 3.91 (s, 3H), 1.89 (s, 1H), 1.57 (d, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 6.5$ Hz, 3H).

$^{13}\text{C NMR}$ (CDCl_3 , 150.93 MHz, 295K): δ [ppm] = 157.6, 140.9, 134.0, 129.4, 128.7, 127.2, 124.4, 123.8, 118.9, 70.5, 55.2, 20.7, 25.1.

Chromatography: Chiralcel OD-H (Hexane/*i*PrOH 95:5, 0.8 mL/min, 20 °C, $\lambda = 210$ nm); $t_R = 19.5$ min (*S*), $t_R = 28.0$ min (*R*); 92 %ee (*S*).

4p

1-Phenylheptanol



Yield: colorless liquid (89.3 mg, 90 %).

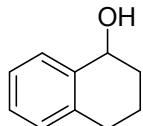
¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 600.24 MHz, 295 K): δ [ppm] = 7.35-7.26 (m, 5H), 4.66 (dd, $^3J_{H,H} = 7.0$ Hz, 1H), 1.83-1.77 (m, 1H), 1.73-1.66 (m, 1H), 1.58 (s, 1H), 1.43-1.37 (m, 1H), 1.33-1.23 (m, 7H), 0.87 (t, $^3J_{H,H} = 6.5$ Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 150.93 MHz, 295 K): δ [ppm] = 144.9, 128.4, 127.5, 125.9, 74.7, 39.1, 31.7, 29.2, 25.8, 22.6.

Chromatography: Chiralcel OD-H (Hexane/*i*PrOH 99:1, 0.8 mL/min, 20 °C, $\lambda = 210$ nm); $t_R = 18.1$ min (*R*), $t_R = 22.8$ min (*S*); 86 %ee (*S*).

4q

1,2,3,4-Tetrahydronaphthalen-1-ol



Yield: yellow liquid (72.8 mg, 93 %).

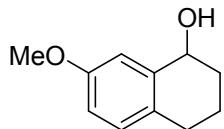
¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 600.24 MHz, 295 K): δ [ppm] = 7.46-7.44 (m, 1H), 7.25-7.22 (m, 2H), 7.15-7.12 (m, 1H) 4.82 (t, $^3J_{H,H} = 4.5$ Hz, 1H), 2.89-2.73 (m, 2H), 2.06-1.92 (m, 3H), 1.84-1.79 (m, 1H), 1.76 (s, 1H).

¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 150.93 MHz, 295 K): δ [ppm] = 138.7, 137.1, 129.0, 128.7, 127.6, 126.2, 68.1, 32.3, 29.3, 18.8.

Chromatography: Chiralcel OD-H (Hexane/*i*PrOH 99:1, 1.0 mL/min, 20 °C, $\lambda = 215$ nm); $t_R = 23.9$ min (*S*), $t_R = 27.5$ min (*R*); 93 %ee (*S*).

4r

7-Methoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydronaphthalen-1-ol



Yield: yellowish solid (77.2 mg, 91 %).

¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 600.24 MHz, 295 K): δ [ppm] = 7.02 (d, $^3J_{H,H} = 8.3$ Hz, 1H), 6.96 (d, $^3J_{H,H} = 2.4$ Hz, 1H), 6.78 (dd, $^3J_{H,H} = 8.4$ Hz, $^3J_{H,H} = 2.4$ Hz, 1H), 4.74

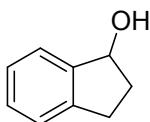
(t, $^3J_{H,H} = 5.4$ Hz, 1H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 2.77-2.63 (m, 2H), 2.04-1.91 (m, 2H), 1.88-1.84 (m, 1H), 1.78-1.74 (m, 1H), 1.67 (s, 1H).

^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 150.93 MHz, 295 K): δ [ppm] = 157.6, 139.5; 129.7, 128.9, 114.2, 112.4, 68.5, 55.4, 32.5, 28.6, 19.3.

Chromatography: Chiralcel OD-H (Hexane/*i*PrOH 95:5, 0.7 mL/min, 20 °C, $\lambda = 215$ nm); $t_R = 42.8$ min (*S*), $t_R = 50.2$ min (*R*); 87 %ee (*S*).

4s

2,3-Dihydro-1*H*-inden-1-ol



Yield: slightly yellow liquid (69.4 mg, 89 %).

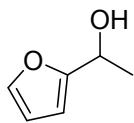
^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 600.24 MHz, 295 K): δ [ppm] = 7.42 (d, $^3J_{H,H} = 6.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.28-7.23 (m, 3H), 5.26 (t, $^3J_{H,H} = 6.2$ Hz, 1H), 3.09-3.01 (m, 1H), 2.85-2.80 (m, 1H), 2.52-2.48 (m, 1H), 1.99-1.92 (m, 1H), 1.64 (s, 1H).

^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 150.93 MHz, 295 K): δ [ppm] = 144.9, 143.4, 128.4, 126.7, 124.9, 124.2, 76.5, 36.0, 29.8.

Chromatography: Chiralcel OD-H (Hexane/*i*PrOH 98:2, 1.0 mL/min, 20 °C, $\lambda = 210$ nm); $t_R = 17.6$ min (*S*), $t_R = 20.1$ min (*R*); 94 %ee (*S*).

4t

1-(Furan-2-yl)ethanol



Yield: red liquid (40.7 mg, 67 %).

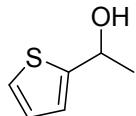
^1H NMR (CDCl_3 , 600.24 MHz, 295 K): δ [ppm] = 7.37 (m, 1H), 6.32 (dd, $^3J_{H,H} = 6.5$ Hz, $^3J_{H,H} = 3.7$ Hz, 1H), 6.22 (d, $^3J_{H,H} = 6.5$ Hz, 1H), 4.88 (q, $^3J_{H,H} = 6.5$ Hz, 1H), 2.56 (s, 1H), 1.54 (d, $^3J_{H,H} = 6.4$ Hz, 3H).

^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 150.93 MHz, 295 K): δ [ppm] = 149.3, 126.2, 124.4, 124.0, 123.5, 69.3, 65.3 25.2.

Chromatography: Chiralcel OJ-H (Hexane/*i*PrOH 99:1, 1.0 mL/min, 20 °C, $\lambda = 215$ nm); $t_R = 30.3$ min (*S*), $t_R = 33.3$ min (*R*); 90 %ee (*S*).

4u

1-(Thiophen-2-yl)ethanol



Yield: yellow liquid (59.3 mg, 90 %).

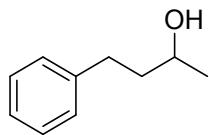
¹H NMR (CDCl_3 , 600.24 MHz, 295 K): δ [ppm] = 7.24 (dd, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 6.5$ Hz, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 3.7$ Hz, 1H), 6.99-6.93 (m, 2H), 5.14 (q, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 6.4$ Hz, 1H), 1.99 (s, 1H), 1.61 (d, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 6.4$ Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (CDCl_3 , 150.93 MHz, 295 K): δ [ppm] = 149.6, 126.7, 124.5, 124.0, 123.6, 70.3, 66.3 25.3.

Chromatography: Chiralcel OJ-H (Hexane/*i*PrOH 99:1, 1.0 mL/min, 20 °C, $\lambda = 215$ nm); $t_R = 38.7$ min (*S*), $t_R = 46.7$ min (*R*); 90 %ee (*S*).

4v

4-Phenylbutan-2-ol



Yield: colorless liquid (63.2 mg, 84 %).

¹H NMR (CDCl_3 , 600.24 MHz, 295 K): δ [ppm] = 7.32-7.30 (m, 2H), 7.23-7.20 (m, 3H), 3.86 (sext., $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 6.2$ Hz, 1H), 2.81-2.76 (m, 1H), 2.72-2.67 (m, 1H), 1.85-1.75 (m, 2H), 1.59 (s, 1H), 1.26 (d, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 6.2$ Hz, 3H).

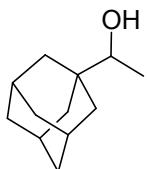
¹³C NMR (CDCl_3 , 150.93 MHz, 295 K): δ [ppm] = 142.1, 128.4, 125.8, 67.5, 40.8, 32.2, 23.6.

Chromatography: Chiraldak AD-H (Hexane/*i*PrOH 96:4, 0.7 mL/min, 10 °C,

$\lambda = 215$ nm); $t_R = 13.8$ min (*R*), $t_R = 14.6$ min (*S*); 30 %ee (*S*).

4w

1-(Adamantan-1-yl)ethanol



Yield: colorless liquid (76.3 mg, 81 %).

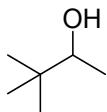
¹H NMR (CDCl_3 , 600.24 MHz, 295 K): δ [ppm] = 3.28 (q, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 6.5$ Hz, 1H), 1.99 (m, 3H), 1.72-1.63 (m, 6H), 1.60-1.57 (m, 3H), 1.49-1.46 (m, 3H), 1.42 (s, 1H), 1.09 (d, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 6.5$ Hz, 3H).

¹³C NMR (CDCl_3 , 150.93 MHz, 295 K): δ [ppm] = 75.8, 37.7, 37.2, 36.6, 28.3, 16.5.

Chromatography: Analysis of the benzoic ester, Chiralpak AD-H (Hexane/*i*PrOH 98:2, 1.0 mL/min, 25 °C, $\lambda = 230$ nm); $t_R = 5.0$ min (*R*), $t_R = 5.7$ min (*S*); 95 %ee (*S*).

4x

3,3-Dimethylbutan-2-ol



Yield: colorless liquid (32.4 mg, 62 %).

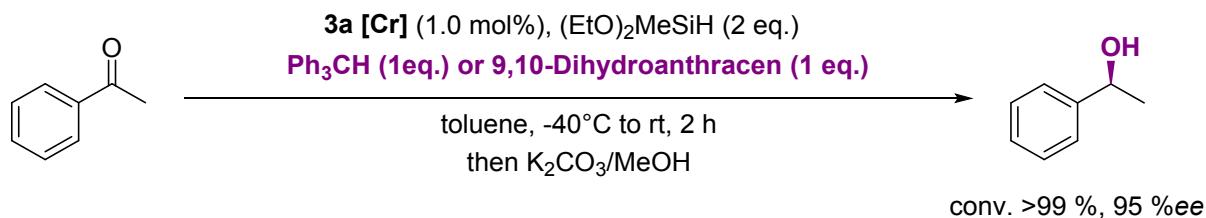
¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 600.24 MHz, 295 K): δ [ppm] = 3.46 (q, $^3J_{H,H} = 6.5$ Hz, 1H), 1.62 (s, 1H), 1.17 (d, $^3J_{H,H} = 6.5$ Hz, 3H), 0.89 (m, 9H).

¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 150.93 MHz, 295 K): δ [ppm] = 75.6, 34.9, 25.5, 17.9.

Chromatography: Analysis of the benzoic ester Chiralcel OD-H (Hexane/*i*PrOH 100:0, 0.5 mL/min, 25 °C, $\lambda = 230$ nm); $t_R = 10.0$ min (*R*), $t_R = 10.7$ min (*S*); 90 %ee (*S*).

4. Mechanistic Studies

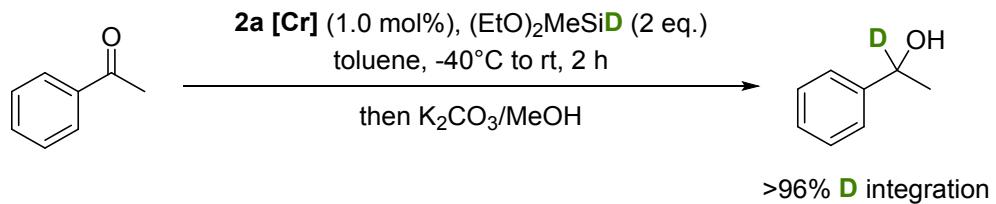
4.1 Radical Trap Experiments



The reduction of acetophenone **3a** (15.0 mg, 124 μmol , 1.0 eq.) was accomplished by the general procedure with a radical trap reagent (triphenylmethane (124 μmol , 1.0 eq.) or 9,10-dihydroanthracene (124 μmol , 1.0 eq.)). The obtained product was analyzed by chiral HPLC.

Chromatography: Chiralcel OD-H (Hexane/iPrOH 98:2, 1.0 mL/min, 20 °C, $\lambda = 210 \text{ nm}$); $t_R = 15.2 \text{ min } (R)$, $t_R = 19.9 \text{ min } (S)$; 95 %ee (*S*).

4.2 Labelling Experiments



The reduction of acetophenone **3a** (15.0 mg, 124 μmol , 1.0 eq.) was carried out analogous to the general procedure with deuterated diethoxymethylsilane (42.0 μl , 240 μmol , 2.0 eq., 2% residual H). The obtained product **4a-d₁** was characterized by NMR spectroscopy.

¹H NMR (CDCl_3 , 600.24 MHz, 295 K): δ [ppm] = 7.36-7.23 (m, 5H), 4.88 (q, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 6.5 \text{ Hz}$, 0.037 H), 1.91 (s, 1H), 1.48 (d, $^3J_{\text{H,H}} = 6.5 \text{ Hz}$, 1H).

^2H NMR (CDCl_3 , 92.12 MHz, 295 K): δ [ppm] = 4.87.

^{13}C NMR (CDCl_3 , 150.93 MHz, 295 K): δ [ppm] = 145.8, 128.5, 127.5, 125.4, 68.9 (t , ${}^2J_{\text{D,C}}=22$ Hz), 25.1.

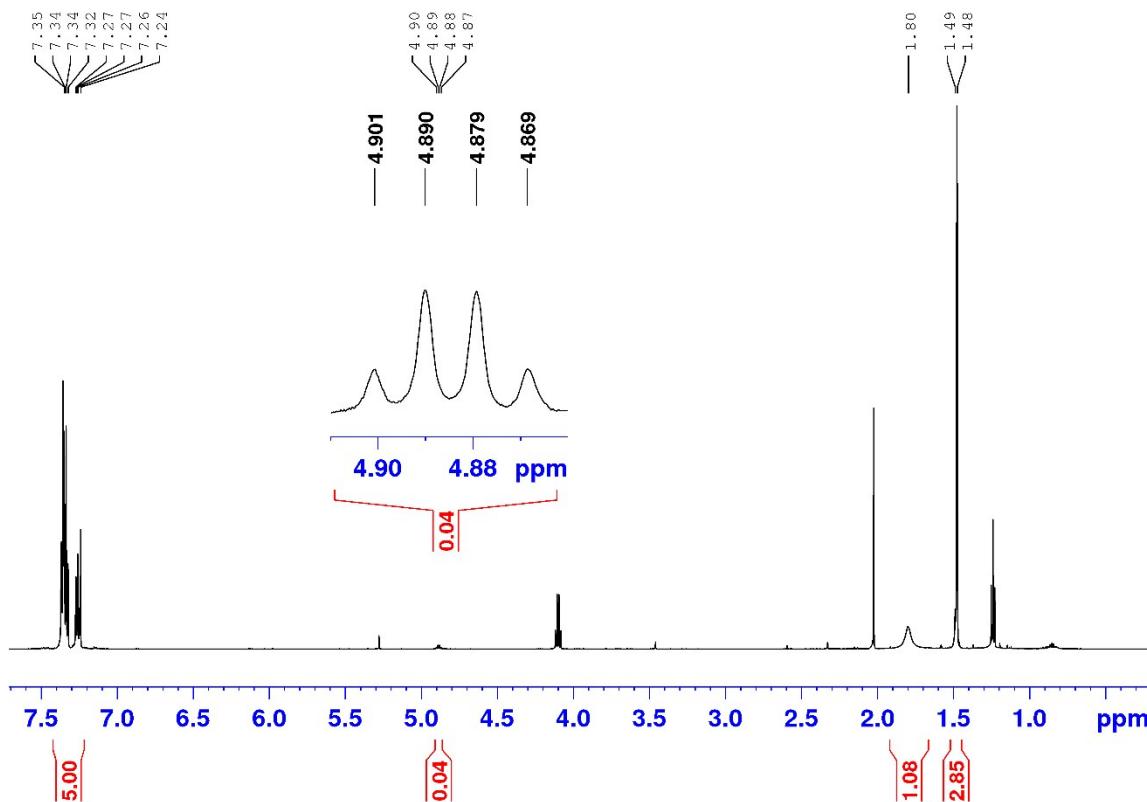
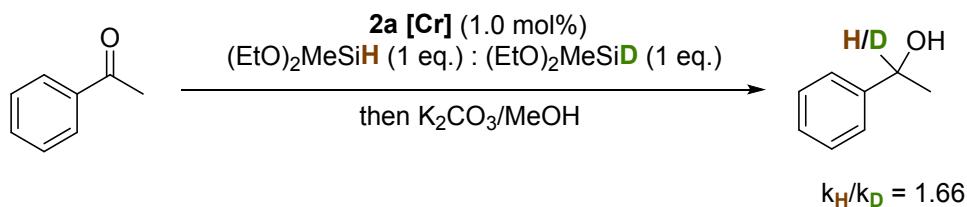


Figure S1: ^1H NMR spectrum of the deuterated acetophenone **4a-d₁** with zoom at the quartet region at 4.88 ppm.

4.3 Kinetic Isotope Effect



The reduction of acetophenone **3a** (15.0 mg, 124 µmol, 1.0 eq.) was carried out analogous to the general procedure with a mixture of equal amounts of diethoxymethylsilane (20.0 µl, 124 µmol, 1.0 eq.) and deuterated diethoxymethylsilane (20.0 µl, 124 µmol, 1.0 eq.). The ratio of deuterated to normal product was determined by ¹H NMR spectroscopy. The KIE was calculated using the following equation.

$$KIE = \frac{k_H}{k_D} = \frac{\ln (1 - F_H)}{\ln (1 - F_D)}$$

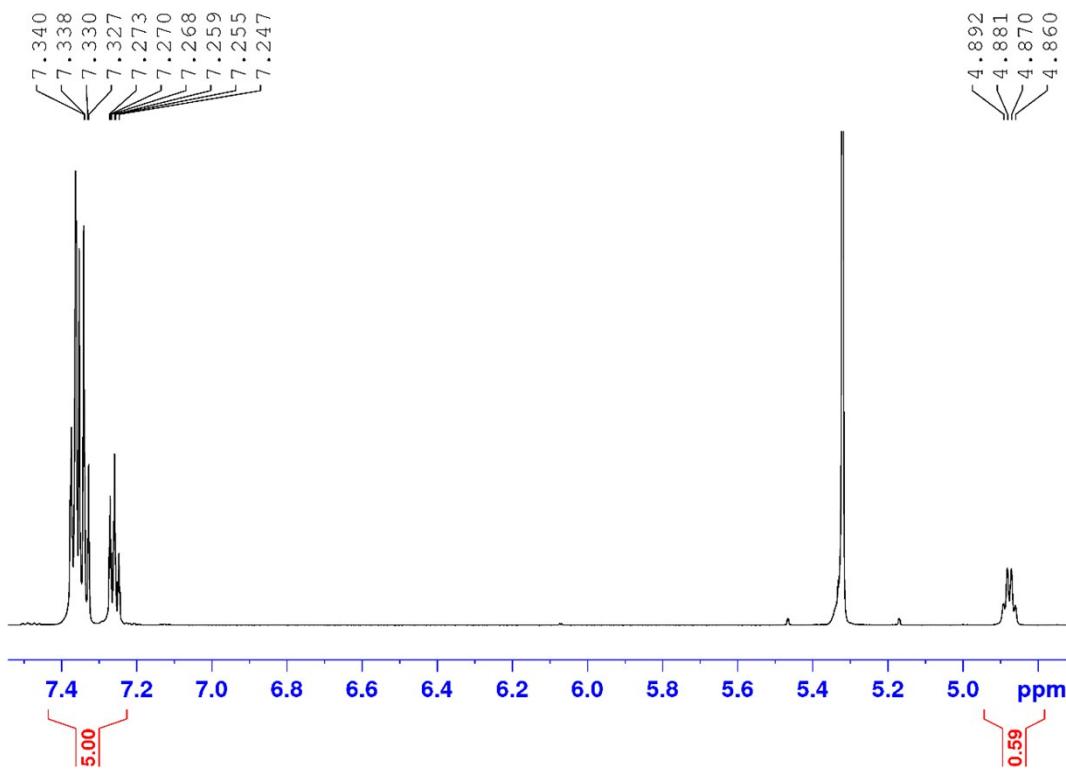


Figure S2: Extract of the ¹H NMR spectrum of the partially deuterated 1-phenylethanol (CD₂Cl₂, 600.24 MHz, 295 K).

KIEs of *p*-Br and *p*-OMe derivatives were calculated in analogy to the protocol outlined above.

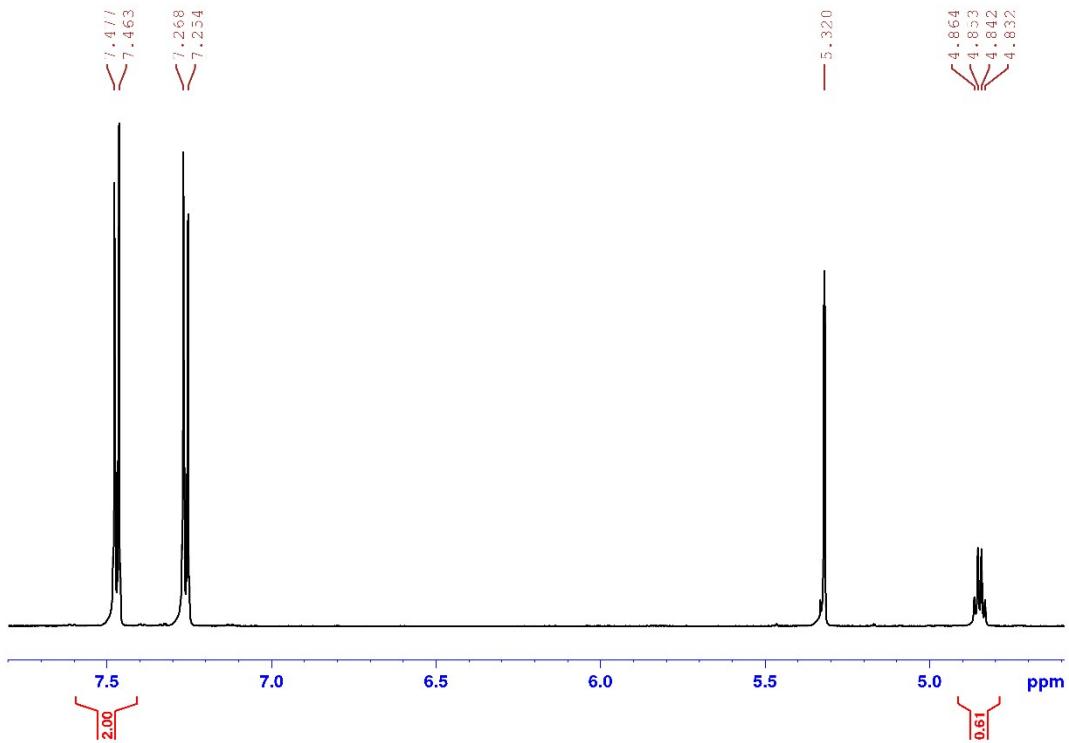


Figure S3: Extract of the ^1H NMR spectrum of the partially deuterated 1-(4-bromophenyl)ethanol (CD_2Cl_2 , 600.24 MHz, 295 K).

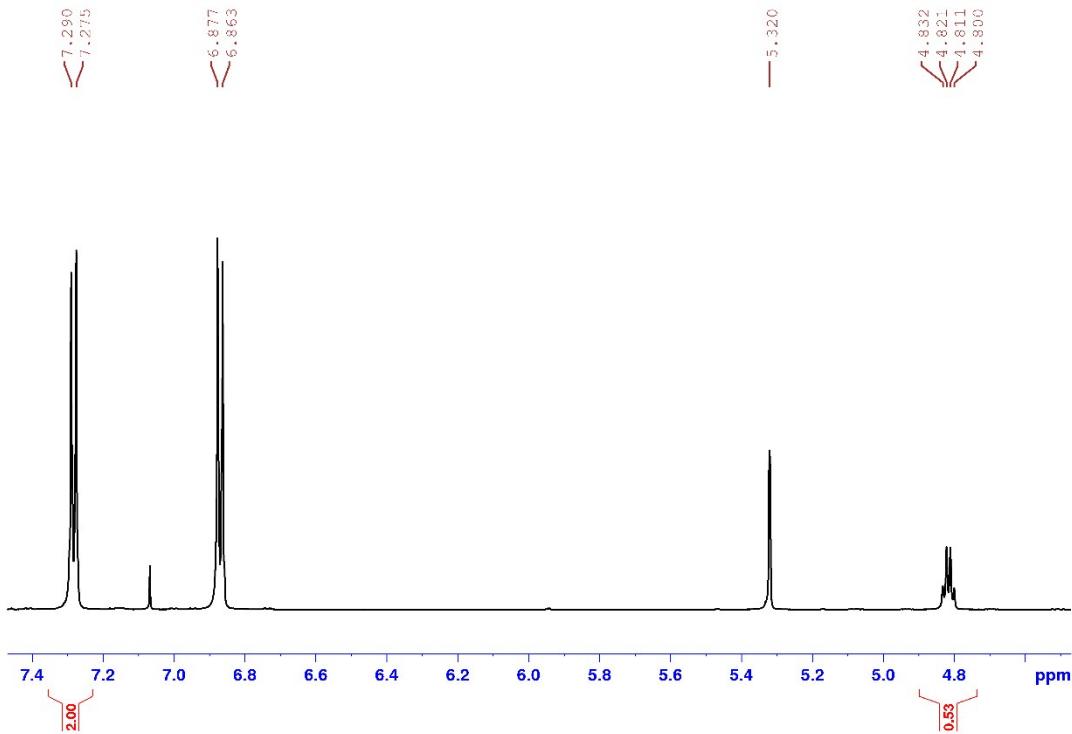


Figure S4: Extract of the ^1H NMR spectrum of the partially deuterated 1-(4-methoxyphenyl)ethanol (CD_2Cl_2 , 600.24 MHz, 295 K).

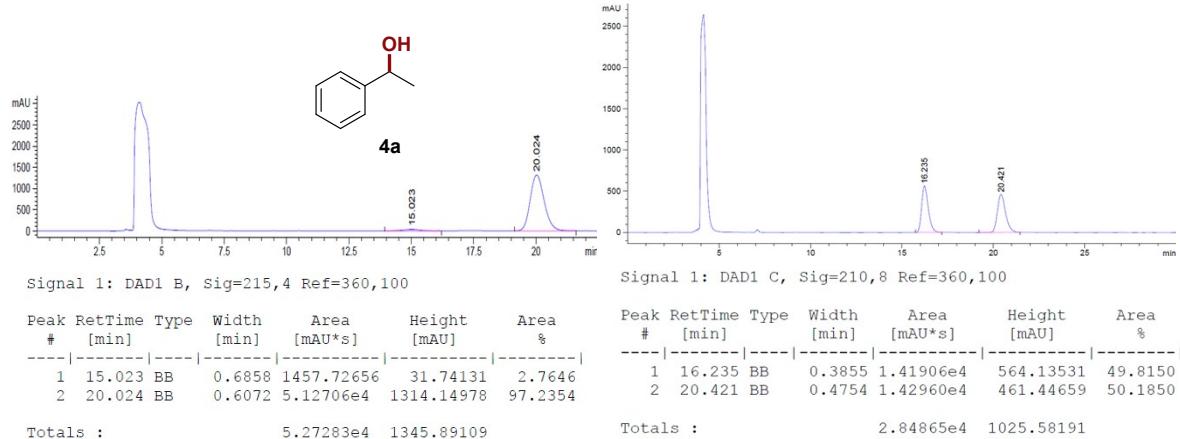
4.4 Hammett-Correlation

The precatalyst (0.72 mg, 2.6 μmol , 1.0 mol%), acetophenone 12 (15.0 mg, 124 μmol , 1.0 eq.) and one of each para substituted ketone (20mg – 35 mg each, 140 μmol – 180 μmol each, 1.0 eq. each) were dissolved in benzene- d_6 (0.5 mL). Diethoxymethylsilane (20.0 μl , 124 μmol) was added and the reaction was stirred for 2 h at rt. Afterwards, three drops of a tetrabutylammonium fluoride solution (1.0 M in THF) were added to each sample. Subsequently, all samples were analyzed by ^{13}C NMR spectroscopy (D_1 -time = 5 s). The relative rate constants were determined from the NMR integral ratio of the product peaks using the following equation. The σ -values were taken from literature.¹⁴

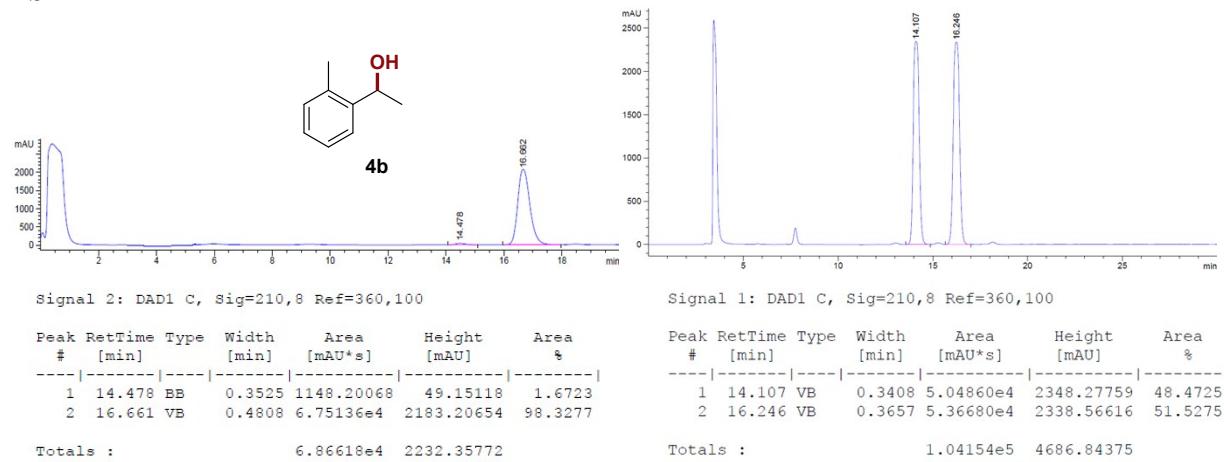
$$\frac{k_R}{k_H} = \frac{\ln \left(\frac{c_{R,t}}{c_{R,t=0}} \right)}{\ln \left(\frac{c_{H,t}}{c_{H,t=0}} \right)}$$

5. Chromatographic Data

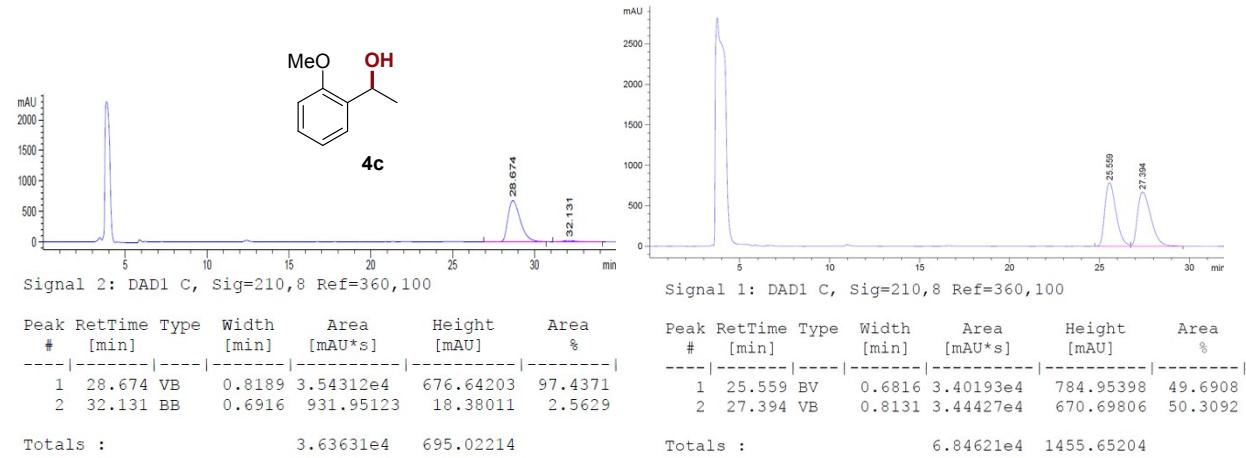
4a



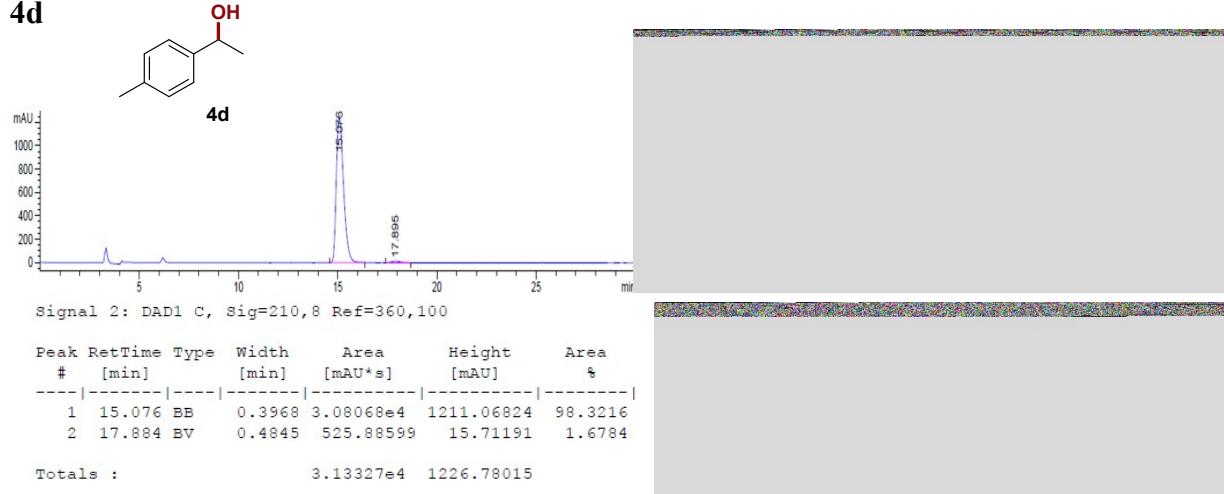
4b



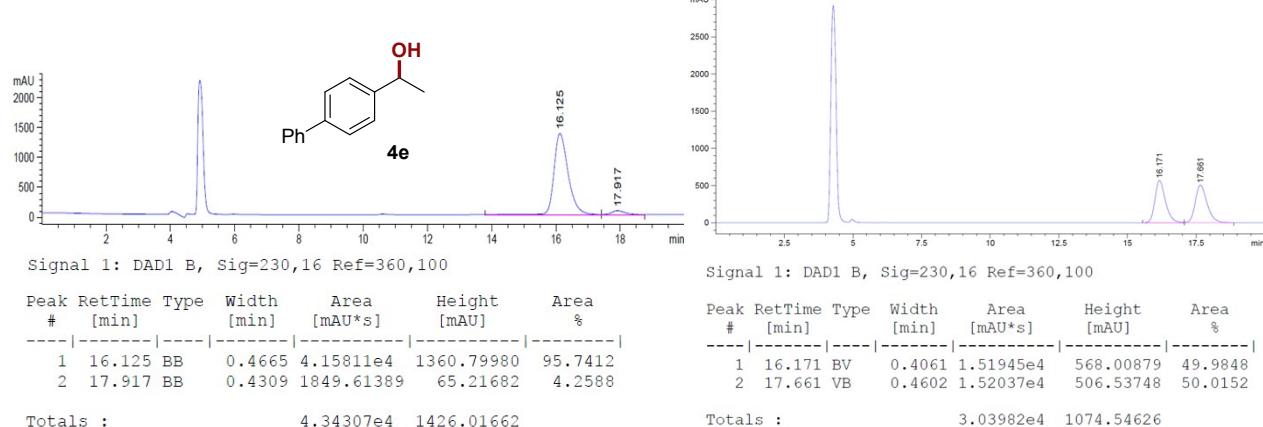
4c



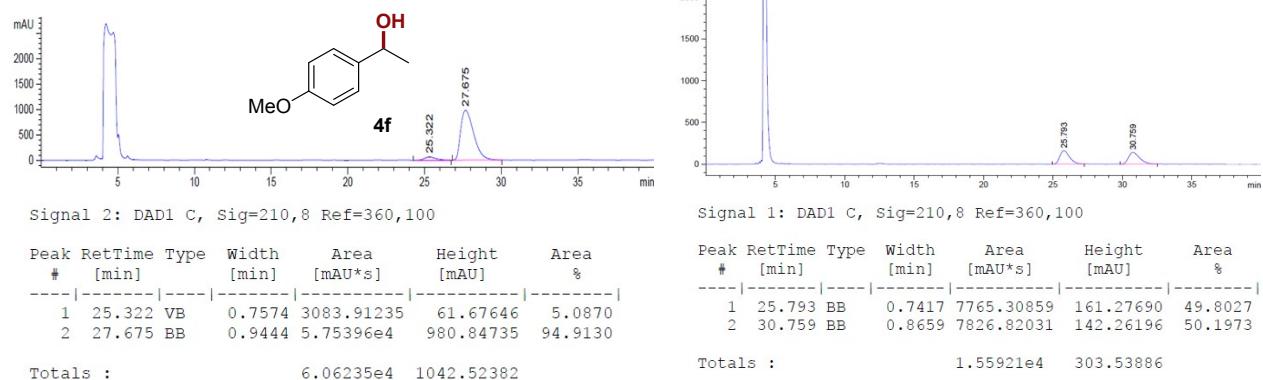
4d



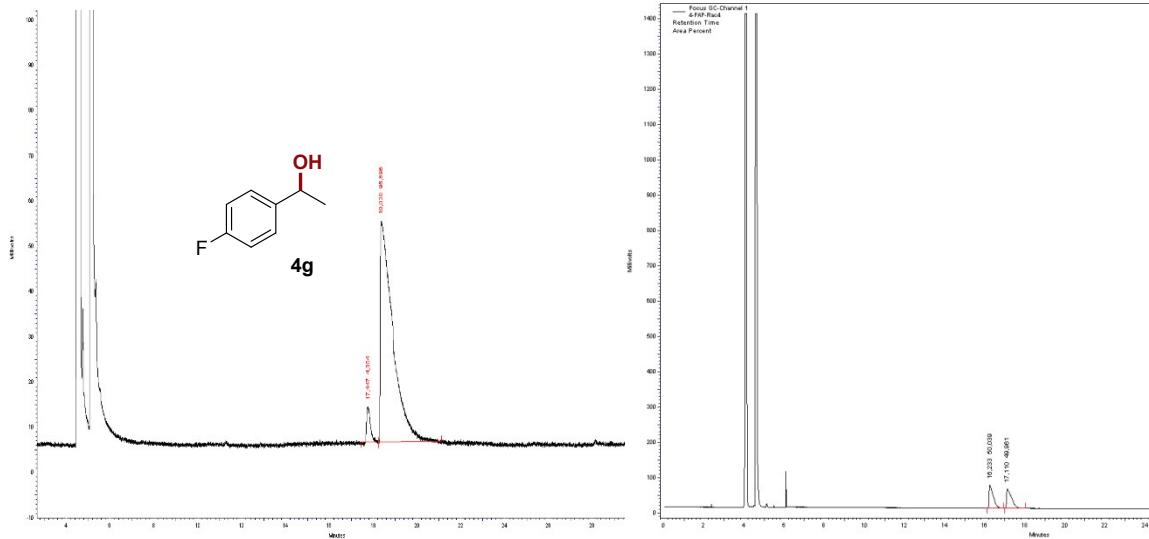
4e



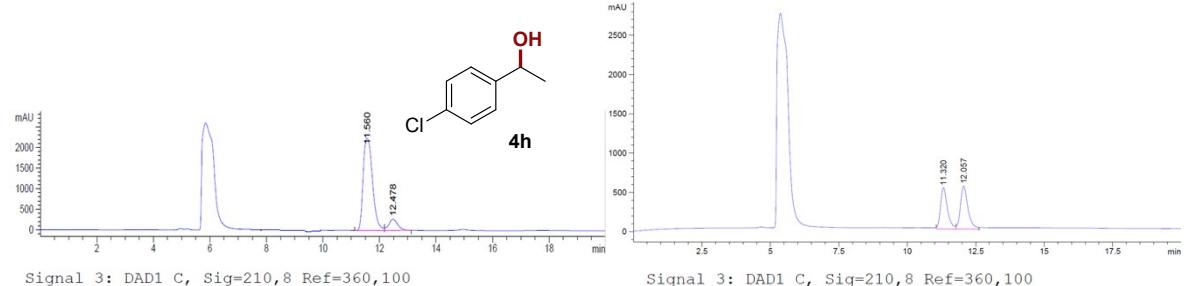
4f



4g



4h



Signal 3: DAD1 C, Sig=210,8 Ref=360,100

Peak #	RetTime [min]	Type	Width [min]	Area [mAU*s]	Height [mAU]	Area %
1	11.342	MM	0.2816	2.1966e04	1300.26270	96.9659
2	12.072	MM	0.2745	687.32568	41.72610	3.0341

Totals :

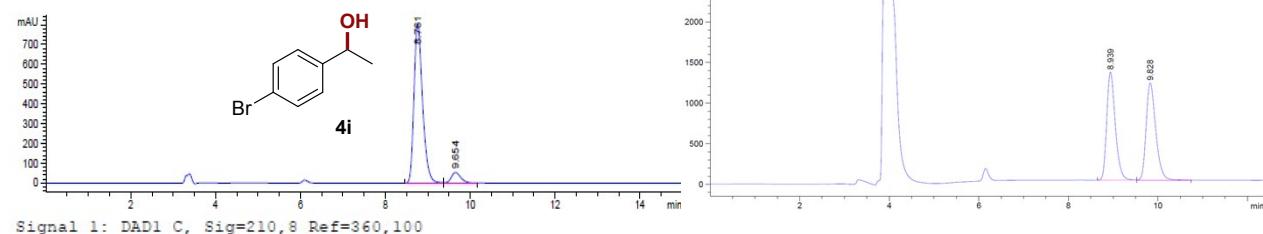
2.26533e4 1341.98880

Signal 3: DAD1 C, Sig=210,8 Ref=360,100

Peak #	RetTime [min]	Type	Width [min]	Area [mAU*s]	Height [mAU]	Area %
1	11.320	MF	0.2907	9168.56348	525.70673	46.8626
2	12.057	FM	0.3172	1.03962e4	546.27844	53.1374

Totals : 1.95648e4 1071.98517

4i



Signal 1: DAD1 C, Sig=210,8 Ref=360,100

Peak #	RetTime [min]	Type	Width [min]	Area [mAU*s]	Height [mAU]	Area %
1	8.761	BV	0.2154	9576.69043	683.63574	93.0471
2	9.654	BV	0.2391	715.61804	45.60443	6.9529

Totals :

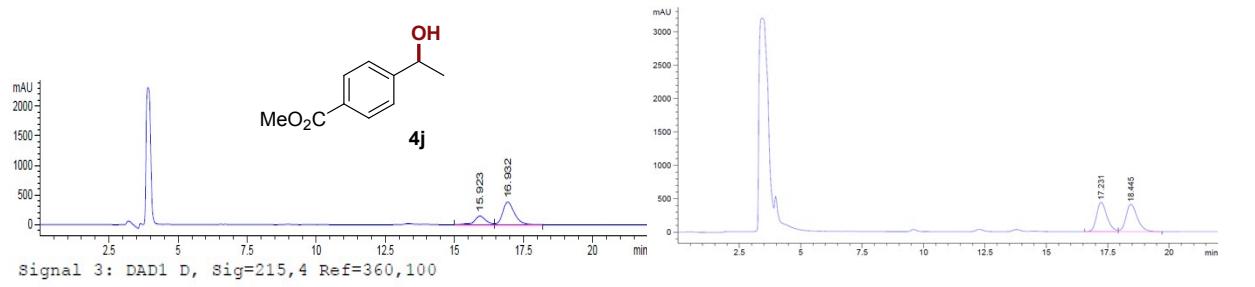
1.02923e4 729.24017

Signal 1: DAD1 C, Sig=210,8 Ref=360,100

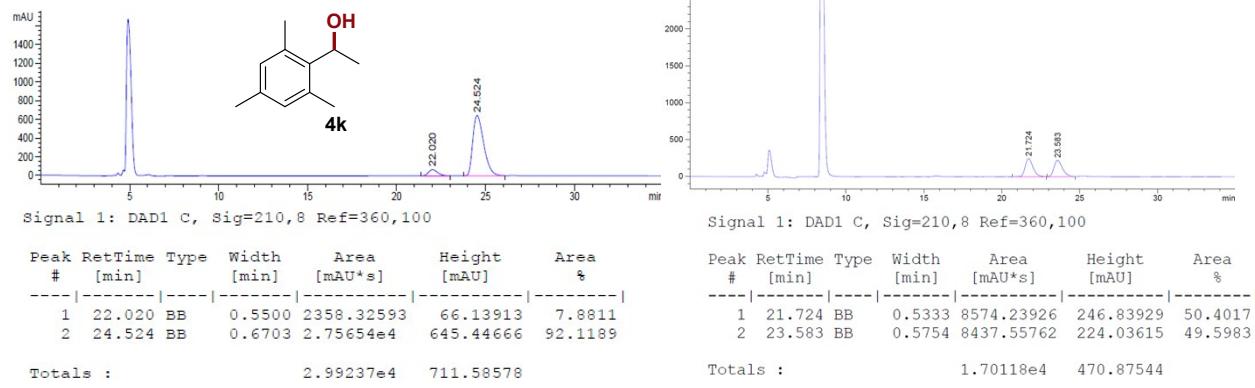
Peak #	RetTime [min]	Type	Width [min]	Area [mAU*s]	Height [mAU]	Area %
1	8.939	BV	0.2032	1.77246e4	1332.23499	49.8299
2	9.828	BV	0.2279	1.78456e4	1197.48718	50.1701

Totals : 3.55702e4 2529.72217

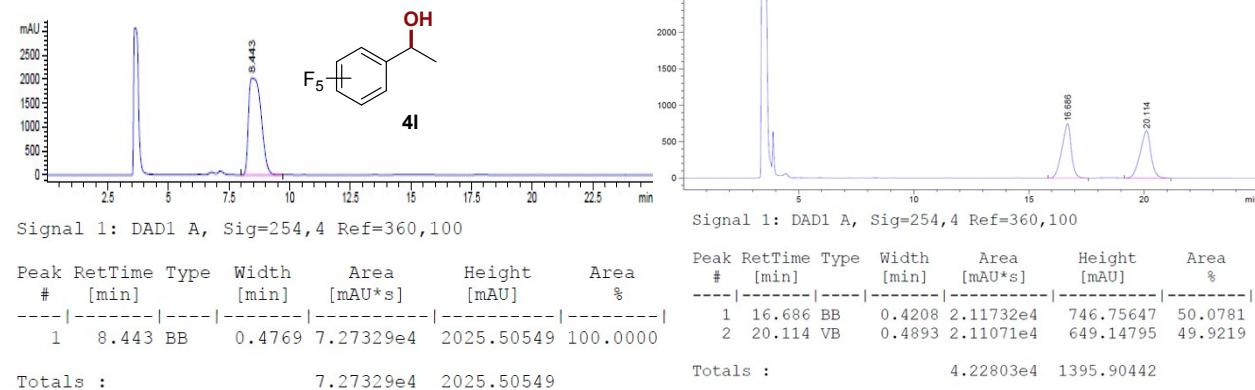
4j



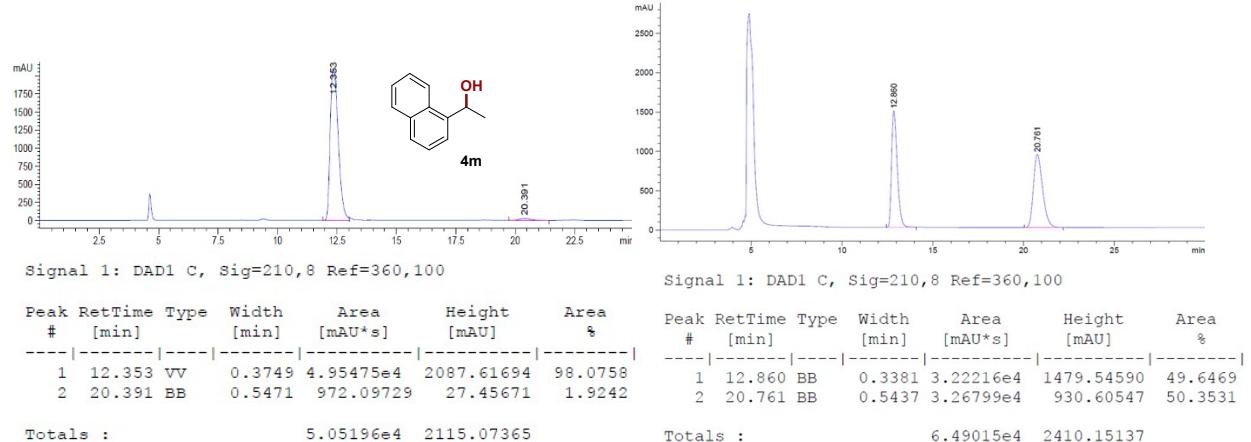
4k



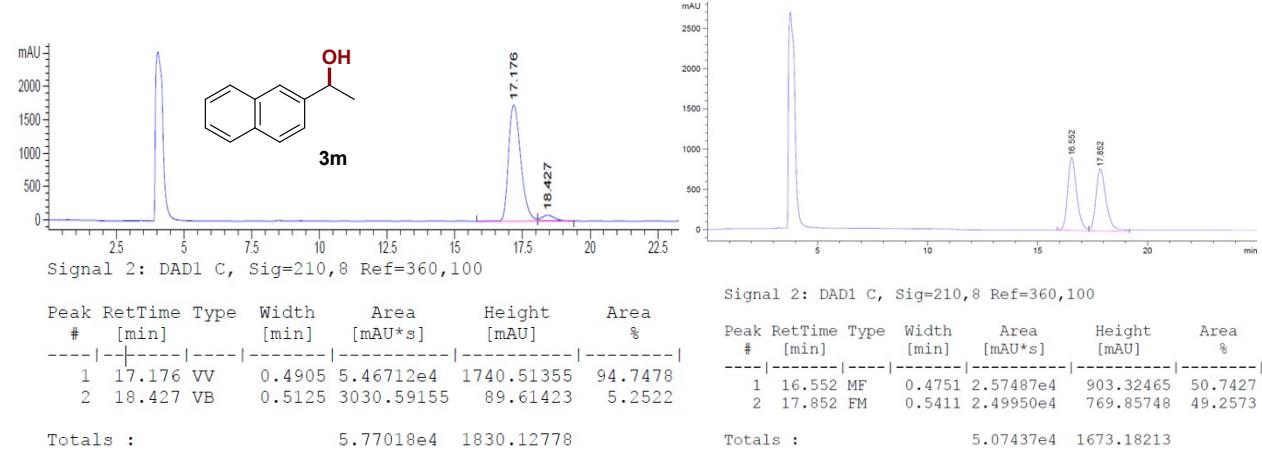
4l



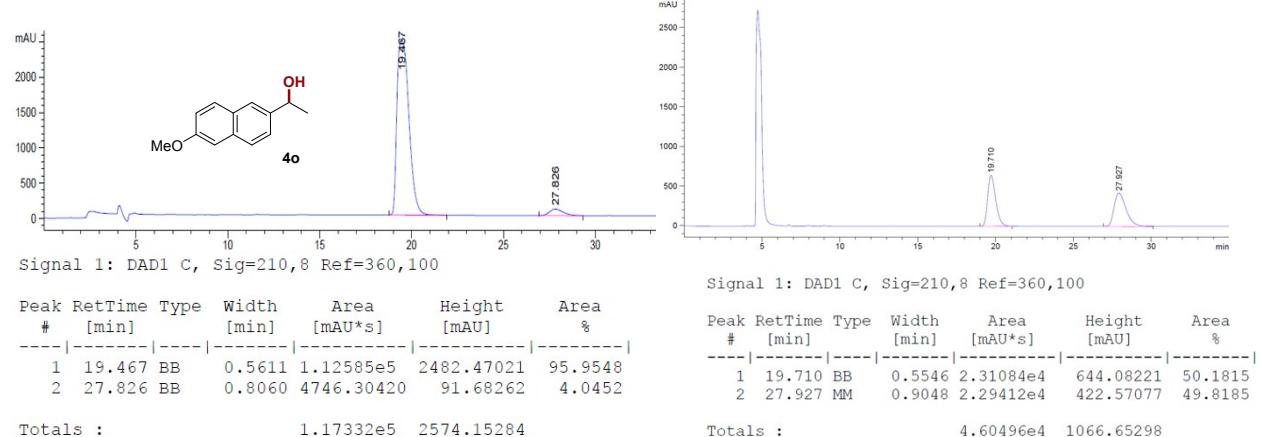
4m



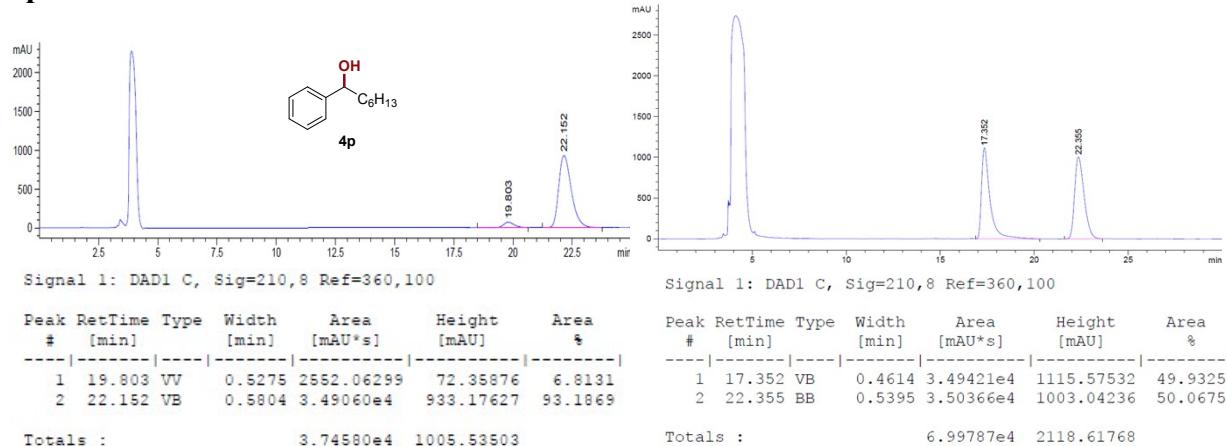
4n



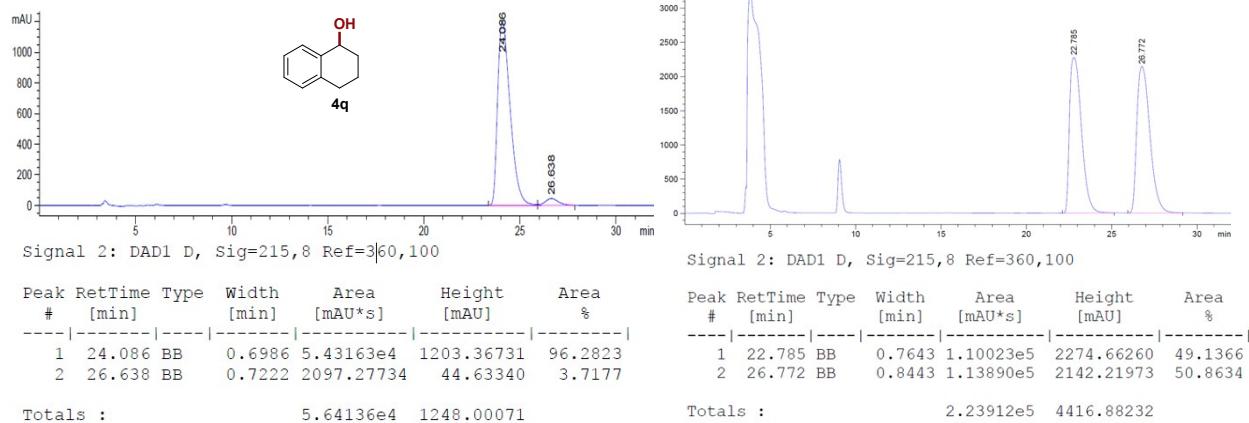
4o



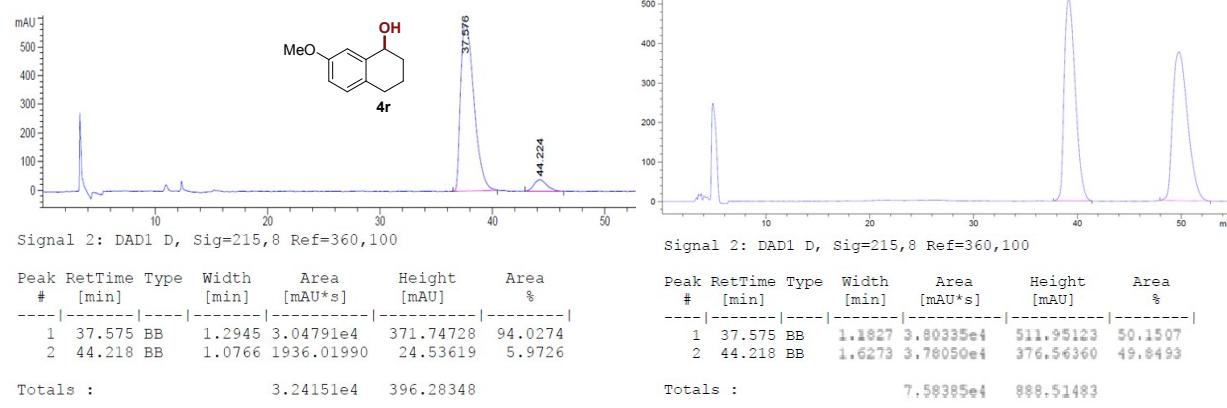
4p



4q

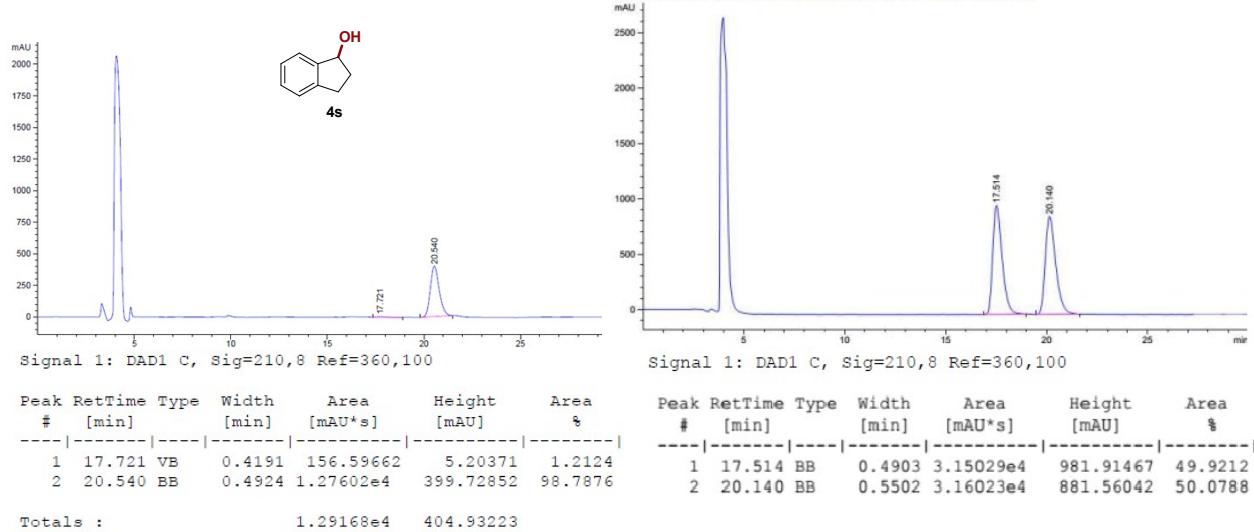


4r

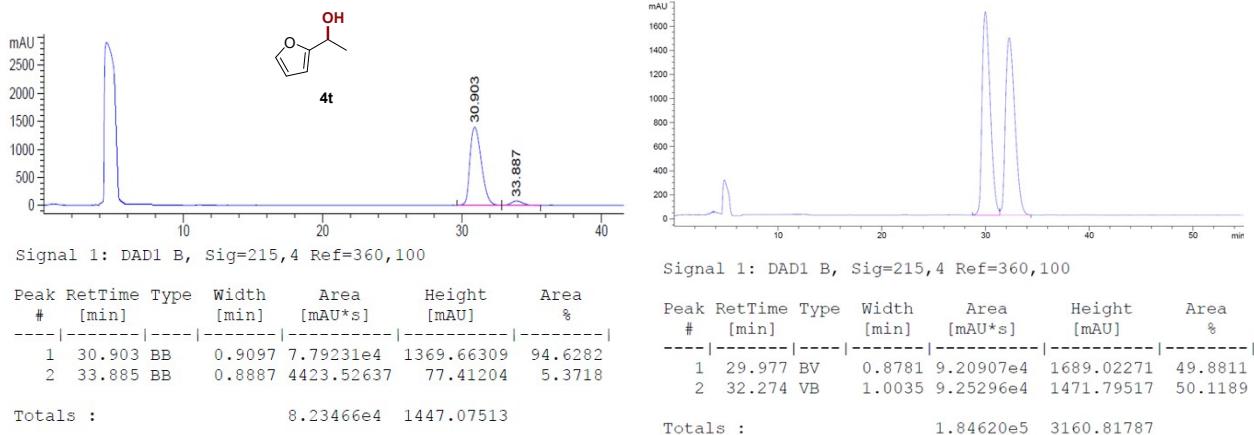


Data agree with reported racemate.^{13a}

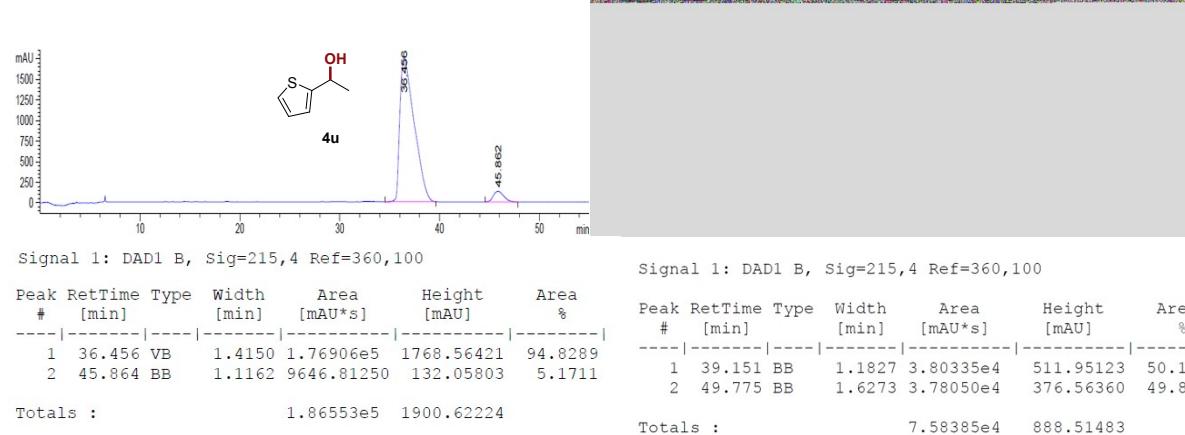
4s



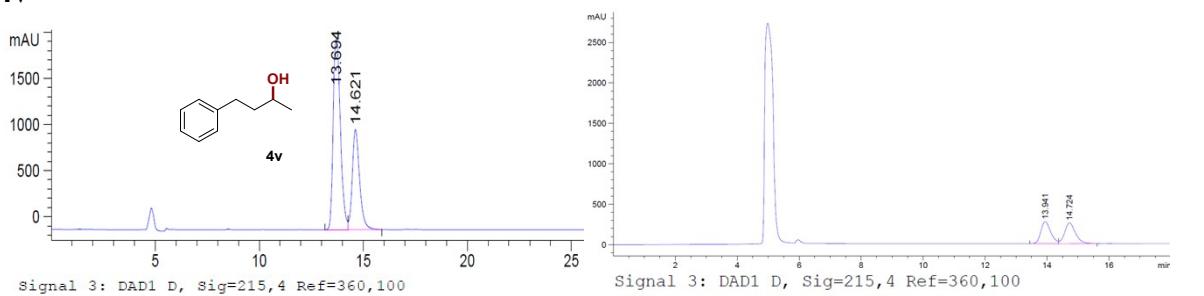
4t



4u



4v

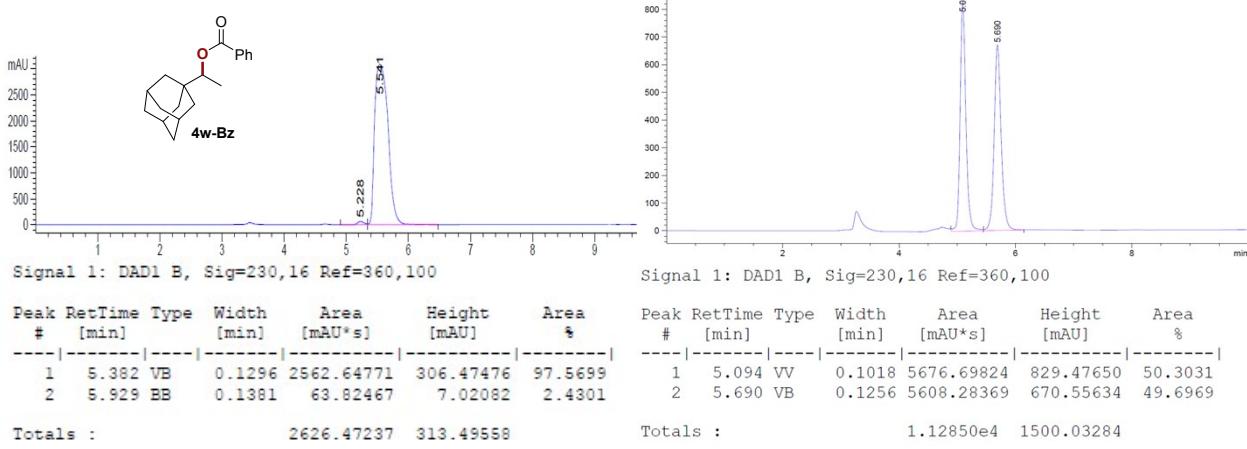


Signal 3: DAD1 D, Sig=215,4 Ref=360,100

Peak #	RetTime [min]	Type	Width [min]	Area [mAU*s]	Height [mAU]	Area %
1	13.941	BV	0.3382	6033.42822	272.59311	49.2202
2	14.724	VB	0.3663	6224.60791	257.23038	50.7798

Totals : 1.222580e4 529.82349

4w

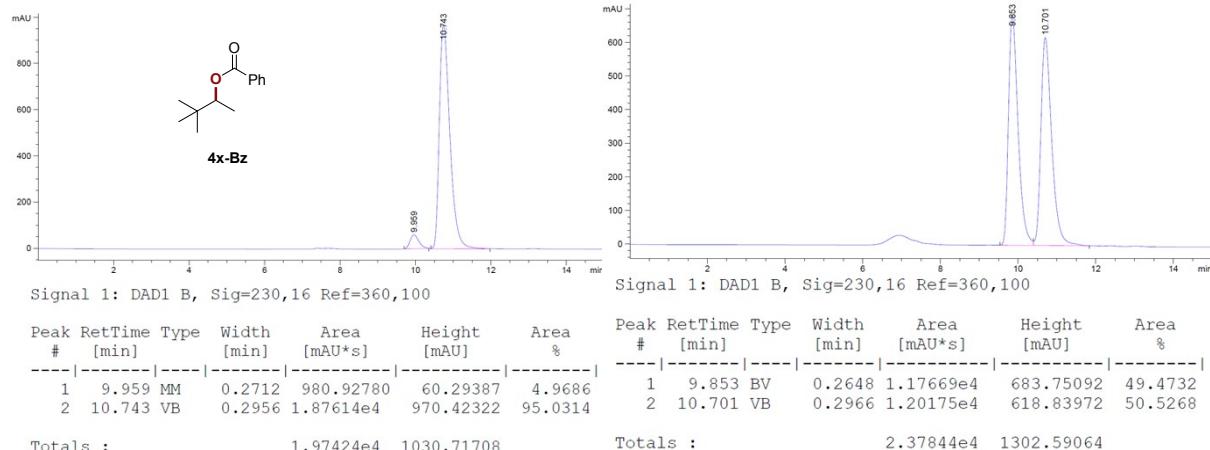


Signal 1: DAD1 B, Sig=230,16 Ref=360,100

Peak #	RetTime [min]	Type	Width [min]	Area [mAU*s]	Height [mAU]	Area %
1	5.094	VV	0.1018	5676.69824	829.47650	50.3031
2	5.690	VB	0.1256	5608.28369	670.55634	49.6969

Totals : 1.12850e4 1500.03284

4x



Signal 1: DAD1 B, Sig=230,16 Ref=360,100

Peak #	RetTime [min]	Type	Width [min]	Area [mAU*s]	Height [mAU]	Area %
1	9.853	BV	0.2648	1.17669e4	683.75092	49.4732
2	10.701	VB	0.2966	1.20175e4	618.83972	50.5268

Totals : 2.37844e4 1302.59064

6. Crystal Structure Data

Table S2. Details of the crystal structure determinations of **1b** and **2b**.

	1b	2b
formula	C ₂₂ H ₃₄ ClCrN ₃ O ₂	C ₂₆ H ₄₅ CrN ₃ O ₂ Si
crystal system	orthorhombic	orthorhombic
space group	<i>P</i> 2 ₁ 2 ₁ 2 ₁	<i>P</i> 2 ₁ 2 ₁ 2 ₁
<i>a</i> /Å	9.01882(13)	11.7996(7)
<i>b</i> /Å	13.64803(16)	14.2516(10)
<i>c</i> /Å	19.2371(2)	17.9837(12)
<i>V</i> /Å ³	2367.88(5)	3024.2(3)
<i>Z</i>	4	4
<i>M</i> _r	459.97	511.74
<i>F</i> ₀₀₀	976	1104
δ_e /Mg·m ⁻³	1.290	1.124
<i>m</i> /mm ⁻¹	0.618	0.442
max., min. transmission factors	1.116, 0.911	1.000, 0.411
X-radiation, λ /Å	Mo- <i>K</i> _a , 0.71073	
data collect. temperat. /K	120(1)	220(1)
θ range /°	2.1 to 32.4	2.2 to 25.2 °
index ranges <i>h,k,l</i>	-13 ... 13, -20 ... 20, -28 ... 28	-14 ... 14, -17 ... 17, -21 ... 21
reflections measured	193770	38247
unique [R _{int}]	8348 [0.0691]	5422 [0.1452]
observed [<i>I</i> ≥2σ(<i>I</i>)]	7583	3677
data / restraints /parameters	8348 / 0 / 270	5422 / 0 / 309
GooF on <i>F</i> ²	1.041	1.056
R indices [<i>F</i> >4σ(<i>F</i>)] R(<i>F</i>), wR(<i>F</i> ²)	0.0378, 0.0912	0.0645, 0.1553
R indices (all data) R(<i>F</i>), wR(<i>F</i> ²)	0.0449, 0.0946	0.1000, 0.1794
absolute structure parameter	-0.019(5)	0.02(3)
largest residual peaks /e·Å ⁻³	0.502, -0.232	0.577, -0.452
CCDC deposition number	1850233	1850234

7. Literature

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