Supporting Information for:

Catalytic Enantioselective Henry Reaction of a-Keto Esters, 2-

Acylpyridines and 2-Acylpyridine N-Oxides

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1. ESI-MS analysis of the mixture of Ni-L1 and 3a



2. Selected HPLC chromatograms for ee determination



(2) **2bc**























(13) **2mc**



(14) **2nb**









(18) **4c**









(22) **6b**





(24) **6d**



3. Optimizations of the Henry reaction of 2-Acylpyridines and 2-Acylpyridine *N*-Oxides

O N 3a	+ CH ₃ NO ₂	Ni-L1 (2 mol%) base (10 mol%) 4A MS 30 mg solvent, T, 20h				
Entry S	Solvent	Base	T (°C)	Yield(%) ^b	Ee(%) ^c	
1	THF	NMP ^d	35	94	46	
2	THF	NMP^{d}	0	51	50	
3 N	МеОН	NMP^d	0	84	70	
4	EtOH	NMP^d	0	66	76	
5 0	CH_2Cl_2	NMP^d	0	28	19	
6 0	CH ₃ CN	\mathbf{NMP}^d	0	41	40	
7	EtOH	EtN <i>i</i> Pr ₂	0	99	62	
8	EtOH	<i>i</i> Pr ₂ NH	0	99	63	
9	EtOH	Et ₃ N	0	99	52	
10	EtOH	<i>i</i> Pr ₂ NH	-20	99	78	
11	EtOH	<i>i</i> Pr ₂ NH	-30	99	83	
12	EtOH	<i>i</i> Pr ₂ NH	-40	97	85	
13 ^e	EtOH	<i>i</i> Pr ₂ NH	-40	92	86	

Table S1. Optimization of the Henry reaction of 2-Acylpyridine N-Oxides^a

^{*a*} Reactions were carried out on a 0.2 mmol scale of 2-Acylpyridine *N*-Oxides **3a** in the mixture of solvent (0.8 mL) and nitromethane (0.2 mL) for 20h. The catalyst was preprepared. ^{*b*} Isolated yield. ^{*c*} Determined by HPLC analysis on a chiral stationary phase. ^{*d*} NMP = *N*-methylmorpholine. ^{*e*} *i*Pr₂NH (5 mol%).

Table S2 Optimization of the Henry reaction of 2-Acylpyridine N-Oxides^a

N	0 + ($CH_3NO_2 \xrightarrow{Ni-L1} (2) \\ base (x n) \\ 4A MS x \\ solvent, T$	$O_{2} \frac{\text{Ni-L1 } (2 \text{ mol\%})}{\text{base } (x \text{ mol\%})}$ Solvent, T, 20h		\rightarrow N NO_2			
	5a				6a			
Entry	Solvent	Base (mol %)	Additive	T (°C)	Yield(%) ^b	Ee(%) ^c		
1	THF	NMP ^d (10)	4Å MS (30 mg)	35	64	12		
2	THF	NMP ^d (10)	4Å MS (30 mg)	0	54	26		
3	THF	$EtNiPr_2(10)$	4Å MS (30 mg)	0	62	34		

4	THF	$i Pr_2 NH(10)$	4Å MS (30 mg)	0	61	24
5	THF	Et ₃ N(10)	4Å MS (30 mg)	0	63	20
6	EtOH	$EtNiPr_2(10)$	4Å MS (30 mg)	0	69	16
7	CH_2Cl_2	$EtNiPr_2(10)$	4Å MS (30 mg)	0	46	23
8	EtOAc	$EtNiPr_2(10)$	4Å MS (30 mg)	0	34	19
9	CH ₃ CN	$EtNiPr_2(10)$	4Å MS (30 mg)	0	41	15
10	THF	$EtNiPr_2(10)$	4Å MS (30 mg)	-10	58	69
11	THF	$EtNiPr_2(10)$	4Å MS (30 mg)	-20	51	75
12	THF	$EtNiPr_2(10)$	4Å MS (30 mg)	-30	35	83
13	THF	$EtNiPr_2(50)$	4Å MS (30 mg)	-30	36	81
14	THF	$EtNiPr_2(100)$	4Å MS (30 mg)	-30	38	70
15	THF	$EtNiPr_2(10)$	4Å MS (20 mg)	-20	42	75
16	THF	$EtNiPr_2(10)$	4Å MS (40 mg)	-20	54	85
17	THF	$EtNiPr_2(10)$	4Å MS (50 mg)	-20	56	78

^{*a*} Reactions were carried out on a 0.2 mmol scale of 2-Acylpyridine **5a** in the mixture of solvent (0.8 mL) and nitromethane (0.2 mL) for 20h. The catalyst was pre-prepared. ^{*b*} Isolated yield. ^{*c*} Determined by HPLC analysis on a chiral stationary phase. ^{*d*} NMP = *N*-methylmorpholine.



4. Selected NMR spectra









2bc

33



2cc

34



2cc

35






2dc

37



2ec



2ec

39







2fc



2gc

42







2hc



2ic



2ic



2jc





2jc

49







2kc

2lc



2lc



2mc



2mc



2nb



2nb





2aa

58



2ab

59



4a

60






































5. X-ray crystal structure of 2ac

Crystal data for **2ac**: $C_{12}H_{15}NO_5$, M = 253.25, a = 5.66420(10) Å, b = 9.5973(2) Å, c = 22.6622(4) Å, $a = 90^\circ$, $\beta = 90^\circ$, $\gamma = 90^\circ$, V = 1231.94(4) Å³, T = 100(2) K, space group *P*212121, Z = 4, μ (CuK α) = 0.903 mm⁻¹, 6426 reflections measured, 2247 independent reflections ($R_{int} = 0.0357$). The final R_I values were 0.0331 ($I > 2\sigma(I)$). The final $wR(F^2)$ values were 0.1039 ($I > 2\sigma(I)$). The final R_I values were 0.0336 (all data). The final $wR(F^2)$ values were 0.1046 (all data). The goodness of fit on F^2 was 1.184. Flack parameter = 0.05(5).



CCDC No. 1564222

View of a molecule of **2ac** with the atom-labelling scheme Displacement ellipsoids are drawn at the 30% probability level



View of the pack drawing of **2ac** Hydrogen-bonds are shown as dashed lines