

## Supporting information

# 9-Thiourea Cinchona Alkaloid Supported on Mesoporous Silica as a High Enantioselective, Recycled Heterogeneous Asymmetric Catalyst

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**General Methods.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR were recorded on a Bruker Avance 600 spectrometer running at 600 and 300 MHz (Bruker, Bremen, Germany), respectively, in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  as the solvent. Chemical shifts were reported in the  $\delta$  scale relative to residual  $\text{CHCl}_3$  (7.26 ppm) for  $^1\text{H}$  NMR and to the central line of  $\text{CDCl}_3$  (77.0 ppm) for  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR. Data for  $^1\text{H}$  NMR are recorded as follows: chemical shift ( $\delta$ , ppm), multiplicity (s, singlet; d, doublet; t, triplet; q, quartet; m, multiplet), intergration, coupling constant (Hz). Data for  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR are reported in terms of chemical shift ( $\delta$ , ppm). The solid state NMR experiments were carried out at 59.6 and 75.5 MHz for  $^{29}\text{Si}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$ , respectively, on a Bruker Avance 300M solid-state spectrometer equipped with a commercial 5 mm MAS NMR probe. The chemical shifts were determined using  $\delta_{\text{TMS}}=0$  ppm as a reference. The magic-angle spinning frequencies were set to 5 kHz for all experiments. Mass spectra was recorded on a micromass LCT spectrometer using electrospray ( $\text{ES}^+$ ) ionisation techniques. Fourier transform infrared (FTIR) was carried on Bruker Vector 22 spectrometer (resolution  $4\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) in the range of  $4000\text{--}400\text{cm}^{-1}$ , using the KBr method. X-ray powder diffraction (XRD) patterns were obtained on a Rigaku D/MAX-2500 X-ray diffractmeter a using  $\text{Cu K}\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda=1.5418\text{ \AA}$ ) at 45 kV and 40 mA.  $\text{N}_2$  adsorption-desorption isotherms were measured using Quantachrome Autosorb-1 system at liquid nitrogen temperature. Flash column chromatography (FC) was carried out using silica gel (200-300 mesh, made in Qingdao Haiyang Chemical CO. Ltd.). Optical rotations were measured on a Wz-1S Automatic polarimeter. The enantiomeric excess (ee) of the products was determined by chiral stationary phase HPLC (Daicel Chiraldak OB-H).

**Materials.** Mesoporous silica SBA-15 was synthesized using pluronic P123 [ $\text{EO}_{20}\text{PO}_{70}\text{EO}_{20}$  (EO=ethylene oxide, PO=propyleneoxide),  $M_{\text{av}}=5800\text{ g mol}^{-1}$ , Aldrich] as template and  $(\text{EtO})_4\text{Si}$  as silica source under acidic conditions.<sup>1</sup> 9-Thiourea epi-quinine was synthesized following the method in literature.<sup>2</sup> N-sulfonyl imines **3b-3e**, were prepared according to literature procedures<sup>3</sup>. quinine, N-sulfonyl imine **3a** and indoles **2a-2c**, were purchased from Aldrich Inc., and used without further purification. The other available solvents and reagents were also used as received.

**9-thiourea epi-quinine** (amorphous solid, 80–82 % yield), IR (KBr)  $\nu$  1622, 1533, 1477, 1382  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  (600 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$ ,  $T=310\text{ K}$ ,  $\delta_{\text{TMS}}=0\text{ ppm}$ )  $\delta$  8.75 (d,  $J=4.6\text{ Hz}$ , 1H), 8.11 (br s, 2H), 8.01 (br d,  $J=2.7\text{ Hz}$ , 1H), 7.96 (d,  $J=9.3\text{ Hz}$ , 1H), 7.56 (br s, 1H), 7.48 (d,  $J=4.6\text{ Hz}$ , 1H), 7.46 (dd,  $J=9.3, 2.7\text{ Hz}$ , 1H), 5.62 (ddd,  $J=17.1, 10.3, 6.0\text{ Hz}$ , 1H,  $\text{CH}=\text{CH}_2$ ), 5.05 (dt,

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## Reference

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- 2 B. Vakulya, S. Varga, A. Csámpai and T. Soós, *Org Lett.* 2005, **7**, 1967
- 3 F. Chemla, V. Hebbe and J. -F. Normant, *Synthesis* 2000, **1**, 75

$J = 10.3, 1.4$  Hz, 1H, CH=CH<sub>2</sub>), 5.03 (dt,  $J = 17.1, 1.4$  Hz, 1H, CH=CH<sub>2</sub>), 4.03 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 3.54 (dd,  $J = 15.7, 10.7, 7.8, 2.4$  Hz, 1H), 3.36 (br,  $J = 10.7$  Hz, 1H), 3.32 (dd,  $J = 13.5, 9.8$  Hz, 1H), 3.09 (ddd,  $J = 15.7, 13.6, 4.8$  Hz, 1H), 2.51 (ddd,  $J = 13.6, 4.8, 2.4$  Hz, 1H), 2.41 (br m, 1H), 1.71 (overlapping br m, 2H), 1.52 (ddd,  $J = 13.1, 10.4, 2.7$  Hz, 1H), 0.96 (dd,  $J = 13.1, 10.4$  Hz, 1H) ppm.

**Preparation of catalyst (**1**, SBA-15-SQT).** Calcined SBA-15 was vacuumed at 373 K for 5 hr (1.0 g), and then treated with 1.5 ml of (3-mercaptopropyl) trimethoxysilane in 20 ml of anhydrous 1:1 pyridine/toluene. The slurry was heated at 388 K for 24 hr. After filtration the solid was subjected to Soxhlet extraction and dried under vacuum for 5 hr, resulting in 1.14 g of a modified SBA-15 containing 2.37 % S, corresponding to 0.74 mmol of S per g of modified SBA-15. This modified SBA-15 (0.96 g) was suspended in chloroform (25ml) under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere and refluxed with 9-(3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl thiourea)-(epi-quinine) (0.42 g) and  $\alpha,\alpha'$ -azoisobutyronitrile (AIBN, 50 mg), as radical initiator, for 24 hr. Again, after filtration, the solid was Soxhlet extracted with dichloromethane until the 9-(3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenylthiourea)-(epi-quinine) in excess was completely removed and dried under vacuum. The modified SBA-15 and supported catalyst were characterized by <sup>29</sup>Si MAS NMR (Bruker Avance 300M solid-state spectrometer), <sup>13</sup>C CP/MAS NMR ( $\delta$  185.6 (C=S), 158.2, 143.5, 142.3, 128.2, 124.7, 121.4, 101.7, 58.7, 53.2 (OCH<sub>3</sub>), 49.6, 43.2, 39.4, 33.7, 31.5, 25.9, 15.3 (-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-), 9.9), FT-IR (Bruker Vector 22 spectrometer), XRD (Shimadzu XRD-6000), and low-temperature N<sub>2</sub> adsorption–desorption (Quantachrome Autosorb-1 system) techniques.

#### Preparation of N-Sulfonyl imines (**3b-3e**)

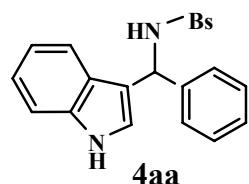
N-Benzylidene-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide (**3b**): 89.0 % yield, <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 600 MHz, ppm)  $\delta$  9.02 (1 H, s, HC=N), 7.91 (2 H, d,  $J = 7.9$  Hz, o-ArH), 7.87 (2 H, d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, o-SO<sub>2</sub>ArH), 7.60 (1 H, t,  $J = 7.3$  Hz, p-ArH), 7.48 (2 H, t,  $J = 7.7$  Hz, m-ArH), 7.33 (2 H, d,  $J = 8.0$  Hz, m-SO<sub>2</sub>ArH), 2.43 (3H, s, CH<sub>3</sub>);

N-(2-Chlorobenzylidene)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide (**3c**): 70.8 % yield, <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 600 MHz, ppm)  $\delta$  9.49 (1 H, s, HC=N), 8.14 (d,  $J = 7$  Hz, 1 H), 7.88 (d,  $J = 10$  Hz, 2 H), 7.51 (m, 2 H), 7.32 (m, 3 H), 2.44 (s, 3 H);

N-(2-Nitrobenzylidene)-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide (**3d**): 73.8 % yield, <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 600 MHz, ppm)  $\delta$  9.09 (1 H, s, HC=N), 8.32 (d,  $J = 7$  Hz, 2 H), 8.10 (d,  $J = 10$  Hz, 2 H), 7.90 (m, 2 H), 7.37 (m, 2 H), 2.44 (s, 3 H);

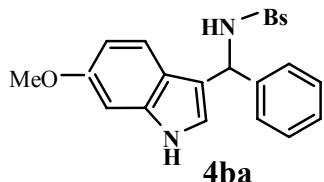
N-isobutylidene-4-methylbenzenesulfonamide (**3e**): 64.8 % yield, <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 600 MHz, ppm)  $\delta$  8.60 (1 H, t, HC=N), 8.00 (m, 2 H), 6.92 (m, 2 H), 2.00 (s, 3 H), 1.92 (bs, 2 H), 1.72(m, 1 H), 0.71(d,  $J = 6.5$  Hz, 6 H);

**General procedure for the asymmetric addition of indoles to N-Sulfonyl imines.** In a test tube, to a mixture of N-sulfonyl imines **3** (0.1 mmol) and supported catalyst **1** (1 mol %) in EtOAc (0.3 mL) was added indoles **2** (0.2 mmol) in one portion. The resulting mixture was kept at 40°C for 5 days (as indicated in Tables 1 and 2). The reaction mixture was filtered and the filtrate was subjected to flash chromatography to afford the desired product **4**.

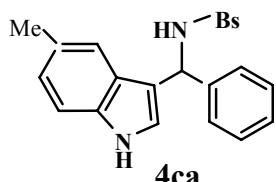


This product was obtained as a greenish foam in 76.8 % yield after flash chromatography (silica gel: Ethyl acetate/Hexane=1/3) and in 99.2 % ee as determined by HPLC [Daicel Chiralcel OB-H, Hexane/IPA=80/20, 0.5 ml/min<sup>-1</sup>,  $\lambda=254$  nm, t (major) =34.0 min., t (minor) = 19.5 min.] from a reaction catalyzed by **1** (1 mol%) at 40°C for 5 days.  $[\alpha]_{25}^D = -17.0$  (c 0.004, Acetone); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  5.34 (d,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 5.86 (d,  $J = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 6.61 (s, 1H), 6.99 (t,  $J$

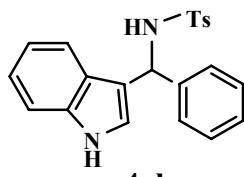
= 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.14-7.20 (m, 6H), 7.25-7.28 (m, 4H). 7.44 (t,  $J$  = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.87 (br, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  55.1, 111.3, 116.2, 119.2, 119.9, 122.5, 123.8, 125.3, 127.1, 127.2, 127.4, 128.3, 128.6, 132.2, 136.5, 140.0, 140.4; IR (neat) v 1456, 1448, 1158; ESIMS m/z 363 [M + H $^+$ ];



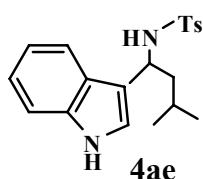
This product was obtained as a gray foam in 68.5 % yield after flash chromatography (silica gel: Ethyl acetate/Hexane=1/3) and in 98.9 % ee as determined by HPLC [Daicel Chiralcel OB-H, Hexane/IPA=80/20, 0.5 ml/min $^{-1}$ ,  $\lambda$ =254 nm, t (major) =32.8 min., t (minor) = 19.0 min.] from a reaction catalyzed by 1 (1 mol%) at 40°C for 5 days.  $[\alpha]_{25}^D$  = -18.2 (c 0.004, Acetone);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  3.79 (s, 3H), 5.82 (d,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.52 (s, 1H), 6.66 (d,  $J$  = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 6.77 (s, 1H), 7.17-7.19 (m, 5H), 7.29-7.31 (t,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 4H), 7.57 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.70 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  55.1, 55.6, 94.7, 109.9, 116.3, 119.7, 119.9, 122.6, 126.4.0, 127.1, 127.4, 128.3, 128.6, 128.6, 129.1, 130.9, 132.2, 132.8, 137.4, 140.0, 140.4, 141.9, 156.8; IR (neat) v 2963, 1448, 1334, 1158; ESIMS m/z 393 [M + H $^+$ ];



This product was obtained as a greenish foam in 65.8 % yield after flash chromatography (silica gel: Ethyl acetate/Hexane=1/3) and in 93.2 % ee as determined by HPLC [Daicel Chiralcel OB-H, Hexane/IPA=80/20, 0.5ml/min $^{-1}$   $\lambda$ =254 nm, t (major) =37.3 min, t (minor) =21.3min.] from a reaction catalyzed by 1 (1 mol%) at 40°C for 5 days.  $[\alpha]_{25}^D$  = -18.4 (c 0.004, Acetone);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$ )  $\delta$  2.31 (s, 3H), 5.81 (s, 1H), 6.56 (s, 1H), 6.90 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.00 (s, 1H), 7.08-7.20 (m, 4H), 7.15-7.20 (m, 4H), 7.45 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.68 (dd,  $J$  = 8.8 Hz, 2H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$ )  $\delta$  20.3, 54.8, 110.5, 114.9, 118.2, 122.8, 123.8, 126.0, 126.6, 127.1, 127.7, 128.2, 131.6, 135.2, 141.4, 141.5; IR (neat) v 1447, 1321, 1157; ESIMS m/z 377 [M + H $^+$ ];



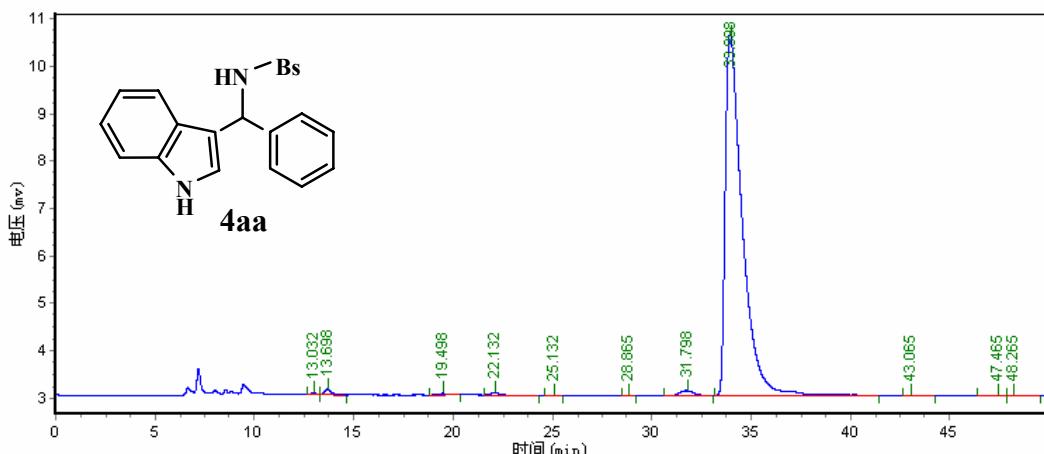
This product was obtained as a colorless solid in 68.2 % yield after flash chromatography (silica gel: Ethyl acetate/Hexane=1/3) and in 89.5 % ee as determined by HPLC [Daicel Chiralcel OB-H, Hexane/IPA=80/20, 0.5 ml/min $^{-1}$ ,  $\lambda$ =254 nm, t (major)=20.3 min., t (minor) = 38.6 min.] from a reaction catalyzed by 1 (1 mol%) at 40°C for 5 days;  $[\alpha]_{25}^D$  = -16.5 (c 0.004,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ );  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  2.36 (s, 3H), 4.98 (d,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 5.83 (d,  $J$  = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.63 (s, 1H), 6.99 (t,  $J$  = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.06 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.10-7.27 (m, 8H), 7.53 (d,  $J$  = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 8.04 (br, 1H);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (600 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  21.4, 55.0, 111.3, 116.2, 119.5, 122.4, 123.9, 125.4, 126.4, 127.1, 127.2, 127.3, 128.3, 129.2, 129.7, 136.5, 137.4, 140.3, 143.5; IR (neat) v 2963, 1457, 1315, 1157, 1098, 744, 669 cm $^{-1}$ ; ESIMS m/z 377 [M + H $^+$ ];



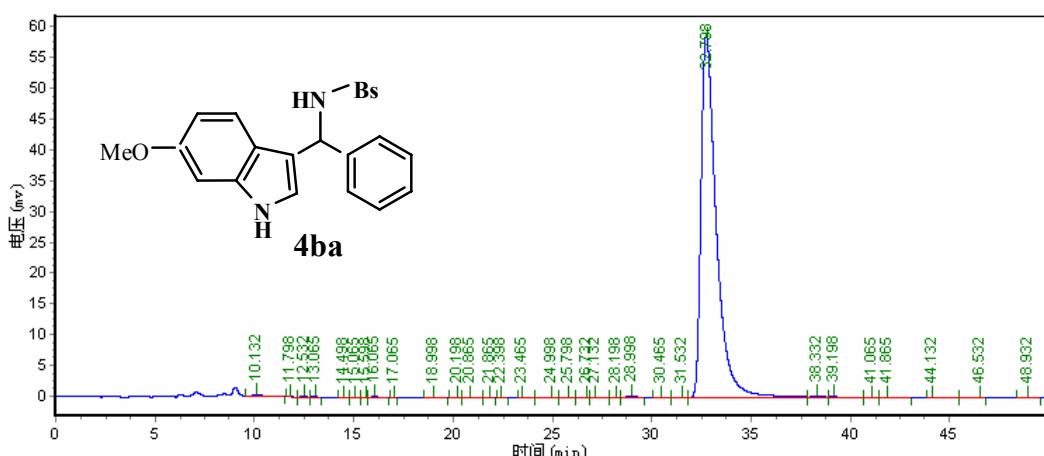
This product was obtained as a colorless gum in 79.7 % yield after flash chromatography (silica gel: Ethyl acetate/Hexane=1/3) and in 95.6 % ee as determined by HPLC [Daicel Chiralcel OB-H, Hexane/IPA=80/20, 0.5 ml/min $^{-1}$ ,  $\lambda$ =254 nm, t (major) = 30.0 min., t (minor) = 18.8 min.] from a reaction catalyzed by 1 (1mol%) at 40°C for 5 days;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR

(600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 0.83 – 0.98 (m, 6H), 1.56 (m, 1H), 1.82–1.89 (m, 2H), 2.30 (s, 3H), 4.66 (m, 1H), 4.74 (m, 1 H), 6.87 (s, 1H), 6.97–7.02 (m, 3H), 7.12 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.23 (d, J = 9.2 Hz, 1H), 7.28–7.31 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.80 (br, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (600 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 21.4, 22.0, 22.7, 25.0, 45.4, 50.1, 111.2, 115.8, 119.0, 119.6, 122.1, 122.2, 125.2, 126.7, 129.3, 136.4, 137.5, 143.6; IR (neat) ν 2963, 1457, 1315, 1157, 744 cm<sup>-1</sup>; ESIMS m/z 357 [M + H<sup>+</sup>].

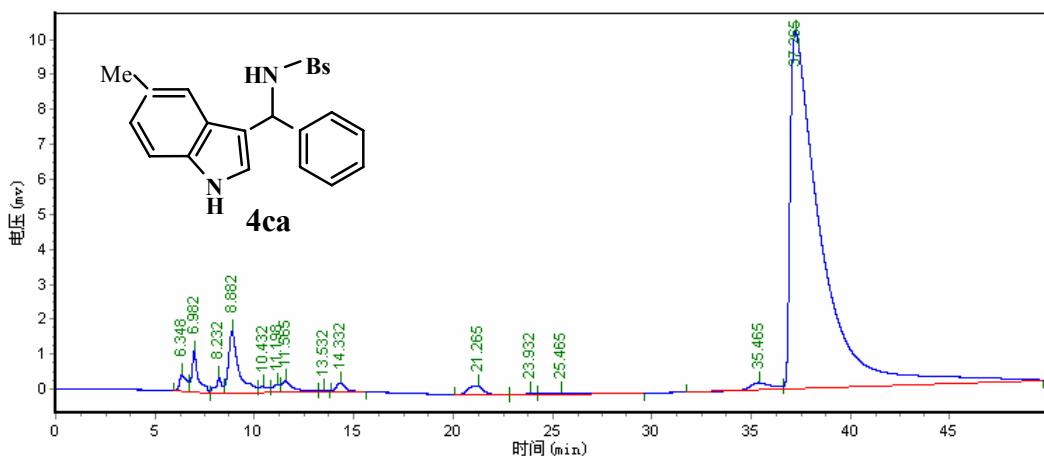
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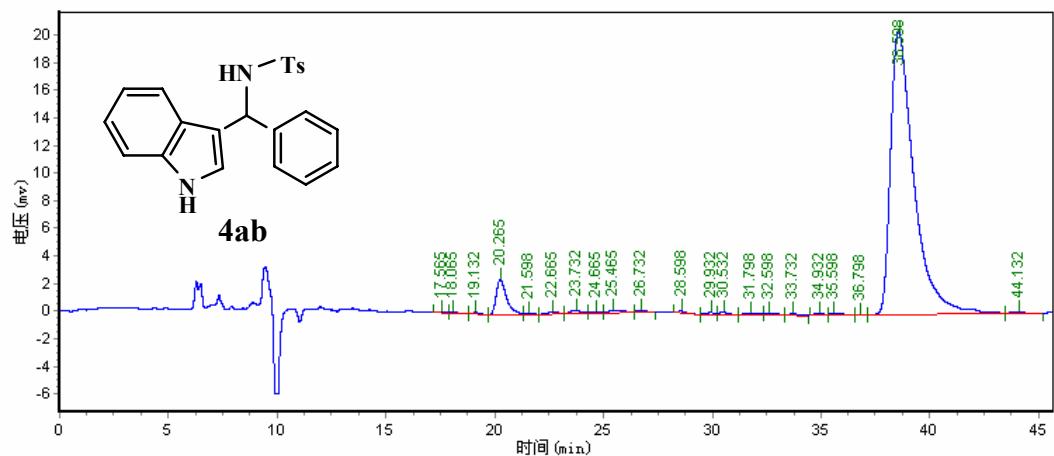
HPLC Conditions: Daicel chiralpak OB-H, Hexane:IPA=80:20 0.5 mL/min, λ 254 nm



HPLC Conditions: Daicel chiralpak OB-H, Hexane:IPA=80:20 0.5 mL/min, λ 254 nm



HPLC Conditions: Daicel chiralpak OB-H, Hexane:IPA=80:20 0.5 mL/min,  $\lambda$  254 nm



HPLC Conditions: Daicel chiralpak OB-H, Hexane:IPA=80:20 0.5 mL/min,  $\lambda$  254 nm

