# **Supporting information**

## Direct Enantioselective Aldol Reactions catalyzed by a Proline-Thiourea Host-

## **Guest Complex**

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General Information. All commercially available reagents were used without further

purification. Purification of products was carried out by flash column chromatography using silica gel 60. Analytical thin layer chromatography was performed on aluminium sheets precoted with silica gel 60F254. Visualization was accomplished with UV light and anisaldehyde followed by heating.

#### **General Procedure for the Enantioselective Direct Aldol Reaction**

Proline (0.025 mmol, 2.9 mg), thiourea 4 (0.025 mmol, 12.5 mg) and 1.8 mL hexane were placed in a screw capped vial, then cyclohexanone (4 mmol, 0.4 mL) was added, in which the resulting mixture was stirred for 15 min at ambient temperature followed by addition of aldehyde (0.25 mmol) wherein stirring was continued until the completion of the reaction (TLC monitoring). After completion of the reaction, the reaction mixture was treated with saturated aqueous ammonium chloride solution and the whole mixture was extracted with ethyl acetate. The organic layer was washed with brine, dried and concentrated to give a crude residue, which was purified with column chromatography over silica gel using hexane-ethyl acetate as an eluent to afford pure product. Diastereoselectivity and conversion were determined by 1H NMR analysis of the crude aldol product. The enantiomeric excess (ee) of **3** was determined by chiral-phase HPLC analysis. The absolute configuration of aldol products were determined by comparing the values with those previously reported in the literature.

R	$R \xrightarrow{O} H + \underbrace{O}_{Hexane, rt} \xrightarrow{O}_{R} \xrightarrow{O} H \xrightarrow{O}_{H} \xrightarrow$										
2	1	:	3								
entry	aldehyde	time	yield (%) <sup>e</sup>	anti:syn <sup>a</sup>	ee (%) <sup>b</sup>						
	R	(h)									
1	<b>2a</b> 4-NO <sub>2</sub> Ph <sup>c</sup>	24	75	92:8	>99						
2	<b>2a</b> 4-NO <sub>2</sub> Ph	16	96	90:10	99						
3	<b>2b</b> $3-NO_2Ph^c$	24	79	93:7	>99						
4	<b>2b</b> 3-NO <sub>2</sub> Ph	16	94	92:8	>99						
5	2c 4-CNPh	16	98	93:7	99						
6	<b>2d</b> 4-CF <sub>3</sub> Ph	24	93	94:6	99						
7	2e 4-ClPh	36	91	88:12	99						
8	<b>2f</b> 4-BrPh	36	87	90:10	99						
9	<b>2g</b> 2-ClPh	36	83	94:6	99						
10	<b>2h</b> Ph	48	79	88:12	98						
11	<b>2i</b> <sup>c</sup> 4-NO <sub>2</sub> Ph	16	93	60:40	97						

 Table 2. Enantioselective Direct Aldol Reaction of aldehydes (2) and Cyclohexanone (1)

a. Determined from crude NMR spectra

b. Determined by HPLC with appropriate chiral column

c. Toluene is used

d. Cyclopentanone is used

e. After purification



Figure 1. The NMR spectra of proline-thiourea complex



(S)-2-((R)-hydroxy(4-nitrophenyl)methyl)cyclohexan-1-one  $(3a)^{1, 2}$ : It was obtained in a maximum of >99% ee. The optical purity was determined by HPLC on chiralpak AD-H column [hexane/2-propanol 90.0:10.0]; flow rate 0.5 mL/min.



(S)-2-((R)-hydroxy(3-nitrophenyl)methyl)cyclohexan-1-one (3b)<sup>1</sup> : It was obtained in a maximum of >99% ee. The optical purity was determined by HPLC on chiralpak AD-H column [hexane/2-propanol 95.0:5.0]; flow rate 1.0mL/min. *Anti/Syn*= 92/8, *anti*-diastereomer, <sup>1</sup>HNMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sup>3</sup>)  $\delta$  (ppm) 1.33-2.10 (m, 6H), 2.32-2.48 (m, 2H),

2.58-2.64 (m, 1H), 4.14 (s, 1H), 4.87 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 8.12 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 8.18 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H); *syn*-diastereomer, <sup>1</sup>HNMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm) 1.48-2.10 (m, 6H), 2.33-2.46 (m, 2H), 2.62-2.66 (m, 1H), 3.27 (s, 1H), 5.44 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.64 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 8.06 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 1H); 8.15 (s, 1H).



(S)-2-((R)-hydroxy(4-cyanophenyl)methyl)cyclohexan-1-one (3c)<sup>1</sup> : It was obtained in a maximum of 99% ee. The optical purity was determined by HPLC on chiralpak OD-H column [hexane/2-propanol 90.0:10.0]; flow rate 0.5 mL/min. *Anti/Syn*= 93/7, *anti*-diastereomer, <sup>1</sup>HNMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm) 1.31-2.11 (m, 6H), 2.30-2.48 (m, 2H), 2.53-2.59 (m, 1H),

4.07 (s, 1H), 4.82 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.62 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H); syndiastereomer, <sup>1</sup>HNMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  (ppm) 1.52-2.12 (m, 6H), 2.33-2.48 (m, 2H), 2.57-2.61 (m, 1H), 3.19 (s, 1H), 5.42 (s, 1H), 7.42 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.62 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H).



(S)-2-((R)-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)(hydroxy)methyl)cyclohexan-1one (3d)<sup>3</sup> : It was obtained in a maximum of 99% ee. The optical purity was determined by HPLC on chiralpak OD-H column [hexane/2-propanol 95.0:5.0]; flow rate 1.0mL/min.



(S)-2-((R)-hydroxy(4-chlorophenyl)methyl)cyclohexan-1-one  $(3e)^1$ : It was obtained in a maximum of 99% ee. The optical purity was determined by HPLC on chiralpak AD-H column [hexane/2-propanol 90.0:10.0]; flow rate 0.5 mL/min.

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(S)-2-((R)-hydroxy(4-bromophenyl)methyl)cyclohexan-1-one  $(3f)^1$ : It was obtained in a maximum of 99% ee. The optical purity was determined by HPLC on chiralpak AD-H column [hexane/2-propanol 90.0:10.0]; flow rate 0.5 mL/min.



(S)-2-((R)-hydroxy(2-chlorophenyl)methyl)cyclohexan-1-one  $(3g)^4$ : It was obtained in a maximum of 99% ee. The optical purity was determined by HPLC on chiralpak OD-H column [hexane/2-propanol 95.0:5.0]; flow rate 0.5 mL/min.



(S)-2-((R)-hydroxy(phenyl)methyl)cyclohexan-1-one  $(3h)^1$ : It was obtained in a maximum of 98% ee. The optical purity was determined by HPLC on chiralpak OD-H column [hexane/2-propanol 90.0:10.0]; flow rate 1.0 mL/min.



(S)-2-((R)-hydroxy(4-nitrophenyl)methyl)cyclopentan-1-one  $(3i)^5$ : It was obtained in a maximum of >97% ee. The optical purity was determined by HPLC on chiralpak AD-H column [hexane/2-propanol 95.0:5.0]; flow rate 0.5 mL/min.













Signal 1: DAD1 A, Sig=254,4 Ref=off

Peak    #	RT [min]	Width     [min]	Area	Area %   	Name
11-		-			
1 11	33.185	0.7731	268.032	1.000	
1 21	43.791	1.004	263.721	0.984	
1 31	47.289	1.809	13081.641	48.814	
4	64.536	1.869	13185.832	49.2021	



Signal 1: DAD1 A, Sig=254,4 Ref=off

Peak  Type	T	RT	Width	Area	Area 🔒	Name	ļ
#	1	[min]	[min]	1	1		
	- 1						Í.
1 1 BB	i	33.3281	0.871	679.713	3.0251	1	I
1 21 BB	1	44.0821	1.083	442.7761	1.971		I.
1 31BB	i	48.3421	0.8691	80.054	0.356		ļ
4 BB	Í.	64.9871	1.999	21266.428	94.648		



Signal 1: DAD1 A, Sig=254,4 Ref=off

1	Peak	RT	Type	I	Width	Area	ł	Area 🖇	Name	ł
1	#	[min]	1	L	[min]		1			Į
1				- 1			1-			
1	11	27.242	BB	1	0.505	9450.118	1	32.843		
1	21	31.125	BB	I	0.590	9777.838	1	33.982		
1	31	34.756	BB	1	0.646	4832.918	1	16.796		
I	41	44.827	BB	1	0.835	4712.805	1	16.379		
-										



Signal 1: DAD1 A, Sig=254,4 Ref=off

11	Peak  Type	ł	RT		Width	ł	Area	1	Area %	
1	# 1	T	[min]		[min]	1		1	1	
1.		- }		-		1		1 -		
ł	1   VB	1	29.3251		0.701	l.	135.438	1	1.572	
ł	2 BB	1	32.535		0.7691	1	160.480	İ.	1.862	
1	3   BB	ł	37.057		1.073	1	8297.462	Ł	96.2841	
ł	4   BB	ł	47.952		0.8541	1	24.320	İ.	0.2821	
		-					*******			



Signal 1: DAD1 C, Sig=220,4 Ref=off

Pe	akl	RT	Width	Area 1	Area 🗞
1 #	ŧ 1	[min]	[min]	1	
1			·		
i	11	37.019	1.340	3110.373	3.393
i .	21	43.819	1.237	2836.616	3.094
i	31	49.9431	1.505	42695.516	46.570
i i	41	63.428	2.1781	43038.531	46.944



Signal 1: DAD1 C, Sig=220,4 Ref=off

I	Peak  Type	L	RT		Width		Area	I	Area 🖇
I	#	ł	[min]		[min]	i.			1
L		1.		-		-		ŀ	
I	1   BB	1	35.185		0.826		3918.186	1	3.2041
ł	2 BB	1	41.635		0.995	Ľ.	4402.808	L	3.601
ŧ	31BB	1	47.8781		0.994	i.	796.076		0.6511
1	4   BB	1	60.3251		1.605	1	13162.109	l	92.5441
_									









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Signal 1: DAD1 A, Sig=254,4 Ref=off

Type  P	eak	RT	Width	Area	Area 🖇
1 1	# 1	[min]	[min]		1
-	-				
BB I	11	52.645	1.306	10344.775	40.011
BB	21	75.0551	1.651	1238.169	4.789
BV I	31	96.036	1.332	256.218	0.991
VB	41	99.4371	2.6111	14015.3561	54.2091

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