#### **Electronic Supplementary Information**

#### Direct Reductive Coupling of Secondary Amides: Chemoselective Formation of Vicinal

#### **Diamines and Vicinal Amino Alcohols**

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**General:** Melting points were uncorrected. <sup>1</sup>H NMR and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded on a spectrometer at 400 and 100 MHz, respectively. Chemical shifts ( $\delta$ ) are reported in ppm and respectively referenced to internal standard Me<sub>4</sub>Si and solvent signals (Me<sub>4</sub>Si, 0 ppm for <sup>1</sup>H NMR and CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 77.0 ppm for <sup>13</sup>C NMR). HRFABMS spectra were recorded on a 7.0T FT-MS. Silica gel (300-400 mesh) was used for flash column chromatography (FC), eluting (unless otherwise stated) with ethyl acetate/ hexane mixture. Trifluoromethanesulfonic anhydride (Tf<sub>2</sub>O) was distilled over phosphorous pentoxide and was stored for no more than a week before re-distillation. Dry dichloromethane was distilled over calcium hydride under Argon. All reactions were carried out under an Argon atmosphere.

O R <sup>1</sup> ⊥ 1	`N <sup>∕</sup> R² H	one-pot   1) Tf <sub>2</sub> O (1.1 equiv), 2-F-Py (1.2 equiv)   CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> , 0 °C, 30 min   2) Et <sub>3</sub> SiH (1.1 equiv), 0 °C to RT, 5 h   3) Sml <sub>2</sub> (3.0 equiv), RT, 5 min, THF   H   2				
	entry	R1	R <sup>2</sup>	% yield <sup>a</sup> (	ratio) <sup>b</sup>	
	entry	K	N	without Nil <sub>2</sub>	with Nil <sub>2</sub> <sup>c</sup>	
	1	Ph	<i>c-</i> hex	<b>2a</b> : 86 (54 : 46)	88 (53 : 47)	
	2	4-MeC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	<i>c-</i> hex	<b>2b</b> : 84 (60 : 40)	90 (55: 45)	
	3	4-BrC <sub>6</sub> H₄	<i>c-</i> hex	<b>2f</b> : 71 (66 : 34)	79 (54 : 46)	
	4	Ph	<i>i-</i> Pr	<b>2n</b> : 91 (54 : 46)	93 (58 : 42)	
	5	4-MeC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	<i>i-</i> Pr	<b>2o</b> : 92 (66 : 34)	94 (59 : 41)	

Table 1. Effects of NiI<sub>2</sub> on the reductive homocoupling reactions of *sec*-amides.

<sup>a</sup> Isolated yield; <sup>b</sup> Determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis; <sup>c</sup> Taken from Table 2 in the main text.

# General procedure A: One-pot Preparation of Vicinal Diamines from Secondary Amides by Direct Reductive Homocoupling

Into a dry 10-mL round-bottom flask equipped with a stirring bar were added successively an amide (1.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv), 4 mL of anhydrous dichloromethane and 2-fluoropyridine (116.5 mg, 103  $\mu$ L, 1.2 mmol, 1.2 equiv.). After being cooled to 0 °C, trifluoromethanesulfonic anhydride (Tf<sub>2</sub>O) (310 mg, 185  $\mu$ L, 1.1 mmol, 1.1 equiv) was added dropwise *via* a syringe at 0 °C and the reaction was stirred for 30 min. To the resulting mixture, triethylsilane (Et<sub>3</sub>SiH) (128 mg, 176  $\mu$ L, 1.1 mmol, 1.1 equiv) was added dropwise at 0 °C and the reaction was stirred for 30 min. The

mixture was allowed to warm-up to room temperature and stirred for 5 h. The resulting mixture was added to a solution of NiI<sub>2</sub>-containing SmI<sub>2</sub> in THF, prepared by the addition of a THF solution of SmI<sub>2</sub> (3.0 mmol, 3.0 equiv, 30 mL) to a solution of anhydrous NiI<sub>2</sub> (3.1 mg, 0.01 mmol, 0.01 equiv) in THF (2 mL). The reaction mixture was added dropwise over 5 min at room temperature and stirred for another 5 min, then quenched with HCl (0.1 M) and stirred for 30 min, then extracted with diethyl ether (2×50 mL), The pH of the aqueous phase was adjusted to neutrality by the addition of a saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub>. The aqueous phase was extracted with diethyl ether and the combined organic extracts were washed successively with saturated aqueous sodium thiosulfate (Na<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>) and brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and filtered. The solvents were removed under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel to give the corresponding vicinal diamines as *meso/ dl* mixture.

#### *N*,*N*'-Dicyclohexyl-1,2-diphenyl-1,2-ethanediamine (2a)



Following the general procedure A, the reduction homocoupling of amide **1a** (203 mg, 1.0 mmol) gave, after flash column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: EtOAc/Hexane/NH<sub>3</sub>•H<sub>2</sub>O = 1/40/0.05 to 1/20/0.05), the known diamine **2a**<sup>1</sup> (166 mg, 88%) as a *meso/ dl* mixture, which could be separated by repeated FC. A pure sample of *meso-2a* was obtained by recrystallization (EtOAc/Hexane), and pure *dl-2a* was isolated by repeated FC.

*meso*-**2a**: white solid, mp: 138-139 °C; (lit<sup>1c</sup>: mp: 135-139 °C). IR (film)  $v_{max}$ : 3303, 3021, 2918, 2848, 1452, 1127, 1073, 889, 758, 728, 701 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  0.71-0.82 (m, 2H), 0.86-1.13 (m, 9H), 1.38-1.58 (m, 9H), 1.69-1.79 (m, 2H), 2.06-2.14 (m, 2H), 3.90 (s, 2H), 7.19-7.31 (m, 10H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  24.5, 24.9, 26.1, 32.3, 34.6, 53.0, 65.1, 127.1, 128.0, 128.3, 141.9 ppm.

*dl*-**2a**: white solid, mp: 123-124 °C; (lit<sup>1d</sup>: mp: 126-128 °C). IR (film)  $v_{max}$ : 3303, 3025, 2925, 2851, 1450, 1115, 1027, 889, 699 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  0.94-1.20 (m, 10H), 1.45-1.53 (m, 2H), 1.54-1.68 (m, 6H), 1.81-2.00 (m, 4H), 2.14-2.26 (m, 2H), 3.73 (s, 2H), 7.00-7.16 (m, 10H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  24.6, 25.0, 26.2, 32.6, 34.9, 53.8, 66.3, 126.5, 127.7, 127.8, 142.6 ppm.

HRMS-ESI calcd for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>36</sub>N<sub>2</sub>: (M+Na)<sup>+</sup> 399.2776; found: 399.2778.

#### *N,N'*-Dicyclohexyl-1,2-di(4'-methylphenyl)-1,2-ethanediamine (2b)



Following the general procedure A, the reduction homocoupling of amide **1b** (217 mg, 1.0 mmol) gave, after flash column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: EtOAc/Hexane/NH<sub>3</sub>•H<sub>2</sub>O = 1/40/0.05 to 1/20/0.05), the desired diamine **2b** (182 mg, 90%) as a *meso/ dl* mixture, which were separated by repeated FC.

*meso*-**2b**: white solid, mp: 175-176 °C; IR (film)  $\nu_{max}$ : 3411, 3017, 2919, 2848, 1510, 1455, 1124, 1105, 1017, 888, 841, 760, 722 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  0.67-0.79 (m, 2H), 0.84-1.12 (m, 9H), 1.38-1.58 (m, 9H), 1.71-1.80 (m, 2H), 2.03-2.13 (m, 2H), 2.33 (s, 6H), 3.84 (s, 2H), 7.06-7.15 (m, 8H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  21.1, 24.5, 25.0, 26.1, 32.3, 34.6, 52.8, 64.7, 128.2, 128.7, 136.5, 138.8 ppm.

*dl*-**2b**: white solid, mp: 105-106 °C; IR (film)  $v_{max}$ : 3291, 3017, 2925, 2852, 1511, 1449, 1366, 1254, 1110, 1017, 889, 821, 719 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  0.91-1.17 (m, 10H), 1.44-1.52 (m, 2H), 1.54-1.65 (m, 6H), 1.79-1.92 (m, 4H), 2.14-2.21 (m, 2H), 2.25 (s, 6H), 3.70 (s, 2H), 6.90-6.97 (m, 8H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  21.0, 24.6, 25.0, 26.2, 32.6, 34.9, 53.7, 65.7, 127.7, 128.4, 135.8, 139.6 ppm.

HRMS-ESI calcd for  $C_{28}H_{40}N_2$ : (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 405.3270; found: 405.3271.

#### *N,N'*-Dicyclohexyl-1,2-di(4'-methoxyphenyl)-1,2-ethanediamine (2c)



Following the general procedure A, the reduction homocoupling of amide 1c (233 mg, 1.0 mmol) gave, after flash column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: EtOAc/Hexane/NH<sub>3</sub>•H<sub>2</sub>O = 1/15/0.05 to 1/8/0.05), the desired diamine 2c (175 mg, 80%) as a *meso/ dl* mixture, which were separated by repeated FC.

*meso-***2c**: white solid, mp: 163-164 °C; IR (film)  $\nu_{max}$ : 3299, 3008, 2924, 2848, 1608, 1583, 1507, 1455, 1301, 1241, 1168, 1121, 1103, 1036, 888, 844, 819, 804, 766, 728 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  0.65-0.78 (m, 2H), 0.84-0.94 (m, 2H), 0.96-1.11 (m, 6H), 1.28-1.56 (m, 10H), 1.71-1.81 (m, 2H), 2.02-2.11 (m, 2H), 3.81 (s, 2H), 3.82 (s, 6H), 6.81-6.87 (m, 4H), 7.15-7.20 (m, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 24.6, 25.0, 26.1, 32.3, 34.7, 52.8, 55.2, 64.4, 113.4, 129.3, 133.9, 158.7 ppm.

*dl*-**2c**: IR (film)  $\nu_{\text{max}}$ : 3299, 3021, 2925, 2851, 1615, 1585, 1510, 1450, 1301, 1245, 1177, 1105, 1037, 889, 829, 805, 736 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ 0.93-1.19 (m, 10H), 1.44-1.67 (m, 8H), 1.81-1.96 (m, 4H), 2.13-2.24 (m, 2H), 3.66 (s, 2H), 3.74 (s, 6H), 6.64-6.71 (m, 4H), 6.89-6.96 (m, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 24.7, 25.0, 26.2, 32.6, 34.9, 53.6, 55.1, 65.5, 113.1, 128.8, 134.6, 158.1 ppm.

HRMS-ESI calcd for  $C_{28}H_{40}N_2O_2$ : (M+Na)<sup>+</sup> 459.2988; found: 459.2994.

#### N,N'-Dicyclohexyl-1,2-di(4'-fluorophenyl)-1,2-ethanediamine (2d)



Following the general procedure A, the reduction homocoupling of amide 1d (221 mg, 1.0 mmol) gave, after flash column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: EtOAc/Hexane/NH<sub>3</sub>•H<sub>2</sub>O =

1/40/0.05 to 1/20/0.05), the desired diamine **2d** (177 mg, 86%) as a *meso/ dl* mixture, which could be separated by repeated FC. A pure sample of *meso-2d* was obtained by recrystallization (EtOAc/Hexane), a pure sample of *dl-2d* was isolated by repeated FC.

*meso*-**2d**: white solid, mp: 170-171 °C; IR (film)  $v_{\text{max}}$ : 3303, 3029, 2917, 2849, 1600, 1504, 1461, 1415, 1127, 1151, 1122, 1090, 891, 824, 812, 731 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  0.71-0.83 (m, 2H), 0.88-0.97 (m, 2H), 0.99-1.12 (m, 6H), 1.39-1.60 (m, 10H), 1.69-1.79 (m, 2H), 2.03-2.13 (m, 2H), 3.85 (s, 2H), 6.93-7.01 (m, 4H), 7.12-7.19 (m, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  24.6, 25.0, 26.0, 32.5, 34.6, 53.0, 64.4, 114.9 (d,  $J_{F-C}$  = 21.0 Hz), 129.6 (d,  $J_{F-C}$  = 7.9 Hz), 137.4, 162.0 (d,  $J_{F-C}$  = 244.6 Hz) ppm.

*dl*-**2d**: white solid, mp: 125-127 °C; IR (film)  $\nu_{max}$ : 3303, 3033, 2925, 2852, 1604, 1507, 1449, 1261, 1222, 1091, 1014, 840 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  0.94-1.28 (m, 10H), 1.48-1.90 (m, 12H), 2.12-2.22 (m, 2H), 3.65 (s, 2H), 6.79-6.86 (m, 4H), 6.92-6.99 (m, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  24.6, 25.0, 26.1, 32.6, 34.9, 53.8, 65.8, 114.6 (d,  $J_{F-C}$  = 21.1 Hz), 129.1 (d,  $J_{F-C}$  = 7.9 Hz), 138.2, 161.6 (d,  $J_{F-C}$  = 244.6 Hz) ppm.

HRMS-ESI calcd for  $C_{26}H_{34}F_2N_2$ : (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 413.2768; found: 413.2773.

#### 1,2-Di(4'-chlorophenyl)-*N*,*N'*-dicyclohexyl-1,2-ethanediamine (2e)



Following the general procedure A, the reduction homocoupling of amide **1e** (238 mg, 1.0 mmol) gave, after flash column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: EtOAc/Hexane/NH<sub>3</sub>•H<sub>2</sub>O = 1/40/0.05 to 1/20/0.05), the desired diamine **2e** (196 mg, 88%) as a *meso/ dl* mixture, which could be separated by repeated FC. A pure sample of *meso-***2e** was obtained after recrystallization (EtOAc/Hexane), a pure sample of *dl-***2e** was isolated by repeated FC.

*meso-2***e**: white solid, mp: 188-189 °C; IR (film)  $v_{max}$ : 3398, 3021, 2920, 2848, 1485, 1456, 1406, 1123, 1088, 1009, 889, 811, 744, 721 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  0.72-0.84 (m, 2H), 0.87-1.14 (m, 8H), 1.19(br s, 2H), 1.42-1.60 (m, 8H), 1.70-1.80 (m, 2H), 2.02-2.14 (m, 2H), 3.86 (s, 2H), 7.07-7.12 (m, 4H), 7.22-7.28 (m, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 24.6, 25.0, 26.0, 32.5, 34.6, 53.1, 64.2, 128.2, 129.6, 132.8, 140.1 ppm.

*dl*-**2e**: IR (film)  $v_{max}$ : 3291, 3018, 2925, 2851, 1489, 1449, 1403, 1091, 1013, 821, 597 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  0.95-1.18 (m, 10H), 1.46-1.68 (m, 8H), 1.77-1.90 (m, 4H), 2.10-2.20 (m, 2H), 3.64 (s, 2H), 6.94 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 4H), 7.11 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  24.6, 25.0, 26.1, 32.6, 34.9, 53.8, 65.7, 128.0, 129.1, 132.3, 141.1 ppm. HRMS-ESI calcd for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>34</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>N<sub>2</sub>: (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 445.2177; found: 445.2177.

#### 1,2-Di(4'-bromophenyl)-*N*,*N'*-dicyclohexyl-1,2-ethanediamine (2f)



Following the general procedure A, the reduction homocoupling of amide **1f** (282 mg, 1.0 mmol) gave, after flash column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: EtOAc/Hexane/NH<sub>3</sub>•H<sub>2</sub>O = 1/40/0.05 to 1/20/0.05), the desired diamine **2f** (211 mg, 79%) as a *meso/ dl* mixture, which could be separated by repeated FC. A pure sample of *meso-***2f** was obtained after recrystallization (EtOAc/Hexane), a pure sample of *dl-***2f** was isolated by repeated FC.

*meso-***2f**: white solid, mp: 186-187 °C; IR (film)  $v_{max}$ : 3287, 3017, 2919, 2845, 1586, 1463, 1400, 1255, 1119, 1095, 1068, 1006, 888, 812, 748, 718 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  0.72-0.84 (m, 2H), 0.86-1.24 (m, 9H), 1.42-1.69 (m, 9H), 1.72-1.80 (m, 2H), 2.02-2.13 (m, 2H), 3.85 (s, 2H), 7.01-7.07 (m, 4H), 7.39-7.42 (m, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 24.6, 25.0, 26.0, 32.5, 34.6, 53.1, 64.2, 120.9, 130.0, 131.2, 140.6 ppm.

*dl*-**2f**: IR (film)  $v_{\text{max}}$ : 3301, 3017, 2925, 2851, 1666, 1485, 1449, 1261, 1118, 1071, 1010, 820, 740, 722 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  0.93-1.19 (m, 10H), 1.45-1.70 (m, 8H), 1.80-1.88 (m, 2H), 1.94 (br s, 2H), 2.10-2.21 (m, 2H), 3.64 (s, 2H), 6.86-6.92 (m, 4H), 7.25-7.29 (m, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  24.6, 24.9, 26.1, 32.6, 34.9, 53.8, 65.6, 120.4, 129.5, 131.0, 141.5 ppm.

HRMS-ESI calcd for  $C_{26}H_{34}Br_2N_2$ : (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 535.1147; found: 535.1138.

#### *N,N'*-Dicyclohexyl-1,2-di(4'-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)-1,2-ethanediamine (2g)



Following the general procedure A, the reduction homocoupling of amide **1g** (271 mg, 1.0 mmol) gave, after flash column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: EtOAc/Hexane/NH<sub>3</sub>•H<sub>2</sub>O = 1/40/0.05 to 1/20/0.05), the desired diamine **2g** (207 mg, 81%) as a *meso/ dl* mixture, which could be separated by repeated FC. A pure sample of *meso-***2g** was obtained after recrystallization (EtOAc/Hexane), a pure sample of *dl-***2g** was isolated by repeated FC

*meso-***2g**: white solid, mp: 179-180 °C; IR (film)  $v_{max}$ : 3411, 3042, 2929, 2850, 1619, 1455, 1417, 1325, 1161, 1122, 1101, 1068, 1012, 861, 821 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  0.77-0.88 (m, 2H), 0.90-1.15 (m, 8H), 1.41-1.65 (m, 10H), 1.72-1.81 (m, 2H), 2.05-2.14 (m, 2H), 4.00 (s, 2H), 7.24 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 4H), 7.52 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 24.5, 24.9, 26.0, 32.5, 34.6, 53.2, 64.4, 124.2 (d,  $J_{F-C} = 272.3$  Hz), 124.9 (q,  $J_{F-C} = 3.4$  Hz), 128.5, 129.5 (q,  $J_{F-C} = 32.5$  Hz), 145.6 ppm.

*dl*-**2g**: IR (film)  $\nu_{\text{max}}$ : 3299, 3037, 2928, 2854, 1618, 1451, 1418, 1325, 1164, 1125, 1068, 1017, 849 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  0.96-1.20 (m, 10H), 1.46-1.70 (m, 8H), 1.80-1.88 (m, 2H), 1.89 (br s, 2H), 2.11-2.21 (m, 2H), 3.76 (s, 2H), 7.13 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 4H), 7.39 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 24.5, 24.9, 26.1, 32.6, 34.9, 53.9, 66.0, 124.2 (d, *J*<sub>F-C</sub> = 272.0 Hz), 124.8 (q, *J*<sub>F-C</sub> = 3.8 Hz), 128.0, 129.1 (q, *J*<sub>F-C</sub> = 32.3 Hz), 146.6 ppm.

#### Dimethyl 4,4'-(1,2-bis(isopropylamino)ethane-1,2-diyl)dibenzoate (2h)



Following the general procedure A, the reduction homocoupling of amide **1h** (221 mg, 1.0 mmol) gave, after flash column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: EtOAc/Hexane/NH<sub>3</sub>•H<sub>2</sub>O = 1/8/0.05 to 1/4/0.05), the desired diamine **2h** (85 mg, 41%) as a *meso/ dl* mixture, which could be separated by repeated FC. A pure sample of *meso-***2h** was obtained after recrystallization (EtOAc/Hexane), a pure sample of *dl-***2h** was isolated by repeated FC.

*meso*-**2h**: white solid, mp: 188-189 °C; IR (film)  $\nu_{max}$ : 3307, 3029, 2961, 2918, 2848, 1719, 1607, 1469, 1440, 1414, 1276, 1196, 1168, 1116, 1104, 1015, 878, 854, 769, 732, 710 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  0.87 (d, J = 6.2 Hz, 6H), 0.90 (d, J = 6.3 Hz, 6H), 1.44 (br s, 2H), 2.48 (septet, J = 6.2 Hz, 2H), 3.91 (s, 6H), 3.99 (s, 2H), 7.13-7.18 (m, 4H), 7.91-7.95 (m, 4H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  21.9, 24.1, 45.6, 52.0, 65.3, 128.2, 129.2, 129.3, 146.6, 167.0 ppm. *dl*-**2h**: white solid, mp: 113-114 °C; IR (film)  $\nu_{max}$ : 3305, 2960, 2921, 2847, 1724, 1610, 1435, 1382, 1279, 1180, 1113, 1018, 861, 771, 711 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  0.92 (d, J = 6.2 Hz, 6H), 2.46-2.57 (m, 2H), 1.92 (br s, 2H), 3.74 (s, 2H), 3.87 (s, 6H), 7.09 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 4H), 7.80 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  22.0, 24.4, 46.3,

51.9, 66.5, 127.8, 128.8, 129.2, 147.5, 166.9 ppm.

HRMS-ESI calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>32</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>: (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 413.2440; found: 413.2439.

#### 4,4'-(1,2-Bis(isopropylamino)ethane-1,2-diyl)dibenzonitrile (2i)



Following the general procedure A, the reduction homocoupling of amide **1i** (188 mg, 1.0 mmol) gave, after flash column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: EtOAc/Hexane/NH<sub>3</sub>•H<sub>2</sub>O = 1/8/0.05 to 1/4/0.05), the desired diamine **2i** (101 mg, 58%) as a *meso/ dl* mixture, which could be separated by repeated FC. A pure sample of *meso-***2i** was obtained after recrystallization (EtOAc/Hexane).

*meso-2***i**: white solid, mp: 151-152 °C; IR (film)  $v_{max}$ : 3299, 2967, 2917, 2842, 2224, 1606, 1478, 1465, 1440, 1407, 1357, 1270, 1150, 1125, 1013, 880, 851, 830, 768, 739 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  0.90 (d, J = 6.2 Hz, 6H), 0.93 (d, J = 6.2 Hz, 6H), 1.31 (br s, 2H), 2.48 (septet, J = 6.2 Hz, 2H), 3.97 (s, 2H), 7.14-7.19 (m, 4H), 7.50-7.60 (m, 4H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  22.0, 24.0, 45.8, 64.9, 111.3, 118.7, 128.9, 131.8, 146.6 ppm.

*dl*-2i: (data read from the spectra of a diastereomeric mixture) <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  0.93 (d, J = 6.2 Hz, 6H), 0.97 (d, J = 6.2 Hz, 6H), 1.80 (br s, 2H), 2.43-2.54 (m, 2H), 3.71 (s, 2H),

7.10-7.17 (m, 4H), 7.42-7.47 (m, 4H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  22.0, 24.0, 45.8, 64.9, 111.3, 118.7, 128.9, 131.8, 146.6 ppm. HRMS-ESI calcd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>26</sub>N<sub>4</sub>: (M+Na)<sup>+</sup> 369.2055; found: 369.2057.

#### N,N'-Dibutyl-1,2-diphenyl-1,2-ethanediamine (2j)



Following the general procedure A, the reduction homocoupling of amide **1**j (177 mg, 1.0 mmol) gave, after flash column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: EtOAc/Hexane/NH<sub>3</sub>•H<sub>2</sub>O = 1/40/0.05 to 1/20/0.05), the known diamine **2**j<sup>2</sup>(116 mg, 71%) as a *meso/ dl* mixture, which were separated by repeated FC.

*meso-2***j**: white solid, mp: 32-33 °C; IR (film)  $\nu_{\text{max}}$ : 3320, 3027, 2956, 2926, 2857, 1454, 1378, 1275, 1200, 1139, 1028, 914, 759, 701 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  0.75 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 6H), 1.04-1.14 (m, 4H), 1.20-1.28 (m, 4H), 1.42 (br s, 2H), 2.17-2.32 (m, 4H), 3.72 (s, 2H), 7.25-7.35 (m, 10H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 13.8, 20.1, 31.9, 47.1, 68.6, 127.4, 128.2, 128.3, 141.4 ppm.

*dl*-**2j**: colorless oil, 0.85 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 6H), 1.24-1.31 (m, 4H), 1.37-1.46 (m, 4H), 1.98 (br s, 2H), 2.32-2.47 (m, 4H), 3.61 (s, 2H), 7.00-7.05 (m, 4H), 7.07-7.17 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 14.0, 20.4, 32.3, 47.4, 69.4, 126.7, 127.8 (2C), 141.6 ppm.

HRMS-ESI calcd for  $C_{22}H_{32}N_2$ :  $(M+H)^+ 325.2644$ ; found: 325.2642.

#### *N*,*N*'-Diisobutyl-1,2-diphenyl-1,2-ethanediamine (2k)



Following the general procedure A, the reduction homocoupling of amide **1k** (177 mg, 1.0 mmol) gave, after flash column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: EtOAc/Hexane/NH<sub>3</sub>•H<sub>2</sub>O = 1/40/0.05 to 1/20/0.05), the desired diamine **2k** (135 mg, 83%) as a *meso/ dl* mixture, which were separated by repeated FC.

*meso*-**2k**: white solid, mp: 59-60 °C; IR (film)  $\nu_{max}$ : 3344, 3062, 3027, 2954, 2869, 2804, 1602, 1468, 1453, 1386, 1367, 1247, 1200, 1121, 1071, 1029, 918, 808, 758, 701, 602 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  0.65 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 6H), 0.67 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 6H), 1.34-1.62 (m, 4H), 2.02-2.14 (m, 4H), 3.68 (s, 2H), 7.23-7.36 (m, 10H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  20.2, 20.4, 27.8, 55.4, 68.6, 127.4, 128.2, 128.3, 141.5 ppm.

*dl*-**2k**: IR (film)  $\nu_{\text{max}}$ : 3320, 3063, 3026, 2954, 2870, 1492, 1453, 1386, 1362, 1263, 1242, 1109, 1027, 764, 699, 599 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  0.84 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 6H), 0.87 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 6H), 1.62-1.74 (m, 2H), 2.05 (br s, 2H), 2.17 (dd, *J* = 6.6, 11.4 Hz, 2H), 2.25 (dd, *J* = 6.6, 11.4 Hz, 2H), 3.57 (s, 2H), 6.99-7.05 (m, 4H), 7.06-7.16 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  20.6, 20.7, 28.5, 55.7, 69.6, 126.6, 127.8 (2C), 141.8 ppm.

HRMS-ESI calcd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>32</sub>N<sub>2</sub>: (M+Na)<sup>+</sup> 347.2463; found: 347.2466.

#### *N*,*N*′-Dicyclopropyl-1,2-diphenyl-1,2-ethanediamine (2l)



Following the general procedure A, the reduction homocoupling of amide **11** (161 mg, 1.0 mmol) gave, after flash column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: EtOAc/Hexane/NH<sub>3</sub>•H<sub>2</sub>O = 1/40/0.05 to 1/20/0.05), the desired diamine **21** (96 mg, 66%) as a *meso/ dl* mixture, which were separated by repeated FC.

*meso*-**2l**: white solid, mp: 82-83 °C; IR (film)  $\nu_{\text{max}}$ : 3324, 3085, 3061, 3026, 3005, 2921, 2850, 1493, 1452, 1369, 1343, 1217, 1103, 1067, 1015, 806, 759, 700 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  0.13-0.28 (m, 8H), 1.81-1.88 (m, 2H), 1.93 (br s, 2H), 3.92 (s, 2H), 7.08-7.13 (m, 4H), 7.22-7.29 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  5.9, 6.9, 28.8, 67.8, 127.1, 127.9, 128.3, 141.1 ppm.

*dl*-**2l**: white solid, mp: 73-75 °C; IR (film)  $v_{\text{max}}$ : 3261, 3062, 3021, 3005, 2918, 2847, 1444, 1365, 1260, 1096, 1005, 868, 799, 753, 697 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  0.21-0.33 (m, 8H), 1.84-2.08 (m, 4H), 3.69 (s, 2H), 7.01-7.16 (m, 10H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  5.9, 7.0, 29.0, 68.7, 126.6, 127.7, 128.1, 141.8 ppm.

HRMS-ESI calcd for  $C_{20}H_{24}N_2$ : (M+Na)<sup>+</sup> 315.1837; found: 315.1841.

#### *N*,*N*'-Dicyclopentyl-1,2-diphenyl-1,2-ethanediamine (2m)



Following the general procedure A, the reduction homocoupling of amide **1m** (189 mg, 1.0 mmol) gave, after flash column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: EtOAc/Hexane/NH<sub>3</sub>•H<sub>2</sub>O = 1/40/0.05 to 1/20/0.05), the desired diamine **2m** (153 mg, 88%) as a *meso/ dl* mixture, which were separated by repeated FC. A pure sample of *meso-***2m** was obtained by recrystallization (EtOAc/Hexane); pure *dl-***2m** was isolated by repeated FC.

*meso*-**2m**: white solid, mp: 98-99 °C; IR (film)  $v_{\text{max}}$ : 3324, 3062, 3027, 2950, 2855, 1492, 1452, 1348, 1176, 1099, 1069, 1027, 892, 757, 734, 700 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  0.97-1.08 (m, 4H), 1.25-1.49 (m, 10H), 1.54-1.66 (m, 4H), 2.67 (quint, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 3.80 (s, 2H), 7.26-7.35 (m, 10H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  23.4, 23.4, 32.0, 33.6, 56.9, 67.0, 127.4, 128.2, 128.4, 141.6 ppm.

*dl*-**2m**: white solid, mp: 67-68 °C; IR (film)  $\nu_{\text{max}}$ : 3299, 3061, 3025, 2954, 2866, 1492, 1453, 1356, 1182, 1118, 1072, 1027, 872, 758, 699 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  1.15-1.26 (m, 2H), 1.28-1.48 (m, 6H), 1.56-1.74 (m, 8H), 1.96 (br s, 2H), 2.77-2.85 (m, 2H), 3.64 (s, 2H), 7.02-7.16 (m, 10H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  23.6, 23.7, 32.3, 34.1, 57.2, 67.8, 126.6, 127.7, 128.0, 142.1 ppm.

HRMS-ESI calcd for  $C_{24}H_{32}N_2$ : (M+Na)<sup>+</sup> 371.2463; found: 371.2463.

#### *N*,*N*′-Diisopropyl-1,2-diphenyl-1,2-ethanediamine (2n)



Following the general procedure A, the reduction homocoupling of amide **1n** (163 mg, 1.0 mmol) gave, after flash column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: EtOAc/Hexane/NH<sub>3</sub>•H<sub>2</sub>O = 1/10/0.05 to 1/6/0.05), the desired diamine **2n** (138 mg, 93%) as a *meso/ dl* mixture, which were separated by repeated FC. Pure *meso-***2n** was obtained by recrystallization (EtOAc/Hexane).

*meso*-**2n**: white solid, mp: 113-114 °C; IR (film)  $v_{\text{max}}$ : 3303, 3026, 2958, 2923, 2850, 1469, 1453, 1361, 1272, 1166, 1123, 1066, 1026, 923, 866, 798, 761, 730 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  0.84 (d, J = 6.2 Hz, 6H), 0.87 (d, J = 6.2 Hz, 6H), 1.35 (br s, 2H), 2.47 (septet, J = 6.2 Hz, 2H), 3.90 (s, 2H), 7.12-7.18 (m, 4H), 7.20-7.30 (m, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  21.8, 24.2, 45.4, 65.5, 127.1, 128.0, 128.3, 141.4 ppm.

*dl*-**2n**:(data read from the spectra of a diastereomeric mixture) <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  0.94 (d, J = 6.2 Hz, 6H), 0.98 (d, J = 6.2 Hz, 6H), 1.77 (br s, 2H) 2.48-2.58 (m, 2H), 3.71 (s, 2H), 6.98-7.04 (m, 4H), 7.06-7.16 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  22.0, 24.5, 46.0, 66.7, 126.6, 127.7, 127.9, 142.2 ppm.

HRMS-ESI calcd for C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>28</sub>N<sub>2</sub>: (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 297.2331; found: 297.2326.

#### *N*,*N*′-Diisopropyl-1,2-di-p-tolyl-1,2-ethanediamine (20)



Following the general procedure A, the reduction homocoupling of amide **1o** (177 mg, 1.0 mmol) gave, after flash column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: EtOAc/Hexane/NH<sub>3</sub>•H<sub>2</sub>O = 1/10/0.05 to 1/6/0.05), the desired diamine **2o** (153 mg, 94%) as a *meso/ dl* mixture, which were separated by repeated FC.

*meso-***20**: white solid, mp: 136-137 °C; IR (film)  $v_{\text{max}}$ : 3386, 3017, 2960, 2917, 2849, 1469, 1440, 1382, 1360, 1165, 1121, 1106, 1080, 868, 822, 757, 705 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  0.82 (d, J = 6.2 Hz, 6H), 0.86 (d, J = 6.2 Hz, 6H), 1.20 (br s, 2H), 2.33 (s, 6H), 2.39-2.50 (m, 2H), 3.84 (s, 2H), 7.05-7.11 (m, 8H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  21.1, 21.7, 24.2, 45.2, 65.2, 128.2, 128.7, 136.5, 138.3 ppm.

*dl*-**20**: IR (film)  $\nu_{\text{max}}$ : 3307, 3013, 2960, 2924, 2865, 1512, 1467, 1379, 1364, 1173, 1124, 1077, 822, 723, 609 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  0.92 (d, J = 6.2 Hz, 6H), 0.96 (d, J = 6.2 Hz, 6H), 1.91 (br s, 2H), 2.25 (s, 6H), 2.52 (septet, J = 6.2 Hz, 2H), 3.70 (s, 2H), 6.87-6.97 (m, 8H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  21.0, 21.9, 24.4, 45.8, 66.0, 127.8, 128.4, 135.9, 138.9 ppm. HRMS-ESI calcd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>32</sub>N<sub>2</sub>: (M+Na)<sup>+</sup> 347.2463; found: 347.2467.

*N*,*N*'-Dicyclohexyl-1,2-di(thiophen-2-yl)-1,2-ethanediamine (2r)



Following the general procedure A, the reduction homocoupling of amide **1r** (209 mg, 1.0 mmol) gave, after flash column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: EtOAc/Hexane/NH<sub>3</sub>•H<sub>2</sub>O = 1/40/0.05 to 1/20/0.05), the desired diamine **2r** (126 mg, 65%) as a *meso/ dl* mixture, which were separated by repeated FC.

*meso-***2r**: white solid, mp: 136-137 °C; IR (film)  $\nu_{\text{max}}$ : 3301, 3108, 3071, 2920, 2848, 1466, 1446, 1363, 1294, 1134, 1120, 1040, 963, 889, 851, 815, 761, 738, 706 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  0.67-0.78 (m, 2H), 0.92-1.18 (m, 8H), 1.40-1.58 (m, 8H), 1.60-1.68 (m, 2H), 1.75-1.84 (m, 2H), 2.21-2.29 (m, 2H), 4.14 (s, 2H), 6.95 (dd, J = 3.4, 5.0 Hz, 2H), 7.02 (dd, J = 1.1, 3.4 Hz, 2H), 6.95 (dd, J = 1.1, 5.0 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 24.4, 25.0, 26.0, 32.0, 34.4, 52.9, 61.8, 125.1, 126.1 (2C), 147.1 ppm.

*dl*-**2r**: IR (film)  $v_{\text{max}}$ : 3295, 3065, 2925, 2851, 1449, 1369, 1260, 1143, 1111, 1039, 890, 832, 694 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  0.96-1.21 (m, 10H), 1.47-1.55 (m, 2H), 1.61-1.71 (m, 6H), 1.85-1.94 (m, 4H), 2.31-2.40 (m, 2H), 4.04 (s, 2H), 5.58-6.62 (m, 2H), 6.81 (dd, J = 3.4, 5.0 Hz, 2H), 7.12 (dd, J = 0.7, 5.0 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 24.6, 25.0, 26.1, 32.5, 34.7, 53.9, 62.4, 123.7, 124.7, 126.2, 147.8 ppm.

HRMS-ESI calcd for  $C_{22}H_{32}N_2S_2$ : (M+Na)<sup>+</sup> 411.1905; found: 411.1902.

#### *N*,*N*'-Dibenzyl-1,2-diphenyl-1,2- ethanediamine (2s)



Following the general procedure A, the reduction homocoupling of amide **1s** (217 mg, 1.0 mmol) gave, after flash column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: EtOAc/Hexane/NH<sub>3</sub>•H<sub>2</sub>O = 1/20/0.05 to 1/10/0.05), the desired diamine **2s**<sup>1a, 3</sup>(109 mg, 54%) as a *meso/ dl* mixture, which were separated by repeated FC.

*meso*-**2s**: white solid, mp: 105-106 °C; IR (film)  $v_{\text{max}}$ : 3352, 3062, 3021, 2219, 2849, 1579, 1537, 1493, 1451, 1384, 1095, 1028, 696 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  1.08-1.26 (m, 10H), 1.45-1.68 (m, 8H), 1.69-1.78 (m, 4H), 1.86-1.95 (m, 2H), 2.42-2.46 (m, 2H), 3.70 (d, J = 12.9 Hz, 2H), 3.74 (d, J = 12.9 Hz, 2H), 7.19-7.25 (m, 2H), 7.27-7.33 (m, 8H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  26.6 (2C), 26.9, 29.2, 32.0, 40.2, 54.9, 63.7, 126.7, 128.2 (2C), 141.5 ppm.

*dl*-**2s:** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  0.98-1.28 (m, 11H), 1.42-1.52 (m, 2H), 1.63-1.81 (m, 11H), 2.39 (d, *J* = 3.1 Hz, 2H), 3.73 (d, *J* = 12.6 Hz, 2H), 3.87 (d, *J* = 12.6 Hz, 2H), 7.20-7.35 (m, 10H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  26.7, 26.8 (2C), 29.6, 30.0, 41.8, 54.1, 62.4, 126.9, 128.3, 128.4, 141.1 ppm.

MS-ESI calcd for  $C_{28}H_{40}N_2$ : (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 405; found: 405.

#### General procedure B: One-pot Preparation of Vicinal Amino Alcohols from Secondary Amides by Direct Reductive Cross-coupling with Ketones

Into a dry 10-mL round-bottom flask equipped with a stirring bar were added successively an amide (1.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv), 4 mL of anhydrous dichloromethane and 2-fluoropyridine (116.5 mg, 103 µL, 1.2 mmol, 1.2 equiv). After being cooled to 0 °C, trifluoromethanesulfonic anhydride (Tf<sub>2</sub>O) (310 mg, 185  $\mu$ L, 1.1 mmol, 1.1 equiv) was added dropwise *via* a syringe at 0 °C and the reaction was stirred for 30 min. To the resulting mixture, triethylsilane (Et<sub>3</sub>SiH) (128 mg, 176  $\mu$ L, 1.1 mmol, 1.1 equiv) was added dropwise at 0 °C and the reaction was stirred for 30 min. The mixture was allowed to warm-up to room temperature and stirred for 5 h. The solution was then cooled to 0 °C and triethylamine (Et<sub>3</sub>N) (152 mg, 209 µL 1.5 mmol, 1.5 equiv) was added dropwise and the resulting mixture was stirred for 30 min. Ketone (3 mmol, 3 equiv) was added to a solution of NiI<sub>2</sub>-containing SmI<sub>2</sub> in THF, prepared by the addition of a THF solution of SmI<sub>2</sub> (2.5 mmol, 2.5 equiv, 25 mL) to a solution of anhydrous NiI<sub>2</sub> (3.1 mg, 0.01 mmol, 0.01 equiv) in THF (2 mL) at 0  $^{\circ}$ C. The above reaction mixture was added dropwise to the solution of ketone and SmI<sub>2</sub> in THF in about 13 min at 0 °C and stirred another 2 min, then the reaction was quenched with HCl (0.1 M) and stirred for another 30 min at room temperature, then extracted with ether  $(2 \times 50 \text{ mL})$ , The pH of the aqueous phase was adjusted to neutrality by the addition of saturated aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub>. The aqueous phase was extracted with ether and the combined organic extracts were washed with saturated aqueous sodium thiosulfate (Na<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>) and brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. The solvents were removed under reduced pressure and the residue was purified by flash chromatography on silica gel to give the corresponding vicinal amino alcohols.

#### 1-[(Isopropylamino)(phenyl)methyl]cyclopentanol (3a)



Following the general procedure B, the reductive cross-coupling of amide **1n** (163 mg, 1.0 mmol) with *c*-pentanone gave, after flash column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: EtOAc/Hexane/NH<sub>3</sub>•H<sub>2</sub>O = 1/6/0.0 to 1/4/0.05), the desired  $\beta$ -amino alcohol **3a** (177 mg, 76%) as a white solid, mp: 53-54 °C; IR (film)  $\nu_{\text{max}}$ : 3446, 3025, 2961, 2870, 1469, 1452, 1380, 1339, 1174, 1125, 1069, 1029, 1002, 870, 704 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  0.98 (d, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 3H), 1.01 (d, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 3H), 1.24-1. 31 (m, 1H), 1.41 -1.51 (m, 3H), 1.56-1.63 (m, 1H), 1.68-1.82 (m, 3H), 2.61 (septet, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 1H), 3.34 (br s, 1H), 3.73 (s, 1H), 7.22-7.34 (m, 5H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 22.0, 23.3, 23.4, 24.3, 35.7, 37.7, 45.6, 67.3, 83.5, 127.1, 128.0, 128.3, 140.8 ppm. HRMS-ESI calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NO: (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 234.1858; found: 234.1850.

#### 1-[(Isopropylamino)(phenyl)methyl]cyclobutanol (3b)



Following the general procedure B, the reductive cross-coupling of amide 1n (163 mg, 1.0 mmol)

with *c*-butanone gave, after flash column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: EtOAc/Hexane/NH<sub>3</sub>•H<sub>2</sub>O = 1/6/0.0 to 1/4/0.05), the desired β-amino alcohol **3b** (158 mg, 72%) as a pale yellow oil; IR (film)  $v_{\text{max}}$ : 3420, 3026, 2963, 2868, 1467, 1452, 1380, 1339, 1242, 1170, 1126, 1096, 873, 702 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  1.00 (d, J = 6.3 Hz, 3H), 1.04 (d, J = 6.3 Hz, 3H), 1.06-1.14 (m, 1H), 1.61-1.72 (m, 1H), 1.80-1.89 (m, 1H), 1.97-2.05 (m, 1H), 2.12-2.18 (m, 2H), 2.64 (septet, J = 6.3 Hz, 1H), 3.76 (s, 1H), 7.27-7.37 (m, 5H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 12.2, 22.1, 24.1, 32.2, 34.1, 45.4, 65.9, 76.2, 127.3, 128.1(2C), 139.6 ppm. HRMS-ESI calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>21</sub>NO: (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 220.1701; found: 220.1694.

#### 1-[(Isopropylamino)(phenyl)methyl]cyclohexanol (3c)



Following the general procedure B, the reductive cross-coupling of amide **1n** (163 mg, 1.0 mmol) with *c*-hexanone gave, after flash column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: EtOAc/Hexane/NH<sub>3</sub>•H<sub>2</sub>O = 1/6/0.0 to 1/4/0.05), the desired  $\beta$ -amino alcohol **3c** (186 mg, 75%) as a white solid, mp: 44-45 °C; IR (film)  $v_{\text{max}}$ : 3428, 3025, 2925, 2850, 1468, 1450, 1383, 1249, 1124, 1085, 1030, 973, 872, 720 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  0.98 (d, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 3H), 0.99 (d, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 3H), 1.06-1.16 (m, 1H), 1.19-1.29 (m, 2H), 1.31-1.38 (m, 1H), 1.42-1.52 (m, 2H), 1.53-1.70 (m, 4H), 2.58 (septet, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 1H), 3.50 (s, 1H), 7.19-7.34 (m, 5H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 21.5, 22.0 (2C), 24.3, 25.8, 32.1, 35.6, 46.1, 69.3, 72.1, 127.1, 128.0, 128.4, 140.3 ppm. HRMS-ESI calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>25</sub>NO: (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 248.2014; found: 248.2010.

#### 1-[(Isopropylamino)(phenyl)methyl]cycloheptanol (3d)



Following the general procedure B, the reductive cross-coupling of amide **1n** (163 mg, 1.0 mmol) with *c*-heptanone gave, after flash column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: EtOAc/Hexane/NH<sub>3</sub>•H<sub>2</sub>O = 1/8/0.0 to 1/5/0.05), the desired  $\beta$ -amino alcohol **3d** (183 mg, 71%) as a pale yellow oil; IR (film)  $\nu_{\text{max}}$ : 3439, 3026, 2923, 2856, 1462, 1380, 1341, 1174, 1125, 1072, 1044, 872, 704 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  0.97 (d, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 3H), 0.99 (d, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 3H), 1.07-1.17 (m, 1H), 1.21-1.32 (m, 3H), 1.34-1.44 (m, 2H), 1.45-1.52 (m, 2H), 1.52-1.64 (m, 3H), 1.67-1.79 (m, 2H), 2.58 (septet, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 1H), 3.50 (s, 1H), 7.23-7.34 (m, 5H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 22.1 (2C), 22.5, 24.5, 29.5 (2C), 36.0, 39.4, 46.0, 69.6, 75.9, 127.0, 128.0, 128.4, 140.8 ppm. HRMS-ESI calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>27</sub>NO: (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 262.2171; found: 262.2165.

#### 1-[(Isopropylamino)(phenyl)methyl]cyclooctanol (3e)



Following the general procedure B, the reductive cross-coupling of amide **1n** (163 mg, 1.0 mmol) with *c*-octanone gave, after flash column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: EtOAc/Hexane/NH<sub>3</sub>•H<sub>2</sub>O = 1/8/0.0 to 1/6/0.05), the desired  $\beta$ -amino alcohol **3e** (165 mg, 60%) as a pale yellow oil; IR (film)  $\nu_{\text{max}}$ : 3444, 3025, 2925, 2851, 1450, 1383, 1289, 1200, 1099, 1002, 889, 705 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  0.97 (d, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 3H), 0.98 (d, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 3H), 1.32-1.46 (m, 8H), 1.48 -1.57 (m, 2H), 1.58-1.69 (m, 2H), 1.75-1.88 (m, 2H), 2.56 (septet, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 1H), 3.51 (s, 1H), 7.22-7.33 (m, 5H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 21.6, 22.2 (2C), 24.3, 24.7, 27.8, 28.6, 33.0, 34.5, 46.0, 68.1, 75.7, 127.0, 128.4 (2C), 141.2 ppm. HRMS-ESI calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>29</sub>NO: (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 276.2327; found: 276.2325.

#### 1-(Isopropylamino)-2-methyl-1-phenylpropan-2-ol (3f)



Following the general procedure B, the reductive cross-coupling of amide **1n** (163 mg, 1.0 mmol) with acetone gave, after flash column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: EtOAc/Hexane/NH<sub>3</sub>•H<sub>2</sub>O = 1/4/0.0 to 1/2/0.05), the desired  $\beta$ -amino alcohol **3f** (155 mg, 75%) as a white solid, mp: 81-82 °C; IR (film)  $\nu_{max}$ : 3360, 3303, 2962, 2918, 2866, 1622, 1491, 1452, 1375, 1306, 1152, 1068, 1029, 975, 887, 795, 776, 738, 703 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  1.02 (d, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 3H), 1.03 (d, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 3H), 1.04 (s, 3H), 1.15 (s, 3H), 2.61 (septet, *J* = 6.3 Hz, 1H), 3.00 (br s, 2H), 3.56 (s, 1H), 7.21-7.35 (m, 5H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 22.0, 24.0, 24.4, 27.3, 46.1, 69.3, 71.5, 127.2, 128.0 (2C), 140.4 ppm. HRMS-ESI calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>21</sub>NO: (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 208.1701; found: 208.1698.

#### 1,1-Dicyclopropyl-2-(isopropylamino)-2-phenylethanol (3g)



Following the general procedure B, the reductive cross-coupling of amide **1n** (163 mg, 1.0 mmol) with dicyclopropylketone gave, after flash column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: EtOAc/Hexane/NH<sub>3</sub>•H<sub>2</sub>O = 1/10/0.0 to 1/8/0.05), the desired β-amino alcohol **3g** (197 mg, 76%) as a white solid, mp: 52-53 °C; IR (film)  $v_{max}$ : 3390, 3086, 3007, 2966, 2926, 2868, 1495, 1467, 1402, 1323, 1192, 1175, 1126, 1090, 1021, 1001, 903, 874, 766, 706 cm<sup>-1</sup>; H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  0.10-0.19 (m, 1H), 0.22-0.36 (m, 4H), 0.40-0.61 (m, 4H), 0.63-0.72 (m, 1H), 0.95 (d, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 3H), 0.99 (d, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 3H), 1.90 (br s, 1H), 2.61 (septet, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 1H), 3.75 (s, 1H), 3.92 (br s, 1H), 7.23-7.40 (m, 5H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): -1.7, -1.1, -0.9, 1.5, 14.3, 18.4,

21.8, 24.6, 45.4, 69.3, 69.8, 127.0, 127.8 , 128.3, 140.1 ppm. HRMS-ESI calcd for  $C_{17}H_{25}NO$ :  $(M+H)^+\,260.2014;$  found: 260.2017.

#### 1-[(Cyclohexylamino)(phenyl)methyl]cyclopentanol (3h)



Following the general procedure B, the reductive cross-coupling of amide **1a** (203 mg, 1.0 mmol) with *c*-pentanone gave, after flash column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: EtOAc/Hexane/NH<sub>3</sub>•H<sub>2</sub>O = 1/8/0.0 to 1/5/0.05), the desired  $\beta$ -amino alcohol **3h** (186 mg, 68%) as a white solid, mp: 70-71 °C; IR (film)  $\nu_{max}$ : 3444, 3025, 2925, 2851, 1450, 1383, 1289, 1200, 1099, 1002, 889, 705 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  0.96-1.20 (m, 5H), 1.24-1.31 (m, 1H), 1.38-1.83 (m, 12H), 1.86-1.96 (m, 1H), 2.21-2.31 (m, 1H), 3.46 (br s, 1H), 3.78 (s, 1H), 7.22-7.34 (m, 5H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 23.3, 23.4, 24.4, 24.9, 26.1, 32.8, 34.8, 35.5, 37.6, 53.4, 66.6, 83.5, 127.0, 127.9, 128.3, 140.9 ppm. HRMS-ESI calcd for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>27</sub>NO: (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 274.2171; found: 274.2171.

#### 1-[(Cyclopentylamino)(phenyl)methyl]cyclopentanol (3i)



Following the general procedure B, the reductive cross-coupling of amide **1m** (189 mg, 1.0 mmol) with *c*-pentanone gave, after flash column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: EtOAc/Hexane/NH<sub>3</sub>•H<sub>2</sub>O = 1/8/0.0 to 1/5/0.05), the desired  $\beta$ -amino alcohol **3i** (179 mg, 69%) as a white solid, mp: 85-86 °C; IR (film)  $v_{max}$ : 3437, 3025, 2954, 2869, 1493, 1451, 1384, 1195, 1122, 1075, 995, 875, 705 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  1.20-1.82 (m, 17H), 2.83-2.92 (m, 1H), 3.37 (br s, 1H), 3.67 (s, 1H), 7.23-7.36 (m, 5H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 23.3, 23.4, 23.7 (2 C), 32.4, 34.1, 35.5, 37.6, 56.9, 68.5, 83.5, 127.1, 128.0, 128.5, 140.6 ppm. HRMS-ESI calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>25</sub>NO: (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 260.2014; found: 260.2010.

#### 1-[(Cyclopropylamino)(phenyl)methyl]cyclopentanol (3j)



Following the general procedure B, the reductive cross-coupling of amide **11** (161 mg, 1.0 mmol) with *c*-pentanone gave, after flash column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: EtOAc/Hexane/NH<sub>3</sub>•H<sub>2</sub>O = 1/8/0.0 to 1/5/0.05), the desired  $\beta$ -amino alcohol **3j** (125 mg, 54%) as a pale yellow oil; IR (film)  $\nu_{\text{max}}$ : 3440, 3085, 2957, 2870, 1494, 1452, 1384, 1368, 1215, 1101, 1014, 704 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  0.24-0.46 (m, 4H), 1.23-1.32 (m, 1H), 1.37-1.53

(m, 3H), 1.54-1.63 (m, 1H), 1.65-1.81 (m, 3H), 1.91-1.97 (m, 1H), 2.51(br s, 2H), 3.73 (s, 1H), 7.24-7.38 (m, 5H);  $^{13}$ C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 6.6, 7.0, 23.3, 23.4, 28.8, 35.6, 37.4, 70.3, 83.4, 127.1, 128.0, 128.4, 140.8 ppm. HRMS-ESI calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>21</sub>NO: (M+Na)<sup>+</sup> 254.1521; found: 254.1518.

#### 1-[(Isobutylamino)(phenyl)methyl]cyclopentanol (3k)



Following the general procedure B, the reductive cross-coupling of amide **1k** (177 mg, 1.0 mmol) with *c*-pentanone gave, after flash column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: EtOAc/Hexane/NH<sub>3</sub>•H<sub>2</sub>O = 1/6/0.0 to 1/4/0.05), the desired β-amino alcohol **3k** (151 mg, 61%) as a pale yellow oil; IR (film)  $v_{\text{max}}$ : 3444, 3025, 2953, 2870, 1495, 1452, 1385, 1196, 1099, 895, 852, 704 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  0.87 (d, J = 5.8 Hz, 3H), 0.88 (d, J = 5.8 Hz, 3H), 1.24-1.33 (m, 1H), 1.43-1.53 (m, 3H), 1.56-1.84 (m, 5H), 2.20-2.33 (m, 2H), 3.61 (s, 1H), 7.22-7.34 (m, 5H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 20.4, 20.6, 23.2, 23.4, 28.5, 35.6, 37.9, 55.8, 70.5, 83.7, 127.1, 127.9, 128.3, 140.5 ppm. HRMS-ESI calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>25</sub>NO: (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 248.2014; found: 248.2011.

#### 1-[(Butylamino)(phenyl)methyl]cyclopentanol (3l)



Following the general procedure B, the reductive cross-coupling of amide **1j** (177 mg, 1.0 mmol) with *c*-pentanone gave, after flash column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: EtOAc/Hexane/NH<sub>3</sub>•H<sub>2</sub>O = 1/6/0.0 to 1/4/0.05), the desired β-amino alcohol **3l** (111 mg, 45%) as a pale yellow oil; IR (film)  $\nu_{\text{max}}$ : 3439, 3026, 2957, 2929, 2871, 1490, 1453, 1378, 1200, 1100, 997, 877, 704 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  0.86 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 3H), 1.22-1.34 (m, 3H), 1.38-1.54 (m, 5H), 1.55-1.65 (m, 1H), 1.68-1.85 (m, 3H), 2.36-2.52 (m, 2H), 3.62 (s, 1H), 7.22-7.34 (m, 5H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 13.9, 20.3, 23.3, 23.4, 32.3, 35.8, 37.9, 47.5, 70.4, 83.6, 127.1, 128.0, 128.3, 140.5 ppm. HRMS-ESI calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>25</sub>NO: (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 248.2014; found: 248.2013.

#### 1-[(Isopropylamino)(p-tolyl)methyl]cyclopentanol (3m)



Following the general procedure B, the reductive cross-coupling of amide 10 (177 mg, 1.0 mmol)

with *c*-pentanone gave, after flash column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: EtOAc/Hexane/NH<sub>3</sub>•H<sub>2</sub>O = 1/6/0.0 to 1/4/0.05), the desired β-amino alcohol **3m** (151 mg, 61%) as a pale yellow oil; IR (film)  $v_{\text{max}}$ : 3445, 2961, 2869, 1512, 1469, 1438, 1380, 1339, 1175, 1113, 1083, 1003, 873, 822, 794, 731 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  0.98 (d, J = 6.2 Hz, 3H), 1.01 (d, J = 6.2 Hz, 3H), 1.24-1.32 (m, 1H), 1.38 -1.51 (m, 3H), 1.53-1.62 (m, 1H), 1.66-1.84 (m, 3H), 2.33 (s, 3H), 2.60 (septet, J = 6.2 Hz, 1H), 3.34 (br s, 1H), 3.70 (s, 1H), 7.08-7.18 (m, 4H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 21.0, 22.0, 23.3, 23.4, 24.4, 35.5, 37.6, 45.6, 67.0, 83.5, 128.2, 128.7, 136.6, 137.6 ppm. HRMS-ESI calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>25</sub>NO: (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 248.2014; found: 248.2012.

#### 1-[(Isopropylamino)(4-methoxyphenyl)methyl]cyclopentanol (3n)



Following the general procedure B, the reductive cross-coupling of amide **1t** (193 mg, 1.0 mmol) with *c*-pentanone gave, after flash column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: EtOAc/Hexane/NH<sub>3</sub>•H<sub>2</sub>O = 1/6/0.0 to 1/4/0.05), the desired β-amino alcohol **3n** (208 mg, 79% yield) as a pale yellow oil; IR (film)  $\nu_{max}$ : 3440, 2960, 2870, 1610, 1583, 1511, 1465, 1441, 1380, 1302, 1246, 1177, 1036, 874, 833 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  0.98 (d, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 3H), 1.01 (d, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 3H), 1.25-1.31 (m, 1H), 1.41-1.51 (m, 3H), 1.55-1.61 (m, 1H), 1.66-1.82 (m, 3H), 2.61 (septet, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 1H), 3.69 (s, 1H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 6.83-6.88 (m, 2H), 7.17-7.22 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 22.0, 23.4, 23.5, 24.3, 35.7, 37.8, 45.6, 55.2, 66.7, 83.7, 113.4, 129.3, 132.7, 158.7 ppm. HRMS-ESI calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>25</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>: (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 264.1964; found: 264.1961.

#### 1-[(4-Fluorophenyl)(isopropylamino)methyl]cyclopentanol (30)



Following the general procedure B, the reductive cross-coupling of amide **1u** (181 mg, 1.0 mmol) with *c*-pentanone gave, after flash column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: EtOAc/Hexane/NH<sub>3</sub>•H<sub>2</sub>O = 1/6/0.0 to 1/4/0.05), the desired β-amino alcohol **3o** (146 mg, 58% yield) as a white solid, mp: 39-40 °C; IR (film)  $v_{max}$ : 3444, 2926, 2871, 1603, 1508, 1470, 1439, 1381, 1223, 1097, 1003, 873, 836 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  0.98 (d, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 3H), 1.01 (d, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 3H), 1.20-1.28 (m, 1H), 1.39-1.52 (m, 3H), 1.53-1.61 (m, 1H), 1.68-1.82 (m, 3H), 2.57 (septet, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 1H), 3.71 (s, 1H), 6.97-7.04 (m, 2H), 7.23-7.29 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 22.0, 23.4, 23.5, 24.3, 35.9, 38.1, 45.6, 66.7, 83.6, 114.8 (d, *J*<sub>F-C</sub> = 20.9 Hz), 129.8 (d, *J*<sub>F-C</sub> = 7.8 Hz), 136.5 (d, *J*<sub>F-C</sub> = 3.1 Hz), 162.0 (d, *J*<sub>F-C</sub> = 245.2 Hz) ppm. HRMS-ESI calcd for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>22</sub>FNO: (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 252.1764; found: 252.1764.

#### 1-[(Isopropylamino)(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)methyl]cyclopentanol (3p)



Following the general procedure B, the reductive cross-coupling of amide **1v** (231 mg, 1.0 mmol) with *c*-pentanone gave, after flash column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: EtOAc/Hexane/NH<sub>3</sub>•H<sub>2</sub>O = 1/6/0.0 to 1/4/0.05), the desired β-amino alcohol **3p** (160 mg, 53% yield) as a pale yellow oil; IR (film)  $v_{max}$ : 3434, 2964, 2873, 1619, 1471, 1383, 1326, 1164, 1124, 1068, 1017, 838 cm<sup>-1</sup>; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$ 0.98 (d, J = 6.2 Hz, 3H), 1.01 (d, J = 6.2 Hz, 3H), 1.19-1.27 (m, 1H), 1.38-1.45 (m, 1H), 1.46-1.56 (m, 2H), 1.57-1.64 (m, 1H), 1.71-1.85 (m, 3H), 2.56 (septet, J = 6.2 Hz, 1H), 3.78 (s, 1H), 7.43 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.58 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 21.8, 23.3, 23.4, 24.2, 36.2, 38.3, 45.8, 67.2, 83.5, 124.2 (d,  $J_{F-C}$  = 270.3 Hz), 124.9 (q,  $J_{F-C}$  = 3.9 Hz), 128.8, 129.4 (q,  $J_{F-C}$  = 32.3 Hz), 144.9 ppm. HRMS-ESI calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>22</sub>F<sub>3</sub>NO: (M+H)<sup>+</sup> 302.1732; found: 302.1731.

#### References

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<sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of *meso/dl* mixture, *meso-*, and *dl*-diastereomers of compounds **2b** and **2f**.

Figure 1: <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of a diastereomeric mixture of **2b**, *meso-***2b**, and *dl-***2b**.



Figure 2: <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of a diastereomeric mixture of **2f**, *meso-***2f**, and *dl-***2f**.

#### X-Ray structure of *meso-2f*:



Summary of Data for *meso-2f* 

\_\_\_\_\_

Compound Name: *meso*-1,2-bis(4-bromophenyl)-N1,N2-dicyclohexylethane-1,2-diamine Formula: C26 H34 Br2 N2

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Unit Cell Parameters: a 5.9858(5) b 10.0355(12) c 10.1711(12) P-1
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CCDC number 1019290.

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Identification code	ml
Empirical formula	C26 H34 Br2 N2
Formula weight	534.37
Temperature	173(2) K
Wavelength	0.71073 A
Crystal system, space group	Triclinic, P-1
Unit cell dimensions	a = 5.9858(5) A alpha = 93.862(10) deg.
	b = 10.0355(12) A beta = 91.455(9) deg.
	c = 10.1711(12) A gamma = 96.575(9) deg.

### <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of *meso-2a*:



### <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of *dl*-2a:

LqwE48-dl-H1 CDCl3(400M)



### <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of *meso-2b*:



### <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of *dl*-2b:

lqwE46-dl-H1 CDCl3(400M)



### <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of *meso-2c*:

lqwE56-meso-H1 CDCl3(400M)



#### <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of *dl*-2c:

LqwE56-dl-H1 CDCl3(400M)



### <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of *meso-2d*:



### <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of *dl*-**2d**:

LqwE44-dl-H1 CDCl3(400M)



### <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of *meso-2e*:

lqwF35-meso-H1 CDCl3(400M)



### <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of *dl*-2e:

lqwF35-dl-H1 CDCl3(400M)



### <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of *meso-2f*:

LqwE53-meso-H1 CDC13(400M)



### <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of *dl*-2f:

lqwE53-dl-H1 CDCl3(400M)



### <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of *meso-2g*:

LqwE45-meso-H1 CDC13



### <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of *dl*-2g:

LqwE45-dl-H1 CDCl3(400M)



### <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of *meso-2*h:

lqwF47-meso-H1 CDCl3(400M)



### <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of *dl*-**2h**:

lqwF47-dl-H1 CDCl3(400M)



### <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of *meso-2i*:

lqwF48-meso-H1 CDC13(400M)





## <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of a fraction of *meso/dl* mixture of compound 2i

### <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of *meso-2j*:

lqwE60-meso-H1 CDCl3(400M)



### <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of *dl* **-2j**:

lqwE60-dl-PROTON256 CDC13(400M)



### <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of *meso-2k*:

lqwF52-meso-H1 CDCl3(400M)



### <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of *dl*-**2k**:

lqwF52-dl-H1 CDCl3(400M)



### <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of *meso-2*l:

lqwF38-meso-H1 CDC13(400M)



### <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of *dl*-**2l**:

lqwF38-dl-H1 CDCl3(400M)



### <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of *meso-2m*:



### <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of *dl*-2m:

lqwF39-dl-H1 CDCl3(400M)



### <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of *meso-2***n**:



#### 1H and 13C NMR spectra of a fraction of meso/dl mixture of **2n**:



### <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of *meso-2o*:

lqwF26-meso-H1 CDCl3(400M)



### <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of *dl*-20:

lqwF26-dl-H1 CDCl3(400M)



### <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of *meso-2r*:

LqwE55-meso-H1 CDC13(400M)



### <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of *dl*-2**r**:



### <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of *meso-2s*:

lqwE88-meso-H1 CDC13(400M)



### <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of *dl*-2s:



### <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of **3a**:

lqwE98-H1 CDC13(400M)



### <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of **3b**:



### <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of **3c**:

lqwE101-H1 CDC13(400M)



### <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of **3d**:

lqwE102-H1 CDC13(400M)



<sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of **3e**:



### <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of **3f**:

lqwE104-H1 CDC13(400M)



### <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of **3g**:



### <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of **3h**:



### <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of **3i**:

lqwF41-H1 CDC13(400M)



### <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of **3j**:



### <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of **3k**:

lqwF53-H1 CDCl3(400M)



### <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of **3l**:

LqwE107-H1 CDC13(400M)



### <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of **3m**:

LqwF27-H1 CDC13(400M)



### <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of **3n**:



### <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of **30**:

lqwE128-H1 CDC13(400M)



### <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of **3p**:

LqwE127-H1 CDC13(400M)

