Gallium(III)- and Calcium(II)-Catalyzed Meyer-Schuster Rearrangements Followed by Intramolecular Aldol Condensation or *endo*-Michael Addition

Supporting Information

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1. General experimental information

All commercially available reagents were used as received. In particular, Ca(NTf₂)₂ and [JohnPhosAu(CH₃CN)]SbF₆ were purchased from Aldrich; JohnPhosAuCl from Strem Chemicals; Cu(OTf)₂ from Acros; KPF₆ from Alfa-Aesar. [IPrGaCl₂]SbF₆ was prepared following our reported procedure.¹ Tetrahydrofuran (THF) was distilled over Na in the presence of benzophenone prior to use. Reactions in overheated solvent were performed in 10 mL reaction tubes sealed with a teflon-coated rodaviss stopper and immersed in a pre-heated oil bath. Analytical thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was performed on TLC silica gel plates (0.25 mm) precoated with a fluorescent indicator. Flash chromatography (FC) was performed on 40-63 µm silica gel with mixtures of ethyl acetate (EA) and cyclohexane (Cy). Visualization was effected with ultraviolet light and/or *p*-anisaldehyde stain. NMR spectra were recorded on AM250, AV300, AV360, DRX400 MHz Bruker spectrometers. ¹H NMR chemical shifts were referenced to the residual solvent signal; ¹³C NMR chemical shifts were referenced to the deuterated solvent signal. Multiplicity was defined by DEPT 135 analysis. Data are presented as follows: chemical shift δ (ppm), multiplicity (s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, m = multiplet, br = broad), coupling constant J (Hz), integration. High-resolution mass spectra were obtained by electrospray ionization on a TOF instrument (MicrOTOFq Bruker spectrometer).

2. Starting materials

2.1. Preparation of yne-β-ketoesters SM1² and SM2³



General procedure for the y-alkylation of methyl isobutyrylacetate: An oven-dried round bottom flask equipped with a stir bar and closed with a septum was evacuated and placed under Ar (balloon). THF (c = 1 M) and diisopropylamine (2.2 equiv) were added (by syringes) and the mixture was cooled to 0 °C (ice-water bath). *n*-BuLi (2.2 equiv) was added by syringe and the resulting solution was stirred at 0 °C for 15 min. Methyl isobutyrylacetate (1.0 equiv) was added by syringe and the resulting solution was stirred at 0 °C for 15 min. The alkylating reagent (1.0 equiv) was added by syringe. The reaction was allowed to warm to rt and stirred for 14 h. Then, the reaction mixture was poured into sat aq NH₄Cl and this solution was extracted twice with EtOAc. The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried (MgSO₄) and evaporated. Purification by FC afforded the desired product.

O O OMe SM1, 54% C₁₀H₁₄O₃

MW=182.22

Following the general procedure, the reaction performed with methyl isobutyrylacetate (4.0 mL, 28.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and propargyl bromide (3.1 mL, purity = 80%, 28.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv) afforded, after purification by FC (250 mL SiO₂, EA/Cy:0.5/9.5 then 1/9), the desired product (3.266 g, purity = 84%, 54% yield) as a yellow oil. On different runs, this product has been obtained in 72 – 84% purity.

Rf (EA/Cy:1/9, UV+pAnis): 0.30. ¹**H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃):** (major keto form) δ 3.64 (s, 3H), 3.54 (s, 2H), 2.32 (d, J = 2.6 Hz, 2H), 1.99 (t, J = 2.6 Hz, 1H), 1.18 (s, 6H). ¹³**C NMR**

(63 MHz, CDCl₃): (major keto form) δ 206.1 (C), 167.8 (C), 80.5 (C), 71.2 (CH), 52.2 (CH₃), 47.5 (C), 44.3 (CH₂), 28.3 (CH₂), 23.5 (2 CH₃). **HRMS (ESI+)**: *m*/*z* calcd. for C₁₀H₁₅O₃ (M + H)⁺ 183.1016, found 183.1019.



Following the general procedure, the reaction performed with methyl isobutyrylacetate (2.0 mL, 14.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and 4-bromobutyne (1.3 mL, 14.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv) afforded, after purification by FC (250 mL SiO₂, EA/Cy:0.5/9.5 then 1/9), the desired product (1.945 g, purity = 82%, 58% yield) as a yellow oil. On different runs, this product has been obtained in 77 – 84% purity.

Rf (EA/Cy:1/9, UV+pAnis): 0.31. ¹H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 3.64 (s, 3H), 3.49 (s, 2H), 2.10 – 1.98 (m, 2H), 1.90 (t, J = 4 Hz, 1H), 1.74 (dd, J = 11, 4 Hz, 2H), 1.09 (s, 6H). ¹³C NMR (63 MHz, CDCl₃): (keto/enol forms) δ 207.0 (C), 183.4 (C), 173.3 (C), 168.0 (C), 87.1 (CH), 84.3 (C), 83.6 (C), 69.0 (C), 68.3 (C), 52.2 (CH₃), 51.1 (CH₃), 47.7 (C), 46.7 (C), 44.0 (CH₂), 39.1 (CH₂), 37.9 (CH₂), 25.2 (2 CH₃), 23.8 (2 CH₃), 14.1 (2 CH₂). HRMS (ESI+): m/z calcd. for C₁₁H₁₆NaO₃ (M + Na)⁺ 219.0992, found 219.0981.



SM3, 44%

C₈H₁₀O₃ MW=154.16 Following the general procedure, the reaction performed with the methyl acetoacetate (2.0 mL, 18.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and propargyl bromide (2.1 mL, purity = 80%, 18.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv) afforded, after purification by FC (250 mL SiO₂, EA/Cy:0.5/9.5 then 1/9), the desired product (1.26 g, 44%) as a yellow oil.

Rf (EA/Cy:1/9, UV+pAnis): 0.14. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 3.67 (s, 3H), 3.43 (s, 2H), 2.75 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.39 (td, J = 7.2, 2.7 Hz, 2H), 1.92 (t, J = 2.7 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (90 MHz, CDCl₃): (major keto form) δ 200.5 (C), 167.3 (C), 82.5 (C), 69.0 (CH), 52.4 (CH₃), 48.8 (CH₂), 41.5 (CH₂), 12.7 (CH₂). HRMS (ESI+): m/z calcd. for C₈H₁₀NaO₃ (M + Na)⁺ 177.0522, found 177.0524.



C₁₄H₁₄O₃ MW=230.26 Following the general procedure, the reaction performed with the benzyl acetoacetate (2.0 mL, 11.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and propargyl bromide (1.3 mL, purity = 80%, 11.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv) afforded, after purification by FC (250 mL SiO₂, EA/Cy:0.5/9.5 then 1/9), the desired product (1.100 g, 41%) as a yellow oil.

Rf (EA/Cy:1/9, UV+pAnis): 0.28. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.35 (s, 5H), 5.16 (s, 2H), 3.49 (s, 2H), 2.75 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.43 (td, *J* = 7.2, 2.6 Hz, 2H), 1.98 (t, *J* = 2.6 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (90 MHz, CDCl₃): (major keto form) δ 200.3 (C), 166.6 (C), 135.2 (C), 128.5 (2 CH), 128.3 (CH), 128.2 (2 CH), 82.5 (C), 69.0 (CH), 66.9 (CH₂), 48.8 (CH₂), 41.4 (CH₂), 12.6 (CH₂). HRMS (ESI+): *m*/*z* calcd. for C₁₄H₁₄NaO₃ (M + Na)⁺ 253.0835, found 253.0832.



SM5, 66% C₉H₁₂O₃ MW=168.19 Following the general procedure, the reaction performed with the methyl 3oxovalerate (2.0 mL, 15.9 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and propargyl bromide (1.8 mL, purity = 80%, 15.9 mmol, 1.0 equiv) afforded, after purification by FC (250 mL SiO₂, EA/Cy:0.5/9.5 then 1/9), the desired product (1.78 g, 66%) as a yellow oil. **Rf** (EA/Cy:1/9, UV+pAnis): 0.24. ¹H NMR (360 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 3.64 (s, 3H), 3.48 (s, 2H), 2.78 (dq, J = 16.9, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 2.40 (ddd, J = 16.9, 6.8, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 2.24 (ddd, J = 16.9, 6.8, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 1.95 (t, J = 2.7 Hz, 1H), 1.15 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (90 MHz, CDCl₃): (major keto form) δ 204.2 (C), 167.4 (C), 81.3 (C), 70.2 (CH), 52.2 (CH₃), 47.6 (CH₂), 45.3 (CH), 21.5 (CH₂), 15.6 (CH₃). HRMS (ESI+): m/z calcd. for C₉H₁₂NaO₃ (M + Na)⁺ 191.0679, found 191.0682.



MW=168.19

Following the general procedure, the reaction performed with the methyl acetoacetate (0.6 mL, 5.33 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and 4-bromobutyne (0.5 mL, 5.33 mmol, 1.0 equiv) afforded, after purification by FC (100 mL SiO₂, EA/Cy:0.5/9.5 then 1/9), the desired product (378 mg, 42%) as a yellow oil.

Rf (EA/Cy:1/9, UV+pAnis): 0.20. ¹**H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃):** δ 3.65 (s, 3H), 3.40 (s, 2H), 2.62 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.16 (td, J = 6.8, 2.6 Hz, 2H), 1.92 (t, J = 2.6 Hz, 1H), 1.75 – 1.70 (m, 2H). ¹³**C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃):** (major keto form) δ 202.1 (C), 167.5 (C), 83.3 (C), 69.3 (CH), 52.3 (CH₃), 49.0 (CH₂), 41.3 (CH₂), 21.9 (CH₂), 17.5 (CH₂). **HRMS (ESI+):** *m*/*z* calcd. for C₉H₁₂NaO₃ (M + Na)⁺ 191.0679, found 191.0680.

2.2. Preparation of the propargylic alcohols derived from β-ketoesters



General procedure: A round bottom flask equipped with a stir bar was charged with the alkyne (1.0 equiv), closed with septum, evacuated and backfilled with Ar (balloon). THF (c = 0.1 M) was added by syringe and the solution was cooled to -78 °C (dry ice-acetone bath). *n*-BuLi (2.2 equiv) was added by syringe and the resulting solution was stirred at -78 °C for 5 min. The carbonylated compound (1.0 equiv) was added (by syringe for liquids or by quick removal of the septum for solids). The reaction was allowed to warm to rt and stirred for 14 h. Then, the reaction mixture was poured into sat aq NH4Cl and this solution was extracted twice with EtOAc. The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried (MgSO₄) and evaporated. Purification by FC afforded the desired product.



Following the general procedure, the reaction performed with **SM1** (482 mg, purity = 72%, 1.90 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and acetone (0.14 mL, 1.90 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in THF (20 mL) afforded, after purification by FC (50 mL SiO₂, EA/Cy:2/8 then 4/6), the desired product **1a** (351 mg, 77%) as a yellow oil.

Rf (EA/Cy:2/8, UV+pAnis): 0.14. ¹**H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃):** δ 3.59 (s, 3H), 3.51 (s, 2H), 3.15 (br, 1H), 2.24 (s, 2H), 1.33 (s, 6H), 1.09 (s, 6H). ¹³**C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃):** (major keto form) δ 206.5 (C), 168.1 (C), 88.4 (C), 77.9 (C), 64.6 (C), 52.1 (CH₃), 47.8 (C), 44.5 (CH₂), 31.3 (2 CH₃), 28.9 (CH₂), 23.5 (2 CH₃). **HRMS (ESI+):** *m*/*z* calcd. for C₁₃H₂₀NaO₄ (M + Na)⁺ 263.1254, found 263.1255.



Following the general procedure, the reaction performed with **SM1** (506 mg, purity = 83%, 2.30 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and benzophenone (420 mg, 2.30 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in THF (10 mL) afforded, after purification by FC (100 mL SiO₂, EA/Cy:1/9 then 2/8), the desired product **1b** (591 mg, 70%) as a pale yellow paste.

Rf (EA/Cy:2/8, UV+pAnis): 0.42. ¹H NMR (360 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.60 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 4H), 7.33 (dd, J = 7.5, 7.5 Hz, 4H), 7.29 – 7.24 (m, 2H), 3.68 (s, 3H), 3.59 (s, 2H), 2.55 (s, 2H), 2.03 (br, 1H), 1.27 (s, 6H). ¹³C NMR (90 MHz, CDCl₃): (major keto form) δ 206.4 (C), 168.1 (C), 145.3 (2 C), 128.1 (4 CH), 127.5 (2 CH), 125.9 (4 CH), 86.3 (C), 83.9 (C), 74.3 (C), 52.3 (CH₃), 48.0 (C), 44.6 (CH₂), 29.4 (CH₂), 23.9 (2 CH₃). HRMS (ESI+): m/z calcd. for C₂₃H₂₄NaO₄ (M + Na)⁺ 387.1567, found 387.1559.



Following the general procedure, the reaction performed with **SM1** (521 mg, purity = 83%, 2.37 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and benzaldehyde (0.24 mL, 2.37 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in THF (12 mL) afforded, after purification by FC (100 mL SiO₂, EA/Cy:2/8 then 4/6), the desired product **1c** (398 mg, 58%) as a yellow oil.

Rf (EA/Cy:4/6, UV+pAnis): 0.48. ¹H NMR (360 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.48 – 7.46 (m, 2H), 7.35 – 7.25 (m, 3H), 5.38 (br s, 1H), 3.66 (s, 3H), 3.56 (s, 2H), 3.49 (br, 1H), 2.43 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 2H), 1.21 (s, 6H). ¹³C NMR (90 MHz, CDCl₃): (major keto form) δ 206.5 (C), 168.1 (C), 141.1 (C), 128.4 (2 CH), 128.0 (CH), 126.4 (2 CH), 83.3 (C), 82.9 (C), 64.2 (CH), 52.2 (CH₃), 47.8 (C), 44.4 (CH₂), 29.0 (CH₂), 23.7 (2 CH₃). HRMS (ESI+): *m*/*z* calcd. for C₁₇H₂₀NaO₄ (M + Na)⁺ 311.1254, found 311.1250.



Following the general procedure, the reaction performed with **SM1** (587 mg, purity = 83%, 2.67 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and 4-bromobenzaldehyde (495 mg, 2.67 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in THF (14 mL) afforded, after purification by FC (100 mL SiO₂, EA/Cy:2/8 then 4/6), the desired product **1d** (588 mg, 60%) as a yellow oil.

Rf (EA/Cy:4/6, UV+pAnis): 0.42. ¹H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.44 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.32 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 5.31 (br s, 1H), 3.82 (br, 1H), 3.67 (s, 3H), 3.56 (s, 2H), 2.42 (s, 2H), 1.20 (s, 6H). ¹³C NMR (63 MHz, CDCl₃): (major keto form) δ 206.5 (C), 168.1 (C), 140.1 (C), 131.4 (2 CH), 128.2 (2 CH), 121.8 (C), 83.2 (C), 82.8 (C), 63.5 (CH), 52.3 (CH₃), 47.9 (C), 44.4 (CH₂), 29.0 (CH₂), 23.7 (2 CH₃). **HRMS** (ESI+): m/z calcd. for C₁₇H₁₉BrNaO₄ (M + Na)⁺ 389.0359, found 389.0349.



MW=212.24

Following the general procedure, the reaction performed with **SM3** (508 mg, 3.29 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and acetone (0.24 mL, 3.29 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in THF (30 mL) afforded, after purification by FC (50 mL SiO₂, EA/Cy:4/6 then 6/4), **1e** (286 mg, 41%) as a yellow oil.

Rf (EA/Cy:4/6, UV+pAnis): 0.26. ¹**H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃):** δ 3.67 (s, 3H), 3.43 (s, 2H), 2.82 (br, 1H), 2.69 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.38 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.38 (s, 6H). ¹³**C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃):** (major keto form) δ 201.1 (C), 167.5 (C), 86.1 (C), 80.1 (C), 64.9 (C), 52.4 (CH₃), 49.0 (CH₂), 41.2 (CH₂), 31.5 (2 CH₃), 13.1 (CH₂). **HRMS (ESI+):** *m/z* calcd. for C₁₁H₁₆NaO₄ (M + Na)⁺ 235.0941, found 235.0940.



Following the general procedure, the reaction performed with SM4 (555 mg, 2.41 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and acetone (0.18 mL, 2.41 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in THF (10 mL) afforded, after purification by FC (100 mL SiO₂, EA/Cy:2/8 then 4/6), **1f** (292 mg, 42%) as a yellow oil.

Rf (EA/Cy:4/6, UV+pAnis): 0.29. ¹**H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃):** δ 7.33 (s, 5H), 5.14 (s, 2H), 3.49 (s, 2H), 2.84 (br, 1H), 2.70 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 2.41 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.43 (s, 6H). ¹³**C NMR (63 MHz, CDCl₃):** (major keto form) δ 200.9 (C), 166.9 (C), 135.1 (C), 128.5 (2 CH), 128.4 (CH), 128.3 (2 CH), 86.1 (C), 80.0 (C), 67.1 (CH₂), 64.8 (C), 49.1 (CH₂), 41.7 (C), 31.5 (2 CH₃), 13.1 (CH₂). **HRMS (ESI+):** *m/z* calcd. for C₁₇H₂₀NaO₄ (M + Na)⁺ 311.1254, found 311.1244.



C₁₂H₁₈O₄ MW=226.27 Following the general procedure, the reaction performed with **SM5** (515 mg, 3.06 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and acetone (0.22 mL, 3.06 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in THF (15 mL) afforded, after purification by FC (50 mL SiO₂, EA/Cy:2/8 then 4/6), **1g** (384 mg, 55%) as a pale yellow oil.

Rf (EA/Cy:4/6, UV+pAnis): 0.37. ¹**H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃):** δ 3.63 (s, 3H), 3.49 (s, 2H), 3.00 (br, 1H), 2.80 – 2.68 (m, 1H), 2.38 – 2.19 (m, 2H), 1.36 (s, 6H), 1.09 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H). ¹³**C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃):** (major keto form) δ 204.9 (C), 167.7 (C), 87.5 (C), 78.7 (C), 64.7 (C), 52.3 (CH₃), 47.9 (CH₂), 45.4 (CH), 31.4 (CH₃), 31.4 (CH₃), 21.9 (CH₂), 15.7 (CH₃). **HRMS (ESI+):** *m/z* calcd. for C₁₂H₁₈NaO₄ (M + Na)⁺ 249.1097, found 249.1097.



MW=254.32

Following the general procedure, the reaction performed with **SM2** (347 mg, purity = 80%, 1.41 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and acetone (0.1 mL, 1.41 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in THF (15 mL) afforded, after purification by FC (20 mL SiO₂, EA/Cy:2/8 then 4/6), the desired product **5a** (303 mg, 84%) as a yellow oil.

Rf (EA/Cy:2/8, UV+pAnis): 0.16. ¹H NMR (360 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 3.62 (s, 3H), 3.55 (s, 2H), 3.12 (br, 1H), 2.06 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.68 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.34 (s, 6H), 1.05 (s, 6H). ¹³C NMR (90 MHz, CDCl₃): (major keto form) δ 207.2 (C), 168.6 (C), 86.3 (C), 80.6 (C), 64.7 (C), 52.2 (CH₃), 47.5 (C), 44.2 (CH₂), 37.7 (CH₂), 31.3 (2 CH₃), 24.0 (2 CH₃), 14.3 (CH₂). HRMS (ESI+): m/z calcd. for C₁₄H₂₂NaO₄ (M + Na)⁺ 277.1410, found 277.1414.



C₂₄H₂₆O₄ MW=378.46 Following the general procedure, the reaction performed with **SM2** (513 mg, purity = 77%, 2.61 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and benzophenone (476 mg, 2.61 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in THF (20 mL) afforded, after purification by FC (50 mL SiO₂, EA/Cy:1/9 then 2/8), the desired product **5b** (648 mg, 65%) as a pale yellow oil.

Rf (EA/Cy:1/9, UV+pAnis): 0.22. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.62 – 7.59 (m, 4H), 7.35 – 7.23 (m, 6H), 3.67 (s, 3H), 3.60 (s, 2H), 3.08 (br, 1H), 2.35 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.89 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 1.19 (s, 6H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): (major keto form) δ 207.2 (C), 168.5 (C), 145.5 (2 C), 128.1 (4 CH), 127.4 (2 CH), 126.0 (4 CH), 86.5 (C), 84.1 (C), 74.2 (C), 52.4 (CH₃), 47.6 (C), 44.3 (CH₂), 37.8 (CH₂), 24.1 (2 CH₃), 14.8 (CH₂). HRMS (ESI+): *m*/*z* calcd. for C₂₄H₂₆NaO₄ (M + Na)⁺ 401.1723, found 401.1733.



C₁₈H₂₂O₄ MW=302.36 Following the general procedure, the reaction performed with **SM2** (550 mg, purity = 82%, 2.16 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and benzaldehyde (0.22 mL, 2.16 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in THF (10 mL) afforded, after purification by FC (50 mL SiO₂, EA/Cy:2/8 then 4/6), the desired product **5c** (371 mg, 57%) as a yellow oil.

Rf (EA/Cy:2/8, UV+pAnis): 0.17. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.48 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 7.35 – 7.24 (m, 3H), 5.38 (s, 1H), 3.67 (s, 3H), 3.59 (s, 2H), 3.13 (br, 1H), 2.21 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.80 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.13 (s, 6H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): (major keto form) δ 207.4 (C), 168.6 (C), 141.1 (C), 128.3 (2 CH), 127.9 (CH), 126.5 (2 CH), 85.5 (C), 81.5 (C), 64.2 (CH), 52.3 (CH₃), 47.5 (C), 44.2 (CH₂), 37.6 (CH₂), 24.0 (CH₃), 23.9 (CH₃), 14.5 (CH₂). HRMS (ESI+): m/z calcd. for C₁₈H₂₂NaO₄ (M + Na)⁺ 325.1410, found 325.1403.



Following the general procedure, the reaction performed with **SM2** (667 mg, purity = 82%, 2.79 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and 4-bromobenzaldehyde (516 mg, 2.79 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in THF (10 mL) afforded, after purification by FC (50 mL SiO₂, EA/Cy:1/9 then 2/8), the desired product **5d** (833 mg, 78%) as a yellow oil.

Rf (EA/Cy:2/8, UV+pAnis): 0.17. ¹H NMR (**300** MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.40 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.31 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 5.29 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H), 4.00 (br, 1H), 3.64 (s, 3H), 3.57 (s, 2H), 2.17 (td, J = 7.5, 1.6 Hz, 2H), 1.75 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 1.09 (s, 6H). ¹³C NMR (**75** MHz, CDCl₃): (major keto form) δ 207.4 (C), 168.7 (C), 140.2 (C), 131.3 (2 CH), 128.3 (2 CH), 121.6 (C), 85.7 (C), 81.1 (C), 63.4 (CH), 52.3 (CH₃), 47.4 (C), 44.2 (CH₂), 37.4 (CH₂), 24.0 (CH₃), 23.9 (CH₃), 14.5 (CH₂). HRMS (ESI+): m/z calcd. for C₁₈H₂₁BrNaO₄ (M + Na)⁺ 403.0515, found 403.0502.



Following the general procedure, the reaction performed with SM6 (218 mg, 1.30 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and acetone (0.10 mL, 1.30 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in THF (10 mL) afforded, after purification by FC (20 mL SiO₂, EA/Cy:4/6), **5e** (134 mg, 46%) as a colorless oil.

5e, 46% C₁₂H₁₈O₄ MW=226.27

Rf (EA/Cy:4/6, UV+pAnis): 0.29. ¹**H NMR (360 MHz, CDCl₃):** δ 3.65 (s, 3H), 3.41 (s, 2H), 2.69 (br, 1H), 2.58 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 2.14 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 1.70 (pent, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 1.39 (s, 6H). ¹³**C NMR (90 MHz, CDCl₃):** (major keto form) δ 202.2 (C), 167.7 (C), 86.5 (C), 80.8 (C), 64.9 (C), 52.3 (CH₃), 49.1 (CH₂), 41.4 (CH₂), 31.6 (2 CH₃), 22.1 (CH₂), 17.7 (CH₂). **HRMS (ESI+):** *m/z* calcd. for C₁₂H₁₈NaO₄ (M + Na)⁺ 249.1097, found 249.1098.



Following the general procedure, the reaction performed with **SM2** (524 mg, 2.67 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and acetaldehyde (0.15 mL, 2.67 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in THF (20 mL) afforded, after purification by FC (50 mL SiO₂, EA/Cy:2/8 then 4/6), **5i** (49 mg, 8%) as a yellow oil.

5i, 8% C₁₃H₂₀O₄ MW=240.30

Rf (EA/Cy:4/6, UV+pAnis): 0.32. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 4.45 – 4.39 (m, 1H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 3.63 (s, 2H), 2.90 (br, 1H), 2.19 – 2.14 (m, 2H), 1.77 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 1.35 (d, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 3H), 1.13 (s, 6H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): (major keto form) δ 207.4 (C), 168.8 (C), 83.9 (C), 82.8 (C), 58.2 (CH), 52.5 (CH₃), 47.6 (C), 44.5 (CH₂), 37.8 (CH₂), 24.3 (2 CH₃), 24.2 (CH₃), 14.6 (CH₂).



5j, 71% C₁₂H₁₈O₄ MW=226.27 Following the general procedure, the reaction performed with SM2 (428 mg, 2.18 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and para-formaldehyde (65 mg, 2.18 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in THF (20 mL) afforded, after purification by FC (100 mL SiO₂, EA/Cy:3/7 then 4/6), **5j** (350 mg, 71%) as a pale yellow oil.

Rf (EA/Cy:4/6, UV+pAnis): 0.30. ¹**H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃):** δ 4.12 (t, J = 2.1 Hz, 2H), 3.68 (s, 3H), 3.61 (s, 2H), 2.76 (br, 1H), 2.17 – 2.12 (m, 2H), 1.76 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 1.11 (s, 6H). ¹³**C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃):** (major keto form) δ 207.6 (C), 168.9 (C), 84.4 (C), 80.2 (C), 52.4 (CH₃), 50.8 (CH₂), 47.6 (C), 44.4 (CH₂), 37.7 (CH₂), 24.1 (2 CH₃), 14.6 (CH₂). **HRMS (ESI+):** m/z calcd. for C₁₂H₁₉O₄ (M + H)⁺ 227.1278, found 227.1279.

S8



1h, 53% C₁₈H₂₃NO₃

MW=301.38

In air, a sealed tube equipped with a stir bar was charged with **1a** (351 mg, 1.46 mmol, 1.0 equiv), aniline (0.13 mL, 1.46 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and DMAP (53 mg, 0.44 mmol, 0.3 equiv) in toluene (1.5 mL) and the tube was sealed. The reaction was stirred at 120 °C for 16 h. Then, the reaction mixture was poured into 1 M aq HCl and this solution was extracted twice with EtOAc. The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried (MgSO₄) and evaporated. Purification by FC (50 mL SiO₂, EA/Cy:4/6 then 5/5) afforded **1h** (233 mg, 53%) as an orange oil.

Rf (EA/Cy:4/6, UV+pAnis): 0.23. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 9.17 (br, 1H), 7.54 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.27 (dd, J = 7.9, 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.08 (t, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 3.67 (s, 2H), 3.64 (s, 1H), 2.34 (s, 2H), 1.42 (s, 6H), 1.20 (s, 6H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 210.6 (C), 164.6 (C), 137.6 (C), 128.9 (2 CH), 124.4 (CH), 120.1 (2 CH), 88.7 (C), 78.0 (C), 64.9 (C), 48.3 (C), 45.6 (CH₂), 31.4 (2 CH₃), 29.3 (CH₂), 23.6 (2 CH₃).

3. Catalytic reactions

3.1. Initial findings (related to Scheme 4)

Table S1. Catalyst screening.



In air, **1a** (24 mg, 0.1 mmol, 1.0 equiv) and cat were charged in a 10 mL screw-cap vial equipped with a stir bar. The solvent (1 mL, c = 0.1 M) was added and the tube was sealed. The reaction was stirred at the indicated temperature for the indicated time. Then, the reaction mixture was filtered through a short pad of SiO₂ (thoroughly rinsed with EtOAc) and evaporated. Conversion and ¹H NMR yields were determined by ¹H NMR analysis of this material, using 4-methoxybenzaldehyde (1.0 equiv) as an internal standard.

3.2. Optimization of the cyclization of 1a (related to Table 1)

Table S2. Optimization of the calcium-catalyzed reactions.



		PPh ₃ (3 mol%)				
13	$Ca(NTf_2)_2 (5 mol\%)$	KPF ₆ (5 mol%) DMAP (3 mol%)	CH ₂ Cl ₂ /amylene (0.1 M), 80 °C, 18 h	0%	-	-
14	$Ca(NTf_2)_2 (5 mol\%)$	KPF ₆ (5 mol%) 1 equiv EtOH	CH ₂ Cl ₂ /amylene (0.1 M), 80 °C, 18 h	100%	11	89
15	$Ca(NTf_2)_2 (5 mol\%)$	KPF ₆ (5 mol%) 2 equiv EtOH	CH ₂ Cl ₂ /amylene (0.1 M), 80 °C, 18 h	100%	8	92
16	$Ca(NTf_2)_2~(5~mol\%)$	KPF ₆ (5 mol%) 5 equiv EtOH	CH ₂ Cl ₂ /amylene (0.1 M), 80 °C, 18 h	100% e	3	97
17	$Ca(NTf_2)_2~(5~mol\%)$	KPF ₆ (5 mol%) 10 equiv EtOH	CH ₂ Cl ₂ /amylene (0.1 M), 80 °C, 18 h	100% ^e	2	98
18	Ca(NTf ₂) ₂ (5 mol%)	KPF_6 (5 mol%)	EtOH (0.1 M), 80 °C, 18 h	CM	-	-
19	$Ca(NTf_2)_2~(5~mol\%)$	KPF ₆ (5 mol%) 5 equiv MeOH	CH ₂ Cl ₂ /amylene (0.1 M), 80 °C, 18 h	100%	17	83
20	$Ca(NTf_2)_2 (5 mol\%)$	KPF ₆ (5 mol%) 5 equiv <i>i</i> - PrOH	CH ₂ Cl ₂ /amylene (0.1 M), 80 °C, 18 h	100%	3	97
21	$Ca(NTf_2)_2~(5~mol\%)$	KPF ₆ (5 mol%) 10 equiv <i>i</i> -PrOH	CH ₂ Cl ₂ /amylene (0.1 M), 80 °C, 18 h	100%	23	77
22	$Ca(NTf_2)_2 (5 mol\%)$	KPF ₆ (5 mol%) 5 equiv (L)-Menthol	CH ₂ Cl ₂ /amylene (0.1 M), 80 °C, 18 h	100%	0	100
23	$Ca(NTf_2)_2 (5 mol\%)$	KPF ₆ (5 mol%) 5 equiv t-BuOH	CH ₂ Cl ₂ /amylene (0.1 M), 80 °C, 18 h	100%	96	4
24	$Ca(NTf_2)_2~(5~mol\%)$	KPF ₆ (5 mol%) 5 equiv PhOH	CH ₂ Cl ₂ /amylene (0.1 M), 80 °C, 18 h	100%	100	0

^a Reactions set up in air using 0.1 mmol of **1a** in bulk solvents in 10 mL sealed tubes; ^b Abbreviations: NR = no reaction; CM = complex mixture; ^c Determined by ¹H NMR analysis; ^d CH₂Cl₂/0.1% EtOH is CH₂Cl₂ stabilized on EtOH; ^e Transesterification product detected in the crude mixture.

Table S3. Blank tests.



^a Reactions set up in air using 0.1 mmol of **2a** in bulk CH₂Cl₂ in 10 mL sealed tubes; ^b Abbreviations: NR = no reaction; ^c Determined by ¹H NMR analysis.

3.3. Optimization of the cyclization of 5a (related to Table 2)

Table S4. Optimization of the calcium-catalyzed reactions.



			-			
Fntry	[M]	Additive	Conditions	¹ H Conv ^c	¹ H Yield ^d	
Entry			Conditions	II Colly	6a	27a
1	Ca(NTf ₂) ₂ (5 mol%)	Bu ₄ NPF ₆ (5 mol%)	CH ₂ Cl ₂ /amylene (0.1 M), 50 °C, 18 h	100%	62%	12%
2	$Ca(NTf_2)_2$ (5 mol%)	KPF ₆ (5 mol%)	CH ₂ Cl ₂ /amylene (0.1 M), 50 °C, 18 h	100%	1%	67%
3	Ca(NTf ₂) ₂ (5 mol%)	Bu ₄ NCl (5 mol%)	CH ₂ Cl ₂ /amylene (0.1 M), 50 °C, 18 h	0% (NR)	-	-
4	Ca(NTf ₂) ₂ (5 mol%)	Bu ₄ NBF ₄ (5 mol%)	CH ₂ Cl ₂ /amylene (0.1 M), 50 °C, 18 h	100%	1%	64%
5	-	KPF ₆ (5 mol%)	CH ₂ Cl ₂ /amylene (0.1 M), 50 °C, 18 h	0% (NR)	-	-
6	Ca(NTf ₂) ₂ (5 mol%)	-	CH ₂ Cl ₂ /amylene (0.1 M), 50 °C, 18 h	0% (NR)	-	-
7	JohnPhosAu(CH	3CN)SbF6 (5 mol%)	CH ₂ Cl ₂ /amylene (0.1 M), 50 °C, 18 h	100%	5%	90%
8	$Ca(NTf_2)_2$ (5 mol%)	KPF ₆ (5 mol%)	CH ₂ Cl ₂ /amylene (0.1 M), 80 °C, 18 h	100%	-	85%

9	Ca(NTf ₂) ₂ (5 mol%)	KPF ₆ (5 mol%)	CH ₂ Cl ₂ /amylene (0.1 M), 100 °C, 18 h	100%	33%	60%
10	Ca(NTf ₂) ₂ (5 mol%)	KPF ₆ (5 mol%)	CH ₂ Cl ₂ /amylene (0.05 M), 80 °C, 18 h	100%	25%	50%
11	$Ca(NTf_2)_2$ (5 mol%)	KPF_6 (5 mol%)	CH₃CN (0.1 M), 60 °C, 18 h	100%	-	86%
12	Ca(NTf ₂) ₂ (5 mol%)	KPF ₆ (5 mol%)	DCE (0.1 M), 80 °C, 18 h	100%	-	46%
13	$Ca(NTf_2)_2$ (5 mol%)	KPF ₆ (5 mol%)	PhMe (0.1 M), 100 °C, 18 h	100%	8%	39%
14	$Ca(NTf_2)_2 (5 mol\%)$	KPF ₆ (5 mol%) CaH ₂ (100mg/mmol)	CH ₂ Cl ₂ /amylene (0.1 M), 80 °C, 18 h	0% (NR)	-	-
15	$Ca(NTf_2)_2 (5 mol\%)$	KPF ₆ (5 mol%) 4 Å MS (100mg/mmol)	CH ₂ Cl ₂ /amylene (0.1 M), 80 °C, 18 h	0% (NR)	-	-

^a Reactions set up in air on 0.1 mmol of **5a** in bulk solvents in 10 mL sealed tubes; ^b Abbreviations: NR = no reaction; ^c Determined by ¹H NMR analysis; ^d Yields determined using 1.0 equiv of 4-methoxybenzaldehyde as an internal standard.

4. Scope of the reactions

4.1. Type 1 substrates (related to Scheme 6)



General procedure: In air, the substrate (1.0 equiv), $Ca(NTf_2)_2$ (5 mol%) and KPF₆ (5 mol%) were charged in a 10 mL screw-cap vial equipped with a stir bar. Bulk CH₂Cl₂ stabilized on amylene (c = 0.1 M) and *i*-PrOH (5.0 equiv) were added and the tube was sealed. The reaction was stirred at 80 °C for 18 h. Then, the reaction mixture was filtered through a short pad of SiO₂ (thoroughly rinsed with EtOAc) and evaporated. Purification by FC afforded the desired product.



Following the general procedure, the reaction performed with **1a** (104 mg, 0.43 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in bulk CH₂Cl₂ stabilized on amylene (4 mL, c = 0.1 M) with *i*-PrOH (0.17 mL, 2.16 mmol, 5.0 equiv) at 80 °C for 18 h afforded, after purification by FC (20 mL SiO₂, EA/Cy:1/9 then 2/8), **4a** (55 mg, 53%) as a yellow solid.

Rf (EA/Cy:2/8, UV+pAnis): 0.23. ¹**H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃):** δ 4.01 (s, 1H), 3.67 (s, 3H), 2.72 (d, *J* = 13.0 Hz, 1H), 2.58 (d, *J* = 12.4 Hz, 1H), 2.54 (d, *J* = 12.4 Hz, 1H), 2.44 (d, *J* = 13.0 Hz, 1H), 1.18 (s, 3H), 1.15 (s, 3H), 1.09 (s, 3H), 1.08 (s, 3H). ¹³**C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃):** δ 208.4 (C), 207.6 (C), 168.4 (C), 63.3 (CH), 58.5 (CH₂), 52.1 (CH₂), 52.0 (CH₃), 46.4 (C), 36.1 (C), 29.0 (CH₃), 28.0 (CH₃), 25.0 (CH₃), 24.8 (CH₃). **HRMS (ESI+):** *m*/*z* calcd. for C₁₃H₂₁O₄ (M + H)⁺ 241.1434, found 241.1434.



Following the general procedure, the reaction performed with **1b** (192 mg, 0.53 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in bulk CH₂Cl₂ stabilized on amylene (5 mL, c = 0.1 M) with *i*-PrOH (0.20 mL, 2.63 mmol, 5.0 equiv) at 80 °C for 18 h afforded, after purification by FC (20 mL SiO₂, EA/Cy: 2/8), **2b** (92 mg, 48%) as a yellow oil.

Rf (EA/Cy:2/8, UV+pAnis): 0.21. ¹H NMR (360 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.42 – 7.41 (m, 3H), 7.36 – 7.27 (m, 5H), 7.21 – 7.18 (m, 2H), 6.53 (s, 1H), 3.71 (s, 3H), 3.61 (s, 2H), 2.59 (s, 2H), 1.08 (s, 6H). ¹³C NMR (90 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 207.3 (C), 199.5 (C), 168.3 (C), 153.8 (C), 140.8 (C), 138.8 (C), 129.7 (2 CH), 129.5 (CH), 128.8 (CH), 128.4 (2 CH), 128.4 (4 CH), 126.6 (CH), 53.9 (CH₂), 52.1 (CH₃), 45.8 (C), 44.9 (CH₂), 24.8 (2 CH₃). HRMS (ESI+): *m/z* calcd. for C₁₃H₂₄NaO₄ (M + Na)⁺ 387.1567, found 387.1557.



Following the general procedure, the reaction performed with **1c** (86 mg, 0.3 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in bulk CH₂Cl₂ stabilized on amylene (3 mL, c = 0.1 M) with *i*-PrOH (0.11 mL, 1.5 mmol, 5.0 equiv) at 80 °C for 18 h afforded, after purification by FC (20 mL SiO₂, EA/Cy: 1/9 then 2/8), **4c** (60 mg, 69%) as a white solid.

Rf (EA/Cy:2/8, UV+pAnis): 0.32. ¹H NMR (360 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.32 – 7.28 (m, 2H), 7.26 – 7.22 (m, 1H), 7.18 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 4.49 (d, *J* = 9.8 Hz, 1H), 3.94 – 3.88 (m, 1H), 3.65 (s, 3H), 2.96 (d, *J* = 15.7 Hz, 1H), 2.75 (dd, *J* = 12.2, 5.8 Hz, 2H), 2.68 (d, *J* = 15.7 Hz, 1H), 1.29 (s, 3H), 1.23 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (90 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 208.2 (C), 207.6 (C), 169.1 (C), 142.2 (C), 129.1 (2 CH), 127.5 (CH), 126.8 (2 CH), 59.7 (CH), 52.9 (CH₂), 52.6 (CH₃), 47.4 (CH₂), 46.9 (C), 40.2 (CH), 27.2 (CH₃), 23.2 (CH₃). HRMS (ESI+): *m*/*z* calcd. for C₁₇H₂₀NaO₄ (M + Na)⁺ 311.1254, found 311.1242.



Following the general procedure, the reaction performed with **1d** (110 mg, 0.3 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in bulk CH₃CN (3 mL, c = 0.1 M) at 80 °C for 18 h afforded, after purification by FC (20 mL SiO₂, EA/Cy:2/8 then 4/6), **4d** (56 mg, purity = 80%, 41%) as a yellow oil. **Rf (EA/Cy:2/8, UV+pAnis):** 0.33.

¹**H** NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.40 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 7.04 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 4.39 (d, J = 10.0 Hz, 1H), 3.85 – 3.80 (m, 1H), 3.64 (s, 3H), 3.03 – 2.63 (m, 4H), 1.27 (s, 3H), 1.18 (s, 3H). ¹³**C** NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 207.9 (C), 207.3 (C), 168.8 (C), 141.2 (C), 132.2 (2 CH), 128.6 (2 CH), 123.5 (C), 59.3 (CH), 52.8 (CH₂), 52.7 (CH₃), 47.3 (CH₂), 46.9 (C), 39.8 (CH), 27.2 (CH₃), 23.2 (CH₃). **HRMS (ESI+):** *m*/*z* calcd. for C₁₇H₁₉BrNaO₄ (M + Na)⁺ 389.0359, found 389.0328.

4.2. Type 5 substrates (related to Scheme 7)



General procedure: In air, the substrate (1.0 equiv), $Ca(NTf_2)_2$ (5 mol%) and KPF₆ (5 mol%) were charged in a 10 mL screw-cap vial equipped with a stir bar. Bulk solvent (CH₂Cl₂ or CH₃CN) was added and the tube was sealed. The reaction was stirred at the indicated temperature for 18 h. Then, the reaction mixture was filtered through a short pad of SiO₂ (thoroughly rinsed with EtOAc) and evaporated. Purification by FC afforded the desired product.



Following the general procedure, the reaction performed with **5a** (76 mg, 0.3 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in bulk CH₃CN (3 mL, c = 0.1 M) at 80 °C for 18 h afforded, after purification by FC (20 mL SiO₂, EA/Cy:1/9 then 2/8), **7a** (52 mg, 73%) as a colorless oil.

Rf (EA/Cy:2/8, UV+pAnis): 0.43. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 5.82 (s, 1H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 2.51 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 1.81 (t, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 1.80 (s, 3H), 1.77 (s, 3H), 1.11 (s, 6H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 200.5 (C), 168.0 (C), 156.1 (C), 142.7 (C), 131.2 (C), 122.9 (CH), 52.1 (CH₃), 40.3 (C), 35.8 (CH₂), 27.6 (CH₃), 27.3 (CH₂), 24.0 (2 CH₃), 20.8 (CH₃). HRMS (ESI+): *m*/*z* calcd. for C₁₄H₂₁O₃ (M + H)⁺ 237.1485, found 237.1485.



Following the general procedure, the reaction performed with **5b** (189 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in bulk CH_2Cl_2 (5 mL, c = 0.1 M) at 50 °C for 18 h afforded, after purification by FC (20 mL SiO₂, EA/Cy:0.5/9.5 then 1/9), **8b** (94 mg, 52%) as a yellow oil.

Rf (EA/Cy:1/9, UV+pAnis): 0.74. ¹H NMR (360 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 13.25 (s, 1H), 7.64 – 7.61 (m, 2H), 7.53 – 7.46 (m, 3H), 7.42 – 7.40 (m, 1H), 7.30 – 7.22 (m, 3H), 6.49 (s, 1H), 3.25 (s, 3H), 1.92 – 1.77 (m, 4H), 1.45 (s, 3H), 1.38 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (90 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 181.3 (C), 173.3 (C), 154.3 (C), 142.5 (C), 142.2 (CH), 141.7 (C), 136.3 (C), 128.7 (2 CH), 127.7 (2 CH), 127.6 (CH), 126.3 (CH), 125.3 (CH), 121.7 (CH), 120.5 (CH), 97.9 (C), 53.0 (C), 50.9 (CH₃), 36.4 (C), 36.0 (CH₂), 31.5 (CH₂), 27.5 (CH₃), 27.4 (CH₃). HRMS (ESI+): m/z calcd. for C₂₄H₂₅O₃ (M + H)⁺ 361.1798, found 361.1783.



Following the general procedure, the reaction performed with **5d** (191 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in bulk CH₂Cl₂ (1 mL, c = 0.5 M) at 80 °C for 18 h afforded, after purification by FC (50 mL SiO₂, EA/Cy:1/9 then 2/8), the two diastereomers of **7d** (80 mg, 44%, *E*:*Z*=7:1) as a pale yellow oil.

Rf (EA/Cy:2/8, UV+pAnis): 0.37. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): (major E-diastereomer) δ 7.46 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.30 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.01 (d, J = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 6.88 (d, J = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 2.69 (t, J = 5.9 Hz, 2H), 1.90 (t, J = 5.9 Hz, 2H), 1.15 (s, 6H); (minor Z-diastereomer) δ 7.46 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.13 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 6.62 (d, J = 12.2 Hz, 1H), 6.35 (d, J = 12.2 Hz, 1H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 2.27 (t, J = 5.8 Hz, 2H), 1.72 (t, J = 5.8 Hz, 2H), 1.11 (s, 6H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): (major E-diastereomer) δ 200.8 (C), 167.8 (C), 151.1 (C), 136.3 (CH), 134.6 (C), 132.1 (2 CH), 131.4 (C), 129.0 (2 CH), 125.9 (CH), 123.7 (C), 52.5 (CH₃), 40.7 (C), 35.0 (CH₂), 24.1 (2 CH₃), 22.2 (CH₂); (minor Z-diastereomer) δ 199.7 (C), 167.8 (C), 155.8 (C), 135.3 (C), 133.8 (CH), 131.7 (2 CH), 131.0 (C), 130.1 (2 CH), 127.6 (CH), 124.6 (C), 52.3 (CH₃), 40.5 (C), 35.9 (CH₂), 26.0 (CH₂), 24.0 (2 CH₃). HRMS (ESI+): m/z calcd. for C₁₈H₂₀BrO₃ (M + H)⁺ 363.0590, found 363.0582.

4.3. Influence of the substitution of the substrate (relative to Scheme 8)



General procedure: In air, the substrate (1.0 equiv), $Ca(NTf_2)_2$ (5 mol%) and KPF₆ (5 mol%) were charged in a 10 mL screw-cap vial equipped with a stir bar. Bulk solvent (CH₂Cl₂ or CH₃CN) was added and the tube was sealed. The reaction was stirred at 80 °C for 18 h. Then, the reaction mixture was filtered through a short pad of SiO₂ (thoroughly rinsed with EtOAc) and evaporated. Purification by FC afforded the desired product.



Following the general procedure, the reaction performed with **1e** (53 mg, 0.25 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in bulk CH₃CN (2.5 mL, c = 0.1 M) at 80 °C for 18 h afforded, after purification by FC (20 mL SiO₂, EA/Cy:1/9 then 4/6), **2e** (34 mg, 64%) as a yellow oil.

Rf (EA/Cy:2/8, UV+pAnis): 0.20. ¹H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 6.06 (dd, J = 1.1, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 3.70 (s, 3H), 3.52 (s, 2H), 2.77 – 2.72 (m, 4H), 2.09 (d, J = 0.9 Hz, 3H), 1.85 (d, J = 1.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (63 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 201.8 (C), 198.3 (C), 167.7 (C), 156.0 (C), 123.3 (CH), 52.4 (CH₃), 49.3 (CH₂), 37.7 (CH₂), 36.5 (CH₂), 27.7 (CH₃), 20.9 (CH₃). HRMS (ESI+): m/z calcd. for C₁₁H₁₆NaO₄ (M + Na)⁺ 235.0941, found 235.0937.



Following the general procedure, the reaction performed with **1f** (86 mg, 0.3 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in bulk CH₃CN (3 mL, c = 0.1 M) at 80 °C for 18 h afforded, after purification by FC (20 mL SiO₂, EA/Cy:1/9 then 2/8), **2f** (62 mg, 72%) as a yellow oil.

Rf (EA/Cy:2/8, UV+pAnis): 0.21. ¹H NMR (360 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.35 – 7.28 (m, 5H), 6.07 (s, 1H), 5.16 (s, 2H), 3.57 (s, 2H), 2.79 – 2.71 (m, 4H), 2.11 (s, 3H), 1.87 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (90 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 201.7 (C), 198.2 (C), 167.1 (C), 155.9 (C), 135.4 (C), 128.6 (2 CH), 128.4 (CH), 128.4 (2 CH), 123.3 (CH), 67.1 (CH₂), 49.4 (CH₂), 37.7 (CH₂), 36.5 (CH₂), 27.7 (CH₃), 20.8 (CH₃). **HRMS (ESI+)**: *m*/*z* calcd. for C₁₇H₂₀NaO₄ (M + Na)⁺ 311.1254, found 311.1246.



Following the general procedure, the reaction performed with **1g** (68 mg, 0.3 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in bulk CH₃CN (3 mL, c = 0.1 M) at 80 °C for 18 h afforded, after purification by FC (20 mL SiO₂, EA/Cy:1/9 then 2/8), **2g** (36 mg, 53%) as a pale yellow oil.

Rf (EA/Cy:2/8, UV+pAnis): 0.28. ¹H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 6.01 (dd, J = 0.9, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 3.70 (s, 3H), 3.63 (d, J = 2.4 Hz, 2H), 3.16 – 3.06 (m, 1H), 2.94 (dd, J = 17.7, 8.8 Hz, 1H), 2.46 (dd, J = 17.7, 4.5 Hz, 1H), 2.08 (d, J = 0.8 Hz, 3H), 1.84 (d, J = 0.9 Hz, 3H), 1.10 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (63 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 205.9 (C), 198.3 (C), 167.8 (C), 156.2 (C), 123.2 (CH), 52.3 (CH₃), 48.2 (CH₂), 47.6 (CH₂), 41.4 (CH), 27.7 (CH₃), 20.9 (CH₃), 16.4 (CH₃). HRMS (ESI+): m/z calcd. for C₁₂H₁₉O₄ (M + H)⁺ 227.1278, found 227.1278.



Following the general procedure, the reaction performed with **1h** (90 mg, 0.3 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in bulk CH₃CN (3 mL, c = 0.1 M) at 80 °C for 18 h afforded, after purification by FC (20 mL SiO₂, EA/Cy:1/9 then 2/8), **3h** (60 mg, 70%) as a yellow solid.

Rf (EA/Cy:2/8, UV+pAnis): 0.45. ¹H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 10.76 (br, 1H), 7.98 (s, 1H), 7.66 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.31 (dd, J = 7.8, 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.07 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 2.89 (s, 2H), 2.09 (s, 6H), 1.19 (s, 6H). ¹³C NMR (63 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 213.2 (C), 177.8 (C), 161.4 (C), 154.7 (C), 138.3 (C), 128.9 (2 CH), 124.2 (C), 124.1 (CH), 123.1 (CH), 120.3 (2 CH), 47.4 (CH₂), 44.1 (C), 30.3 (CH₃), 25.5 (2 CH₃), 22.3 (CH₃). HRMS (ESI+): m/z calcd. for C₁₈H₂₁NNaO₂ (M + Na)⁺ 306.1465, found 306.1462.



Following the general procedure, the reaction performed with **5e** (113 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv) in bulk CH₂Cl₂ (1 mL, c = 0.5 M) at 80 °C for 18 h afforded, after purification by FC

(50 mL SiO₂, EA/Cy:1/9 then 2/8), a mixture of 6e and 7e (59 mg, 55%, 1.4:1) as a colorless oil.

Rf (EA/Cy:2/8, UV+pAnis): 0.20. 6e: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ .5.99 (s, 1H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 2.56 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 2.42 (t, J = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 2.10 (s, 3H), 1.87 – 1.82 (m, 2H), 1.84 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 195.5 (C), 167.5 (C), 158.1 (C), 143.3 (C), 132.5 (C), 123.1 (CH), 52.1 (CH₃), 37.2 (CH₂), 30.3 (CH₂), 27.6 (CH₃), 22.3 (CH₂), 20.8 (CH₃). HRMS (ESI+): m/z calcd. for C₁₂H₁₇O₃ (M + H)⁺ 209.1172, found 209.1170. 7e: ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 5.83 (s, 1H), 3.67 (s, 3H), 3.40 (s, 2H), 2.52 – 2.48 (m, 2H), 2.42 (t, J = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 1.97 (dt, J = 11.9, 6.0 Hz, 2H), 1.79 (s, 3H), 1.75 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 202.4 (C), 200.0 (C), 167.6 (C), 155.5 (C), 123.5 (CH), 52.3 (CH₃), 48.9 (CH₂), 42.6 (CH₂), 42.0 (CH₂), 27.7 (CH₃), 20.7 (CH₃), 17.7 (CH₂). HRMS (ESI+): m/z calcd. for C₁₂H₁₈NaO₄ (M + Na)⁺ 249.1097, found 249.1096.

5. Copies of ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra



6. X-ray diffraction study of compound 4c

X-ray diffraction data was collected by using a Kappa X8 APEX II Bruker diffractometer with graphite-monochromated Mo_{Kα} radiation ($\mathbb{T} = 0.71073$ Å). Crystals were mounted on a CryoLoop (Hampton Research) with Paratone-N (Hampton Research) as cryoprotectant and then flashfrozen in a nitrogen-gas stream at 100 K. The temperature of the crystal was maintained at the selected value (100 K) by means of a 700 series Cryostream cooling device to within an accuracy of ±1 K. The data were corrected for Lorentz polarization, and absorption effects. The structures were solved by direct methods using SIR-97⁴ and refined against F^2 by full-matrix least-squares techniques using SHELXL-97⁵ with anisotropic displacement parameters for all non-hydrogen atoms. Hydrogen atoms were located on a difference Fourier map and introduced into the calculations as a riding model with isotropic thermal parameters. All calculations were performed by using the Crystal Structure crystallographic software package WINGX.⁶

The crystal data collection and refinement parameters are given in Table S5.

CCDC 1001237 contains the supplementary crystallographic data for this paper. These data can be obtained free of charge from the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre via http://www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/Community/Requestastructure.

Compound 4c	
	CCDC 1001237
Empirical Formula	C ₁₇ H ₂₀ O ₄
M_r	288.33
Crystal size, mm ³	0.24 x 0.19 x 0.05
Crystal system	monoclinic
Space group	$P 2_1/n$
a, Å	8.3539(3)
b, Å	11.1450(3)
c, Å	16.1987(5)
α, °	90
β, °	101.7310(10)
γ, °	90
Cell volume, Å ³	1476.67(8)
Z	4
Т, К	100(1)

Table S5. Crystallographic data and structure refinement details for compound.

F000	616
μ , mm ⁻¹	0.092
heta range, °	2.23 - 30.55
Reflection collected	26 630
Reflections unique	4 434
R _{int}	0.0475
GOF	1.042
Refl. obs. $(I>2\sigma(I))$	3 431
Parameters	193
wR ₂ (all data)	0.1080
R value $(I>2\sigma(I))$	0.0415
Largest diff. peak and hole (eÅ ⁻³)	-0.220; 0.384

7. Calculations

Geometry optimizations were carried out using the Gaussian '09 software package⁷ at the $M06^8/6-31+G(d,p)^9$ level of theory. Stationary points were characterized as minima by calculating the Hessian matrix analytically at this level of theory. Natural charges were obtained using the NBO 3.1 program as implemented in Gaussian.¹⁰

Table S6. Structure, selected bond distances (Å) and natural charges, coordinates (x,y,z) and electronic energy.

$[Ca(PhOH)_4]^{2+} A (I, R = Ph)$

E(RM06) = -2216.00065957

0	-0.087658000	-0.987447000	-0.339258000
н	0.872047000	-1.232105000	-0.395129000
Ca	-0.814488000	0.968609000	0.710616000
0	1.510490000	1.024885000	1.354537000
0	2.522784000	-0.995120000	-0.012167000
С	3.619114000	-1.601376000	-0.137683000
С	3.612824000	-2.903764000	-0.867198000
н	3.774959000	-3.731300000	-0.165392000
н	2.641595000	-3.053455000	-1.346145000
н	4.403157000	-2.958437000	-1.621514000
С	4.797062000	-0.984400000	0.412541000
н	4.603152000	0.006375000	0.829327000
н	2.080065000	0.314531000	0.944791000
0	-1.435955000	2.870704000	-0.626814000
н	-0.892363000	3.605884000	-0.954102000
0	-2.294681000	1.530719000	2.482822000
н	-2.882833000	2.217366000	2.827047000
С	6.079878000	-1.441692000	0.481061000
С	7.122589000	-0.563117000	1.077657000
н	7.969282000	-0.464486000	0.385337000
н	6.754997000	0.432730000	1.335791000
н	7.532640000	-1.034258000	1.981191000
С	6.586178000	-2.763711000	0.005119000
н	5.892831000	-3.590723000	0.169303000
н	6.800043000	-2.717433000	-1.072154000
н	7.531477000	-3.008960000	0.497763000

A E(RM06) = -309.665920020

0	-2.286592000	-1.114797000	-0.089124000
С	-1.397678000	-0.278646000	-0.004212000
С	-1.762290000	1.181139000	0.105566000
н	-1.554459000	1.700169000	-0.838474000
н	-2.834294000	1.250223000	0.304365000
н	-1.204049000	1.691756000	0.897608000
С	0.002258000	-0.746683000	0.015167000
н	0.044030000	-1.835851000	0.060187000
С	1.173270000	-0.078912000	-0.011878000
С	2.457686000	-0.846688000	0.058470000
н	3.084787000	-0.469158000	0.878177000
Н	2.297970000	-1.918087000	0.208762000
н	3.039327000	-0.707378000	-0.863056000
С	1.372008000	1.404836000	-0.097857000
Н	0.554075000	1.936918000	-0.584275000
Н	1.500565000	1.831422000	0.907210000
Н	2.293260000	1.628081000	-0.649052000

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С	-2.716900000	0.234194000	2.830691000
С	-4.033598000	-0.167848000	2.642168000
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С	-4.366066000	-1.490822000	2.923408000
с	-2.075387000	-1.968057000	3.526542000
С	-3.390912000	-2.389348000	3.356981000
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н	-0.721915000	-0.271714000	3.477527000
н	-5.394599000	-1.819791000	2.802828000
н	-1.320720000	-2.661053000	3.887661000
н	-3.662494000	-3.417716000	3.577800000
С	-1.938559000	2.070329000	-1.653482000
С	-1.333422000	1.995895000	-2.902051000
С	-3.013055000	1.253764000	-1.307626000
С	-1.840645000	1.089593000	-3.830008000
С	-3.491374000	0.334148000	-2.242521000
С	-2.906289000	0.252745000	-3.500941000
н	-0.495110000	2.643875000	-3.152133000
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С	-0.671967000	-2.278502000	-2.299890000
С	-2.045391000	-2.345047000	-0.302765000
С	-1.557995000	-3.153979000	-2.924131000
С	-2.934359000	-3.205390000	-0.943406000
С	-2.691177000	-3.610746000	-2.253458000
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н	-2.192444000	-2.062663000	0.740873000
н	-1.363699000	-3.475255000	-3.944170000
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н	-3.375977000	-4.294122000	-2.747564000
С	1.661694000	2.237935000	0.703442000
С	2.064887000	2.299206000	-0.631286000
С	1.250745000	3.379544000	1.390431000
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С	1.246827000	4.606002000	0.726835000
С	1.647047000	4.686097000	-0.607124000
н	2.387528000	1.395358000	-1.147279000
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н	1.663617000	5.647328000	-1.113661000

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Н	1.936603000	-4.304155000	-0.132251000	н	-2.650490000	-5.215836000	-0.088690000
Н	1.379210000	-3.118278000	-1.330555000	н	-2.160644000	-3.992492000	1.100452000
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С	4.417704000	1.631976000	-1.242084000	с	-6.230968000	0.628547000	0.272922000
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н	3.614670000	2.290136000	-1.583790000	с	-6.090899000	-1.671795000	-0.890824000
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С	4.671609000	-0.274968000	0.493878000	н	-6.566077000	-2.310034000	-0.134762000
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н	1.555953000	-0.771105000	0.357482000	н	-5.320263000	-2.256711000	-1.401523000
н	-2.768505000	3.280668000	1.610898000	0	1.917953000	-0.835359000	-1.235640000
С	-3.574245000	2.750251000	2.130737000	0	1.294693000	0.326868000	1.439251000
н	-4.491341000	3.338995000	2.027110000	н	1.998378000	-1.788969000	-1.414815000
н	-3.331894000	2.712608000	3.200900000	н	0.999379000	1.209384000	1.738361000
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н	-3.988792000	1.402359000	0.499204000	н	5.314799000	4.514256000	0.030653000
0	-2.511054000	0.612936000	1.647303000	С	4.264709000	4.275727000	0.243626000
Н	-2.252358000	0.554183000	2.578976000	н	3.709106000	5.216188000	0.164361000
С	-4.861034000	0.584858000	2.292934000	н	4.190719000	3.926176000	1.279187000
Н	-5.827937000	1.084621000	2.172210000	с	3.733980000	3.273758000	-0.747555000
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н	-4.386864000	-3.189111000	-2.427381000	0	4.751278000	-1.665399000	1.501025000
С	6.025308000	-0.414157000	0.557103000	н	4.818673000	-1.998746000	2.408911000
С	6.605944000	-1.348652000	1.561202000	С	5.830080000	-1.592793000	-0.626342000
н	7.379827000	-0.835021000	2.146733000	н	6.575751000	-2.023272000	-1.302816000
н	5.862932000	-1.765877000	2.245134000	н	6.117209000	-0.531000000	-0.521890000
н	7.120046000	-2.173517000	1.049656000	н	4.866209000	-1.705782000	-1.158052000
С	7.040533000	0.288544000	-0.283325000	с	2.073135000	-0.145155000	-2.579863000
н	6.719727000	0.481765000	-1.308145000	н	2.990167000	0.459906000	-2.480615000
н	7.298038000	1.254325000	0.174705000	с	0.875403000	0.754627000	-2.759309000
н	7.968487000	-0.290063000	-0.319655000	н	0.757437000	1.481378000	-1.935661000
				н	0.990065000	1.366616000	-3.661829000
				н	-0.047185000	0.173681000	-2.930983000

С	2.230919000	-1.181904000	-3.658224000
н	1.328334000	-1.800302000	-3.756706000
н	2.388260000	-0.693141000	-4.626177000
н	3.099942000	-1.828703000	-3.490515000
С	1.183073000	-0.569359000	2.661101000
н	1.802604000	-1.438874000	2.381493000
С	-0.256595000	-0.985939000	2.837486000
н	-0.922614000	-0.115708000	2.919042000
н	-0.618449000	-1.668658000	2.050637000
н	-0.370667000	-1.554397000	3.767407000
С	1.761269000	0.160487000	3.844255000
н	2.796276000	0.487821000	3.677062000
н	1.155137000	1.038024000	4.109142000
н	1.770435000	-0.490918000	4.724897000
С	-7.588553000	0.804928000	0.374498000
С	-8.650658000	-0.157874000	-0.033172000
н	-8.817900000	-0.093165000	-1.118369000
н	-8.424954000	-1.198910000	0.206077000
н	-9.602828000	0.099866000	0.438586000
С	-8.099364000	2.079577000	0.938667000
н	-8.840740000	2.518079000	0.256894000
н	-8.649747000	1.875988000	1.867908000
н	-7.318993000	2.816069000	1.143035000

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