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Supporting Information

Rh(I)-catalyzed enantioselective and scalable [4+2] cycloaddition of 1,3-dienes with dialkyl acetylenedicarboxylates

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1. General Information

Unless otherwise noted, all materials obtained from commercial suppliers were used directly without further purification. Tetrahydrofuran (THF) and toluene were freshly distilled from sodium prior to use. All reactions were monitored by TLC and visualized by UV lamp (254 nm), or stained with potassium permanganate. Column chromatography was performed using 200-300 mesh silica gel.

¹H NMR spectra and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker 400 MHz or 600 MHz spectrometer in chloroform-d. Chemical shifts (in ppm) were referenced to tetramethylsilane (0 ppm) in CDCl₃ as an internal standard. ¹³C-NMR spectra were obtained by using NMR spectrometers and were calibrated with CDCl₃ (77.00 ppm). The data is being reported as (s = singlet, d = doublet, dd = doublet of doublet, t = triplet, m = multiplet or unresolved, br = broad signal, coupling constant(s) in Hz, integration). HRMS (ESI) was recorded using Agilent 6520 accurate - Mass Q-TOF LC/MS system (1200-6520/Agilent). Optical rotations were measured on an Anton Paar MCP 500 Polarimeter in a 1dm cell. The enantiomeric excesses were determined by HPLC analysis using an Agilent 1260 Infinity II LC system (column Daicel Co. CHIRALCEL OD-H, OJ-H, AD-H, AS-H; eluent: hexane/2-propanol). The chiral HPLC methods were calibrated with the corresponding racemic mixtures. Chemical yields refer to pure isolated substances.

2. Representative compounds containing substituted cyclohexa-1,4-dienes

2.1 Versatile functional units.^[1-3]



2.2 Intermediates towards the synthesis of natural products.

Intermediate for (+)-Scalarolide and 16-Deacetoxy-scalarafuran.^[4]



Intermediate for (\pm) -Cinnamodial^[5] and (\pm) -Chamobtusin A^[6]:



Intermediate for Cornexistin:^[7]



Intermediate for Hypocrolide A:^[8]



Intermediate for Caribenol: ^[9]



Intermediate for (-)-Mitrephorone:^[10]



3. Procedures for the preparation of the ligands and the starting materials

3.1 Procedures for the preparation of the ligands

The ligand L1 was purchased from Energy Chemical. The ligand L2, L6 and L7 were purchased from Daicel Chiral Technologies (China) Co., LTD.

The ligand L3 was synthesized according to a reported procedure:^[11]

To a solution of dicyclohexylamine (1.20 mL, 6.00 mmol) in tetrahydrofuran (30 mL) was added dropwise n-butyllithium (2.5 M in hexanes) (2.40 mL, 6.00 mmol) at -78 °C, and the mixture was stirred for 40 min. Phosphorus trichloride (5.24 mL, 60 mmol) was added and the mixture was stirred at room temperature overnight. The reaction mixture was concentrated and the residue was suspended in toluene. Insoluble material was removed by filtration and the filtrate was concentrated. To the residue was added toluene (30 mL), (S)-(-)-1,1'-bi-2-naphthol (1.58 g, 6.00 mmol), and triethylamine (4.2 mL, 30.0 mmol), and the mixture was stirred at room temperature. After 16 h, the mixture was diluted with diethyl ether, insoluble material was removed by filtration, and the filtrate was concentrated. The residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography.

The ligand L4 was synthesized according to a reported procedure:^[12]

A flame-dried 250 mL, two-necked flask was equipped with vacuum/argon stopcock and a magnetic stirring bar. The flask was charged with toluene (50 mL) and PCl₃ (0.67 mL, 7.7 mmol), and then cooled to 0 °C. Another flame-dried, 25 mL flask was charged with 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinoline (1.02 g, 7.7 mmol), toluene (8 mL), and Et₃N (1.8 mL, 12.9 mmol). This mixture was added dropwise to the above mentioned PCl₃ solution at 0 °C. After the addition was complete, the reaction mixture was heated at 80 °C for 6 h, and then was cooled to -78 °C slowly. To this flask at -78 °C, a solution of (*S*)-(-)-1,1'-bi-2-naphthol (2.0 g, 7.0 mmol) and Et₃N (3.5 mL, 25.2 mmol) in toluene (30 mL) and THF (6 mL) was added slowly. The resulting mixture was stirred at room temperature overnight, then filtered through celite, and washed with Et₂O. The organic phase was concentrated in vacuo. The product was purified by column chromatography.

The ligand L5 was synthesized according to a reported procedure:^[13]

(*S*)-(-)-1,1'-bi-2-naphthol (1.00 g, 3.50 mmol) in 4 ml of PCl₃ was heated under reflux for 8 h. Excess of PCl₃ was removed by distillation in vacuo (20 mbar). The residual solid was subjected to azeotropic distillation with toluene (2x 10 ml) and dried in vacuo until a white foam resulted. The residue was dissolved in toluene to afford 5 ml of a chlorophosphite stock solution. A 2 ml aliquot of the above prepared chlorophosphite stock solution was added at 0 °C to a solution of 1.07 ml (7.70 mmol, 2.2 equiv.) of triethylamine and 3.85 mmol (1.1 equiv.) of the 1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-isoquinolin in 1.5 ml of dry THF. The reaction mixture was allowed to warm to 25 °C and stirred overnight. The mixture was diluted with diethyl ether (10 ml) and filtered over a plug of silica, washed with 10 ml of diethyl ether, and the solvent was removed in vacuo. The product was purified by column chromatography.

The ligand L8 was synthesized according to a reported procedure:^[14]

An oven-dried 100 mL Schlenk flask, fitted with a rubber septum, was charged with a stir bar and (S)-1,1-bi(2-naphthol) (1.15 g, 4.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv). The flask was evacuated and refilled with nitrogen 3 times. Phosphorus trichloride (5.25 mL, 15 equiv.) and anhydrous *N*, *N*-dimethylformamide (19 μ L, 18 mg, 0.24 mmol, 0.06 equiv.) were added by syringes through the septum. The reaction mixture was stirred at 50 °C for 4 h. Excess phosphorus trichloride was removed via vacuum distillation and azeotropic removal with toluene (2 x 3 mL) under high vacuum to afford the phosphochloridite as an oily foam.

A separate oven-dried 250 mL round-bottomed flask was charged with a stir bar and 5*H*-dibenz[*b*,*f*]azepine (0.85 g, 4.40 mmol, 1.1 equiv). The flask was fitted with a rubber septum with a nitrogen line inlet and flushed with nitrogen. Anhydrous THF (24 mL) was added by syringe, and the orange solution was stirred at -78 °C. *n*-Butyllithium (2.75 mL, 4.40 mmol, 1.1 equiv) was added dropwise and the resulting dark blue solution was stirred at -78 °C for 1 h. The phosphochloridite prepared as above was dissolved in anhydrous THF (19 mL) and added to the deprotonated 5*H*-dibenz[*b*,*f*]azepine solution at -78 °C dropwise via a cannula over 20 min. The dark blue solution was stirred for 12 h while being gradually warmed to ambient temperature. Silica gel (10 g) was added to the orange reaction mixture, and the resulting slurry was carefully concentrated by rotary evaporation at room temperature. The product was purified by column chromatography and a white solid L8 was obtained.

3.2 Procedures for the preparation of the starting materials



The starting materials 2b, 2d, 2e, 2f and 3r were purchased from the Energy Chemical. The starting material 3p was purchased from Sigma-Aladdin. The starting material 3q was purchased from Aladdin. The starting materials 2c,^[15] 3a,^[16] 3b,^[17] 3c, ^[18]] 3e,^[19] 3d,^[20] 3f,^[21] 3g,^[22] 3i,^[23] 3k,^[24] 3i,^[25] 3o,^[21] and 3x^[26] were prepared using the reported procedures. The 3h, 3j, 3m, and 3n were prepared and characterized as follows.

Procedure for the preparation of **3h**:



To a solution of diisopropylamine (2.9 g, 28.5 mmol) in anhydrous THF (28 mL) was added n-BuLi (12.0 mL, 2.5 M in hexane, 30.0 mmol) slowly at -78 °C. After stirring at -78 °C for 45 min, HMPA (6.4 mL) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred at -78 °C for 30 min. Ethyl sorbate (2.0 g, 14.0 mmol) in THF (10 mL) was added dropwise over 15 min at -78 °C. After stirring at 0 °C for 2 h, the reaction mixture was quenched with ice water (50 mL) containing glacial acetic acid (5 mL) and then partitioned between hexane (30 mL) and sequentially, saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ (15 mL) and brine (15 mL). The organic layer was dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate. The crude product was purified by silica gel column chromatography using petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (10:1) as eluent to yield a brown liquid, 1.9 g, 95% yield.

To a solution of LiAlH₄ (1.1 g, 29.9 mmol) in THF (90 mL) at 0 °C was added ester (1.9, 13.6 mmol). The reaction mixture was allowed to stir at room temperature for 12 h. The reaction was quenched with water (1 mL) at 0 °C, followed by 15% aqueous NaOH (1 mL) and then water (3 mL). While the mixture was allowed to stir for 1 h, a white granular salt formed. The precipitate was filtered off and rinsed with THF. The combined filtrates were dried over anhydrous magnesium sulfate and the solvent was evaporated to near dryness at 20 °C. The crude product was purified by silica gel column chromatography using petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (5:1) as eluent to yield a clear oil, 1 g, 76% yield.

To a solution of (*E*)-hexa-3,5-dien-1-ol (735 mg, 5.0 mmol), triethylamine (1.4 mL, 10.0 mmol), and DMAP (61 mg, 0.5 mmol) in dichloromethane (10 mL) at 0 °C was added methyl chloroformate (567 mg, 6.0 mmol). The reaction mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature and stir for 12 h. The reaction was quenched with saturated NH₄Cl. The aqueous layer was extracted with dichloromethane and the combined organic layers was dried over sodium sulfate followed by filtration and concentration under reduced pressure. The crude product was purified with column chromatography on silica gel. Colorless liquid, 230 mg, 30% yield. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 6.31 (dt, J = 16.9, 10.3 Hz, 1H), 6.14 (dd, J = 15.3, 10.4 Hz, 1H), 5.66 (m, J = 14.7, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 5.18 - 5.11 (m, 1H), 5.03 (d, J = 9.8 Hz, 1H), 4.25 - 4.16 (m, 2H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 2.46 (q, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 155.74, 136.69, 133.72, 129.07, 116.28, 67.11, 54.74, 31.91. HRMS (ESI) m/z Calcd. for C₈H₁₂O₃ [M+H]⁺: 157.0859, found: 157.0864.

Procedure for the preparation of 3j:

To a flame-dried 50 mL round-bottom flask equipped with a stir bar was charged with sodium hydride (240 mg, 6.0 mmol). The flask was sealed with a rubber septum, and placed under an atmosphere of nitrogen. Then 5 mL of anhydrous THF was added to the bottom flask via syringe at 0 °C. After stirring at 0 °C for 10 min, (E)-hexa-3,5dien-1-ol (735 mg, 5.0 mmol) was added dropwise to the bottom flask via syringe. The reaction was allowed to warm to room temperature slowly and stirred for 1h. Chloromethyl methyl ether (483 mg, 6.0 mmol) was added dropwise to the reaction flask at 0 °C via syringe. The resulting slurry was allowed to warm to room temperature and stir for 16 hours at ambient temperature. The reaction was quenched with saturated NH₄Cl. The aqueous layer was extracted with EA and the combined organic layers was dried over sodium sulfate followed by filtration and concentration under reduced pressure. The crude product was purified with column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: petroleum ether). Colorless liquid, 241 mg, 34% yield. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 6.31 (dd, J = 17.0, 10.3 Hz, 1H), 6.14 (dd, J = 15.4, 10.3 Hz, 1H), 5.72 (dd, J = 14.9, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 5.19 - 5.08 (m, 1H), 5.07 - 4.95 (m, 1H), 4.63 (s, 2H), 3.59 (s, 2H), 3.36 (s, 3H), 2.40 (pd, J = 7.3, 6.8, 1.4 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, Chloroform-d) & 137.01, 132.81, 131.12, 115.60, 96.40, 67.07, 55.20, 33.00. HRMS (ESI) m/z Calcd. for C₈H₁₄O₂ [M+Na]⁺: 165.0886, found: 165.0883.

Procedure for the preparation of **3m**:

To a flame-dried 50 mL round-bottom flask equipped with a stir bar was charged with sodium hydride (480 mg, 12.0 mmol). The flask was sealed with a rubber septum, and placed under an atmosphere of nitrogen. Then 10 mL of anhydrous THF was added to the bottom flask *via* syringe at 0 °C. After stirring at 0 °C for 10 min, (*E*)-hexa-3,5-dien-1-ol (981 mg, 10.0 mmol) was added dropwise to the bottom flask *via* syringe. The reaction was allowed to warm to room temperature slowly and stirred for 1h. (Bromomethyl)cyclopropane (2.0 g, 15.0 mmol) was added dropwise to the reaction flask at 0 °C *via* syringe. The resulting slurry was allowed to warm to room temperature and stir for 16 hours at ambient temperature.

The reaction was quenched with saturated NH₄Cl aqueous solution. The aqueous layer was extracted with EA and the combined organic layers was dried over sodium sulfate followed by filtration and concentration under reduced pressure. The crude product was purified with column chromatography on silica gel (eluent: petroleum ether). Colorless liquid, 685 mg, 45% yield. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 6.24 (dt, J = 16.9, 10.2 Hz, 1H), 6.05 (dd, J = 15.3, 10.4 Hz, 1H), 5.76 - 5.58 (m, 1H), 5.13 - 5.00 (m, 1H), 4.99 - 4.87 (m, 1H), 3.42 (t, J = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 3.20 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 2.32 (m, J = 6.9, 1.3 Hz, 2H), 1.02 - 0.96 (m, 1H), 0.48 - 0.44 (m, 2H), 0.13 (dd, J = 4.7, 1.5 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 136.08, 131.57, 130.24, 114.37, 74.60, 68.92, 32.02, 1.97. HRMS (ESI) m/z Calcd. for C₁₀H₁₆O [M+H]⁺: 153.1274, found: 153.1269.

Procedure for the preparation of **3n**:



To a solution of (*E*)-hexa-3,5-dien-1-ol in anhydrous dichloromethane (10 mL) at 0 °C was added phosphorus tribromide (2.8 g, 10.3 mmol). The reaction mixture was allowed to stir at 0 °C for 2 h before addition of water. The mixture was extracted with diethyl ether, and the organic layer was washed with brine and dried over anhydrous magnesium sulfate before evaporation of the solvent in vacuo at 20 °C. The crude product was used without further purification, yellow oil, 1.4 g, 90% yield.

To a flame-dried 50 mL round-bottom flask equipped with a stir bar was charged with sodium hydride (360 mg, 9.0 mmol). The flask was sealed with a rubber septum, and placed under an atmosphere of nitrogen. Then 8 mL of anhydrous THF was added to the bottom flask via syringe at 0 °C. After stirring at 0 °C for 10 min, N,4-dimethylbenzene-1-sulfonamide (1.9 g, 8 mmol) was added dropwise to the bottom flask via syringe. The reaction was allowed to warm to room temperature slowly and stirred for 1h. (E)-6-bromohexa-1,3-diene (1.4 g, 9.0 mmol) was added dropwise to the reaction flask at 0 °C *via* syringe. The resulting slurry was allowed to warm to room temperature and stir for 16 hours at ambient temperature.

The reaction was quenched with saturated NH₄Cl aqueous solution. The aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc and the combined organic layers was dried over sodium sulfate followed by filtration and concentration under reduced pressure. The crude product was purified with column chromatography on silica gel, yellow oil, 390 mg, 18% yield. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 7.66 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.31 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.28 (dt, J = 17.0, 10.3 Hz, 1H), 6.08 (dd, J = 15.2, 10.4 Hz, 1H), 5.61 (m, J = 14.7, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 5.11 (d, J = 16.9 Hz, 1H), 5.01 (d, J = 10.2 Hz, 1H), 3.10 – 3.02 (m, 2H), 2.73 (s, 3H), 2.42 (s, 3H), 2.33 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 143.32, 136.74, 134.62, 133.27, 130.31, 129.69, 127.40, 116.11, 34.86, 31.20, 21.52. HRMS (ESI) m/z Calcd. for C₁₈H₂₇NO₂S [M+Na]⁺: 288.1029, found: 288.1024.

4. Optimization of reaction conditions ^a

	CO_2Me $Ph(I) \perp AqShE_1 \qquad CO_2Me$						
$\ + n - C_5 H_{11} \frac{r_{11}(t), L, Agsur_6}{solvent, t} $							
	ĊO ₂ Me 2a 3a		N ₂ , 24 h				
$PPh_2 \qquad R^{\pm} \qquad \qquad R^{\pm} \qquad \qquad$							
		L3	L4		L9		
Ph Ph Ph Ph Ph Ph Ph Ph							
L2		L6	L7	L8			
Entry	М	L	Solvent	Yield ^b %	Ee ^c %		
1	[Rh(COD)Cl] ₂	L1	Toluene	trace			
2	[Rh(COD)Cl]2	L2	Toluene	N.R.			
3	[Rh(COD)Cl]2	L3	Toluene	16	2		
4	[Rh(COD)Cl]2	L4	Toluene	15	0		
5	[Rh(COD)Cl]2	L5	Toluene	77	98		
6	[Rh(COD)Cl]2	L6	Toluene	N.R.			
7	[Rh(COD)Cl]2	L7	Toluene	N.R.			
8	[Rh(COD)Cl]2	L8	Toluene	67	54		
9	Rh(COD)2BF4	L5	Toluene	82	96		
10	[Rh(COE)Cl]2	L5	Toluene	71	98		
11	[Rh(NBD)Cl]2	L5	Toluene	30	98		
12	Rh(NBD) ₂ BF ₄	L5	Toluene	96	99		
13	No Rh(I)	L5	Toluene	trace			
14 ^d	Rh(NBD)2BF4	L5	Toluene	59	99		
15 ^e	Rh(NBD) ₂ BF ₄	L5	Toluene	3	85		
16 ^f	Rh(NBD)2BF	L5	Toluene	12	13		
17	Rh(NBD)2BF	L5	DCE	89	95		
18	Rh(NBD)2BF	L5	Et ₂ O	7	87		
19	Rh(NBD)2BF	L5	THF	N.R.			
20	Rh(NBD) ₂ BF	L5	CH ₃ CN	N.R.			
21	Cu(OTf) ₂	L9	DCE	26	0		
22	Co(OAc) ₂	L9	DCE	16	0		
23	Ni(OTf) ₂	L9	DCE	31	0		

^{*a*} Reaction conditions: **2a** (0.2 mmol), **3a** (0.6 mmol), Rh(I) (10 mol%), **L** (12 mmol%) and AgSbF₆ (20 mol%) in solvent (3 mL) under N₂ at 25 °C. ^{*b*} Isolated yields. ^{*c*} Determined by HPLC. ^{*d*} Open to air. ^{*e*} H₂O (5 μ L) was added. ^{*f*} No AgSbF₆. Rh(I) = rhodium complexes. DCE = 1,2-Dichloroethane. Et₂O = Diethyl ether. THF = Tetrahydrofuran.

5. Procedure for Rhodium-catalyzed [4+2] cycloaddition

reactions



General procedure A: (4a, 4b, 4c, 4d, 4i, 4m, 4p, 4v, 4w, and 4x)

A Schlenk tube equipped with a stir bar was charged with $Rh(NBD)_2BF_4$ (3.73 mg, 0.02 mmol), L5 (10.7 mg, 0.024 mmol) and $AgSbF_6$ (13.7 mg, 0.04 mmol) under nitrogen atmosphere. Then toluene (3 mL) was added via syringe and the resulting mixture was stirred at 25 °C for 1 h. The reaction was started by addition of the 1,3-dienes (0.6 mmol) and substituted alkynes (0.2 mmol) separately *via* syringe. The reaction was allowed to stir at 25 °C for 24 h. When the reaction was completed, the solvent was evaporated to give a crude product, which was purified with column chromatography on silica gel or prepared TLC.

General procedure B: (4e, 4q and 4u)

A Schlenk tube equipped with a stir bar was charged with $Rh(NBD)_2BF_4$ (3.73 mg, 0.02 mmol), L5 (10.7 mg, 0.024 mmol) and $AgSbF_6$ (13.7 mg, 0.04 mmol) under nitrogen atmosphere. Then 1,2-dichloroethane (3 mL) were added via syringe and the resulting mixture was stirred at 25 °C for 1 h. The reaction was started by addition of the 1,3-dienes (0.6 mmol) and dialkyl acetylenedicarboxylates (0.2 mmol) separately *via* syringe. The reaction was allowed to stir at 25 °C for 72 h. When the reaction was completed, the solvent was evaporated to give a crude product, which was purified with column chromatography on silica gel or prepared TLC.

General procedure C: (4f, 4g, 4h, 4n, and 4s)

A Schlenk tube equipped with a stir bar was charged with $Rh(NBD)_2BF_4$ (3.73 mg, 0.02 mmol), L5 (10.7 mg, 0.024 mmol) and $AgSbF_6$ (13.7 mg, 0.04 mmol) under nitrogen atmosphere. Then toluene (2 mL) and 1,2-dichloroethane (1 mL) were added via syringe and the resulting mixture was stirred at 25 °C for 1 h. The reaction was started by addition of the 1,3-dienes (0.6 mmol) and dialkyl acetylenedicarboxylates (0.2 mmol) separately *via* syringe. The reaction was allowed to stir at 25 °C for 72 h. When the reaction was completed, the solvent was evaporated to give a crude product, which was purified with column chromatography on silica gel or prepared TLC.

General procedure D: (4j and 4t)

A Schlenk tube equipped with a stir bar was charged with $Rh(NBD)_2BF_4$ (3.73 mg, 0.02 mmol), L5 (10.7 mg, 0.024 mmol) and $AgSbF_6$ (13.7 mg, 0.04 mmol) under

nitrogen atmosphere. Then toluene (2 mL) and 1,2-dichloroethane (1 mL) were added via syringe and the resulting mixture was stirred at 25 °C for 1 h. The reaction was started by addition of the 1,3-dienes (0.6 mmol) and dialkyl acetylenedicarboxylates (0.2 mmol) separately *via* syringe. The reaction was allowed to stir at 50 °C for 72 h. When the reaction was completed, the solvent was evaporated to give a crude product, which was purified with column chromatography on silica gel or prepared TLC.

General procedure E: (4k and 4l)

A Schlenk tube equipped with a stir bar was charged with $Rh(NBD)_2BF_4$ (3.73 mg, 0.02 mmol), L5 (10.7 mg, 0.024 mmol) and $AgSbF_6$ (13.7 mg, 0.04 mmol) under nitrogen atmosphere. Then toluene (3 mL) was added via syringe and the resulting mixture was stirred at 25 °C for 1 h. The reaction was started by addition of the 1,3-dienes (0.6 mmol) and dialkyl acetylenedicarboxylates (0.2 mmol) separately *via* syringe. The reaction was allowed to stir at 50 °C for 24 h. When the reaction was completed, the solvent was evaporated to give a crude product, which was purified with column chromatography on silica gel or prepared TLC.

General procedure F: (40)

A Schlenk tube equipped with a stir bar was charged with $Rh(NBD)_2BF_4$ (3.73 mg, 0.02 mmol), L5 (10.7 mg, 0.024 mmol) and $AgSbF_6$ (13.7 mg, 0.04 mmol) under nitrogen atmosphere. Then toluene (3 mL) was added via syringe and the resulting mixture was stirred at 25 °C for 1 h. The reaction was started by addition of the 1,3-dienes (0.6 mmol) and dialkyl acetylenedicarboxylates (0.2 mmol) separately *via* syringe. The reaction was allowed to stir at 110 °C for 72 h. When the reaction was completed, the solvent was evaporated to give a crude product, which was purified with column chromatography on silica gel.

General procedure for the racemic reaction:

A racemic ligand was prepared according to synthetic procedure of L5 when the racemic 1,1'-bi-2-naphthol was subjected the method. Then the racemic reactions were performed in the presence of the racemic ligand according the general procedures for the rhodium-catalyzed asymmetric [4+2] cycloaddition reactions.

General procedures for scale-up reactions:



Procedure for the [4+2] cycloaddition on 10 g scale:

To a flame-dried 2 L two-necked flask equipped with a stir bar was charged with

the chiral phosphoramidite L5 (3.78 g, 8.44 mmol), Rh(NBD)₂BF₄ (2.63 g, 7.03 mmol) and AgSbF₆ (4.83 g, 14.07 mmol) under N₂. After addition of the anhydrous toluene (50 mL) to the flask, the resulting mixture was stirred for 4 h at 25 °C and then another 950 mL of anhydrous toluene was added to the flask. The reaction system was cooled to 0 °C, then the (*E*)-1,3-nonadiene (26.20 g, 211.11 mmol) and dimethyl acetylenedicarboxylate (10 g, 70.37 mmol) were added to the flask via syringe, respectively. The reaction system was allowed to warm to 25 °C and stir at 25 °C for 72 h. After the completion of reaction, the reaction was quenched with water. The aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate and the combined organic layers was dried over sodium sulfate followed by filtration and concentration under reduced pressure. The crude product was purified with column chromatography on silica gel using petroleum ether/ethyl acetate (20:1) as eluent to yield a light brown liquid. 17.2 g, 92% yield, 99% ee.

Procedure for the [4+2] cycloaddition on 1 g scale was similar to the reaction on 10 g scale.

6. Characterizations of the products

Dimethyl 3-pentylcyclohexa-1,4-diene-1,2-dicarboxylate (4a)

General procedure A: yellow oil, 51.1mg, 96% yield, 99% ee. General procedure scale-up experiments (1 g scale): yellow oil,1.76 g, 95% yield, 99% ee. General procedure scale-up experiments (10 g scale): yellow oil, 17.2 g, 92% yield, 99% ee. [Daicel Chiralcel OD-H column (25 cm x 0.46 cm ID), *n*-hexane/*i*-PrOH = 99.5/0.5, 0.6 mL/min, 254 nm; t_{minor} = 10.6 min, t_{major} = 11.4 min]. $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -52.45$ (c = 1.0, CHCl₃). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 5.79 - 5.71 (m, 1H), 5.71 - 5.64 (m, 1H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 3.30 - 3.16 (m, 1H), 3.08 - 2.95 (m, 1H), 2.89 (m, *J* = 23.0, 7.0, 3.9, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 1.56 - 1.39 (m, 2H), 1.33 - 1.20 (m, 6H), 0.87 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.34, 167.60, 139.80, 130.04, 127.27, 122.52, 77.33, 77.01, 76.69, 52.12, 52.07, 37.58, 33.89, 31.89, 27.22, 24.86, 22.47, 14.02. HRMS (ESI) m/z Calcd. for C₁₅H₂₂O₄ [M+K]⁺: 305.1150, found: 305.1143.

Dimethyl 3-decylcyclohexa-1,4-diene-1,2-dicarboxylate (4b)

 $\begin{array}{c} \text{n-C}_9\text{H}_{19} \\ \hline \\ \text{CO}_2\text{Me} \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{c} \text{General procedure A: yellow oil, 26.0 mg, 40\% yield, 95\% ee. [Daicel chiral cel OD-H column (25 cm x 0.46 cm ID), n-hexane/i-PrOH = 99.5/0.5, 0.6 mL/min, 254 nm; t_{minor} = 9.1 min, t_{major} = 9.8 min]. [\alpha]_D^{20} \\ = -24.1 (c = 0.2, CHCl_3). ^1\text{H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) } \delta 5.78 \end{array}$

- 5.70 (m, 1H), 5.69 - 5.61 (m, 1H), 3.76 (d, J = 14.6 Hz, 6H), 3.22 (m, J = 7.6, 3.9 Hz, 1H), 3.05 - 2.78 (m, 2H), 1.51 (d, J = 10.4 Hz, 2H), 1.23 (m, 14H), 0.86 (t, J = 6.7 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.28, 167.53, 139.76, 129.98, 127.22, 122.47, 77.32, 77.00, 76.68, 52.06, 52.01, 37.53, 33.88, 31.83, 29.65, 29.51, 29.43, 29.24, 27.16, 25.16, 22.62, 14.04. HRMS (ESI) m/z Calcd. for C₁₀H₁₁O₄ [M+H]⁺: 323.2217, found: 323.2219.

Dimethyl 3-methylcyclohexa-1,4-diene-1,2-dicarboxylate (4c)

A known compound.^[28] General procedure A: yellow oil, 35.4 mg, 84% yield, 99% ee. [Daicel Chiralcel AS-H column (25 cm x 0.46 cm ID), *n*-hexane/*i*-PrOH = 99/1, 1 mL/min, 254 nm; t_{major} =9.6 min, t_{minor} $CO_2Me = 11.6 \text{ min}$]. $[\alpha]_D^{20} = 54.6 \text{ (c} = 1.0, \text{ CHCl}_3).^1\text{H}$ NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 5.73 - 5.60 (m, 2H), 3.80 (d, *J* = 1.3 Hz, 3H), 3.76 (d, *J* = 1.4 Hz, 3H), 3.28 - 3.12 (m, 1H), 3.09 - 2.98 (m, 1H), 2.95 - 2.83 (m, 1H), 1.15 (dd, *J* = 7.1, 1.4 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.23, 167.73, 140.27, 129.42, 128.90, 121.31, 77.26, 77.05, 76.83, 52.21, 52.16, 32.45, 27.04, 20.50.

Dimethyl 3,9,10,10a-tetrahydrophenanthrene-1,2-dicarboxylate (4d)



General procedure A: white solid, 35.4 mg, 84% yield, 8% ee. [Daicel Chiralcel AS-H column (25 cm x 0.46 cm ID), *n*-hexane/*i*-PrOH = 95/5, 1 mL/min, 254 nm; $t_{minor} = 8.1$ min, $t_{major} = 11.1$ min]. $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -2.6$ (c = 1.0, CHCl₃). ¹H NMR (500 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.60 - 7.42 (m, 1H), 7.22 - 7.12

(m, 2H), 7.12 - 7.05 (m, 1H), 6.12 (m, J = 3.7, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (s, 3H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 3.40 - 3.24 (m, 2H), 3.16 - 2.98 (m, 2H), 2.92 (m, J = 17.1, 5.6, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 2.23 - 2.09 (m, 1H), 1.72 (m, J = 12.5, 5.5 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.36, 167.36, 139.70, 135.64, 134.57, 133.39, 129.11, 128.54, 127.53, 126.11, 124.01, 115.53, 52.31, 52.28, 37.59, 29.79, 29.35, 28.05. HRMS (ESI) m/z Calcd. for C₁₈H₁₈O₄ [M+H]⁺: 299.1278, found: 299.1277.

Dimethyl 3-ethyl-4-methylcyclohexa-1,4-diene-1,2-dicarboxylate (4e)



General procedure B: yellow oil, 29.9 mg, 62 % yield, 70% ee. [Daicel Chiralcel OD-H column (25 cm x 0.46 cm ID), *n*hexane/*i*-PrOH = 99.5/0.5, 0.6 mL/min, 254 nm; t_{minor} =10.6 min, t_{major} = 11.4 min]. $[\alpha]_D^{20} = 18.7$ (c = 0.5, CHCl₃). ¹H NMR (600 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 5.57 - 5.48 (t, 1H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 3.74 (s,

3H), 3.17 (m, J = 4.6 Hz, 1H), 2.96 (m, J = 22.8, 4.6, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 2.90 - 2.80 (m, 1H), 1.74 (m, J = 14.4, 7.3, 4.5 Hz, 1H), 1.68 (s, J = 1.8 Hz, 3H), 1.58 (m, J = 14.7, 7.4, 3.7 Hz, 1H), 0.71 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.36, 167.82, 138.84, 132.35, 131.54, 119.11, 52.16, 52.14, 42.29, 28.08, 23.33, 20.88, 7.86. HRMS (ESI) m/z Calcd. for C₁₃H₁₈O₄ [M+H]⁺: 239.1283, found: 239.1289.

Dimethyl 3-(2-(tosyloxy)ethyl)cyclohexa-1,4-diene-1,2-dicarboxylate (4f)



General procedure C: yellow semisolid, 42.8 mg, 54% yield, 98% ee. [Daicel Chiralcel AS-H column (25 cm x 0.46 cm ID), *n*-hexane/*i*-PrOH = 82/18, 1 mL/min, 254 nm; $t_{major} = 26.9$ min, $t_{minor} = 29.9$ min]. $[\alpha]_D^{20} = -53.2$ (c = 1.0, CHCl₃).¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.78 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.35 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 5.84 - 5.70 (m, 1H), 5.65 - 5.47 (m, 1H), 4.07 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 2H),

3.75 (s, 6H), 3.41 - 3.21 (m, 1H), 2.92 (d, J = 4.4 Hz, 2H), 2.45 (s, 3H), 2.09 -1.91 (m, 1H), 1.88 - 1.72 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.42, 167.47, 144.82, 137.01, 132.99, 132.01, 129.86, 127.91, 125.65, 123.71, 77.29, 77.08, 76.87, 67.40, 52.34, 52.31, 34.28, 33.02, 27.24, 21.67. HRMS (ESI) m/z Calcd. for C₁₉H₂₂O₇S [M+H]⁺: 395.1164, found: 395.1161.

Dimethyl 3-(2-acetoxyethyl)cyclohexa-1,4-diene-1,2-dicarboxylate (4g)



General procedure C: yellow oil, 30.9 mg, 55 % yield, 99% ee. [Daicel Chiralcel AS-H column (25 cm x 0.46 cm ID), *n*-hexane/*i*-PrOH = 99.5/0.5, 1.0 mL/min, 254 nm; t_{major} =16.9 min, t_{minor} = 18.7 min]. $[\alpha]_D^{20}$ = 39.0 (c = 1.0, CHCl₃). ¹H NMR (600 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 5.78 (d, *J* = 10.1 Hz, 1H), 5.66 (d, *J* = 10.2 Hz, 1H), 4.07 (td, *J* = 6.8, 2.7 Hz, 2H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 3.41

- 3.28 (m, 1H), 3.00 (dd, J = 23.1, 7.6 Hz, 1H), 2.95 - 2.84 (m, 1H), 1.99 (s, 3H), 1.91 -1.80 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 170.97, 168.38, 167.76, 136.89, 132.06, 126.17, 123.27, 77.21, 77.00, 76.79, 61.22, 52.14, 34.60, 32.35, 27.34, 20.82. HRMS (ESI) m/z Calcd. for C₁₄H₁₈O₆ [M+H]⁺: 283.1176, found: 283.1171.

Dimethyl3-(2-((methoxycarbonyl)oxy)ethyl)cyclohexa-1,4-diene-1,2dicarboxylate (4h)

General procedure C: yellow oil, 16.5 mg, 32% yield, 99% ee. [Daicel Chiralcel AD-H column (25 cm x 0.46 cm ID), *n*-hexane/*i*-PrOH = 90/10, 1 mL/min, 254 nm; t_{minor} =9.7 min, t_{major} = 12.4 min]. [α]_D²⁰ = -20.4 (c = 0.2, CHCl₃). ¹H NMR (600 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 5.84 - 5.77 (m, 1H), 5.76 - 5.67 (m, 1H), 4.17 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.85 - 3.68 (m, 9H), 3.37 (m, *J* = 4.9, 2.0, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 3.11 - 2.87

(m, 2H), 2.05 - 1.95 (m, 1H), 1.85 (dd, J = 13.9, 7.0 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.59, 167.59, 155.66, 137.35, 131.84, 126.09, 123.44, 77.25, 77.04, 76.82, 65.07, 54.77, 52.32, 52.28, 34.54, 32.65, 27.30. HRMS (ESI) m/z Calcd. for C₁₄H₁₈O₇ [M+Na]⁺: 305.0996, found: 305.0997.

Dimethyl 3-(2-((tert-butyldimethylsilyl)oxy)- ethyl)cyclohexa-1,4-diene-1,2dicarboxylate (4i)



A known compound.^[28] General procedure A: yellow oil, 20.0 mg, 28% yield, 98% ee. [Daicel Chiralcel AS-H column (25 cm x 0.46 cm ID), n-hexane/i-PrOH = 99.5/0.5, 0.5 mL/min, 254 nm; t_{major} = 8.4 min, t_{minor} = 9.4 min]. [α]_D²⁰ = 47.9 (c = 1.0, CHCl₃). 1H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 5.74 (s, 2H), 3.76 (d, J = 13.6 Hz, 6H),

3.70 - 3.55 (m, 2H), 3.33 (dd, J = 7.8, 3.7 Hz, 1H), 3.05 - 2.83 (m, 2H), 1.91 - 1.79 (m, 1H), 1.65 - 1.54 (m, 1H), 0.87 (s, 9H), 0.03 (s, 6H). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.03, 167.62, 139.38, 130.22, 126.91, 122.39, 77.28, 77.07, 76.85, 59.97, 52.16, 37.11, 34.67, 27.14, 25.88, 25.86, 25.65, 18.23, -3.58, -5.32, -5.39.

Dimethyl 3-(2-(methoxymethoxy)ethyl)cyclohexa-1,4-diene-1,2-dicarboxylate (4j)



General procedure B: 50 °C, yellow oil, 20.0 mg, 44% yield, 92% ee. [Daicel Chiralcel AS-H column (25 cm x 0.46 cm ID), *n*-hexane/*i*-PrOH = 90/10, 1.0 mL/min, 254 nm; $t_{major} = 6.8 \text{ min}, t_{minor} = 8.2 \text{ min}$]. [α]_D²⁰ = 73.8 (c = 1.0, CHCl₃). ¹H NMR (600 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 5.92 - 5.60 (m, 2H), 4.59 (s, 2H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 3.56 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 3.35 (s, 4H), 3.07 -2.98 (m, 1H), 2.92 (m, *J* = 23.2,

7.0, 3.5 Hz, 1H), 1.95 (m, J = 11.1, 4.1 Hz, 1H), 1.73 (dd, J = 13.8, 6.9 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.96, 167.63, 138.69, 130.74, 126.64, 122.82, 96.47, 77.26, 77.05, 76.84, 64.65, 55.23, 52.24, 34.87, 33.92, 27.20. HRMS (ESI) m/z Calcd. for C₁₄H₂₀O₆ [M+Na]⁺: 294.1079, found: 294.1070.

Dimethyl 3-(2-(benzyloxy)ethyl)cyclohexa-1,4-diene-1,2-dicarboxylate (4k)



A known compound.^[28] General procedure A: 50 °C, yellow oil, 48.0 mg, 73% yield, 97% ee. [Daicel Chiralcel OJ-H column (25 cm x 0.46 cm ID), *n*-hexane/*i*-PrOH = 90/10, 1.0 mL/min, 254 nm; t_{minor} = 25.7 min, t_{major} = 11.4 min]. $[\alpha]_D^{20}$ = -87.1 (c = 1.0, CHCl₃). ¹H NMR (600 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.36 - 7.25 (m, 5H), 6.04 - 5.53 (m, 2H), 4.50 (d, *J* = 11.8 Hz, 1H), 4.45 (d, *J* = 11.9 Hz, 1H), 3.77

(s, 3H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 3.52 (t, J = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 3.41 – 3.34 (m, 1H), 3.05 - 2.94 (m, 1H), 2.96 - 2.80 (m, 1H), 1.97 (m, J = 10.3, 3.6 Hz, 1H), 1.81 -1.70 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.95, 167.74, 138.73, 138.41, 130.83, 128.37, 127.63, 127.56, 126.89, 122.62, 77.28, 77.07, 76.85, 72.95, 67.25, 34.93, 33.96, 27.25, 0.02.

Dimethyl 3-((benzyloxy)methyl)cyclohexa-1,4-diene-1,2-dicarboxylate (41)



General procedure A: 50 °C, yellow oil, 36.0 mg, 57 % yield, 94% ee. [Daicel Chiralcel OD-H column (25 cm x 0.46 cm ID), *n*-hexane/*i*-PrOH = 99/5, 0.7 mL/min, 254 nm; $t_{major} = 14.6$ min, $t_{minor} = 16.0$ min]. [α]_D²⁰ = 55.6 (c = 1.0, CHCl₃). ¹H NMR (600 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.35 - 7.29 (m, 4H), 7.29 - 7.25 (m, 2H), 5.85 - 5.80 (m, 1H), 5.80 - 5.76 (m, 1H), 4.53 - 4.44 (m, 2H), 3.76 (s, 3H), 3.69 (s, 3H), 3.56 - 3.46 (m, 3H), 3.12 - 3.03 (m, 1H), 2.97 - 2.84 (m, 1H).

¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.77, 167.83, 138.10, 135.98, 132.39, 128.32, 127.64, 127.58, 125.21, 123.63, 77.28, 77.07, 76.86, 73.18, 72.68, 52.25, 52.14, 38.73, 27.61, 0.02. HRMS (ESI) m/z Calcd. for $C_{18}H_{20}O_5$ [M+H]⁺: 317.1384, found: 317.1382.

Dimethyl 3-(2-(cyclopropylmethoxy)ethyl)cyclohexa-1,4-diene-1,2-dicarboxylate (4m)



General procedure A: yellow oil, 30.0 mg, 51% yield, 96% ee. [Daicel Chiralcel AS-H column (25 cm x 0.46 cm ID), *n*-hexane/*i*-PrOH = 95/5, 1 mL/min, 254 nm; $t_{major} = 7.0$ min, $t_{minor} = 11.8$ min]. [α]_D²⁰ = -11.2 (c = 1.0, CHCl₃). ¹H NMR (600 MHz, Chloroform *d*) δ 5.81 - 5.70 (m, 2H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 3.49 - 3.42 (m, 2H), 3.35 (m, *J* = 6.9, 3.3 Hz, 1H), 3.26 - 3.17 (m, 2H), 3.04 - 2.96

(m, 1H), 2.94 - 2.86 (m, 1H), 1.92 (m, J = 13.7, 8.1, 6.9, 4.1 Hz, 1H), 1.73 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 1.02 (m, J = 10.9, 8.1, 4.8, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 0.55 - 0.47 (m, 2H), 0.18 (m, J = 4.9, 1.2 Hz, 2H). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.93, 167.73, 138.67, 130.80, 126.95, 122.56, 77.25, 77.03, 76.82, 75.58, 67.35, 52.23, 52.22, 34.94, 33.78, 27.24, 10.59, 3.00, 2.92, 2.92, 0.00. HRMS (ESI) m/z Calcd. for C₁₆H₂₂O₅ [M+H]⁺: 295.1540, found: 295.1538.

Dimethyl 3-(2-((N,4-dimethylphenyl)sulfonamido)ethyl)cyclohexa-1,4-diene-1,2dicarboxylate (4n)



A known compound.^[28] General procedure C: yellow semisolid, 59.3 mg, 73 % yield, 98% ee. [Daicel Chiralcel OD-H column (25 cm x 0.46 cm ID), *n*-hexane/*i*-PrOH = 95/5, 1.0 mL/min, 254 nm; $t_{major} = 34.7 \text{ min}, t_{minor} = 39.6 \text{ min}]. [\alpha]_D^{20} = 69.0 (c = 0.3, CHCl_3).$ ¹H NMR (600 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.64 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 7.33 - 7.29 (m, 2H), 5.79 (d, *J* = 1.1 Hz, 2H), 3.77 (d, *J* = 18.4 Hz,

6H), 3.35 - 3.25 (m, 2H), 3.01 - 2.90 (m, 2H), 2.75 (dd, J = 8.7, 4.6 Hz, 1H), 2.68 (s, 3H), 2.42 (s, 3H), 1.91 - 1.83 (m, 1H), 1.67 - 1.63 (m, 1H). Data were matched with the reported literature.^[17]

Dimethyl 3-(2-ethoxy-2-oxoethyl)cyclohexa-1,4-diene-1,2-dicarboxylate (40)



General procedure D: yellow oil, 12.7 mg, 23% yield, 18% ee. [Daicel Chiralcel AS-H column (25 cm x 0.46 cm ID), *n*-hexane/*i*-PrOH = 95/5, 0.7 mL/min, 254 nm; $t_{major} = 20.8$ min, $t_{minor} = 22.5$ min]. $[\alpha]_D^{20} = 7.6$ (c = 1.0, CHCl₃). ¹H NMR (600 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 5.78 (t, *J* = 1.3 Hz, 2H), 4.14 (m, *J* = 7.1, 1.2 Hz, the 2H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 3.77 (s, 3H), 3.67 - 3.57 (m, 1H), 3.07 - 2.98 (m, 1H), 2.98 - 2.90 (m, 1H), 2.69 (dd, *J* = 15.8, 4.3 Hz, 1H), 2.35 (dd,

J = 15.8, 9.0 Hz, 1H), 1.26 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 171.18, 168.22, 136.18, 132.79, 126.25, 123.09, 77.28, 77.07, 76.85, 60.66, 52.33, 52.31, 39.48, 33.91, 27.47, 14.18. HRMS (ESI) m/z Calcd. for C₁₄H₁₈O₆ [M+Na]⁺: 305.0996, found: 305.0997.

diethyl 3-pentylcyclohexa-1,4-diene-1,2-dicarboxylate (4s)

 $\begin{array}{cccc} & \text{n-C}_5\text{H}_{11} & \text{General procedure C: yellow oil, } 44.9 \text{ mg, } 73\% \text{ yield, } 97\% \text{ ee. [Daicel} \\ & \text{CO}_2\text{Et} & \text{Chiralcel OD-H column (25 cm x 0.46 cm ID), } n\text{-hexane/}i\text{-PrOH} = \\ & 99.5/0.5, \ 0.6 \text{ mL/min, } 254 \text{ nm; } t_{\text{minor}} = 11.1 \text{ min, } t_{\text{major}} = 12.0 \text{ min].} \\ & \text{CO}_2\text{Et} & [\alpha]_D{}^{20} = -57.8 \text{ (c} = 1.0, \text{CHCl}_3\text{).} \ ^1\text{H NMR (600 MHz, Chloroform-}d\text{) } \delta \\ & 5.82 - 5.71 \text{ (m, 1H), } 5.71 - 5.54 \text{ (m, 1H), } 4.32 - 4.10 \text{ (m, 4H), } 3.23 \text{ (m, } J = 5.1, 1.3 \text{ Hz, } \end{array}$

1H), 2.98 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 2.97 - 2.78 (m, 1H), 1.5 - 1.39 (m, 2H), 1.34 - 1.21 (m, 12H), 0.85 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.86, 167.14, 139.55, 129.88, 127.25, 122.54, 77.21, 77.00, 76.79, 60.98, 60.94, 37.56, 33.80, 31.88, 27.20, 24.82, 22.46, 14.02. HRMS (ESI) m/z Calcd. for C₁₇H₂₆O₄ [M+Na]⁺: 317.1723, found: 317.1714.

Diisopropyl 3-pentylcyclohexa-1,4-diene-1,2-dicarboxylate (4t)

n-C₅H₁₁ CO₂-iPr General procedure C: yellow oil, 18.0 mg, 28% yield, 91% ee. [Daicel Chiralcel AD-H column (25 cm x 0.46 cm ID), *n*-hexane/*i*-PrOH = 99.5/0.5, 0.6 mL/min, 254 nm; t_{minor} =9.0 min, t_{major} = 10.3 min]. $[\alpha]_D^{20} = 59.8$ (c = 1.0, CHCl₃). ¹H NMR (600 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 5.74 (m, *J* = 10.2, 4.1, 2.8, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 5.66 (m, *J* = 10.1, 3.8, 1.7 Hz,

1H), 5.20 - 5.10 (m, 1H), 5.10 - 4.99 (m, 1H), 3.23 (m, J = 7.4, 3.6, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 3.00 (m, J = 22.9, 7.8, 2.7 Hz, 1H), 2.86 (m, J = 22.9, 7.0, 3.9, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 1.58 - 1.50 (m, 1H), 1.47 (dd, J = 7.0, 3.9 Hz, 1H), 1.28 (m, J = 17.3, 6.7 Hz, 18H), 0.87 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.37, 166.66, 139.58, 129.96, 127.33, 122.61, 77.26, 77.04, 76.83, 68.50, 68.43, 37.62, 33.83, 31.96, 27.27, 24.93, 22.52, 21.82, 21.79, 21.62, 21.55, 14.09. HRMS (ESI) m/z Calcd. for C₁₉H₃₀O₄ [M+Na]⁺: 345.2036, found: 345.2027.

2-tosyl-1,2,3,4,4a,7-hexahydroisoquinoline (4x)

Ts N

General procedure C: yellow solid, 24.3 mg, 84 % yield, 7% ee. [Daicel Chiralcel AS-H column (25 cm x 0.46 cm ID), *n*-hexane/*i*-PrOH = 80:20, 1.0 mL/min, 254 nm; t_{minor} =15.0 min, t_{major} = 17.5 min]. $[\alpha]_{D}^{20}$ = 4.6 (c = 1.0, CHCl₃). ¹H NMR (600 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.66 (d,

J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 5.83 - 5.56 (m, 2H), 5.49 (dd, J = 9.9, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 4.11 (dd, J = 12.1, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 3.87 (d, J = 11.7 Hz, 1H), 2.83 (d, J = 11.9 Hz, 1H), 2.77 - 2.56 (m, 2H), 2.44 (s, 5H), 1.88 - 1.73 (m, 1H), 1.47 (qd, J = 12.7, 4.2 Hz, 1H). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 143.51, 133.11, 130.87, 129.61, 127.87, 127.18, 124.04, 120.97, 52.82, 46.88, 35.42, 32.80, 26.58, 21.56. HRMS (ESI) m/z Calcd. for C₁₆H₁₉NO₂S [M+Na]⁺: 290.1209, found: 290.1203.

7. Derivatizations

Oxidation of 4a:



The oxidation was performed according the reported literature.^[29] A mixture of compound **4a** (53.2 mg, 0.2 mmol) and DDQ (7 mg, 0.2 mmol) in degassed toluene (10 mL) was heated under N₂ at 80 °C for 12 h. The toluene was removed under vacuum, and the crude product was purified by flash chromatography. yellow oil, 22.1 mg, 42%

yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 7.76 (dd, J = 7.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.40 - 7.26 (m, 2H), 3.84 (d, J = 21.6 Hz, 6H), 2.63 - 2.46 (m, 2H), 1.58 - 1.49 (m, 2H), 1.29 - 1.18 (m, 4H), 0.88 - 0.74 (m, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 168.81, 165.34, 139.47, 133.89, 132.69, 128.04, 126.73, 126.56, 51.43, 51.40, 32.17, 30.58, 29.91, 21.38, 12.93.

Oxidation of 4c:



The compound **4c** (63.1 mg, 0.3 mmol) was placed at room temperature under air for 1 moth, then **4c** was converted to **5c**. The crude product was purified by flash chromatography. Yellow oil, 38.1 mg, 61% yield. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, Chloroform-*d*) δ 7.83 (dd, *J* = 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.44 - 7.31 (m, 2H), 3.94 (s, 3H), 3.89 (s, 3H), 2.35 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.89, 166.32, 135.56, 135.31, 134.50, 129.06, 127.69, 127.46, 77.29, 77.08, 76.87, 52.53, 52.49, 19.05. A known compound.^[30]

Hydrolysis of 4a:



A solution of **4a** (53.2 mg, 0.2 mmol) in THF (1 mL) and water (1 mL) was added NaOH (80 mg, 2.0 mmol) and the mixture was heated at reflux overnight. After completion of the reaction it was cooled to 0 °C and acidified with 1 N HCl to pH 2. The product was extracted with CH₂Cl₂, washed with water, dried over Na₂SO₄. The solvent was removed under vacuum, and the crude product was purified by flash chromatography. Yellow semi-solid, 46.2 mg, 97% yield, 99% *ee*. The enantiomeric excess of **6a** was determined by HPLC after methylation of the **6a**. ¹H NMR (600 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 11.27 (br, 2H), 6.23 (dd, J = 9.5, 5.8 Hz, 1H), 6.09 (dd, J = 9.6, 5.6 Hz, 1H), 3.63 (s, 1H), 2.94 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 1H), 1.65 - 1.10 (m, 9H), 0.88 (t, J = 6.9 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (151 MHz, Chloroform-d) δ 179.54, 172.67, 138.66, 135.94, 122.53, 122.12, 41.47, 36.38, 32.77, 31.66, 26.18, 22.51, 14.03. [α]_D²⁰ = -620 (c = 1.0, CHCl₃). HRMS (ESI) m/z Calcd. for C₁₃H₁₈O₄ [M+Na]⁺: 261.1097, found: 261.1089.

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9. Copies of HPLC reports for racemic and chiral compounds





































10. Copies of ¹H NMR and ¹³C NMR spectra





















90 80 fl (ppm) o ____































210 200 190 180 170 160 150 140 130 120 110 100 90 80 70 60 50 40 30 20 10 0 -10 f1 (ppm)