Supplementary Information for:

### Intramolecular Asymmetric Propargylation of Esters and Imides: C–H Functionalisation Enables Stereocontrolled Access to UCS1025A

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### 1. General information

### General reagent information:

Anhydrous THF was dried and deoxygenated by passage through packed columns of alumina and Q5 copper catalyst, respectively, and dispensed from a solvent purification system. Other anhydrous solvents were purchased from Acros (AcroSeal packaging) or Sigma Aldrich (Sure/Seal packaging) and were sparged with argon and transferred into an argon-filled glovebox before use. Bis(1,5-cyclooctadiene)diiridium(I) dichloride was purchased from Sigma Aldrich and was used as received. 2,2,6,6-Tetramethylpiperidine (TMPH) was purchased from Sigma Aldrich and vacuum distilled from CaH<sub>2</sub>. (*Note:* Distilled TMPH should be stored under inert atmosphere.) All other reagents were purchased from TCI, Strem, Oakwood, Acros, Alfa Aesar, or Sigma Aldrich and used as received. Compounds were purified by preparative thin-layer chromatography (prep TLC) on SiliCycle 1000 µm plates, or by flash column chromatography using SiliCycle SiliaFlash® F60 silica gel. Analytical thin-layer chromatography (TLC) was performed using SiliCycle 250 µm plates. Compounds were visualised by irradiation with UV (254 nm), or by staining with iodine/silica gel or potassium permanganate. Yields refer to isolated compounds, unless otherwise indicated.

### General analytical information:

All new compounds (starting materials and products) were characterised by <sup>1</sup>H NMR, <sup>13</sup>C NMR, and high-resolution mass spectrometry. All <sup>1</sup>H NMR data are reported in  $\delta$  units, parts per million (ppm), and were measured relative to the residual proton signal in the deuterated solvent at 7.26 ppm (CDCl<sub>3</sub>). Data for <sup>1</sup>H are reported as follows: chemical shift ( $\delta$  ppm), multiplicity (s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, p = pentet, m = multiplet), integration, and coupling constant (Hz). All <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra are <sup>1</sup>H decoupled and reported in ppm relative to the solvent signal at 77.16 ppm (CDCl<sub>3</sub>). Enantiomeric excesses (ee) were determined by HPLC (high performance liquid chromatography) analysis using a chiral stationary phase. Specific columns and analytical methods are provided in the experimental details for individual compounds; the wavelengths of light used for chiral analyses are provided with the associated chromatograms. High-resolution mass spectra were obtained on a Bruker Daltonics, Inc. APEXIII 7.0 TESLA FTMS instrument (ESI) or Waters Micromass GCT Premier instrument (EI). Specific optical rotation was collected on a Jacso P-2000 Digital Polarimeter.

### 2. Procedures and characterisation data

### 2.1 Cyclisation of esters and imides to cyclic acetals and hemiaminals

General Procedure A for the synthesis of cyclic silyl acetals from alkyne-tethered esters



*Preparation of the Ir complex solution:* A reaction tube (13 mm by 100 mm, Fisherbrand part # 14-959-35C) equipped with a magnetic stir bar was flame dried and transferred into an argon-filled glovebox. In the glovebox,  $[Ir(cod)Cl]_2$  (6.7 mg, 0.01 mmol, 5 mol %) and phosphoramidite (*R*)-L (20.3 mg, 0.04 mmol, 20 mol %) were added. (In some cases, noted below, 2.5 mol % [Ir(cod)Cl]\_2 and 10 mol % (*R*)-L were used instead.) 1,2-Dichloroethane (0.2 mL) was added by syringe. The reaction tube was capped, and the solution was stirred at room temperature for 1 h to give a dark red solution.

*Ir-catalyzed cyclisation reaction:* To the solution prepared above were added 1 (0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv), distilled 2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidine (TMPH) (85  $\mu$ L, 0.5 mmol, 2.5 equiv), and triisopropylsilyl trifluoromethanesulfonate (TIPSOTf) (108  $\mu$ L, 0.4 mmol, 2.0 equiv) in succession. The tube was again capped and removed from the glovebox and stirred for 20 hours at 50 °C, unless another temperature is specified. The reaction mixture was quenched by adding Et<sub>3</sub>N (50  $\mu$ L, 0.36 mmol, 1.8 equiv) and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (ca. 1 mL). The diluted mixture was flushed through a short plug of silica (ca. 1 g) by eluting with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (ca. 10 mL). The solution was concentrated *in vacuo* and dissolved in CDCl<sub>3</sub> (ca. 0.5 mL). <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectroscopy was used to determine crude diastereomeric ratio (dr). The solution was then concentrated *in vacuo* and purified by preparative thin layer chromatography (Prep TLC) to afford the isolated major diastereomer. (Preparative TLC plates were developed through multiple runs in succession until the desired degree of separation was achieved, with the plate removed from the developing chamber and dried thoroughly under a stream of air between runs.) For HPLC analysis, racemic samples were prepared by mixing equal amounts of samples prepared following general procedure A using (*S*)- and (*R*)-L.

The relative configurations of the 5-membered products were assigned by analogy to **2b**, whose relative configuration was determined based on <sup>1</sup>H NMR coupling constants. The relative configurations were determined separately for 6 membered products **2c**, **2g**, **and 2h**, each based on its own <sup>1</sup>H NMR coupling constants. The absolute configuration of all products was assigned by analogy to **4b** and **4db**. See section 4 for details.

Triisopropyl(((2S,3S)-2-methyl-3-(phenylethynyl)tetrahydrofuran-2-yl)oxy)silane (2a)



Ph

Prepared following general procedure A at a reaction temperature of 35 °C. The dr of the crude material was determined to be >20:1. The reaction mixture was purified by preparative TLC, developing 3 times in 99:1 hexanes/EtOAc to afford the title compound (major diastereomer) as a colorless oil (57.2 mg, 80%).

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.43 – 7.35 (m, 2H), 7.31 – 7.26 (m, 3H), 4.11 – 3.99 (m, 2H), 3.18 (dd, J = 7.5, 4.1Hz, 1H), 2.52 (dq, *J* = 12.3, 7.7 Hz, 1H), 2.09 (tt, *J* = 7.6, 4.6 Hz, 1H), 1.71 (s, 3H), 1.09 – 1.05 (m, 21H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 131.7, 128.4, 127.9, 123.8, 107.5, 89.8, 83.7, 66.6, 44.3, 32.7, 25.5, 18.3, 13.2. **HPLC analysis** (OD-3 column, hexanes/i-PrOH = 99:1, 0.8 mL/min, r.t.,  $\lambda = 242$  nm) indicated a 99% ee: t<sub>R</sub>  $(major) = 4.16 min, t_R (minor) = 4.44 min.$ **Specific rotation**  $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -109.2$  (*c* 0.545, CHCl<sub>3</sub>).

HRMS (ESI) calcd. for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>35</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Si [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 359.2401, Found: 359.2398.

### Triisopropyl(((2S,3S)-3-(phenylethynyl)tetrahydro-2H-pyran-2-yl)oxy)silane (2b)



Prepared following general procedure A at room temperature, but with precatalyst and ligand loading reduced to: [Ir(cod)Cl]<sub>2</sub> (3.4 mg, 0.005 mmol, 2.5 mol %) and (R)-L (10.2 mg, 0.02 mmol, 10 mol %). The dr of the crude material was determined to be 11:1. The reaction mixture was purified by preparative TLC, developing 4 times in hexanes/EtOAc = 99:1 to afford the title compound (major diastereomer) as a colorless oil (39.4 mg, 57%). The relative configuration was assigned based on <sup>1</sup>H NMR coupling constants. See section 4 for details.

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.41 – 7.37 (m, J = 6.0, 3.2 Hz, 2H), 7.31 – 7.26 (m, 3H), 5.57 (br. s, 1H), 4.13 – 4.04 (m, 2H), 3.11 (dd, J = 7.5, 3.3 Hz, 1H), 2.42 (dq, J = 12.0, 7.7 Hz, 1H), 2.06 (dddd, J = 10.9, 7.0, 5.2, 3.9 Hz, 1H), 3.06 (dddd, J = 10.9, 7.0, 5.2, 3.9 Hz, 1H), 3.06 (dddd, J = 10.9, 7.0, 5.2, 3.9 Hz, 1H), 3.06 (dddd, J = 10.9, 7.0, 5.2, 3.9 Hz, 1H), 3.06 (dddd, J = 10.9, 7.0, 5.2, 3.9 Hz, 1H), 3.06 (dddd, J = 10.9, 7.0, 5.2, 3.9 Hz, 1H), 3.06 (dddd, J = 10.9, 7.0, 5.2, 3.9 Hz, 1H), 3.06 (dddd, J = 10.9, 7.0, 5.2, 3.9 Hz, 1H), 3.06 (dddd, J = 10.9, 7.0, 5.2, 3.9 Hz, 1H), 3.06 (dddd, J = 10.9, 7.0, 5.2, 3.9 Hz, 1H), 3.06 (dddd, J = 10.9, 7.0, 5.2, 3.9 Hz, 1H), 3.06 (dddd, J = 10.9, 7.0, 5.2, 7.0, 1H), 1.16 – 1.05 (m, 21H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 131.8, 128.3, 128.0, 123.6, 102.6, 89.6, 82.5, 67.0, 40.6, 31.3, 18.0, 17.9, 12.2. **HPLC analysis** (OD-3 column, hexanes/i-PrOH = 99.5:0.5, 0.8 mL/min, r.t.,  $\lambda = 243$  nm) indicated a 99% ee: t<sub>R</sub>  $(major) = 5.16 min, t_R (minor) = 5.67 min.$ 

**Specific rotation**  $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -108.4$  (*c* 0.59, CHCl<sub>3</sub>).

**HRMS** (ESI) calcd. for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>33</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Si [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 345.2244, Found: 345.2241.

### Triisopropyl(((2S,3S)-3-(phenylethynyl)tetrahydro-2H-pyran-2-yl)oxy)silane (2c)



Prepared following general procedure A, but with precatalyst and ligand loading reduced to:  $[Ir(cod)Cl]_2$  (3.4 mg, 0.005 mmol, 2.5 mol %) and (*R*)-L (10.2 mg, 0.02 mmol, 10 mol %). The dr of the crude material was determined to be >10:1. The reaction mixture was purified by prep TLC, developing 3 times in hexanes/EtOAc = 49:1 to afford the title compound (major diastereomer) as a colorless oil (43.9 mg, 61%). The relative configuration was assigned based on <sup>1</sup>H NMR coupling constants. See section 4 for details.

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.43 – 7.38 (m, 2H), 7.30 – 7.26 (m, 3H), 4.95 (d, *J* = 4.9 Hz, 1H), 4.01 (ddd, *J* = 10.9, 6.8, 3.7 Hz, 1H), 3.54 (ddd, *J* = 11.1, 7.3, 3.5 Hz, 1H), 2.69 (dt, *J* = 8.0, 4.5 Hz, 1H), 2.20 (ddt, *J* = 12.1, 7.8, 3.9 Hz, 1H), 1.82 (dtt, *J* = 14.5, 7.4, 3.7 Hz, 1H), 1.73 (dtd, *J* = 12.3, 8.1, 3.9 Hz, 1H), 1.52 (dtt, *J* = 12.1, 7.7, 3.8 Hz, 1H), 1.14 – 1.06 (m, 21H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  131.8, 128.3, 127.8, 124.0, 96.1, 90.6, 82.4, 63.3, 36.5, 26.7, 23.4, 18.1, 18.0, 12.4. HPLC analysis (OD-3 column, hexanes/i-PrOH = 99.5:0.5, 0.5 mL/min, r.t.,  $\lambda$  = 241 nm) indicated a 95% ee: t<sub>R</sub> (major) = 8.61 min, t<sub>R</sub> (minor) = 8.24 min.

Specific rotation  $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -61.3$  (*c* 0.185, CHCl<sub>3</sub>).

HRMS (ESI) calcd. for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>35</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Si [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 359.2401, Found: 359.2396.

### Triisopropyl(((2*R*,3*S*)-2-phenyl-3-(phenylethynyl)tetrahydrofuran-2-yl)oxy)silane (2d)



Prepared following general procedure A. The dr of the crude reaction mixture was determined to be 3.8:1. The reaction mixture was purified by prep TLC, developing 3 times in hexanes/EtOAc = 99:1 to afford the title compound (major diastereomer) as a colorless oil (43.0 mg, 51%).

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.62 – 7.58 (m, 2H), 7.35 – 7.27 (m, 3H), 7.21 – 7.11 (m, 3H), 7.01 – 6.93 (m, 2H), 4.36 – 4.24 (m, 2H), 3.49 (dd, *J* = 7.0, 4.3 Hz, 1H), 2.60 (dq, *J* = 12.0, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 2.16 (ddt, *J* = 11.1, 6.5, 4.6 Hz, 1H), 1.00 – 0.92 (m, 21H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 143.3, 131.5, 128.1, 127.8, 127.7, 127.3, 127.1, 123.6, 109.4, 89.0, 85.0, 68.5, 46.6, 32.4, 18.3, 18.2, 13.2.

HPLC analysis (IB column, hexanes/i-PrOH = 99.9:0.1, 0.2 mL/min, r.t.,  $\lambda$  = 246 nm) indicated a 99% ee: t<sub>R</sub> (major) = 20.44 min, t<sub>R</sub> (minor) = 20.72 min.

**Specific rotation**  $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -54.4$  (*c* 0.68, CHCl<sub>3</sub>).

HRMS (ESI) calcd. for C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>37</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Si [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 421.2557, Found: 421.2571.

Triisopropyl(((2R,3S)-2-phenyl-3-(p-tolylethynyl)tetrahydrofuran-2-yl)oxy)silane (2e)



Prepared following general procedure A, but with the reaction time increased to 3 days. The dr of the crude reaction mixture was determined to be 3.0:1. The reaction mixture was purified by prep TLC, developing 4 times in hexanes/EtOAc = 99:1 to afford the title compound (major diastereomer) as a colorless oil (45.3 mg, 52%).

<sup>1</sup>**H** NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.61 – 7.57 (m, 2H), 7.33 – 7.27 (m, 3H), 6.96 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.86 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 4.34 – 4.24 (m, 2H), 3.47 (dd, *J* = 6.9, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 2.59 (dq, *J* = 12.0, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 2.27 (s, 3H), 2.14 (ddt, *J* = 11.2, 6.5, 4.5 Hz, 1H), 0.97 – 0.93 (m, 21H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 143.3, 137.7, 131.3, 128.8, 127.8, 127.3, 127.1, 120.5, 109.4, 88.2, 85.0, 68.5, 46.6, 32.4, 21.5, 18.3, 18.2, 13.2.

**HPLC analysis** (OD-3 column, hexanes/i-PrOH = 99.9:0.1, 0.8 mL/min, r.t.,  $\lambda$  = 243 nm) indicated a 98% ee: t<sub>R</sub> (major) = 6.43 min, t<sub>R</sub> (minor) = 7.78 min.

Specific rotation  $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -122.2$  (*c* 0.13, CHCl<sub>3</sub>).

HRMS (ESI) calcd. for C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>39</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Si [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 435.2714, Found: 435.2713

Triisopropyl(((2R,3S)-3-((4-nitrophenyl)ethynyl)-2-phenyltetrahydrofuran-2-yl)oxy)silane (2f)



 $O_2N$ 

Prepared following general procedure A. The dr of the crude reaction mixture was determined to be 8.1:1. The reaction mixture was purified by prep TLC, developing 3 times in hexanes/EtOAc = 49:1 to afford the title compound (major diastereomer) as a yellow oil (39.7 mg, 43%).

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.02 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 7.61 – 7.57 (m, 2H), 7.36 – 7.27 (m, 3H), 7.05 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 4.35 – 4.28 (m, 2H), 3.53 (dd, *J* = 7.2, 4.3 Hz, 1H), 2.63 (dq, *J* = 12.1, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 2.18 (ddt, *J* = 11.3, 6.1, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 1.02 – 0.92 (m, 21H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 146.8, 143.1, 132.2, 130.6, 128.0, 127.4, 127.0, 123.4, 109.3, 95.2, 83.6, 68.5, 46.8, 32.1, 18.22, 18.20, 13.1.

HPLC analysis (OD-3 column, hexanes/i-PrOH = 99.9:0.1, 1.8 mL/min, r.t.,  $\lambda$  = 300 nm) indicated a >99% ee: t<sub>R</sub> (major) = 7.48 min, t<sub>R</sub> (minor) = 6.89 min.

**Specific rotation**  $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -87.9$  (*c* 0.645, CHCl<sub>3</sub>).

HRMS (ESI) calcd. for C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>26</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>Si [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 466.2408, Found: 466.2404.

Triisopropyl(((2S,3S)-2-methyl-3-(phenylethynyl)tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-2-yl)oxy)silane (2g)



Ph

Prepared following general procedure A, but with LiNTf<sub>2</sub> (5.7 mg, 0.02 mmol, 10 mol %) used as an additive. The dr of the crude reaction mixture was determined to be 5.3:1. The reaction mixture was purified by prep TLC, developing 2 times in hexanes/EtOAc = 99:1 to afford the title compound (major diastereomer) as a yellow oil (36.5 mg, 49%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.40 (dd, J = 6.5, 3.0 Hz, 2H), 7.30 – 7.23 (m, 3H), 3.96 (td, J = 11.1, 3.1 Hz, 1H), 3.63 (dt, J = 7.8, 3.7 Hz, 1H), 2.82 (t, J = 4.4 Hz, 1H), 2.26 (tt, J = 12.5, 4.0 Hz, 1H), 2.07 – 1.92 (m, 1H), 1.83 – 1.71 (m, 1H), 1.43 (qd, J = 7.5, 3.7 Hz, 1H), 1.20 – 1.04 (m, 21H).

**13C NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl3)  $\delta$  131.8, 128.3, 127.7, 97.4, 91.1, 61.7, 39.5, 26.9, 25.6, 21.9, 18.5, 13.5. **HPLC analysis** (IB column, hexanes/i-PrOH = 99.9:0.1, 2.0 mL/min, r.t.,  $\lambda$  = 242 nm) indicated a 94% ee: t<sub>R</sub> (major) = 1.87 min, t<sub>R</sub> (minor) = 2.12 min. **Specific rotation** [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub><sup>25</sup> = -63.4 (*c* 0.50, CHCl<sub>3</sub>).

HRMS (ESI) calcd. for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>37</sub>O<sub>2</sub>Si [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 373.2557, Found: 373.2558.

### Triisopropyl(((2S,3S)-2-phenyl-3-(phenylethynyl)tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-2-yl)oxy)silane (2h)



Prepared following general procedure A, but with  $\text{LiNTf}_2(5.7 \text{ mg}, 0.02 \text{ mmol}, 10 \text{ mol }\%)$  used as an additive. The dr of the crude reaction mixture was determined to be 5.3:1. The reaction mixture was purified by prep TLC, developing 3 times in hexanes/EtOAc = 99:1 to afford the title compound (mixture of diastereomers) as a yellow oil (47.7 mg, 55%).

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.83 (d, J = 6.7 Hz, 2H'), 7.62 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H\*), 7.39 – 7.36 (m, 2H'), 7.35 – 7.30 (m, 2H\*+1H'), 7.30 – 7.26 (m, 1H\*+5H'), 7.18 – 7.11 (m, 3H\*), 7.01 (dd, J = 7.5, 1.9 Hz, 2H\*), 4.16 – 4.03 (m, 1H\*+1H'), 3.92 – 3.82 (m, 1H\*+1H'), 3.32 (t, J = 3.4 Hz, 1H\*), 2.66 (dd, J = 12.2, 4.0 Hz, 1H'), 2.45 (tt, J = 13.0, 4.0 Hz, 1H\*), 2.29 – 2.12 (1H\*+1H'), 2.05 – 1.96 (m, 1H'), 1.97 – 1.88 (m, 1H\*), 1.80 – 1.67 (m, 2H'), 1.49 (br. d, J = 13.3 Hz, 1H\*), 1.09 – 1.07 (m, 9H'), 1.02 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 9H\*), 0.96 – 0.88 (m, 12H\*+12H').

H\* indicates the major diastereomer, while H' indicates the minor diastereomer.

<sup>13</sup>C NMR <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 145.1, 144.7, 131.6, 128.3, 128.0, 127.9, 127.9, 127.6, 127.5, 127.4, 127.3, 127.0, 126.5, 124.0, 97.9, 91.7, 90.8, 83.2, 61.6, 61.4, 43.2, 40.2, 27.5, 25.2, 24.8, 21.2, 18.4, 18.3, 18.2, 18.2, 14.1, 13.7.

**HPLC analysis** (OD3 column, hexanes/i-PrOH = 99.9:0.1, 0.4 mL/min, **r.t. and 40 °C separately**,  $\lambda = 243$  nm) Major diastereomer: indicated a >90 % ee: t<sub>R</sub> (major) = 10.01 min, t<sub>R</sub> (minor) = 9.74 min; Minor diastereomer: indicated a >90 % ee: t<sub>R</sub> (major) = 11.03 min, t<sub>R</sub> (minor) = 10.43 min. **Specific rotation** [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub><sup>25</sup> = -74.9 (*c* 0.515, CHCl<sub>3</sub>).

**HRMS** (ESI) calcd. for  $C_{28}H_{39}O_2Si$  [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 435.2714, Found: 435.2714.

2-Chloro-3-(((2R,3S)-2-phenyl-2-((triisopropylsilyl)oxy)tetrahydrofuran-3-yl)ethynyl)pyridine (2i)



Prepared following general procedure A, but with precatalyst and ligand loading increased to:  $[Ir(cod)Cl]_2$  (13.4 mg, 0.02 mmol, 10 mol %), phosphoramidite (*R*)-L (40.6 mg, 0.08 mmol, 40 mol %), and with the reaction time increased to 3 days. The dr of the crude reaction mixture was determined to be >20:1. The reaction mixture was purified by prep TLC, developing 2 times in hexanes/EtOAc = 9:1 to afford the title compound (major diastereomer) as a yellow oil (51.1 mg, 56%).

<sup>1</sup>**H** NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.18 (dd, J = 4.8, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.60 (dd, J = 8.1, 1.3 Hz, 2H), 7.33 – 7.23 (m, 3H), 7.17 (dd, J = 7.7, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.02 (dd, J = 7.6, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 4.38 – 4.29 (m, 2H), 3.57 (dd, J = 7.0, 3.8 Hz, 1H), 2.66 (ddd, J = 15.5, 12.0, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 2.22 (ddt, J = 8.0, 6.5, 4.1 Hz, 1H), 0.99 – 0.93 (m, J = 5.3 Hz, 21H) <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  152.1, 147.8, 143.0, 141.5, 128.0, 127.5, 127.1, 121.7, 120.7, 109.2, 97.2, 80.1, 68.5, 46.8, 32.3, 18.22, 18.20, 13.2.

HPLC analysis (OD3 column, hexanes/i-PrOH = 99:1, 1.0 mL/min, r.t.,  $\lambda$  = 250 nm) indicated a 98% ee: t<sub>R</sub> (major) = 5.09 min, t<sub>R</sub> (minor) = 4.85 min.

**Specific rotation**  $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -90.9$  (*c* 0.37, CHCl<sub>3</sub>).

HRMS (ESI) calcd. for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>35</sub>O<sub>2</sub>SiNCl [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 456.2120, Found: 456.2117.

### Triisopropyl(((2R,3S)-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-3-(phenylethynyl)tetrahydrofuran-2-yl)oxy)silane (2j)



Prepared following general procedure A, but with precatalyst and ligand loading reduced to:  $[Ir(cod)Cl]_2$  (3.4 mg, 0.005 mmol, 2.5 mol %) and (*R*)-L (10.2 mg, 0.02 mmol, 10 mol %). The dr of the crude reaction mixture was determined to be 6.8:1. The reaction mixture was purified by prep TLC, developing 2 times in hexanes/Et<sub>2</sub>O = 39:1 to afford the title compound (major diastereomer) as a colorless oil (53.7 mg, 60%).

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.51 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.22 – 7.15 (m, 3H), 7.05 – 7.00 (m, 2H), 6.85 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 4.32 – 4.24 (m, 2H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.45 (dd, *J* = 6.8, 4.7 Hz, 1H), 2.57 (dq, *J* = 12.1, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 2.13 (td, *J* = 11.5, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 0.98 – 0.96 (m, *J* = 2.3 Hz, 21H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 159.3, 135.8, 131.5, 128.4, 128.1, 127.7, 123.7, 112.6, 109.3, 89.2, 84.9, 68.3, 55.4, 46.6, 32.5, 18.28, 18.25, 13.2.

HPLC analysis (OD-3 column, hexanes/i-PrOH = 99.9:0.1, 0.4 mL/min, r.t.,  $\lambda$  = 237 nm) indicated a >99% ee: t<sub>R</sub> (major) = 15.40 min, t<sub>R</sub> (minor) = 17.53 min.

**Specific rotation**  $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -86.1$  (*c* 0.275, CHCl<sub>3</sub>).

**HRMS** (ESI) calcd. for C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>39</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Si [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 451.2663, Found: 451.2658.

4-(((2*R*,3*S*)-2-(*tert*-Butyl)-2-((*tert*-butyldimethylsilyl)oxy)tetrahydrofuran-3-yl)ethynyl)phenyl pivalate (2k)



t-Bi

Prepared following general procedure A, but with *tert*-butyldimethylsilyl trifluoromethanesulfonate (TBSOTf) (92  $\mu$ L, 0.4 mmol, 2 equiv) instead of TIPSOTf, and with the reaction time increased to 36 h. The dr of the crude reaction mixture was determined to be 3.6:1. The reaction mixture was purified by prep TLC, initially developing a first plate 5 times in hexanes/EtOAc = 99:1. After recovering only partially purified product from the first plate due to partial overlap of the diastereomer bands, a second prep TLC plate was used to further purify the major diastereomer. The second plate was also developed 5 times in hexanes/EtOAc = 99:1. This afforded the major diastereomer as a colorless oil (36.3 mg, 40%).

<sup>1</sup>**H** NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.39 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.99 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 4.10 – 3.94 (m, 2H), 3.25 (dd, *J* = 9.8, 7.8 Hz, 1H), 2.39 (dddd, *J* = 12.0, 7.7, 6.4, 4.2 Hz, 1H), 2.15 (ddt, *J* = 12.2, 9.7, 8.6 Hz, 1H), 1.35 (s, 9H), 1.17 (s, 9H), 0.91 (s, 9H), 0.14 (s, 6H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 177.0, 150.8, 132.4, 121.7, 121.4, 113.0, 89.9, 84.4, 67.3, 43.5, 41.0, 39.3, 34.8, 27.3, 26.2, 26.0, 18.4, -24, -2.9.

HPLC analysis (IB column, hexanes/i-PrOH = 99.9:0.1, 2.0 mL/min, r.t.,  $\lambda$  = 250 nm) indicated a 97% ee: t<sub>R</sub> (major) = 2.17 min, t<sub>R</sub> (minor) = 2.37 min.

**Specific rotation**  $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -91.23$  (*c* 0.70, CHCl<sub>3</sub>).

HRMS (ESI) calcd. for C<sub>27</sub>H<sub>43</sub>O<sub>4</sub>Si [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 459.2925, Found: 458.2935.

General Procedure B for the synthesis of cyclic silyl hemiaminals from alkyne-tethered imides



*Preparation of the Ir complex solution:* A reaction tube (13mm x 100mm, Fisherbrand part # 14-959-35C) equipped with a magnetic stir bar was flame dried and transferred into an argon-filled glovebox. In the glovebox,  $[Ir(cod)Cl]_2$  (3.4 mg, 0.005 mmol, 2.5 mol %) and phosphoramidite (*R*)-L (10.2 mg, 0.02 mmol, 10 mol %) were added, unless another quantity is noted below. 1,2-dichloroethane (0.2 mL) was added by syringe. The reaction tube was capped, and the solution was stirred at room temperature for 1 h to give a dark red solution.

*Ir-catalyzed cyclisation reaction:* To the solution were added **1** (0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv), distilled 2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidine (TMPH) (102  $\mu$ L, 0.6 mmol, 3.0 equiv), and trimethylsilyl trifluoromethanesulfonate (TMSOTf) (90  $\mu$ L, 0.5 mmol, 2.5 equiv). The tube was again capped and removed from the glovebox, then stirred at the specified temperature for 20 hours. To the crude reaction mixture were added Et<sub>3</sub>N (50  $\mu$ L, 0.36mmol, 1.8 equiv) and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (ca. 1 mL). The diluted mixture was flushed through a short plug of silica (ca. 1 g) eluting with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (ca. 10 mL). The solution was concentrated *in vacuo* and dissolved in CDCl<sub>3</sub> (ca. 0.5 mL). <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectroscopy was used to determine crude diastereomeric ratio (dr). The solution was concentrated *in vacuo* and purified by preparative TLC or column chromatography afford the isolated major diastereomer. Preparative TLC plates were developed only once. Exact conditions are listed below. For HPLC analysis, racemic samples were prepared by mixing equal amounts of samples prepared following general procedure B using (*S*)- and (*R*)-L.

(1S,9bR)-1-(Phenylethynyl)-9b-((trimethylsilyl)oxy)-1,2,3,9b-tetrahydro-5H-pyrrolo[2,1-a]isoindol-5-one (4a)



Prepared following general procedure B at a reaction temperature of 60 °C. The dr of the crude reaction mixture was determined to be 11:1. The reaction mixture was purified by prep TLC in hexanes/EtOAc = 9:1 to afford the title compound (major diastereomer) as a clear oil (46.0 mg, 64%). The absolute and relative configurations were assigned by analogy to **4b**.

<sup>1</sup>**H** NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.74 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.60 – 7.55 (m, 2H), 7.52 – 7.46 (m, 1H), 7.15 (ddd, J = 6.3, 3.6, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.12 – 7.06 (m, 2H), 6.87 – 6.81 (m, 2H), 3.89 (td, J = 10.7, 7.9 Hz, 1H), 3.47 (ddd, J = 10.7, 8.9, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 3.39 (d, J = 6.1 Hz, 1H), 2.88 (dddd, J = 12.3, 10.2, 9.0, 6.2 Hz, 1H), 2.48 (dd, J = 12.4, 7.7 Hz, 1H), -0.10 (s, 9H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 171.5, 146.5, 133.1, 132.7, 131.4, 129.9, 128.1, 128.0, 123.2, 123.1, 122.7, 100.2, 86.7, 85.3, 41.6, 41.1, 34.4, 0.8.

**HPLC analysis** (AD-3 column, hexanes/i-PrOH = 90:10, 0.4 mL/min, r.t.,  $\lambda$  = 241 nm) indicated a 99% ee: t<sub>R</sub> (major) = 12.60 min, t<sub>R</sub> (minor) = 11.92 min.

**Specific rotation**  $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -83.1$  (*c* 1.35, CHCl<sub>3</sub>).

HRMS (ESI) calcd. for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>24</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>Si [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 362.1571, Found: 362.1568.

(1*S*,9b*R*)-1-([1,1'-Biphenyl]-4-ylethynyl)-9b-((trimethylsilyl)oxy)-1,2,3,9b-tetrahydro-5*H*-pyrrolo[2,1-*a*]isoindol-5-one (4b)





Prepared following general procedure B at a reaction temperature of 60 °C. The dr of the crude reaction mixture was determined to be 14:1. The reaction mixture was purified by column chromatography in hexanes/EtOAc = 9:1 to afford the title compound (major diastereomer) as a white solid (51.0 mg, 58%). The connectivity and stereochemistry were determined by X-ray crystallography.

### **m.p.** 163.4 – 170.8 °C (dec.)

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.77 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.64 – 7.56 (m, 2H), 7.54 – 7.46 (m, 3H), 7.40 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.37 – 7.29 (m, 3H), 6.92 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H), 3.91 (td, J = 10.7, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 3.49 (ddd, J = 10.6, 9.0, 0.9 Hz, 1H), 3.42 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 2.90 (dddd, J = 12.3, 10.0, 9.1, 6.3 Hz, 1H), 2.50 (dd, J = 12.4, 7.7 Hz, 1H), -0.09 (s, 9H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 171.5, 146.5, 140.8, 140.5, 133.1, 132.7, 131.8, 129.9, 128.9, 127.6, 127.1, 126.8, 123.2, 123.1, 121.6, 100.2, 87.4, 85.2, 41.6, 41.2, 34.5, 0.8.

**HPLC analysis** (OD-3 column, hexanes/i-PrOH = 90:10, 0.8 mL/min, r.t.,  $\lambda$  = 295 nm) indicated a >99% ee: t<sub>R</sub> (major) = 6.17 min, t<sub>R</sub> (minor) = 5.31 min.

Specific rotation  $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -102.9$  (*c* 0.54, CHCl<sub>3</sub>).

HRMS (ESI) calcd. for C<sub>28</sub>H<sub>28</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>Si [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 438.1884, Found: 438.1896.

### (7S,7aS)-7a-((tert-Butyldimethylsilyl)oxy)-7-(phenylethynyl)-5,6,7,7a-tetrahydro-3H-pyrrolizin-3-one (4c)



*Small scale:* Prepared following general procedure B at a reaction temperature of 40 °C, but with precatalyst and ligand loading increased to:  $[Ir(cod)Cl]_2$  (6.7 mg, 0.01 mmol, 5 mol %), phosphoramidite (*R*)-L (20.3 mg, 0.04 mmol, 20 mol %); and with *tert*-butyldimethylsilyl trifluoromethanesulfonate (TBSOTf) (115 µL, 0.5 mmol, 2.5 equiv) used instead of TMSOTf. The dr of the crude reaction mixture was determined to be >20:1. The crude reaction mixture was purified by flash column chromatography (hexanes/Et<sub>3</sub>N 9:1) to afford the title compound as a yellow solid (43.2 mg, 61%).

*Large Scale*: In an argon-filled glovebox, a pressure vessel (Synthware part #P160020) was charged with  $[Ir(cod)Cl]_2$  (101 mg, 0.15 mmol, 5 mol %), phosphoramidite (*R*)-L (305 mg, 0.6 mmol, 20 mol %), and 1,2-dichloroethane (3.0 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred for 1 h. To the reaction tube were added 1-(5-phenylpent-4-yn-1-yl)-1*H*-pyrrole-2,5-dione (**3c**, 718 mg, 3.0 mmol, 1.0 equiv), distilled TMPH (1.53 mL, 9.0 mmol, 3 equiv), and TBSOTf (1.72 mL, 7.5 mmol, 2.5 equiv). The vessel was sealed, removed from the glovebox, and stirred at 40 °C for 20 h. To the crude reaction mixture was added Et<sub>3</sub>N (1.0 mL, 7.2 mmol, 2.4 equiv) and CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (ca. 3 mL). The diluted mixture was flushed through a pad of silica with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (ca. 100 mL) and solution was concentrated *in vacuo*. The dr of the crude reaction mixture was determined to be >20:1. The crude mixture was purified by column chromatography, first with hexanes/Et<sub>3</sub>N = 9:1. A second column was run with hexanes/EtOAc = 9:1 to remove a pink-colored impurity from the product. This was presumed to be an iridium complex. Previously, after a single column, visibly pink samples of **4c** appeared to undergo semi-hydrogenation to **5** with poor selectivity. Performing column chromatography in both eluents successively afforded **4c** as a yellow solid (658 mg, 62%). Stereochemical configuration was confirmed through the synthesis of **7**, whose properties matched those previously reported.<sup>1</sup>

### **m.p.** 73.1 – 76.0 °C

<sup>1</sup>**H** NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.29 – 7.22 (m, 5H), 7.02 (d, J = 5.8 Hz, 1H), 6.07 (d, J = 5.8 Hz, 1H), 3.68 (td, J = 10.7, 7.7 Hz, 1H), 3.31 (ddd, J = 10.5, 8.6, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 3.18 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 2.78 (dddd, J = 12.4, 10.5, 8.6, 6.2 Hz, 1H), 2.41 (dd, J = 12.5, 7.6 Hz, 1H), 0.88 (s, 9H), 0.09 (s, 3H), 0.04 (s, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 174.7, 149.2, 131.6, 128.4, 128.3, 128.0, 122.9, 101.9, 86.5, 86.2, 41.4, 40.6, 35.0, 25.6, 18.0, -3.4, -4.0.

**HPLC** analysis (OD-3 column, hexanes/i-PrOH = 90:10, 0.8 mL/min, r.t.,  $\lambda$  = 246 nm) indicated a 99% ee: t<sub>R</sub> (major) = 5.19 min, t<sub>R</sub> (minor) = 4.77 min.

**Specific rotation**  $[\alpha]_D^{25} = +83.9$  (*c* 0.46, CHCl<sub>3</sub>).

HRMS (ESI) calcd. for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>28</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>Si [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 354.1884, Found: 354.1895.

(1*S*,10*bS*)-1-(Phenylethynyl)-10b-((trimethylsilyl)oxy)-1,3,4,10b-tetrahydropyrido[2,1-*a*]isoindol-6(2H)-one (4da) and (1*S*,10*bR*)-1-(phenylethynyl)-10b-((trimethylsilyl)oxy)-1,3,4,10b-tetrahydropyrido[2,1-*a*]isoindol-6(2*H*)-one (4db)



Prepared following general procedure B at a reaction temperature of 30 °C. Crude dr = 1.3:1. The reaction mixture was purified by prep TLC in hexanes/EtOAc = 6:1 to afford both diastereomers separately. The *cis*-configured product **4da** was obtained as a colorless oil that crystalised on standing (37.6 mg, 50%). The *trans*-configured product **4db** was also obtained as a colorless solid (29.8 mg, 40%). The connectivity and stereochemistry of **4db** were determined by X-ray crystallography.

4da:

**m.p.** 115.7 − 118.4 °C

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.01 (dd, J = 6.2, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.83 (dd, J = 6.2, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (qd, J = 7.0, 1.3 Hz, 2H), 7.51 – 7.47 (m, 2H), 7.38 – 7.32 (m, 3H), 4.29 (dd, J = 13.1, 5.0 Hz, 1H), 3.03 (td, J = 13.1, 3.6 Hz, 1H), 2.46 (dd, J = 12.3, 3.6 Hz, 1H), 2.23 (qd, J = 13.3, 3.6 Hz, 1H), 2.03 (dd, J = 13.2, 2.9 Hz, 1H), 1.83 (dd, J = 13.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 1.46 (qdd, J = 13.3, 4.8, 4.0 Hz, 1H), 0.13 (s, 9H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 164.8, 146.7, 131.74, 131.65, 129.9, 128.5, 128.1, 124.1, 123.8, 123.6, 89.6, 87.6, 82.9, 42.0, 35.8, 27.2, 25.0, 1.1.

HPLC analysis (AD-3 column, hexanes/i-PrOH = 90:10, 0.4 mL/min, r.t.,  $\lambda$  = 243 nm) indicated a 95% ee: t<sub>R</sub> (major) = 11.32 min, t<sub>R</sub> (minor) = 10.57 min.

**Specific rotation:**  $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -206.1$  (*c* 0.95, CHCl<sub>3</sub>).

HRMS: (ESI) calcd. for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>26</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>Si [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 376.1727, Found: 376.1724.

4db:

**m.p.** 92.3 – 94.9 °C

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.85 – 7.82 (m, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.59 – 7.47 (m, 3H), 7.17 – 7.07 (m, 3H), 6.84 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 2H), 4.32 (dd, J = 13.9, 4.5 Hz, 1H), 3.49 (t, J = 3.0 Hz, 1H), 3.04 (td, J = 12.8, 3.7 Hz, 1H), 2.42 – 2.30 (m, 1H), 2.05 – 1.91 (m, 2H), 1.69 – 1.61 (m, 1H), -0.13 (s, 9H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl3) δ 165.7, 146.9, 132.8, 131.7, 131.5, 123.0, 128.1, 127.8, 123.2, 123.0, 122.2, 89.2, 87.3, 84.7, 39.3, 36.3, 24.9, 20.4, 1.2.

HPLC analysis (AD-3 column, hexanes/i-PrOH = 90:10, 0.4 mL/min, r.t.,  $\lambda$  = 250 nm) indicated a 98% ee: t<sub>R</sub> (major) = 12.82 min, t<sub>R</sub> (minor) = 12.00 min.

**Specific rotation:**  $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -147.7$  (*c* 0.295, CHCl<sub>3</sub>).

HRMS: (ESI) calcd. for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>26</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>Si [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 376.1727, Found: 376.1722.

### 2.2 Formal synthesis of UCS1025A from 4c

See section 2.1 for 4c synthesis and section 2.3 for 3c synthesis

(7S,7aS)-7a-((tert-Butyldimethylsilyl)oxy)-7-((Z)-styryl)-5,6,7,7a-tetrahydro-3H-pyrrolizin-3-one (5)



A flask equipped with a magnetic stir bar was charged with Pd (5 wt. %) on CaCO<sub>3</sub>, Pb-poisoned (Lindlar catalyst) (104.6 mg, 5.0 mol %), followed by the addition of quinoline (67.6 mg, 0.52 mmol, 53 mol %) by syringe. The atmosphere of the reaction vessel was replaced with nitrogen gas, and a solution of 1 (1.0 eq, 0.99 mmol, 349 mg) in EtOAc (7 mL) was added. The atmosphere was then replaced with hydrogen gas (1 atm), and the reaction was made to stir vigorously at r.t. for 1 hour.

The reaction was filtered through a short plug of silica gel, eluting with EtOAc and washed with a 10% aqueous solution of  $H_3PO_4$  (2 x 15 mL). The aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc (3 x 30 mL), the combined organic layer was washed once with a saturated aqueous solution of NaHCO<sub>3</sub>, dried with anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub>, and concentrated by vacuum. The crude mixture was purified by flash column chromatography using hexanes/EtOAc = 9:1 to yield a white solid (88%, 0.87 mmol, 310 mg).

**m.p.** 63.2 – 64.8 °C

<sup>1</sup>**H** NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.42 – 7.33 (m, 2H), 7.33 – 7.27 (m, 3H), 6.89 (d, J = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 6.42 (d, J = 11.7 Hz, 1H), 6.01 (d, J = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 5.04 (t, J = 11.5 Hz, 1H), 3.66 (dt, J = 11.3, 8.3 Hz, 1H), 3.45 (ddd, J = 9.6, 6.6, 2.5 Hz, 1H), 3.26 (ddd, J = 11.6, 8.5, 3.6 Hz, 1H), 2.68 (dtd, J = 12.7, 8.5, 6.7 Hz, 1H), 2.07 – 1.97 (m, 1H), 0.88 (s, 9H), 0.07 (s, 3H), 0.01 (s, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 174.3, 150.1, 136.8, 130.5, 129.0, 128.9, 128.5, 127.7, 127.3, 102.1, 46.2, 41.2, 35.7, 25.7, 18.0, -3.2, -3.8.

**HPLC** analysis (AD-3 column, hexanes/i-PrOH = 90:10, 0.8 mL/min, r.t.,  $\lambda$  = 250 nm) indicated a 99% ee: t<sub>R</sub> (major) = 5.06 min, t<sub>R</sub> (minor) = 5.49 min.

**Specific rotation**  $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -58.4$  (c 0.645, CHCl<sub>3</sub>).

HRMS (ESI) calcd. for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>30</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>Si [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 356.2040, Found: 356.2024.

### (1R,7aS)-7a-((tert-Butyldimethylsilyl)oxy)-5-oxo-2,3,5,7a-tetrahydro-1H-pyrrolizine-1-carboxylic acid (6)



*Ozonolysis:* A 50 mL reaction tube equipped with a magnetics stir bar was charged with **5** (177 mg, 0.5 mmol, 1.0 equiv), and dry  $CH_2Cl_2$  (15 mL). The tube was sealed with a septum cap and cooled to -78 °C while stirring under a nitrogen balloon for 5 min. The balloon was removed and replaced with a 21-gauge needle as a gas outlet. An 18-gauge needle was used to make a hole in the septum, removed, and quickly replaced with the thin end of a long Pasteur pipette, connected by tubing to the ozone outlet of a Welsbach T-series ozone generator. The tip of the pipette was submerged in the reaction mixture and ozone was about 1 min, until the mixture turned light blue. The Pipette was removed, and nitrogen was bubbled through the reaction mixture for 1 min. A dry, degassed solution of PPh<sub>3</sub> (392 mg, 1.5 mmol, 3 equiv) was added by syringe, and the reaction was stirred for 45 minutes before removing from the dry ice bath. Stirring was continued at room temperature for 15 minutes. The reaction mixture was added to a pad of silica and flushed with  $CH_2Cl_2$  (200 mL) to remove triphenylphosphine and some benzaldehyde, then the partially purified aldehyde product was eluted from the silica pad with EtOAc (200 mL) and concentrated *in vacuo*.

Pinnick Oxidation: The partially purified aldehyde product and 2-methyl-2-butene (0.83 mL, 7.8 mmol, 16 equiv) were dissolved in t-BuOH (7 mL) and stirred at room temperature. A solution of NaClO<sub>2</sub> (technical grade, 80%) (108 mg, 0.955 mmol, 1.91 equiv) and NaH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>•H<sub>2</sub>O (83 mg, 0.60 mmol, 1.2 equiv) in water (1.5 mL) was added by syringe. The reaction was stirred at room temperature for 1 hour, then transferred to a separatory funnel with 10% aqueous H<sub>3</sub>PO<sub>4</sub> (15 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (3 x 15 mL). The combined organic phase was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated *in vacuo* to afford crude  $\mathbf{6}$  as a yellow oil. To avoid apparent product decomposition, which was previously observed in the crude reaction mixture, purification by column chromatography was conducted within 1 hour of concentrating. The crude product was dissolved in of  $EtOAc/Et_3N = 9:1$  (1 mL) and loaded onto a silica gel column approximately 20 cm in height and 1cm in diameter. The column was flushed with (EtOAc/Et<sub>3</sub>N = 99:1) (ca. 200 mL) to remove impurities while retaining the desired product near the baseline, then with 100% EtOAc (ca. 30 mL) to remove excess  $Et_3N$ . The desired product was eluted with EtOAc/AcOH = 99:1 (ca. 400 mL). Fractions were checked by TLC, spotting aliquots 10-20 times each to ensure visibility on the plate under UV light despite the product's weak chromophore. Fractions containing the largest spot from the acidic eluent were concentrated in vacuo to afford a slightly impure white solid. This was purified further by preparative TLC in EtOAc/AcOH = 99:1 to afford pure 6 as a white solid (71.9 mg, 48%), which appeared to be bench-stable if not stored in solution. **m.p.** 121.3 –124.1 °C.

**1H** NMR (300 MHz, CDCl3)  $\delta$  8.63 (bs, 1H), 7.01 (d, J = 5.8 Hz, 1H), 5.98 (d, J = 5.8 Hz, 1H), 3.75 (dd, J = 19.7, 8.8 Hz, 1H), 3.27 (ddd, J = 11.1, 8.9, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 3.10 (dd, J = 6.3, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 2.69 – 2.45 (m, 2H), 0.86 (s, 9H), 0.07 (s, 3H), 0.02 (s, 3H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  174.8, 173.9, 148.1, 127.9, 100.8, 52.9, 41.7, 31.0, 25.4, 17.8, -3.5, -4.1. Specific rotation [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub><sup>25</sup> = -39.1 (*c* 3.08, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). HRMS (ESI) calcd. for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>24</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>Si [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 298.1469, Found: 298.1457.

## (2a*R*,6*S*,6a*R*,6b*R*)-6b-{*[tert*-Butyl(dimethyl)silyl]oxy}-6-iodohexahydro-1-oxa-4a-azacyclo-penta[*cd*]pentalene-2,5-dione (7)



Synthesised using a modified literature procedure for an analogous iodolactonisation.<sup>2</sup> **6** (59.4 mg, 0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv) was dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (0.7 mL) in a reaction tube and stirred. Aqueous sat. NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (0.7 mL) was added dropwise and the reaction mixture was stirred for 20 min. I<sub>2</sub> (53.3 mg, 0.21 mmol, 1.05 eq) was added. The tube was sealed, covered with foil, and stirred 6 h. The reaction was quenched with aqueous sat. Na<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (0.2 mL) and water (1 mL). The aqueous layer was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3 x 3 mL). The combined organic phase was dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and concentrated *in vacuo* to give 7 as a light-yellow solid (77.0 mg, 91%), with no need for further purification. For HPLC analysis, the racemic sample was prepared by mixing equal amounts of 7 that had been synthesised using (*R*)-and (*S*)-L in the iridium-catalyzed step. The HPLC data matched those reported previously.<sup>1</sup>

### **m.p.** 110.2 –115.7 °C.

<sup>1</sup>**H** NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 4.98 (s, 1H), 4.44 (s, 1H), 3.94 (ddd, J = 12.3, 9.5, 5.7 Hz, 1H), 3.32 (ddd, J = 12.3, 9.4, 5.9 Hz, 1H), 3.12 (dd, J = 9.2, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 2.72 – 2.52 (m, 2H), 0.95 (s, 9H), 0.25 (s, 3H), 0.22 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>**C** NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 174.3, 172.4, 102.1, 86.1, 49.4, 43.0, 30.0, 25.6, 18.0, 12.7, -3.2, -3.3. HPLC analysis (OD-3 column, hexanes/i-PrOH = 90:10, 1.0 mL/min, r.t.,  $\lambda = 240$  nm) indicated a 99% ee: t<sub>R</sub> (major) = 9.06 min, t<sub>R</sub> (minor) = 11.44 min. Specific rotation [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub><sup>25</sup> = -29.0 (*c* 2.935, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). HRMS (ESI) calcd. for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>23</sub>NO<sub>4</sub>ISi [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 424.0436, Found: 424.0432.

### 2.3 Synthesis of unreported starting materials

5-Phenylpent-4-yn-1-yl 4-methoxybenzoate (1j)



To a stirring solution of 4-methoxybenzoic acid (304 mg, 2.0 mmol, 1 equiv) in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (50 mL) was added 5phenylpent-4-yn-1-ol (336 mg, 2.1 mmol, 1.05 equiv), followed by triethylamine (0.30 mL, 2.1 mmol, 1.05 equiv) and 4-dimethylaminopyridine (36.7 mg, 0.30 mmol, 0.15 equiv). The mixture was stirred overnight at room temperature. The reaction was quenched with HCl (1M, 20 mL) and extracted with  $CH_2Cl_2$  (50 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over  $Na_2SO_4$  and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude reaction mixture was purified by silica gel column chromatography in hexanes/EtOAc = 9:1 to give the title product as a yellow oil (483 mg, 82%).

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.05 – 7.97 (m, 2H), 7.44 – 7.36 (m, 2H), 7.31 – 7.26 (m, 3H), 6.93 – 6.87 (m, 2H), 4.45 (t, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 2H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 2.61 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 2.07 (p, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 166.5, 163.5, 131.8, 131.7, 128.3, 127.8, 123.8, 122.9, 113.7, 88.9, 81.4, 63.6, 55.6, 28.2, 16.6.

HRMS (ESI) calcd. for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>19</sub>O<sub>3</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 295.1329, Found: 295.1329.

General Procedure C for the synthesis of aryl alkynes from terminal alkynes



In an argon filled glove box, a 25 mL round bottom flask equipped with a magnetic stir bar was charged with  $Pd(PPh_3)_2Cl_2$  (21.1 mg, 0.03 mmol, 1.0 mol%) and CuI (8.6 mg, 0.045 mmol, 1.5 mol%). The flask was sealed and removed. A degassed solution of aryl iodide (3 mmol, 1 equiv) in triethylamine (10 mL) was added by syringe. Terminal alkyne (3 mmol, 1 equiv) was added by syringe. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature overnight. Water (20 mL) was added and the aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate (3 × 15 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> then concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography to afford the title products.

### 5-(p-Tolyl)pent-4-yn-1-yl benzoate (1e)



Prepared according to general procedure C. The crude residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography with hexanes/ethyl acetate = 19:1 to give the product as a clear oil. (785 mg, 94%).

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl3) δ 8.10 – 8.03 (m, 2H), 7.62 – 7.50 (m, 1H), 7.50 – 7.37 (m, 2H), 7.31 – 7.26 (m, 2H), 7.08 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 4.49 (t, J = 6.3 Hz, 2H), 2.61 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 2.33 (s, 3H), 2.08 (p, J = 6.6 Hz, 2H). <sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (126 MHz, CDCl3) δ 166.7, 137.9, 133.1, 131.6, 130.5, 129.8, 129.1, 128.5, 120.7, 88.0, 81.5, 64.0, 28.2, 21.6, 16.6.

HRMS (ESI) calcd. for C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>19</sub>O<sub>2</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 279.1380, Found: 279.1377.





Prepared according to general procedure C. The crude residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography with hexanes/ethyl acetate = 9:1 to give the product as an orange solid. (677 mg, 73%).

**m.p.** 74.4 – 76.8 °C

<sup>1</sup>**H** NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.14 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 8.06 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 7.56 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.50 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 7.43 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 4.49 (t, J = 6.2 Hz, 2H), 2.66 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 2.12 (p, J = 6.7 Hz, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  166.7, 146.9, 133.2, 132.4, 130.8, 130.3, 129.7, 128.5, 123.6, 94.9, 80.1, 63.7, 27.8, 16.7.

HRMS (ESI) calcd. for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>16</sub>O<sub>4</sub>N [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 310.1074, Found: 310.1069.

5-(2-Chloropyridin3-yl)pent-4-yn-1-yl benzoate (1i)



Prepared according to general procedure C. The crude residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography with hexanes/ethyl acetate = 9:1 to give the product as a yellow oil. (669 mg, 79.4%).

<sup>1</sup>**H** NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.28 (dd, J = 4.8, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 8.06 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 7.70 (dd, J = 7.6, 1.9 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.16 (dd, J = 7.6, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 4.52 (t, J = 6.2 Hz, 2H), 2.69 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 2.13 (p, J = 6.7 Hz, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 166.7, 152.5, 147.9, 141.5, 133.1, 130.3, 129.7, 128.5, 121.9, 121.0, 97.2, 63.7, 27.8, 16.8.

**HRMS** (ESI) calcd. for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>15</sub>O<sub>2</sub>NCl [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 300.0786, Found: 300.0786.

4-(5-(Pivaloyloxy)pent-1-yn-1-yl)phenyl pivalate (1k)



In an argon filled glove box, a 25 mL round bottom flask equipped with a magnetic stir bar was charged with  $Pd(PPh_3)_2Cl_2$  (35.1 mg, 0.05 mmol, 1.0 mol%) and CuI (14.3 mg, 0.075 mmol, 1.5 mol%). The flask was sealed and removed. A degassed solution of 4-iodophenol (1.10 g, 5 mmol, 1 equiv) in triethylamine (5 mL) and THF (5 mL) was added by syringe. 4-pentyn-1-ol (0.47 mL 5 mmol, 1 equiv) was added by syringe. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 30 min, at which time the starting material appeared by TLC to have been completely consumed. Pivaloyl chloride (1.60 mL, 13 mmol, 2.6 equiv) was added to the reaction mixture and stirring was continued overnight. Water (20 mL) was added and the aqueous layer was extracted with ethyl acetate (3 × 15 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> then concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude residue was purified by silica gel column chromatography in hexanes/EtOAc (29:1) to afford to afford the title product as a yellow oil (790 mg, 46%).

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.39 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.98 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 4.20 (t, J = 6.3 Hz, 2H), 2.50 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.94 (p, J = 6.8 Hz, 2H), 1.35 (s, 9H), 1.21 (s, 9H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 178.7, 177.0, 150.7, 132.8, 121.6, 121.3, 88.8, 80.6, 63.2, 39.3, 39.0, 28.0, 27.4, 27.3, 16.3.

HRMS (ESI) calcd. for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>29</sub>O<sub>4</sub> [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 345.2060, Found: 345.2062

1-(5-Phenylpent-4-yn-1-yl)-1H-pyrrole-2,5-dione (3c)



Synthesised using a modified literature procedure for the use of maleimide as a nucleophile in the Mitsunobu reaction.<sup>1</sup> A 250mL round bottom flask equipped with a stir bar was charged with a solution of PPh<sub>3</sub> (4.55 g, 17.3 mmol, 1.00 equiv) in 100mL anhydrous THF under nitrogen. The mixture was cooled to -78 °C. DIAD (3.86 mL, 19.6 mmol, 1.13 equiv) was added dropwise by syringe over 2 minutes. After stirring for 5 minutes, the reaction mixture appeared yellow and cloudy. 5-phenyl-pent-4-yn-1-ol (3.22 g, 20.1 mmol, 1.16 equiv) was added dropwise by syringe over 1 minute, then the reaction was allowed to stir for 5 minutes. The septum was briefly removed while neopentyl alcohol (0.880 g, 9.98 mmol, 0.57 equiv) and maleimide (1.95 g, 20.1 mmol, 1.16 equiv) were added sequentially. The septum was replaced, and the reaction flask was evacuated and backfilled with nitrogen 3 times. The mixture was stirred at -78 °C for 5 minutes, then warmed to room temperature and stirred for 18 hours. The crude reaction mixture was reduced to <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> volume *in vacuo*. The viscous, partially concentrated mixture was purified directly by flash column chromatography in hexanes/EtOAc (9:1 to 4:1) to afford the desired product as a white solid (3.96 g, 96% yield). **m.p.** 46.4 – 48.2 °C

<sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.41 – 7.36 (m, 2H), 7.30 – 7.26 (m, 3H), 6.67 (s, 2H), 3.69 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 2.44 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H), 1.93 (p, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 2H).

<sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 170.9, 134.3, 131.7, 128.3, 127.8, 123.8, 88.7, 81.5, 37.4, 27.5, 17.3. HRMS (ESI) calcd. for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>14</sub>O<sub>2</sub>N [M+H]<sup>+</sup>: 240.1019, Found: 240.1018.

## 3. X-ray Structures



## Datablock: mo\_Corcoran4\_a

Bond precision:	C-C = 0.0039 A	Wavelength	=0.71073
Cell:	a=7.4981(5) alpha=90	b=16.7375(12) beta=90	c=18.9431(13) gamma=90
remperature:	100 K		
	Calculated	Reported	
Volume	2377.4(3)	2377.3(3)	
Space group	P 21 21 21	P 21 21 2	21
Hall group	P 2ac 2ab	P 2ac 2ab	)
Moiety formula	C28 H27 N O2 Si	?	
Sum formula	C28 H27 N O2 Si	C28 H27 N	1 02 Si
Mr	437.60	437.59	
Dx,g cm-3	1.223	1.223	
Z	4	4	
Mu (mm-1)	0.123	0.123	
F000	928.0	928.0	
F000′	928.67		
h,k,lmax	9,20,23	9,20,23	
Nref	4876[ 2783]	4871	
Tmin, Tmax	0.985,0.991	0.610,0.7	40
Tmin'	0.985		
Correction metho AbsCorr = MULTI-	d= # Reported T L: SCAN	imits: Tmin=0.610 Tm	max=0.740
Data completenes	s= 1.75/1.00	Theta(max) = 26.40	4
R(reflections)=	0.0371( 4278)		wR2(reflections)= 0.0893(4871)
S = 1.023	Npar= 2	93	



## Datablock: JCC902R\_0m\_a

Bond precision:	C-C = 0.0028 A	Wavelength	Wavelength=1.54184		
Cell:	a=10.7177(19) alpha=90	b=11.995(3) beta=90	c=15.986(3) gamma=90		
Temperature:	100 K				
	Calculated	Reported			
Volume	2055.1(7)	2055.0(7)	)		
Space group	P 21 21 21	P 21 21 2	21		
Hall group	P 2ac 2ab	P 2ac 2al	b		
Moiety formula	C23 H25 N O2 Si	?			
Sum formula	C23 H25 N O2 Si	C23 H25 1	N O2 Si		
Mr	375.53	375.53			
Dx,g cm-3	1.214	1.214			
Z	4	4			
Mu (mm-1)	1.136	1.136			
F000	800.0	800.0			
F000'	803.09				
h,k,lmax	13,14,19	13,14,19			
Nref	4055[ 2309]	4012			
Tmin,Tmax	0.897,0.945	0.293,0.	754		
Tmin'	0.893				
Correction metho AbsCorr = MULTI-	od= # Reported T Lin -SCAN	mits: Tmin=0.293 Tr	max=0.754		
Data completenes	ss= 1.74/0.99	Theta(max) = 72.26	54		
R(reflections)=	0.0277( 3948)		wR2(reflections) 0.0748(4012)		
S = 1.013	Npar= 24	18	0.0/10( 1012)		

=

- 4. Assignment of relative and absolute configuration for the major and minor diastereomers of 2b and 2c
- 2b.



For the major diastereomer of **2b**,  $J_{ab}$  was determined to be 1.1 Hz based on a doublet signal for H<sub>a</sub> which was visible in the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of the crude material at 5.57 ppm, but was not resolved in the NMR of the pure product, instead appearing as a broad singlet. For the minor diastereomer,  $J_{ab}$  was determined to be 3.9 Hz, based on a wider doublet attributed to H<sub>a</sub> in that stereoisomer, also visible in the spectrum of the crude material at 5.52 ppm. For the major diastereomer, the dihedral angle ( $\varphi$ ) between H<sub>a</sub> and H<sub>b</sub> was assumed to be ~90° based on the small value of  $J_{ab}$ (1.1 Hz). MM2 energy minimisation was performed for both possible relative configurations using Chem3D, with the H<sub>a</sub>-C-C-H<sub>b</sub> dihedral angle ( $\varphi$ ) fixed at 90° (clockwise) or -90° (counterclockwise).

$H_a$ -C-C- $H_b$ dihedral angle ( $\phi$ )	anti-2b steric E (kcal/mol)	syn-2b steric E (kcal/mol)
90° (clockwise)	19.94	29.55
-90° (counterclockwise)	ND	35.71

It was shown that *anti*-**2b** where  $\varphi = 90^{\circ}$  corresponded to a reasonably low-strain conformation. A minimisation did not converge for *anti*-**2b** where  $\varphi = -90^{\circ}$  (due to high strain energy) and was disregarded. The optimised geometries of *syn*-**2b** with  $\varphi$  fixed at both 90° and -90° both showed significantly greater, and unrealistic, steric energies than in *anti*-**2b** where  $\varphi = 90^{\circ}$  (higher by ~10 and ~16 kcal/mol, respectively). Subsequent (unconstrained) DFT calculations for *anti*-**2b** and *syn*-**2b** at the RHF/6-31G level of theory optimised to dihedral angles of 90° and 42°, respectively. For these reasons, we assigned the major and minor diastereomers obtained under optimised conditions as *anti*-**2b** and *syn*-**2b**, respectively.

The absolute configuration of the  $H_b$  (propargylic) stereocentre was assigned by analogy to the X-ray structures of **4b** and **4cb**, which were in agreement with the assigned geometry of all Ir-catalyzed propargylic C–H functionalisation products previously obtained by our group.<sup>4</sup> The relative configurations of all other 5-membered *O*,*O*-acetal products reported here were assigned by analogy to **2b**, based on comparison of <sup>1</sup>H NMR coupling constants for the propargylic signal of **2b** with those seen in the other products.



H<sub>a</sub> signals for both diastereomers in the spectrum of **2b** (before purification)



Only a single diastereomer of 2c could be definitively discerned in the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of the crude material. The signal for H<sub>a</sub> was observed at 4.95 ppm as a doublet with  $J_{ab}$  = 4.9 Hz. Given the presence of the anomeric effect, the determination of the most stable chair conformation of the syn- and anti-diastereomers of 2c is not trivial, and we turned to *ab initio* calculations to determine the relative stabilities of each of the chair conformations of these diastereomers. For the anti-diastereomer, the di-equatorial conformation was found to be 0.8 kcal/mol more stable than the di-axial conformation at the RHF/6-31G level of theory, with dihedral angles for H<sub>a</sub>-C-C-H<sub>b</sub> optimised to 177° (di-equatorial) and 74° (di-axial), respectively. The comparatively weak anomeric effect found computationally (not large enough to compensate for the axial phenylethynyl group) is consistent with previous experimental observations that silvloxy groups give rise to a weaker anomeric effect compared to alkoxy groups.<sup>5</sup> For the syndiastereomer, the (OTIPS axial, phenylethynyl equatorial) conformation was found to be 2.5 kcal/mol more stable than the (OTIPS equatorial, phenylethynyl axial) conformation at the RHF/6-31G level of theory, with dihedral angles optimised to 55° and 56°, respectively. The relatively small value of  $J_{ab}$  is less consistent with *anti*-2c, given the expected higher population of the di-equatorial conformer compared to the di-axial conformation according to the computational results, and is more consistent with svn-2c. The absolute configuration of the  $H_{\rm b}$  (propargylic) stereocentre was assigned by analogy to the X-ray structures of 4b and 4cb, which were in agreement with the assigned geometry of all Ir-catalyzed propargylic C-H functionalisation products previously obtained by our group.<sup>4</sup>

# 5. Assignment of relative and absolute configuration for the major diastereomers of 2c and 2g, and 2h

Predicted coupling constants are based on H-C-C-H dihedral angle ( $\varphi$ ) anticipated in each possible chair conformer.





Implausible **2g/2h** assignment. Chair **ii** would have to be heavily favoured to give t splitting. The diaxial alkynyl and Me/Ph and lack of anomeric effect should strongly disfavour this conformer.



Implausible **2c** assignment. Could give q or td splitting depending on position of equilibrium, but not dt.



Proposed **2g/2h** assignment. Chair **ii** would give t splitting. This chair should be favoured, considering the anomeric effect and larger A value of Me/Ph groups compared to alkynyl group.

Coupling	<i>φ</i> (i)	$J_i$ (predicted)	φ(ii)	$J_{ii}$ (predicted)	<b>J</b> (observed)	
H <sub>b</sub> -H <sub>a</sub>	~60°	~4	~60°	~4	4.5	
H <sub>b</sub> -H <sub>c</sub>	~180°	~13	~60°	~4	8.0	
H <sub>b</sub> -H <sub>d</sub>	~60°	~4	~60°	~4	4.5	
Observed signal: dt, $J = 8.0, 4.5$ Hz (2.69 ppm). Best explained as an						
average of both sets of J values, indicating significant concentrations of						
both chair conformers. This is the most reasonable assignment for $2c$ .						

syn-2c: proposed assignment





*anti*-2c: alternate assignment

Coupling	<i>φ</i> (i)	$J_i$ (predicted)	<i>φ</i> (ii)	Jii (predicted)	<b>J</b> (observed)	
H <sub>b</sub> -H <sub>a</sub>	~180°	~13	~60°	~4	4.5	
H <sub>b</sub> -H <sub>c</sub>	~180°	~13	~60°	~4	8.0	
H <sub>b</sub> -H <sub>d</sub>	~60°	~4	~60°	~4	4.5	
Observed signal: dt, $J = 8.0, 4.5$ Hz (2.69 ppm). Neither set of predicted J						
values, not any average thereof, can explain the dt splitting pattern. q and						
td are both possible, but not dt. Not a reasonable assignment for 2c						

syn-2g/2h: alternate assignment

Coupling	<i>φ</i> (i)	$J_i$ (predicted)	<i>φ</i> (ii)	Jii (predicted)	J (observed)	-2.83 -2.82 -2.81	-3.33 -3.32 -3.31
Hb-Hc	~180°	~13	~60°	~4	4.4/3.4	117	117
H <sub>b</sub> -H <sub>d</sub>	~60°	~4	~60°	~4	4.4/3.4		
Observed signals: $2g$ (R=Me): t, $J = 4.4$ Hz (2.82 ppm), $2h$ (R=Ph): t, $J = 3.4$							
Hz (3.32 ppm). Observed signals only explicable with conformer ii heavily							
favoured. Unlikely given axial alkynyl and Me/Ph groups and non-anomeric							
OTIPS. Not a reasonable assignment for 2g/2h.							

anti-2g/2h: proposed assignment

Coupling	<i>φ</i> (i)	$J_i$ (predicted)	φ (ii)	J <sub>ii</sub> (predicted)	<b>J</b> (observed)
Hb-Hc	~180°	~13	~60°	~4	4.4/3.4
H <sub>b</sub> -H <sub>d</sub>	~60°	~4	~60°	~4	4.4/3.4
Observed signals: $2g$ (R=Me): t, $J = 4.4$ Hz (2.82 ppm), $2h$ (R=Ph): t, $J = 3.4$					
Hz (3.32 ppm). Observed signals only explicable with conformer ii heavily					
favoured, as in syn-2g/2h. More reasonable to favour ii here than in syn case,					
in light of anomeric effect and A values. This is the most reasonable					
assignment for 2g/2h.					



### Summary:

The data presented and interpreted above show that based on the <sup>1</sup>H NMR for the propargyl H (H<sub>b</sub>) signal in product **2c**, the *syn* diastereomer is the only reasonable assignment of the relative configuration. Its dt splitting pattern and J values of 8.0 and 4.5 can be explained as a weighted average of the values expected from contributions of both possible chair conformers (**i** and **ii**). On the other hand, neither chair conformer of *anti*-**2c** has a set of predicted J values that correspond to the observed signal, nor could the two sets be averaged to give a close match. Conformer **ii** of *anti*-**2c** would likely give a quartet or apparent quartet given its similar, relatively small J values, while conformer **i** or an average of the two chairs would likely give a triplet of doublets (td), the result of two larger J values and one smaller J value. Thus, this diastereomer cannot give rise to a doublet of triplets (dt) for H<sub>b</sub>, and so we assign the observed diastereomer as *syn*-**2c** must. This is consistent with the conclusion of the computational analysis of dihedral angles in the section titled "Assignment of relative and absolute configuration of the major and minor diastereomers of 2b and 2c."

For both the *syn-* and *anti-* diastereomers of 2g (R= Me) and 2h (R= Ph), any significant contribution from chair conformer i would give a doublet of doublets, the product of two very different J values. On the other hand, an equilibrium that heavily favours conformer ii would give a triplet with a J value of approximately 4, as is observed for H<sub>b</sub>'s signal in both products. This suggests that whichever is the major diastereomer for these products must favour chair ii heavily. This is implausible for *syn-2g/2h*, given the diaxial alkynyl and Me/Ph groups and non-anomeric OTIPS. It is therefore highly unlikely that the *syn* diastereomer is the correct assignment for 2g and 2h's major products. On the other hand, it makes sense that *anti-2g/2h* would exist predominantly in conformer ii, considering the impact of the anomeric effect, and the larger A values of the Me (1.7) and Ph (2.8 to 3.0) groups compared to an alkynyl group (0.5 for ethynyl).

The absolute configuration of the  $H_b$  (propargylic) stereocentre in all examples was assigned by analogy to the X-ray structures of **4b** and **4cb**, which were in agreement with the assigned geometry of all Ir-catalyzed propargylic C–H functionalisation products previously obtained by our group.<sup>4</sup>

### 6. Diastereomer equilibration test



Each separable diastereomer of phthalimide derived product 4d was independently resubjected to the reaction conditions to examine the possibility that the diastereomeric ratio is controlled thermodynamically, an interconversion of the diastereomers mediated by abstraction and reintroduction of the silyloxy group being hypothesised. If this interconversion were taking place, each purified diastereomer would expected to equilibrate to a mixture containing significant amounts of both diastereomers if resubjected to the reaction conditions. However, no interconversion was observed, and each diastereomer was recovered alone following resubjection. It was concluded that, most likely, the diastereomeric ratios observed for O, O- and N, O-acetal products are kinetically controlled by the iridium catalyst.

### 7. Failed reactions and additional conditions

Listed below are yields and recoveries determined by crude <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectroscopy of reaction mixtures for reactions whose outcomes was deemed unsatisfactory and purification of products not pursued. Stereochemistry has been omitted in cases where in cannot be confidently inferred. All yields shown below were determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR relative to 1,1,2,2-tetrachloroethane as the internal standard.

### Failed reactions and undesirable reactivity:



Additional screening of reaction conditions was pursued for the cyclisation of substrates 1g and 1h. The results are summarised below. Notably, the addition of LiNTf<sub>2</sub> as an additive resulted in improved reactivity in certain cases.

### Additional conditions screened for 2g and 2h (or analogues)

![](_page_27_Figure_2.jpeg)

R <sub>3</sub> SiOTf	A (%)	dr	<b>B</b> (%)	SM remaining (%)
TIPSOTf	29	>5:1	35	14
TESOTf	15	2.0:1	71	0

![](_page_28_Figure_0.jpeg)

16

76

n.d.

### 8. References

TESOTf

- 1. T. H. Lambert, S. J. Danishefsky, J. Am. Chem. Soc., 2006, 128, 426.
- 2. T. R. Hoye, V. Dvornikovs, J. Am. Chem. Soc., 2006, 128, 2550.
- 3. M. A. Walker, J. Org. Chem., 1995, 60, 5352.

<5%

>20:1

- 4. (a) J. Zhu, Y. Wang, A. D. Charlack, Y.-M. Wang, J. Am. Chem. Soc., 2022, 144, 15480; (b) R. Ding, Y. Wang, Y.-M. Wang, Synthesis, 2023, 55, 733; (c) J. Zhu, H. Xiang, H. Chang, J. C. Corcoran, R. Ding, Y. Xia, P. Liu, Y.-M. Wang, Angew. Chem. Int. Ed., 2024, 63, e202318040; (d) J. Yu, Y. Xia, S. Dey, J. Zhu, K. S. Cheung, S. J. Geib, Y.-M. Wang, J. Am. Chem. Soc., 2024, 146, 27998.
- 5. J. P. Praly, R. U. Lemieux, Can. J. Chem., 1987, 65, 213.

### 9. Copies of HPLC traces

![](_page_29_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_29_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_30_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_30_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_31_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_31_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_32_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_32_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_33_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_33_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_34_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_34_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_35_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_35_Figure_1.jpeg)


R.t. column oven (major diastereomer peaks resolved): Racemic trace



## 40 °C column oven (minor diastereomer peaks resolved): Racemic trace



Enantioenriched trace













## Enantioenriched trace:











Enantioenriched trace:





## Enantioenriched trace:

















## 10. Copies of NMR spectra

<sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) (1e)

























<sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) (2f)



























<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) (4da)



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) (4db)








