Electronic Supplementary Information

Acid promoted cyclodehydration of amino alcohols with amide acetal

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1. ¹H NMR spectroscopy study



Figure S1. *In situ* ¹H NMR spectra for the conversion of amino alcohol 1a to cyclized product 2a.

For a more sophisticated understanding of the reaction mechanism, we conducted an *in situ* ¹H NMR spectroscopy analysis. DMADA (1.0 mmol) was added to a solution mixture of the amino alcohol **1a** (0.50 mmol) and SnCl₄ (0.0050 mmol) in CD₂Cl₂ (10 mL) at room temperature. We could observe the reaction mixture transformed into the cyclized product **2a** with a nearly stoichiometric amount of *N*,*N*-dimethylacetamide (DMA). No predominant intermediate was observed (Figure S1).



Figure S2. ¹H NMR spectrum of work-up residue of the reaction mixture quenched with water.

As mentioned in the manuscript, by quenching the reaction mixture with water during the course of the reaction, we could detect the formation of the *O*-acetyl derivative **3** and *N*-acetyl derivative **4** that may have originated from envisaged intermediate (scheme 2) and column chromatography allowed for the isolation of **3** and **4** (Figure S2). As a result, the identification of *O*-acetyl derivative **3** and detection of DMA firmly supported the hypothesis that the reaction proceeded via the putative intermediate **I** (scheme 2) and intramolecular nucleophilic attack of the amine.

2. Stereochemical proofs for non-racemic compounds 10 and 20

2.1 ¹H NMR analysis of *N*-Boc Mosher ester derivative of 10

The enantiomerc excess for non-racemic **10** could not be determined because the enantiomers were not separable on a chiral HPLC column. The optical purity of **10** was determined by ¹H NMR spectroscopic analysis of its *N*-Boc Mosher ester derivative. The enantiomeric excess of non-racemic **10** was 91%.



Figure S3. ¹H NMR spectra of *N*-Boc Mosher ester derivative of 10.

2.2 Chiral HPLC Analysis of Non-racemic 20

To determine the enantiomeric excess, Agilent 1200 Series HPLC equipped with a DAD detector was used (Agilent Technologies, Palo Alto, CA, USA). The chiral column used was Chiralcel OJ (Daicel Chem. Ind., Ltd., 4.6 mm \times 250 mm, 10 µm). The mobile phase used was hexane/isopropanol/dimethylamine (90/10/0.1) at a flow rate of 0.5 mL/min and the eluent was monitored using a DAD detector at 225 nm. Chiral HPLC results indicated the **20** was obtained in 92% ee.







Figure S4. Chiral HPLC data of 20 derived from racemic 10 and non-racemic 10.

3. Copies of NMR spectra

(¹H NMR & ¹³C NMR)

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¹H NMR spectrum of compound **2a**



¹H NMR spectrum of compound **2b**











¹H NMR spectrum of compound **2**g

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¹H NMR spectrum of compound **20**











¹H NMR spectrum of compound 7

