# **Supporting Information**

# Discovery of an Iridacycle Catalyst with Improved Reactivity and Enantioselectivity in the Hydrogenation of Dialkyl Ketimines

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# **General Information**

# Working Techniques:

All chemicals were purchased from Acros Organics, Sigma-Aldrich, Fluka, Merck Molecula or Strem Chemicals and used as received, unless otherwise noted. Anhydrous solvents were obtained in sure-seal bottles from Aldrich or Fluka, collected from a purification column system (PureSolv, purified standard methods Innovative Technology Inc.) or using (distillation of potassium/benzophenone or CaH<sub>2</sub>). Air sensitive reactions were carried out in an atmosphere of purified nitrogen by using a glovebox and/or standard Schlenk techniques under argon. Column chromatographic purifications were performed on Merck silica gel 60 (particle size 40-63

nm). The eluents were of technical grade and distilled prior to use. The hydrogenation experiments were prepared under purified nitrogen in a glove box (MBraun Labmaster 130) and the dichloromethane was purchased from Aldrich ( $\geq$  99.5%, over molecular sieves).

# **Analytical Methods**:

**Melting Points** (**m.p.**): Melting points were determined on a Büchi 535 and Büchi 545 apparatus. The Büchi 545 apparaturs was calibrated with benzoic acid.

**Thin Layer Chromatography** (**TLC**): TLC plates were obtained from Machrey-Nagel (Polygram SIL/UV254, 0.2 mm silica with fluorescence indicator). UV light (254 nm) or or stain solutions (KMnO<sub>4</sub>, Ce(SO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, Ninhydrine) were used to visualize the respective compounds.

**NMR-Spectrocopy** (**NMR**): NMR spectra were measured either on a Bruker Avance 400 (<sup>1</sup>H: 400 MHz, <sup>13</sup>C: 100.6 MHz) or a Bruker Avance 500 (<sup>1</sup>H: 500 MHz, <sup>13</sup>C: 125.8 MHz) spectrometer. The chemical shifts ( $\delta$ ) are given in ppm. The chemical shift  $\delta$  values were corrected to the signal of the signals of the deuterated solvents: 7.26 ppm (<sup>1</sup>H-NMR) and 77.16 ppm (<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR) for CDCl<sub>3</sub>; 5.32 ppm (<sup>1</sup>H-NMR) and 53.5 ppm (<sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR) for CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR spectra are calibrated relative to 85% phosphoric acid ( $\delta = 0$  ppm) and <sup>19</sup>F-NMR spectra relative to CFCl<sub>3</sub> ( $\delta = 0$  ppm) as external standards. <sup>13</sup>C and <sup>31</sup>P spectra were recorded <sup>1</sup>H-decoupled. The assignment of <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C signals was accomplished, when needed by two-dimensional correlation experiments (COSY and HSQC). Multiplets are assigned as: s (singlet), d (doublet), t (triplet), q (quartet), p (pentet), sex (sextet), sept (septet) and m (multiplet). Broad signals are assigned with: br (broad).

**Infrared Spectroscopy** (**IR**): Infrared spectra were collected on a Shimadzu FTIR-8400S spectrometer. The compounds were measured as pure substance via Specac ATR attachment. The absorption bands are given in wave numbers ( $v \text{ [cm}^{-1}\text{]}$ ). The peak intensity is described by: s (strong), m (medium), w (weak).

**Mass Spectroscopy** (MS): Mass spectra were measured by Dr. H. Nadig (Departement of Chemistry, University of Basel) on a VG70-250 spectrometer (electron ionization (EI)) or on a MAR 312 spectrometer (fast atom bombardement (FAB)). FAB was performed with 3-nitrobenzyl alcohol (NBA)) as matrix. The signals are given in mass-to-charge ratios (m/z). The fragments and relative intensities are given in brackets.

**Optical Rotations** ( $[a]_{p}^{20}$ ): Optical rotations were measured on a Perkin Elmer Polarimeter 341 (in a cuvette (l = 1 dm)) at 20 °C at 589 nm. The concentration (c) is given in g/100 mL.

**Elemental Analysis (EA)**: Elemental analyses were measured by Mr. W. Kirsch (department of Chemistry, University of Basel) and by M. Schneider (Microanalytical Laboratory of the Department of Organic Chemistry at the ETH Zurich) on a Leco CHN-900 (C-, H-, N-detection). The data are indicated in mass percent.

**High Resolution Mass Spectrometry** (**HRMS**) Performed by Dr. H. Nadig (Departement of Chemistry, University of Basel) on a Bruker maXis 4G and by the Laboratory of Mass Spectroscopy of the Department of Organic Chemistry at the ETH Zurich on a Bruker Daltonics maXis (UHR-TOF) and Bruker solariX 94 ESI/MALDI-FT-ICR spectrometer.

**High Performance Liquid Chromatography** (**HPLC**): HPLC analyses were performed on Shimadzu systems with SLC-10A/SIL-20AHT system controller, CTO-10AC/AS column oven, LC10-AD/20-AD pump system, DGU-14A/20AD3 degasser and SPD-M10A/M20A diode array- or UV/VIS detector. Chiral columns Chiracel AD-H, AS-H, OB-H, OD-H, OJ or OJ-H (0.46 x 250 mm) from Daicel Chemical Industries were used.

**Gas Chromatography (GC)**: Gas chromatograms were recorded on Carlo Erba HRGC Mega2 Series 800 (HRGS Mega2), on CarboErga GC8000Top and on Shimadzu GC-2010 plus instruments, Separations on achiral phases were performed on a Restek Rtx-1701 (30 m x 0.25 mm x 0.25 µmol) or a Macherey-Nagel Optima 5-Amin (0.25 mm x 0.25 µm x 30 m) column. Separations of enantiomers were achieved on a *Chiraldex*  $\gamma$ -cyclodextrin TFA G-TA (30 m x 0.25 mm x 0.12 µm) or a *Brechbühler*  $\beta$ -cyclodextrin DEtTButSil (SE54), (0.25 mm x 0.25 µm x 25 m) column.

**Gas Chromatography / Mass Spectroscopy (GC-MS)** : GC-MS analysis was performed on opensource 5890 Series II (GC-columns : Macherey-Nagel OPTIMA1 Me2Si, 25 m x 0.2 mm, 0.35 um, 20 psi, split ca. 20 :1, carrier gas : 1 mL/min heliem, 5971 series mass selective detector (EI) ; Macherey-Nagel Optima5 5% PhMeSi, 25 m 0.2 mm, 0.35 um, 20 psi, split ca 20 :1, carrier gas : 1 mL/min helium, 5970A series mass selective detector (EI)) and Shimadzu GC 2010 plus with GCMS-QP2010 SE mass detectors. The signals are given in mass-to-charge ratios (m/z) with the relative intensity in brackets.

#### Synthetic Procedures

#### **1-Cyclopentylethanone** (15)<sup>1</sup>

Into a 25 mL two-necked round-bottom flask was placed a magnetic stirrer, the flask was closed with a stopper, and dried with a Bunsen burner while evacuating. After cooling to room temperature, the flask was purged with argon three times and cyclopentanoic acid (1 g, 8.85 mmol, 1.0 eq.) was added and dissolved in dry diethylether (8 mL). The reaction mixture was cooled to -78 °C with the aid of a dry ice / acetone bath and a solution of MeLi (1.6 M, 12.5 mL, 20.11 mmol, 2.3 eq.) was added dropwise via syringe over a period of 15 minutes. The reaction was allowed to warm to room temperature while stirring overnight. After quenching with saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl solution (8 mL) the mixture turned clear and layers were separated. The organic layer was washed with water (10 mL= and the aequeous layer washed with ether (10 mL). The combined organic phases were dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and solvents removed under reduced pressure to afford 0.5 g (4.4 mmol, 50%) of **15** as a clear oil.

C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>12</sub>O (112.17 g/mol):

<sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$ /ppm)  $\delta$  2.94 – 2.78 (m, 1H, CH), 2.16 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.88 – 1.45 (m, 10H, CH<sub>2</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  211.44 (C=O), 52.40 (CH), 28.95 (CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH), 28.86 (CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH), 26.10 (CH<sub>3</sub>). **GC-MS:** (Rtx-5MS, 100.2/10.270/10): t<sub>R</sub> = 3.3 min, *m*/*z* = 113 ([M+1]<sup>+</sup>).

## 4-Bromo-2,6-diisopropylaniline (16)<sup>2</sup>



Ο

In a 500 mL round-bottom flask was placed 2,6-diisopropylaniline (6 mL, technical, ~90%, ~30 mmol) and dissolved in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (250 mL). Tetrabutylammonium tribromide (15.4 g, 32 mmol) was added in one go. The reaction was stirred for 30 minutes before the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The residue was redissolved in diethyl ether (250 mL), washed with NaOH (0.5 M, 150 mL), water (2 x 150 mL), dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and solvents removed under reduced pressure to afford 7.6 g (29.7 mmol, 98%) of **16** as a yellow oil.

C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>18</sub>BrN (256.18 g/mol):

<sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$ /ppm)  $\delta$  7.11 (s, 2H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>), 3.70 (s, 2H, NH<sub>2</sub>), 2.95 – 2.81 (m, 2H, CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 1.25 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 12H, CH<sub>3</sub>).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> M. Hanack, K. A. Fuchs, C. J. Collins, J. Am. Chem. Soc. **1983**, 105, 4008-4017

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> V. Diemer, H. Chaumeil, A. Defoin, A. Fort, A. Boeglin, C. Carré, Eur. J. Org. Chem. 2006, 2727-2738

1-Bromo-3,5-diisopropylbenzene (17)<sup>2</sup>



In a 500 mL round-bottom flask was placed **16** (7.6 g, 29.7 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and suspended in HCl (2 M, 70 mL). The reaction mixture was cooled to -5 °C and sodium nitrite (5.12 g, 74 mmol, 1.05 eq) was added portionwise. After addition the reaction was stirred for 30 minutes before  $H_3PO_4$  (50% in water, 35 mL, 300 mmol, 4.0 eq.) was added. The mixture was stirred at 4 °C overnight. Ether (100 mL) was added and layers were separated. The aequeous layer was washed with ether (2 x 100 mL) and the combined organic layers were dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and solvents removed under reduced pressure. Purification by distillation (115 °C, 0.15 mbar) afforded 4.0 g (16.6 mmol, 56%) of **17** as a yellow oil.

C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>17</sub>Br (241.17 g/mol):

**b.p.**: 115°C at 0.1 torr; <sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$ /ppm)  $\delta$  7.18 (d, J = 1.5 Hz, 2H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>CBrCH<sub>Ar</sub>), 6.98 (s, 1H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>), 2.92 – 2.77 (m, 2H, CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 1.23 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 12H, CH<sub>3</sub>).

#### **3,5-Di-isopropylbenzaldehyde** (18)<sup>2</sup>



In a 100 mL three-necked round-bottom flask equipped with a magnetic stirrer, argon inlet, thermometer and a stopper was placed **17** (4.0 g, 16.6 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and cooled to -78 °C with the aid of a dry ice / acetone bath. *n*-BuLi (1.6 M, 18.26 mmol, 1.1 eq.) was added dropwise via syringe and the resultant suspension was stirred for 20 minutes at -78 °C. Then DMF (1.33 g, 18.26 mmol, 1.1 eq.) was added dropwise via syringe, the mixture stirred for 10 minutes being allowed to warm to -10 °C. The reaction was quenched with water (12 mL) at -10 °C and the mixture warmed to room temperature. Layers were separated and the aequeuous layer washed with ether (100 mL). Organic layers were combined and solvents removed under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by flash chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 18 x 4.5 cm, cyclohexane/EtOAc 20:1) to afford 2.05 g (10.77 mmol, 65%) of **18** as a clear oil.

C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>18</sub>O (190.28 g/mol):

**R**<sub>f</sub> (SiO<sub>2</sub>, *n*-pentane/AcOEt 10:1, UV, Ce(SO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>) = 0.63; <sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$ /ppm)  $\delta$  9.99 (s, 1H, CHO), 7.57 (d, *J* = 1.7 Hz, 2H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>CHOCH<sub>Ar</sub>), 7.35 (s, 1H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>), 3.04 – 2.90 (m, 2H, CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 1.29 (dd, *J* = 6.9, 1.8 Hz, 12H, CH<sub>3</sub>).

1-(3,5-Di-isopropylphenyl)ethanol (19)



In a 100 mL three-necked round-bottom flask equipped with a magnetic stirrer, argon inlet and a stopper was placed **18** (2.05 g, 10.77 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and dissolved in dry diethyl ether (40 mL). The solution was cooled to 0 °C and MeMgBr (3.0 M, 16.2 mmol, 1.5 eq.) was added dropwise via syringe. The reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 15 minutes before being allowed to warm to room temperature and stirred for 2 hours. The mixture was cooled to 0 °C again and quenched with sat. NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (40 mL) and water (20 mL). After warming to room temperature, layers were separated and the aq. layer was extracted with EtOAc (3 x 60 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and solvents removed under reduced pressure. The residue was purified via flash chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 15 x 3 cm, cyclohexane/EtOAc 5:1) to afford 1.89 g (9.16 mmol, 85%) of **19** as an orange viscous oil.

#### C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>22</sub>O (206.32 g/mol):

<sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, δ/ppm) δ 7.06 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 2H,  $CH_{Ar}$ ), 7.01 (d, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H,  $CH_{Ar}$ ), 4.87 (qd, J = 6.4, 3.6 Hz, 1H, CH(OH)), 2.90 (hept, J = 6.9 Hz, 2H,  $CH(CH_3)_2$ ), 1.51 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 3H,  $CH_3$ CHOH), 1.26 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 12H,  $CH(CH_3)_2$ ). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 149.30 (CCH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 145.89 (CCH(OH)), 124.12 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>CCH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 121.10 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>CCH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>)CCH(OH)), 70.98 (CH(OH)), 34.40 (CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 25.22 (C=OCH<sub>3</sub>), 24.24 (CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>); **IR** (neat, ATR) v/cm<sup>-1</sup> = 3340 (m<sub>br</sub>), 2961 (s), 2929 (m), 2887 (m), 2868 (m), 1603 (w), 1467 (m), 1459 (m), 1450 (m), 1382 (w), 1363 (m), 1176 (w), 1112 (w), 1073 (w), 1020 (w), 873 (w), 716 (m); **GC-MS**: (Rtx-5MS, 100.2/10.270/10): t<sub>R</sub> = 11.8 min, m/z = 206 ([M]<sup>+</sup>).

#### 1-(3,5-Di-isopropylphenyl)ethanone (20)<sup>3</sup>



C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>20</sub>O (204.31 g/mol):

<sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, δ/ppm) δ 7.64 (d, J = 1.7 Hz, 2H,  $CH_{Ar}$ ), 7.29 (t, J = 1.6 Hz, 1H,  $CH_{Ar}$ ), 3.03 – 2.86 (m, 2H,  $CH(CH_3)_2$ ), 2.60 (s, 3H,  $CH_3C=O$ ), 1.28 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 12H,  $CH(CH_3)_2$ ). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 198.83 (*C*=O), 149.46 (*C*CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 137.59 (*C*C=O), 129.93 (*CH*<sub>Ar</sub>), 124.07 (2 *CH*<sub>Ar</sub>), 34.32 (*C*H(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 26.92 (*C*=OCH<sub>3</sub>), 24.12 (CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> N. Yoneda, T. Fukuhara, Y. Takahashi, A. Suzuki, *Chem. Lett.* **1979**, 1003-1006

1-(3,5-Di-tert-butylphenyl)ethanol (21)<sup>4</sup>



In a 100 mL three-necked round-bottom flask equipped with a magnetic stirrer, argon inlet and a stopper was placed 3,5-di-tertbutylbenzaldehyde (1.0 g, 4.5 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and dissolved in dry diethyl ether (18 mL). The solution was cooled to 0 °C and MeMgBr (3.0 M, 6.82 mmol, 1.5 eq.) was added dropwise via syringe. The reaction mixture was stirred at 0 °C for 15 minutes before being allowed to warm to room temperature and stirred for 2 hours. The mixture was cooled to 0°C again and quenched with sat. NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (40 mL) and water (20 mL). After warming to room temperature, layers were separated and the aq. layer was extracted with EtOAc (3 x 60 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and solvents removed under reduced pressure to afford 1.05 g (4.47 mmol, 96%) of **21** as a white solid.  $C_{16}H_{26}O$  (234.38 g/mol):

<sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$ /ppm)  $\delta$  7.36 (t, J = 1.8 Hz, 1H,  $CH_{Ar}$ ), 7.23 (d, J = 1.7 Hz, 2H,  $CH_{Ar}$ ), 4.90 (q, J = 6.4 H, 1H, CHOH), 1.77 (s<sub>br</sub>, 1H, OH), 1.52 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 3H,  $CH_3$ ), 1.34 (s, 18H, C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>).

#### 1-(3,5-Di-tert-butylphenyl)ethanone (22)<sup>5</sup>



In a 100 mL round-bottom flask was placed **21** (1.05 g, 4.47 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and dissolved in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (50 mL). Dess-Martin Periodane (2.5 g, 5.9 mmol, 1.32 eq.) was added in one portion and the resultant mixture stirred for one hour at room temperature. The reaction mixture was poured into a solution of pentane/EtOAc (4:1, 80 mL) and a white precipitate was formed. The suspension was filtered over a fritt (SiO<sub>2</sub>) and a yellow solution was obtained. The frit was rinsed with more pentane/EtOAc (4:1, 100 mL) and solvents were removed under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by flash chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 18 x 3 cm, cyclohexane/EtOAc 20:1) to afford 1.0 g (4.31 mmol, 96%) of **22** as a clear oil.

## C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>24</sub>O (232.36 g/mol):

<sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>,  $\delta$ /ppm)  $\delta$  7.81 (d, J = 1.8 Hz, 2H,  $CH_{Ar}$ ), 7.65 (t, J = 1.8 Hz, 1H,  $CH_{Ar}$ ), 2.62 (s, 3H, C=OCH<sub>3</sub>), 1.36 (s, 18H, C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  199.04 (C=O), 151.36 ( $C_{Ar}C(CH_{3})_{3}$ ), 137.04 ( $C_{Ar}C=O$ ), 127.50 (1  $CH_{Ar}$ ), 122.66 (2  $CH_{Ar}$ ), 35.13 ( $C(CH_{3})_{3}$ ), 31.54 ( $C(CH_{3})_{3}$ ), 27.07 (C=OCH<sub>3</sub>).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> D. C. Ebner, J. T. Bagdanoff, E. M. Ferreira, R. M. McFadden, D. D. Caspi, R. M. Trend, B. M. Stoltz, *Chem. Eur. J.* **2009**, *15*, 12978-12992

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> L. Zhang, A. M. Nadzan, R. A. Heyman, D. L. Love, D. E. Mais, G. Croston, W. W. Lamph, M. F. Boehm, *J. Med. Chem.* **1996**, 39, 2659-2663

(S)-1-phenyl-N-(1-phenylethylidene)ethanamine ((S)-23)<sup>6</sup>



By general method acetophenone (1.96 g, 16.32 mmol, 1.2 eq.) and (S)-1-phenylethanamine (1.65 g, 13.6 mmol, 1.0 eq.) were dissolved in dry benzene (20 mL). Purification by Kugelrohr distillation (135 °C at 0.15 mbar) afforded (S)-23 (1.92 g, 8.6 mmol, 63 %) as a clear oil. C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N (223.31 g/mol): **b.p.**: 135 °C (0.15 mbar); 10:1 *E*/Z mixture, major: <sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 7.84 (m, 2H,  $CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}C=N$ , 7.47 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H,  $CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C=N$ ), 7.39 (m, 3H,  $CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}CH(CH_3)$  and CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C=N), 7.33 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)), 7.23 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H,  $CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}CH_{(CH_3)}N)$ , 4.84 (q, J = 6.5 Hz, 1H,  $C_{Ar}CH(CH_3)N=C$ ), 2.27 (s, 3H, C=NCH<sub>3</sub>), 1.54 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 3H, CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  163.68 (C=N), 146.37  $(C_{Ar}C=N)$ ,  $(CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}C=N),$  $(C_{Ar}CH(CH_3)N),$ 141.68 129.56 128.51  $(CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}C=N),$  $(CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}CH(CH_3)N),$ 128.33  $(CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}C=N), 126.95$ 126.82  $(CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}CH(CH_3)N), \quad 126.67 \quad (CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}CH_{CH}(CH_3)N), \quad 60.00 \quad (CH(CH_3)N),$ 25.25  $(CH(CH_3)N)$ , 15.78 (C=NCH<sub>3</sub>); Optical Rotation:  $[a]_{p}^{20} = +92.5$  (c 0.75 in CHCl<sub>3</sub>, 0.75% EtOH) (Lit. +97.7 (c 1.8 in CCl<sub>4</sub>)).

#### (*R*)-1-phenyl-*N*-(1-phenylethylidene)ethanamine ((*R*)-23)<sup>6</sup>



By general method acetophenone (0.98 g, 8.16 mmol, 1.2 eq.) and (*R*)-1-phenylethanamine (0.824 g, 6.8 mmol, 1.0 eq.) were dissolved in dry benzene (10 mL). Purification by Kugelrohr distillation (135 °C at 0.15 mbar) afforded (*R*)-**23** (0.925 g, 4.14 mmol, 61 %) as a clear oil.  $C_{16}H_{17}N$  (223.31 g/mol):

<sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 7.84 (m, 2H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C=N), 7.47 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C=N), 7.39 (m, 3H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>CH(CH<sub>3</sub>) and CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C=N), 7.33 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)N), 7.23 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)), 4.84 (q, J = 6.5 Hz, 1H, C<sub>Ar</sub>CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)N=C), 2.27 (s, 3H, C=NCH<sub>3</sub>), 1.54 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 3H, CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)); **Optical Rotation**:  $[\alpha]_{D}^{20} = -94.0$  (c 0.75 in CHCl<sub>3</sub>, 0.75% EtOH) (Lit. -97.7 (c 1.8 in CCl<sub>4</sub>)).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> E. Rogalska, C. Belzecki, J. Org. Chem. 1984, 49, 1397-1402

# 2-(1-aminoethyl)phenol (24)<sup>7</sup>



In a 500 mL three-neck round bottom flask equipped with a magnetic stirrer and a reflux condenser was inserted 2-methoxybenzonitrile (4.50 g, 33.8 mmol, 1.0 eq), CuBr (98.0 mg, 0.683 mmol, 0.02 eq) and dissolved in dry THF (75 mL). A solution of MeMgCl in THF (3M, 21.4 mL, 4.81 g MeMgCl, 64.3 mmol, 1.9 eq) was added and the resultant mixture heated to reflux for 16 hours. A short reaction control via TLC depicted all the starting material had not been consumed and therefore again a solution of MeMgCl in THF (3M, 5.00 mL, 1.12 g, 15.0 mmol, 0.4 eq; total 5.93 g MeMgCl) was added and refluxing continued for further 5 hours. Afterwards the reaction mixture was allowed to cool to room temperature. A mechanical stirrer, a ammonia condensation vessel and washing bottles were mounted and the mixture cooled to -78 °C. Subsequently ammonia (approx. 200 mL) was condensed into the reaction mixture. Lithium (1.19 g, 169 mmol, 5.0 eq) was added in small pieces until the reaction mixture turned blue. The cooling bath was removed and the reaction mixture was allowed to warm up overnight while stirring and evaporating all ammonia. tert-Butylmethylether (MTBE) was added to the mixture, cooled to 0 °C and titrated with concentrated HCl to pH 8. The organic layer was separated, the aequeous layer salted out and extracted with MTBE (3 x 100 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine (100 mL), 0.5 M HCl (3 x 150 mL) and the acidic aequeous phase extracted with MTBE (3 x 50 mL). The acidic aequeous layer was set to pH 11 with 10% NaOH (10%), salted out and extracted with MTBE (3 x 50 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, solvents removed under reduced pressure and the residue was purified via distillation (60-65 °C at 0.08 mbar). 24 was obtained as a greenish oil (1.03 g, 7.5 mmol, 22%). The product contained 1-(2-Methoxyphenyl)ethanamine as an impurity (0.265 g, 1.8 mmol, 4%).

#### C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>11</sub>NO (137.18 g/mol):

**b.p.**: 65°C (0.08 mbar); <sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.15 (td, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 7.9 Hz, <sup>4</sup>*J* = 1.7 Hz, 1H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>CH(NH<sub>2</sub>)); 6.97 (dd, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 7.5 Hz, <sup>4</sup>*J* = 1.5 Hz, 1H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>(OH)); 6.84 (dd, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 8.1 Hz, <sup>4</sup>*J* = 0.9 Hz, 1H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>CH(NH<sub>2</sub>)); 6.78 (td, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 7.4 Hz, <sup>4</sup>*J* = 1.1 Hz, 1H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>(OH)); 4.33 (q, *J* = 6.6 Hz, 1H, CH(NH<sub>2</sub>)(CH<sub>3</sub>)); 3.85 (s, 2H, NH<sub>2</sub>); 1.48 (d, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  157.76 (C<sub>Ar</sub>(OH), 128.59 (C<sub>Ar</sub>CH); 128.23 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>); 127.31 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>); 119.13 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>); 117.35 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>); 51.87 (CH(NH<sub>2</sub>)(CH<sub>3</sub>)); 24.01 (CH<sub>3</sub>).

#### *N*-(1-(2-hydroxyphenyl)ethyl)benzamide (25)



In a 25 mL two-neck round bottom flash equipped with a magnetic stirrer and a septum was placed crude **24** (1.295 g, 9.3 mmol, 1.24 eq), dissolved in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (10 mL) and cooled to 0 °C. Benzoylchloride (1.05 g, 7.50 mmol, 1.0 eq) and triethylamine (0.833 g, 8.25 mmol, 1.1 eq) were added via syringe pump over a period of 5 minutes. After another 10 minutes the cooling bath was removed and the reaction mixture allowed to warm to room temperature while stirring overnight. Solvents were removed at the rotavap and the crude was purified *via* elution chromatography (7 cm x 4 cm, SiO<sub>2</sub>, EtOAc) to give **25** as a yellow oil. The product contained N-(1-(2-Methoxyphenyl)ethyl)benzamide as an impurity of about 25%. Thus, the crude product was transferred to an

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> E. Peter Kündig, C. Botuha, G. Lemercier, P. Romanens, L. Saudan, S. Thibault, *Helv.Chim. Acta* 2004, 87, 561-579

25 mL oven-dried argon-purged two-neck round bottom flask, dissolved in 5 mL CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and cooled to -78 °C. A solution of BBr<sub>3</sub> (1M in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) was added dropwise via syringe and the resultant mixture stirred for 15 minutes. The cooling bath was removed and reaction mixture allowed to warm to room temperature overnight. 10% NaOH (10 mL) were added dropwise and the resultant mixture stirred for 10 minutes. Layers were separated and the aequeous layer was acidified with 1M HCl (25 mL), set to pH 8 via addition of saturated NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution and extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2 x 25 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, solvents removed under reduced pressure and **25** obtained as a yellow oil (1.54 g, 6.4 mmol, 85%). Enantiomers were separated by semipreparative HPLC. **25** was dissolved in a mixture of heptane/2-propanol (9:1) to a concentration of 0.3g mL<sup>-1</sup>. Daicel Chiralcel OD (2 cm x 25 cm), *n*-hexane : 2-propanol (90:10), 6 mL min<sup>-1</sup>, 40 °C, 0.25 mL injection volume, t<sub>R</sub> = 41.0 min (*S*)-(+), t<sub>R</sub> = 49.0 min (*R*)-(-) C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>15</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> (241.29 g/mol):

**m.p.**: 131-133 °C; <sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  9.23 (s, 1H, C<sub>Ar</sub>(OH)), 7.75 (m, 2H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C=O), 7.51 (m, 1H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C=O), 7.43 (m, 2H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C=O), 7.28 (dd, <sup>3</sup>J = 7.7, <sup>4</sup>J = 1.7 Hz, 1H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C=O), 7.20 (ddd, <sup>3</sup>J = 8.1, 7.3, <sup>4</sup>J = 1.7 Hz, 1H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C(OH)), 6.97 (dd, <sup>3</sup>J = 8.1, <sup>4</sup>J = 1.3 Hz, 1H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>(OH)), 6.90 (dd, <sup>3</sup>J = 8.1, <sup>4</sup>J = 1.3 Hz, 1H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>(OH)), 6.90 (dd, <sup>3</sup>J = 7.5, <sup>4</sup>J = 1.3 Hz, 1H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>(OH)), 6.97 (dd, <sup>3</sup>J = 8.1, <sup>4</sup>J = 1.3 Hz, 1H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>(OH)), 6.90 (dd, <sup>3</sup>J = 7.5, <sup>4</sup>J = 1.3 Hz, 1H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C(OH)), 6.97 (dd, <sup>3</sup>J = 8.1, <sup>4</sup>J = 1.3 Hz, 1H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>(OH)), 6.90 (dd, <sup>3</sup>J = 7.5, <sup>4</sup>J = 1.3 Hz, 1H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C(OH)), 6.97 (dd, <sup>3</sup>J = 8.1, <sup>4</sup>J = 1.3 Hz, 1H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>(OH)), 6.90 (dd, <sup>3</sup>J = 7.5, <sup>4</sup>J = 1.3 Hz, 1H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C(OH)), 6.90 (dd, <sup>3</sup>J = 7.5, <sup>4</sup>J = 1.3 Hz, 1H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>CHNH), 6.53 (d, <sup>3</sup>J = 8.5 Hz, 1H, NH), 5.51 (dq, <sup>3</sup>J = 8.6, 7.1 Hz, 1H, CHNH), 1.73 (d, <sup>3</sup>J = 7.0 Hz, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  168.73 (C=O); 155.47 (C<sub>Ar</sub>(OH)); 133.12 (C<sub>Ar</sub>C=O); 132.31 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C=O); 129.48 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>(OH)); 128.82 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C=O); 128.57 (C<sub>Ar</sub>CHNH); 127.26 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C=O); 125.91 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>CHNH); 120.39 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C=O); 128.57 (C<sub>Ar</sub>CHNH); 127.26 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C=O); 125.91 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>CHNH); 120.39 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>CHNH); 118.60 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>(OH)); 43.64 (CHNH); 19.79 (CH<sub>3</sub>); **IR** (neat, ATR) v/cm<sup>-1</sup> = 3350 (m), 3065 (w), 2932 (w), 2733 (w), 2677 (w), 2620 (w), 1623 (m), 1602 (m), 1568 (w), 1538 (s), 1488 (s), 1409 (m), 1349 (m), 1277 (m), 1232 (s), 1188 (m), 1132 (m), 1102 (m), 1019 (m), 928 (w), 872 (w), 838 (m), 765 (s), 705 (s), 696 (s); **MS** (EI, 70 eV): 241.1 (45.8%, [M]<sup>+</sup>). 226.1 (11%, [M-CH<sub>3</sub>]<sup>+</sup>); **HRMS**: calculated: 241.1098; found: 241.1102; **EA**: calculated: C: 74.67, H: 6.27, N: 5.81; found: C: 74.39, H: 6.45, N: 5.67; **Optical Rotation** (*R*)-isomer: [**a**]<sup>20</sup>

#### 4-Methyl-2-phenyl-4H-benzo[e][1,3]oxazine (26)



In a 10 mL 2-neck round bottom flask was placed (*R*)-**25** (61.3 mg, 0.254 mmol, 1.0 eq.), dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2 mL) and cooled to -40 °C. POCl<sub>3</sub> (0.63 mL of a 0.4M solution, 0.254 mmol, 1.0 eq.) was added and the reaction mixture stirred for 30 minutes. Then pyridine (125 uL, 120 mg, 1.524 mmol, 6.0 eq) was added and stirring continued for 15 minutes. Afterwards the cooling bath was removed and the mixture allowed to warm to room temperature while stirring overnight. Reaction was quenched with 1M NaOH (2.5 mL), extracted with diethylether (2 x 5 mL) and solvents removed under reduced pressure. Purification *via* flash chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, 18 x 2.5 cm, 7 mL frctns, cyclohexane/EtOAc 10:1, frctns 12-14) gave (*R*)-**26** as a clear oil (1.3 mg, 0.0058 mmol, 2%). With the identical procedure, (*S*)-**25** (58.9 mg, 0.244 mmol, 1.0 eq.) gave (*S*)-**26** (3.3 mg, 0.015 mmol, 6%) as a clear oil.

C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>13</sub>NO (223.27 g/mol):

<sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.10 (m, 2H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C=N), 7.47 (m, 3H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C=N and CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C=N), 7.23 (m, 1H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C), 7.14 (m, 2H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)N and

 $CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}CH(CH_3)N)$ , 7.04 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H,  $CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-O)$ , 4.83 (q, J = 6.9 Hz, 1H,  $CH(CH_3)N)$ , 1.58 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 3H,  $CH(CH_3)N)$ ; <sup>13</sup> $C{^1H}$ -NMR (101 MHz,  $CDCl_3)$   $\delta$  151.72 (O-132.55  $(C_{Ar}C=N),$ 131.05  $(CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C=N)$ , *C*=N), 148.97  $(C_{\text{Ar}}-\text{O}),$ 128.36 128.04  $(CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}C=N),$  $(CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-O),$ 127.55  $(CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}C=N),$ 126.12 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)N), 124.89 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)N), 115.62 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-O), 50.16 (CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)N), 25.51 (CH<sub>3</sub>); **IR** (neat, ATR)  $\nu/cm^{-1} = 3059$  (w), 2964 (m), 2925 (m), 2854 (w), 1670 (s), 1585 (w), 1488 (m), 1462 (w), 1449 (m), 1347 (m), 1289 (w), 1248 (m), 1226 (s), 1198 (m), 1112 (m), 1055 (m), 1023 (m); **HRMS**: calculated: 223.0992; found: 223.0986; **Optical Rotation** (*R*)-isomer:  $[a]_{p}^{20}$ = -8.6 (c 0.13 in CHCl<sub>3</sub>, 0.75% EtOH); **Optical Rotation** (S)-isomer:  $[a]_{p}^{20} = +10.3$  (c 0.165 in CHCl<sub>3</sub>, 0.75% EtOH).

# 1-(2-methoxyphenyl)-2-methylpropan-1-amine (27)<sup>8</sup>



In a 500 mL three-neck round bottom flask equipped with a magnetic stirrer and a reflux condenser was inserted 2-methoxybenzonitrile (4.50 g, 33.8 mmol, 1.0 eq), CuBr (98.0 mg, 0.683 mmol, 0.02 eq) and dissolved in dry THF (75 mL). A solution of isopropyl magnesium chloride in THF (2 M, 32 mL, 6.61 g <sup>*i*</sup>PrMgCl, 64.27 mmol, 1.9 eq) was added and the resultant mixture heated to reflux for 16 hours. Afterwards the reaction mixture was allowed to cool to room temperature. A mechanical stirrer, a ammonia condensation vessel and washing bottles were mounted and the mixture cooled to -78 °C. Subsequently ammonia (approx. 200 mL) was condensed into the reaction mixture. Lithium (735 mg, 105 mmol, 3.1 eq) was added in small pieces until the reaction mixture turned blue. The cooling bath was removed and the reaction mixture was allowed to warm up overnight while stirring and evaporating all ammonia. Tert-butylmethylether (MTBE) was added to the mixture, cooled to 0 °C and titrated with concentrated HCl to pH 8. The organic layer was separated and the aequeous layer salted out and extracted with MTBE (3 x 100 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine (100 mL), 0.5 M HCl (3 x 150 mL) and the acidic aequeous phase extracted with MTBE (3 x 50 mL). The acidic aequeous layer was set to pH 11 with 10% NaOH (10%), salted out and extracted with MTBE (3 x 50 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub>, solvents removed at the rotavap and the residue was purified via distillation (63 °C at 0.08 mbar) to afford 27 (5.21 g, 29 mmol, 86%) as a yellow oil. C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>17</sub>NO (179.26 g/mol):

**b.p.**: 65 °C at 0.08 mbar; <sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.24 (m, 1H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>CH(NH<sub>2</sub>)), 7.19 (m, 1H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>CH(NH<sub>2</sub>)), 6.93 (t, *J* = 7.5, 1H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>(OCH<sub>3</sub>)), 6.85 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>(OCH<sub>3</sub>)), 3.88 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H, CH(NH<sub>2</sub>)), 3.82 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 1.97 (m, 1H, CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 1.50 (s, 2H, NH<sub>2</sub>), 0.99 (d, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 3H, CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 0.79 (d, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 3H, CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> F. J. Weiberth, S. S. Hall, J. Org. Chem. **1986**, 51, 5338-5341

#### N-(1-(2-hydroxyphenyl)-2-methylpropyl)benzamide (28)



In a 25 mL round-bottom flask was placed 27 (1.0 g, 5.59 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and cooled to 0 °C. Benzoyl chloride (782 mg, 5.59 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and triethylamine (621 mg, 6.15 mmol, 1.1 eq.) were added dropwise and the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 24 hours. Elution chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, EtOAc) and removal of solvents under reduced pressure afforded N-(1-(2methoxyphenyl)-2-methylpropyl)benzamide (1.52 g, 5.36 mmol, 96 %) which was dissolved in dry dichloromethane (12 mL) and cooled to -78 °C. Boron tribromide (1.0 M in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 16.1 mmol, 3.0 eq.) was added dropwise, the cooling bath removed and the reaction mixture allowed to warm up to room temperature while stirring overnight. It was then cooled to 0 °C and quenched by addition NaOH (10% w/w, 30 mL). After seizure of gas evolution layers were separated and the aequeous layer acidified with concentrated HCl (8 mL). It was then basified to pH of 8 by addition of NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (150 mL) and extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (2 x 25 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and solvents removed under reduced pressure. The residue was dried in vacuo to afford 28 (1.2 g, 4.46 mmol, 83 %) as a white solid. Enantiomers were separated via semipreparative HPLC (Daicel Chiralcel AD (2 cm x 25 cm), n-hexane : 2-propanol (90:10), 6 mL min<sup>-1</sup>, 25 °C, 0.4 mL injection volume,  $t_R = 43.0 \text{ min } (+)$ ,  $t_R = 52.0 \text{ min } (-)$ , 28 was dissolved in a mixture of heptane/2-propanol (9:1) to a concentration of  $0.3 \text{g mL}^{-1}$ . C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>19</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> (269.34 g/mol):

**m.p.**: 138 °C; <sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.56 (s, 1H, OH), 7.75 (m, 2H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C=O), 7.48 (m, 1H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C=O), 7.39 (m, 2H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C=O), 7.17 (dd, J = 7.6, 1.6 Hz, 1H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>CHNH), 7.14 (m, 1H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>(OH)), 7.02 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 1H, NH), 6.94 (dd, *J* = 8.1, 1.2 Hz, 1H,  $CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}(OH)$ ), 6.87 (td, J = 7.5, 1.2 Hz, 1H,  $CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}CHNH$ ), 4.91 (dd, J = 10.3, 9.1 Hz, 1H, CHNH), 2.43 (dhept, J = 10.3, 6.6 Hz, 1H, CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 1.18 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 0.87 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 3H,  $CH_3$ ); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  168.46 (C=O), 155.22  $(C_{Ar}(OH)), 133.87 (C_{Ar}C=O), 131.96 (CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}C=O), 128.85 (CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}(OH)),$ 128.75 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C=O), 128.14 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>CHNH), 127.44 (C<sub>Ar</sub>CHNH), 127.19 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C=O), 120.54 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>CHNH), 118.02 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>(OH)), 56.86 (CHNH), 31.32 (CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 20.61  $(CH_3)$ , 20.51  $(CH_3)$ ; **IR** (neat, ATR) v/cm<sup>-1</sup> = 3401 (m), 3155 (w), 3103 (w), 3076 (w), 2955 (w), 2870 (w), 1633 (s), 1603 (s), 1576 (m), 1487 (m), 1453 (s), 1380 (m), 1311 (m), 1259 (m), 1252 (m), 1188 (m), 1130 (m), 1116 (s), 1104 (w), 1040 (m), 930 (m), 857 (m), 756 (s), 704 (s), 685 (s); **MS** (EI, 70 eV): 269.1 (3.4%, [M]<sup>+</sup>). 226.1 (49%, [M-C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>7</sub>]<sup>+</sup>); **HRMS**: calculated: 269.1411; found: 269.1413; EA: calculated: C, 75.81; H, 7.11; N, 5.20; found: C, 74.60 H, 7.13; N, 5.13; **Optical Rotation** (*R*)-isomer: :  $[a]_{D}^{20} = -24.3$  (c 0.75 in CHCl<sub>3</sub>, 0.75% EtOH); **Optical Rotation** (S)-isomer:  $[a]_{p}^{20} = +25.7$  (c 0.75 in CHCl<sub>3</sub>, 0.75% EtOH).

#### 4-Isopropyl-2-phenyl-4H-benzo[e][1,3]oxazine (29)

In a 10 mL Schlenk vial was placed (R)-**28** (100 mg, 0.37 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (1 mL). The solution was cooled to -40 °C with the aid of a cryostat. Then a solution of POCl<sub>3</sub> (0.4 M in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 1 mL, 0.4 mmol, 1.08 eq.) was added dropwise. The reaction mixture was stirred at -40 °C for 2 hours. Pyridine (176 mg, 2.23 mmol, 6.0 eq.) was added dropwise and stirring continued for one hour. The cryostat was removed and the reaction mixture allowed to warm to room temperature while stirring overnight. It was then cooled to 0 °C and quenched with NaOH solution (1 M, 5 mL, 5 mmol). After ether extraction (3 x 25 mL) the combined organic layers were dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>, filtered and solvents removed under reduced pressure. The residue was purified by flash chromatography to afford (R)-**28** (39 mg, 0.155 mmol, 42%) as an off-white oil.

Identical to the procedure above, (S)-**28** (538 mg, 2.0 mmol, 1.0 eq.), a solution of POCl<sub>3</sub> (306 mg, 2.0 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and pyridine (949 mg, 12 mmol, 6.0 eq.) gave (S)-**29** (114 mg, 0.45 mmol, 23%) as a clear oil.

#### C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>17</sub>NO (251.32 g/mol):

<sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.10 (m, 2H, H12), 7.46 (m, 3H, H13 and H14), 7.25 (td, J = 7.7, 1.8 Hz, 1H, H7), 7.14 (td, J = 7.4, 1.2 Hz, 1H, H6), 7.09 (dd, J = 7.5, 1.7 Hz, 1H, H5), 7.04 (dd, J = 8.1, 1.0 Hz, 1H, H8), 4.67 (d, J = 3.9 Hz, 1H, H3), 2.14 (m, 1H, H2), 1.09 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 3H, H1), 0.86 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 3H, H1'); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 152.10 (C10), 149.90 (C9), 132.53 (C11), 131.04 (C14), 128.36 (C13), 127.96 (C7), 127.62 (C12), 126.80 (C5), 124.56 (C6), 122.50 (C4), 115.39 (C8), 60.06 (C3), 36.56 (C2), 18.93 (C1), 17.20



(C1'); **IR** (neat, ATR) v/cm<sup>-1</sup> = 3066 (w), 3044 (w), 2959 (m), 2928 (w), 2871 (w), 1675 (s), 1586 (w), 1486 (m), 1458 (m), 1355 (m), 1291 (m), 1243 (m), 1224 (s), 1194 (m), 1063 (m), 1028 (w); **HRMS**: calculated: 251.1305; found: 251.1308; **EA**: calc. C, 81.24; H, 6.82; N, 5.57; O, 6.37; found: C, 80.91; H, 7.48; N, 5.20; **Optical Rotation** (*R*)-isomer:  $[a]_{D}^{20} = -44.4$  (c 1.65 in CHCl<sub>3</sub>, 0.75% EtOH); **Optical Rotation** (*S*)-isomer:  $[a]_{D}^{20} = +20.4$  (c 0.75 in CHCl<sub>3</sub>, 0.75% EtOH).

# *N*-(2-methoxybenzylidene)-1-phenylmethanamine (30)<sup>9</sup>



A 50 mL two-necked round-bottom flask equipped with a stirring bar and a Schlenk bridge was set under argon atmosphere and charged with 4 Å molecular sieves (4.00 g). Benzylamine (8.0 mL, 73.4 mmol, 1.0 eq) was added and dissolved in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (19 mL). To the stirred mixture was added a solution of 2-methoxybenzaldehyde (10.0 g, 73.4 mmol, 1.0 eq) in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (4.3 mL) and stirring continued for three hours. The reaction mixture was filtered through a pad of celite and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. Distillation (0.09-0.10 mbar, 136-138 °C) of the filtrate gave **30** (14.5 g, 64.4 mmol, 88%) as a colourless oil.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> G. Bernardinelli, D. Fernandez, R. Gosmini, P. Meier, A. Ripa, P. Schüpfer, B. Treptow, E. P. Kündig, *Chirality* **2000**, *12*, 529-539

C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>15</sub>NO (225.29 g/mol):

**b.p.**: 136-138 °C at 0.09-0.10 mbar; <sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.85 (s, 1H, CH=N), 8.01 (dd, <sup>3</sup>J = 7.7 Hz, <sup>4</sup>J = 1.6 Hz, 1H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>CH=N), 7.39 (m, 1H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>(OCH<sub>3</sub>)), 7.33 (m, 4H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>2</sub> and CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 7.24 (m, 1H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 6.98 (t, <sup>3</sup>J = 7.5 Hz, 1H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>(OCH<sub>3</sub>)), 6.92 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 1H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH=N), 4.82 (s, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 3.88 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>); **GC-MS** (EI, 70 eV, PhMeSi, 100.2/10.270/10): t<sub>R</sub> = 16.9 min, *m/z* = 224 ([M-H]<sup>+</sup>).

*N*-benzyl-1-(2-methoxyphenyl)-2,2-dimethylpropan-1-amine (31)<sup>9</sup>



A 250 mL two-necked round-bottom flask equipped with a stirring bar and a Schlenk bridge was set under argon atmosphere and charged with *tert*-BuLi (22 mL of a 1.7 M solution in pentane, 37.8 mmol, 1.7 eq). The solution was cooled to -30 °C and via a cooling trap the solvent was removed *in vacuo*. The resulting colourless solid was cooled to -78 °C and THF (22 mL) was added slowly resulting in a yellow suspension. Afterwards a solution of **30** (5.00 g, 22.2 mmol, 1.0 eq) in THF (11 mL) was added over a period of two hours using a syringe pump and causing the mixture to turn purple. After three hours h the mixture was allowed to warm to 0 °C and stirring was continued overnight. A saturated aqueous solution of  $NH_4Cl$  (11 mL) was added and the mixture turned yellow. Layers were separated, the aqueous layer was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (2 x 20 mL), the combined organic layers were dried over  $Na_2SO_4$  and solvent was removed under reduced pressure. Distillation (0.06-0.08 mbar, 131-142 °C) of the residue gave **31** (4.82 g, 17.0 mmol, 77%) as a yellow oil.

#### C<sub>19</sub>H<sub>25</sub>NO (283.41 g/mol):

**b.p.**: 131-142 °C at 0.06-0.08 mbar; <sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.45 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H,  $CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}CHNH$ ), 7.18 (m, 4H,  $CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}CH_2$  and  $CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}CH_2$ ), 7.21 (m, 2H,  $CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}CHNH$  and  $CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}CH_2$ ), 6.97 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H,  $CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}C_{Ar}(OCH_3)$ ), 6.87 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H,  $CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}(OCH_3)$ ), 4.06 (s, 1H, CHNH), 3.77 (s, 3H,  $OCH_3$ ), 3.55 (d, J = 13.2 Hz, 1H,  $CH_2$ ), 3.39 (d, J = 13.2 Hz, 1H,  $CH_2$ ), 0.89 (s, 9H,  $C(CH_3)_3$ ).

#### 1-(2-methoxyphenyl)-2,2-dimethylpropan-1-amine (32)<sup>9</sup>



A 50 mL round-bottom flask equipped with a stirring bar and an argon tube was charged with Pd/C (Degussa type 101 NE/W, 0.343 g), **31** (4.82 g, 17.0 mmol, 1.0 eq) and EtOH (15 mL). The mixture was degassed performing three "freeze-pump-thaw" cycles purging with hydrogen each time. Afterwards the mixture was heated to 60 °C and stirred for 26 hours under ambient hydrogen pressure. After cooling to room temperature the mixture was filtered through a pad of celite and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. Distillation (0.06-0.08 mbar, 82-85 °C) of the residue gave **32** (2.93 g, 15.2 mmol, 89%). Enantiomers were separated by recrystallisation. A 25 mL round-bottom flask equipped with a stirring bar and a reflux condenser was charged with **32** (2.93 g, 15.2 mmol, 1.0 eq), (S)-mandelic acid (2.31 g, 15.2 mmol, 1.0 eq) and AcOEt (4.5 mL). The mixture was heated to reflux until all the solid was dissolved and the stirring bar was removed from

the hot solution. After 22 hours the mother liquor was decanted and the remaining crystals were washed with  $Et_2O$  and *n*-pentane and dried in vacuo. Afterwards the obtained (*R*,*S*)-salt was recrystallized twice as follows. A 50 mL round-bottom flask with a stirring bar was charged with the (R,S)-salt (1.95 g, 5.64 mmol), AcOEt (14.5 mL) and EtOH (1.16 mL). The mixture was heated until all salt dissolved and the stirring bar was removed. After 40 hours the mother liquor was decanted and the precipitated crystals were washed with Et<sub>2</sub>O and *n*-pentane and dried in vacuo. A diastereometric excess >96% was detected by <sup>1</sup>H-NMR. The enantiometrically enriched (R,S)-salt (0.980 g, 2.84 mmol) was put into a separating funnel and 10% aqueous NaOH (10 mL) was added. Extraction of this mixture with AcOEt (3 x 25 mL), drying over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> and evaporation of the solvent gave (R)-32 (0.544 g, 2.81 mmol, 37%) as a colourless oil. The mother liquors from the preceeding recrystallisations were combined in a separating funnel, diluted with TBME (40 mL) and washed with 10% aqueous NaOH (2 x 20 mL). The combined aqeuos layers were extracted with TBME (3 x 40 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over  $Na_2SO_4$  and evaporation of the solvent gave already partially enantiomerically enriched (S)-32 (2.37 g, 12.3 mmol). A 50 mL round-bottom flask was charged with partially enantiomerically enriched (S)-32, (R)-mandelic acid (1.86 g, 12.3 mmol), AcOEt (26.3 mL) and EtOH (0.7 mL) and the mixture was heated until all solid dissolved. After 20 hours the mother liquor was decanted and the crystals were washed with Et<sub>2</sub>O and *n*-pentane. This recrystallisation procedure was repeated once. A diastereomeric excess >96% was detected by <sup>1</sup>H-NMR. The free amine was obtained from the (S,R)-salt (0.727 g, 2.11 mmol) by addition of 10% aqueous NaOH and subsequent extraction with AcOEt as described above to afford (S)-32 (0.381 g, 1.97 mmol, 26%) as a colourless oil.

C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>19</sub>NO (193.29 g/mol):

**b.p.**: 82-85 °C at 0.06-0.08 mbar; <sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.34 (m<sub>br</sub>, 1H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>CHNH<sub>2</sub>), 7.19 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>CHNH<sub>2</sub>), 6.93 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>(OCH<sub>3</sub>)), 6.84 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 1H,  $CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}(OCH_3)$ ), 4.26 (s, 1H,  $CHNH_2$ ), 3.79 (s, 3H,  $OCH_3$ ), 1.52 (s<sub>br</sub>, 2H, NH<sub>2</sub>), 0.91 (s, 9H, C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>); GC-MS (EI, 70 eV, PhMeSi, 100.2/10.270/10):  $t_R = 10.3 \text{ min}, m/z =$ 136 ( $[M-(C(CH_3)_3)]^+$ ). Optical Rotation (*R*)-isomer: :  $[a]_D^{20} = +37.0$  (c 2.02 in EtOH); Optical Rotation (*S*)-isomer:  $[a]_D^{20} = -37.1$  (c 2.02 in EtOH).

(R)-(-)-2-(1-amino-2,2-dimethylpropyl)phenol (33)<sup>9</sup>



In a 25 mL two-necked round-bottom flask equipped with a stirring bar and a Schlenk bridge (R)-32 (0.537 g, 2.78 mmol, 1.0 eq) was dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (4.7 mL) and cooled to -78 °C. BBr<sub>3</sub> (7.5 mL of a 1 M solution in  $CH_2Cl_2$ ) was added dropwise and the mixture was stirred overnight. The reaction mixture was poured on a saturated aqueous solution of NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (20 mL) and ice. Additional NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution was added until a pH at 9 was observed. Phase separation, extraction with  $CH_2Cl_2$  (3 x 30 mL), drying over  $Na_2SO_4$  and evaporation of the solvent gave crude (R)-33 (511 mg, 2.78 mmol, 99%) as a brown solid.

C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>17</sub>NO (179.26 g/mol):

<sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (250 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.14 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH(NH<sub>2</sub>)), 6.90 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 1H,  $CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}CH(NH_2)$ ), 6.81 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H,  $CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}(OH)$ ), 6.74 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H,  $CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}(OH)$ , 3.87 (s, 1H,  $CH(NH_2)$ ), 0.96 (s, 9H,  $C(CH_3)_3$ ); **Optical Rotation** (*R*)-isomer: :  $[a]_{n}^{20} = -37.6$  (c 2.06 in CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 0.75% EtOH).

(*R*)-(-)N-(1-(2-hydroxyphenyl)-2,2-dimethylpropyl)benzamide (34)<sup>10</sup>



In a 25 mL two-necked round-bottom flask equipped with a stirring bar and a Schlenk bridge a solution of crude (*R*)-**33** (0.470 g, 2.62 mmol, 1.0 eq) in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (7.5 mL) was cooled to 0 °C and benzoyl chloride (0.33 mL, 2,88 mmol, 1.1 eq) and triethylamine (0.44 mL, 3.15 mmol, 1.2 eq) were added. The cooling bath was removed after 5 min. and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 18 hours. Elution of the reaction mixture with AcOEt through a short silica gel column gave (*R*)-**34** (435 mg, 1.54 mmol, 59%) as a grey solid.

C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>21</sub>NO<sub>2</sub> (283.36 g/mol):

**m.p.**: 151-152 °C; <sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.23 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H, NH), 7.80 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 2H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C=O), 7.52 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C=O), 7.40 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C=O), 7.13 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>(OH)), 6.89 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>CHNH), 6.78 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>CA<sub>A</sub>(OH)), 5.25 (d, J = 9.9 Hz, 1H, CHNH), 1.06 (s, 9H, C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>); **IR** (neat, ATR) v/cm<sup>-1</sup> = 3395 (m), 3236 (w), 3185 (w), 2961 (m), 2866 (w), 1639 (s), 1625 (s), 1600 (m), 1531 (s), 1487 (m), 1453 (s), 1356 (m), 1245 (m), 1208 (m), 1174 (m), 1110 (m), 1063 (m), 1024 (m), 838 (m), 751 (s), 704 (s), 691 (s); **MS** (EI, 70 eV): 283.1 (1.4%, [M]<sup>+</sup>). 226.1 (100%, [M-C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>9</sub>]<sup>+</sup>); **Optical Rotation** (*R*)-isomer: :  $[a]_{D}^{20} = -114.0$  (c 3.26 in EtOH).

# (*R*)-(-)-4-(tert-butyl)-2-phenyl-4H-benzo[e][1,3]oxazine (35)<sup>10</sup>



C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>19</sub>NO (265.35 g/mol):

<sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.13 (m, 2H, H12), 7.50 (m, 1H, H14) 7.47 (m, 2H, H13), 7.30 (m, 1H, H7), 7.16 (m, 1H, H6), 7.13 (m, 1H, H5), 7.08 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H, H8), 4.46 (s, 1H, H3), 0.99 (s, 9H, H1); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 152.32 (C10), 150.39 (C9), 132.37 (C11), 131.12 (C14), 128.68 (C5), 128.40 (C13), 128.02 (C7), 127.79 (C12), 123.96 (C6), 121.61 (C4), 115.50 (C8), 64.71 (C3), 38.88 (C2),



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> E. P. Kündig, P. Meier, *Helv. Chim. Acta* **1999**, 82, 1360-1370

26.18 C(1); **IR** (neat, ATR) v/cm<sup>-1</sup> = 3058 (w), 3032 (w), 2950 (m), 2930 (w), 2905 (m), 1667 (s), 1583 (w), 1494 (m), 1486 (m), 1477 (m), 1458 (m), 1449 (m), 1391 (w), 1363 (m), 1348 (s), 1287 (w), 1244 (s), 1221 (s), 1193 (s), 1177 (m), 1091 (s), 1066 (s), 1023 (m); **HRMS**: calculated: 265.1462; found: 265.1464; **Optical Rotation** (*R*)-isomer: :  $[a]_{p}^{20} = -11.0$  (c 1.1 in CHCl<sub>3</sub>, 0.75% EtOH).

#### **Synthesis of Complexes**

#### General method:

An 8 mL oven-dried glass vial was equipped with a magnetic stirrer and closed with a septum. It was evacuated while cooling to room temperature and purged with argon three times. [Ir(L)(COD)]BArF and the corresponding imine were placed into the vial and the vial was closed again. After evacuation and purging with hydrogen gas via balloon three times, freshly distilled dry THF (2 mL) was added and the reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 4 hours. A distinct colour change from red/orange to bright yellow was observed in all cases. The solvent was evaporated via a N<sub>2</sub> stream and LiCl (100 mg) and SiO<sub>2</sub> (100 mg) were added and suspended in EtOAc (2 mL). The vial was closed again and stirred overnight at room temperature. The solvent was evaporated via a N<sub>2</sub> stream and the residue was suspended in Pentane/TBME (1:1) and eluted on SiO<sub>2</sub> (2.5 x 20 cm) where the yellow band was collected. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the residue triturated with pentane to give a yellow solid.

# $[Ir((S)-^{i}Pr-PHOX)(I1)(H)(THF)]BAr_{F}(2)$



In the glove box, **3** (10 mg, 0.0126 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and NaBArF (11.1 mg, 0.0126 mmol, 1.0 eq.) were added to a young's NMR tube and dissolved in THF-d<sub>8</sub> at room temperature. The mixture was shaken until it turned homogenous and NMR spectra were recorded.

 $C_{74}H_{57}BF_{24}IrN_2O_2P$  (M<sub>W</sub> = 1696.34 g/mol):

<sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (500 MHz, THF) δ 7.68 (s, 8H), 7.59 – 7.50 (m, 3H), 7.46 (s, 4H), 7.44 (d, J = 2.9 Hz, 1H), 7.35 – 7.28 (m, 3H), 7.24 (d, J = 18.7 Hz, 4H), 7.19 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.92 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.83 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 6.81 – 6.76 (m, 1H), 6.64 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 6.52 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.41 (t, J = 9.0 Hz, 3H), 5.83 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 5.30 – 5.17 (m, 1H), 4.16 (dd, J = 8.6, 4.5 Hz, 1H), 3.87 (t, J = 9.4 Hz, 1H), 2.72 – 2.63 (m, 1H), 2.14 (s, 3H), 0.68 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), -0.09 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 3H), -18.30 (d, J = 20.7 Hz, 1H); <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (202 MHz, THF) δ 0.80 (d, J = 19.8 Hz).



 $[Ir((S)-^{i}Pr-PHOX)(I1)(H)(Cl)] (3)$ 



By general method [Ir(((S)-<sup>*i*</sup>Pr-PHOX</sub>)(COD)]BArF (100 mg, 0.065 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and **I1** (25.3 mg, 0.13 mmol, 2.0 eq.) afforded 24 mg (0.03 mmol, 46%) of **3** as a yellow solid. C<sub>38</sub>H<sub>37</sub>ClIrN<sub>2</sub>OP (796.36 g/mol):

<sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) δ 7.70 – 7.61 (m, 2H), 7.59 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.55 – 7.49 (m, 1H), 7.47 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.36 (m, 6H), 7.12 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.05 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.96 (td, J = 8.0, 2.4 Hz, 2H), 6.86 – 6.80 (m, 1H), 6.72 (m, 2H), 6.62 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 1H), 6.49 (dd, J = 11.3, 7.8 Hz, 2H), 5.88 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 5.26 (ddd, J = 10.0, 4.2, 3.1 Hz, 1H), 4.22 (dd, J = 8.8, 4.5 Hz, 1H), 4.02 – 3.94 (m, 1H), 2.76 – 2.66 (m, 1H), 2.28 (s, 3H), 0.81 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), -0.03 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 3H), -18.21 (d, J = 20.7 Hz, 1H); <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (162 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) δ 2.63 (d, J = 14.5 Hz).



#### [Ir((S)-<sup>*i*</sup>Pr-PHOX)(I1)(H)(THF)]PF<sub>6</sub> (5)



In the glove box,  $[Ir((S)-{}^{i}Pr-PHOX)(COD)]PF_{6}$  (100 mg, 0.122 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and **I1** (47 mg, 0.241 mmol, 2.0 eq.) was weighed into a schlenk tube and dissolved in dry THF (3 mL). The tube was brought outside of the box and cooled to 0°C. The stopper was replaced with a septum and a long cannula was passed trough into the solution. Hydrogen gas was bubbled through the stirring solution for 90 minutes at 0°C. The needle was pulled out and the resultant orange solution was degassed by freezing the solution in liquid nitrogen and evacuating while warming up in total three times. The solution was layered with dry pentane (5 mL) and placed in the freezer overnight. The solution was carefully decanted and the precipitate was rinsed with pentane (5 mL) and dried in vacuo to give **5** as a yellow amorphous solid. NMR's were recorded at this stage. X-Ray quality crystals were obtained by redissolving the precipitate in THF and slow diffusion of diethyl ether into the solution. A total of three crystallisation cycles was required to obtain X-Ray quality crystals.

 $\begin{array}{l} C_{42}H_{45}F_{6}IrN_{2}O_{2}P_{2}\left(977.97\ g/mol\right):\\ {}^{1}\textbf{H-NMR}\left(500\ MHz,\ CD_{2}Cl_{2}\right)\delta \ -21.57\ (d,\ J=17.0\ Hz,\ 1H); \ {}^{31}\textbf{P}\{ {}^{1}\textbf{H}\}\textbf{-NMR}\left(202\ MHz,\ CD_{2}Cl_{2}\right)\delta \ -4.45\ (s),\ -149.15\ (m,\ PF_{6}). \end{array}$ 



[Ir((S)-iPr-SimplePHOX)(I1)(H)(Cl)] (7)

nOe



By general method [Ir(((S)-<sup>*i*</sup>Pr-SimplePHOX</sub>)(COD)]BAr<sub>F</sub> (50 mg, 0.03 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and **I1** (13 mg, 0.06 mmol, 2.0 eq.) afforded 18 mg (0.03 mmol, 76%) of **7** as a yellow solid. X-Ray quality crystals were obtained by redissolving the precipitate in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and layering with pentane. After evaporation of solvents an oil was observed which solidified into a crystalline material in the course of a few weeks.

C<sub>35</sub>H<sub>51</sub>ClIrN<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>P (790.44 g/mol):

<sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (500 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) δ 7.72 (s, 1H), 7.68 – 7.61 (m, 1H), 7.56 – 7.49 (m, 1H), 7.36 (s, 2H), 7.17 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.94 (dd, J = 8.3, 4.4 Hz, 2H), 6.90 (s, 1H), 5.13 (d, J = 9.3 Hz, 1H), 4.28 (dd, J = 8.7, 3.1 Hz, 1H), 3.83 (t, J = 9.1 Hz, 1H), 2.90 – 2.69 (m, 1H), 2.42 (s, 3H), 2.32 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 2.16 (d, J = 12.1 Hz, 1H), 1.91 – 1.45 (m, 10H), 1.35 – 1.18 (m, 6H), 1.15 (s, 6H), 0.90 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 0.69 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 3H), -19.50 (d, J = 24.3 Hz, 1H); <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (202 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) δ 101.41 (d, J = 21.9 Hz).



[Ir(PHOX)((S)-9)(H)(Cl)] (10)



By general method [Ir(PHOX)(COD)]BAr<sub>F</sub> (75 mg, 0.05 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and (*S*)-9 (22.3 mg, 0.1 mmol, 2.0 eq.) afforded 33 mg (0.042 mmol, 83%) of **10** as a yellow solid.  $C_{38}H_{38}CIIrN_2OP$  (797.2 g/mol): <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)  $\delta$  -18.25 (d, *J* = 22.7 Hz, 1H), -19.47 (d, *J* = 21.7 Hz, 1H); <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (202 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)  $\delta$  5.25 (d, *J* = 20.2 Hz), 3.50 (d, *J* = 19.8 Hz).

# Electronic Supplementary Material (ESI) for Chemical Science This journal is O The Royal Society of Chemistry 2013



#### [Ir(PHOX)((S)-9)(H)(CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)]BAr<sub>F</sub> (11)



In the glove box, **10** (5 mg, 0.0063 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and NaBAr<sub>F</sub> (6 mg, 0.0068 mmol, 1.08 eq.) were added to a young's NMR tube and dissolved in  $CD_2Cl_2$  (0.4 mL) at room temperature. The mixture was shaken until it turned homogenous and NMR spectra of **11** were recorded.

C<sub>70</sub>H<sub>49</sub>BCl<sub>2</sub>F<sub>24</sub>IrN<sub>2</sub>OP (1694.23 g/mol):

<sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (500 MHz,  $CD_2Cl_2$ )  $\delta$  8.23 – 8.17 (m, 1H), 7.87 (dd, J = 12.1, 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.77 (dt, J = 5.1, 2.3 Hz, 13H), 7.75 – 7.69 (m, 2H), 7.67 (dd, J = 8.4, 6.4 Hz, 1H), 7.61 (s, 6H), 7.56 (ddt, J = 10.5, 7.8, 3.8 Hz, 4H), 7.43 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 7.35 – 7.27 (m, 2H), 7.04 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.96 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.62 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.42 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 5.35 – 5.29 (m, 1H), 4.14 – 4.03 (m, 1H), 3.97 (dt, J = 10.8, 8.6 Hz, 1H), 3.01 (ddd, J = 13.6, 11.0, 8.6 Hz, 1H), 2.77 (s, 3H), 1.76 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 3H), 1.47 (dt, J = 13.6, 10.3 Hz, 1H), -16.85 (d, J = 14.6 Hz, 1H); <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (202 MHz,  $CD_2Cl_2$ )  $\delta$  10.28 (d, J = 5.7 Hz).



[Ir(PHOX)((S)-26)(H)(Cl)] (12)



By general method [Ir(PHOX)(COD)]BAr<sub>F</sub> (25 mg, 0.017 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and (*S*)-**26** (3 mg, 0.013 mmol, 0.8 eq.) afforded 6 mg (0.008 mmol, 59%) of **12** as a yellow solid.  $C_{36}H_{31}CIIrN_2O_2P$  (782.29 g/mol):

<sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)  $\delta$  7.89 (dd, J = 7.7, 3.2 Hz, 1H), 7.73 (dd, J = 11.4, 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.57 – 7.08 (m, 21H), 6.93 (dd, J = 11.1, 6.9 Hz, 2H), 6.66 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 6.59 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 6.38 – 6.30 (m, 1H), 5.77 (dd, J = 12.4, 5.9 Hz, 1H), 4.52 – 4.39 (m, 2H), 4.29 (ddd, J = 16.4, 12.9, 10.0 Hz, 2H), 4.17 (dt, J = 17.7, 8.9 Hz, 1H), 3.60 (ddd, J = 13.6, 11.1, 8.5 Hz, 2H), 1.58 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 3H), -19.09 (d, J = 15.9 Hz, 1H); <sup>31</sup>P{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (162 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)  $\delta$  12.44 (s<sub>br</sub>).



[Ir(PHOX)((S)-29)(H)(Cl)] (13)



By general method [Ir(PHOX)(COD)]BAr<sub>F</sub> (25 mg, 0.017 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and (S)-29 (10.5 mg, 0.042 mmol, 2.5 eq.) afforded 10.4 mg (0.013 mmol, 75%) of 13 as a yellow solid.  $C_{38}H_{35}CIIrN_2O_2P$  (810.34 g/mol):

<sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) δ 7.88 (dd, J = 6.9, 3.5 Hz, 1H), 7.75 (dd, J = 11.4, 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.55 – 7.38 (m, 5H), 7.34 (td, J = 7.6, 2.0 Hz, 2H), 7.31 – 7.25 (m, 1H), 7.25 – 7.09 (m, 5H), 6.98 – 6.86 (m, 2H), 6.64 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 6.59 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 6.34 (td, J = 7.7, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 5.59 – 5.51 (m, 1H), 4.44 (ddd, J = 13.6, 10.9, 9.4 Hz, 1H), 4.31 – 4.22 (m, 1H), 4.14 (dt, J = 10.9, 9.0 Hz, 1H), 3.57 (ddd, J = 13.6, 11.1, 8.3 Hz, 1H), 2.96 – 2.84 (m, 1H), 0.94 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 0.56 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 3H), -19.19 (d, J = 15.9 Hz, 1H); <sup>31</sup>**P**{<sup>1</sup>**H**}-**NMR** (162 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) δ 12.49 (s).





# [Ir(PHOX)((S)-35)(H)(Cl)] (14)



By general method [Ir(PHOX)(COD)]BAr<sub>F</sub> (50 mg, 0.0334 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and (*S*)-**35** (17.2 mg, 0.067 mmol, 2.0 eq.) afforded 15.1 mg (0.018 mmol, 55%) of **14** as a yellow solid.  $C_{39}H_{37}CIIrN_2O_2P$  (824.37 g/mol):

<sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (500 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)  $\delta$  7.80 (dd, J = 11.6, 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.73 (dd, J = 8.0, 3.7 Hz, 1H), 7.55 – 7.33 (m, 8H), 7.33 – 7.10 (m, 8H), 6.94 (dd, J = 11.2, 7.5 Hz, 2H), 6.63 (dd, J = 8.1, 5.3 Hz, 2H), 6.33 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 5.75 (d, J = 2.5 Hz, 1H), 4.27 (ddd, J = 13.8, 11.0, 8.7 Hz, 1H), 4.17 – 4.06 (m, 1H), 3.96 (dt, J = 11.1, 8.5 Hz, 1H), 3.03 (ddd, J = 13.7, 10.9, 8.6 Hz, 1H), 1.01 (s, 9H), -19.44 (d, J = 16.7 Hz, 1H); <sup>31</sup>**P**{**1H}-NMR** (202 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)  $\delta$  12.41 (d, J = 10.9 Hz).





## **Synthesis of Imines**

#### General Method:

A 25mL oven-dried two-neck round-bottom flask equipped with a stirrer, reflux condenser and a stopper was evacuated and purged with Argon gas three times. Freshly activated 4Å mol sieves were added under an argon counterflow. The stopper was replaced with a septum and ketone, aniline and solvent were added. A spatula tip of p-toluenesulfonic acid was added. The septum was replaced by a stopper and the solution was heated to reflux for 24 to 48 hours. After cooling to room temperature under argon the solution was filtered through a paper filter and rinsed with toluene. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the product was purified by Kugelrohr distillation.

Compounds **I1**<sup>11</sup>, **I19**<sup>12</sup>, **I20**<sup>13</sup>, **I21**<sup>12</sup> had been prepared previously in our laboratories.

# *N*-(1-(4-methoxyphenyl)ethylidene)aniline (I2)<sup>14</sup>



By general method 4-methoxyacetophenone (2.7 g, 18 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and aniline (2 g, 21.9 mmol, 1.21 eq.) were dissolved in dry benzene (7.5 mL). Purification by Kugelrohr distillation (110-180 °C at 0.07 mbar) afforded 3.4 g (15.1 mmol, 83%) of **I2** as a yellow solid.

C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>15</sub>NO (225.29 g/mol):

**m.p.**: 91-92 °C (Lit. 92-94°C); <sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 7.85 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H,  $CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}C=N$ ), 7.25 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H,  $CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N$ ), 6.98 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H,  $CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N$ ), 6.86 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H,  $CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}OMe$ ), 6.70 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H,  $CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N$ ), 3.77 (s, 3H, OCH<sub>3</sub>), 2.11 (s, 3H,  $CH_{3}C=N$ ); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  164.65 (C=N), 161.62 ( $C_{Ar}OMe$ ), 151.99 ( $C_{Ar}-N$ ), 132.30 ( $C_{Ar}C=N$ ), 129.02 ( $CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N$ ), 128.94 ( $CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}C=N$ ), 123.12 ( $CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N$ ), 119.71 ( $CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N$ ), 113.70 ( $CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}OMe$ ), 55.51 ( $OCH_{3}$ ), 17.30 ( $CH_{3}C=N$ ).

# *N*-(1-cyclohexylethylidene)aniline (I3)<sup>15</sup>



By general method 1-Cyclohexylethan-1-one (1.83 g, 14.53 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and aniline (1.49 g, 15.98 mmol, 1.1 eq.) were dissolved in dry toluene (10 mL). Purification by Kugelrohr distillation (130 °C at 0.15 mbar) afforded 1.30 g (6.44 mmol, 44%) of **I3** as a colourless oil.  $C_{14}H_{19}N$  (201.31 g/mol):

<sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.32 – 7.22 (m, 2H), 7.05 – 6.98 (m, 1H), 6.71 – 6.63 (m, 2H), 2.30 (tt, J = 11.5, 3.2 Hz, 1H), 1.93 (dd, J = 6.7, 5.5 Hz, 2H), 1.89 – 1.80 (m, 2H), 1.74 – 1.70 (m, 3H), 1.49 – 1.16 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 175.75, 151.94, 128.96, 122.91, 119.52,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> P. Schnider, G. Koch, R. Prétôt, G. Wang, F. M. Bohnen, C. Krüger, A. Pfaltz, Chem. Eur. J. 1997, 3, 887-892

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> J. Barluenga, M. A. Fernández, F. Aznar, Č. Valdés, *Chem. Eur. J.* **2004**, *10*, 494-507

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> X.-Y. Liu, P. Ding, J.-S. Huang, C.-M. Che, Org. Lett. **2007**, *9*, 2645-2648

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> D. Pei, Z. Wang, S. Wei, Y. Zhang, J. Sun, Org. Lett. **2006**, *8*, 5913-5915

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> J. S. M. Samec, J.-E. Bäckvall, Chem. Eur. J. 2002, 8, 2955-2961

49.53, 30.39, 26.30, 26.28, 17.81; **GC** (Machary-Nagel Optima-5-Amin (0.50  $\mu$ m x 0.25  $\mu$ m x 30 m), 60 kPa H<sub>2</sub>, 100 °C/2 min, 10 °C/min, 250 °C/7 min): t<sub>R</sub> = 18.5 min; **HRMS**: calculated: 201.1512; found: 201.1512

#### *N*-(1-(o-tolyl)ethylidene)aniline (I4)<sup>16</sup>

N

By general method acetophenone (2.29 g, 17 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and aniline (2 g, 22 mmol, 1.3 eq.) were dissolved in dry benzene (20 mL). Purification by Kugelrohr distillation (100-160 °C at 0.1 mbar) afforded 2.74 g (13.1 mmol, 77%) of **I4** as a yellow oil.  $C_{15}H_{15}N$  (209.29 g/mol):

*major*: <sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.419 (m, 1H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C=N), 7.392 (m, 2H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C), 7.297 (m, 1H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 7.280 (m, 1H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 7.278 (m, 1H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C=N), 7.127 (m, 1H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C), 6.876 (m, 2H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C), 2.543 (s, 3H, C<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.18 (s, 3H CH<sub>3</sub>C=N); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  170.036 (C=N), 151.291 (C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 141.571 (C<sub>Ar</sub>C=N), 135.04 (C<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 131.111 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 129.103 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 128.683 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 127.183 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C=N), 125.849 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C=N), 123.459 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 119.303 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 21.23 (CH<sub>3</sub>C=N), 20.51 (C<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 7.115 (m, 1H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C=N), 7.107 (m, 2H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 7.052 (m, 1H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C=N), 7.036 (m, 1H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>CA<sub>r</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 6.906 (m, 1H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 6.687 (m, 2H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 2.493 (s, 3H CH<sub>3</sub>C=N), 2.133 (s, 3H, C<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  171.106 (C=N), 150.290 (C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 139.050 (C<sub>Ar</sub>C=N), 133.01 (C<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 130.208 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 128.251 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>CA<sup>-</sup>N), 128.498

 $(CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N)$ , 120.841  $(CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N)$ , 29.32  $(CH_{3}C=N)$ , 21.33  $(C_{Ar}CH_{3})$ . **GC-MS**: (Optima-5-Amine, 100.2/10.270/10):  $t_{R} = 14.6 \text{ min}$ ,  $m/z = 209 ([M]^{+})$ , 194  $([M-CH_{3}]^{+})$ , 118  $(([M-NPh]^{+})$ .

#### *N*-(1-(2-fluorophenyl)ethylidene)aniline (I5)



By general method 2-fluoroacetophenone (2.5 g, 18.1 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and aniline (2 g, 22 mmol, 1.2 eq.) were dissolved in dry benzene (20 mL). Purification by Kugelrohr distillation (110-160 °C at 0.1 mbar) afforded 3.08 g (14.5 mmol, 80%) of **I5** as a yellow oil.

C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>12</sub>FN (213.25 g/mol):

E/Z mixture 7:1, signals overlapping, only *major* isomer characterised: <sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.85 (td, J = 7.7, 1.9 Hz, 1H,  $CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}C=N$ ), 7.41 (dddd, 1H, J = 8.2, 7.1, 5.1, 1.8 Hz,  $CH_{Ar}CHArC_{Ar}F$ ), 7.37 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H,  $CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N$ ), 7.22 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H,  $CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}C-N$ ), 7.15 (m, 1H,  $CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-F$ ), 7.12 (m, 1H,  $CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}C=N$ ), 6.83 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H,  $CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N$ ), 2.25 (d, J = 3.5 Hz, 3H,  $CH_{3}C=N$ ); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 165.37 (C=N), 161.22 (d, J = 250.6 Hz,  $C_{Ar}-F$ ), 150.85 ( $C_{Ar}-N$ ), 131.70 (d, J = 8.6 Hz,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> M. C. Hansen, S. L. Buchwald, Org. Lett. 2000, 2, 713-715

CH<sub>Ar</sub>CHArC<sub>Ar</sub>F), 130.18 (d, J = 3.5 Hz,  $CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}C=N$ ), 129.15 ( $CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N$ ) , 124.42 ( $CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}C_{Ar}C-N$ ), 123.69 ( $CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}C=N$ ), 119.43 ( $CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N$ ), 116.37 (d, J = 22.9 Hz,  $CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-F$ ), 20.80 (d, J = 6.8 Hz,  $CH_{3}C=N$ ); <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  -113.34 (major), -113.43 (minor); **IR** (neat, ATR) v/cm<sup>-1</sup> = 3060 (w), 3031 (w), 2997 (w), 1634 (s), 1610 (m), 1593 (s), 1576 (m), 1485 (s), 1450 (m), 1368 (m), 1293 (m), 1211 (s), 1169 (w), 1113 (m), 1072 (m). 801 (m), 759 (s), 716 (m), 696 (s); **MS** (EI, 70 eV): 213.1 (55.7%), 198.1 (100%), 118.1 (8.1%); **EA**: calc. C, 78.85; H, 5.67; N, 6.57, found C, 78.68; H, 5.86; N, 6.47

#### N-(1-(3-nitrophenyl)ethylidene)aniline (I6)



By general method 3-nitroacetophenone (0.5 g, 3 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and aniline (0.33 g, 3.6 mmol, 1.2 eq.) were dissolved in dry toluene (10 mL). Purification by Kugelrohr distillation (170 °C at 0.1 mbar) afforded 0.357 g (1.49 mmol, 49%) of **I6** as a yellow solid.

 $C_{14}H_{12}N_2O_2$  (240.26 g/mol):

**m.p.**: 96 °C; <sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.89 – 8.70 (m, 1H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>), 8.44 – 8.22 (m, 2H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>&CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C=N), 7.64 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C=N), 7.38 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>CA<sub>r</sub>-N), 7.13 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>CA<sub>r</sub>-N), 6.80 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>CA<sub>r</sub>-N), 2.30 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>C=N); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  163.33 (C=N), 150.91 (C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 141.21 (C<sub>Ar</sub>C=N), 133.10 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>CA<sub>r</sub>C=N), 129.51 (C<sub>Ar</sub>C=NCH<sub>Ar</sub>CA<sub>r</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>), 129.24 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>CA<sub>r</sub>-N), 125.12 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>CA<sub>r</sub>-N), 124.01 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>CA<sub>r</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>), 122.38 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>CA<sub>r</sub>C=N), 119.31 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>CA<sub>r</sub>-N), 1576 (m), 1521 (s), 1483 (s), 1473 (s), 1432 (m), 1368 (m), 1345 (s), 1317 (m), 1286 (m), 1258 (m), 1213 (m), 1170 (w), 1111 (m), 1060 (m), 1024 (w), 900 (m), 818 (m), 744 (s), 735 (s), 693 (s); **MS** (EI, 70 eV): 240.1 (84.2%), 225.1 (100%), 179.1 (42.5%); **HRMS**: calculated: 240.0894; found: 240.0900; **EA**: calc. C, 69.99; H, 5.03; N, 11.66; found: C, 69.81; H, 5.14; N, 11.56

#### *N*-(1-(3,5-dinitrophenyl)ethylidene)aniline (I7)



By general method 3,5-dinitroacetophenone (0.5 g, 2.38 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and aniline (0.26 g, 2.85 mmol, 1.2 eq.) were dissolved in dry toluene (10 mL). Purification by recrystallisation from ethanol afforded 0.291 g (1.02 mmol, 43%) of **I7** as an orange solid.

C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>11</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> (285.25 g/mol): **m.p.**: 132-133 °C; <sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  9.19 – 9.08 (m, 3H, CH<sub>ArNO2</sub>), 7.48 – 7.34 (m, 2H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 7.22 – 7.13 (m, 1H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 6.82 (dd, J = 8.3, 1.0 Hz, 2H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 2.38 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>C=N); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>**H**}-**NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  161.25 (C=N), 150.01 (C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 148.83 (C<sub>Ar</sub>-NO<sub>2</sub>), 143.01 (C<sub>Ar</sub>C=N), 129.37 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 127.24 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C=N), 124.68 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 120.02 (C<sub>Ar-NO2</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-NO<sub>2</sub>), 119.22 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 17.48 (CH<sub>3</sub>C=N); **IR** (neat, ATR) v/cm<sup>-1</sup> = 3117 (w), 3101 (w), 3059 (w), 3050 (w), 1646 (m), 1625 (m), 1590 (m), 1535 (s), 1481 (w) 1461 (w), 1438 (w), 1367 (m), 1345 (s), 1334 (s), 1285 (m), 1237 (w), 1209 (m), 1169 (w), 1144 (m), 1100 (w), 1073 (m), 910 (m), 903 (m), 810 (m), 795 (m), 753 (s), 728 (s), 654 (s); **MS** (EI, 70 eV): 285.1 (100%), 270.1 (82.8%), 224.1 (18.1%), 178.1 (24.1%); **HRMS**: calculated: 285.0744; found: 285.0740; **EA**: calc. C, 58.95; H, 3.89; N, 14.73; found: C, 58.93; H, 3.99; N, 14.64

#### *N*-(1-(3,5-dimethylphenyl)ethylidene)aniline (I8)



By general method 3,5-dimethylacetophenone (0.3 g, 2 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and aniline (0.2 g, 2.2 mmol, 1.1 eq.) were dissolved in dry toluene (7.5 mL). Purification by Kugelrohr distillation (137 °C at 0.08 mbar) afforded 0.165 g (0.74 mmol, 37%) of **I8** as an off-yellow solid.  $C_{16}H_{17}N$  (223.31 g/mol):

**b.p.**: 137 °C at 0.08 mbar; **m.p.**: 44 °C; <sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.58 (s, 2H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C=N)), 7.40 – 7.29 (m, 2H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 7.11 (s, 1H, C<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 7.10 – 7.05 (m, 1H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 6.79 (dt, J = 8.3, 1.6 Hz, 2H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 2.38 (s, 6H, C<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.21 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>C=N); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  166.10 (C=N), 151.95 (C-N), 139.68 (C<sub>Ar</sub>C=N), 138.05 (C<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 132.25 (C<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 129.07 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 125.14 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C=N), 123.27 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 119.54 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 21.49 (C<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 17.70 (CH<sub>3</sub>C=N); **IR** (neat, ATR) v/cm<sup>-1</sup> = 3027 (w), 3010 (w), 2959 (w), 2917 (w), 1628 (s), 1600 (m), 1590 (s), 1576 (m), 1480 (m), 1447 (m), 1438 (m), 1376 (w), 1363 (m), 1321 (m), 1272 (w), 1208 (s), 1167 (m), 1155 (m), 1071 (m), 1026 (m), 906 (m), 852 (s), 800 (s), 761 (s), 694 (s); **MS** (EI, 70 eV): 223.1 (43.9%), 208.1 (100%); **GC-MS**: (Rtx-5MS, 100.2/10.270/10): t<sub>R</sub> = 19.1 min, *m*/*z* = 223 ([M]<sup>+</sup>); **EA**: calc. C, 86.06; H, 7.67; N, 6.27, found C, 86.19; H, 7.65; N, 6.28

#### *N*-(1-(3,5-diisopropylphenyl)ethylidene)aniline (I9)



By general method **13** (0.5 g, 2.45 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and aniline (0.29 g, 3.18 mmol, 1.3 eq.) were dissolved in dry toluene (10 mL). Purification by Kugelrohr distillation (160 °C at 0.08 mbar) afforded 0.310 g (1.11 mmol, 45%) of **I9** as a yellow oil.

C<sub>20</sub>H<sub>25</sub>N (279.42 g/mol):

E/Z mixture 8:1, signals overlapping; *major*: <sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 7.65 (d, J = 4.0 Hz, 2H,  $CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}C=N$ ), 7.35 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H,  $CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N$ ), 7.20 (s, 1H,  $C_{Ar}CH(CH_3)_2CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}CH(CH_3)_2$ ), 7.08 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H,  $CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N$ ), 6.80 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H,  $CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N$ ), 2.97 (hept, J = 6.9 Hz, 2H,  $CH(CH_3)_2$ ), 2.23 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H,  $CH_3C=N$ ), 1.30 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 12H,  $CH(CH_3)_2$ ); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ :166.23 (*C*=N), 152.10 (*C*<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 149.18 (*C*<sub>Ar</sub>CH(CH\_3)\_2), 139.68 (*C*<sub>Ar</sub>C=N), 129.07 (*CH*<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 127.05 (*C*<sub>Ar</sub>CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)\_2*CH*<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 119.54 (*CH*<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 34.48 (*CH*(CH<sub>3</sub>)\_2), 24.23 (*CH*(*CH*<sub>3</sub>)\_2), 17.84 (*CH*<sub>3</sub>C=N); **IR** (neat, ATR) v/cm<sup>-1</sup> = 3058 (w), 2960 (s), 2927 (m), 2869 (m), 1634 (s), 1595 (s), 1485 (m), 1465 (m), 1440 (w), 1364 (m), 1255 (w), 1209 (s), 875 (w), 802 (w), 759 (w), 699 (m);

**MS** (EI, 70 eV): 279.2 (40.79%), 264.2 (100%), 248.1 (9.7%); **HRMS**: calculated: 279.1982; found: 279.1983; **EA**: calc. C, 85.97; H, 9.02; N, 5.01; found: C, 85.71; H, 8.91; N, 5.01.

#### *N*-(1-(3,5-di-tert-butylphenyl)ethylidene)aniline (I10)



By general method **15** (0.5 g, 2.15 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and aniline (0.25 g, 2.8 mmol, 1.3 eq.) were dissolved in dry toluene (10 mL). Purification by Kugelrohr distillation (170 °C at 0.1 mbar) afforded 0.368 g (1.2 mmol, 56%) of **I10** as a yellow-white solid.  $C_{22}H_{29}N$  (307.47 g/mol):

**m.p.**: 86-90 °C; <sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ :7.84 (s, 2H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C=N)), 7.58 (s, 1H,  $C_{Ar}C(CH_3)_3CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}C(CH_3)_3)$ , 7.36 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H,  $CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N)$ , 7.09 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H,  $CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N$ , 6.82 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H,  $CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N$ ), 1.40 (s, 18H,  $C(CH_3)_3$ ); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (125 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ: 166.42 (C=N), 152.23 (C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 150.93 (C<sub>Ar</sub>C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 139.13 129.07  $(CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N),$  $(C_{Ar}C(CH_3)_3CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}C(CH_3)_3),$  $(C_{Ar}C=N),$ 124.88 123.12 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 121.54 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C=N), 119.52 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 35.14 (C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 31.63  $(C(CH_3)_3)$ , 17.92 (CH<sub>3</sub>C=N); **IR** (neat, ATR) v/cm<sup>-1</sup> = 3061 (w), 2961 (m), 2934 (w), 2905 (w), 2865 (w), 1685 (w), 1636 (m), 1590 (m), 1477 (m), 1447 (m), 1393 (w), 1362 (m), 1323 (m), 1247 (m), 1212 (s), 1168 (m), 1068 (m), 1024 (m), 903 (m), 879 (m), 798 (m), 755 (s), 701 (s); **MS** (EI, 70 eV): 307.2 (52.7%), 292.2 (100%), 276.2 (12.6%); HRMS: calculated: 307.2295; found: 307.2294; EA: calc. C, 85.94; H, 9.51; N, 4.56; found: C, 85.93; H, 9.49; N, 4.44.

#### *N*-(1-(4-(tert-butyl)phenyl)ethylidene)aniline (I11)



By general method 4-*tert*-butyl acetophenone (0.48 g, 2.72 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and aniline (0.35 g, 3.93 mmol, 1.44 eq.) were dissolved in dry toluene (10 mL). Purification by Kugelrohr distillation (125 °C at 0.08 mbar) afforded 0.28 g (1.11 mmol, 41%) of **I11** as yellow-white solid.  $C_{18}H_{21}N$  (251.37 g/mol):

**b.p.**: 125 °C at 0.08 mbar; **m.p.**: 63-64 °C; <sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.93 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H,  $CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}C=N$ ), 7.48 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H,  $CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}C(CH_3)_3$ ), 7.35 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H,  $CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N$ ), 7.08 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H,  $CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N$ ), 6.79 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H,  $CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N$ ), 2.22 (s, 3H,  $CH_3C=N$ ), 1.36 (s, 9H,  $C(CH_3)_3$ ); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  165.31 (C=N), 154.01 ( $C_{Ar}C(CH_3)_3$ ), 152.01 ( $C_{Ar}-N$ ), 136.88 ( $C_{Ar}C=N$ ), 129.06 ( $CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N$ ), 127.12 ( $CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}C=N$ ), 125.44 ( $CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}C(CH_3)_3$ ), 123.21 ( $CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N$ ), 119.58 ( $CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N$ ), 34.97 ( $C(CH_3)_3$ ), 31.38 ( $C(CH_3)_3$ ), 17.40 ( $CH_3C=N$ ); **IR** (neat, ATR) v/cm<sup>-1</sup> = 3053 (w), 2971 (w), 2952 (m), 2902 (w), 2864 (w), 1623 (m), 1601 (m), 1589 (m), 1560 (m), 1509 (w), 1478 (m), 1434 (m), 1360 (m), 1312 (w), 1290 (m), 1216 (m), 1199 (m), 1126 (m), 1024 (m), 1011 (m), 852 (m), 824 (s), 699 (s); **MS** (EI, 70 eV): 251.2 (46.7%), 236.1 (100%); **HRMS**: calculated: 251.1669; found: 251.1670; **EA**: calc. C, 86.01; H, 8.42; N, 5.57; found: C, 85.83; H, 8.49; N, 5.59.

*N*-(1-(p-tolyl)ethylidene)aniline (I12)<sup>17</sup>

N

By general method 4-methyl acetophenone (1.3 mL, 10 mmol, 1 eq.) and aniline (1.1 ml, 12 mmol, 1.2 eq.) were dissolved in dry benzene (5 mL). Purification by Kugelrohr distillation (130 °C at 0.08 mbar) afforded 1.67 g (7.98 mmol, 79 %) of **I12** as a yellow oil.  $C_{15}H_{15}N$  (209.29 g/mol):

<sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>): 7.90 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H,  $CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}C=N$ ); 7.37 (t, J = 7.25 Hz, 2H,  $CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}C_{Ar}$ -N); 7.28 (d, J = 7.75 Hz, 2H,  $CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}CH_{3}$ ); 7.10 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H,  $CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N$ ); 6.81 (d, J = 7.75 Hz, 2H,  $CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N$ ); 2.43 (s, 3H,  $C_{Ar}CH_{3}$ ); 2.21 (s, 3H,  $CH_{3}C=N$ ); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (100 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>): 164.9 (C=N); 152.0 ( $C_{Ar}-N$ ); 140.7 ( $C_{Ar}CH_{3}$ ); 136.8 ( $C_{Ar}C=N$ ); 128.9 ( $CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}CH_{3}$ ); 128.8 ( $CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N$ ); 127.0 ( $CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}C=N$ ); 122.9 ( $CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N$ ); 119.3 ( $CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N$ ); 21.1 ( $C_{Ar}CH_{3}$ ); 16.9 ( $CH_{3}C=N$ ).

# *N*-(1-(4-chlorophenyl)ethylidene)aniline (I13)<sup>18</sup>



**m.p.**: 93 °C (Lit. 93-95°C); <sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (600 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>): 7.95 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H,  $CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}C=N$ ); 7.45 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H,  $CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}C1$ ); 7.38 (t, J = 7.75 Hz, 2H,  $CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N$ ); 7.12 (t, J = 7.25 Hz, 1H,  $CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N$ ); 6.79 (d, J = 7.75 Hz, 2H,  $CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N$ ); 2.21 (s, 3H,  $CH_{3}C=N$ ); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>**H**}-**NMR** (100 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>): 163.88 (C=N); 151.40 ( $C_{Ar}-N$ ); 137.87 ( $C_{Ar}C=N$ ); 136.21 ( $C_{Ar}C1$ ); 128.81 ( $CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N$ ); 128.45 ( $CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}C=N$ ); 128.27 ( $CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}C1$ ); 123.11 ( $CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N$ ); 119.08 ( $CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N$ ); 16.81 ( $CH_{3}C=N$ ).

# *N*-(1-(4-fluorophenyl)ethylidene)aniline (I14)<sup>15</sup>



By general method 1-(4-fluorophenyl)ethanone (2.517 g, 18.22 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and aniline (2 g, 21.9 mmol, 1.2 eq.) were dissolved in dry benzene (7 mL). Purification by Kugelrohr distillation (120-160° C at 0.1 mbar) afforded 3.21 g (15 mmol, 82 %) of **I14** as a off-white solid.  $C_{14}H_{12}FN$  (213.25 g/mol):

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Z. Wang, M. Cheng, P. Wu, S. Wei, J. Sun, Org. Lett. 2006, 8, 3045-3048

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Z. Han, Z. Wang, X. Zhang, K. Ding, Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2009, 48, 5345-5349

**m.p.**: 81 °C (Lit. 86-87°C); <sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (500 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)  $\delta$  8.03 – 7.81 (m, 2H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C=N), 7.27 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 2H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 7.03 (m, 3H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>F&CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 6.69 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 2.12 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>C=N); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-**NMR** (126 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)  $\delta$  164.64 (d, *J* = 249.7 Hz, C<sub>Ar</sub>-F), 164.33 (C=N), 152.07 (C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 136.22 (C<sub>Ar</sub>C=N), 129.69 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C=N), 129.34 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 123.56 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 119.68 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 115.50 (d, *J* = 21.6 Hz, CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>F), 17.41 (CH<sub>3</sub>C=N).

# *N*-(1-(4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)ethylidene)aniline (I15)<sup>18</sup>



#### C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>12</sub>F<sub>3</sub>N (263.26 g/mol):

**m.p.**: 72-74 °C (Lit. 75-77°C); <sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)  $\delta$  8.13 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H,  $CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}C=N$ ), 7.73 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 2H,  $CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-CF_3$ ), 7.39 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H,  $CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N$ ), 7.13 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H,  $CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N$ ), 6.82 (t, J = 7.0, 2H,  $CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N$ ), 2.27 (s, 3H,  $CH_3=N$ ); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (126 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)  $\delta$  164.61 (*C*=N), 151.72 (*C*<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 143.24 (*C*<sub>Ar</sub>C=N), 131.98 (q, J = 32.5 Hz,  $C_{Ar}-CF_3$ ), 129.41 ( $CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N$ ), 127.98 ( $CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}C=N$ ), 125.62 (q, J = 3.8 Hz,  $CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-CF_3$ ), 123.90 ( $CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N$ ), 119.52 ( $CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N$ ), 17.57 ( $CH_3C=N$ ); <sup>19</sup>F{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (376 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>)  $\delta$  -64.16.

# *N*-(1-(4-nitrophenyl)ethylidene)aniline (I16)<sup>14</sup>

By general method 4-nitroacetophenone (0.5 g, 3.03 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and aniline (0.33 g, 3.55 mmol, 1.2 eq.) were dissolved in dry toluene (10 mL). Purification by recrystallisation from ethanol and pentane-washing afforded 0.456 g (1.89 mmol, 63 %) of **I16** as an orange solid.  $C_{14}H_{12}N_2O_2$  (240.26 g/mol):

**m.p.**: 110-114 °C (Lit. 113-115°C); <sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.30 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H,  $CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}$ -NO<sub>2</sub>), 8.14 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H,  $CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}C=N$ ), 7.38 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H,  $CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N$ ), 7.14 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H,  $CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N$ ), 6.80 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H,  $CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N$ ), 2.29 (s, 3H,  $CH_{3}C=N$ ); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>**H**}-NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  163.77 (*C*=N), 150.93 (*C*<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 149.12 (*C*<sub>Ar</sub>-NO<sub>2</sub>), 145.10 (*C*<sub>Ar</sub>C=N), 129.25 (*C*<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 128.29 (*C*<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C=N), 124.10 (*C*<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 123.70 (*C*<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-NO<sub>2</sub>), 119.21 (*C*<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 17.67 (*C*<sub>H3</sub>C=N).





N-(2-bromophenyl)-1-(p-tolyl)ethan-1-imine (I17)



By general method 4-Me-acetophenone (1.0 g, 0.745 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and 2-bromoaniline (1.28 g, 0.745 mmol, 1.0 eq.) were dissolved in dry toluene (10 mL). Purification by Kugelrohr distillation (190 °C at 0.1 mbar) afforded 0.215 g (0.75 mmol, 10 %) of **I17** as yellow oil.  $C_{15}H_{14}BrN$  (287.03 g/mol): **b.p.**: 190 °C at 0.1 mbar; <sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.92 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H, *CH*<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C=N), 7.59 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H, *CH*<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-Br), 7.28 (m, 1H, *CH*<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 7.26 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, *CH*<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-Br), 7.28 (m, 1H, *CH*<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 7.26 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, *CH*<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>), 6.94 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H, *CH*<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-Br), 6.79 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H, *CH*<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 2.42 (s, 3H, *CH*<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>**H**}-**NMR** (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  167.29 (*C*=N), 150.27 (*C*<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 141.31 (*C*<sub>Ar</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>), 136.32 (*C*<sub>Ar</sub>C=N), 132.97 (*C*<sub>Ha</sub>rC<sub>Ar</sub>-Br), 129.27 (*C*<sub>Ha</sub>rC<sub>Ar</sub>-CH<sub>3</sub>), 128.09 (*C*<sub>Ha</sub>rCH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 127.54 (*C*<sub>Ha</sub>rC<sub>Ar</sub>-C=N), 124.44 (*C*<sub>Ha</sub>rC<sub>Ar</sub>-Br), 120.64 (*C*<sub>Ha</sub>rC<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 114.01 (*C*<sub>Ar</sub>-Br), 21.58 (*C*<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 18.16 (*C*<sub>H3</sub>C=N); **GC-MS**: (EI, 70 eV, PhMeSi, 100.2/10.270/10): t<sub>R</sub> = 17.8 min, *m*/*z* = 287 ([M]<sup>+</sup>), 274, 155.

# 2-Methyl-*N*-(1-phenylethylidene)aniline (I18)<sup>20</sup>

By general method acetophenone (0.515 g, 4.29 mmol, 1.15 eq.) and *o*-toluidine (0.4 g, 3.74 mmol, 1.0 eq.) were dissolved in dry toluene (10 mL). Purification by Kugelrohr distillation (125 °C at 0.08 mbar) afforded 0.678 g (3.24 mmol, 76 %) of **I18** as yellow oil.  $C_{15}H_{15}N$  (209.29 g/mol):

**b.p.**: 125°C at 0.08 mbar; <sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.09 – 7.91 (m, 2H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>CC=N), 7.45 (m, 3H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>&CH<sub>Ar</sub>CHCC=N), 7.19 (m, 2H, C<sub>Ar</sub>(CH<sub>3</sub>)CH<sub>Ar</sub>&CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>), 7.00 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H, C<sub>Ar</sub>(CH<sub>3</sub>)CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>), 6.65 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>C-N), 2.16 (s, 3H, C<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.10 (s, 3H, C=NCH<sub>3</sub>).

#### N-(1-phenylethylidene)-4-(trifluoromethyl)aniline (I22)<sup>19</sup>



By general method acetophenone (0.373 g, 3.1 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and 4-(trifluoromethyl)aniline (0.5 g, 3.1 mmol, 1.0 eq.) were dissolved in dry toluene (10 mL). Purification by Kugelrohr distillation (150 °C at 0.2 mbar) afforded 0.056 g (0.21 mmol, 6 %) of **I22** as yellow-orange solid.  $C_{15}H_{12}F_{3}N$  (263.26 g/mol):

<sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.01 – 7.94 (m, 2H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>CC=N), 7.61 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>C(CF<sub>3</sub>)), 7.54 – 7.42 (m, 3H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>&CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C=N), 6.88 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>C-N), 2.24 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>C=N); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  166.34 (s, C=N), 154.98 (s, C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 138.98 (s, C<sub>Ar</sub>C=N), 131.06 (s, 1CH<sub>Ar</sub>), 128.62 (s, 2CH<sub>Ar</sub>), 127.40 (s, 2CH<sub>Ar</sub>CC=N), 126.42 (d, J =

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> T. Imamoto, N. Iwadate, K. Yoshida, Org. Lett. 2006, 8, 2289-2292

3.7 Hz,  $CH_{Ar}C(CF_3)$ ), 125.66 (d, J = 13.5 Hz,  $CC(CF_3)$ ), 124.45 (q, J = 225.2 Hz,  $CF_3$ ), 119.54 (s,  $CH_{Ar}C-N$ ), 17.75 (s,  $CH_3C=N$ ); **GC-MS**: (Rtx-5MS, 100.2/10.270/10): t<sub>R</sub> = 21.2 min, m/z = 263 ([M]<sup>+</sup>); **m.p.**: 51-52 °C (Lit. 80-81°C)

#### 2--Isopropyl-N-(1-phenylethylidene)aniline (I23)

By general method acetophenone (0.515 g, 4.29 mmol, 1.4 eq.) and 2-isopropylaniline (0.418 g, 3.1 mmol, 1.0 eq.) were dissolved in dry toluene (10 mL). Purification by Kugelrohr distillation (138 °C at 0.1 mbar) afforded 0.654 g (2.76 mmol, 89%) of **I23** as yellow oil.  $C_{17}H_{19}N$  (237.34 g/mol):

**b.p.**: 138 °C at 0.1 mbar; <sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ : 8.08 – 7.96 (m, 2H CH<sub>Ar</sub>CC=N), 7.56 – 7.42 (m, 3H,  $CH_{Ar}\&CH_{Ar}CHCC=N$ ), 7.32 (dd, J = 7.6, 1.2 Hz, 1H,  $C_{Ar}(CH(CH_3)_2)CH_{Ar}$ ), 7.18 (td, J = 7.5, 1.5 Hz, 1H,  $C_{Ar}(CH(CH_3)_2)CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}), 7.10$  (td, J = 7.5, 1.3 Hz, 1H,  $C_{Ar}(CH(CH_3)_2)CH_{Ar}$  $CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}$ ), 6.61 (dd, J = 7.7, 1.3 Hz, 1H,  $C_{Ar}$ -N $CH_{Ar}$ ), 3.09 – 2.92 (m, 1H,  $C_{Ar}CH(CH_3)_2$ ), 2.23 (s, 3H, C=NCH<sub>3</sub>), 1.19 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 6H, C<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  164.66 (*C*=N), 149.16  $(C_{\rm Ar}-N),$ 139.66  $(C_{Ar}C=N),$ 138.27  $(C_{Ar}CH(CH_3)_2),$ 130.50 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>C=N),  $(CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}C=N),$ 128.51 127.28  $(CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}C=N),$ 126.19  $(CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}CH_{(CH_3)_2}), 125.76 (CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}CH_{(CH_3)_2}), 123.78 (CH_{Ar}CH_{(CH_3)_2}), 125.76 (CH_{Ar}CH_{(CH_3)_2}), 123.78 (CH_{Ar}CH_{(CH_3)_2}), 125.76 (CH_{Ar}CH_{(CH_3)_2}), 123.78 ($ 118.78 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 28.48 (C<sub>Ar</sub>CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 22.97 (C<sub>Ar</sub>CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 17.71 (CH<sub>3</sub>C=N); IR (neat, ATR) v/cm<sup>-1</sup> = 3060 (w), 3021 (w), 2959 (m), 2925 (w), 2866 (w), 1645 (m), 1633 (s), 1594 (m), 1578 (m), 1480 (m), 1447 (m), 1365 (m), 1287 (m), 1220 (m), 1192 (w), 1084 (w), 1033 (w), 753 (m), 692 (m); MS (EI, 70 eV): 237.1 (16.5%), 222.1 (100%), 207.1 (15.1%); HRMS: calculated: 237.1512; found: 237.1515; EA: calc. C, 86.40; H, 7.68; N, 5.93; found: C, 85.90; H, 8.11; N, 5.9

#### 2,6-Dimethyl-*N*-(1-phenylethylidene)aniline (I24)<sup>20</sup>



By general method acetophenone (0.98 g, 8.1 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and 2,6-dimethylaniline (0.98 g, 8.1 mmol, 1.0 eq.) were dissolved in dry toluene (10 mL). Purification by Kugelrohr distillation (137.5 °C at 0.1 mbar) afforded 0.4 g (1.8 mmol, 21 %) of **I24** as yellow-white solid.  $C_{16}H_{17}N$  (223.31 g/mol):

<sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.08 – 7.99 (m, 2H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>CC=N), 7.54 – 7.42 (m, 3H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>&CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>CA<sub>r</sub>C=N), 7.06 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>CA<sub>r</sub>(CH<sub>3</sub>)), 6.92 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H, CA<sub>r</sub>(CH<sub>3</sub>)CHArCH<sub>Ar</sub>), 2.07 (s, 3H, C=NCH<sub>3</sub>), 2.03 (s, 6H, CA<sub>r</sub>(CH<sub>3</sub>)); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  165.39 (C=N), 149.13 (CA<sub>r</sub>-N), 139.27 (CA<sub>r</sub>C=N), 130.60 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>), 128.54 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>), 127.96 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>), 127.22 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>), 125.88 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>), 122.88 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>), 18.11 (CA<sub>r</sub>(CH<sub>3</sub>)), 17.63(CH<sub>3</sub>C=N); m.p.: 61-62 °C (Lit. 59-60°C)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> C. R. V. Reddy, S. Urgaonkar, J. G. Verkade, *Org. Lett.* **2005**, *7*, 4427-4430
#### *N*-(3-methylbutan-2-ylidene)aniline (I25)<sup>14</sup>



By general method 3-methyl-2-butanone (2.11 g, 24.5 mmol, 1.14 eq.) and aniline (2.0 g, 21.5 mmol, 1.0 eq.) were dissolved in dry benzene (6 mL). Purification by Kugelrohr distillation (75° C at 0.15 mbar) afforded 2.01 g (12.47 mmol, 58%) of **I25** as a colourless oil.  $C_{11}H_{15}N$  (161.24 g/mol): E/Z mixture 6:1, *major*:<sup>1</sup>**H**-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.32 – 7.24 (m, 2H), 7.05 – 6.98 (m, 1H), 6.70 – 6.64 (m, 2H), 2.62 (hept, J = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 1.73 (s, 3H), 1.20 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  176.31, 151.88, 128.98, 122.95, 119.47, 119.32, 39.32, 20.02, 17.14. *minor*: <sup>1</sup>**H**-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.18 – 7.12 (m, 2H), 6.75 (tt, J = 7.5, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 6.71 – 6.64 (m, 2H), 2.72 (dt, J = 13.7, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 2.07 (s, 3H), 1.02 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 6H); **GC** (Machary-Nagel Optima-5-Amin (0.50 µm x 0.25 µm x 30 m), 60 kPa H<sub>2</sub>, 100 °C/2 min, 10°C/min, 250 °C/7 min): t<sub>R</sub> = 12.0 min; **GC-MS** (EI, 70 eV, PhMeSi, 80.2/10.270/10): t<sub>R</sub> = 9.2 min, *m/z* = 161 ([M]<sup>+</sup>), 146, 118 ([M-(C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)]<sup>+</sup>); **HRMS**: calculated: 161.1199; found: 161.1200

#### N-(4-methylpentan-2-ylidene)aniline (I26)



By general method 4-Methyl-2-pentanone (3.0 g, 30 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and aniline (2.79 g, 30 mmol, 1.0 eq.) were dissolved in dry toluene (10 mL). Purification by Kugelrohr distillation (95° C at 0.1 mbar) afforded 1.14 g (6.5 mmol, 21%) of **I26** as a colourless oil.  $C_{12}H_{17}N$  (175.27 g/mol):

E/Z 3.2:1, major: <sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.30 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 7.05 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 6.71 (dd, J = 8.3, 1.0 Hz, 2H), 2.31 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 2.20 – 2.11 (sept, J = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 1.78 (s, 3H), 1.03 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 6H);  ${}^{13}C{}^{1}H$ -NMR (101 MHz, CDCl3)  $\delta$  171.75 (C=N), 151.73 (C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 123.08  $(CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N),$  $(CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N),$ 119.64  $(CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N),$ 50.85 128.99 (CH<sub>2</sub>CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 26.39 (CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 22.66 (CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 19.90 (CH<sub>3</sub>C=N); minor: <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.28 (m, 2H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 7.03 (m, 1H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 6.68 (dd, J = 8.3, 1.0 Hz, 2H,  $CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N$ ), 2.17 (s, 3H,  $CH_{3}C=N$ ), 2.08 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H,  $CH_{2}C(CH_{3})C=N$ ), 2.00 (sept, J = 6.5 Hz, 1H, (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>CHCH<sub>2</sub>), 0.84 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 6H, (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>CHCH<sub>2</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 171.99 (C=N), 151.13 (C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 128.88 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 122.86 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 119.75 (CH<sub>A</sub>rC<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 43.07 (CH<sub>2</sub>CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 26.37 (CH(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>), 26.16  $(CH_3C=N)$ , 22.64  $(CH(CH_3)_2)$ ; **IR** (neat, ATR) v/cm<sup>-1</sup> = 3075 (w), 3028 (w), 2955 (m), 2869 (w), 1656 (s), 1593 (s), 1483 (m), 1464 (w), 1366 (m), 1252 (w), 1188 (w), 1168 (w), 1103 (w), 1070 (w), 900 (w), 794 (m), 744 (s), 696 (s); GC (Machary-Nagel Optima-5-Amin (0.50 µm x 0.25 µm x 30 m), 60 kPa H<sub>2</sub>, 100 °C/2 min, 10 °C/min, 250 °C/7 min):  $t_R = 13.6$  min; GC-MS: (Rtx-5MS, 100.2/10.270/10): t<sub>R</sub> = 8.8 min, m/z = 175 ([M]<sup>+</sup>), 160, 132, 118, 104, 92; EA: calc. C, 82.23; H, 9.78; N, 7.99; found: C, 81.84; H, 9.60; N, 8.32

*N*-(1-phenylpropan-2-ylidene)aniline (I27)<sup>21</sup>



By general method Phenylacetone (2.7 g, 20 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and aniline (2 g, 22 mmol, 1.1 eq.) were dissolved in dry benzene (7 mL). Purification by Kugelrohr distillation (125° C at 0.1 mbar) afforded 1.58 g (7.55 mmol, 38%) of **I27** as a yellow-orange clear oil.  $C_{15}H_{15}N$  (209.29 g/mol):

E/Z mixture 3:1, major: <sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) δ 7.42 – 7.28 (m, 7H), 7.10 – 7.04 (m, 1H), 6.73 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 3.74 (s, 2H), 1.74 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (126 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) δ 170.63, 151.93, 137.74, 129.63, 129.23, 128.93, 127.02, 123.34, 119.70, 48.73, 19.02; *minor*: <sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) δ 7.14 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.81 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 3.51 (s, 1H), 2.07 (s, 2H). *other signals overlayed by major isomer*; <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (126 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) δ 169.58, 151.60, 137.27, 129.41, 129.38, 129.02, 126.87, 119.82, 115.15, 40.65, 25.99; GC (Machary-Nagel Optima-5-Amin (0.50 µm x 0.25 µm x 30 m), 60 kPa H<sub>2</sub>, 100 °C/2 min, 10°C/min, 250 °C/10 min):  $t_R = 20.2 min;$  GC-MS (Rtx-5MS, 50.2/30.250/5):  $t_R = 8.9 min$ , m/z = 209 ([M]<sup>+</sup>), 193, 167, 118, 91, 77.

#### *N*-(pentan-2-ylidene)aniline (I28):



By general method 2-pentanone (1.62 g, 18.8 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and aniline (2 g, 21.5 mmol, 1.14 eq.) were dissolved in dry toluene (10 mL). Purification by Kugelrohr distillation (75° C at 0.1 mbar) afforded 1.16 g (7.2 mmol, 38%) of **I28** as a colourless oil.

C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>15</sub>N (161.24 g/mol):

3:1 E/Z mixture, major: <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.30 (m, 2H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 7.03 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H,  $CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N$ ), 6.68 (d, J = 7.3, 2H,  $CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N$ ), 2.41 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H,  $CH_2C=N$ ), 1.77 (s, 3H,  $CH_3C=N$ ), 1.70 (tq (m), 2H,  $CH_2CH_2C=N$ ), 1.02 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>C=N); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  172.12 (C=N), 151.75 (C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 128.96 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 123.05 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 119.64 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 43.74 (CH<sub>2</sub>C=N), 19.83 (CH<sub>3</sub>C=N), 19.52 (CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>C=N), 13.91 (CH<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>C=N); minor: <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.30 (m, 2H,  $CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N$ ), 7.03 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H,  $CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N$ ), 6.66 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H,  $CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N$ , 2.15 (s, 3H,  $CH_{3}C=N$ ), 2.11 (dd, J = 8.7, 6.9 Hz, 2H,  $CH_{2}C=N$ ), 1.52 (qt (m), 2H,  $CH_2CH_2C=N$ , 0.83 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 3H,  $CH_3CH_2CH_2C=N$ ); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ 173.64 (C=N), 151.21 (CAr-N), 129.39 (CHArCHArCAr-N), 122.94 (CHArCHArCHArCAr-N), 115.20 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 36.12 (CH<sub>2</sub>C=N), 25.97 (CH<sub>3</sub>C=N), 20.39 (CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>C=N), 14.14 (CH<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>C=N); **IR** (neat, ATR)  $v/cm^{-1} = 3075$  (w), 3060 (w), 3028 (w), 3018 (w), 2959 (m), 2931 (w), 2872 (w), 1658 (s), 1594 (s), 1483 (m), 1366 (m), 1252 (m), 1225 (w), 1186 (m), 1168 (w), 1093 (w), 1071 (m), 900 (w), 797 (m), 746 (m), 698 (s); GC (Machary-Nagel Optima-5-Amin (0.50 µm x 0.25 µm x 30 m), 60 kPa H<sub>2</sub>, 100 °C/2 min, 10 °C/min, 250 °C/7 min):  $t_R = 12.7$  min; GC-MS (EI, 70 eV, PhMeSi, 100.2/10.270/10):  $t_R = 7.1 \text{ min}, m/z = 161 ([M]^+)$ ; EA: calc. C, 81.94; H, 9.38; N, 8.69; found: C, 81.72; H, 9.33; N, 8.65.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> L. L. Anderson, J. Arnold, R. G. Bergman, Org. Lett. 2004, 6, 2519-2522

#### N-(6-methylhept-5-en-2-ylidene)aniline (I29)



By general method 6-methylhept-5-en-2-one (1.71 g, 13.55 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and aniline (1.26 g, 13.55 mmol, 1.0 eq.) were dissolved in dry toluene (10 mL). Purification by Kugelrohr distillation (112.5° C at 0.1 mbar) afforded 600 mg (3.0 mmol, 22%) of **I29** as a yellow clear oil.  $C_{14}H_{19}N$  (201.31 g/mol):

E/Z mixture 3:1, *major*: <sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.33 – 7.28 (m, 2H), 7.05 (tt, J = 7.5, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 6.70 (dd, J = 8.4, 1.1 Hz, 2H), 5.22 (dddt, J = 6.8, 5.3, 2.8, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 2.48 – 2.43 (m, 2H), 2.42 – 2.37 (m, 2H), 1.79 (s, 3H), 1.74 (d, J = 1.2 Hz, 3H), 1.68 (d, J = 1.2 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-**NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 171.71, 151.63, 132.37, 128.86, 123.28, 122.95, 119.51, 41.59, 25.77, 25.04, 19.66, 17.79; *minor*: <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.31 – 7.27 (m, 2H), 7.06 – 7.02 (m, 1H), 6.72 – 6.68 (m, 2H), 4.97 (dddt, J = 7.0, 5.5, 3.0, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 2.47 – 2.45 (m, 2H), 2.39 – 2.36 (m, 2H), 2.18 (s, 3H), 1.67 (d, J = 1.1 Hz, 3H), 1.53 (d, J = 1.2 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 172.26, 151.09, 132.91, 128.79, 122.85, 122.66, 119.51, 34.02, 26.04, 25.64, 25.43, 17.56; **GC** (Machary-Nagel Optima-5-Amin (0.50 μm x 0.25 μm x 30 m), 60 kPa H<sub>2</sub>, 100 °C/2 min, 10°C/min, 250 °C/10 min): t<sub>R</sub> = 17.2 min; **GC-MS** (Rtx-5MS, 50.2/30.250/5): t<sub>R</sub> = 8.1 min, *m/z* = 201 ([M]<sup>+</sup>), 186, 158, 144, 132, 118, 109, 93, 77; **IR** (neat, ATR) v/cm<sup>-1</sup> = 3072 (w), 3057 (w), 3022 (w), 2966 (m), 2914 (m), 2854 (m), 1663 (s), 1593 (m), 1483 (m), 1443 (w), 1367 (w), 1246 (w), 1169 (w); **EA**: calculated: C, 83.53; H, 9.51; N, 6.96, found: C, 83.45; H, 9.31; N, 6.87.

#### *N*-(octan-2-ylidene)aniline (I30)<sup>22</sup>



By general method 2-Octanone (1.64 g, 12.8 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and aniline (1.19 g, 12.8 mmol, 1.0 eq.) were dissolved in dry toluene (10 mL). Purification by Kugelrohr distillation (125° C at 0.1 mbar) afforded 847 mg (4.17 mmol, 32%) of **I30** as a slighty yellowish clear oil.  $C_{14}H_{21}N$  (203.32 g/mol):

E/Z mixture 3:1, *major*: <sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.30 (m, 2H), 7.05 (m, 1H), 6.70 (m, 2H), 2.42 (m, 2H), 1.79 (s, 3H), 1.69 (m, 2H), 1.41 (m, 2H), 1.36 (m, 4H), 0.92 (m, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>**H}-NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 172.35, 151.77, 128.96, 123.03, 119.65, 41.88, 31.83, 29.16, 26.48, 22.73, 19.55, 14.22; *minor*: <sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.30 (m, 2H), 7.05 (m, 1H), 6.70 (m, 2H), 2.17 (s, 3H), 2.14 (m, 2H), 1.49 (m, 2H), 1.18 (m, 4H), 1.26 (m, 2H), 0.86 (m, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>**H}-NMR** (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 172.89, 151.22, 128.91, 122.95, 119.63, 34.21, 31.52, 29.27, 27.00, 26.05, 22.55, 14.13; **GC** (Machary-Nagel Optima-5-Amin (0.50 µm x 0.25 µm x 30 m), 60 kPa H<sub>2</sub>, 100 °C/2 min, 10°C/min, 250 °C/10 min): t<sub>R</sub> = 17.3 min; **GC-MS** (Rtx-5MS, 100.2/10.270/10): t<sub>R</sub> = 13.3 min, *m/z* = 203 ([M]<sup>+</sup>), 188, 174, 160, 146, 132, 118, 92, 77.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> C. G. Hartung, A. Tillack, H. Trauthwein, M. Beller, J. Org. Chem. 2001, 66, 6339-6343

#### *N*-(1-cyclopentylethylidene)aniline (I31)



By general method 8 (0.34 g, 3.125 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and aniline (0.32 g, 3.43 mmol, 1.1 eq.) were dissolved in dry toluene (10 mL). Purification by Kugelrohr distillation (100° C at 0.15 mbar) afforded 0.25 g (1.33 mmol, 42%) of **I31** as a colourless oil.

C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N (187.28 g/mol):

6:1 E/Z mixture, major: <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.27 (m, 2H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 7.02 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H,  $CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N$ ), 6.67 (dd, J = 8.3, 1.1 Hz, 2H,  $CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N$ ), 2.81 (pent, J = 8.1Hz, 1H, CHC=N), 1.95 (m, 2H, CHHCHC=N), 1.77 (m, 4H, CHHCHHCHC=N), 1.76 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.67 (m, 2H, CHHCHHCHC=N); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (126 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 174.36 (C=N), 151.90

 $(CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N),$ 128.85 122.75  $(C_{\rm Ar}-N),$ (CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 119.41 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 50.61 30.13  $(CH_2CHC=N),$ (CHC=N), 25.64  $(CH_2CH_2CHC=N)$ , 18.24  $(CH_3)$ ; minor: <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.27 (m, 2H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 7.02 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H,  $CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N$ ), 6.67  $(dd, J = 8.3, 1.1 Hz, 2H, CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N), 2.70 (pent, J =$ 8.0 Hz, 1H, CHC=N), 2.10 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.71 (m, 2H, CHHCHHCHC=N), 1.70 (m, 2H,



CHHCHC=N), 1.61 (m, 2H, CHHCHC=N), 1.49 (m, 2H, CHHCHHCHC=N); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (126) 175.40 (C=N), 151.90 ( $C_{Ar}$ -N), 128.81  $(CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N), 122.71$ MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ (CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 119.34 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 43.12 (CHC=N), 31.12 (CH<sub>2</sub>CHC=N), 26.16 (CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CHC=N), 22.04 (CH<sub>3</sub>); GC (Machary-Nagel Optima-5-Amin (0.50 µm x 0.25 µm x 30 m), 60 kPa H<sub>2</sub>, 100 °C/2 min, 10 °C/min, 250 °C/7 min): t<sub>R</sub> = 16.8 min; GC-MS: (Rtx-5MS, 100.2/10.270/10): t<sub>R</sub> = 12.7 min, m/z = 187 ([M]<sup>+</sup>), 146, 118; **IR** (neat, ATR) v/cm<sup>-1</sup> = 3060 (w), 3018 (w), 2950 (m), 2866 (m), 1567 (s), 1594 (s), 1578 (w), 1483 (m), 1447 (w), 1364 (m), 1192 (m), 1166 (m), 1070 (w), 1025 (w), 899 (w), 798 (w), 697 (s); EA: calc. C, 83.37; H, 9.15; N, 7.48; found: C, 82.26; H, 8.96; N, 7.88.

#### N-(3,3-dimethylbutan-2-ylidene)aniline (I32)<sup>23</sup>

By general method Pinacolone (2.15 g, 21.4 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and aniline (2.0 g, 21.5 mmol, 1.0 eq.) were dissolved in dry benzene (6 mL). Purification by Kugelrohr distillation (100-150° C at 0.07 mbar) afforded 1.5 g (8.56 mmol, 40%) of I32 as a colourless oil.

C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N (175.27 g/mol):

<sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.27 (m, 2H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 7.00 (m, 1H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 6.63 (m, 2H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 1.74 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.22 (s, 9H, C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 177.60 (C=N), 152.34 (C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 129.00 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 122.69 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 119.15 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 40.35 (C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>), 27.95 (CH<sub>3</sub>C=N), 15.38 (C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>); GC (Machary-Nagel Optima-5-Amin (0.50 µm x 0.25 µm x 30 m), 60 kPa H<sub>2</sub>, 100 °C/2 min, 10°C/min, 250 °C/10 min):  $t_{\rm R} = 12.7 \text{ min}; \text{ GC-MS} (EI, 70 \text{ eV}, \text{PhMeSi}, 100.2/10.270/10): t_{\rm R} = 7.9 \text{ min}, m/z = 175 ([M]^+), 118;$ HRMS: calculated: 175.1356; found: 175.1357.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> A. H. Vetter, A. Berkessel, Synthesis **1995**, *4*, 419-423

### *N*-(1-cyclohexylethylidene)-1-phenylmethanamine (I33)<sup>24</sup>

By general method cyclohexylmethylketone (1.09 g, 8.6 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and benzylamine (1.02 g, 9.5 mmol, 1.1 eq.) were dissolved in dry toluene (10 mL). Purification by Kugelrohr distillation (125° C at 0.1 mbar) afforded 0.84 g (3.9 mmol, 45%) of **I33** as a colourless clear oil.  $C_{15}H_{21}N$  (215.33 g/mol):

<sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.31 (m, 5H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>), 4.49 (s, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.25 (tt, J = 11.6, 3.3 Hz, 1H, CHC=N), 1.84 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.77 (m, 4H, CH<sub>Aliph</sub>), 1.32 (m, 6H, CH<sub>Aliph</sub>); **GC** (Machary-Nagel Optima-5-Amin (0.50 μm x 0.25 μm x 30 m), 60 kPa H<sub>2</sub>, 100 °C/2 min, 10°C/min, 250 °C/7 min):  $t_R = 20.6 min (I34)$ ; **GC-MS** (Rtx-5MS, 100.2/10.270/10):  $t_R = 16.8 min$ , m/z = 215 ([M]<sup>+</sup>), 200, 186, 174, 160, 147, 124, 91.

#### N-(1-cyclohexylethylidene)butan-1-amine (I34)

By general method cyclohexylmethylketone (0.92 g, 7.27 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and *n*-butylamine (1.6 g, 21.8 mmol, 3.0 eq.) were dissolved in dry toluene (10 mL). Purification by Kugelrohr distillation (87° C at 0.15 mbar) afforded 0.75 g (4.11 mmol, 56%) of **I34** as a colourless clear oil.  $C_{12}H_{23}N$  (181.32 g/mol):

<sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 3.23 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 2.17 (ddt, J = 11.3, 6.6, 3.3 Hz, 1H), 1.83 – 1.73 (m, 4H), 1.76 (s, 3H), 1.72 – 1.66 (m, 1H), 1.60 (p, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 1.39 – 1.34 (m, 2H), 1.30 (ddd, J = 12.2, 8.5, 3.0 Hz, 4H), 1.19 (dddd, J = 15.9, 12.3, 7.4, 3.4 Hz, 1H), 0.94 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 173.36, 51.07, 50.87, 33.20, 30.32, 26.31, 26.29, 20.87, 14.91, 14.19; **GC** (Machary-Nagel Optima-5-Amin (0.50 µm x 0.25 µm x

51.07 20.87 N 1.60 1.69; 1.22 26.31 1.78; 1.30 26.29 51.07 1.60 1.73; 1.60 30.23 1.73; 1.30 26.29

Ν

30 m), 60 kPa H<sub>2</sub>, 100 °C/2 min, 10°C/min, 250 °C/10 min):  $t_R = 13.8 \text{ min}$  (I35); **GC-MS** (Rtx-5MS, 50.2/30.250/5):  $t_R = 7.0 \text{ min}$ , m/z = 181 ([M]<sup>+</sup>), 166, 152, 126, 98; **IR** (neat, ATR) v/cm<sup>-1</sup> = 2955 (s), 2924 (s), 2851 (s), 1663 (m), 1643 (w), 1447 (m), 1369 (w), 1248 (w), 1198 (w); **EA**: calculated: C, 79.49; H, 12.79; N, 7.72, found: C, 79.61; H, 12.63; N, 7.76.

#### N-(1-cyclohexylethylidene)propan-2-amine (I35)

By general method cyclohexylmethylketone (0.92 g, 7.27 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and isoproylamine (2.15 g, 36.33 mmol, 5.0 eq.) were dissolved in dry toluene (10 mL) and stirred at room temperature for four days. Purification by Kugelrohr distillation (100° C at 0.15 mbar) afforded 0.52 g (3.1 mmol, 43%) of **I35** as a colourless clear oil.

C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>21</sub>N (167.29 g/mol):

E/Z mixture 16:1, *major*: <sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  3.60 (hept, J = 6.3 Hz, 1H), 2.16 (td, J = 9.6, 8.9, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 1.75 (s, 3H), 1.81 – 1.65 (m, 6H), 1.36 – 1.25 (m, 4H), 1.10 (s, 3H), 1.09 (s, 3H), 1.81 – 1.65 (m, 6H), 1.36 – 1.25 (m, 4H), 1.10 (s, 3H), 1.09 (s, 3H), 1.81 – 1.65 (m, 6H), 1.36 – 1.25 (m, 4H), 1.10 (s, 3H), 1.09 (s, 3H), 1.81 – 1.65 (m, 6H), 1.36 – 1.25 (m, 4H), 1.10 (s, 3H), 1.09 (s, 3H), 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 – 1.81 –





<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> F. Chen, Z. Ding, Y. He, J. Qin, T. Wang, Q.-H. Fan, Tetrahedron **2012**, 68, 5248-5257

3H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  170.70, 51.16, 49.81, 30.25, 26.26, 26.20, 23.63, 13.78; GC (Machary-Nagel Optima-5-Amin (0.50 µm x 0.25 µm x 30 m), 60 kPa H<sub>2</sub>, 100 °C/2 min, 10°C/min, 250 °C/10 min): t<sub>R</sub> = 10.8 min; GC-MS (Rtx-5MS, 50.2/30.250/5): t<sub>R</sub> = 6.0 min, *m/z* = 167 ([M]<sup>+</sup>), 152, 126, 112, 99, 84; IR (neat, ATR) v/cm<sup>-1</sup> = 2964 (m), 1924 (s), 1853 (m), 1663 (m), 1643 (m), 1448 (m), 1373 (w), 1364 (w), 1246 (w), 1202 (w), 1159 (w), 808 (w); EA: calculated: C, 78.97; H, 12.65; N, 8.37, found: C, 78.44; H, 12.50; N, 8.34.

#### N-(1-cyclohexylethylidene)cyclohexanamine (I36)

By general method cyclohexylmethylketone (1.834 g, 14.53 mmol, 1.0 eq.) and cyclohexylamine (1.439 g, 14.53 mmol, 1.0 eq.) were dissolved in dry toluene (10 mL). Purification by Kugelrohr distillation (100° C at 0.1 mbar) afforded 1.153 g (5.56 mmol, 38%) of **I36** as a colourless clear oil.  $C_{14}H_{25N}$  (207.35 g/mol):

<sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 3.22 (m, 1H, CHC-N), 2.19 – 2.12 (m, 1H, CHC=N), 1.82 – 1.61 (m, 11H), 1.61 – 1.54 (m, 2H), 1.45 – 1.13 (m, 10H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 171.13, 58.93, 51.29, 33.85, 30.41, 26.36, 26.30, 25.99, 25.33, 14.01; **GC** (Machary-Nagel Optima-5-Amin (0.50 µm x 0.25 µm x 30 m), 60 kPa H<sub>2</sub>, 100 °C/2 min, 10°C/min, 250 °C/10 min):  $t_R = 17.4$  min; **GC-MS** (Rtx-5MS, 100.2/10.270/10):  $t_R = 13.2$  min, m/z = 207 ([M]<sup>+</sup>), 192, 178, 166, 152,



126, 124, 83; **IR** (neat, ATR)  $\nu/cm^{-1} = 2922$  (s), 2851 (s), 1657 (m), 1447 (m), 1369 (w), 1358 (w), 1240 (w), 1196 (w), 1028 (w), 889 (w), 843 (w); **EA**: calculated: C, 81.09; H, 12.15; N, 6.75, found: C, 80.69; H, 12.04; N, 6.94.

### Hydrogenations

All hydrogenation reactions were carried out in anhydrous crown-cap dichloromethane, which was used without further purification.

Procedure for the hydrogenation at elevated pressure:

Imine (0.1 mmol), catalyst (2  $\mu$ mol), addtive (2  $\mu$ mol), and a stir bar were added to an oven-dried glass vial that had been placed in an autoclave (60 mL) and purged with argon for 5 min. Anhydrous CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (1 mL) was added by syringe under a stream of argon and the autoclave was closed. For reactions at low temperature the autoclave was immersed in a cooling bath for 60 min before starting the reaction. The autoclave was pressurized with hydrogen gas, hydrogen was released and the autoclave pressurized again. It was then placed on a stirring plate for the time indicated. After pressure release the solvent was evaporated under a stream of nitrogen.

Procedure for the hydrogenation at atmospheric pressure:

Same procedure as above, but the vials were placed in a flask equipped with 24/40 joint which was closed with a rubber septum. The flask was evacuated and purged with hydrogen gas via H<sub>2</sub>-filled balloon (Dräger 1.5 L) three times. The solvent (1 mL) was added via syringe and the flask placed on a stirring plate for the time indicated.

The residue was suspended in pentane/ether (5:1) and filtered through a short elution plug (cotton bottom, 40x5 mm silica gel). The crude filtrate was analysed by GC for conversion before being purified by flash chromatography (SiO<sub>2</sub>, pentane/ether 20:1, 15x2 cm) and analysed by HPLC on a chiral stationary phase for determination of the enantiomeric excess.

Derivatization for the determination of enantiomeric excess:

A35 was dissolved in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (1 mL) before acetic anhydride and triethylamine (4 drops each) were added. The solution was stirred for 30 minutes at room temperature and solvents evaporated by a stream of nitrogen. The residue was suspended in pentane/ether (5:1) and filtered through a CHROMAPHIL HPLC filter prior to GC analysis.

A33 and A36 was dissolved in  $CH_2Cl_2$  (1 mL) before 1-naphtoyl chloride and triethylamine (4 drops each) were added. The solution was stirred for 30 minutes at room temperature. The product was purified by flash chromatography prior to HPLC analysis.

### *N*-(1-phenylethyl)aniline (A1)<sup>11</sup>



C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>15</sub>N (197.28 g/mol):

**GC** (Machary-Nagel Optima-5-Amin (0.50  $\mu$ m x 0.25  $\mu$ m x 30 m), 60 kPa He, 150 °C min, 7°C/min, 250 °C/10 min): t<sub>R</sub> = 12.8 min; **HPLC** (Daicel Chiracel OD-H (2.6 x 250 mm), *n*-heptane/iso-propanol 99:1, 0.5 mL/min, 20 °C, 210 nm): t<sub>R</sub> = 24.6 min ((S)-A1), t<sub>R</sub> = 33.0 min ((R)-A1).

*N*-(1-(4-methoxyphenyl)ethyl)aniline (A2)<sup>11</sup>



C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>17</sub>NO (227.31 g/mol):

GC (Machary-Nagel Optima-5-Amin (0.50  $\mu$ m x 0.25  $\mu$ m x 30 m), 60 kPa He, 150 °C min, 7°C/min, 250 °C/10 min): t<sub>R</sub> = 19.6 min.

(R)-(-)-N-(1-cyclohexylethyl)aniline (A3)<sup>23</sup>

C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>21</sub>N (203.32 g/mol):

<sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.19 – 7.10 (m, 2H), 6.64 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 6.57 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 3.48 (s, 1H), 3.39 – 3.25 (m, 1H), 1.88 – 1.61 (m, 5H), 1.51 – 1.39 (m, 1H), 1.32 – 1.15 (m, 3H), 1.12 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 3H), 1.10 – 0.99 (m, 2H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  148.10, 129.40, 116.63, 113.07, 53.10, 43.10, 29.93, 28.54, 26.79, 26.63, 26.49, 17.55; **GC** (Machary-Nagel Optima-5-Amin (0.50 µm x 0.25 µm x 30 m), 60 kPa H<sub>2</sub>, 100 °C/2 min, 10°C/min, 250 °C/10 min): t<sub>R</sub> = 19.6 min; **GC-MS**: (Rtx-5MS, 100.2/10.270/10): t<sub>R</sub> = 15.7 min, m/z = 203 ([M]<sup>+</sup>), 120; **HPLC** (Daicel Chiracel OJ-H, *n*-heptane/iso-propanol 99:1, 0.5 mL/min, 25 °C, 247/297 nm): t<sub>R</sub> = 21.0 min ((*R*)-(-)-A3), t<sub>R</sub> = 24.0 min ((*S*)-(+)-A3); **Optical Rotation**: **[a]**<sup>20</sup> = - 19.0 (c 1.0 in CHCl<sub>3</sub>, 0.75%

(R)-(-)-N-(3-methylbutan-2-yl)aniline (A25)<sup>15</sup>



C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N (163.26 g/mol):

<sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.16 (t, J = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 6.65 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 6.58 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 3.48 (s, 1H), 3.42 – 3.27 (m, 1H), 1.93 – 1.77 (m, 1H), 1.10 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 3H), 0.98 (d, J = 6.9 Hz, 3H), 0.92 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 147.98, 129.41, 116.75, 113.18, 53.55, 32.35, 19.34, 17.65, 16.71; **GC-MS** (EI, 70 eV, PhMeSi, 80.2/10.270/10): tR = 10.4 min, m/z = 163 ([M]<sup>+</sup>), 120 ([M-(C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>)]<sup>+</sup>); **GC** (Machary-Nagel Optima-5-Amin (0.50 µm x 0.25 µm x 30 m), 60 kPa H<sub>2</sub>, 100 °C/2 min, 10°C/min, 250 °C/7 min): t<sub>R</sub> = 13.3 min; **HPLC** (Daicel Chiracel OJ, *n*-heptane/iso-propanol 100:0, 0.5 mL/min, 25 °C, 247/297 nm): t<sub>R</sub> = 31.2 min ((*R*)-(-)-A25), t<sub>R</sub> = 36.1 min ((*S*)-(+)-A25); **Optical Rotation**: **[a]**<sup>20</sup><sub>D</sub> = -49.4 (c 1.0 in CHCl<sub>3</sub>, 0.75% EtOH).

(-)-N-(4-methylpentan-2-yl)aniline (A26)<sup>25</sup>



#### C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>19</sub>N (177.29 g/mol):

<sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.16 (t, J = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 6.66 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 6.58 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 3.60 – 3.47 (m, 1H), 3.36 (s, 1H), 1.84 – 1.68 (m, 1H), 1.48 (dt, J = 14.0, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 1.26 (dt, J = 13.7, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 1.16 (d, J = 6.2 Hz, 3H), 0.95 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 3H), 0.91 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 147.85, 129.42, 116.86, 113.15, 47.07, 46.58, 25.23, 23.10, 22.72, 21.21; **GC-MS**: (Rtx-5MS, 100.2/10.270/10): t<sub>R</sub> = 9.8 min, m/z = 177 ([M]<sup>+</sup>), 162, 120; **GC** (Machary-Nagel Optima-5-Amin (0.50 µm x 0.25 µm x 30 m), 60 kPa H<sub>2</sub>, 100 °C/2 min, 10°C/min, 250 °C/7 min): t<sub>R</sub> = 14.4 min; **HPLC** (Daicel Chiracel OJ-H, *n*-heptane/iso-propanol 99:1, 0.5 mL/min, 25 °C, 247/297 nm): t<sub>R</sub> = 19.6 min ((+)-A26), t<sub>R</sub> = 22.5 min ((-)-A26); **Optical Rotation**:  $[\alpha]_{p}^{20} = -24.6$  (c 1.10 in CHCl<sub>3</sub> 0.75% EtOH), 69% ee.

#### *N*-(1-phenylpropan-2-yl)aniline (A27)<sup>23</sup>



C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N (211.30 g/mol):

<sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.30 (m, 2H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>), 7.20 (m, 5H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>), 6.69 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>CA<sub>r</sub>-N), 6.63 (dd, J = 8.5, 0.9 Hz, 2H, CH<sub>Ar</sub>CA<sub>r</sub>-N)), 3.77 (qdd (m), 1H, CHNH), 3.53 (s<sub>br</sub>, 1H, NH), 2.95 (dd, J = 13.4, 4.7 Hz, 1H, CH<sub>2</sub>Ph), 2.70 (dd, J = 13.4, 7.3 Hz, 1H, CH<sub>2</sub>Ph), 1.16 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>CHNH); **GC-MS**: (Rtx-5MS, 100.2/10.270/10): t<sub>R</sub> = 17.3 min, m/z = 211 ([M]<sup>+</sup>), 120, 103, 91; **GC** (Machary-Nagel Optima-5-Amin (0.50 µm x 0.25 µm x 30 m), 60 kPa H<sub>2</sub>, 100 °C/2 min, 10°C/min, 250 °C/7 min): t<sub>R</sub> = 21.1 min; **HPLC** (Daicel Chiracel OJ-H, *n*-heptane/iso-propanol 97:3, 0.5 mL/min, 25 °C, 208/243 nm): t<sub>R</sub> = 21.2 min ((+)-A27), t<sub>R</sub> = 23.2 min ((-)-A27); **Optical Rotation**:  $[a]_D^{20} = +1.3$  (c 0.65 in CHCl<sub>3</sub> 0.75% EtOH), 72% ee.

(-)-N-(pentan-2-yl)aniline (A28)<sup>25</sup>



C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>17</sub>N (163.26 g/mol):

<sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.21 - 7.11 (m, 2H), 6.69 - 6.63 (m, 1H), 6.61 - 6.55 (m, 2H), 3.48 (dq, J = 21.1, 5.9 Hz, H), 3.42 (s, 1H), 1.60 - 1.51 (m, 1H), 1.48 - 1.36 (m, 3H), 1.18 (d, J = 6.3 Hz, 3H), 0.94 (ddd, J = 7.1, 4.1, 3.2 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 147.87 (*C*<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 129.41 (*C*H<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 116.86 (*C*H<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 113.18 (*C*H<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 48.30 (*C*HNH), 39.60 (*C*H<sub>2</sub>CHNH), 20.92 (*C*H<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CHNH), 19.47 (*C*H<sub>3</sub>CHNH), 14.27 (*C*H<sub>3</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>); **GC-MS** (EI, 70 eV, PhMeSi, 100.2/10.270/10): t<sub>R</sub> = 7.9 min, *m*/*z* = 163 ([M]<sup>+</sup>), 148, 132, 120; **GC** (Machary-Nagel Optima-5-Amin (0.50 µm x 0.25 µm x 30 m), 60 kPa H<sub>2</sub>, 100 °C/2 min, 10°C/min, 250 °C/7 min): t<sub>R</sub> = 13.6 min; **HPLC** (Daicel Chiracel OJ-H, *n*-heptane/iso-propanol 99:1, 0.5 mL/min, 25 °C, 247/297 nm): t<sub>R</sub> = 19.1 min ((+)-A28), t<sub>R</sub> = 21.6 min ((-)-A28); **Optical Rotation**: **[a]**<sup>20</sup>/<sub>Q</sub> = -14.5 (c 2.565 in CHCl<sub>3</sub> 0.75% EtOH), 40% ee.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> L. Rubio-Pérez, F. J. Pérez-Flores, P. Sharma, L. Velasco, A. Cabrera, Org. Lett. 2009, 11, 265–268

*N*-(6-methylhept-5-en-2-yl)aniline (A29)<sup>26</sup>



C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>21</sub>N (203.32 g/mol):

<sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.16 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H,  $CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N$ ), 6.66 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H,  $CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N$ ), 6.57 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 2H,  $CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N$ ), 5.13 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H, (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>C=CHCH<sub>2</sub>), 3.47 (qd, J = 12.8, 6.4 Hz, 1H, CHNH), 3.42 (s<sub>br</sub>, 1H, NH), 2.09 (dd, J = 14.7, 7.5 Hz, 2H, (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>C=CHCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.70 (s, 3H, (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>C=CH), 1.60 (m, 1H, CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>CHNH), 1.59 (s, 3H, (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>C=CH), 1.48 (dt, J = 13.9, 7.1 Hz, 1H,  $CH_2CH_2CHNH$ ), 1.19 (d, J = 6.2 Hz, 3H,  $CH_3CHNH$ ); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 147.86 ( $C_{Ar}-N$ ), 132.14 ((CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>C=CH), 129.39 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 124.14 ((CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>C=CH), 116.91 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 113.25 (CH<sub>Ar</sub>C<sub>Ar</sub>-N), 48.23 (CHNH), 37.34 (CH<sub>2</sub>CHNH), 25.86 ((CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>C=CH), 24.87 (C=CHCH<sub>2</sub>), 20.93 (CH<sub>3</sub>CHNH), 17.82 ((CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>C=CH); **GC**-MS: (Rtx-5MS, 100.2/10.270/10): t<sub>R</sub> = 14.2 min, m/z = 203 ([M]<sup>+</sup>), 188, 160, 1446, 133, 120; **GC** (Machary-Nagel Optima-5-Amin (0.50 µm x 0.25 µm x 30 m), 60 kPa H<sub>2</sub>, 100 °C/2 min, 10°C/min, 250 °C/7 min): t<sub>R</sub> = 17.9 min; **HPLC** (Daicel Chiracel OJ-H, *n*-heptane/iso-propanol 99:1, 0.5 mL/min, 25 °C, 247/297 nm): t<sub>R</sub> = 16.1 min ((+)-A29), t<sub>R</sub> = 18.6 min ((-)-A29); **Optical Rotation**: **[a]**<sup>20</sup>/<sub>2</sub> = -0.8 (c 1.0 in CHCl<sub>3</sub> 0.75% EtOH), 50% ee.

(*S*)-(+)-*N*-(octan-2-yl)aniline (A30)<sup>27</sup>

C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>23</sub>N (205.34 g/mol):

<sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.19 – 7.13 (m, 2H), 6.68 – 6.63 (m, 1H), 6.60 – 6.55 (m, 2H), 3.46 (dt, J = 12.6, 6.2 Hz, 1H), 3.43 – 3.37 (m, 1H), 1.62 – 1.52 (m, 1H), 1.47 – 1.34 (m, 3H), 1.34 – 1.24 (m, 6H), 1.17 (d, J = 6.2 Hz, 3H), 0.92 – 0.85 (m, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  147.85, 129.40, 116.85, 113.19, 48.59, 37.38, 32.00, 29.52, 26.29, 22.78, 20.93, 14.25; **GC-MS**: (Rtx-5MS, 100.2/10.270/10): t<sub>R</sub> = 14.2 min, m/z = 205 ([M]<sup>+</sup>), 190, 132, 120; **GC** (Machary-Nagel Optima-5-Amin (0.50 µm x 0.25 µm x 30 m), 60 kPa H<sub>2</sub>, 100 °C/2 min, 10°C/min, 250 °C/7 min): t<sub>R</sub> = 18.07 min; **HPLC** (Daicel Chiracel OB-H, *n*-heptane/iso-propanol 99:1, 0.5 mL/min, 40 °C, 247/297 nm): t<sub>R</sub> = 9.97 min ((*R*)-(-)-A30), t<sub>R</sub> = 10.71 min ((*S*)-(+)-A30); **Optical Rotation**:  $[a]_D^{20} = +14.8$  (c 1.0 in CHCl<sub>3</sub>, 0.75% EtOH).

#### (-)-*N*-(1-cyclopentylethyl)aniline (A31)



C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>19</sub>N (189.30 g/mol):

<sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.15 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 6.64 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 6.58 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 3.47 (s, 1H), 3.32 (s, 1H), 1.92 (dq, *J* = 16.3, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 1.86 – 1.70 (m, 2H), 1.69 – 1.48 (m, 4H), 1.37 – 1.23 (m, 2H), 1.16 (d, *J* = 6.2 Hz, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  148.10, 129.39, 116.73, 113.14, 53.07, 46.80, 29.91, 29.62, 25.84, 25.65, 19.49; **IR** (neat, ATR) v/cm<sup>-1</sup> =

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> C. Li, B. Villa-Marcos, J. Xiao, J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2009, 131, 6967-6969

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> P. Yin and T.-P. Loh, Org. Lett. **2009**, 11, 3791-3793

3401 (w<sub>br</sub>), 3050 (w), 3017 (w), 2950 (m), 2864 (m), 1600 (s), 1502 (s), 1450 (w), 1426 (w), 1318 (m), 1250 (w), 1178 (w), 1144 (m), 1074 (w), 993 (w), 745 (s), 692 (m); **GC-MS**: (Rtx-5MS, 100.2/10.270/10):  $t_R = 13.8 \text{ min}, m/z = 189 ([M]^+), 120$ ; **GC** (Machary-Nagel Optima-5-Amin (0.50 µm x 0.25 µm x 30 m), 60 kPa H<sub>2</sub>, 100 °C/2 min, 10°C/min, 250 °C/7 min):  $t_R = 17.8 \text{ min};$  **HPLC** (Daicel Chiracel OJ-H, *n*-heptane/iso-propanol 99:1, 0.5 mL/min, 25 °C, 247/297 nm):  $t_R = 23.1 \text{ min}$  ((+)-A31),  $t_R = 26.1 \text{ min}$  ((-)-A31): **EA**: calc. C, 82.48; H, 10.12; N, 7.40; found: C, 82.19; H, 9.95; N, 7.58; **Optical Rotation**:  $[a]_p^{20} = -0.5$  (c 0.05 in CHCl<sub>3</sub> 0.75% EtOH), 76% ee.

(R)-(-)-N-(3,3-dimethylbutan-2-yl)aniline (A32)<sup>23</sup>

 $C_{12}H_{19}N$  (177.29 g/mol):

<sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.15 (t, J = 7.9 Hz, 2H,  $CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N$ ), 6.63 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H,  $CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N$ ), 6.59 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H,  $CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N$ ), 3.39 (s<sub>br</sub>, 1H, NH), 3.24 (q, J = 6.5 Hz, 1H,  $CH_{3}CH$ ), 1.09 (d, J = 6.4 Hz, 3H,  $CH_{3}CHNH$ ), 0.96 (s, 9H,  $C(CH_{3})_{3}$ ); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 148.63 ( $C_{Ar}-N$ ), 129.40 ( $CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N$ ), 116.65 ( $CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N$ ), 113.13 ( $CH_{Ar}C_{Ar}-N$ ), 57.32 (CHNH), 34.92 ( $C(CH_{3})_{3}$ ), 26.68 ( $C(CH_{3})_{3}$ ), 15.98 ( $CH_{3}CHNH$ ); **GC-MS**: (Rtx-5MS, 100.2/10.270/10): t<sub>R</sub> = 9.3 min, m/z = 177 ([M]<sup>+</sup>), 120; **GC** (Machary-Nagel Optima-5-Amin (0.50 µm x 0.25 µm x 30 m), 60 kPa H<sub>2</sub>, 100 °C/2 min, 10°C/min, 250 °C/10 min): t<sub>R</sub> = 14.1 min; **HPLC** (Daicel Chiracel OJ-H, *n*-heptane/iso-propanol 99:1, 0.5 mL/min, 25 °C, 247/297 nm): t<sub>R</sub> = 15.1 min ((*R*)-(-)-A32), t<sub>R</sub> = 18.4 min ((*S*)-(+)-A32); **Optical Rotation**: [*α*]<sup>20</sup><sub>*D*</sub> = - 65.6 (c 1.0 in CHCl<sub>3</sub>, 0.75% EtOH).

### (*R*)-N-benzyl-1-cyclohexylethanamine $(A33)^{28}$



C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>23</sub>N (217.35 g/mol):

<sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.35 – 7.28 (m, 4H), 7.26 – 7.21 (m, 1H), 3.84 (d, J = 13.1 Hz, 1H), 3.71 (d, J = 13.1 Hz, 1H), 2.50 (p, J = 6.3 Hz, 1H), 1.80 – 1.62 (m, 5H), 1.36 (tdt, J = 11.5, 5.6, 3.1 Hz, 1H), 1.30 – 1.19 (m, 2H), 1.19 – 1.10 (m, 2H), 1.03 (m, 2H), 1.03 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 3H); GC (Machary-Nagel Optima-5-Amin (0.50 µm x 0.25 µm x 30 m), 60 kPa H<sub>2</sub>, 100 °C/2 min, 10°C/min, 250 °C/7 min): t<sub>R</sub> = 20.0 min (A34); GC-MS: (Rtx-5MS, 100.2/10.270/10): t<sub>R</sub> = 16.2 min, m/z = 202 ([M-CH<sub>3</sub>]<sup>+</sup>), 134 ([M-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>11</sub>]<sup>+</sup>), 91; HPLC (Daicel Chiracel OD-H, *n*-heptane/iso-propanol 95:5, 0.8 mL/min, 25 °C, 225/287 nm): t<sub>R</sub> = 15.9 min ((*R*)-A33-1-naphtamide), t<sub>R</sub> = 19.9 min ((*S*)-A33-1-naphtamide); Optical Rotation:  $[\alpha]_{D}^{20} = -23.7^{\circ}$  (c 1.0 in CHCl<sub>3</sub> 0.75% EtOH)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> C. A. Willoughby , S. L. Buchwald, J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1994, 116, 8952-8965

(*R*)-N-(1-cyclohexylethyl)butan-1-amine (A34)



### C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>25</sub>N (183.33 g/mol):

<sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 2.63 (dt, J = 13.9, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 2.50 (dt, J = 11.3, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 2.42 (p, J = 6.2 Hz, 1H), 1.75 (dt, J = 12.4, 3.4 Hz, 2H), 1.71 – 1.61 (m, 3H), 1.45 (p, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.34 (h, J = 7.5 Hz, 3H), 1.27 – 0.98 (m, 5H), 0.97 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 3H), 0.91 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 0.81 (s, 1H, NH); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 58.03, 47.54, 43.06, 32.79, 30.18, 28.10, 26.96, 26.85, 26.69, 20.76, 16.98, 14.19; **IR** (neat, ATR) v/cm<sup>-1</sup> = 2956 (m), 2920 (s), 2851 (s), 2809 (w), 1463 (w), 1447 (m), 1370 (m), 1154 (w), 1124 (w), 890 (w), 834 (w); **GC** (Machary-Nagel Optima-5-Amin (0.50 μm x 0.25 μm x 30 m), 60 kPa H<sub>2</sub>, 100 °C/2 min, 10°C/min, 250 °C/7 min): t<sub>R</sub> = 13.7 min (A35); **GC-MS**: (Rtx-5MS, 100.2/10.270/10): t<sub>R</sub> = 9.0 min m/z = 168 ([M-CH<sub>3</sub>]<sup>+</sup>), 140, 100 ([M-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>11</sub>]<sup>+</sup>); **GC** (MEGA Diethyl-terbutylsilyl-b-086 (0.25 μm x 0.25 mm x 25 m), 60 kPa H<sub>2</sub>, 90 °C/10 min, 1°C/min to 120°C, 10°C/min to 180°C, 10 min): t<sub>R</sub> = 21.7 min ((*S*)-A34), t<sub>R</sub> = 22.1 min ((*R*)-A34); **HRMS**: calc. 183.1987, found: 184.2062 (M+H); **Optical Rotation**: [*a*]<sup>20</sup><sub>*p*</sub> = - 12.2° (c 1.0 in CHCl<sub>3</sub> 0.75% EtOH)

#### (*R*)-*N*-(1-cyclohexylethyl)propan-2-amine (A35)

C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>23</sub>N (169.31 g/mol):

<sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 2.84 (hept, J = 6.3 Hz, 1H), 2.48 (p, J = 6.3 Hz, 1H), 1.73 (dt, J = 11.8, 3.5 Hz, 2H), 1.64 (q, J = 11.4 Hz, 3H), 1.28 (tq, J = 11.3, 3.4 Hz, 1H), 1.20 (dddd, J = 15.9, 9.7, 5.1, 3.3 Hz, 2H), 1.16 – 1.08 (m, 1H), 1.02 (d, J = 6.3 Hz, 3H), 0.99 (d, J = 6.2 Hz, 3H), 0.97 (m, 1H), 0.96 (m, H), 0.94 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 3H), 0.63 (s, 1H, NH); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 54.64, 45.69, 43.23, 30.33, 27.93, 26.97, 26.86, 26.67, 23.99, 23.27, 17.54; **GC-MS**: (Rtx-5MS, 100.2/10.270/10): t<sub>R</sub> = 6.1 min, m/z = 154 ([M-CH<sub>3</sub>]<sup>+</sup>), 86; **GC** (Machary-Nagel Optima-5-Amin (0.50 μm x 0.25 μm x 30 m), 60 kPa H<sub>2</sub>, 100 °C/2 min, 10°C/min, 250 °C/7 min): t<sub>R</sub> = 11.1 min; **GC** (MEGA Diethyl-terbutylsilyl-b-086 (0.25 μm x 0.25 mm x 25 m), 60 kPa H<sub>2</sub>, 100 °C/2 min, 1°C/min to 135°C, 10°C/min to 180°C, 10 min): t<sub>R</sub> = 32.1 min ((*R*)-A35-acetamide), t<sub>R</sub> = 32.4 min ((*S*)-A35-acetamide); **IR** (neat, ATR) v/cm<sup>-1</sup> = 2959 (m), 2921 (s), 2851 (s), 1465 (m), 1448 (m), 1377 (m), 1336 (w), 1168 (m), 1134 (w), 890 (w), 834 (w), 713 (m); **HRMS:** calc. 169.1830, found: 170.1901 (M+H); **Optical Rotation:**  $[a]_{p}^{20} = -13.6$  (c 1.0 in CHCl<sub>3</sub> 0.75% EtOH).

#### (R)-N-(1-cyclohexylethyl)cyclohexanamine (A36)



<sup>1</sup>**H-NMR** (500 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  2.59 – 2.49 (m, 1H), 2.49 – 2.38 (m, 1H), 1.83 (t, *J* = 14.5 Hz, 2H), 1.77 – 1.55 (m, 8H), 1.33 – 0.96 (m, 11H), 0.95 (d, *J* = 6.5 Hz, 3H), 0.66 (s, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H}-NMR (101 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  54.23, 54.09, 43.36, 34.79, 34.05, 30.32, 28.10, 26.96, 26.84, 26.67, 26.40, 25.51, 25.35, 17.85; **GC-MS** (Rtx-5MS, 50.2/30.250/5): t<sub>R</sub> = 8.2 min, *m/z* = 209 ([M]<sup>+</sup>), 194, 166,

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127, 126, 44; **GC** (Machary-Nagel Optima-5-Amin (0.50 μm x 0.25 μm x 30 m), 60 kPa H<sub>2</sub>, 100 °C/2 min, 10°C/min, 250 °C/7 min): t<sub>R</sub> = 17.6 min; **HPLC** (Daicel Chiracel OD-H, *n*-heptane/iso-propanol 97:3, 0.5 mL/min, 40 °C, 225/284 nm): t<sub>R</sub> = 19.2 min ((*S*)-A36-1-naphtamide), t<sub>R</sub> = 21.3 min ((*R*)-A36-1-naphtamide); **IR** (neat, ATR) v/cm<sup>-1</sup> = 2919 (s), 2848 (s), 1463 (m), 1447 (m), 1371 (m), 1155 (w), 1115 (w), 888 (w), 843 (w); **HRMS:** calc. 209.2143, found: 210.2217 (M+H); **Optical Rotation:**  $[a]_D^{20} = -17.3$  (c 1.0 in CHCl<sub>3</sub> 0.75% EtOH).

### Crystal Structures

Single crystals were obtained by layering a solution of **5** in THF with diethylether and **7** in  $CH_2Cl_2$  with pentane. The crystals were mounted with an oil drop on a glass fiber and frozen in the cold gas stream of a CRYOstream cooler. Data collection was carried out at 173 K using the "Collect" data collection software (Nonius BV, 2002). The structure were solved with SIR92 or SIR97 and refined with *CRYSTALS*. The plots have been created using the program *Mercury*.

The structure of 7 presented very big problems on various levels. The best crystals that could be obtained after numerous crystallization experiments were far from optimal for a structure determination. Apart from the fact that diffraction stopped to be observable at quite low Theta values it also seems that they were multiply twinned. The triclinic unit cell did not permit transformation to higher symmetry, even if the structure vaguely suggested the presence of a  $3_1$  axes as a symmetry element. Attempts to use alternative methods to determine the unit cell, for instance the program "cell\_now", always confirmed the strange unit cell with two axes a and b of approximately the same dimension and the angle  $\gamma$  of about 120 degrees, but angles  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  far away from 90 degrees which makes transformation to a higher symmetry impossible.

The Z value of the structure is 12. The data quality did not permit to locate all atoms, and like that the refinement finished at some intermediate state. Nevertheless the structure seems to demonstrate that all 12 complex molecules have the same configuration. While all peripheral groups are fuzzy the coordination sphere seems to be determined well enough to identify the compound and confirm its main geometrical features.

Nevertheless the refinement could, even with big efforts, not be brought to a level that would permit the deposition with the CCDC. For this reason the structure is mentioned here as unfinished work.





Compound	5	7
Molecular Formula	$C_{42}H_{44}F_6Ir_1N_2O_2P_2$	$C_{36}H_{53}Cl_3IrN_2O_2P$
Formula Weight [g*mol <sup>-1</sup> ]	976.98	874.25
Shape	plate	-
Colour	Yellow	Yellow
Temperature [K]	173K	173K
Crystal size	$0.04 \cdot 0.06 \cdot 0.40 \text{ mm}^3$	-
Crystal system	hexagonal	triclinic
Space group	P 6 <sub>3</sub>	P 1
a [Å]	19.4370(2) Å	20.3432(8) Å
b [Å]	19.4370(2) Å	20.3463(8) Å
c [Å]	18.1371(2) Å	32.2232(19) Å
α [°]	90°	91.006(3)°
β [°]	90°	99.548(3)°
γ [°]	120°	119.941(2)°
Volume [Å <sup>3</sup> ]	5934.13(11) Å <sup>3</sup>	11318.5(10) Å <sup>3</sup>
Ζ	6	12
Density (calc.) [g*cm <sup>-1</sup> ]	$1.640 \text{ Mg} \cdot \text{m}^{-3}$	$1.234 \text{ Mg} \cdot \text{m}^{-3}$
$\mu$ (Mo K $\alpha$ ) [mm <sup>-1</sup> ]	$3.523 \text{ mm}^{-1}$	3.781 mm <sup>-1</sup>
Transmission (min/max)	0.81 / 0.87	-
Radiation type	Mo $K_{\alpha}$ ( $\lambda = 0.71073$ Å)	Mo $K_{\alpha}$ (λ = 0.71073 Å)
F(000)	2922	3945.800
Reflections measured	47359	149545
Reflections independent	9429 (merging $r = 0.065$ )	87895 (merging r = 0.049)
Reflections used	5400 (I>3.0o(I))	52759 (I>2.0σ(I))
Number of parameters	497	1914
R (observed data)	0.0216	0.1174
R <sub>W</sub> (all data)	0.0234	0.2026
goodness-of-fit on F	0.7012	0.4068

### **Ligand Screening**



Entry	Ligand	Conv.[%]	ee [%]
1	L1	>99	24 (R)
2	L2	>99	18 (R)
3	L3	>99	18 (R)
4	L4	>99	14 (R)
5	L5	97	7
6	L6	>99	8
7	L7	39	nd
8	L8	51	nd
9	L9	>99	14
10	L10	13	nd
11	L11	95	10
12	L12	33	nd
13	L13	43	nd
14	L14	>99	3
15	L15	>99	13
16	L16	31	rac.
17	L17	97	11
18	L18	>99	21
19	L19	>99	18
20	L20	>99	17
21	L21	>99	11
22	L22	>99	10
23	L23	>99	2
24	L24	>99	4
25	L25	30	nd
26	L26	>99	3
27	L27	>99	2
28	L28	>99	12
29	L29	>99	3
30	L30	>99	15





E1: R<sub>1</sub>=<sup>4</sup>Bu, R<sub>2</sub>=Ph L2: R<sub>1</sub>=<sup>4</sup>Pr, R<sub>2</sub>=Ph L3: R<sub>1</sub>=<sup>4</sup>Bu, R<sub>2</sub>=Cy

L4: R1=Pr, R2=Cy

 $R_2$ 

 $\begin{array}{c} & & P^{r} \\ & & N \\ & & R_{2}P \\ & & N \\ & & R_{1} \\ \end{array}$ 

L7: R<sub>1</sub>='Bu, R<sub>2</sub>=o-Tol L8: R<sub>1</sub>='Bu, R<sub>2</sub>=Ph L9: R<sub>1</sub>='Pr, R<sub>2</sub>=Ph L10: R<sub>1</sub>='Bu, R<sub>2</sub>=Cy L11: R<sub>1</sub>='Pr, R<sub>2</sub>=Cy L12: R<sub>1</sub>='Pr, R<sub>2</sub>='Bu L13: R<sub>1</sub>='Pr, R<sub>2</sub>='Bu



 $L14: R_1 \!=\! {}^{t}\!Bu, R_2 \!=\! o \!\!-\! Tol \\ L15: R_1 \!=\! {}^{t}\!Pr, R_2 \!=\! Ph \\ L16: R_1 \!=\! {}^{t}\!Bu, R_2 \!=\! {}^{t}\!Bu \\ L17: R_1 \!=\! {}^{t}\!Bu, R_2 \!=\! Cy \\ L18: R_1 \!=\! {}^{t}\!Pr, R_2 \!=\! Cy$ 

R<sub>2</sub>



L20:  $R_1 = {}^tBu$ ,  $R_2 = o$ -Tol L L21:  $R_1 = {}^tBu$ ,  $R_2 = Ph$  L L22:  $R_1 = {}^tPr$ ,  $R_2 = Ph$  L

R<sub>1</sub>

L23: n=1, R='Bu L24: n=1, R=Ph L26: n=2, R=o-Tol L27: n=2, R=Ph

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0' R<sub>2</sub>P



L29: R=Cy L30: R=Ph



Ph

### **Competition experiment**

Throughout the catalytic reaction, neither imine **I1** nor amine **A1** can be observed by GC analysis. However, once the substrated is fully reduced, a new peak at  $t_R = 23$  min appears and rises at the end of the reaction to about 2%. This decomposition product has not been identified or further investigated.











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### **Concentration series**

To an equimolar mixture of **I2** and **A2** was added **I1** and **A1** in different concentrations to detect the minimal threshold in GC analysis of these substrates. They can already be detected at concentrations as low as 0.1 mol%.



#### 0.5 mol%:

Analysis Date & Time	: 12/26/2012 9:17:46 AM
User Name	: User
Vial#	:27
Sample Name	: YSIV743 0.5mol%
Sample ID	
Sample Type	: Unknown
Injection Volume	:1.00
ISTD Amount	:
Data Name	: D:\DATA\York\YSIV743 05mol%.gcd
Method Name	: D:\DATA\York\Methode Line 2 amine_mittellang_methoxyimin.gcm
Intencity	









### Assignment of the absolute configuration:

The absolute configuration of A3, A28, A30 and A32 was assigned by comparison of the chiral staionary phase GC or HPLC data obtained after conducting a Buchwald-Hartwig amination.<sup>29</sup>



The absolute configuration of A33 to A36 was assigned by comparison of the chiral staionary phase GC or HPLC data obtained after condensation of (R)-cyclohexylethylamine with the corresonding aldehyde and subsequent reduction with NaBH<sub>4</sub> or LiAlH<sub>4</sub>.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> Q. Shen, S. Shekhar, J. P. Stambuli, J. F. Hartwig, Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2005, 44, 1371-1375









Peak#	Ret. Time	Height	Area	Area%
1 31.246		68088	7994697	49.963
2 36.110 Total		10 56439 80		50.037
		124527	16001189	100.000

mAU



PDA Ch2 297nm Peak# Ret. Time

Peak#	Ret. Time	Height	Area	Area%		
1	30.005	725	34796	0.289		
2	31.115	87082	11055434	91.786	7	04.1
3	36.507	7557	954612	7.925	Š	84 1
Total		95365	12044842	100.000		



PDA Ch2 297nm							
Peak#	Ret. Time	Height	Area	Area%			
1	32.275	156101	11741060	91.997			
2	38.168	13037	1021403	8.003			
Total		169139	12762464	100.000			





Peak#	Ret. Time	Height	Area	Area%	
1	23.040	73324	1911766	50.234	
2	26.253	61664	1893984	49.766	
Total		134988	3805750	100.000	



PDA Ch2 297nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Height	Area	Area%	
1	24.356	29165	954064	18.201	212568
2	27.604	109881	4287784	81.799	263,000
Total		139046	5241848	100.000	





Peak#	Ret. Time	Height	Area	Area%
1	15.175	256078	4782576	49.961
2	18.350	200273	4790128	50.039
Total		456350	9572704	100.000



Peak#	Ret. Time	Height	Area	Area%		
1	17.150	136557	2992392	71.911	<b>1</b>	
2	20.532	3243	91804	2.206	4'069'442	47,077
3	21.291	37948	1077050	25.883	7	
Total		177747	4161246	100.000		





	Peak#	Ret. Time	Height	Area	Area%
	1	9.979	118511	1654369	49.948
	2	10.725	95686	1657784	50.052
ſ	Total		214197	3312152	100.000



PDA C	h2 297nm				
Peak#	Ret. Time	Height	Area	Area%	
1	9.976	169269	2418559	78.794	7-2-50
2	10.737	36191	650908	21.206	5 37,300
Tota	1	205461	3069467	100.000	







Peak#	Ret. Time	Height	Area	Area%	
1	19.079	173496	3550850	50.591	
2	21.608	145939	3467845	49.409	
Total		319435	7018695	100.000	



PDA C	h2 297nm					
Peak#	Ret. Time	Height	Area	Area%		
1	19.248	47004	1157581	23.582	2	r 2 0/1
2	21.686	140120	3751066	76.418	5	52,89
Total		187124	4908646	100.000		




PDA Ch2 297nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Height	Area	Area%
1	19.624	282804	6518241	49.828
2	22.496	242837	6563228	50.172
Total		525641	13081469	100.000

mAU



PDA	Ch2 297nm	
Peak	# Ret. Time	Height

Peak#	Ret. Time	Height	Area	Area%		
1	20.100	9899	330362	9.550	2	81.9
2	22.454	103484	3128783	90.450	5	00,0
Total		113383	3459145	100.000		





PDA Ch2 295nm							
Peak#	Ret. Time	Height	Area	Area%			
1	20.460	121696	3702809	50.106			
2	22.835	95110	3687109	49.894			
Total		216806	7389918	100.000			

mAU



PDA C	h2 295nm				
Peak#	Ret. Time	Height	Area	Area%	
1	21.143	31581	1007597	86.345	7-20
2	23.237	4575	159349	13.655	542,65
Total		36156	1166946	100.000	





PD	Α	С	h2	28	84nr	n	
(n	•		n		m.		

Peak#	Ret. Time	Height	Area	Area%
1	13.498	138286	4661850	51.934
2	15.999	98278	4314656	48.066
Total		236565	8976506	100.000

mAU

Total



25.510

68.573 5.917

100.000

9362740

3 54,083

PDA C	nz 284mm			
Peak#	Ret. Time	Height	Area	Area%
1	13.603	73430	2388471	25.5
2	16.046	147103	6420273	68.5
3	17.581	15464	553996	5.9

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45,8	٧.	e C
		-

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mAU



PDA Ch2 284nm

Peak#	Ret. Time	Height	Area	Area%
1	19.238	265837	9745832	49.511
2	21.274	160475	9938165	50.489
Total		426312	19683997	100.000

mAU



PDA C	h2 284nm			
Peak#	Ret. Time	Height	Area	Area%
1	19.321	42688	1474299	11.553
2	21.291	181961	11287356	88.447
Total		224650	12761655	100.000



6 f1 (ppm)

## Electronic Supplementary Material (ESI) for Chemical Science This journal is © The Royal Society of Chemistry 2013











































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H <sub>3</sub> C CH <sub>3</sub>						
Ung						
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	mmun	an a	alean Hadran In III la la gana ann an ann ann ann ann ann ann an	90.400mm/lucensespinesessionenenenenenenenenenenenenenenenenen	mmanlimed	โลกสุดที่สุดของและสุดที่สุด ในการและสุดรายและสะความแต่ต่องสำนาดและสามาร์และสุดที่สุด
210 200 190 180 170 160	150	140	130 120 110 100 90	80 70 60 50 4	0	30 20 10 0 -10











f1 (ppm)

-1

-4












































