

**Supporting Information**  
**Experimental**

***Highly Enantioselective Borane Reduction of Heteroaryl and Heterocyclic  
Ketoxime Ethers Catalyzed by Novel Spiroborate Ester derived from Diphenyl  
Valinol· Application to the Synthesis of Nicotine Analogues***

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## I. General Procedures

Air- and moisture sensitive reactions were carried out in dried glassware under N<sub>2</sub> atmosphere. Common solvents were dried and distilled by standard procedures. All reagents were obtained commercially unless otherwise noted. Chromatographic purification of products was accomplished using flash chromatography on a silica gel Si 60 Å (200-400 mesh).

GC-MS analysis was processed on a GC/ Mass detector using a Restek RTX- 5MS column. Chiral gas chromatography analysis was processed on a GC equipped with a CP-Chirasil-DexCB column (30 m × 0.25 mm × 0.25 μm). Chiral HPLC analysis was processed with a Chiralcel-IB or OD-H column.

## II Experimental procedures and characterizations

**1. General Procedure for Oximes Synthesis: Method A:** To a suspension of NH<sub>2</sub>OH·HCl (20 mmol) in EtOH (50 mL) was added the corresponding ketone (10 mmol) in 10 mL ethanol. Then, a solution of Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (10 mmol) in water (10 mL) was added dropwise. The resulting solution was heated at 60-65 °C overnight. Most of the ethanol was evaporated and then 60 mL water was added. The aqueous phase was extracted with ether (3×50 mL) and the combined organic phases were dried over Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. The solvents were removed under vacuum and the residue was recrystallized. **Method B:** A 100 mL round bottom flask was charged with magnetic stirrer, corresponding ketone (10 mmol), NH<sub>2</sub>OH·HCl (30 mmol), pyridine (3 mL) and EtOH (40 mL). The mixture was stirred and monitored by TLC until the ketone was consumed (around 3 h). The solvents were evaporated under reduced pressure and the residue treated with 5% aqueous NaHCO<sub>3</sub> solution (40 mL). The aqueous phase was extracted with ether (3×50 mL) and the combined organic phases were dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. The solvents were removed under vacuum and the residue was recrystallized or purified by flash column chromatography.

### 2. Experimental Data of new and known oximes

**(E)-1-(Thiophen-3yl)ethanone oxime<sup>1</sup>(13a).** Method A, Purified by recrystallization in hexane; yield 98% (20.6 g); mp 117-118 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 2.35 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 7.3-7.5 (m, 3H, Het), 9.45 (br, 1H, OH) ppm; <sup>13</sup>CNMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 12.6, 123.9, 125.0, 126.3, 138.6, 152.3 ppm; IR ν (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 2921, 1639, 1467, 1584, 1364; GC-MS *m/z* 141.0 (M<sup>+</sup>).

**(E)-1-(2,5-Dimethylthiophen-3-yl)ethanone oxime<sup>2</sup> (13b).** Method B, Purified by recrystallization in hexane; yield 75 % (1.9 g); mp 80-81 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 2.25 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.45 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.54 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 6.7 (d, 1H, *J* = 0.8 Hz, Het), 9.01 (br, 1H, OH)

ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  14.7, 14.9, 15.1, 125.5, 133.4, 135.6, 135.7, 153.8 ppm; GC-MS  $m/z$  169.0 ( $\text{M}^+$ )

**(E)-Chroman-4-one oxime<sup>3</sup> (13c) (Method A).** Purified by recrystallization in hexane; yield 91% (3.0 g); mp 132-133 °C (lit.<sup>3c</sup> mp 139-141 °C);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  3.05 (t, 2H  $J$  = 6.4 Hz,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 4.31 (t,  $J$  = 6.4 Hz, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 6.98 (m, 2H, Ar), 7.32 (m, 1H, Ar), 7.86 (m, 1H, Ar), 8.15 (s, 1H, OH) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  23.4, 65.0, 117.8, 118.3, 121.5, 124.1, 131.2, 150.0, 156.7 ppm; GC-MS  $m/z$  163.1 ( $\text{M}^+$ ).

**(E)-6-Chlorochroman-4-one oxime<sup>4</sup> (13d) (Method A).** Purified by recrystallization in hexane; yield 73% (2.2 g): mp 128 °C, yield:  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  3.02 (t, 2H,  $J$  = 6.4 Hz,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 4.28 (t, 2H,  $J$  = 6.4 Hz,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 6.91 (m, 1H, Ar), 7.26 (m, 1H, Ar), 7.80 (s, 1H, OH), 7.85 (m, 1H, Ar) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  23.1, 65.1, 119.2, 119.5, 123.7, 126.7, 131.0, 149.1, 155.2 ppm; GC-MS  $m/z$  197.1 ( $\text{M}^+$ ).

**(E)-Thiochroman-4-one oxime<sup>3</sup> (13e) (Method A).** Purified by recrystallization in hexane; yield 78% (2.5 g): mp 89-91 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 Hz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  3.03 (t, 2H,  $J$  = 6 Hz,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 3.23 (t, 2H,  $J$  = 6 Hz,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 7.2 (m, 1H, Ar), 7.3 (m, 2H, Ar), 7.96 (m, 1H, Ar), 8.27 (s, 1H, OH) ppm ;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  26.0, 26.1, 125.5, 125.9, 128.4, 129.3, 129.6, 136.2, 153.6 ppm; GC-MS  $m/z$  179.1 ( $\text{M}^+$ ).

**(E)-6-Chlorothiochroman-4-one oxime<sup>5</sup>(13f) (Method B).** Purified by crystallization using Hex/AcOEt (8:2); yield 74% (1.48 g); mp 78-80 °C;  $^1\text{H}$ NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  2.27(t, 2H,  $J$  = 6.0 Hz,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 2.83(t, 2H,  $J$  = 6.0 Hz,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 6.9 (m, 2H, Ar), 7.72 (s, 1H, Ar), 8.33 (s, 1H, Ar) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  25.2, 25.3, 125.8, 128.9, 129.4, 131.0, 131.4, 135.0, 152.0 ppm; IR  $\nu$  ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) 3738, 3166, 2939, 2369, 2182, 1900, 1546, 1458, 1391, 1294, 1238, 1090, 1052, 967; GC-MS  $m/z$  213.1 ( $\text{M}^+$ ), 196.1 ( $\text{M}^+$ -OH).

**(E)-1-(Pyridine-2-yl)ethanone oxime (14) (Method B).** Purified by recrystallization in hexane:AcOEt (1:1); yield 88 % (6.5 g): mp 108-109 °C (lit.<sup>6a</sup> mp 124-125 °C);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  2.46 (s, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 7.32 (m, 1H, Py), 7.7 (m, 1H, Py), 7.9 (m, 1H, Py), 8.7 (m, 1H, Py), 9.02 (br, 1H, OH);  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  10.7, 120.6, 123.7, 136.4, 149.0, 154.4, 157.1; GC-MS  $m/z$  136.1 ( $\text{M}^+$ ).

**(E)-1-(Pyridine-3-yl)ethanone oxime (14a) (Method B).** Purified by recrystallization in hexane:AcOEt (1:1); yield 70% (5.2 g): mp 117-118 °C (lit.<sup>6d</sup> mp 118 °C);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  2.36 (s, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 7.36 (m, 1H, Py), 8.0 (m, 1H, Py), 8.65 (m, 1H, Py), 9.00 (m, 1H, Py), 9.9 (br, 1H, OH);  $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  11.7, 123.4, 132.8, 133.6, 147.3, 149.6, 153.1; GC-MS  $m/z$  136.2 ( $\text{M}^+$ ).

**(E)-1-(Pyridine-3-yl)propan-1-one oxime<sup>7</sup> (14b) (Method B).** Purified by recrystallization in EtOH; yield 59 % (0.89 g): mp 107-108 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 1.24 (t, 3H, *J* = 7.6, CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.90 (q, 2H, *J* = 7.6, CH<sub>2</sub>), 7.4 (m, 1H, Py), 8.0 (m, 1H, Py), 8.7 (m, 1H, Py), 8.97 (m, 1H, Py), 9.41 (s, 1H, OH); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 10.8, 19.2, 123.4, 131.7, 133.7, 147.5, 149.7, 158.2; GC-MS *m/z* 150.1 (M<sup>+</sup>).

**(E)-1-(6-Methoxypyridin-3-yl)ethanone oxime (14c) (Method B).** Purified by recrystallization in hexane:AcOEt (1:1); yield 84 % (0.69 g): mp 101-102 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 2.27 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.97 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 6.76 (m, 1H, Py), 7.9 (m, 1H, Py), 8.40 (m, 1H, Py), 8.73 (s, 1H, OH) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 11.7, 53.7, 110.9, 125.8, 136.2, 144.9, 153.5, 164.7 ppm; IR ν (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3198, 3059, 2915, 1607, 1568, 1501, 1360, 1294, 1254, 1175, 1128, 1085, 1021, 999, 920, 824, 731; GC-MS *m/z* 166.1 (M<sup>+</sup>); Anal. Calcd for C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>10</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>; C, 57.82; H, 6.07; N, 16.86; Found: C, 57.77; H, 6.01; N, 16.69.

**(E)-Cyclopropyl(pyridine-3-yl)methanone oxime (14d) (Method B).** Purified by column chromatography on silica gel/hex: AcOEt (1:2-1:1); yield 58 % (1.89 g): mp 126-127 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 0.71 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 1.1 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.3 (m, 1H, CH), 7.3 (m, 1H, Py), 7.8 (m, 1H, Py), 8.6 (m, 1H, Py), 8.7 (m, 1H, Py), 10.1 (s, 1H, OH) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 5.6, 8.9, 123.0, 130.8, 135.8, 149.0, 149.4, 158.3 ppm; IR ν (cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3135, 3020, 2842, 2754, 1624, 1593, 1574, 1480, 1463, 1412, 1352, 1309, 1191, 1104, 1029, 994, 939, 907, 882, 809, 711; GC-MS *m/z* 162.1 (M<sup>+</sup>); Anal. Calcd for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>10</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O; C, 66.65; H, 6.21; N, 17.27; Found: C, 66.77; H, 6.21; N, 17.23.

**(E)-Phenyl(pyridine-3-yl)methanone oxime<sup>8</sup> (14e) (Method B).** Purified by recrystallization in EtOH; yield 62 % (1.22 g): mp 167-168 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.38-7.53 (m, 6H, Ph, Py), 7.84 (m, 1H, Py), 8.73 (d, 1H, *J* = 2.0 Hz, Py), 9.49 (s, 1H, OH); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 123.2, 127.7, 128.6, 129.0, 129.8, 135.7, 137.3, 149.7, 150.1, 155.0; GC-MS *m/z* 197.1 (M<sup>+</sup>).

**(E)-1-(Pyridine-4-yl)ethanone oxime<sup>6b,c</sup> (14f) (Method B).** Purified by recrystallization in hexane:AcOEt (1:1); yield 82 % (6.1 g): mp 153-155 °C (lit.<sup>6c</sup> mp 156-157 °C); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 2.29 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 7.6 (m, 2H, Py), 8.6 (m, 2H, Py), 10.54 (s, 1H, OH); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 11.3, 120.4, 144.7, 149.7, 153.2; GC-MS *m/z* 136.1 (M<sup>+</sup>).

**(E)-1-(Pyridine-4-yl)propan-1-one oxime<sup>9</sup> (14g) (Method B).** Purified by recrystallization in EtOH; yield 66 % (0.99 g): mp 144-145 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 1.23 (t, 3H, *J* = 7.6, CH<sub>3</sub>), 2.9 (q, 2H, *J* = 7.6, CH<sub>2</sub>), 7.6 (dd, 2H, *J*<sub>1</sub> = 2, *J*<sub>2</sub> = 6.4, Py), 8.7 (dd, 2H, *J*<sub>1</sub> = 2, *J*<sub>2</sub> = 6.4,

Py), 9.17 (s, 1H, OH) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  10.8, 18.7, 120.5, 143.4, 150.0, 158.5 ppm; GC-MS  $m/z$  150.1 ( $\text{M}^+$ ).

**(E)-Cyclopropyl(pyridine-4-yl)methanone oxime (14h<sub>E</sub>) (Method B).** Purified by column chromatography on silica gel/hexane: AcOEt (1:1); yield 57% (1.81 g): mp 90-91 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  0.73 (m, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 1.1 (m, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 2.2 (m, 1H, CH), 7.45 (dd, 2H,  $J = 1.6, 6.4$  Hz, Py), 8.7 (dd, 2H,  $J = 1.6, 6.4$  Hz, Py), 9.38 (s, 1H, OH) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  5.9, 8.5, 122.6, 143.0, 149.6, 158.7 ppm; IR  $\nu$  ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) 3071, 2902, 2793, 1642, 1606, 1545, 1486, 1408, 1314, 1346, 1262, 1067, 1033, 1001, 950, 905, 816, 754; GC-MS  $m/z$  162.1 ( $\text{M}^+$ ); Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_9\text{H}_{10}\text{N}_2\text{O}$ ; C, 66.65; H, 6.21; N, 17.27; Found: C, 66.69; H, 6.23; N, 17.30.

**(Z)-Cyclopropyl(pyridine-4-yl)methanone oxime (14h<sub>Z</sub>) (Method B).** Yield 9.5% (0.325g): mp 87-88 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  0.89 (m, 4H, 2 $\text{CH}_2$ ), 1.8 (m, 1H, CH), 7.4 (dd, 2H,  $J = 1.6, 6.4$  Hz Py), 8.46 (br, 1H, OH), 8.7 (dd, 2H,  $J = 1.6, 6.4$  Hz, Py) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  5.9, 14.9, 122.7, 141.5, 149.8, 157.2 ppm; GC-MS  $m/z$  162.2 ( $\text{M}^+$ ).

**(E)-1-(Pyridine-3-yl)-4-(triisopropylsilyloxy)-butan-1-one oxime (14i) (Method B).** Purified by recrystallization in hexane; yield 74% (2.5 g): mp 68-69 °C;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  1.09-1.18 (m, 21H, TIPS), 1.9 (m, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 2.98 (m, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 3.83 (t, 2H,  $J = 6.0$  Hz,  $\text{OCH}_2$ ), 7.33-7.37 (m, 1H, Py), 8.0 (m, 1H, Py), 8.7 (m, 1H, Py), 8.75 (br, 1H, OH), 9.00 (s, 1H, Py) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  12.0, 18.0, 22.4, 29.5, 62.8, 123.3, 131.8, 133.7, 147.7, 149.9, 157.4 ppm; IR  $\nu$  ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ) 3142, 3047, 1941, 2921, 1625, 1494, 1458, 1406, 1383, 1329, 1240, 1178, 1094, 1064, 1.039, 995, 974, 947, 881, 808, 725, 708; GC-MS  $m/z$  336.3 ( $\text{M}^+$ ); Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{32}\text{N}_2\text{O}_2\text{Si}$ ; C, 64.24; H, 9.58; N, 8.32; Found: C, 64.09; H, 9.30; N, 8.26.

### 3. Experimental Data of Known Benzylloximes:

**(E)-Chroman-4-one O-benzyl-oxime<sup>10</sup> (15c)** Purified by column chromatography on silica gel/hex: AcOEt (9:1) as a colorless oil; yield 88% (2.1 g):  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  3.03 (t,  $J = 6.0$  Hz, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 4.26 (t,  $J = 6.0$  Hz, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 5.31 (s, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 7.02 (m, 2H, Ar), 7.31 (m, 1H, Ar), 7.37 (m, 1H, Ar), 7.40 (m, 2H, Ar), 7.46 (m, 1H, Ar), 7.50 (m, 1H, Ar), 8.01 (m, 1H, Ar) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  24.3, 65.0, 76.5, 117.7, 118.6, 121.4, 124.4, 127.9, 128.2 3, 128.4, 130.9, 137.9, 148.8, 156.7 ppm; GC/MS  $m/z$  253.1 ( $\text{M}^+$ ), 91.1 ( $\text{PhCH}_2^+$ ).

**(E)-1-(Pyridine-3-yl)ethanone O-benzyl oxime<sup>11</sup> (16a).** Purified by column chromatography on silica gel/hex: AcOEt (2:1) as a colorless oil; yield 92% (6.21 g);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  2.37 (s, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 5.31 (s, 2H,  $\text{OCH}_2\text{Ph}$ ), 7.30-7.49 (m, 6H, Ph, Py), 7.99 (m, 1H, Py),

8.63 (m, 1H, Py), 8.92 (m, 1H, Py) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  12.5, 76.5, 123.2, 127.9, 128.3, 128.4, 132.3, 133.3, 137.8, 147.5, 150.0, 152.5 ppm; GC-MS  $m/z$  226.2 ( $\text{M}^+$ ).

**(E)-Phenyl(pyridine-3-yl)methanone O-benzyl oxime<sup>12</sup> (17).** Purified by column chromatography on silica gel/hex: AcOEt (2:1) as a colorless oil; yield 87 % (0.625 g);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  5.30 (s, 2H,  $\text{OCH}_2\text{Ph}$ ), 7.3-7.5 (m, 11H, Ph, Py), 7.73 (m, 1H, Py), 8.68 (d, 1H,  $J = 1.2$ , Py) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  76.7, 123.1, 127.8, 127.9, 128.2, 128.4, 128.5, 129.3, 129.7, 135.7, 136.9, 137.7, 149.8, 150.2, 154.3 ppm; GC-MS  $m/z$  288.2 ( $\text{M}^+$ ).

**(E)-1-(Pyridine-4-yl)ethanone O-benzyl oxime<sup>13</sup> (18a).** Purified by column chromatography on silicon gel/hex: AcOEt (2:1) as a white solid; yield 89% (5.75 g): mp 41-42 °C  $^1\text{H}$ NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  2.30 (s, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 5.32 (s, 2H,  $\text{OCH}_2\text{Ph}$ ), 7.4-7.5 (m, 5H, Ph), 7.7 (m, 2H, Ar), 8.66 (m, 2H, Ar) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$ NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  12.1, 76.7, 120.2, 128.0, 128.3, 128.5, 137.6, 143.8, 150.1, 152.7 ppm; GC-MS  $m/z$  226.2 ( $\text{M}^+$ ).

**(E)-1-(Pyridine-2-yl)ethanone O-benzyl oxime<sup>13</sup> (25).** Purified by column chromatography on silica gel/hex: AcOEt (2:1) as a colorless oil; yield 89% (5.78 g);  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  2.47 (s, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 5.33 (s, 2H,  $\text{OCH}_2\text{Ph}$ ), 7.3-7.5 (m, 6H, Ar), 7.7 (m, 1H, Py), 7.9 (m, 1H, Py), 8.6 (m, 1H, Py) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  11.4, 76.4, 120.7, 123.5, 127.8, 128.1, 128.4, 136.1, 138.0, 148.8, 154.4, 156.2 ppm; GC-MS  $m/z$  226.2 ( $\text{M}^+$ ).

#### 4. Experimental Data of Known Acetamides

**(S)-N-(Chroman-4-yl)acetamide (20c).** Purified by column chromatography on silica gel /hex: AcOEt (1:1) as a white solid; yield: 76 % (0.145 g), mp 186-187 °C (lit<sup>14</sup> mp 189 – 190 °C); 94% *ee*,  $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{20} = -83.2$  (c 1.00,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ );  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  2.08 (s, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 2.3 (m, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 4.21 (m, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 5.18 (m, 2H, CH), 5.60 (s, 1H, NH), 6.87 (m, 1H, Ar), 6.96 (m, 1H, Ar), 7.23 (m, 1H, Ar) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  23.5, 29.0, 43.7, 63.2, 117.2, 120.8, 121.9, 129.3, 129.4, 155.2, 169.4 ppm; GC/MS  $m/z$  191.1 ( $\text{M}^+$ ), 132.0 ( $\text{M}^+ - \text{NHAc}$ ).

**(S)-N-(1-(Pyridine-2-yl) ethyl)acetamide<sup>15</sup> (27).** Purified by column chromatography on silicon gel/ $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ :  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$  (10:1) as a colorless oil; yield 75% (123 mg); 73% *ee*;  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ): 1.39 (t, 3H,  $J = 6.8$  Hz,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 1.96 (s, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 5.1 (m, 1H,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, CH), 6.85 (s, 1H, NH), 7.2 (m, 2H, Py), 7.6 (m, 1H, Py), 8.5 (m, 1H, Py) ppm;  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  22.7, 23.5, 49.7, 121.8, 122.5, 137.2, 148.8, 161.0, 169.4 ppm; GC-MS  $m/z$  164.2 ( $\text{M}^+$ ).

**(S)-N-(1-(Pyridine-3-yl) ethyl)acetamide<sup>15</sup> (22a).** Purified by column chromatography on silicon gel/ $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ :  $\text{CH}_3\text{OH}$  (10:1) as a colorless oil; yield 75% (61 mg); 98% *ee*;  $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{20} = -28.3$

(*c* 1.30, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 1.38 (t, 3H, *J* = 7.2 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.88 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 5.0 (m, 1H, *J* = 7.2 Hz, CH), 7.2 (m, 1H, Py), 7.6 (m, 1H, Py), 7.9 (m, 1H, Py), 8.4 (m, 1H, Py), 8.48 (s, 1H, NH); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 21.6, 22.8, 46.5, 123.3, 133.9, 139.5, 147.8, 147.9, 169.7; GC-MS *m/z* 164.1 (M<sup>+</sup>).

**(S)-N-(1-(Pyridine-4-yl) ethyl)acetamide<sup>15</sup> (24a)**. Purified by column chromatography on silicon gel/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>: CH<sub>3</sub>OH (10:1) as a colorless oil; yield 84% (69 mg); 99% *ee*; [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>20</sup> = -74.0 (*c* 1.40, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 1.35 (d, 3H, *J* = 7.2 Hz, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.92 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 4.98 (m, 1H, *J* = 7.2 Hz, CH), 6.7 (s, 1H, NH), 7.15 (d, 2H, *J* = 6.0 Hz, Ar), 8.43 (d, 2H, *J* = 4.4 Hz, Ar) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 21.4, 23.1, 47.9, 121.3, 149.8, 152.7, 169.7 ppm; GC-MS *m/z* 164.2 (M<sup>+</sup>).

**(S)-N-(phenyl(pyridine-3-yl)methyl)acetamine<sup>16</sup> (31)**. Purified by column chromatography on silicon gel/CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>: CH<sub>3</sub>OH (10:1) as a colorless oil; yield 82% (151 mg); 95% *ee*; [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>20</sup> = -3.0 (*c* 1.7, CHCl<sub>3</sub>); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 1.90 (s, 2H, NH<sub>2</sub>), 5.35 (s, 1H, CH), 7.3-7.4 (m, 6H, Ph, Py), 7.8 (m, 1H, Py), 8.53 (d, 1H, *J* = 4.4 Hz, Py), 8.70 (s, 1H, Py) ppm; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 57.7, 123.5, 126.8, 127.4, 128.8, 134.5, 140.8, 144.6, 148.5, 148.9 ppm.

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