Asymmetric Synthesis of α -Allyl- α -Aryl α -Amino Acids by Tandem Alkylation/ π -Allylation of α -Iminoesters

John M. Curto, Joshua S. Dickstein, Simon Berritt, Marisa C. Kozlowski*

Supporting Information

Table of Contents

General Considerations	S2
General Procedure for the Synthesis of α-Iminoesters	S3-7
Parallel Microscale Experimentation Data	S7-9
General Procedure for Three Component Coupling	S9-20
Studies on Allylation of N-Alkylated Intermediate	S21
Studies on Addition of Additives to Tandem Process	S22
Reduction of Tandem Product to Primary Amine	S22-23
Synthesis of Higher Ring Order Proline Analog	S23-24
Synthesis of N-Alkyl α -Phenyl α -Amino acids	S24-25
References	S25
Spectral Data	S26-76
HPLC Traces of Products	S77-S94

General Considerations.

Unless otherwise stated, all non-aqueous reactions were carried out under an atmosphere of dry argon in dry glassware. All glassware used in three component coupling reactions was base-washed (KOH/i-PrOH) prior to use. When necessary, solvents and reagents were dried prior to use. Tetrahydrofuran, diethyl ether, 2-methyltetrahydrofuran, cyclopentyl methyl ether and toluene were distilled from Na/benzophenone prior to use. Organometallic reagents (EtMgBr, *n*PentylMgBr) were purchased from Aldrich, or made from magnesium turnings/ribbon. Analytical thin layer chromatography (TLC) was performed on Silicycle 250 µm silica-gel F-254 plates.

¹H NMR and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded on a AM-500 Fourier transform NMR spectrometer at 500 MHz and 125 MHz, respectively. Chemical shifts are reported relative to the solvent resonance peak δ 7.27 (CDCl₃) for ¹H and δ 77.16 (CDCl₃) for ¹³C. Data are reported as follows: chemical shift, multiplicity (s = singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, b = broad singlet, m = multiplet), coupling constants, and number of protons. High resolution mass spectra were obtained using a VG autospec with an ionization mode of either ESI or CI. Infrared spectra are reported in cm⁻¹. Melting points were obtained and are uncorrected. Unless otherwise noted, yields refer to isolated material on the basis of product purity \geq 95% by ¹H NMR following silica gel chromatography with Silica-P flash silica gel (50-63 µm mesh particle size). Enantiomeric excess was determined utilizing chiral stationary phase (CSP) HPLC or SFC on OD (cellulose tris(3,5-dimethylphenylcarbamate) coated on silica gel) columns.

General Procedure A for the Synthesis of a-Iminoesters 1a-11



(Z)-Methyl 2-(4-methoxyphenylimino)-2-phenylacetate (1a) [Table 1, entry 1]. To a solution of para-anisidine (2.46 g, 20 mmol) in toluene (29 mL), tosic acid monohydrate (350 mg, 2.0 mmol) was added. To this solution was added methyl benzoylformate (3.28 g, 20 mmol). The solution was then heated at reflux with azeotropic removal of water under N₂ (Dean-Stark conditions) for 20 h. The mixture was then cooled, passed through SiO₂ with 30% EtOAc/Hexanes, and concentrated. The resulting solid was recrystallized from hexanes to afford 1a (5.0 g) in 93% yield as a 12:1 mixture of Z:E isomers in the form of a bright yellow crystalline solid confirmed by x-ray crystallography. Spectral data agreed with those reported previously by Zhang et al.¹



(Z)-Methyl 2-(4-methoxyphenylimino)-2-(4-fluorophenylimino)acetate (1b) [Table 2, entry 3]. Following the general procedure A, *p*-anisidine (1.80 g, 14.6 mmol) was reacted with methyl (*p*-fluorobenzoyl)formate (2.66 g, 14.6 mmol) and TsOH (251 mg, 1.46 mmol) in toluene (21 mL) for 14.5 h under Dean-Stark conditions. After filtration, concentration and column chromatography (5% EtOAc/hexanes) product 1b was frozen and placed *in vacuo* overnight to provide 1b (2.64 g) in 63% yield as a 10:1 mixture of Z:E isomers in the form of a yellow solid. Spectral data agreed with those reported previously.¹



(Z)-Methyl 2-(4-methoxyphenylimino)-2-(4-chlorophenylimino)acetate (1c) [Table 2, entry 4]. Following the general procedure A, *p*-anisidine (305.5 mg, 2.48 mmol) was reacted with methyl (*p*-chlorobenzoyl)formate (411 mg, 2.07 mmol) and TsOH (36 mg, .207 mmol) in toluene (12.5 mL) for 20 h under Dean-Stark conditions. After filtration, concentration and column chromatography (10% EtOAc/hexanes) product 1c (488 mg) was obtained in 79% yield as a 13:1 mixture of isomers in the form of a dark yellow oil. Spectral data agreed with those reported previously.¹



(Z)-Methyl 2-(4-methoxyphenylimino)-2-(4-methylphenylimino)acetate (1d) [Table 2, entry 5]. Following the general procedure A, *p*-anisidine (2.9 g, 23.5 mmol) was reacted with methyl (*p*-methylbenzoyl)formate (3.5 g, 19.6 mmol) and TsOH (337 mg, 1.96 mmol) in toluene (28 mL) for 14 h under Dean-Stark conditions. After filtration, concentration and recrystallization in hexanes product 1d (2.4 g) was obtained in 43% yield as a 10:1 mixture of Z:E isomers in the form of dark yellow crystalline solid. Spectral data agreed with those reported previously.¹



(Z)-Methyl 2-(4-methoxyphenylimino)-2-(4-methoxyphenylimino)acetate (1e) [Table 2, entry 6]. Following the general procedure A, *p*-anisidine (2.75 g, 22.3 mmol) was reacted with methyl (*p*-methoxybenzoyl)formate (3.6 g, 18.6 mmol) and TsOH (337 mg, 0.186 mmol) in toluene (26.5 mL) for 20 h under Dean-Stark conditions. After filtration, concentration, hot gravity filtration and recrystallization from hexanes product 1e (2.6 g)

was obtained in 47% yield as a 19:1 mixture of Z:E isomers in the form of yellow crystalline solid. Spectral data agreed with those reported previously.¹



(Z)-Methyl 2-(4-methoxyphenylimino)-2-(napthalen-2-yl)acetate (1f) [Table 2, entry 7]. Following the general procedure A, *p*-anisidine (788 mg, 6.44 mmol) was reacted with methyl (2-napthalene)formate (1.36 g, 6.44 mmol) and TsOH (110 mg, .64 mmol) in toluene (9.1 mL) for 24 h under Dean-Stark conditions. After filtration, concentration, hot gravity filtration and recrystallization from 6% CH₂Cl₂/hexanes, product 1f (1.1 g) was obtained in 55% yield as a 30:1 mixture of Z:E isomers in the form of yellow crystalline solid. Spectral data agreed with those reported previously.¹



(Z)-Methyl 2-(4-methoxyphenylimino)-2-(thiophen-2-yl)acetate (1g) [Table 2, entry 8]. Following the general procedure A, *p*-anisidine (362 mg, 2.94 mmol) was reacted with methyl (2-thiophene)formate (417 mg, 2.45 mmol) and TsOH (42 mg, 0.245 mmol) in toluene (5 mL) for 20 h under Dean-Stark conditions. After filtration, concentration and column chromatography (10% EtOAc/hexanes) product 1g (350 mg) was obtained in 52% yield as a 15:1 mixture of Z:E isomers in the form of a dark yellow solid: mp 92-94 °C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.52 (d, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (d, *J* = 3.8 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (t, *J* = 4.2 Hz, 1H), 6.96 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.87 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 3.81 (s, 3H), 3.71 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 165.2, 157.7, 153.1, 142.7, 141.1, 131.2, 131.2, 128.0, 121.7, 114.3, 55.5, 52.4; IR (film) 2952, 1734, 1607, 1500, 1246 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₄H₁₃NO₃S [M+H]⁺ *m/z* = 276.0694; found 276.0692.



(Z)-Methyl 2-phenyl-2-(phenylimino)acetate (1h) [Table 2, entry 9]. Following the general procedure A, aniline (1.79 g, 19.2 mmol) was reacted with methyl benzoylformate (3 g, 18.3 mmol) and TsOH (174 mg, 0.9 mmol) in toluene (30 mL) for

7 h under Dean-Stark conditions. After filtration, concentration and recrystallization in hexanes, product **1h** (3.6 g) was obtained in 82% yield as a 10:1 mixture of Z:E isomers in the form of a pale yellow solid. Spectral data agreed with those reported previously by Hu et al.²



(Z)-Methyl 2-(4-dimethylaminophenylimino)-2-phenylacetate (1i) [Table 2, entry 10]. Following the general procedure A, *N*,*N*-Dimethyl-*p*-phenylenediamine (1.0 g, 7.3 mmol) was reacted with methyl benzoylformate (1.2 g, 7.3 mmol) and tosic acid monohydrate (260 mg, 1.5 mmol) in toluene (10.4 mL) for 20 h under Dean-Stark conditions. After filtration, concentration and column chromatography (7.5% EtOAc/hexanes) to afford 1i (568 mg) in 28% yield as a 8:1 mixture of Z:E isomers in the form of a brown crystalline solid: mp 66-68 °C; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.84 (dd, *J* = 7.8, 1.4 Hz, 2H), 7.49-7.43 (m, 3H), 7.00 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 6.71 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 2.97 (s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 170.0, 156.8, 148.9, 139.3, 134.8, 131.1, 128.7, 127.7, 121.9, 112.8, 52.0, 40.7 (minor rotamer peaks: 128.9, 128.5, 125.2, 111.8, 53.1, 40.4).



(Z)-Methyl 2-(3,4-dimethylphenylimino)-2-phenylacetate (1j) [Table 2, entry 11]. Following the general procedure A, 3,4-dimethyl aniline (1.0 g, 8.2 mmol) was reacted with methyl benzoylformate (1.35 g, 8.2 mmol) and tosic acid monohydrate (282 mg, 1.5 mmol) in toluene (12 mL) for 20 h under Dean-Stark conditions. After filtration, concentration and column chromatography (7% EtOAc/hexanes) to afford 1j (1.56 g) in 71% yield as a 12:1 mixture of Z:E isomers in the form of a yellow amorphous solid; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.86 (dd, *J* = 8.0, 1.7 Hz, 1H), 7.52-7.44 (m, 3H), 7.08 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 6.81 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 1H), 6.72 (dd, *J* = 7.9, 1.8 Hz, 1H), 3.69 (s, 3H), 2.25 (s, 3H), 2.24 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 166.0, 159.3, 147.9, 137.3, 134.3, 133.6, 131.7, 130.1, 128.8, 128.0, 121.3, 116.8, 52.0, 20.0, 19.4.



(Z)-Ethyl 2-(4-methoxyphenylimino)-2-phenylacetate (1k) Following the general procedure A, para-anisidine (3.9 g, 32 mmol) was reacted with ethyl benzoylformate (3.3 g, 31 mmol) and tosic acid monohydrate (300 mg, 1.5 mmol) in toluene (46 mL) for 20 h under Dean-Stark conditions. After filtration and concentration the resulting solid was recrystallized from hexanes to afford 1k (7.3 g) in 91% yield as a 9:1 mixture of Z:E isomers in the form of a bright yellow crystalline solid. Spectral data agreed with those reported previously.¹



(Z)-Benzyl 2-(4-methoxyphenylimino)-2-phenylacetate (11). Following the general procedure A, para-anisidine (1.5 g, 12.5 mmol) was reacted with benzyl 2-oxo-2-phenylacetate (2.9 g, 12.1 mmol) and tosic acid monohydrate (117 mg, 0.6 mmol) in benzene (18 mL) for 20 h under Dean-Stark conditions. After filtration and concentration the resulting solid was recrystallized from hexanes to afford 11 (3.6 g) in 86% yield in the form of a yellow solid. Spectral data agreed with those reported previously by You et al.³

Parallel Microscale Experimentation (Table 1 and S1)



The following procedure is representative of the high-throughput experimentation reactions described in this publication. The ligands (0.86 μ mol) were dosed into the 96-well reactor 1-mL vials as solutions (50 μ L of a 0.017 M solution in THF). Plates of these ligands may be plated in advance of the screen; the solvent is removed by evacuation on a Genevac, and the plates are stored in a glovebox. A solution of $[\eta^3-C_3H_5PdCl]_2$ (0.86 μ mol Pd, 50 μ L of a 0.017 M solution in THF) was then added to the reaction vials and was evacuated to dryness on a Genevac. A parylene stir-bar was added to each vial. In a separate 20 dram vial, α -iminoester **1a** (914 μ mol, 246 mg) was

dissolved in 4.9 mL THF. The vial was cooled to -50 °C on a Mecour Coolingbox combined with a Julabo temperature controller and 3.0 M EtMgBr in Et₂O (1500 µmol, 0.50 ml) was added. The reaction mixture was warmed to ambient temperature and allowed to react for 45 min and subsequently cooled back to -50 °C. Cinnamyl acetate (8.5 µmol) was dosed into the 96 well reactor 1-mL vials with ligand/catalyst mixture at -50 °C as solutions (50 µL of a 0.17 M solution in THF). The substrate and Grignard mixture was then dosed to the reaction vials at -50 °C (50 µL of a 0.18M solution in THF). The vials were then sealed and allowed to warm to ambient temperature. After stirring for 45 min the residues were diluted with 500 µL of a 5% solution of glacial acetic acid in isopropyl alcohol and the contents were stirred for 30 min. Into a separate 96-well plate LC block was added 750 µL of MeCN per well followed by 20 µL of the diluted reaction mixtures. The 96-well plate LC block was then sealed with a polypropylene 1 mL cap mat. The reactions were analyzed using a CSP SFC (OD-H 250x4.6mm, 5 um, MeOH/CO₂, 3 mL/min, 35 C, 200 bar, 215nm, 4% MeOH for 4 min then to 40% at 6 min hold for 5 min, Peak 1 at 6.9 min and Peak 2 at 7.5 min).

Table S1: Selected Results from Parallel Microscale Experimentation (8.6 µmmol) and Comparison to Scale Up (0.372 mmol) when Applicable (eq S2).

		PME Screen ^a			Bench top Scale Up ^b		
Ligand		Total Area	Peak 1	Peak 2	er (%) ^c	conv. (%) ^d	er (%) ^e
S-BINAP	S1	3252	972	2280	30:70	>90	90:10
S-H8-BINAP	S2	5424	3229	2195	60:40	>90	74:26
(R)-Tol-BINAP	S3	5127	3264	1863	64:36	~90	56:44
(R)-Segphos	S4	781	550	231	70:30	>90	70:30
(R)-P3-Segphos	S5	5358	1681	3677	31:69	>90	90:10
(R)-Difluorphos	S6	456	317	139	70:30	>90	94:6
(R)-Cl,MeO-Biphep	S7	5230	3530	1700	68:32	~90	87:13
SL-A102-1	S8	5126	3194	1932	62:38	-	-
SL-A121-1	S9	5311	2119	3192	40:60	-	-
(S)-C1-Tunephos	S10	2574	742	1832	29:71	~30	64:36
(S)-C2-Tunephos	S11	4041	1228	2813	30:70	-	-
(S)-C3-Tunephos	S12	5334	1675	3659	31:69	>90	89:11
(S)-C4-Tunephos	S13	5248	1711	3537	33:67	-	-
(S)-C5-Tunephos	S14	5280	1876	3404	36:64	-	-
(S)-C6-Tunephos	S15	4380	1475	2905	34:66	-	-
(S)-Me-Soniphos	S16	2297	578	1719	25:75	>90	70:30
(S)-Cyclohex-Soniphos	S17	5475	1379	4096	25:75	>90	86:14
(-)-TMBTP	S18	5512	3747	1765	68:32	>90	70:30
(R)-P-Phos	S19	520	353	167	68:32	>90	90:10
(S)-Xylyl-P-Phos	S20	964	283	681	29:71	-	-
SL-W001-1	S21	5252	2043	3209	39:61	-	-
SL-W009-1	S22	5356	1/20	3636	32:68	>90	74:26
SL-M001-1	523	3023	2421	1202	69:31	>90	83:17
SL-M003-1	S24	940	346	594	37:63	-	-
(R,R)-DACH-Phenyl Trost	325	400	104	0	50:50	<10	ND
(R,R)-DACH-Naphthyl	520	499	164	335	33.07	-	-
(R)-Pfaltz(Ph)	521	5000	0	0	00.00	~15	57.43
(S)-Xyl-SDP	528	5299	2023	3276	38.02	-	-

^a 8.6 µmol of **1a**, run at a starting temperature of -50 °C. ^b 0.372 mmol of **1a**, run at a starting temperature of -78 °C. °Determined by chiral SFC ^dConv. is determined by amount of **3a** to N-alkylated intermediate **4**. °Determined by chiral HPLC and when major enantionmer was opposite from PME screen, the opposite enantiomer of ligand was used.



General Procedure B for Three Component Coupling (Tables 2 and 3):



Rigorously anhydrous and air-free conditions are required for optimal results due to the reactivity of the intermediate enolate (see General Considerations). α -Iminoester **1a-11** (0.372 mmol) was added to a flamed dried Schlenk flask that had been charged with a stir bar and was then vacuum-purged three times under argon. The α -iminoester was dissolved in THF (2.0 mL) and cooled to -78 °C. To this solution was added EtMgBr (3.0 M in Et₂O, 198 µL, 0.595 mmol) under argon. The mixture was slowly warmed to room temperature and allowed to stir for an additional 30 min at room temperature. A flame dried round bottom flask equipped with a stir bar was charged with [η^3 -C₃H₅PdCl]₂ (5.1 mg,0.0140 mmol) and (*R*)-DIFLUORPHOS (12.7 mg, 0.0186 mmol) and vacuum-purged three times under argon. The mixture was dissolved with THF (2.0 mL) and cinnamyl acetate (66 µL, 0.372 mmol) was added. The second solution was stirred for 5 minutes at ambient temperature under argon cooled to -78 °C, and added to the cooled (-78 °C) first solution via syringe. The combined mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature and stirred for 45 min. The resultant reaction mixture was quenched with satd NH₄Cl (10 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (3 x 15 mL). The combined organic layers were washed

with brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated *in vacuo*. The resulting residue was purified by chromatography to afford pure α -allyl- α -aryl α -amino acids **3a-3q**.

Notes: Typical color after the first step is a translucent yellow and red to orange after the second step. An indicator of the first step not working is when the reaction color turns green or black. Grignard source was important. More than 1 equiv of cinnamyl acetate, or a ligand to palladium ratio greater than 1:1 was detrimental to the enantioselectivity of second step.



2-(ethyl(4-methoxyphenyl)amino)-2.5-diphenylpent-4-enoate (S.E)-Methyl (3a)[Table 2, entry 2]. Following the general procedure B, 3.0 M EtMgBr (198 µL, 0.595 mmol) was added to 1a (100 mg, 0.372 mmol) in THF (2 mL), allowed to react for 45 min and subjected to a solution of $[\eta^3-C_3H_5PdCl]_2$ (5.1 mg, 0.0140 mmol), R-DIFLUORPHOS (12.8 mg, 0.0186 mmol) and cinnamyl acetate (65 mg, 0.372 mmol) in THF (2 mL) for 45 min. After work-up, concentration and column chromatography (prewash SiO₂ with 5% NEt₃/hexanes, eluent 3% EtOAc/hexanes) product 3a (134 mg) was obtained in 87% yield as a yellow oil: ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.48 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.36 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.30-7.27 (m, 1H), 7.21 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.17-7.12 (m, 3H), 7.09 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 6.89 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 5.89 (d, J = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 5.73 (dt, J = 15.9, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 3.09-3.02 (m, 1H), 2.99-2.92 (m, 1H)1H), 2.63 (ddd, J = 13.9, 7.2, 0.5 Hz, 1H), 2.44 (ddd, J = 14.0, 7.4, 0.5 Hz, 1H), 0.83 (t, J= 7.0 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.3, 157.8, 141.6, 139.1, 138.0, 133.0, 131.3, 128.4, 127.8 (2), 127.3, 127.0, 126.1 (2), 113.8, 75.1, 55.5, 51.4, 46.7, 44.4, 14.7; IR (film) 3026, 2694, 2836, 1724, 1603, 1507, 1244 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI) calcd for $C_{27}H_{30}NO_3 [M+H]^+ m/z = 416.2226$; found 416.2229; $[\alpha]^{24}D = +145.3$ (c 0.28, 88% ee, CH₂Cl₂); chiral HPLC (IA, 97.5:2.5 hexanes:*i*-PrOH, 1 mL/min, 254 nm): t_R of **3a**: 6.6 min (major) and 8.0 min (minor).

Ethylmagnesium Bromide from Aldrich was batch dependent and was only successful in general procedure B when it was colorless; EtMgBr from Acros was never colorless

Ethylmagnesium Bromide. Magnesium turnings (1.4 g, 58.3 mmol) were stirred in 2.0 M HCl (~15 mL) for ten minutes, filtered, washed with ethanol (~100 mL), Et₂O (~150 mL), collected and dried under vacuum in a 50 °C oil bath for 2 h, and then added to a flame dried 50 mL Schlenk flask charged with a stir bar equipped with a reflux condenser under argon. Et₂O (~3 mL) was added to magnesium. Bromoethane (4.58 mL, 61.4 mmol) and Et₂O (6.14 mL) are added to a second flamed dried round bottom flask under argon. 500 µL of the bromoethane solution is added to magnesium to initiate reflux. Et₂O (5.5 mL) is added to the refluxing magnesium solution, followed by bromoethane

solution (500 μ L), then Et₂O (5.5 mL). The bromoethane solution is then added dropwise while maintaining reflux (~20 min). After addition is complete, the mixture is heated to reflux for 30 min, allowed to cool to rt, and transferred via cannulation into a sealed flask under argon. The 3.0 M ethylmagnesium bromide solution in Et₂O is colorless and can be stored in a refrigerator for up to two weeks with continuous use.



2-(N-ethyl-N-(4-methoxyphenyl)amino)-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-5-(S.E)-Methyl phenylpent-4-enoate (3b) [Table 2, entry 3]. Following the general procedure B, 3.0 M EtMgBr (177 µL, 0.532 mmol) was added to 1b (76.3 mg, 0.266 mmol) in THF (1.5 mL), allowed to react for 45 min and subjected to a solution of $[\eta^3-C_3H_5PdCl]_2$ (3.64 mg, 0.0098 mmol), R-DIFLUORPHOS (9.1 mg, 0.013 mmol) and cinnamyl acetate (46.8 mg, 0.266 mmol) in THF (1.5 mL) for 45 min. After work-up, concentration and chromatography (pre-wash SiO₂ with 5% NEt₃/hexanes, eluent 3% EtOAc/hexanes) product **3b** (99 mg) was obtained in 86% yield as a yellow oil: ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.48-7.45 (m, 2H), 7.22 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.17-7.13 (m, 3H), 7.10 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.05 (t, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 6.88 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 5.90 (d, J = 15.7 Hz, 1H), 5.71 (dt, J = 15.7, 7.6 Hz, 1H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 3.03-2.89 (m, 2H), 2.62 (dd, J = 15.7), 2.62 (dd, J = 15.7), 3.83 (s, 3H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 3.03-2.89 (m, 2H), 2.62 (dd, J = 15.7), 3.83 (s, 3H), 3.83 (s, 3H13.7, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 2.39 (dd, J = 13.7, 7.6 Hz, 1H), 0.82 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR $(125 \text{ MHz}, \text{CDCl}_3) \delta 172.9, 162.9 \text{ (d}, J = 246 \text{ Hz}), 157.9, 138.8, 137.8, 137.3 \text{ (d}, J = 3.2)$ Hz), 133.4, 131.2, 129.6 (d, J = 7.6 Hz), 128.5, 127.1, 126.0, 125.6, 114.6 (d, J = 21.2Hz), 113.9, 74.6, 55.5, 51.5, 46.4, 44.4, 14.6; IR (film) 3036, 2965, 2837, 1727, 1606, 1505, 1244 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI) calcd for $C_{27}H_{29}FNO_3 [M+H]^+ m/z = 434.2131$; found 434.2133; $[\alpha]_{D}^{25} = +128.4$ (c 0.48, 86% ee, CH₂Cl₂); chiral HPLC (IA, 97.5:2.5) hexanes:*i*-PrOH, 1 mL/min, 254 nm): $t_{\rm R}$ of **3b**: 6.6 min (major) and 11.7 min (minor).



(*S,E*)-Methyl 2-(N-ethyl-N-(4-methoxyphenyl)amino)-2-(4-chlorophenyl)-5phenylpent-4-enoate (3c) [Table 2, entry 4]. Following the general procedure B, 3.0 M EtMgBr (219 μ L, 0.658 mmol) was added to 1c (100 mg, 0.329 mmol) in 2-MeTHF (2 mL), allowed to react for 45 min and subjected to a solution of [η^3 -C₃H₅PdCl]₂ (4.49 mg, 0.0123 mmol), *R*-DIFLUORPHOS (11.26 mg, 0.0165 mmol) and cinnamyl acetate (58 mg, 0.329 mmol) in 2-MeTHF (2 mL) for 45 min. After work-up, concentration and chromatography (pre-wash SiO₂ with 5% NEt₃/hexanes, eluent 5% EtOAc/hexanes) product 3c (124 mg) was obtained in 84% yield as a yellow oil: ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.42 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.32 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 7.22 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.16-7.08 (m, 5H), 6.87 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 5.90 (d, J = 15.8 Hz, 1H), 5.68 (dt, J = 15.6, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 2.98-2.87 (m, 2H), 2.60 (dd, J = 14.0, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 2.37 (dd, J = 14.0, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 0.80 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 172.7, 158.0, 140.3, 138.7, 137.8, 133.5, 133.0, 131.2, 129.4, 128.5, 128.0, 127.1, 126.1, 125.4, 113.9, 74.7, 55.5, 51.6, 46.5, 44.3, 14.6; IR (film) 2958, 2855, 1725, 1604, 1507, 1244 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₇H₂₉ClNO₃ [M+H]⁺ m/z = 450.1836; found 450.1835; $[\alpha]^{25}{}_{\rm D} = +117.2$ (c 0.37, 92% ee, CH₂Cl₂); chiral HPLC (IA, 97.5:2.5 hexanes:*i*-PrOH, 1 mL/min, 254 nm): $t_{\rm R}$ of **3c**: 7.2 min (major) and 12.8 min (minor).



(S,E)-Methyl 2-(N-ethyl-N-(4-methoxyphenyl)amino)-2-(4-methylphenyl)-5phenylpent-4-enoate (3d) [Table 2, entry 5]. Following the general procedure B, 3.0 M EtMgBr (177 µL, 0.532 mmol) was added to 1d (75.4 mg, 0.266 mmol) in THF (1.5 mL), allowed to react for 45 min and subjected to a solution of $[\eta^3-C_3H_5PdCl]_2$ (3.64 mg, 0.0010 mmol), R-DIFLUORPHOS (9.1 mg, 0.013 mmol) and cinnamyl acetate (46.8 mg, 0.266 mmol) in THF (1.5 mL) for 45 min. After work-up, concentration and chromatography (pre-wash SiO₂ with 5% NEt₃/hexanes, eluent 3% EtOAc/hexanes) product 3d (99 mg) was obtained in 87% yield as a yellow oil: ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.36 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.22 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.18-7.13 (m, 5H), 7.11 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 6.88 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 5.93 (d, J = 15.7 Hz, 1H), 5.75 (dt, J = 15.8, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 3.09-3.02 (m, 1H), 2.98-2.91 (m, 1H), 2.62 (dd, J =13.9, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 2.44 (dd, *J* = 13.9, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 2.37 (s, 3H), 0.83 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.4, 157.8, 139.2, 138.5, 138.1, 136.9, 132.8, 131.3, 128.6, 128.4, 127.7, 126.9, 126.2 126.0, 113.8, 74.8, 55.5, 51.4, 46.6, 44.2, 21.2, 14.7; IR (film) 3026, 2963, 2865, 1724, 1605, 1508, 1244, 1036 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI) calcd for $C_{28}H_{32}NO_3 [M+H]^+ m/z = 430.2382$; found 430.2369; $[\alpha]^{25}D = +123.1$ (c 0.47, 80% ee, CH₂Cl₂); chiral HPLC (IA, 97.5:2.5 hexanes:*i*-PrOH, 1 mL/min, 254 nm): t_R of 3d: 7.0 min (major) and 8.1 min (minor).



(*S,E*)-Methyl 2-(N-ethyl-N-(4-methoxyphenyl)amino)-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-5phenylpent-4-enoate (3e) [Table 2, entry 6]. Following the general procedure B, 3.0 M EtMgBr (124 μ L, 0.372 mmol) was added to 1e (56 mg, 0.186 mmol) in THF (1 mL), allowed to react for 45 min and subjected to a solution of [η^3 -C₃H₅PdCl]₂ (1.70 mg, 0.0047 mmol), *R*-BINAP (5.67 mg, 0.0091 mmol) and cinnamyl acetate (32 mg, 0.186 mmol) in THF (1 mL) for 45 min. After work-up, concentration and chromatography

(pre-wash SiO₂ with 5% NEt₃/hexanes, eluent 5% EtOAc/hexanes) product **3e** (65 mg) was obtained in 79% yield as a yellow oil: ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.39 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.21 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.15-7.10 (m, 5H), 6.90-6.88 (m, 4H), 5.93 (d, *J* = 15.9 Hz, 1H), 5.73 (dt, *J* = 15.8, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.07-3.00 (m, 1H), 2.95-2.89 (m, 1H), 2.61 (dd, *J* = 13.9, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 2.41 (dd, *J* = 13.8, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 0.81 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.4, 158.7, 157.8, 139.2, 138.0, 133.6, 132.9, 131.3, 129.0, 128.4, 126.9, 126.2, 126.1, 113.8, 113.2, 75.5, 55.4, 51.4, 46.4, 44.3, 14.7 ; IR (film) 3035, 2960, 2836, 1724, 1609, 1508, 1245, 1036 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₈H₃₂NO₄ [M+H]⁺ *m/z* = 446.2331; found 446.2325; [α]²⁵_D = +126.1 (c 0.32, 74% ee, CH₂Cl₂); chiral HPLC (IA, 97.5:2.5 hexanes:*i*-PrOH, 1 mL/min, 254 nm): *t*_R of **3e**: 10.4 min (major) and 12.4 min (minor).



2-(N-ethvl-N-(4-methoxyphenyl)amino)-2-(napthalen-2-yl)-5-(S,E)-Methyl phenylpent-4-enoate (3f) [Table 2, entry 7]. Following the general procedure B, 3.0 M EtMgBr (177 µL, 0.532 mmol) was added to 1f (85 mg, 0.266 mmol) in THF (1.5 mL), allowed to react for 45 min and subjected to a solution of $[\eta^3-C_3H_5PdCl]_2$ (3.64 mg, 0.0010 mmol), R-DIFLUORPHOS (9.1 mg, 0.013 mmol) and cinnamyl acetate (46.8 mg, 0.266 mmol) in THF (1.5 mL) for 45 min. After work-up, concentration and chromatography (pre-wash SiO₂ with 5% NEt₃/hexanes, eluent 3% acetone/hexanes) product **3f** (89 mg) was obtained in 72% yield as a yellow oil. Absolute configuration was determined by the x-ray structure obtained from >99% ee material by stirring the 84% ee solid in hexanes and then removing the liquid three times, the enhanced ee solid was recrystallized from Et₂O over 24 h of slow evaporation. mp (>99% ee material) = 104 °C. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.91-7.85 (m, 4H), 7.73 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 1H), 7.51-7.49 (m, 2H), 7.23 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 7.18 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.12 (t, J = 6.9 Hz, 1H), 7.04 (d, J = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 6.92 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 5.95 (d, J = 15.8 Hz, 1H), 5.75 (dt, J =15.8 Hz, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 3.93 (s, 3H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 3.12-2.98 (m, 2H), 2.75 (dd, J = 13.8, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 2.59 (dd, J = 13.6, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 0.87 (t, J = 6.9 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.2, 157.9, 139.2, 139.1, 137.9, 133.1, 133.0, 132.9, 131.4, 128.5, 128.4 (2), 127.6, 127.4, 127.0, 126.9, 126.1 (3), 126.0, 113.9, 75.2, 55.5, 51.5, 46.7, 44.1, 14.7; IR (film) 3056, 2964, 2835, 1724, 1600, 1242, 1036 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI) calcd for $C_{31}H_{32}NO_3 [M+H]^+ m/z = 466.2382$; found 466.2371; $[\alpha]^{25}D = +137.5$ (c 0.43, 86% ee, CH₂Cl₂); chiral HPLC (IA, 97.5:2.5 hexanes:*i*-PrOH, 1 mL/min, 254 nm): t_R of 3f: 9.9 min (minor) and 10.7 min (major).



(*S*,*E*)-Methyl 2-(N-ethyl-N-(4-methoxyphenyl)amino)-2-(thiophen-2-yl)-5phenylpent-4-enoate (3g) [Table 2, entry 8]. Following the general procedure B, 3.0 M EtMgBr (177 µL, 0.532 mmol) was added to 1g (73.2 mg, 0.266 mmol) in THF (1.5 mL), allowed to react for 45 min and subjected to a solution of [n³-C₃H₅PdCl]₂ (3.64 mg, 0.0098 mmol), R-DIFLUORPHOS (9.1 mg, 0.013 mmol) and cinnamyl acetate (46.8 mg, 0.266 mmol) in THF (1.5 mL) for 45 min. After work-up, concentration and column chromatography (pre-wash SiO₂ with 5% NEt₃/hexanes, eluent 5% EtOAc/hexanes) product **3g** (96 mg) was obtained in 86% yield as a yellow oil: ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.27-7.26 (m, 1H), 7.24-7.19 (m, 4H), 7.17-7.14 (m, 3H), 7.07 (d, J = 3.7 Hz, 1H), 6.97-6.95 (m, 1H), 6.87 (d, J = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 6.07 (d, J = 15.9 Hz, 1H), 5.75 (dt, J = 15.9, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 3.17-3.10 (m, 1H), 3.04-2.98 (m, 1H), 2.63 (dd, J = 13.4, 7.7 Hz, 1 H), 2.47 (dd, J = 13.4, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 0.85 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 172.3, 157.9, 148.1, 138.4, 137.7, 133.4, 131.3, 128.5, 127.2, 126.9, 126.4, 126.2, 125.2, 124.6, 113.7, 72.9, 55.5, 51.8, 46.2, 45.6 14.3; IR (film) 3027, 2970, 2835, 1729, 1605, 1507, 1243 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI) calcd for $C_{25}H_{28}NO_3 [M+H]^+ m/z$ = 422.1750; found 422.1807; $[\alpha]^{25}_{D}$ = +120.2 (c 0.34, 76% ee, CH₂Cl₂); chiral HPLC (IA, 97.5:2.5 hexanes: *i*-PrOH, 1 mL/min, 254 nm): t_R of **3g**: 7.2 min (minor) and 7.8 min (major).



(*S,E*)-Methyl 2-(N-ethyl-N-phenylamino)-2,5-diphenylpent-4-enoate (3h) [Table 2, entry 9]. Following the general procedure B, 3.0 M EtMgBr (177 µL, 0.532 mmol) was added to 1h (64 mg, 0.266 mmol) in THF (1.5 mL), allowed to react for 45 min and subjected to a solution of $[\eta^3-C_3H_5PdCl]_2$ (3.64 mg, 0.0098 mmol), *R*-DIFLUORPHOS (9.1 mg, 0.013 mmol) and cinnamyl acetate (46.8 mg, 0.266 mmol) in THF (1.5 mL) for 45 min. After work-up, concentration and column chromatography (pre-wash SiO₂ with 5% NEt₃/hexanes, eluent 3% EtOAc/hexanes) product 3h (80 mg) was obtained in 78% yield as a yellow oil: ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.51 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.38-7.34 (m, 4H), 7.29 (dt, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 0.4 Hz, 1H), 7.25-7.20 (m, 5H), 7.15 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 5.91 (d, *J* = 15.8 Hz, 1H), 5.75 (dt, *J* = 15.8, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 3.16-3.03 (m, 2H), 2.68 (dd, *J* = 13.8, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 2.51 (dd, *J* = 13.7, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 0.87 (t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.2, 146.6, 141.5, 137.9, 133.1, 129.9, 128.7, 128.4, 127.9, 127.9, 127.4, 126.9, 126.1, 125.9, 125.9, 75.0, 51.5, 46.4, 44.2, 14.7; IR (film) 3025, 2867, 1725, 1595, 1493, 1215 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₆H₂₈NO₂ [M+H]⁺ *m/z* = 386.2120; found 386.2132; [α]²⁵_D = +162.9 (c 0.47, 82%)

ee, CH₂Cl₂); chiral HPLC (IA, 97.5:2.5 hexanes:*i*-PrOH, 1 mL/min, 254 nm): t_R of **3h**: 4.8 min (minor) and 5.1 min (major).



(*S,E*)-Methyl 2-((4-(dimethylamino)phenyl)(ethyl)amino)-2,5-diphenylpent-4-enoate (3i) [Table 2, entry 10]. Following the general procedure B, 3.0 M EtMgBr (100 µL, 0.298 mmol) was added to 1i (53 mg, 0.186 mmol) in THF (1 mL), allowed to react for 45 min and subjected to a solution of $[\eta^3-C_3H_3PdCl]_2$ (3.7 mg, 0.0093 mmol), *R*-BINAP (11.6 mg, 0.0186 mmol) and cinnamyl acetate (34 mg, 0.195 mmol) in THF (1 mL) for 45 min. After work-up, concentration and column chromatography (eluent 7% EtOAc/hexanes) product 3i (62 mg) was obtained in 74% yield as a yellow oil: ¹H NMR (500 MHz, (CD₃)₂CO) δ 7.50 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.33 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.24 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.14-7.07 (m, 5H), 6.73 (d, *J* = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 5.88-5.79 (m, 2H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 3.02-2.93 (m, 8H), 2.61 (dd, *J* = 14.2, 6.1 Hz, 1H), 2.43 (dd, *J* = 14.2, 6.1 Hz, 1H), 0.79 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, (CD₃)₂CO) δ 173.6, 150.2, 143.0, 138.8, 135.9, 133.2, 131.6, 129.1, 128.6, 128.4, 127.9, 127.6, 127.2, 126.6, 113.2, 75.9, 51.5, 47.2, 45.3, 40.7, 15.0; chiral HPLC (IA, 97.5:2.5 hexanes:*i*-PrOH, 1 mL/min, 254 nm): *t*_R of 3i: 5.7 min (minor) and 6.4 min (major).



(*S,E*)-methyl 2-((3,4-dimethylphenyl)(ethyl)amino)-2,5-diphenylpent-4-enoate (3j) [Table 2, entry 11]. Following the general procedure B, 3.0 M EtMgBr (100 µL, 0.298 mmol) was added to 1j (50 mg, 0.186 mmol) in THF (1.3 mL), allowed to react for 45 min and subjected to a solution of $[\eta^3-C_3H_5PdCl]_2$ (1.72 mg, 0.005 mmol), *R*-BINAP (5.9 mg, 0.009 mmol) and cinnamyl acetate (36 mg, 0.195 mmol) in THF (1 mL) for 45 min. After work-up, concentration and column chromatography (eluent 10% Acetone/hexanes) product 3j (65 mg) was obtained in 84% yield as a yellow oil: ¹H NMR (500 MHz, (CDCl₃) δ 7.48 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.35 (t, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.28 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.14-7.06 (m, 4H), 6.99 (s, 1H), 6.94 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 5.88 (d, *J* = 15.8 Hz, 1H), 5.72 (dt, *J* = 15.8 Hz, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 3.08-2.95 (m, 2H), 2.63 (dd, *J* = 13.7, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 2.45 (dd, *J* = 13.7, 7.4 Hz, 1H), 2.27 (s, 3H), 2.26 (s, 3H), 0.83 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, (CDCl₃) δ 173.2, 144.1, 141.7, 138.0, 136.7, 134.5, 132.9, 131.5, 129.8, 128.4, 127.9, 127.8, 127.3, 127.2, 126.9, 126.2, 126.1,

75.1, 51.4, 46.4, 44.4, 20.1, 19.5, 14.8; chiral HPLC (IA, 99:1 hexanes:*i*-PrOH, 0.5 mL/min, 254 nm): t_R of **3j**: 8.5 min (minor) and 8.9 min (major).



(*S*,*E*)-Methyl 2-(N-pentyl-N-(4-methoxyphenyl)amino)-2,5-diphenylpent-4-enoate (3k) [Table 3, entry 1]. Following the general procedure B, 2.0 M pentylMgBr (300 µL, 0.600 mmol) was added to 1a (81 mg, 0.300 mmol) in THF (1.9 mL), allowed to react for 45 min and subjected to a solution of $[\eta^3-C_3H_5PdCl]_2$ (4.12 mg, 0.0113 mmol), R-DIFLUORPHOS (10.25 mg, 0.0150 mmol) and cinnamyl acetate (53 mg, 0.300 mmol) in THF (1.9 mL) for 45 min. After work-up, concentration and chromatography (pre-wash SiO₂ with 5% NEt₃/hexanes, eluent 3% EtOAc/hexanes) product 3k (112 mg) was obtained in 82% yield as a yellow oil: ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.47 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.35 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.28 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.20 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.16-7.13 (m, 3H), 7.07 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 6.87 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 5.89 (d, J = 15.9 Hz, 1H), 5.70 (dt, J = 15.7, 7.3 Hz, 1H), 3.86 (s, 3H), 3.82 (s, 3H), 2.97-2.87 (m, 2H), 2.62 (dd, J =13.4, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 2.43 (dd, J = 13.4, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 1.17-1.04 (m, 6H), 0.77 (t, J = 6.9 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.1, 157.8, 141.5, 139.6, 138.0, 132.9, 131.1, 128.4, 128.0, 127.8, 127.3, 126.9, 126.2, 126.1, 113.8, 75.1, 55.5, 52.2, 51.4, 44.5, 29.3, 29.0, 22.6, 14.1; IR (film) 3025, 2857, 1725, 1603, 1508, 1245 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₃₀H₃₆NO₃ [M+H]⁺ m/z = 458.2695; found 458.2704; $[\alpha]^{25}_{D}$ = +129.1 (c 0.30, 92% ee, CH₂Cl₂); chiral HPLC (IA, 97.5:2.5 hexanes:*i*-PrOH, 1 mL/min, 254 nm): t_R of 3k: 5.8 min (major) and 7.0 min (minor).



(*S,E*)-Methyl 2-(N-(2-(trimethylsilyl)ethyl)-N-(4-methoxyphenyl)amino)-2,5diphenylpent-4-enoate (31) [Table 3, entry 2]. Following the general procedure B, 1.38 M 2-(trimethylsilyl)ethylMgBr (269 μ L, 0.372 mmol) was added to 1a (50 mg, 0.186 mmol) in THF (1.0 mL), allowed to react for 45 min providing a yellow mixture, which is subjected to a solution of [η^3 -C₃H₅PdCl]₂ (1.70 mg, 0.00465 mmol), *R*-BINAP (5.67 mg, 0.00911 mmol) and cinnamyl acetate (32 mg, 0.182 mmol) in THF (1.0 mL) for 45 min, providing an orange mixture. After work-up, concentration and chromatography (pre-wash SiO₂ with 5% NEt₃/hexanes, eluent 5% EtOAc/hexanes) product 31 (75 mg) was obtained in 83% yield as a yellow oil: ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.45 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.34 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.29-7.26 (m, 1H), 7.21 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.15-7.13 (m, 3H), 7.08 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 6.88 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 5.89 (d, J = 15.9 Hz, 1H), 5.75 (dt, J = 15.7, 7.4 Hz, 1H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 3.06-2.99 (m, 1H), 2.96-2.90 (m, 1H), 2.64 (dd, J = 13.8, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 2.46 (dd, J = 13.8, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 0.57-0.47 (m, 2H), -0.18 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.3, 157.8, 141.5, 139.3, 138.0, 132.9, 131.4, 128.4, 127.9, 127.8, 127.3, 126.9, 126.2, 126.1, 113.8, 75.2, 55.5, 51.4, 47.9, 44.3, 17.8, -1.6; IR (film) 3026, 2951, 1725, 1602, 1507, 1246 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₃₀H₃₈NO₃Si [M+H]⁺ m/z = 488.2621; found 488.2617; [α]²⁵_D = +118.7 (c 0.25, 82% ee, CH₂Cl₂); chiral HPLC (IA, 97.5:2.5 hexanes:*i*-PrOH, 1 mL/min, 254 nm): $t_{\rm R}$ of **3I**: 4.9 min (major) and 6.4 min (minor).

2-(trimethylsilyl)ethylMgBr was prepared by modification of a known procedure⁴: Magnesium ribbon (255 mg, 8.85 mmol) that was scored until shiny was added to a flame dried 10 mL Schlenk flask charged with a stir bar equipped with a reflux condenser under argon. Et₂O (2.95 mL) was added to magnesium. Freshly prepared 2-(trimethylsilyl)ethyl bromide⁵ is added dropwise to magnesium at a rate to sustain a slow reflux. After addition is complete, the mixture is heated to reflux for 2 h, allowed to cool to rt and used in preparation of **3**l.



(S,E)-Methyl 2-(N-(but-3-en-1-yl)-N-(4-methoxyphenyl)amino)-2,5-diphenylpent-4enoate (3m) [Table 3, entry 3]. Following the general procedure B, 2.7 M butenylMgBr $(222 \ \mu\text{L}, 0.600 \ \text{mmol})$ was added to **1a** (81 mg, 0.300 mmol) in THF (1.9 mL), allowed to react for 45 min providing a yellow/orange mixture, which is subjected to a solution of $[\eta^{3}-C_{3}H_{5}PdCl]_{2}$ (4.12 mg, 0.0113 mmol), *R*-DIFLUORPHOS (10.25 mg, 0.0150 mmol) and cinnamyl acetate (53 mg, 0.300 mmol) in THF (1.9 mL) for 45 min, providing an orange mixture. After work-up, concentration and chromatography (pre-wash SiO₂ with 5% NEt₃/hexanes, eluent 2% acetone/hexanes) product **3m** (109 mg) was obtained in 82% yield as a yellow oil: ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.46 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.36-7.33 (m, 2H), 7.28 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.22-7.13 (m, 5H), 7.07 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 6.88 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 5.89 (d, J = 15.8 Hz, 1H), 5.72-5.60 (m, 2H), 4.89-4.83 (m, 2H), 3.87(s, 3H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 3.06-2.98 (m, 2H), 2.62 (dd, J = 13.9, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 2.43 (dd, J =13.9, 7.6 Hz, 1H), 2.05-1.92 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.1, 158.0, 141.3, 139.2, 138.0, 136.8, 133.0, 131.2, 128.4, 128.0, 127.9, 127.8, 127.4, 126.9, 126.1, 115.5, 113.9, 75.1, 55.5 51.8, 51.5, 44.5, 33.9; IR (film) 3025, 2836, 1724, 1604, 1507, 1245 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₉H₃₂NO₃ $[M+H]^+ m/z = 442.2382$; found 442.2400; $[\alpha]^{25}$ _D = +137.8 (c 0.42, 90% ee, CH₂Cl₂); chiral HPLC (IA, 97.5:2.5 hexanes:*i*-PrOH, 1) mL/min, 254 nm): t_R of **3m**: 7.3 min (major) and 10.9 min (minor).

ButenylMagnesium Bromide. Magnesium ribbon (255 mg, 8.85 mmol) that was scored until shiny was added to a flame dried 10 mL Schlenk flask charged with a stir bar equipped with a reflux condenser under argon. Et₂O (2.95 mL) was added to magnesium. Freshly distilled (98 °C, 760 torr) butenyl bromide is added drop wise to magnesium at a rate to sustain a slow reflux. After addition is complete, the mixture is heated to reflux for 2 h, allowed to cool to rt, and used in preparation of **3m**.



(S,E)-Methyl 2-(N-(pent-4-en-1-yl)-N-(4-methoxyphenyl)amino)-2,5-diphenylpent-4enoate (3n) [Table 3, entry 4]. Following the general procedure B, 2.8 M pentenylMgBr $(213 \mu L, 0.595 \text{ mmol})$ was added to **1a** (80 mg, 0.297 mmol) in CPME (1.6 mL), allowed to react for 45 min providing a yellow/orange mixture, which is subjected to a solution of $[\eta^{3}-C_{3}H_{5}PdC]_{2}$ (4.1 mg, 0.0112 mmol), *R*-DIFLUORPHOS (10.2 mg, 0.0149 mmol) and cinnamyl acetate (52 mg, 0.299 mmol) in CPME (1.6 mL) for 45 min, providing an orange/red mixture. After work-up, concentration and column chromatography (pre-wash SiO₂ with 5% NEt₃/hexanes, eluent 3% acetone/hexanes) product **3n** (115 mg) was obtained in 85% yield as a vellow oil: ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.47 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.38-7.06 (m, 10H), 6.88 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 5.91 (d, J = 15.7 Hz, 1H), 5.75-5.58 (m, 2H), 4.90-4.81 (m, 2H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 2.96 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 2.64 (dd, J = 13.5, 6.9 Hz, 1H), 2.44 (dd, J = 13.7, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 1.97-1.78 (m, 2H), 1.42-1.22 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.0, 157.9, 141.4, 139.4, 138.8, 138.0, 133.0, 131.1, 128.4, 128.0, 127.9, 127.4, 126.9, 126.1, 126.0, 114.2, 113.9, 75.1, 55.5, 51.9, 51.4, 44.4, 31.3, 28.6; IR (film) 3026, 2856, 1725, 1604, 1508, 1245 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₃₀H₃₄NO₃ [M+H]⁺ m/z = 456.2539; found 456.2536; $[\alpha]^{24}_{D}$ = +130.4 (c 0.29, 86% ee, CH₂Cl₂); chiral HPLC (IA, 97.5:2.5 hexanes:*i*-PrOH, 1 mL/min, 254 nm): $t_{\rm R}$ of **3n**: 6.2 min (major) and 7.6 min (minor).

Pentenylmagnesium Bromide. Cut magnesium ribbon (261 mg, 10.9 mmol) that was scored until shiny was added to a flame dried 10 mL Schlenk flask charged with a stir bar equipped with a reflux condenser under argon. Et₂O (3.02 mL) was added to magnesium. Freshly distilled (124-126 °C, 760 torr) pentenyl bromide is added drop wise to magnesium at a rate to sustain a slow reflux. After addition is complete, the mixture is heated to reflux for 2 h, allowed to cool to rt, and used in preparation of **3n**.



(S,E)-Methyl 2-(N-(hex-5-en-1-yl)-N-(4-methoxyphenyl)amino)-2,5-diphenylpent-4enoate (30) [Table 3, entry 5]. Following the general procedure B, 1.5 M hexenylMgBr (355 µL, 0.532 mmol) was added to 1a (72 mg, 0.266 mmol) in 2-MeTHF (1.5 mL), allowed to react for 45 min providing a yellow mixture, which is subjected to a solution of [ŋ³-C₃H₅PdCl]₂ (3.58 mg, 0.0098 mmol), *R*-DIFLUORPHOS (8.09 mg, 0.013 mmol) and cinnamyl acetate (46.8 mg, 0.266 mmol) in 2-MeTHF (1.5 mL) for 45 min, providing an orange mixture. After work-up, concentration and chromatography (pre-wash SiO_2) with 5% NEt₃/hexanes, eluent 3% EtOAc/hexanes) product 30 (105 mg) was obtained in 84% yield as a yellow oil: ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.48 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.36 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.30-7.27 (m, 1H), 7.21 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.17-7.13 (m, 3H), 7.08 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 6.88 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 5.90 (d, J = 16 Hz, 1H), 5.74-5.65 (m, 2H), 5.90 (d, J = 16 Hz, 100 Hz)4.91-4.86 (m, 2H), 3.87 (s, 3H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 2.99-2.90 (m, 2H), 2.63 (dd, J = 13.8, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 2.44 (dd, J = 13.5, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 1.89-1.85 (m, 2H), 1.27-1.18 (m, 4H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.0, 157.9, 141.5, 139.5, 139.0, 138.0, 132.9, 131.1, 128.4, 128.0, 127.8, 127.4, 126.9, 126.1, 126.1, 114.3, 113.8, 75.1, 55.5, 52.1, 51.4, 44.5, 33.7, 28.8, 26.3; IR (film) 3025, 2856, 1725, 1604, 1508, 1245, 1036 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI) calcd for $C_{31}H_{36}NO_3 [M+H]^+ m/z = 470.2695$; found 470.2693; $[\alpha]^{25}D = +129.0$ (c 0.41, 80% ee, CH₂Cl₂); chiral HPLC (IA, 97.5:2.5 hexanes:*i*-PrOH, 1 mL/min, 254 nm): t_R of **30**: 6.0 min (major) and 7.5 min (minor).

Hexenylmagnesium Bromide. Magnesium ribbon (144 mg, 6 mmol) that was scored until shiny was added to a flame dried 10 mL Schlenk flask charged with a stir bar equipped with a reflux condenser under argon. THF (3.33 mL) was added to magnesium. Freshly distilled (25 °C, 0.01 torr) hexenyl bromide is added drop wise to magnesium at a rate to sustain a slow reflux. After addition is complete, the mixture is heated to reflux for 2 h. allowed to cool to rt, and used in preparation of **30**.



2-(ethyl(4-methoxyphenyl)amino)-2,5-diphenylpent-4-enoate (S.E)-Ethyl (3p)Following the general procedure B, 3.0 M EtMgBr (85 µL, 0.282 mmol) was added to 1k (50 mg, 0.177 mmol) in THF (1.3 mL), allowed to react for 45 min and subjected to a solution of [η³-C₃H₅PdCl]₂ (1.63 mg, 0.005 mmol), *R*-BINAP (5.5 mg, 0.009 mmol) and cinnamyl acetate (34 mg, 0.195 mmol) in THF (1 mL) for 45 min. After work-up, concentration and column chromatography (pre-wash SiO₂ with 5% NEt₃/hexanes, eluent 7% EtOAc/hexanes) product **3p** (62 mg) was obtained in 77% yield as a yellow oil: 1 H NMR (500 MHz, (CDCl₃) δ 7.49 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.35 (t, J = 7.7 Hz, 2H), 7.28 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.22-7.16 (m, 4H), 7.13 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.08 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 6.87 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2H), 5.89 (d, J = 15.8 Hz, 1H), 5.72 (dt, J = 15.9, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 4.42-4.31 (m, 2H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 3.08-2.96 (m, 2H), 2.62 (dd, J = 13.9, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 2.42 (dd, J = 13.9, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 1.36 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 0.83 (t, J = 6.9 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, (CDCl₃) § 172.7, 157.8, 141.8, 139.2, 138.0, 132.9, 131.4, 128.4, 127.9, 127.8, 127.2, 126.9, 126.2, 126.0, 113.8, 74.9, 60.7, 55.5, 46.7, 44.4, 14.7, 14.5; chiral HPLC (OD,

97.5:2.5 hexanes:*i*-PrOH, 1.0 mL/min, 254 nm): t_R of **3p**: 4.5 min (major) and 8.3 min (minor).



(S.E)-Benzvl 2-(ethyl(4-methoxyphenyl)amino)-2,5-diphenylpent-4-enoate (3q) Following the general procedure B, 3.0 M EtMgBr (193 µL, 0.579 mmol) was added to 11 (100 mg, 0.290 mmol) in THF (2.5 mL), allowed to react for 45 min and subjected to a solution of $[\eta^3-C_3H_5PdCl]_2$ (3.30 mg, 0.009 mmol), *R*-BINAP (11.6 mg, 0.019 mmol) and cinnamyl acetate (56 mg, 0.318 mmol) in THF (2.0 mL) for 45 min. After work-up, concentration and column chromatography (eluent 7% EtOAc/hexanes) product 3q (139 mg) was obtained in 76% yield as a yellow oil: ¹H NMR (500 MHz, (CDCl₃) δ 7.47 (d, J = 8.2 Hz, 2H), 7.40 (dd, J = 7.5, 4.3 Hz, 2H), 7.37-7.31 (m, 5H), 7.28-7.26 (m, 1H), 7.19 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 2H), 7.14-7.10 (m, 1H), 7.05 (d, J = 8.8 Hz, 2H), 7.00 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H),6.77 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 5.83 (d, J = 15.9 Hz, 1H), 5.68 (dt, J = 15.9, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 5.34 (d, J = 12.1 Hz, 1H), 5.29 (d, J = 12.1 Hz, 1H), 3.80 (s, 3H), 3.08-3.01 (m, 1H), 2.97-2.91(m, 1H), 2.62 (dd, J = 13.8, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 2.41 (dd, J = 13.5, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 0.79 (t, J = 7.0Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, (CDCl₃) δ 172.5, 157.8, 141.7, 139.1, 138.0, 135.8, 133.0, 131.4, 129.1, 128.7, 128.5, 128.4, 127.9, 127.8, 127.3, 126.9, 126.1, 126.0, 113.8, 75.1, 66.7, 55.5, 46.7, 44.4, 14.7; chiral HPLC (OD, 97.5:2.5 hexanes:i-PrOH, 1.0 mL/min, 254 nm): $t_{\rm R}$ of **3g**: 5.8 min (major) and 9.5 min (minor).





Studies on Allylation of *N*-Alkylated Intermediate (Scheme 3)



 α -Amino ester 4 was dissolved in THF in a flame dried 10 mL round bottom flask charged with a stir bar and put under argon. The reaction mixture was cooled to -78 °C and a solution of base in THF was added dropwise. The reaction mixture was warmed to ambient temperature and allowed to react for 10 min and then cooled to -78 °C. A second 10 mL round bottom flask charged with a stir bar was flamed dried under argon, Pd/L/cinnamyl acetate was added, dissolved in THF and cooled to -78 °C. The Pd/L/cinnamyl acetate slurry was added to the reaction mixture, which was allowed to warm to ambient temperature. The resultant reaction mixture was cooled to 0 °C after 45 minutes, quenched with satd NH₄Cl (10 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (3 x 15 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated *in vacuo*. The resulting residue was purified by chromatography to afford pure α -allyl- α -aryl α -amino acid **3a**.

Table S2:	Allylation	of the N-Alky	vlation Product	(Scheme 3)). ^a
				`	

Entry	Base	Conversion (%) ^b	$ee (\%)^c$
1	EtMgBr	~50	34
2	NaH	No Product	nd
3	NaHMDS	~90	19 ^d
4	KHMDS	~85	23 ^d
5	LHMDS	~90	18 ^d

^aReaction conditions: [4] = 0.19 M, 2.0 equiv base, THF (1.0 mL), rt for 10 min, then cool to -78 °C and add solution of 2.5 mol% [η^3 -C₃H₅PdCl]₂, 5.0 mol% (*R*)-BINAP, 1.0 equiv cinnamyl acetate in THF (1.0 mL) and warm to rt. ^b Determined By ¹H NMR spectroscopy. ^cDetermined by HPLC. ^dOpposite major enantiomer observed.

The Effect of Additives:

PMP Ph OMe		 a) EtMgBr, THF, -78 °C → rt, 45 min b) Additive c) <i>R</i>-BINAP (10 mol%) 		Et PMP Ph // OMe (5)		
						$[\eta^3-C_3H_5PdC]$
			1a 🔾	Ph		∕ 3a ॅ
		-78 °C → rt	t, 30 min 🛛 🧧 P	h		
	Entry	Additive	Conversion $(\%)^{b}$	$ee (\%)^c$		
	1	NPh ₃	~90	79		
	2	NEt ₃	~90	34		
	3	DIPA	~90	34		
	4	AgBr	~90	30		
	5	Ag ₂ O	~90	28		
	6	$ZnCl_2$	~50	4		
	7	Me ₃ SnCl	~80	21		

Table S3: The Addition of Additives After Grignard Addition.^a

^aReaction conditions: General procedure **B** (see below) was followed with the addition of 1-2 equiv of additive after step a. ^bDetermined by ¹H NMR spectroscopy with respect to 1a. ^cDetermined by HPLC analysis.

Table 2 and 3 as well as Table S2 and S3 support the preferable formation of complex **B** in Figure 2. With respect to the aggregation state in Figure 2, selectivity was enhanced with ethereal solvents compared to toluene, DCM, etc., which should solvate Mg. This result indicates that **B** and **C** are more likely than **A**. Amine additives reduced selectivity. Since amine additives should break up aggregates, this result indicates **C** is unlikely leaving **B** the most likely candidate).

Reduction of Tandem Product (Scheme 4)



(*S,E*)-Methyl 2-((4-methoxyphenyl)amino)-2,5-diphenylpent-4-enoate (6). Following the modified procedure previously reported by the Grotjahn group for alkene isomerization⁶: An nmr tube equipped with a J Young valve that was kept in an 120 °C oven overnight was brought into the glovebox. **3m** (40 mg, 0.09 mmol, 70% ee) was added to the tube via a d⁶-acetone solution (0.3M). The Grotjahn catalyst⁷ (5) (3 mg, 0.005 mmol) was added via a d⁶-acetone solution (0.02M). The nmr tube was sealed and brought out of the glovebox and put under argon via a three-way adapter allowing for

addition of a TFA/D₂O solution in d⁶-acetone (0.01 mmol of TFA, 0.51 mmol of D₂O in 100 μ L d⁶-acetone, sparged after preparation). The nmr Tube was sealed, removed from argon and put in a 70 °C oil bath. The reaction was monitored by ¹H NMR every 4-5 h. After 24 h no more product was formed, the reaction was transferred with EtOAc, concentrated, passed through Celite with EtOAc and concentrated *in vacuo*. The resultant residue was subjected to chromatography (7% EtOAc in Hexanes) affording **6** (26 mg) in 74% yield: ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.65 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.39 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.34-7.20 (m, 6H), 6.65 (d, *J* = 9 Hz, 2H), 6.38 (d, *J* = 9 Hz, 2H), 6.32 (d, *J* = 15.9 Hz, 1H), 6.02 (dt, *J* = 15.8, 7.2 Hz, 1H), 5.00 (b, 1H), 3.70 (s, 3H), 3.69 (s, 3H), 3.36 (d, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 174.0, 152.5, 140.9, 138.5, 137.3, 134.3, 134.5, 128.8, 128.6, 127.8, 127.5, 127.2, 126.4, 123.9, 117.2, 114.6, 67.2, 55.7, 53.1, 37.6; IR (film) 3403, 1733, 1513, 1447, 1239 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₅H₂₆NO₃ [M+H]⁺ *m*/*z* = 388.1913; found 388.1911; [α]²⁴_D = -61.0 (c 0.67, 70% ee, CH₂Cl₂);



(S,E)-Methyl 2-amino-2,5-diphenylpent-4-enoate (7). A solution of 6 (22 mg, 0.056 mmol) in MeCN (6.3 mL) was cooled to 0 °C. To this mixture was added a solution of ceric ammonium nitrate (94 mg, 0.17 mmol) in H₂O (3.1 mL) under N₂. The mixture was allowed to warm to ambient temperature; it went from yellow to blue then purple at rt. The reaction was stirred for 30 min at rt then cooled to 0 °C and guenched with 10% NaHCO₃ until a pH of 7 was obtained (~1.0 mL). The mixture was diluted with 20% Na₂SO₃ (10 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (3 x 15 mL). The combined organic phases were washed with brine (2x), dried over Na₂SO₄, and concentrated in vacuo. The resulting residue was purified by chromatography (pre-washed SiO₂ with 3% NEt₃ in Hexanes, eluent 40% EtOAc in Hexanes) providing product 7 (8.7 mg) in 55% yield. ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.56 (d, J = 8 Hz, 2H), 7.38 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.33-7.27 (m, 5H), 7.24-7.20 (m, 1H), 6.54 (d, J = 15.9 Hz), 6.12-6.06 (m, 1H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 3.14 (dd, J= 13.6, 6.8 Hz, 1H), 2.79 (dd, J = 13.8, 8.1 Hz, 1H), 2.00 (b, 2H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 175.8, 142.9, 137.1, 135.1, 128.7, 128.7, 127.8, 127.6, 126.4, 125.5, 124.4, 63.8, 52.8, 44.2; IR (film) 3387, 3323, 3026, 2951, 1731, 1447, 1435, 1214 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI) calcd for $C_{18}H_{20}NO_2 [M+H]^+ m/z = 282.1494$; found 282.1493; $[\alpha]^{25}D = -31.3$ (c 0.44, 70% ee, CH₂Cl₂);

Synthesis of Higher Ring Order Proline Analog (Scheme 5)



(S)-methyl 1-(N-(4-methoxyphenyl))-2-phenyl-3,6,7-hexahydro-1*H*-azepine-2carboxylate (9). A 8 mL microwave vial equipped with stir bar was flamed dried under vacuum. The flask was sealed with a septa, put under argon, and catalyst 8 (2.82 mg, 0.003 mmol) and **3m** (29 mg, 0.066 mmol, 81% ee) in toluene (6 mL) were added. The septa was replaced with a microwave cap and the vial was subjected to μW (100 W, 100 psi, 115 °C) conditions for 1 h. The mixture was allowed to cool to ambient temperature and ethyl vinyl ether (75 uL, 0.784 mmol) was added and allowed to stir for 30 min, to quench catalyst 8. Upon completion, the mixture was passed through SiO_2 with 30% EtOAc in hexanes, concentrated in vacuo and chromatographed (pre-wash SiO₂ with 5% NEt₃ in hexanes, eluent 5% EtOAc in hexanes) to provide 9 (23 mg) in >98% yield as a light vellow oil: ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.56 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.27-7.24 (m, 2H), 7.21-7.18 (m, 1H), 6.63-6.61 (m, 2H), 6.56-6.54 (m, 2H), 5.72-5.68 (m, 1H), 5.41-5.37 (m, 1H), 4.11-4.05 (m, 1H), 3.90-3.85 (m, 1H), 3.68 (s, 3H), 3.63 (s, 3H), 3.23 (dd, J = 15.8, 6.2 Hz, 1H), 2.88 (dd, J = 16.0, 6.7 Hz, 1H), 2.67-2.55 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (125) MHz, CDCl₃) δ 175.2, 152.0, 143.6, 141.3, 131.4, 128.2, 127.8, 126.9, 123.3, 118.0, 113.8, 74.6, 55.6, 52.3, 47.8, 40.6, 32.9; IR (film) 2949, 1729, 1512, 1246, 1037 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI) calcd for $C_{21}H_{24}NO_3$ [M+H]⁺ m/z = 338.1756; found 338.1755; $[\alpha]^{25}D =$ +37.9 (c 0.25, 81% ee, CH₂Cl₂).

Synthesis of N-alkyl α-phenyl α-amino acids



(S)-methyl 2-((4-methoxyphenyl)(2-(trimethylsilyl)ethyl)amino)-2,5diphenylpentanoate (31_{sat}). A 10 mL round bottom flask was charged with a stir bar and flame dried under vacuum. To the reaction flask was added **31** (50 mg, 0.113 mmol), EtOAc (3.4 mL) and 10% Pd/C (2.4 mg, 0.023 mmol). At ambient temperature the flask was purged with one hydrogen balloon and then subjected to a hydrogen atmosphere with a new hydrogen balloon for 45 min. The flask was opened to air, passed through SiO₂ with 30% EtOAc/Hexanes, concentrated in vacuo and chromatographed (5% EtOAc in Hexanes) providing $3I_{sat}$ (46 mg) in 92% yield as an oil: ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.40 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.32 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.28-7.23 (m, 1H), 7.17 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 2H), 7.11 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 1H), 7.07 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 6.92 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 6.85 (d, J = 8.9 Hz, 2H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 2.94 (dt, J = 12.6, 5.4 Hz, 1H), 2.85 (dt, J = 12.6, 5.4 Hz, 1H), 5.85 (dt, J = 12.6, 5.8 Hz, 5.8 Hz, 5.8 Hz, 5.8 Hz, 5.8 12.5, 5.8 Hz, 1H), 2.31-2.23 (m, 1H), 2.21-2.13 (m, 1H), 1.74 (dt, J = 12.4, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 1.59 (dt, J = 12.2, 4.6 Hz, 1H), 1.29-1.18 (m, 2H), 0.54-0.41 (m, 2H), 0.21 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.7, 157.7, 142.6, 141.7, 139.4, 131.1, 128.4, 128.2, 127.8, 127.8, 127.1, 125.6, 113.7, 74.8, 55.5, 51.3, 47.7, 40.1, 36.3, 26.7, 17.9, -1.6; IR (film) 2951, 2925, 1725, 1507, 1246 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI) calcd for $C_{30}H_{40}NO_3Si [M+H]^+ m/z =$ 490.2777; found 490.2777; $[\alpha]^{25}_{D} = +103.2$ (c 0.25, 82% ee, CH₂Cl₂).



(S)-methyl 2,5-diphenyl-2-((2-(trimethylsilyl)ethyl)amino)pentanoate (3l_{dePMP}). A solution of 31_{sat} (23 mg, 0.047 mmol) in MeCN (949 µL) was cooled to 0 °C. To this mixture was added a solution of ceric ammonium nitrate (78 mg, 0.141 mmol) in H₂O (475 µL). The mixture went from yellow to purple initially and then brown upon addition. After stirring for 60 min, the mixture was quenched with 5% NaHCO₃ until a pH of 9 was obtained (~ 2 mL). The mixture was diluted with 20% Na₂SO₃ (20 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (3 x 25 mL). The combined organic phases were washed with brine (2 x 20 mL), dried over Na₂SO₄, and concentrated *in vacuo*. The resulting residue was chromatographed (15% EtOAc/Hexanes). The fractions that stained with KMnO₄ $R_f = 0.3$ in 20% EtOAc inHexanes were concentrated to afford product 3ldePMP (12.5 mg) in 69% vield as an oil: ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.40 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 7.31 (t, J = 7.4Hz, 2H), 7.28-7.20 (m, 3H), 7.15 (t, J = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (d, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 3.66 (s, 3H), 2.55 (t, J = 7.6, 2H), 2.41-2.25 (m, 2H), 2.13 (dt, J = 13.3, 4.5 Hz 1H), 2.00 (dt, J =13.3, 4.5 Hz 1H), 1.72 (b, 1H), 1.59-1.47 (m, 1H), 1.45-1.33 (m, 1H), 0.83-0.68 (m, 2H), -0.013 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 176.0, 142.3, 142.1, 128.5, 128.4, 128.3, 127.4, 126.2, 125.8, 68.6, 52.2, 39.3, 36.0, 34.7, 24.9, 18.8, -1.2; IR (film) 3332, 2951, 1733, 1248 cm⁻¹; HRMS (ESI) calcd for $C_{22}H_{34}NO_2Si [M+H]^+ m/z = 384.2359$; found 384.2363; $[\alpha]^{25}_{D} = -6.2$ (c 0.13, 82% ee, CH₂Cl₂).

References:

- 1: Shang, G.; Yang, Q.; Zhang, X. Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2006, 45, 6360-6362.
- 2: Huang, H.; Wang, Y.; Chen, Z.; Hu, W. Adv. Synth. Catal. 2005, 347, 531-534.
- 3: Kang, Q.; Zhao, Z.; You, S. Adv. Synth. Catal. 2007, 349, 1657-1660.
- 4: Wilson, S.R.; Shedrinsky, A. J. Org. Chem. 1982, 47, 1983-1984.
- 5: Sommer, L.H.; Bailey, D.L.; Goldberg, G.M.; Buck, C.E.; Bye, T.S.; Evans, F.J.; Whitmore, F.C. J. Am. Chem. Soc. **1954**, 76, 1613-1618.
- 6: (a) Erdogan, G.; Grotjahn, D.B. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2009, 131, 10354-10355. (b) Larsen, C.R.; Grotjahn, D.B. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2012, 134, 10357-10360.
- 7: The Grotjahn Catalyst, CAS: 930601-66-4, is available from Strem Chemicals, Inc., but was generously provided by the Grotjahn group.












































































































































































































Scheme 4. 500 MHz ¹H NMR Spectrum of Compound 6 in CDCl₃



























Scheme 4. 125 MHz HSQC Spectrum of Compound 7 in CDCl₃





Scheme 5. 125 MHz 13 C NMR Spectrum of Compound 9 in CDCl₃






















125 MHz ¹³C NMR Spectrum of Compound **3l**_{4ePMP} in CDCl₃





HPLC Chromatographs of Products 3a-3q



































Enhancement of enantioenrichment of **3f**. Pre-recrystalization:

