# **Supporting Information**

#### Catalytic Enantioselective Acylation of (Silyloxy)nitrile Anions

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#### **Experimental Section**

Materials and Methods: General. Infrared (IR) spectra were obtained using an infrared spectrometer. Proton and carbon nuclear magnetic resonance spectra (<sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR) were recorded on either a 400 MHz <sup>1</sup>H NMR (<sup>13</sup>C NMR at 100 MHz) or a 300 MHz <sup>1</sup>H NMR (<sup>13</sup>C at 75 MHz) spectrometer with solvent resonance as the internal standard (<sup>1</sup>H NMR: CDCl<sub>3</sub> at 7.23 ppm and <sup>13</sup>C NMR: CDCl<sub>3</sub> at 77.0 ppm). <sup>1</sup>H NMR data are reported as follows: chemical shift, multiplicity (s = singlet, br s = broad singlet, d = doublet, t = triplet, q = quartet, sept = septet, m = multiplet), coupling constants (Hz), and integration. Enantiomeric excesses were obtained using a Supercritical Fluid Chromatograph equipped with a UV-Vis detector using one of the three following chiral HPLC columns: Chiralcel Chiralpak AD or OD columns or a Regis Pirkle Whelk-O 1 column. Samples were eluted with SFC grade CO<sub>2</sub> and the indicated percentage of MeOH. Analytical thin layer chromatography (TLC) was performed on 0.25 mm silica gel 60 plates. Visualization was accomplished with UV light and aqueous ceric ammonium molybdate solution followed by heating. Purification of the reaction products was carried out by flash chromatography using silica gel 60 (32-63 µm). All reactions were carried out under an atmosphere of nitrogen in oven-dried glassware with magnetic stirring. Yield refers to isolated yield of analytically pure material. Yields and enantiomeric excesses are reported for a specific experiment and as a result may differ slightly from those found in the tables, which are averages

of at least two experiments. Diethyl ether, tetrahydrofuran, and toluene were dried by passage through a column of neutral alumina under nitrogen prior to use.<sup>1</sup> Dithianes were prepared from the corresponding aldehydes using Graham's procedure.<sup>2</sup> Preparation of new acylsilanes are reported herein or have been reported in a previous communication. Racemic standards of compounds **8a-8j** were prepared as described in a previous communication.<sup>3</sup> Unless otherwise noted, reagents were obtained from commercial sources and used without further purification. **CAUTION:** Trimethylsilylcyanide is toxic and releases HCN upon exposure to acid. While we have encountered no problems in the chemistry described herein, we regularly employ an HCN detector in manipulations involving cyanide reagents as a precautionary measure. Reactions should be conducted in a well-ventilated fume hood.



Enantioselective catalyst screen for reaction of acylsilane 24 with cyanoformate 25 (Figure 1). All subsequent manipulations were performed in a dry box to exclude moisture. 200  $\mu$ L of a 0.045 M solution (0.0091 mmol) of each ligand (12-23) in toluene was added by pipette to each individual vial containing 0.0091 mmol of metal alkoxide (M(OR)<sub>n</sub>). This solution was allowed to stir for 30 min and then the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. An additional 200  $\mu$ L of toluene was added to each vial and this solvent was also removed under reduced pressure (this step is to insure complete alcohol removal). 0.9 mL of a solution of the acylsilane (0.023 mmol), cyanoformate (0.091 mmol), and TMSCN (0.018 mmol) was added to each vial. The reactions were allowed to stir for 72 h in the dry box. Next, the reactions were removed from the glove box and a solution of 1M NaOH (~0.1 mL) was added to each vial to insure excess cyanoformate hydrolysis. Each reaction was filtered through a pad of SiO<sub>2</sub> with the aid of Et<sub>2</sub>O and the combined extracts were concentrated. Enantiomeric excesses were determined by chiral SFC analysis (Chiralpak OD, 0.3% MeOH, 0.5 mL/min, 150 psi, 40 °C, 240 nm, *t*<sub>r-major</sub>, 37.0 min, *t*<sub>r-minor</sub> 41.5 min).

General Procedure (A) for the preparation of silyldithianes.<sup>4, 5</sup> To a dry 100 mL round-bottom flask with a magnetic stir bar was added 7.5 mmol of dithiane. THF (35 mL) was added *via* syringe. The resulting solution stirred under N<sub>2</sub> at -78 °C for 30 min, then *n*-butyllithium (2.5 M in hexanes, 8.3 mmol, 1.1 equiv) was added dropwise to the solution *via* syringe. The reaction was stirred at -78 °C for 2 h and 8.3 mmol triethylsilyl chloride (1.1 equiv) was added dropwise *via* syringe at the same temperature. After 30 min, the reaction was warmed to 25 °C for 30 min and then quenched with 40 mL of saturated aqueous NH<sub>4</sub>Cl. The aqueous layer was extracted with three 30 mL portions of Et<sub>2</sub>O. The organic extracts were combined, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), filtered, and the solvent was removed with a rotary evaporator. The crude product was purified by flash chromatography, if necessary, eluting with the indicated solvent system to afford the pure silyldithiane.



2-(4-Methyl)phenyl-2-triethylsilyl-1,3-dithiane. The title compound was prepared

according to General Procedure A using 8.96 g (42.6 mmol) of dithiane, 29.3 mL of *n*-BuLi (1.6 M in hexanes, 46.8 mmol), and 7.9 mL (46.8 mmol) of TESCl to yield 13.83 g (100%) of the silyl dithiane as a clear oil that was used without further purification. Analytical data for title compound: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.80 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.17 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H), 2.83-2.74 (m, 2H), 2.41-2.32 (m, 2H), 2.35 (s, 3H), 2.02 (dtt, J = 13.6, 12.8, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 1.86 (m, 1H), 0.92 (t, J = 8.4 Hz, 9H), 0.71-0.64 (m, 6H); TLC (95:5 hexanes-EtOAc) R<sub>f</sub> 0.27.



**2-Naphthyl-2-triethylsilyl-1,3-dithiane.** The title compound was prepared according to General Procedure **A** using 2.0 g (8.1 mmol) of dithiane, 5.6 mL of *n*-BuLi (1.6 M in hexanes, 8.9 mmol), and 1.4 mL (8.5 mmol) of ClSiEt<sub>3</sub> to yield 2.9 g (100%) of the silyl dithiane as a clear oil that was used without further purification. Analytical data for title compound: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.35 (d, J = 2.0 Hz, 1 H), 8.08 (dd, J = 8.8, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.86-7.75 (m, 3H), 7.48-7.40 (m, 2H), 2.77 (ddd, J = 13.6, 13.6, 2.8 Hz, 2H), 2.39 (ddd, J = 13.6, 4.0, 4.0 Hz, 2H), 2.02 (dtt, J = 13.6, 13.2, 2.8 Hz, 1H), 1.91 (dtt, J = 13.2, 4.0, 2.8 Hz), 0.90 (t, J = 4.0 Hz, 9H), 0.68 (q, J = 4.0 Hz, 6H); TLC (5:95 EtOAc-petroleum ether) R<sub>f</sub>0.56.



**2-(4-Cyano)phenyl-2-triethylsilyl-1,3-dithiane.** The title compound was prepared according to General Procedure **A** using 4.19 g (19.1 mmol) of dithiane, 13.2 mL of *n*-BuLi (1.6 M in hexanes, 21.0 mmol), and 3.5 mL (21.01 mmol) of TESCl to yield 4.39 g (69%) of the silyl dithiane as a white solid after flash chromatography with 39:1 Hexanes-EtOAc. Analytical data for title compound: **IR** (Nujol, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 2933, 2228, 1600, 1492, 1463, 1377, 1274, 1241, 1010, 917; <sup>1</sup>H **NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.09 (d, J = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 7.66 (d, J = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 2.66 (ddd, J = 14.7, 14.7, 2.7, 2H), 2.42 (ddd, J = 14.1, 3.6, 3.6 Hz, 2H), 2.04 (dtt, J = 13.5, 12.9, 3.0, 1H), 1.95-1.85 (m, 1H), 0.92 (t, J = 8.1 Hz, 9H), 0.68 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C **NMR** (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  148.5, 132.3, 130.6, 119.3, 109.3, 48.7, 25.6, 25.1, 8.0, 1.9; TLC (95:5 hexanes-EtOAc) R<sub>f</sub> 0.28. **Anal.** Calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>25</sub>NS<sub>2</sub>Si: C, 60.84; H, 7.51; N, 4.17. Found: C, 60.83; H, 7.56; N, 4.15.



**2-(4-Fluoro)phenyl-2-triethylsilyl-1,3-dithiane.** The title compound was prepared according to General Procedure A using 1.32 g (6.1 mmol) of dithiane, 4.30 mL of *n*-BuLi (1.6 M in hexanes, 6.8 mmol), and 1.2 mL (6.8 mmol) of TESCI to yield 1.32 g (98%) of the silyl dithiane as a clear oil that was used without further purification. Analytical data for title compound: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.94-7.85 (m, 2H), 7.10-7.00 (m, 2H), 2.74 (ddd, *J* = 14.1, 14.1, 2.7 Hz, 2H), 2.39 (ddd, *J* = 14.1, 3.9, 3.9 Hz, 2H), 2.03 (dtt, *J* = 13.2, 13.2, 3.3 Hz, 1H), 1.94-1.84 (m, 1H), 0.92 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 9H), 0.68 (q, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 6H); TLC (95:5 hexanes-EtOAc) R<sub>f</sub> 0.61.

General procedure (B) for the preparation of acylsilanes (4).<sup>6</sup> A 250 mL round-bottom flask with a magnetic stir bar was charged with 5 mmol of silyldithiane, 10 mmol mercuric chloride, 10 mmol of mercuric oxide, and 30 mL of a methanol/water solution (9:1). The reaction mixture was heated to the indicated temperature for the given amount of time. After cooling to 25 °C, the solids were removed by filtration. The filtrate was extracted three times with pentane. The organic extracts were combined, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and the solvent was evaporated to afford oily material that was purified by flash chromatography using the indicated eluent.



**4-Methylbenzoyl triethylsilane.** The title compound was prepared according to General Procedure **B**, using 14.7 g (45.3 mmol) of the silyl dithiane, 30.7 g (113.3 mmol) of mercuric chloride, and 24.5 g (113.3 mmol) of mercuric oxide and was stirred for 48 h at room temperature. The product was purified by flash chromatography with a linear gradient of 99:1 to 95:5 hexanes-EtOAc to afford 8.30 g (83%, 2 steps) of the product as a clear yellow oil. Analytical data for title compound: **IR** (thin film, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 2955, 2876, 1593, 1459, 1415, 1218, 1171, 1077; <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.73 (d, *J* = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 7.26 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 2.39 (s, 3H), 1.03-0.96 (m, 9H), 0.94-0.91 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  235.1, 143.5, 140.5, 129.5, 127.5, 21.8, 7.6, 4.0; TLC (95:5 hexanes:EtOAc) R<sub>f</sub> 0.43. **Anal.** Calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>22</sub>OSi: C, 71.73; H, 9.46. Found: C, 71.99; H, 9.69.



**2-Naphthoyl triethylsilane.** The title compound was prepared according to General Procedure **B**, using 2.9 g (8.1 mmol) of the silyl dithiane, 5.5 g (20.3 mmol) of mercuric chloride, and 4.4 g (20.3 mmol) of mercuric oxide and was stirred for 12 h at 50 °C. The crude product was purified by flash chromatography with a linear gradient of 100% petroleum ether to 90:10 Et<sub>2</sub>O-petroleum ether to afford 1.8 g (82 %, 2 steps) of the product as a clear yellow oil. Analytical data for title compound: **IR** (thin film, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3058, 2956, 2910, 2875, 1713, 1593, 1350, 1271, 1018; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.31 (s, 1H), 7.96 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.82-7.88 (m, 3H), 7.50-7.60 (m, 2H), 0.92-1.04 (m, 15H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  235.8, 140.2, 135.7, 133.0, 130.5, 129.8, 128.8, 128.5, 128.1, 126.9, 122.4, 7.7, 4.1; TLC (5:95 EtOAc-petroleum ether) R<sub>f</sub> 0.50. **Anal.** Calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>22</sub>OSi: C: 75.50; H: 8.20. Found: C: 75.63; H: 8.29.



**4-Cyanobenzoyl triethylsilane.** To a 25-mL round bottom flask purged with Ar and equipped with a magnetic stir bar was added bis(trifluoroacetoxy)iodobenzene (5.23 g, 12.1 mmol, 2.0 equiv) and MeOH (5.3 mL). To the solution 2-(4-cyano)phenyl-2-triethylsilyl-1,3-dithiane

(2.05 g, 6.07 mmol, 1.0 equiv) was added slowly with stirring The solution became warm and after 2.5 h the solvent was removed and the crude product was purified by flash chromatography (1:1 hexanes-methylene chloride) to yield 0.52 g (35%) of the product as a yellow solid. Analytical data for title compound: **IR** (thin film, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 2957, 2876, 2231, 1618, 1598, 1464, 1401, 1291, 1202, 1168, 1015; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.84 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.76 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 1.00-0.87 (m, 15H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  235.9, 144.6, 132.9, 127.4, 118.25, 115.9, 7.5, 3.6; TLC (95:5 hexanes-EtOAc) R<sub>f</sub> 0.38. **Anal.** Calcd for C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>19</sub>NOSi: C, 68.52; H, 7.80; N, 5.71. Found: C, 68.51; H, 7.89; N, 5.66.



**4-Fluorobenzoyl triethylsilane.** To a 25-mL round bottom flask purged with Ar and equipped with a magnetic stir bar was added bis(trifluoroacetoxy)iodobenzene (4.12 g, 9.59 mmol, 2.0 equiv) and MeOH (4.0 mL). To the solution 2-(4-fluoro)phenyl-2-triethylsilyl-1,3-dithiane (1.58 g, 4.80 mmol, 1.0 equiv) was added slowly with stirring. The solution became warm and after 2.5 h the solvent was removed and the crude product was purified by gradient flash chromatography (99:1 to 97:3 hexanes-EtOAc) to yield 0.71 g (51%, 2 steps) of the product as a clear yellow oil. Analytical data for title compound: **IR** (thin film, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 2957, 2877, 1615, 1584, 1501, 1225, 1204, 1010; <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.89-7.80 (m, 2H), 7.20-7.10 (m, 2H), 1.03-0.96 (m, 9H), 0.94-0.85 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>**C NMR** (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  234.0, 167.3, 163.9, 139.3, 139.2, 130.0, 129.8, 116.1, 115.8, 7.6, 3.9; TLC (95:5 hexanes-EtOAc) R<sub>f</sub> 0.53. **Anal.** Calcd for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>19</sub>FOSi: C, 65.50; H, 8.03. Found: C, 65.68; H, 8.03.

General procedure (C) for the enantioselective reaction of acylsilanes with cyanoformates in the presence of 26-Cl. A flame-dried Schlenk tube equipped with a magnetic stir bar was charged with aluminum complex 26-Cl (19.4 mg, 0.033 mmol, 0.15 equiv) under Ar. Acylsilane (60 mg, 0.22 mmol, 1.0 equiv), cyanoformate (71.5 mg, 0.44 mmol, 2.0 equiv), and  $C_7H_8$  (4.4 mL, 0.05 M) were all added to the Schlenk tube under Ar and the tube was sealed and heated to 45 °C. After 72 h, the flask was cooled to 25 °C, the solvent was removed *in vacuo* and the crude product was purified by flash chromatography using the indicated eluent.



(*S*)-(+)-Benzyl 2–cyano–2–phenyl-2–triethylsiloxyacetate (8a). The title compound was prepared according to General Procedure C using 60 mg (0.27 mmol) of acylsilane, 87.8 mg (0.54 mmol) of benzyl cyanoformate, 23.8 mg (0.04 mmol) of 26-Cl, and 5.4 mL of  $C_7H_8$ . After 72 h at 45 °C, the crude product was purified by flash chromatography with 95:5 petroleum ether-EtOAc to afford 85.3 mg (83%) of 8a as a colorless oil in 79% ee as determined by chiral SFC analysis (Chiralpak OD, 0.3% MeOH, 0.5 mL/min, 150 psi, 40 °C, 240 nm,  $t_{r-major}$  37.0 min,  $t_{r-minor}$  41.5 min). Analytical data for title compound:  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ +4.2 (c = 1.97, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>); IR (thin film, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3067, 3035, 2958, 2878, 2245, 1766, 1588, 1451, 1241, 1152, 1003, 835; <sup>1</sup>H NMR

(400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.63-7.61 (m, 2H), 7.38-7.35 (m, 3H), 7.29-7.26 (m, 3H), 7.19-7.17 (m, 2H), 5.17 (s, 2H), 0.93 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 9H), 0.70 (q, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  167.1, 134.5, 129.9, 128.9, 128.8, 128.7, 128.2, 125.7, 118.3, 75.1, 68.9, 6.8, 5.4; TLC (95:5 hexanes/EtOAc) R<sub>f</sub> 0.35; **Anal.** Calcd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>27</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>Si: C, 69.25; H, 7.13; N, 3.67. Found: C, 69.37; H, 7.28; N, 3.60.



(*S*)-(+)-Benzyl 2–cyano-2–phenyl-2–*tert*-butyldimethylsiloxyacetate (8b). The title compound was prepared according to General Procedure C using 60 mg (0.27 mmol) of acylsilane, 87 mg (0.54 mmol) of benzyl cyanoformate, 31.7 mg (0.054 mmol) of 26-Cl, and 5.4 mL of C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>8</sub>. After 72 h at 45 °C, the crude product was purified by flash chromatography with 95:5 petroleum ether-EtOAc to afford 82 mg (81%) of 8b as a colorless oil in 64% ee as determined by chiral SFC analysis (Chiralpak OD, 0.3% MeOH, 0.5 mL/min, 150 psi, 40 °C, 240 nm,  $t_{r-major}$  27.6 min,  $t_{r-minor}$  29.9 min). Analytical data for title compound:  $[\alpha]_D^{25}+2.8$  (c = 1.52, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>); IR (thin film, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3067, 3036, 2957, 2930, 2858, 2241, 1767, 1588, 1472, 1258, 1148; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.67-7.61 (m, 2H), 7.40-7.34 (m, 3H), 7.31-7.25 (m, 3H), 7.20-7.16 (m, 2H), 5.18 (s, 2H), 0.94 (s, 9H), 0.22 (s, 3H), 0.14(s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  167.1, 136.9, 134.6, 129.9, 129.0, 128.9, 128.8, 128.3, 125.8, 118.2, 75.8, 69.0, 25.8, 25.8, 18.6, -3.9, -4.2; TLC (95:5 hexanes/EtOAc) R<sub>f</sub> 0.35. Attempts to obtain acceptable combustion analysis were not successful. See previous communication for a <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum.<sup>3</sup>

$$\begin{array}{c} O \\ SiEt_{3} + NC \\ \hline OEt \\ \hline C_{7}H_{8}, 45 \ ^{\circ}C \\ \hline 03\% \ yield, 77\% \ ee \\ \end{array}$$

(*S*)-(-)-Ethyl 2–cyano-2–phenyl–2–triethylsiloxyacetate (8c). The title compound was prepared according to General Procedure C using 60 mg (0.27 mmol) of acylsilane, 53.5 mg (0.54 mmol) of ethyl cyanoformate, 23.8 mg (0.04 mmol) of 26-Cl, and 10.8 mL of  $C_7H_8$ . After 72 h at 45 °C, the crude product was purified by flash chromatography with 95:5 petroleum ether-EtOAc to afford 80.2 mg (93%) of 8c as a colorless oil in 77% ee as determined by chiral SFC analysis after reduction of the nitrile and coupling with (*S*)-mandelic acid. Analytical data for title compound:  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ -4.4 (c = 1.06, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>); **IR** (thin film, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3067, 2959, 2878, 2242, 1764, 1746, 1451, 1240, 1193, 1153, 1013, 734, 695; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.72-7.62 (m, 2H), 7.46-7.36 (m, 3H), 4.26-4.13 (ABX,  $J_{AB} = 10.8$  Hz,  $J_{AX} = 6.8$  Hz, 2H), 1.24 (t, J = 6.8 Hz, 3H), 0.99 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 9H), 0.76 (q, J = 7.6 Hz, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  167.1, 136.8, 129.6, 128.7, 125.4, 118.2, 74.8, 63.4, 13.8, 6.6, 5.2; TLC (20:1 hexanes/EtOAc) R<sub>f</sub> 0.33; Anal. Calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>25</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>Si: C, 63.91; H, 7.89; N, 4.38. Found: C, 64.09; H, 7.98; N, 4.41.



(*S*)-(+)-Benzyl 2–cyano–2–(4–methyl)phenyl-2–triethylsiloxyacetate (8d). The title compound was prepared according to General Procedure C using 60 mg (0.26 mmol) of acylsilane, 82.4 mg (0.51 mmol) of benzyl cyanoformate, 22.3 mg (0.04 mmol) of 26-Cl, and 5.1 mL of C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>8</sub>. After 72 h at 45 °C, the crude product was purified by flash chromatography with 95:5 petroleum ether-EtOAc to afford 88.4 mg (86 %) of 8d as a colorless oil in 80% ee as determined by chiral SFC analysis (Chiralpak OD, 0.3% MeOH, 0.5 mL/min, 150 psi, 40 °C, 240 nm,  $t_{r-major}$  42.2 min,  $t_{r-minor}$  48.0 min). Analytical data for title compound: [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub> <sup>25</sup> 0.76 (c = 2.29, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>); IR (thin film, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 2957, 2878, 2242, 1766, 1509, 1457, 1262, 1153, 1010; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.51 (d, *J* = 9 Hz, 2H), 7.32-7.29 (m, 3H), 7.24-7.15 (m, 4H), 5.18 (s, 1H), 5.17 (s, 1H), 2.36 (s, 3H), 0.94 (t, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 9H), 0.74-0.65 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  167.2, 140.0, 134.6, 134.0, 129.6, 128.7, 128.2, 125.6, 118.4, 21.4, 6.8, 5.5; TLC (95:5 hexanes-EtOAc) R<sub>f</sub> 0.33; Anal. Calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>29</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>Si: C, 69.84; H, 7.39; N, 3.54. Found: C, 69.91; H, 7.43; N, 3.57.



(*S*)-(-)-Benzyl 2–cyano–2–naphthyl-2–triethylsiloxyacetate (8e). The title compound was prepared according to General Procedure C using 60 mg (0.22 mmol) of acylsilane, 71.5 mg (0.44 mmol) of benzyl cyanoformate, 19.4 mg (0.033 mmol) of 26-Cl, and 5.4 mL of C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>8</sub>. After 72 h at 45 °C, the crude product was purified by flash chromatography with 95:5 petroleum ether-EtOAc to afford 86.2 mg (91%) of 8e as a colorless oil in 62% ee as determined by chiral SFC analysis (Chiralpak AD, 1.0% MeOH, 1.5 mL/min, 150 psi, 40 °C, 240 nm,  $t_{r-minor}$  37.8 min,  $t_{r-major}$  43.4 min). Analytical data for title compound: [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>25</sup>–4.58 (c = 2.59, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>); IR (thin film, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3064, 3035, 2956, 2877, 2243, 1767, 1508, 1456, 1414, 1375, 1260, 1227, 1171, 1142; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 8.10-8.13 (m, 1H), 7.79-7.86 (m, 3H), 7.63-7.68 (m, 1H), 7.48-7.53 (m, 2H), 7.13-7.23 (m, 5H), 5.16 (s, 1H), 5.15 (s, 1H), 0.94 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 9H), 0.68-0.75 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 167.0 134.5, 134.0, 133.9, 132.9, 129.0, 128.8, 128.7, 128.6, 128.2, 127.9, 127.4, 126.9, 125.6, 122.7, 118.3, 75.4, 69.0, 6.8, 5.5; TLC (95:5 hexanes/EtOAc) R<sub>f</sub> 0.41; Anal. Calcd for C<sub>26</sub>H<sub>29</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>Si: C, 72.35; H, 6.77; N, 3.25. Found: C, 72.26; H, 6.85; N, 3.09.



(*S*)-(-)-Benzyl 2–cyano–2–(4–methoxy)phenyl-2–triethylsiloxyacetate (8f). The title compound was prepared according to General Procedure C using 60 mg (0.24 mmol) of acylsilane, 77.2 mg (0.48 mmol) of benzyl cyanoformate, 21.2 mg (0.04 mmol) of 26-Cl, and 2.4 mL of  $C_7H_8$ . After 72 h at 45 °C, the crude product was purified by flash chromatography (gradient from 97.5:2.5 petroleum ether-MeO'Bu to 95:5 petroleum ether-MeO'Bu) to afford 82.6 mg (84%) of 8f

as a colorless oil in 82% ee as determined by chiral SFC analysis (Chiralpak OD, 0.5% MeOH, 0.5 mL/min, 150 psi, 40 °C, 240 nm,  $t_{r-major}$  59.4 min,  $t_{r-minor}$  68.6 min). Analytical data for title compound:  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ –0.77 (c = 2.48, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>); **IR** (thin film, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3035, 2956, 2877, 2838, 2242, 1767, 1585, 1458, 1417, 1377, 1255; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.51 (dd, J = 6.8, 2.0 Hz, 2H), 7.27-7.29 (m, 3H), 7.19-7.20 (m, 2H), 6.85 (dd, J = 6.8, 2.0 Hz, 2H), 5.16 (s, 2H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 0.92 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 9H), 0.70-0.64 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  167.2, 160.8, 134.6, 128.8, 128.6, 128.4, 128.1, 118.4, 114.3, 74.9, 55.5, 6.8, 5.4; TLC (95:5 petroleum ether-MeO<sup>t</sup>Bu) R<sub>f</sub> 0.22; Attempts to obtain acceptable combustion analysis were not successful. See Appendix B for <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum.



(*S*)-(+)-Benzyl 2–cyano–2–(4–chloro)phenyl-2–triethylsiloxyacetate (8g). The title compound was prepared according to General Procedure C using 60 mg (0.24 mmol) of acylsilane, 76.1 mg (0.47 mmol) of benzyl cyanoformate, 21.2 mg (0.036 mmol) of 26-Cl, and 4.8 mL of C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>8</sub>. After 72 h at 45 °C, the crude product was purified by flash chromatography with 95:5 petroleum ether-EtOAc to afford 90.4 mg (91%) of 8g as a colorless oil in 64% ee as determined by chiral SFC analysis after reduction of the nitrile and protecting as the *N*-BOC amide. Analytical data for title compound:  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ +2.8 (c = 1.04, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>); **IR** (thin film, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3035, 2958, 2877, 2242, 1767, 1593, 1489, 1456, 1402, 1377, 1240, 1191; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.55-7.57 (m, 2H), 7.36-7.31 (m, 5H), 7.23-7.21 (m, 2H), 5.19 (s, 2H), 0.95 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 9H), 0.75-0.69 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 166.7, 136.1, 135.4, 134.3, 129.2, 129.0, 128.8, 128.4, 127.1, 117.9, 74.6, 69.2, 6.8, 5.4; TLC (95:5 petroleum ether-EtOAc) R<sub>f</sub> 0.47; **Anal.** Calcd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>26</sub>CINO<sub>3</sub>Si: C, 63.52; H, 6.30; N, 3.37. Found: C, 63.65; H, 6.42; N, 3.50.



(*S*)-(-)-Ethyl 2–cyano–2–(4–chloro)phenyl-2–triethylsiloxyacetate (8h). The title compound was prepared according to General Procedure C using 60 mg (0.24 mmol) of acylsilane, 46.6 mg (0.47 mmol) of ethylcyanoformate, 21.2 mg (0.036 mmol) of 26-Cl, and 4.8 mL of C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>8</sub>. After 72 h at 45 °C, the crude product was purified by flash chromatography with 95:5 petroleum ether-EtOAc to afford 74.7 mg (88%) of 8h as a colorless oil in 61% ee as determined by chiral SFC analysis after reduction of the nitrile and coupling to (*S*)-mandelic acid. Analytical data for title compound:  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ –3.9 (c = 3.63, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>); **IR** (thin film, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3153, 3125, 2959, 2879, 2244, 1771, 1751, 1463, 1232, 1158, 1141, 1018, 747; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.61 (dd, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2.1 Hz, 2H), 4.23 (ABX, *J*<sub>AB</sub> = 10.8 Hz, *J*<sub>AX</sub> = 7.2 Hz, 2H), 1.25 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 0.99 (t, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 9H), 0.77 (q, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 166.7, 135.8, 135.4, 128.9, 126.9, 117.9, 74.3, 63.6, 13.8, 6.6, 5.2; TLC (30:1 hexanes-EtOAc) R<sub>f</sub> 0.2; **Anal.** Calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>24</sub>ClNO<sub>3</sub>Si: C, 57.69; H, 6.84; N, 3.96. Found: C, 57.93; H, 6.95; N, 4.01.



(*S*)-(+)-Benzyl 2–cyano–2–(4–fluoro)phenyl-2–triethylsiloxyacetate (8i). The title compound was prepared according to General Procedure C using 60 mg (0.25 mmol) of acylsilane, 81.5 mg (0.5 mmol) of benzyl cyanoformate, 22.3 mg (0.038 mmol) of 26-Cl, and 5.1 mL of C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>8</sub>. After 72 h at 45 °C, the crude product was purified by flash chromatography with 95:5 hexanes-EtOAc to afford 85.3 mg (85%) of 8i as a colorless oil in 78% ee as determined by chiral SFC analysis after reduction of the nitrile and protecting as the *N*-BOC amide. Analytical data for title compound:  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ +4.98 (c = 4.3, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>); **IR** (thin film, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3069, 3036, 2959, 2879, 2243, 1766, 1605, 1507, 1457, 1412, 1377, 1230, 1190, 1156; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.65-7.58 (m, 2H), 7.33-7.30 (m, 3H), 7.23-7.19 (m, 2H), 7.08-7.02 (m, 2H), 5.19 (s, 2H), 1.00-0.92 (m, 9H), 0.76-0.68 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 166.9, 165.3, 162.0, 134.4, 132.7, 132.6, 128.9, 128.8, 128.4, 127.8, 127.7, 118.1, 116.1, 115.8, 74.6, 69.1, 6.8, 5.4; TLC (95:5 Hexanes-EtOAc) R<sub>f</sub> 0.36; **Anal.** Calcd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>26</sub>FNO<sub>3</sub>Si: C, 66.14; H, 6.56; N, 3.51. Found: C, 66.43; H, 6.70; N, 3.62.



(*S*)-(+)-Benzyl 2–cyano–2–(4–cyano)phenyl-2–triethylsiloxyacetate (8j). The title compound was prepared according to General Procedure C using 60 mg (0.25 mmol) of acylsilane, 78.9 mg (0.5 mmol) of benzyl cyanoformate, 21.6 mg (0.037 mmol) of 26-Cl, and 4.9 mL of C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>8</sub>. After 72 h at 45 °C, the crude product was purified by flash chromatography with 95:5 hexanes-EtOAc to afford 69.7 mg (70%) of 8j as a colorless oil in 64% ee as determined by chiral SFC analysis (Chiralpak OD, 0.40 % MeOH, 2.00 mL/min, 150 psi, 40 °C, 240 nm,  $t_{r-major}$  39.8 min,  $t_{r-minor}$  32.8 min). Analytical data for title compound: [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>25</sup>+6.40 (c = 3.2, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>); IR (thin film, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 2961, 2878, 2232, 1767, 1457, 1241, 1156, 1018, 854; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.76-7.73 (m, 2H), 7.68-7.65 (m, 2H), 7.34-7.30 (m, 3H), 7.23-7.18 (m, 2H), 5.20 (s, 1H), 5.19 (s, 1H), 0.99-0.90 (m, 9H), 0.80-0.072 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 166.2, 141.6, 134.0, 132.7, 129.2, 128.9, 126.5, 118.2, 117.5, 115.0, 77.5, 69.6, 6.8, 5.4; TLC (95:5 hexanes-EtOAc) R<sub>f</sub> 0.17; Anal. Calcd for C<sub>23</sub>H<sub>26</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>Si: C, 67.95; H, 6.45; N, 6.89. Found: C, 67.97; H, 6.50; N, 6.98.

General procedure (D) for the reduction of nitriles (8) to amines via H<sub>2</sub>/Raney Ni. Nitrile 8 (0.19 mmol) was added to a 20-mL vial equipped with a magnetic stir bar. Raney Ni (0.4 mL of a 50% dispersion in H<sub>2</sub>O) was added followed by 95 % EtOH (4 mL). The vial was placed in a hydrogenation apparatus, purged with H<sub>2</sub> three times and charged to the indicated pressure. After the given amount of time the vessel was vented and the reaction was filtered through a bed a celite, and rinsed with  $CH_2Cl_2$ . The extracts were dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated *in vacuo*. The crude product was purified by flash chromatography using the indicated solvent system to afford the pure amine.



(*S*)-(+)-3-Amino-2-phenyl-2-triethylsilyloxypropionic acid ethyl ester (32). The title compound was prepared according to General Procedure **D** using 62 mg (0.19 mmol) of **8c**, 0.4 mL of Raney Ni dispersion, and 100 psi of H<sub>2</sub>. Workup following General Procedure **D** afforded the crude product which was purified by flash chromatography (5:20:80 Et<sub>3</sub>N-EtOAc-petroleum ether) to yield 45.2 mg (72%) of **32** as a colorless oil. Analytical data for title compound:  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ +26.4 (c = 1.75, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 77% ee); **IR** (thin film, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3394, 3059, 2960, 2875, 1720, 1601, 1448, 1367, 1265, 1016; <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.45-7.40 (m, 2H), 7.44-7.23 (m, 3H), 4.25 (ABX,  $J_{AB} = 10.8$  Hz,  $J_{AX} = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 4.17 (ABX,  $J_{AB} = 10.8$  Hz,  $J_{AX} = 7.2$  Hz, 1H), 3.15-3.08 (m, 2H), 1.26 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 0.93 (t, J = 7.8 Hz, 9H), 0.67-0.48 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C **NMR** (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  173.3, 141.1, 128.6, 128.5, 128.4, 127.9, 126.0, 125.9, 125.8, 77.4, 61.7, 52.7, 14.3, 7.5, 6.7; TLC (5:20:80 Et<sub>3</sub>N-EtOAc-petroleum ether) R<sub>f</sub> 0.40; **Anal.** Calcd for C<sub>17</sub>H<sub>29</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>Si: C, 63.02; H, 9.04; N, 4.33. Found: C, 62.83; H, 8.94; N, 4.34.



(*S*)-(+)-3-Amino-2-phenyl-2-triethylsilyloxypropionic acid ethyl ester (32). The title compound was prepared according to General Procedure **D** using 96.5 mg (0.27 mmol) of nitrile **8h**, 0.4 mL of Raney Ni dispersion, and 100 psi of H<sub>2</sub>. Work up following General Procedure **D** afforded the crude product which was purified by flash chromatography (5:20:80 Et<sub>3</sub>N-EtOAc-petroleum ether) to yield 45.2 mg (72%) of **32** (the C-Cl bond was unexpectedly hydrogenated) as a colorless oil. Analytical data for title compound matched the data reported above for **34**:  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ +20.5 (c = 1.3, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 61% ee).

General procedure (E) for the reduction of nitriles (8) to amines with CoCl<sub>2</sub>/NaBH<sub>4</sub>.<sup>7</sup> A 20-mL round bottom flask equipped with a stir bar was charged with CoCl<sub>2</sub>•6H<sub>2</sub>O (0.76 mmol), the nitrile (0.19 mmol) dissolved in MeOH (1 mL), and an additional 2 mL of MeOH. This solution was chilled to 0 °C and NaBH<sub>4</sub> (6.63 mmol) was carefully added in portions (evolution of H<sub>2</sub>!) to give a black suspension. Once H<sub>2</sub> evolution had ceased, the reaction was warmed to 25 °C and stirred for an additional 30 min. The indicated aqueous workup was applied (x  $\mu$ L H<sub>2</sub>O followed by addition of x  $\mu$ L of a 15% (w/w) NaOH solution, followed by an additional 3x  $\mu$ L H<sub>2</sub>O, where x = total amount of NaBH<sub>4</sub> added in mg), the resultant mixture was filtered through a cotton plug, and the filtrate was dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>). Concentration *in vacuo* gave the crude product which was purified by flash chromatography.



(S)-(+)-3-Amino-2-phenyl-2-triethylsilyloxypropionic acid benzyl ester (33). The title

compound was prepared according to General Procedure **E** using 80.7 mg (0.21 mmol) of the nitrile, 201 mg of CoCl<sub>2</sub>•6H<sub>2</sub>O (0.85 mmol), 280 mg (7.35 mmol) NaBH<sub>4</sub>, and 4 mL of MeOH. Workup following General Procedure **E** (280  $\mu$ L H<sub>2</sub>O followed by addition of 280  $\mu$ L of a 15% (w/w) NaOH solution, followed by an additional 840  $\mu$ L H<sub>2</sub>O) afforded the crude product which was purified by flash chromatography (5:20:80 Et<sub>3</sub>N-EtOAc-petroleum ether) to yield 38.9 mg (48%) of **33** as a colorless oil. Analytical data for title compound: [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub> <sup>25</sup> +26.4 (c = 1.75, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 79% ee); <sup>1</sup>**H NMR** (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.41-7.34 (m, 2H), 7.35-7.23 (m, 8H), 5.25 (d, *J* = 12.4 Hz, 1H), 5.12 (d, *J* = 12.4 Hz, 1H), 3.20-3.12 (m, 2H), 0.89 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 9H), 0.64-0.49 (m, 6H); TLC (5:20:80 Et<sub>3</sub>N-EtOAc-petroleum ether) R<sub>f</sub> 0.27.



(*S*)-(+)-3-Amino-2-phenyl-2-*tert*-butyldimethylsilyloxypropionic acid benzyl ester (40). The title compound was prepared according to General Procedure E using 71.0 mg (0.19 mmol) of nitrile **8b**, 181 mg of CoCl<sub>2</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O (0.76 mmol), 250 mg (6.63 mmol) NaBH<sub>4</sub>, and 4 mL of MeOH. Workup following General Procedure E (250  $\mu$ L H<sub>2</sub>O followed by addition of 250  $\mu$ L of a 15% (w/w) NaOH solution, followed by an additional 750  $\mu$ L H<sub>2</sub>O) afforded the crude product which was purified by flash chromatography (5:20:80 Et<sub>3</sub>N-EtOAc-petroleum ether) to yield 27.7 mg (38%) of amine **40** as a colorless oil. Analytical data for title compound: [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub><sup>25</sup>+21.4 (c = 1.32, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 64% ee); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.39-7.33 (m, 2H), 7.31-7.20 (m, 8H), 5.23 (d, *J* = 12.0 Hz, 1H), 5.06 (d, *J* = 12.0 Hz, 1H), 3.25 (br s, 2H), 1.41 (br s, 2H), 0.92 (s, 9H), 0.04 (s, 3H), 0.00 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  172.9, 140.7, 135.4, 128.7, 128.6, 128.5, 128.2, 128.1, 126.0, 77.4, 67.3, 51.6, 26.3, 19.1, -2.7, -3.1; TLC (5:20:80 Et<sub>3</sub>N-EtOAc-petroleum ether) R<sub>f</sub> 0.27.

General procedure (F) for the reduction of nitriles (8) to *N*-BOC protected amines with  $(BOC)_2O/CoCl_2/NaBH_4$ . A 20-mL round bottom flask equipped with a stir bar was charged with CoCl\_2•6H<sub>2</sub>O (0.76 mmol), the nitrile (0.19 mmol) dissolved in MeOH (1 mL), *tert*-butoxycarbonyl anhydride ((BOC)<sub>2</sub>O, 0.38 mmol), and an additional 2 mL of MeOH. This solution was chilled to 0 °C and NaBH<sub>4</sub> (6.63 mmol) was carefully added in portions (evolution of H<sub>2</sub>!) to give a black suspension. Once H<sub>2</sub> evolution had ceased, the reaction was warmed to 25 °C and stirred for an additional 30 min. The indicated aqueous workup was applied (x µL H<sub>2</sub>O followed by addition of x µL of a 15% (w/w) NaOH solution, followed by an additional 3x µL H<sub>2</sub>O, where x = total amount of NaBH<sub>4</sub> added in mg). The resultant mixture was filtered through a cotton plug and the filtrate was dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>). Concentration *in vacuo* gave the crude product which was purified by flash chromatography.



(S)-(+)-3-tert-Butoxycarbonylamino-2-(4-chlorophenyl)-2-triethylsilyloxypropionic acid benzyl ester (34). The title compound was prepared according to General Procedure F using 58.6 mg (0.14 mmol) of nitrile 8g, 133 mg of CoCl<sub>2</sub>•6H<sub>2</sub>O (0.56 mmol), 186 mg (4.9 mmol)

NaBH<sub>4</sub>, and 4 mL of MeOH. Workup following General Procedure **F** (185 μL H<sub>2</sub>O followed by addition of 185 μL of a 15% (w/w) NaOH solution, followed by an additional 555 μL H<sub>2</sub>O) afforded the crude product which was purified by flash chromatography (5:20:80 Et<sub>3</sub>N-EtOAc-petroleum ether) to yield 33.4 mg (46%) of **34** as a colorless oil in 64% ee as determined by chiral SFC analysis (Whelk-O 1, 1.0 % MeOH, 1.5 mL/min, 150 psi, 40 °C, 240 nm,  $t_{r-major}$  26.8 min,  $t_{r-minor}$  29.1 min). Analytical data for title compound: [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub> <sup>25</sup>+17.0 (c = 1.98, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 64% ee); **IR** (thin film, cm<sup>-1</sup>) 3456, 2956, 2875, 1747, 1726, 1595, 1495, 1456, 1392, 1367, 1232, 1163 <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 7.37-7.25 (m, 9H), 5.24-5.12 (m, 2H), 4.69-4.61 (m, 1H), 3.79-3.63 (m, 2H), 1.34 (s, 9H), 0.92 (t, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 9H), 0.67-0.51 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>) δ 172.2, 155.8, 138.7, 134.2, 128.8, 128.7, 128.5, 128.4, 127.5, 81.1, 79.5, 67.8, 49.4, 28.5, 7.3, 6.5; TLC (5:95 EtOAc-petroleum ether) R<sub>f</sub> 0.27.



(*S*)-3-tert-Butoxycarbonylamino-2-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-triethylsilyloxypropionic acid benzyl ester (41). The title compound was prepared according to General Procedure F using 41.7 mg (0.11 mmol) of nitrile **8i**, 100 mg of CoCl<sub>2</sub>•6H<sub>2</sub>O (0.42 mmol), 139 mg (3.7 mmol) NaBH<sub>4</sub>, and 4 mL of MeOH. Workup following General Procedure F (185  $\mu$ L H<sub>2</sub>O followed by addition of 185  $\mu$ L of a 15% (w/w) NaOH solution, followed by an additional 555  $\mu$ L H<sub>2</sub>O) afforded the crude product which was purified by flash chromatography (95:5 Hexanes-EtOAc) to yield 28.2 mg (30%) of **41** as a colorless oil in 78% ee as determined by chiral SFC analysis (Whelk-O 1, 1.0 % MeOH, 1.5 mL/min, 150 psi, 40 °C, 240 nm,  $t_{r-major}$  19.7 min,  $t_{r-minor}$  21.6 min). Analytical data for title compound: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.41-7.26 (m, 7H), 6.97 (t, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 2H), 5.18 (d, *J* = 12.3 Hz, 1H), 5.11 (d, *J* = 12.3 Hz, 1H), 4.71-4.62 (m, 1H), 3.80 (dd, *J* = 13.8, 6.0 Hz, 1H), 3.67 (dd, *J* = 13.5, 6.0 Hz, 1H), 1.33 (s, 9H), 0.91 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 9H), 0.69-0.50 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  172.4, 164.3, 161.0, 155.8, 135.9, 135.0, 128.8, 128.7, 127.9, 127.8, 115.4, 115.1, 81.1, 79.5, 67.8, 49.5, 28.6, 7.3, 6.5; TLC (95:5 Hexanes-EtOAc) R<sub>f</sub> 0.17.



(2S)-Phenyl-3-((2S)-hydroxy-2-phenyl acetylamino)-2-triethylsilyloxypropionic acid ethyl ester (42). To a 25-mL round bottom flask equipped with a magnetic stir bar was added (S)-mandelic acid (5.2 mg, 0.034 mmol, 1.1 equiv), N-hydroxysuccinimide (3.9 mg, 0.034, 1.1 equiv), and dicyclohexylcarbodiimide (7.0 mg, 0.034 mmol, 1.1 equiv). The flask was fitted with a septum, purged with Ar, and THF (1 mL) was added with stirring. After 30 min, a white precipitate formed, after which amine 32 (10 mg, 0.031 mmol, 1.0 equiv), dissolved in THF (2 mL) was added via cannula. After 1 h, the solvent was removed by rotary evaporator and the crude product was purified by flash chromatography (5:20:80 Et<sub>3</sub>N-EtOAc-petroleum ether) to yield 12.6 mg (89%) of the pure product as a white solid in 77% de as determined by chiral SFC

analysis (Chiralpak OD, 5.0 % MeOH, 1.5 mL/min, 150 psi, 40 °C, 240 nm,  $t_{r-major}$  23.7 min,  $t_{r-minor}$  26.6 min). Analytical data for title compound (1:1 mixture of diastereomers): <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.43-7.17 (m, 16H), 7.10-7.02 (m, 2H), 6.50-6.39 (m, 2H), 4.83 (d, J = 3.0 Hz, 1H), 4.80 (d, J = 3.0 Hz, 1H), 4.24-3.98 (m, 4H), 3.94-3.66 (m, 4H), 1.23 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 1.16 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 0.98-0.84 (m, 18H), 0.68-0.49 (m, 12H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  172.3, 172.2, 172.0, 172.0, 139.8, 139.8, 139.4, 139.3, 128.9, 128.8, 128.6, 128.6, 128.5, 128.5, 128.4, 128.4, 128.3, 127.0, 126.9, 125.8, 125.7, 81.3, 81.0, 74.2, 74.1, 62.1, 62.0, 48.5, 48.2, 14.1, 14.0, 7.3, 7.3, 6.5, 6.4; TLC (5:20:80 Et<sub>3</sub>N-EtOAc-petroleum ether) R<sub>f</sub> 0.19.

General procedure (G) for the cyclization of primary amines to  $\beta$ -lactams. To a solution of the amine (0.061 mmol) in Et<sub>2</sub>O (2 mL) under Ar was added MeMgBr (0.18 mmol) at 0 °C with stirring. After 15 min, the solution was warmed to 23 °C and stirring was maintained for 12 h, after which it was quenched by the addition of saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (aq) solution. The layers were separated and the water layer was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (3 x 10 mL). The combined organic layers were dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>) and concentrated to give the crude  $\beta$ -lactam which was purified by flash chromatography using the indicated eluent.



(*S*)-(-)-3-Phenyl-3-triethylsilyloxyazetidin-2-one (35). The title compound was prepared according to General Procedure **G** using 45 mg (0.14 mmol) of amine **32**, 92 µL of MeMgBr (3.0 M in Et<sub>2</sub>O, 0.28 mmol), and 1.4 mL Et<sub>2</sub>O. Workup following General Procedure **G** afforded the crude product which was purified by flash chromatography (5:20:80 Et<sub>3</sub>N-EtOAc-petroleum ether) to yield 19.2 mg (50%) of **35** as a colorless oil. Analytical data for title compound:  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ -11.3 (c = 0.96, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 63% ee); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.52-7.47 (m, 2H), 7.38-7.24 (m, 3H), 6.02 (br s, 1H), 3.57 (d, *J* = 5.4 Hz, 1H), 3.52 (d, *J* = 5.4 Hz, 1H), 0.88 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 9H), 0.70-0.50 (m, 6H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  170.1, 139.9, 128.7, 128.4, 125.8, 89.2, 55.2, 6.9, 5.8; TLC (5:20:80 Et<sub>3</sub>N-EtOAc-petroleum ether) R<sub>f</sub> 0.31.



(*S*)-(-)-3-Phenyl-3-triethylsilyloxyazetidin-2-one (35). The title compound was prepared according to General Procedure **G** using 23.7 mg (0.061 mmol) of amine 33, 61  $\mu$ L of MeMgBr (3.0 M in Et<sub>2</sub>O, 0.18 mmol), and 2 mL Et<sub>2</sub>O. Workup following General Procedure **G** afforded the crude product which was purified by flash chromatography (5:20:80 Et<sub>3</sub>N-EtOAc-petroleum ether) to yield 11.3 mg (67%) of 35 as a colorless oil. Analytical data for title compound matched the data reported above for : [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub><sup>25</sup>-20.0 (c = 0.46, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 78% ee).



(*S*)-(-)- **3-(tert-Butyldimethylsilyloxy)-3-phenylazetidin-2-one** (**40a**). The title compound was prepared according to General Procedure **G** using 18.1 mg (0.047 mmol) of amine, 47 µL of MeMgBr (3.0 M in Et<sub>2</sub>O, 0.14 mmol), and 2 mL Et<sub>2</sub>O. Workup following General Procedure **G** afforded the crude product which was purified by flash chromatography (5:20:80 Et<sub>3</sub>N-EtOAc-petroleum ether) to yield 7.3 mg (56%) of **40a** as a colorless oil. Analytical data for **40a** :  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ -10.6 (c = 0.37, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 64% ee); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.51-7.46 (m, 2H), 7.39-7.27 (m, 3H), 5.97 (br s, 1H), 3.56 (d, *J* = 5.4 Hz, 1H), 3.52 (d, *J* = 5.4 Hz), 0.90 (s, 9H), 0.10 (s, 3H), -0.01 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  170.0 139.8, 128.7, 128.4, 125.9, 89.3, 55.2, 25.9, 18.4, -3.4, -3.5; TLC (5:20:80 Et<sub>3</sub>N-EtOAc-petroleum ether) R<sub>f</sub> 0.31.



(*S*)-1-Methyl-3-phenyl-3-triethylsilyloxyazetidin-2-one (35a). To a suspension of NaH (50% dispersion in mineral oil, 5.0 mg, 0.10 mmol; previously washed under Ar with hexane) in THF (1 mL) was added  $\beta$ -lactam 35 (19.2 mg, 0.069 mmol) in THF (1.5 mL) via cannula at 0 °C. After stirring for 30 min, the reaction was cooled to -78 °C and 6  $\mu$ L of MeI (14.2 mg, 0.10 mmol) was added by syringe. TLC indicated that the reaction was complete after 3 h. The reaction was discontinued by addition of a saturated NH<sub>4</sub>Cl (aq) solution. The organic and aqueous layers were separated, the aqueous layer was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (3 x 5 mL), the organic layers were combined and dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>). Concentration of the organic layer *in vacuo* gave 20.1 mg (100%) of the product as a colorless oil which was used without further purification. Analytical data for title compound: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.49-7.42 (m, 2H), 7.35-7.23 (m, 3H), 3.49 (d, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 1H), 3.46 (d, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 1H), 2.91 (s, 3H), 0.86 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 9H), 0.68-0.51 (m, 6H); TLC (5:20:80 Et<sub>3</sub>N-EtOAc-petroleum ether) R<sub>f</sub> 0.46.



(*S*)-(-)-1-Methyl-3-phenyl-3-hydroxyazetidin-2-one (36). To a solution of  $\beta$ -lactam 35a (20.1 mg, 0.069) in THF (2 mL) was added 69  $\mu$ L of tetrabutylammonium fluoride (1.0 M in THF, 0.069 mmol) at 0 °C. After stirring for 30 min, the solvent was removed and the crude product was purified by flash chromatography (100% Et<sub>2</sub>O) to give 8.5 mg (70% for 2 steps) of the free alcohol which matched the analytical data previously reported in the literature.<sup>8</sup> Literature (S)-(-)(36): [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub><sup>25</sup> –99.7 (c = 0.34, CHCl<sub>3</sub>, 99% ee) Experimental: [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub><sup>25</sup> –54.2 (c = 0.18, CHCl<sub>3</sub>, 63% ee); therefore compound 36 has an absolute configuration of (S). Analytical data for title compound: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.49-7.41 (m, 2H), 7.36-7.25 (m, 3H), 5.17 (br s, 1H),

3.58 (d, J = 5.4 Hz, 1H), 3.48 (d, J = 5.4 Hz, 1H), 2.87 (s, 3H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  170.3, 138.6, 128.6, 128.4, 125.5, 86.2, 59.3, 28.5; TLC (Et<sub>2</sub>O) R<sub>f</sub> 0.23.



(*S*)-(-)-3-Phenyl-3-hydroxyazetidin-2-one (35b). To a solution of  $\beta$ -lactam 35 (11.3 mg, 0.041) in THF (2 mL) was added 45  $\mu$ L of tetrabutylammonium fluoride (1.0 M in THF, 0.045 mmol) at 0 °C. After stirring for 30 min, the solvent was removed and the crude product was purified by flash chromatography (100% Et<sub>2</sub>O) to give 5.0 mg (75%) of **35b**. Analytical data for title compound: [ $\alpha$ ]<sub>D</sub><sup>25</sup> –57.4 (c = 0.25, CHCl<sub>3</sub>, 80% ee); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  7.51-7.42 (m, 2H), 7.40-7.28 (m, 3H), 6.26 (br s, 1H), 3.90 (br s, 1H), 3.64 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 3.54 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  170.9, 138.4, 129.0, 128.9, 125.6, 87.6, 53.9; TLC (Et<sub>2</sub>O) R<sub>f</sub> 0.21.



(*S*)-(-)-3-Phenyl-3-hydroxyazetidin-2-one (35b). To a solution of  $\beta$ -lactam 40a (7.3 mg, 0.026) in THF (1 mL) was added 29  $\mu$ L of tetrabutylammonium fluoride (1.0 M in THF, 0.029 mmol) at 0 °C. After stirring for 3 h, the solvent was removed and the crude product was purified by flash chromatography (100% Et<sub>2</sub>O) to give 3.8 mg (90%) of the free alcohol which matched the data for the previously reported 35b.  $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ -33.4 (c = 0.19, CHCl<sub>3</sub>, 64% ee).

**General procedure (H) for the preparation of catalysts 26-X.**<sup>9</sup> To a flamed-dried Schlenk tube equipped with a magnetic stir bar was added, in a dry box, the salen ligand (1.49 mmol, 1.0 equiv),  $Al(OiPr)_3$  (1.49 mmol, 1.0 equiv), and the indicated amount of  $C_7H_8$ . The tube was sealed and heated to 80 °C and was maintained at that temperature with stirring for 72 h. After 72 h, the green solution was transferred back to a glove box and the toluene was removed under reduced pressure. The residual solid was washed with pentane three times and the solid was again dried under reduced pressure to give the pure **26-X**.



(*R*,*R*)-26-Cl. The catalyst was prepared according to General Procedure H using 900 mg (1.79 mmol) of salen ligand, 365 mg (1.79 mmol) of Al(O*i*Pr)<sub>3</sub>, and 6 mL of toluene to give 910 mg (87%) of 26-Cl as a yellow powder. Analytical data for title compound: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.27 (s, 1H), 8.05 (s, 1H), 7.33 (d, *J* = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (d, *J* = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 7.08

(d, J = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 3.90-3.87 (m, 1H), 3.62 (sept, J = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 3.12-3.11 (m, 1H), 2.56-2.52 (m, 1H), 2.37-2.34 (m, 1H), 2.08-2.05 (m, 2H), 1.50 (s, 18H), 1.47 (s, 18H), 1.45-1.40 (m, 4H), 0.83 (d, J = 6.0 Hz), 0.79 (d, J = 6.0 Hz); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  166.8, 164.8, 163.2, 161.4, 144.1, 143.9, 130.6, 130.5, 130.2, 130.1, 120.9, 120.5, 120.1, 119.9, 63.2, 62.9, 62.7, 35.9, 35.8, 29.9, 29.8, 29.7, 29.6, 27.6, 27.5, 27.4, 27.3. A <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of **26-Cl** is attached in Appendix B.



(*R*,*R*)-26-*t*Bu. The catalyst was prepared according to General Procedure H using 750 mg (1.44 mmol) of salen ligand, 295 mg (1.44 mmol) of Al(O*i*Pr)<sub>3</sub>, and 5 mL of toluene to give 864 mg (95%) of **26-***t***Bu** that match the previously reported spectroscopic data.<sup>9</sup> Analytical data for title compound: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.36 (s, 1H), 8.15 (s, 1H), 7.49 (d, *J* = 2.7 Hz, 1H), 7.47 (d, *J* = 2.7 Hz, 1H), 7.05 (d, *J* = 2.7 Hz, 1H), 6.98 (d, *J* = 2.7 Hz, 1H), 3.97-3.87 (m, 1H), 3.71 (sept, *J* = 5.7 Hz, 1H), 3.10-3.00 (m, 1H), 2.65-2.57 (m, 1H), 2.46-2.39 (m, 1H), 2.11-2.02 (m, 2H), 1.55 (s, 9H), 1.52 (s, 9H), 1.52-1.47 (m, 4H), 1.30 (s, 9H), 1.29 (s, 9H), 0.89 (d, *J* = 5.7 Hz, 3H).



(*R*,*R*)-26-OMe. The catalyst was prepared according to General Procedure **H** using 700 mg (1.42 mmol) of salen ligand, 289 mg (1.42 mmol) of Al(O*i*Pr)<sub>3</sub>, and 5 mL of toluene to give 764 mg (93 %) of **26-OMe** as a yellow powder. Analytical data for title compound: <sup>1</sup>**H** NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.31 (s, 1H), 8.09 (s, 1H), 7.11 (d, *J* = 3.3 Hz, 1H), 7.07 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz, 1H), 6.53 (d, *J* = 3.0 Hz, 1H), 6.48 (d, *J* = 3.3 Hz, 1H), 3.94-3.83 (m, 1H), 3.75 (s, 3H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 3.68 (sept, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 3.13-3.02 (m, 1H), 2.61-2.52 (m, 1H), 2.41-2.36 (m, 1H), 2.10-2.00 (m, 2H), 1.52 (s, 9H), 1.49 (s, 9H), 1.49-1.37 (m, 4H), 0.84 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 3H), 0.80 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 3H).



(*R*,*R*)-26-NMe<sub>2</sub>. The catalyst was prepared according to General Procedure H using 65 mg (0.125 mmol) of salen ligand, 25.5 mg (0.125 mmol) of Al(OiPr)<sub>3</sub>, and 1 mL of toluene to give 51.7 mg (68%) of **26-NMe**<sub>2</sub> as an orange powder. Analytical data for title compound: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.31 (s, 1H), 8.09 (s, 1H), 7.17 (d, *J* = 3.2 Hz, 1H), 7.13 (d, *J* = 3.2 Hz, 1H), 6.48 (d, *J* = 3.2 Hz, 1H), 6.43 (d, *J* = 3.2 Hz, 1H), 3.92-3.83 (m, 1H), 3.66 (sept, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 3.10-3.01 (m, 1H), 2.79 (s, 6H), 2.77 (s, 6H), 2.58-2.52 (m, 1H), 2.39-2.33 (m, 1H), 2.08-2.00 (m, 2H), 1.54 (s, 9H), 1.50 (s, 9H), 1.50-1.35 (m, 4H), 0.83 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 3H), 0.81 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 3H).



(*R*,*R*)-26-NO<sub>2</sub>. The catalyst was prepared according to General Procedure H using 300 mg (0.57 mmol) of salen ligand, 117 mg (0.57 mmol) of Al(O*i*Pr)<sub>3</sub>, and 3 mL of toluene to give 295 mg (85%) of **26-NO**<sub>2</sub> as a yellow powder. Analytical data for title compound: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$  8.47 (s, 1H), 8.33 (d, *J* = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 8.31 (d, *J* = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 8.25 (s, 1H), 8.20 (d, *J* = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 8.19 (d, *J* = 2.8 Hz, 1H), 3.99-3.90 (m, 1H), 3.60 (sept, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 3.25-3.16 (m, 1H), 2.65-2.59 (m, 1H), 2.47-2.40 (m, 1H), 2.17-2.11 (m, 2H), 1.54 (s, 9H), 1.51 (s, 9H), 1.50-1.40 (m, 4H), 0.83 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 3H), 0.80 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 3H).

**Reaction of 26-CI with NCC(O)OBn (25) in CDCl<sub>3</sub> using Cp<sub>2</sub>Fe as internal standard.** In a dry box 12.0 mg (0.0205 mmol) of **26-CI** and 1.9 mg of Cp<sub>2</sub>Fe (0.0102 mmol) were added to a vial and dissolved in CDCl<sub>3</sub> (0.5 mL). This solution was transferred to an NMR tube and the tube was fitted with a septa. Figure 1 (Appendix C) depicts an initial <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum that was acquired (the resonance at 4.13 ppm corresponds to the Cp<sub>2</sub>Fe). Benzyl cyanoformate (6  $\mu$ L, 0.041 mmol) was then added via syringe. A <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra was acquired (resonance at 5.30 ppm is the benzyl cyanoformate (**25**); resonance at 5.12 ppm is isopropyl benzyl carbonate (**28**); resonance at 1.35 ppm is isopropyl cyanoformate (**29**); resonance at 5.15 ppm is dibenzylcarbonate (**30**)) after 30 min, depicted in Figure 3 (Appendix C). A second <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum was acquired at 120 min, depicted in Figure 3 (Appendix C). This spectrum shows complete consumption of **26-CI**. The calculated yields of **28** and **29** are 47% and 42%, respectively.



















S25







S27





# Appendix C – Reaction of 26-Cl with BnO<sub>2</sub>CCN

## Initial <sup>1</sup>H NMR with Cp<sub>2</sub>Fe (Figure 1)





30 min after benzyl cyanoformate addition (Figure 2)



## 120 min after benzyl cyanoformate addition (Figure 3)

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