Supporting Information for:

Multicomponent Asymmetric Reactions Mediated by Proline-Lithium Salt.

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1. General methods

¹H NMR and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded at 300 MHz and 75 MHz or at 200 MHz and 50 MHz respectively. Chemical shifts are reported in ppm relative to the resonance of CHCl₃ (δ = 7.26) for ¹H NMR and to the central peak of CDCl₃ (δ = 77.5) for ¹³C NMR. Flash chromatography (FC) was carried out using Merck silica gel 60 (230-400 mesh) using mixtures of petroleum ether 30-50° C (PE) and diethyl ether for compounds 7 or a mixture of ethyl acetate/methanol for compounds 10.

1.1 Materials

Analytical grade solvents were used as received. All commercially available reagents were employed as received including aldehydes 7, proline 4, 2-cyclohexen-1-one 2. Proline-4 lithium salt has been prepared accordingly to standard literature procedures.

2. General procedure for the vinylogous aldol condensation of 2-cyclohexen-1-one and aldehydes 7 leading to compounds 8.

2-Cyclohexen-1-one 2 (1 g, 10.4 mmol, 1 eq) and aldehydes 7a-d (20.8 mmols, 2 eq) were added to a stirred suspension of proline 4-lithium salt (1.26 g, 1 eq) in toluene (20 mL). After 24 h water (40 mL) was added and the mixture extracted twice with ethyl acetate (100 mL). The combined organic layers were dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and the solvent removed *in* vacuo. The crude material was purified by FC (eluant: PE:diethyl ether from the ratio 10:1 to 1:3) to afford compounds **8a-d** in yield % accordingly to scheme 2.

Mixture of *E-Z* isomers in the ratio 3:1

¹**H-NMR** (200 MHz); δ (CDCl₃):7.43 (d, 1H, J= 10 Hz Z-isomer), 7.01 (d, 1H, J= 10.2 Hz Eisomer), 5.86 (m, 2H), 2.73 (m, 2H), 2.52 (m, 2H), 1.70 (m, 1H), 0.92 (d, 6H). ¹³**C-NMR** (50 MHz); δ (CDCl₃): 207.29, 199.64, 149.78, 142.11, 137.41, 134.18, 133.60, 132.00, 127.1, 125.52, 68.55, 63.45, 37.84, 36.70, 28.76, 26.70, 24.58, 23.48, 22.43, 21.86, 21.04, 20.06. **HRMS** calc. (C₁₁H₁₆NaO⁺): 187.1099; found: 187.1089

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8a



8b Q

Mixture of *E-Z* isomers in the ratio 4:1 ¹**H-NMR** (300 MHz); δ (CDCl₃): 7.43 (d, 1H, J= 10 Hz Z-isomer), 7.41 (d, 1H, J= 10.2 Hz, *E*isomer), 5.87 (m, 2H), 2.70 (m, 2H), 2.50 (m, 2H), 2.18 (m, 2H), 1.2 (m, 6H), 0.88 (m, 3H). ¹³**C-NMR** (75 MHz); δ (CDCl₃): 200.1, 200.0, 150.3, 142.5, 139.1, 135.9, 133.3, 131.2, 127.5, 125.9, 38.4, 35.5, 37.1, 32.0, 31.9, 31.5, 29.7, 29.3, 29.1, 28.4, 24.0, 22.9, 14.5, 14.4. **HRMS** calc. (C₁₂H₁₈NaO⁺): 201.1255; found: 201.1270

Mixture of *E*-*Z* isomers in the ratio 5:1

¹**H-NMR** (200 MHz); δ (CDCl₃): 7.27 (m, 6H), 6.9 (d, 1H), 5.9 (m, 1H), 2.8 (m, 2H), 2.4 (m, 5H), 1.3 (d, 3H).

¹³**C-NMR** (50 MHz); δ (CDCl₃): 199.9, 199.4, 149.4, 146.2, 141.7, 136.1, 135.9, 134.0, 133.0, 132.4, 130.9, 128.5, 127.3, 127.1, 126.4, 126.2, 125.7, 40.2, 39.9, 39.7, 37.9, 37.5, 36.7, 36.6, 31.2, 29.8, 23.7, 21.7.

HRMS calc. (C₁₆H₁₈NaO⁺): 249.1255; found: 249.1258

rac-8c



Mixture of *E-Z* isomers in the ratio 5:1 **H-NMR** (200 MHz); δ (CDCl₃): 7.40(d, 1H, J= 10 Hz Z-isomer), 7 (d, 1H, J= 10 Hz *E*-isomer), 5.85 (m, 2H), 2.7 (m, 2H), 2.5(m, 2H), 2.1(m, 3H), 0.98 (d, 3H), 0.90 (s, 9H). ¹³**C-NMR** (50 MHz); δ (CDCl₃): 200.0, 199.6, 149.8, 142.2, 137.6, 134.4, 133.7, 132.0, 127.2, 125.5, 65.9, 50.9, 50.7, 38.3, 38.0, 37.5, 36.7, 31.2, 31.2, 30.4, 30.4, 30.33, 30.09, 29.97, 29.79, 29.74, 23.86, 22.71, 22.65, 15,34. **HRMS** calc. (C₁₅H₂₄NaO⁺): 243.1725; found: 243.1701.

rac-8d

3. General procedure for the three component reaction of 2-cyclohexen-1-one, 2 aldehydes 7, and proline 4 leading to bicyclic adducts 10.

2-Cycloxenen-1-one 2 (1gr, 10.4 mmol, 1 eq) and aldehydes 7a-b and 7e-g (20.8 mmols, 2 eq) were added to a suspension of proline 4-lithium salt (1.26 gr, 1eq) in toluene (20 mL). The reaction was stirred at rt up to 5 days (scheme 2). Without performing any aqueous workup DCM was added to the crude reaction mixture. After the time indicated in table 1, the suspension was filtered over a pad of celite in order to remove any unreacted salt of proline. The solvent was then removed *in vacuo* and the products were purified by FC (eluant: diethyl ether first, then ethyl acetate and last ethyl acetate: methanol from the ratio 100:1 to 4:1), to afford compounds 10 as described in table 1.Compounds 10 were further purified by crystallization.

















