An Efficient Synthesis of Enamides from Ketones

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Supporting Information

General. All reagents were obtained from commercial suppliers and were used without further purification. Only anhydrous solvents were used for the reactions and these were equally purchased from commercial suppliers. Triethylphosphine (*caution: extremely pyrophoric and has a strong odor*) was purchased from Cytec as 50 wt% solution in toluene. All the reactions were performed under nitrogen atmosphere. 1 H NMR and 13 C NMR were obtained from a Varian Mercury 400 spectrometer in deuterio-solvents with TMS as an internal standard at room temperature. Chemical shifts are reported in ppm from an internal standard on the δ scale. A Waters 2690 HPLC system equipped with Waters 2487 UV detector was used for in-process as well as chiral assays. The HPLC data were reported in area % and were not adjusted to weight %. High resolution mass spectra were acquired on a Waters QTOF microsystem and externally by and M-Scan Inc. Elemental analyses were conducted by Galbraith Laboratories, Inc.

3,4-Dihydronaphthalen-1(2H)-one oxime (Table 1, compound 4)

The mixture of α -Tetralone (4.0 g, 26.8 mmol), sodium acetate (2.64 g, 32.2 mmol, 1.2 equiv) and hydroxylamine hydrochloride (2.42 g, 32.2 mmol, 1.2 equiv) in MeOH (12 mL) was heated to reflux. After 1 h, the reaction was allowed to cool to room temperature before diluting with ethyl acetate (50 mL). 2 N sodium hydroxide (13 mL) was added

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prior to removal of solvent *in vacuo*. The residue was re-dissolved in DI H₂O (40 mL) and EtOAc (80 mL). The aqueous layer was extracted with additional EtOAc (50 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine (50 mL) and concentrated to give a crude brown solid (4.4 g, 100% yield). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.87 (br, 1H), 7.91 (dd, 1H, J = 8.0, 1.2 Hz), 7.27 (m, 2H), 7.18 (dd, 1H, J = 7.6, 0.8 Hz), 2.88 (t, 2H, J = 6.8 Hz), 2.79 (t, 2H, J = 6.0 Hz), 1.91 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 155.3, 139.8, 130.3, 129.2, 128.6, 126.4, 124.0, 29.7, 23.9, 21.2. HRMS (m/z) [M+H⁺] calcd for C₁₀H₁₂NO 162.0919; found, 162.0907.

N-(3,4-Dihydronaphthalen-1-yl)acetamide (Table 1, compound 5)

The solution of the above crude oxime (1.0 g, 6.1 mmol) in toluene (9.0 mL) was purged with N₂ for 30 min. Neat Et₃P (0.86 g, 1.1 mL, 7.3 mmol, 1.2 equiv) was charged at room temperature. After stirring for 10 min, acetic anhydride (0.75 g, 0.69 mL, 7.3 mmol, 1.2 equiv) was added and the reaction heated to reflux. After 16 h, the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was mixed with methanol (15 mL) and excess K₂CO₃ (1.3 g). After 1 h, methanol was removed *in vacuo*. The residue was dissolved in EtOAc (100 mL) and DI water (50 mL). The organic layer was separated, washed with DI water (2 × 50 mL), concentrated and purified with flash column to give an off-white solid (1.0 g, 89% yield). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, mixture of rotamers) δ 7.11 – 7.21 (m, 4H), 6.90 (br, 1H), 6.36 (t, 0.75H, J = 4.8 Hz), 5.94 (br, 0.25H), 2.82 and 2.74 (t, 0.5H and 1.5H, J = 8.0 Hz), 2.40 and 2.34 (m, 0.5H and 1.5H), 2.11 and 1.93 (s, 2.25H and 0.75H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.4, 136.7, 131.5, 131.5, 128.1, 127.7, 127.4, 126.8, 126.3, 125.9, 122.0, 120.7, 119.7, 27.5, 27.2, 24.0, 22.5, 22.1, 20.2. HRMS (m/z) [M+H⁺] calcd for C₁₂H₁₄NO 188.1075; found, 188.1069.

2-Methyl-1-tetralone oxime (Table 2, entry 1, oxime)

The ketone (10.0 g, 62.4 mmol) was dissolved in dry methanol (45 mL). Sodium acetate (6.1 g, 74.9 mmol, 1.2 equiv) and hydroxylamine hydrochloride (5.2 g, 74.9 mmol, 1.2 equiv) were added before heating the mixture to reflux. After 1.7 h, the reaction was allowed to cool to ambient temperature and concentrated to dryness *in vacuo*. To the residue was added EtOAc (100 mL) and washed with DI water (2 × 50 mL). The organic layer was dried (Na₂SO₄), filtered and concentrated *in vacuo* to afford the crude product as an off-white solid (100%), which was used in the next reaction without further purification: mp 89-91 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 10.12 (br s, 1H), 7.85 (d, 1H, *J* = 7.8 Hz), 7.29 – 7.13 (m, 3H), 3.73 – 3.63 (m, 1H), 3.02 – 2.91 (m, 1H), 2.70 – 2.62 (m, 1H), 2.04 – 1.93 (m, 1H), 1.78 – 1.69 (m, 1H), 1.23 (d, 3H, *J* = 6.9 Hz). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.0, 139.1, 129.9, 129.4, 129.0, 126.6, 124.6, 28.5, 27.1, 25.4, 15.4. HRMS (*m*/z) [M+H]⁺: calcd for C₁₁H₁₃NO: 176.1075; found, 176.1071.

N-(2-Methyl-3,4-dihydronapthalen-1-yl)acetamide (Table 2, entry 1, enamide)

The oxime (2.0 g, 11.4 mmol) was dissolved in toluene (15 mL). A 50% (w/w) Et₃P solution in toluene (4.0 mL, 13.7 mmol, 1.2 equiv) was added and the solution was allowed to stir 10 minutes at ambient temperature under nitrogen. Acetic anhydride (1.3 mL, 13.7 mmol, 1.2 equiv) was added and the solution heated to reflux to form a yellow solution. After refluxing 22 h, the solution treated with 1% (by wt) aq CuSO₄ (30 mL), and extracted with EtOAc (2 × 50 mL). The combined organic layers were concentrated *in vacuo*, the residue dissolved in MeOH (40 mL) and the imide byproduct hydrolyzed with 2 N NaOH (5 mL). The mixture was stirred for 1 h at ambient temperature, concentrated *in vacuo*, the residue diluted with DI water (50 mL) and extracted twice with EtOAc. The combined organic layers were dried (Na₂SO₄), filtered and concentrated

in vacuo to afford the crude product. Column chromatography of the crude material (silica, 1:1:0.1% Hex/EtOAc/NEt₃; $R_f = 0.21$) yielded a white solid (1.7 g, 74%): mp 152-154 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 7.14 – 7.05 (m, 4H), 2.80 (t, 2H, J = 8.4, 7.6 Hz), 2.36 (t, 2H, J = 8.0, 7.6 Hz), 2.15 (s, 3H,), 1.83 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 172.9, 136.7, 135.2, 134.4, 128.4, 127.8, 127.4, 122.8, 30.7, 28.6, 22.5, 19.4. HRMS (m/z) [M+H]⁺: calcd for C₁₃H₁₅NO: 202.1232; found, 202.1227.

5-Methoxy-1-tetralone oxime (Table 2, entry 2, oxime)

The ketone (10.0 g, 56.7 mmol) was suspended in dry methanol (41 mL). Sodium acetate (5.6 g, 68.2 mmol, 1.2 equiv) and hydroxylamine hydrochloride (4.7 g, 68.2 mmol, 1.2 equiv) were added before heating the mixture to reflux. After 1 h, the reaction was allowed to cool to room temperature and concentrated *in vacuo* to dryness. The resulting solid was slurried in DI water (70 mL), filtered and the cake washed with (70 mL) DI water and (40 mL) toluene to yield a tan solid (10.5 g. 97%): mp 158-160 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.52 (br s, 1H), 7.51 (d, 1H, J = 8.0 Hz), 7.17 (t, 1H, J = 8.0, 8.0 Hz), 6.83 (d, 1H, J = 8.0 Hz), 3.83 (s, 3H), 2.83 – 2.72 (m, 4H), 1.89 – 1.82 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 156.9, 155.7, 131.7, 129.1, 126.8, 116.3, 110.5, 55.7, 23.5, 22.4, 21.0. HRMS (m/z) [M+H]⁺: calcd for C₁₁H₁₃NO₂: 192.1025; found, 192.1017.

N-(5-Methoxy-2-methyl-3,4-dihydronapthalen-1-yl)acetamide (Table 2, entry 2, enamide)

To the oxime (3.0 g, 15.7 mmol) was added toluene (21 mL). A 50% Et₃P solution in toluene (5.4 mL, 18.9 mmol, 1.2 equiv) was added and the solution was allowed to stir 10

minutes at ambient temperature under nitrogen. Acetic anhydride (1.8 mL, 18.9 mmol, 1.2 equiv) was added and the solution heated to reflux to form a brown solution. After refluxing 23 h, the solution was treated with 1% (by wt) aq CuSO₄ (45 mL) and EtOAc (150 mL), resulting in a slurry. The solids (product) were filtered and combined with the organic layer (also product) from the mother liquors and concentrated to dryness *in vacuo*. The solid residue was suspended in MeOH (60 mL) and the imide byproduct was hydrolyzed with 2 N NaOH (5 mL). The mixture was stirred for 1 h at ambient temperature, then filtered. The solids were washed with 1:1 (ν/ν) MeOH: water which yielded a tan solid (2.6 g, 77%): mp 183-185 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 9.07 (s, 1H), 7.16 (t, 1H, J = 8.0, 7.6 Hz), 6.91 (d, 1H, J = 8.4 Hz), 6.86 (d, 1H, J = 8.0 Hz), 6.15 (s, 1H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 2.64 (t, 2H, J = 8.0, 8.0 Hz), 2.25 – 2.22 (m, 2H), 2.01 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 168.8, 155.5, 132.8, 132.3, 126.3, 123.3, 119.2, 115.0, 110.3, 55.5, 23.3, 21.3, 19.2. HRMS (m/z) [M+H]⁺: calcd for C₁₃H₁₅NO₂: 218.1181; found, 218.1176.

6-Methoxy-1-tetralone oxime (Table 2, entry 3, oxime)

The ketone (10.0 g, 56.8 mmol) was suspended in dry methanol (41 mL). Sodium acetate (5.6 g, 68.2 mmol, 1.2 equiv) and hydroxylamine hydrochloride (4.7 g, 68.2 mmol, 1.2 equiv) were added before heating the mixture to reflux. After 1.5 h, the reaction was allowed to cool to room temperature and concentrated to dryness *in vacuo*. The resulting solid was slurried in DI water (70 mL), filtered and the cake washed with (70 mL) DI water and (40 mL) toluene to yield a white crystalline solid (10.4 g. 96%): mp 135-137 °C. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.46 (br s, 1H), 7.82 (d, 1H, J = 8.8 Hz), 6.77 (dd, 1H, J = 8.8, 2.4 Hz), 6.66 (d, 1H, J = 2.4 Hz), 3.81 (s, 3H), 2.83 – 2.72 (m, 4H), 1.90 – 1.84 (M, 2H). 13 C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.5, 155.2, 141.7, 125.8, 123.4, 113.2, 113.1, 55.4, 30.3, 24.0, 21.6. HRMS (m/z) [M+H] $^{+}$: calcd for C₁₁H₁₃NO₂: 192.1025; found, 192.1026.

N-(6-Methoxy-2-methyl-3,4-dihydronapthalen-1-yl)acetamide (Table 2, entry 3, enamide)

The oxime (3.0 g, 15.7 mmol) was suspended in toluene (21 mL). A 50% Et₃P solution in toluene (5.4 mL, 18.9 mmol, 1.2 equiv) was added and the solution allowed to stir 10 minutes at ambient temperature under nitrogen. Acetic anhydride (1.8 mL, 18.9 mmol, 1.2 equiv) was added and the solution heated to reflux to form a pale yellow solution. After refluxing 19 h, the mixture was cooled to ambient temperature and treated with 1% (by wt) aq CuSO₄ (45 mL) MeOH (90 mL) and 2 N NaOH (10 mL). The mixture was stirred for 1 h at ambient temperature to hydrolyze the imide byproduct. The mixture was concentrated to near dryness in vacuo, the residue dissolved in DI water (50 mL) and extracted with EtOAc (2×100 mL). The combined organic layers were dried (Na₂SO₄), filtered and concentrated in vacuo to afford a pink solid. Column chromatography of the crude material (silica, 1:1:0.1% Hex/EtOAc/NEt₃; $R_f = 0.23$) yielded a white solid (2.4 g, 71%): mp 128-130 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃OD/CDCl₃) δ 7.09 (d, 1H, J = 8.0 Hz), 6.71 - 6.69 (m, 2H), 5.99 (t, 1H, J = 4.8, 4.8 Hz), 3.78 (s, 3H), 2.76 (t, 2H, J = 8.4, 7.6Hz), 2.37 - 2.32 (m, 2H), 1.92 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CD₃OD/CDCl₃) δ 172.5, 160.0, 139.3, 132.9, 125.7, 123.9, 120.2, 114.5, 111.7, 55.7, 28.8, 23.3, 23.1. HRMS (m/z) [M+H]⁺: calcd for C₁₃H₁₅NO₂: 218.1181; found, 218.1166.

Cyclohexyl(phenyl)methanone oxime (Table 2, entry 4, oxime)

A mixture of ketone (4.0 g, 20.8 mmol), sodium acetate (2.05 g, 25.0 mmol, 1.2 equiv) and hydroxylamine hydrochloride (1.74 g, 25.0 mmol, 1.2 equiv) in MeOH (62 mL) was heated to reflux. After 1 h, the reaction was allowed to cool to room temperature. The solvent was removed *in vacuo*. The residue was redissolved in DI H₂O (40 mL) and

ethyl acetate (150 mL). The organic layer was separated, washed with brine (50 mL) and concentrated to give a crude light yellow solid (4.3 g, 100% yield). 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, mixture of rotamers) δ 9.68 (br, 1H), 7.30 – 7.46 (m, 5H), 3.35 and 2.49 (m, 0.54H and 0.46H), 1.15 – 1.90 (m, 10H). 13 C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.2, 162.5, 136.0, 133.9, 128.3, 128.2, 128.2, 128.2, 128.1, 128.0, 127.9, 127.4, 44.2, 38.1, 30.4, 29.2, 26.2, 26.1, 26.0, 26.0, 25.9. The rotamers exist. HRMS (m/z) [M+H⁺] calcd for $C_{13}H_{18}NO$ 204.1388; found, 204.1367.

N-(cyclohexylidene(phenyl)methyl)acetamide (Table 2, entry 4, enamide)

The solution of the crude oxime (from cyclohexyl phenyl ketone) (1.0 g, 4.8 mmol) in toluene (6.5 mL) was purged with N_2 for 30 min. Neat Et_3P (0.69 g, 0.86 mL, 5.8 mmol, 1.2 equiv) was charged at room temperature. After stirring for 10 min, acetic anhydride (0.59 g, 0.55 mL, 5.8 mmol, 1.2 equiv) was added. The reaction mixture was heated to reflux. After 24 h, the reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was mixed with methanol (20 mL) and excess K_2CO_3 (1.0 g). After 2h, methanol was removed *in vacuo*. The residue was dissolved in EtOAc (100 mL) and DI water (50 mL). The organic layer was separated, washed with DI water (2 × 50 mL), concentrated and purified with flash chromatography to give a white solid (1.0 g, 90% yield). 1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, mixture of rotamers) δ (ppm) 7.22 - 7.36 (m, 5H), 6.70 and 6.58 (br, 0.33H and 67H), 2.20 – 2.35 (m, 4H), 2.03 and 1.79 (s, 2H and 1H), 1.56 – 1.65 (m, 6H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 173.4, 168.3, 138.7, 138.5, 138.0, 137.4, 129.0, 129.0, 128.1, 127.9, 127.5, 127.1, 124.9, 31.0, 30.8, 30.7, 30.5, 28.0, 27.5, 27.3, 26.4, 26.3, 23.3, 20.6. HRMS (m/z) [M+H⁺] calcd for $C_{15}H_{20}NO$ 230.1545; found, 230.1541.

1-(Naphthalen-2-yl)ethanone oxime (Table 2, entry 5, oxime)

The ketone (4.56 g, 26.8 mmol) was slurried in dry methanol (25 mL). Sodium acetate (2.64 g, 32.2 mmol, 1.2 equiv) and hydroxylamine hydrochloride (2.23 g, 32.2 mmol, 1.2 equiv) were added before heating the mixture to reflux. After 2 h, the reaction was allowed to cool to room temperature before diluting with toluene (50 mL). 2 N NaOH (13 mL) was added prior to removal of solvent *in vacuo*. The crude product was extracted from DI H₂O (40 mL) and EtOAc (80 mL), and again with EtOAc (50 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine (50 mL). Filtration through cotton, followed by concentration *in vacuo* furnished an off-white solid (5.0 g, 100% yield), which was used for further processing without purification: mp 146-147 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 9.00 (br s, 1H), 8.04 (s, 1H), 7.87 (m, 4H), 7.52 (m, 2H), 2.44 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 156.2, 134.0, 133.9, 133.3, 128.7, 128.4, 127.9, 126.9, 126.6, 126.2, 123.5, 12.3. HRMS (*m*/z) [M+H]⁺: calcd for C₁₂H₁₂NO: 186.0919; found, 186.0912.

N-(1-(Naphthalen-2-yl)vinylacetamide (Table 2, entry 5, enamide)

The oxime (1.15 g, 6.20 mmol) was slurried in toluene (9 mL). A 50% Et₃P solution in toluene (2.15 mL, 7.44 mmol, 1.20 equiv) was added and the white slurry was allowed to stir 10 minutes under nitrogen. During acetic anhydride addition (0.71 mL, 7.51 mmol, 1.21 equiv), the mixture formed a solution before returning to a slurry. This slurry was heated to reflux to form a yellow solution, which darkened over time to assume an orange color. After determining reaction completion at 10 h, the mixture was cooled and treated with 1% (by wt) aq CuSO₄, causing a change in color and consistency to a green-brown slurry. Dilution with EtOAc (20 mL) and separation of the layers was followed by

extraction with EtOAc (20 mL). The combined organic layers were treated with 6 N NaOH (4 mL) and 1 N n-Bu₄NOH in MeOH (0.03 mL) to hydrolyze the byproduct imide. After stirring for several hours, the layers were separated and the organic layer was washed with water (2 × 15 mL), dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated to give the crude solid (1.40 g). Column chromatography (gradient to 70:30 Hex/EtOAc; R_f = 0.22, 2:1 Hex/EtOAc/1% NEt₃) yielded an off-white solid (1.00 g, 76%): mp 124-125 °C. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.80 (m, 4H), 7.49 (m, 3H), 7.38 (br s, 1H), 5.85 (s, 1H), 5.20 (s, 1H), 2.05 (s, 3H). 13 C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 169.7, 140.8, 135.7, 133.3, 128.6, 128.4, 127.9, 126.8, 126.7, 125.1, 124.4, 103.8, 24.6. HRMS (m/z) [M+H]⁺: calcd for C₁₄H₁₄NO: 212.1075; found, 212.1062.

Propiophenone oxime (Table 2, entry 6, oxime)

The ketone (3.60 g, 26.83 mmol) was slurried in dry methanol (12 mL). Sodium acetate (2.64 g, 32.2 mmol, 1.2 equiv) and hydroxylamine hydrochloride (2.24 g, 32.2 mmol, 1.2 equiv) were added before heating the mixture to reflux. After 2 h, the reaction was allowed to cool to room temperature before diluting with toluene (50 mL). 2 N NaOH (13 mL) was added prior to removal of solvent *in vacuo*. The crude product was extracted from DI H₂O (40 mL) and EtOAc (80 mL), and again with EtOAc (50 mL). The combined organic layers were washed with brine (50 mL). Filtration through cotton followed by concentration *in vacuo* furnished a white solid (4.1 g, 99% yield), which was used as such for further processing: mp 49-50 °C. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 9.25 (br s, 1H), 7.62 (m, 2H), 7.41 (m, 3H), 2.86 (q, 2H, J = 7.7 Hz), 1.20 (t, 3H, J = 7.7 Hz). 13 C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 161.1, 135.7, 129.4, 128.8, 128.5, 127.9, 126.5, 19.9, 11.1. HRMS (m/z) [M+H] $^{+}$: calcd for C₉H₁₂NO: 150.0919; found, 150.0921.

N-(1-Phenylprop-1-enyl)acetamide (Table 2, entry 6, enamide)

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The oxime (0.93 g, 6.20 mmol) was dissolved in toluene (9 mL). A 50% Et₃P solution in toluene (2.15 mL, 7.44 mmol, 1.20 equiv) was added and the colorless solution was allowed to stir 10 minutes under nitrogen. Acetic anhydride (0.71 mL, 7.51 mmol, 1.21 equiv) was added and the solution heated to reflux to form a light yellow solution. After determining reaction completion at 10 h, the mixture was cooled and treated with 1% (by wt) aq CuSO₄, causing a change to a green slurry. Dilution with EtOAc (20 mL) and separation of the layers was followed by extraction with EtOAc (20 mL). The combined organic layers were treated with 6 N NaOH (4 mL) and 1 N n-Bu₄NOH in MeOH (0.03 mL) to hydrolyze the byproduct imide. After stirring for several hours, the layers were separated and the organic layer was washed with water (2×15 mL), dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered and concentrated to give the crude solid (1.40 g). Column chromatography (gradient to 70:30 Hex/EtOAc; R_f = 0.22, 2:1 Hex/EtOAc/1% NEt₃) yielded a white solid (0.63 g, 58%): mp 125-126 °C, ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) (~2:1 mixture of geometric isomers) δ 7.30 (m, 5H), 6.65/6.59 (br s, 1H), 6.04/5.96 (q, 1H, J = 7.0 Hz), 2.17 (s, 3H), 1.85/1.76 (d, 3H, J = 7.0 Hz). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.1, 137.0, 134.3, 129.0, 128.6, 128.2, 121.9, 115.4, 24.4, 14.1. HRMS (m/z) [M+H]⁺: calcd for C₁₁H₁₄NO: 176.1075; found, 176.1066.

2-Methyl-1-phenylpropan-1-one oxime (Table 2, entry 7, oxime)

The ketone (4.0 g, 27.0 mmol) was dissolved in dry methanol (12 mL). Sodium acetate (2.7 g, 32.9 mmol, 1.2 equiv) and hydroxylamine hydrochloride (2.3 g, 33.1 mmol, 1.2 equiv) were added before heating the mixture to reflux. After 1.5 h, the reaction was allowed to cool to room temperature and added toluene (50 mL) and 2 N NaOH (13 mL). The phases were allowed to settle, and the aqueous phase was separated and discarded.

The organic phase was washed with brine (2 × 50 mL) and concentrated *in vacuo* to afford a colorless oil (4.3 g, 99% yield): 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) (~1:1 mixture of geometric isomers) δ 9.80 (br s, 1H), 7.43 – 7.26 (m, 10H), 3.67 – 3.53 (m, 1H), 2.90 – 2.76 (m, 1H), 1.21 (dd, 3H, J = 7.2, 0.6 Hz), 1.12 (dd, 3H, J = 7.2, 0.6 Hz). 13 C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.9, 163.3, 135.9, 133.9, 128.7, 128.6, 128.32, 128.29, 127.9, 127.7, 34.7, 27.9, 20.3, 19.5. HRMS (m/z) [M+H] $^{+}$: calcd for C₁₀H₁₃NO: 164.1075; found, 164.1046.

N-(2-Methyl-1-phenylprop-1-enyl)acetamide (Table 2, entry 7, enamide)

The oxime (1.0 g, 6.1 mmol) was dissolved in toluene (8 mL). A 50% Et₃P solution in toluene (2.1 mL, 7.4 mmol, 1.2 equiv) was added and the solution was allowed to stir 10 minutes at ambient temperature under nitrogen. Acetic anhydride (0.7 mL, 7.4 mmol, 1.2 equiv) was added and the solution heated to reflux to form a pale yellow solution. After refluxing 23 h, the mixture was cooled to ambient temperature and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was treated with 20 mL of 1% (by wt) aq CuSO₄, followed by MeOH (8 mL) and K₂CO₃ (1.0 g). The mixture was stirred for 1 h at ambient temperature then concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was dissolved in EtOAc (75 mL) and washed with DI water (2 × 25 mL). The organic layer was dried (Na₂SO₄), filtered and concentrated *in vacuo* to afford the crude product as a tan oil. Column chromatography of the crude material (silica, 1:1:0.1% Hex/EtOAc/NEt₃; R_f = 0.18) yielded a white solid (670 mg, 58%): mp 100-102 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 7.34 – 7.19 (m, 5H), 2.00 (s, 3H), 1.77 (s, 6H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 171.9, 140.2, 131.1, 130.3, 129.7, 129.4, 129.0, 128.3, 22.7, 21.3, 20.9. HRMS (*m/z*) [M+H]⁺: calcd for C₁₂H₁₅NO: 190.1232; found, 190.1223.

1-Indanone oxime (Table 2, entry 8, oxime)

The ketone (14.6 g, 110.5 mmol) was dissolved in dry methanol (80 mL). Sodium acetate (10.9 g, 132.9 mmol, 1.2 equiv) and hydroxylamine hydrochloride (9.2 g, 132.4 mmol, 1.2 equiv) were added before heating the mixture to reflux. After 3 h, the reaction was cooled to room temperature and concentrated *in vacuo*. The solid residue was suspended in DI water (100 mL), stirred for 1 h, and filtered. The solids were washed with DI water (97 mL) and MtBE (22 g) to afford a white crystalline solid (15.1 g, 93% yield): mp 146–148 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 7.63 (d, 1H, J = 8.0 Hz), 7.32 (d, 2H, J = 4.0 Hz), 7.25 - 7.20 (m, 1H), 3.04 – 3.01 (m, 2H), 2.91 – 2.88 (m, 2H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CD₃OD) δ 164.8, 149.8, 137.5, 131.4, 128.0, 126.8, 122.3, 29.4, 26.9. HRMS (m/z) [M+H]⁺: calcd for C₉H₉NO: 148.0762; found, 148.0759.

N-(1*H*-Inden-3-yl)acetamide (Table 2, entry 8, enamide)

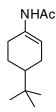
The oxime (7.5 g, 51.0 mmol) was dissolved in toluene (68 mL). A 50% Et₃P solution in toluene (17.6 mL, 61.2 mmol, 1.2 equiv) was added and the solution was allowed to stir 10 minutes at ambient temperature under nitrogen. Acetic anhydride (5.8 mL, 61.2 mmol, 1.2 equiv) was added and the solution heated to reflux to form a red solution. After refluxing 5 h, the mixture was cooled to ambient temperature and treated with 150 mL of 1% (by wt) aq CuSO₄. The aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc (200 mL), separated and the organic layer was concentrated to dryness. The solid residue was dissolved in 150 mL of MeOH and the imide byproduct was hydrolyzed with 2 N NaOH (10 mL). The solution was concentrated *in vacuo* and the solid residue was dissolved in EtOAc (200 mL), washed with DI water (2 × 50 mL), dried (Na₂SO₄), filtered and concentrated to give the crude solid product (7.8 g). Column chromatography on 1.3 g sample of the crude material (silica, 1:1:0.1% Hex/EtOAc/NEt₃; $R_f = 0.44$) yielded a yellow solid (1.29 g, 78%): mp 132-134 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.57 (br s,

1H), 7.51 - 7.47 (m, 1H), 7.23 - 7.22 (m, 3H), 6.88 (br t, 1H), 3.43 (m, 2H), 2.24 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.3, 142.9, 139.9, 135.7, 126.1, 125.5, 124.3, 116.6, 116.0, 36.7, 24.2. HRMS (m/z) [M+H]⁺: calcd for C₁₁H₁₁NO: 174.0919; found, 174.0904.

4-tert-Butylcyclohexanone oxime (Table 3, entry 1, oxime)

A mixture of ketone (8.40 g, 54.4 mmol), sodium acetate (4.92 g, 60.0 mmol, 1.1 equiv) and hydroxylamine hydrochloride (4.16 g, 60.0 mmol, 1.1 equiv) in MeOH (24 mL) was heated to reflux. After 1 h, the reaction was allowed to cool to room temperature and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was redissolved with EtOAc (150 mL) and 2 N NaOH (50 mL). The organic layer was separated, washed with brine (50 mL) and concentrated to give a crude white solid (9.2 g, 100% yield). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, mixture of rotamers) δ 9.51 (br, 1H), 3.36 (m, 1H), 2.43 (m, 1H), 2.05 (m, 1H), 1.92 (m, 2H), 1.68 (m, 1H), 1.19 (m, 3H), 0.85 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 160.8, 47.4, 32.4, 31.9, 27.6, 27.5, 26.3, 24.3.

N-(4-tert-Butylcyclohex-1-enyl)acetamide (Table 3, entry 1, enamide)



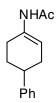
The solution of the crude oxime (1.0 g, 6.5 mmol) in toluene (6.0 mL) was purged with N_2 for 1 h. 50 wt% Et₃P in toluene (1.8 g, 2.2 mL, 7.8 mmol, 1.2 equiv) was charged at room temperature. After stirring for 10 min, acetic anhydride (0.99 g, 0.92 mL, 9.7 mmol, 1.5 equiv) was added, and the mixture heated to reflux. After 22 h, the reaction was cooled to room temperature and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was mixed with methanol (50 mL) and excess K_2CO_3 . After 15 min, methanol was removed *in vacuo*.

The residue was dissolved in EtOAc (100 mL) and DI water (50 mL). The organic layer was separated, washed with brine (50 mL), concentrated and purified by flash chromatography to give a semi-solid (0.86 g, 71% yield). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.71 (br, 1H), 6.01 (m, 1H), 2.21 (m, 1H), 2.12 (m, 1H), 2.08 (br, 1H), 1.99 (s, 3H), 1.81 (m, 2H), 1.23 (m, 2H), 0.84 (s, 9H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 168.4, 132.5, 113.2, 43.6, 32.1, 29.3, 27.1, 25.4, 24.3, 23.7. HRMS (m/z) [M+H⁺] calcd for C₁₂H₂₂NO 196.1701; found, 196.1702.

4-Phenylcyclohexanone oxime (Table 3, entry 2, oxime)

A mixture of ketone (5.00 g, 28.7 mmol), sodium acetate (2.59 g, 31.6 mmol, 1.1 equiv) and hydroxylamine hydrochloride (2.19 g, 31.6 mmol, 1.1 equiv) in MeOH (12 mL) was heated to reflux. After 1 h, the reaction was allowed to cool to room temperature and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was redissolved with EtOAc (150 mL) and 2 N NaOH (50 mL). The organic layer was separated, washed with brine (50 mL) and concentrated to give a crude white solid (5.4 g, 99% yield). 1 H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, mixture of rotamers) δ 9.03 (br, 1H), 7.31 (m, 2H), 7.23 (m, 3H), 3.50 (m, 1H), 2.79 (m, 1H), 2.57 (m, 1H), 2.29 (m, 1H), 2.08 (m, 2H), 1.91 (m, 1H), 1.71 (m, 2H). 13 C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.7, 145.7, 128.5, 128.3, 126.8, 126.7, 126.3, 126.0, 43.7, 34.0, 32.8, 32.6, 32.0, 30.4, 24.2.

N-(4-Phenylcyclohex-1-enyl)acetamide (Table 3, entry 2, enamide)



The solution of the crude oxime (1.0 g, 5.3 mmol) in toluene (6.0 mL) was purged with N_2 for 1 h. 50 wt% Et₃P in toluene (1.5 g, 1.8 mL, 6.3 mmol, 1.2 equiv) was charged at room temperature. After stirring for 10 min, acetic anhydride (0.81 g, 0.75 mL, 7.9 mmol,

1.5 equiv) was added. The reaction mixture was heated to reflux. After 22 h, the reaction was cooled to room temperature and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was mixed with methanol (50 mL) and excess K_2CO_3 . After 30 min, methanol was removed *in vacuo*. The residue was dissolved in EtOAc (100 mL) and DI water (30 mL). The organic layer was separated, washed with brine (30 mL) and concentrated to give the crude product (1.1 g). A white solid (0.53 g, 47% yield) was obtained by crystallization from MeOH. The mother liquor was purified by column to give additional white solid (0.20 g), bringing the total isolated yield to 64%. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 7.24 (m, 4H), 7.15 (m, 1H), 6.06 (t, 1H, J = 2.8 Hz), 2.77 (m, 1H), 2.34 (m, 2H), 2.26 (m, 1H), 2.22 (m, 1H), 1.98 (s, 3H), 1.93 (m, 1H), 1.85 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CD_3OD) δ 171.67, 147.85, 134.41, 129.43, 127.87, 127.15, 114.27, 41.09, 33.40, 30.87, 29.11, 23.61. HRMS (m/z) [M+H⁺] calcd for $C_{14}H_{18}NO$ 216.1388; found, 216.1381.

3-(Hydroxyimino)-2-phenylbutanenitrile (Table 3, entry 3, oxime)

The mixture of ketone (4.00 g, 24.6 mmol), sodium acetate (2.22 g, 27.1 mmol, 1.1 equiv) and hydroxylamine hydrochloride (1.88 g, 27.1 mmol, 1.1 equiv) in MeOH (12 mL) was heated to reflux. After 1 h, the reaction was allowed to cool to room temperature and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was redissolved with EtOAc (150 mL) and 2 N NaOH (20 mL). The organic layer was separated, washed with DI H₂O (20 mL) and concentrated to give a crude yellow oil (4.2 g, 98% yield). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.43 (m, 2H), 7.30 (m, 3H), 4.53 (br, 2H), 2.24 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.8, 159.5, 130.7, 128.8, 127.9, 126.4, 94.7, 10.9.

(Z)-N-(1-Cyano-1-phenylprop-1-en-2-yl)acetamide (Table 3, entry 3, enamide)

The solution of the crude oxime (1.0 g, 5.7 mmol) in toluene (6.5 mL) was purged with N_2 for 1 h. 50 wt% Et₃P in toluene (1.60 g, 2.0 mL, 6.9 mmol, 1.2 equiv) was charged at

room temperature. After stirring for 10 min, acetic anhydride (0.70 g, 0.65 mL, 6.9 mmol, 1.2 equiv) was added and the reaction mixture heated to reflux. After 28 h, the reaction was cooled to room temperature and quenched with 30% aq CuSO₄ (1 mL) solution. After stirring for 10 min, EtOAc (50 mL) and DI water (2 mL) were charged. The organic layer was separated, washed with 2 mL 2 N NaOH (aq) and 20 mL brine and concentrated to give the crude product (1.2 g). A green solid (0.57 g, 50%) was obtained by crystallization from EtOAc. The mother liquor was purified on column to give an additional yellow solid (0.05 g), bringing the total isolated yield to 54%. 1 H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 12.40 (br, 1H), 7.20 - 7.38 (m, 5H), 2.25 (s, 3H), 2.01 (s, 3H). 13 C NMR (100 MHz, DMSO-d₆) δ 161.5, 159.7, 156.5, 134.4, 130.0, 127.8, 127.0, 122.3, 22.3, 20.8. HRMS (m/z) [M+H $^{+}$] calcd for C₁₂H₁₃N₂O 201.1028; found, 201.1019.

2-Methylcyclohexanone oxime (Table 3, entry 4, oxime)

The mixture of ketone (10.0 g, 89.2 mmol), sodium acetate (8.04 g, 98.1 mmol, 1.1 equiv) and hydroxylamine hydrochloride (6.81 g, 98.1 mmol, 1.1 equiv) in MeOH (30 mL) was heated to reflux. After 1 h, the reaction was allowed to cool to room temperature and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was redissolved with EtOAc (150 mL), DI water (50 mL) and 2 N NaOH (20 mL). The organic layer was separated, washed with DI water (50 mL) and concentrated to give a crude yellow oil (11.4 g, 100% yield). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, mixture of rotamers) δ 9.92 (br, 1H), 3.10 (m, 1H), 2.28 (m, 1H), 1.68 – 1.92 (m, 4H), 1.42 – 1.52 (m, 2H), 1.29 (m, 1H), 1.09 and 1.07 (s, 2H and 1H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 163.6, 163.0, 37.1, 35.5, 31.5, 28.2, 26.3, 26.6, 25.9, 24.6, 23.9, 20.3, 16.7, 16.1.

N-(2-Methylcyclohex-1-enyl)acetamide (Table 3, entry 4, enamide)

The solution of the crude oxime (1.0 g, 7.9 mmol) in toluene (6.0 mL) was purged with N_2 for 1 h. 50 wt% Et₃P in toluene (2.2 g, 2.7 mL, 9.4 mmol, 1.2 equiv) was charged at room temperature. After stirring for 10 min, acetic anhydride (1.6 g, 1.5 mL, 15.7 mmol, 2.0 equiv) was added and the reaction mixture heated to reflux. After 22 h, the reaction was cooled to room temperature and concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was mixed with methanol (50 mL) and excess K_2CO_3 . After 1 h, methanol was removed *in vacuo*. The residue was dissolved in EtOAc (150 mL) and DI water (100 mL). The organic layer was separated, washed with brine (50 mL), dried over Na_2SO_4 , filtered and concentrated to give 0.90 g crude brown solid (5:1 regioisomeric ratio by 1H NMR). A solid (0.34 g, 28%) was obtained by crystallization from heptanes. The mother liquor was purified on neutral Al_2O_3 to give additional yellow solid (0.30 g), bringing the yield of the major regioisomer to 54% yield. 1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.72 (br, 1H), 2.10 (m, 2H), 1.98 (m, 5H), 1.59 (m, 7H). ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 173.1, 168.3, 131.8, 126.8, 126.6, 30.7, 30.6, 28.6, 23.4, 23.0, 22.9, 22.4, 22.3, 19.5, 18.3. Anal. calcd for $C_9H_{15}NO$: C, 70.55; H, 9.87; N, 9.14; found: C, 70.17; H, 10.16; N, 9.09.

(S)-1-(3,4-Dichlorophenyl)-1,2-dihydronaphthalen-1(2H)-one oxime (Scheme 2, compound 7)

The suspension of a solution of (*S*)-tetralone (56.0 g, 0.192 mol), hydroxylamine hydrochloride (14.7 g, 0.212 mol), and sodium acetate (17.4 g, 0.212 mol) in methanol (168 mL) was heated to reflux for 2 h under N_2 atmosphere. After the reaction was deemed complete by HPLC, the mixture was concentrated *in vacuo*. The residue was diluted with toluene (400 mL) and 200 mL water. The organic layer was separated and washed with additional 200 mL water before concentration and drying to give crude solid oxime (58.9 g, 100%), mp 117-120 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 9.40 (br, 1H), 7.99 (m, 1H), 7.38 (d, 1H, J = 8.0 Hz), 7.28 (m, 2H), 7.19 (d, 1H, J = 2.4 Hz), 6.91 (m,

2H), 4.11 (dd, 1H, J = 7.2, 4.4 Hz), 2.82 (m, 2H), 2.22 (m, 1H), 2.05 (m, 1H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 154.6, 144.1, 140.1, 132.5, 130.6, 130.5, 130.4, 130.3, 129.7, 129.1, 127.8, 127.4, 124.2, 44.2, 29.2, 21.0.

N-((S)-1-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-1,2-dihydronaphthalen-4-yl)acetamide (Scheme 2, compound 9)

A solution of the crude oxime (59 g, 0.193 mol) in toluene (500 mL) was purged with N₂ for 30 min. Neat Et₃P (25 g, 0.212 mol) was charged. After stirring for 10 min, acetic anhydride (21.6 g, 20 mL, 0.212 mol) was added. The reaction mixture was refluxed for 12 h, monitored by HPLC. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and 6 N aq NaOH (86 mL, 0.516 mol) and 1.0 N (n-Bu)₄NOH in methanol (1.0 mL) were charged. The hydrolysis of imide to enamide took about 3 h. The organic layer was separated and diluted with EtOAc (300 mL) and 30 mL 2-BuOH. The diluted organic solution was washed with 1% aq AcOH solution (300 mL) and 3 × 300 mL DI water, and concentrated to about 350 mL slurry in vacuo. The slurry was diluted with heptane (100 mL) and 2-BuOH (4 mL) and heated to reflux to form a clear solution. Heptane (100 mL) was slowly added until cloudy solution formed. The suspension was slowly cooled to room temperature. The product was filtered off, washed with 3 × 100 mL (30% toluene in heptane) and dried under vacuum at 60 °C to give 56.9 g of white solid (89% yield), mp 167-168 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃, mixture of rotamers) δ 7.35 (d, 1H, J = 8.4Hz), 7.26 (m, 3H), 7.18 (m, 1H), 7.05 (d, 1H, J = 8.4 Hz), 6.90 (br, 1H), 6.88 and 6.73 (m, 0.85H and 0.15H), 6.33 and 5.91 (br, 0.85H and 0.15H), 4.12 and 4.04 (m, 0.15H and 0.85H), 2.72 (m, 1H), 2.61 (m, 1H), 2.18 and 1.95 (s, 2.6H and 0.4H). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.2, 143.8, 137.7, 131.8, 131.4, 130.5, 130.4, 130.3, 130.2, 128.2, 127.8, 127.2, 121.2, 117.4, 42.6, 30.4, 24.1. HRMS (m/z) [M+H⁺] calcd for C₁₈H₁₅Cl₂NO 332.0609; found, 332.0624.

