

Career Summary of Prof. Eric N. Jacobsen

Jisoo Woo
Levin Group Meeting
8/5/2020



A Life Dedicated To Asymmetric Synthesis

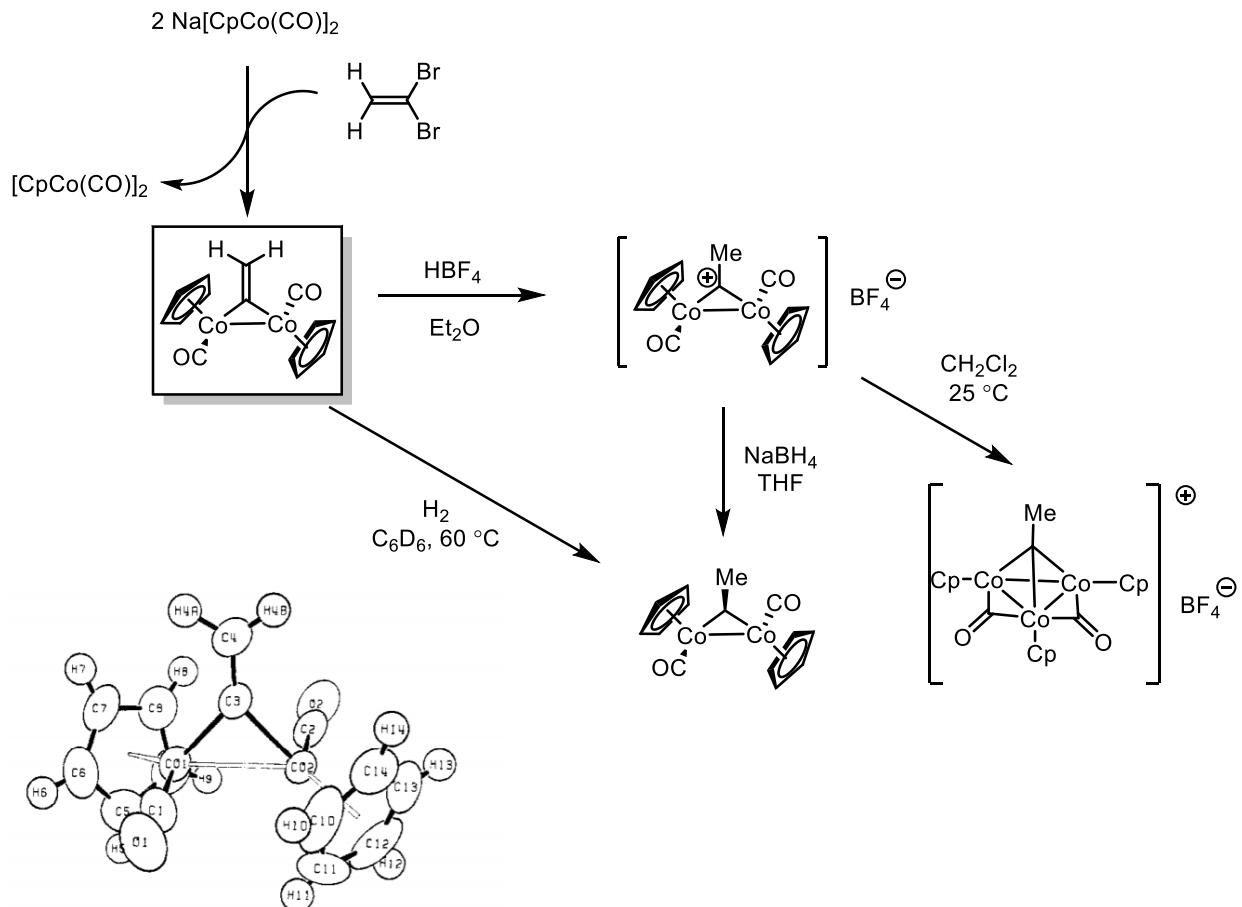
- **February 22, 1960:** Born in New York, NY
- **1978-1982:** B.S. in Chemistry from NYU
 Advisor: *Prof. Yorke E. Rhodes*
- **1982-1986:** Ph.D. from UC Berkeley
 Advisor: *Prof. Robert G. Bergman*
- **1986-1988:** NIH Postdoctoral Fellow at MIT
 Advisor: *Prof. K. Barry Sharpless*
- **1988-1993:** Assistant & Associate Professor at UIUC
- **1993-present:** Professor at Harvard University



Prof. Jacobsen and his daughter, Emilia,
at a reunion of the Bergman Group

Ph.D. Work: Bridging Vinylidenecobalt Complex

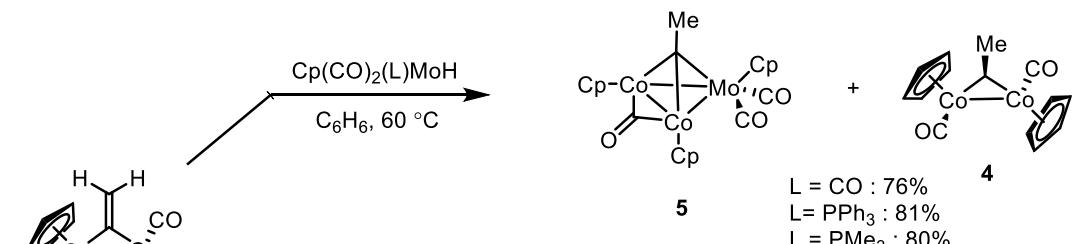
- Synthesis & Reactivity**



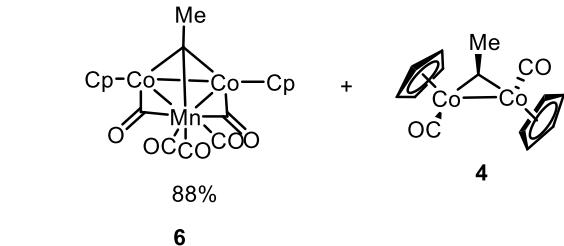
Jacobsen, E. N.; Bergman, R. G. *Organometallics* **1984**, *3*, 329.

Jacobsen, E. N.; Bergman, R. G. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1985**, *107*, 2023.

- Heteronuclear Co/Mo Cluster**



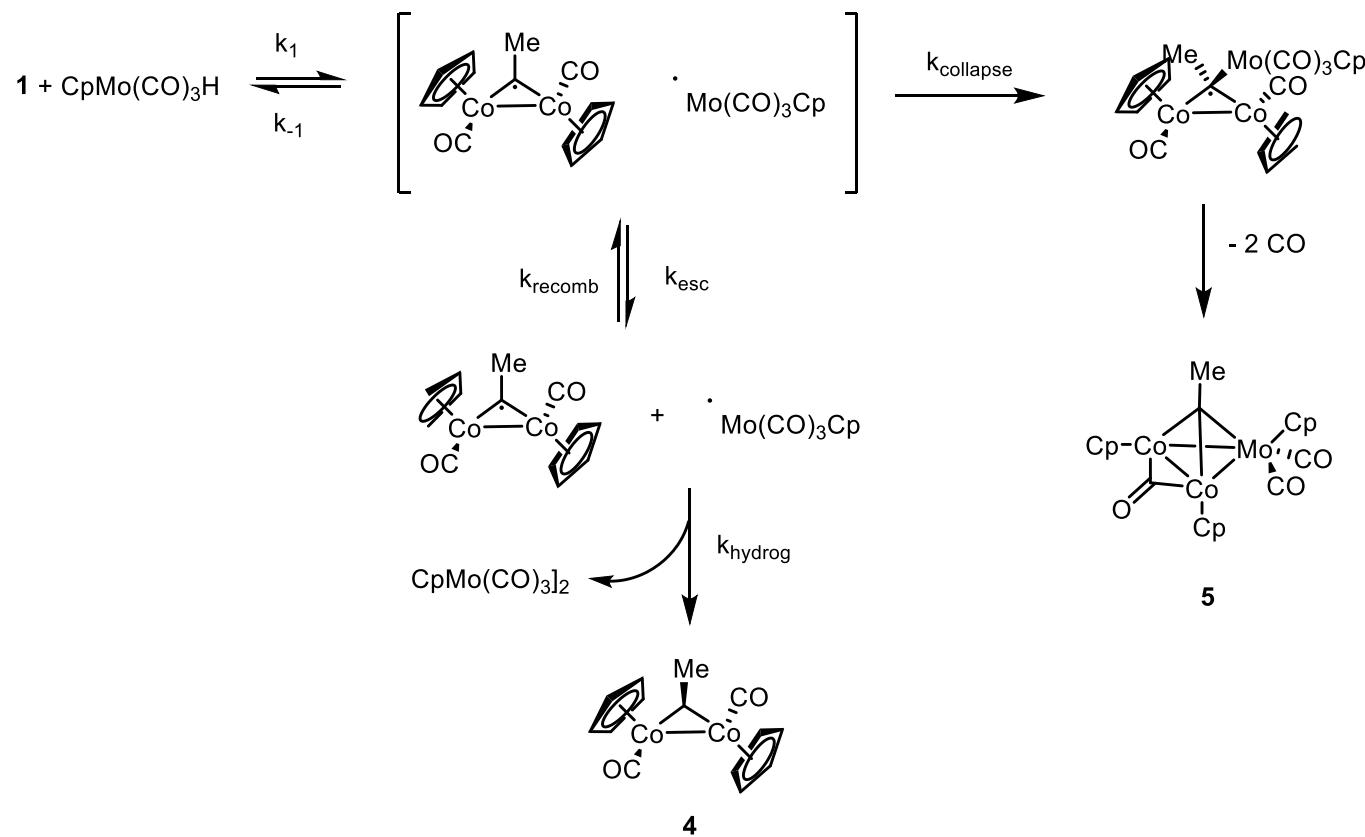
$\text{L} = \text{CO} : 76\%$
 $\text{L} = \text{PPh}_3 : 81\%$
 $\text{L} = \text{PMe}_3 : 80\%$



88%
6

Ph.D. Work: Bridging Vinylidenecobalt Complex

- Mechanistic Study of Cluster-forming Reactions**



Jacobsen, E. N.; Bergman, R. G. *Organometallics* **1984**, *3*, 329.

Jacobsen, E. N.; Bergman, R. G. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1985**, *107*, 2023.

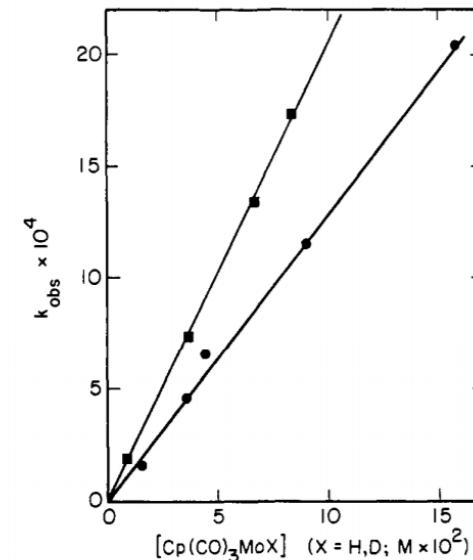


Figure 4. k_{obs} vs. concentration plot, for the reaction of 1 with $\text{CpMo}(\text{CO})_3\text{X}$ ($\text{X} = \text{H}, \text{D}$) at 60°C , (\bullet) $\text{X} = \text{H}$, (\blacksquare) $\text{X} = \text{D}$.

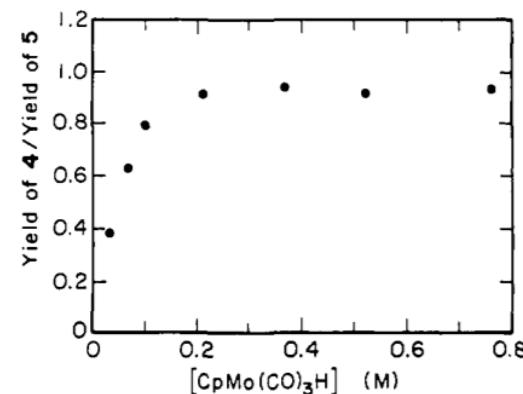


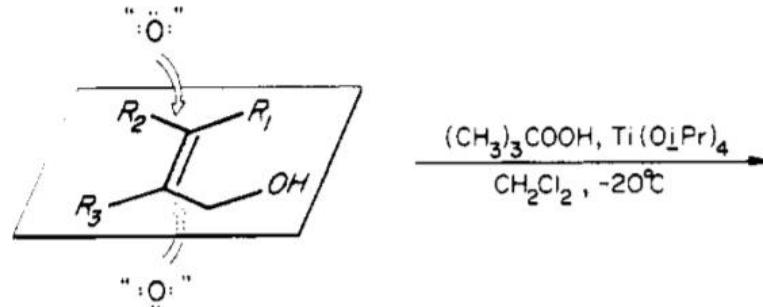
Figure 5. Plot of the yield ratio of 4/5 vs. $\text{CpMo}(\text{CO})_3\text{H}$ in the reaction of 1 with varying concentrations of $\text{CpMo}(\text{CO})_3\text{H}$ at 20°C . 4

Postdoctoral Works: Asymmetric Dihydroxylation

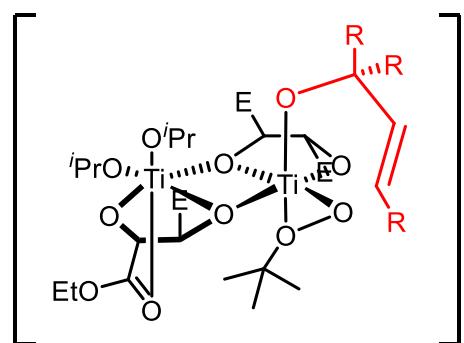
- Sharpless Epoxidation

Scheme I

D-(-)-diethyl tartrate (unnatural)

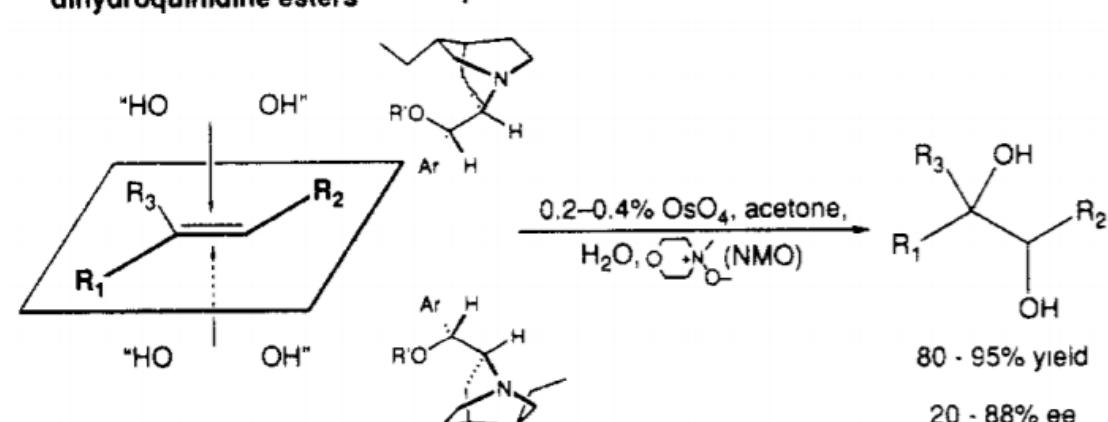


L-(+)-diethyl tartrate (natural)



- Dihydroxylation

dihydroquinidine esters 1

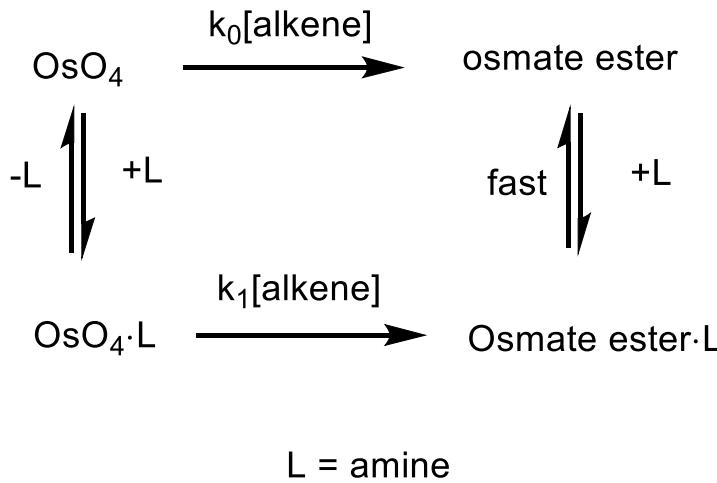


dihydroquinine esters 2

- The ligand-acceleration phenomenon with *Cinchona* alkaloid ligands

Katsuki, T.; Sharpless, K. B. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1980**, *102*, 18, 5974–5976
Jacobsen, E. N.; Sharpless, K. B. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1988**, *110*, 1968.

Postdoctoral Works: Asymmetric Dihydroxylation



$$\Delta k = k_2 - k_0 = \frac{(k_1 - k_0)K_{eq} [\text{amine}]}{K_{eq} [\text{amine}] + 1}$$

$$ee = \frac{(k_f - k_s)K_{eq} [\text{amine}]}{k_1 K_{eq} [\text{amine}] + k_0}$$

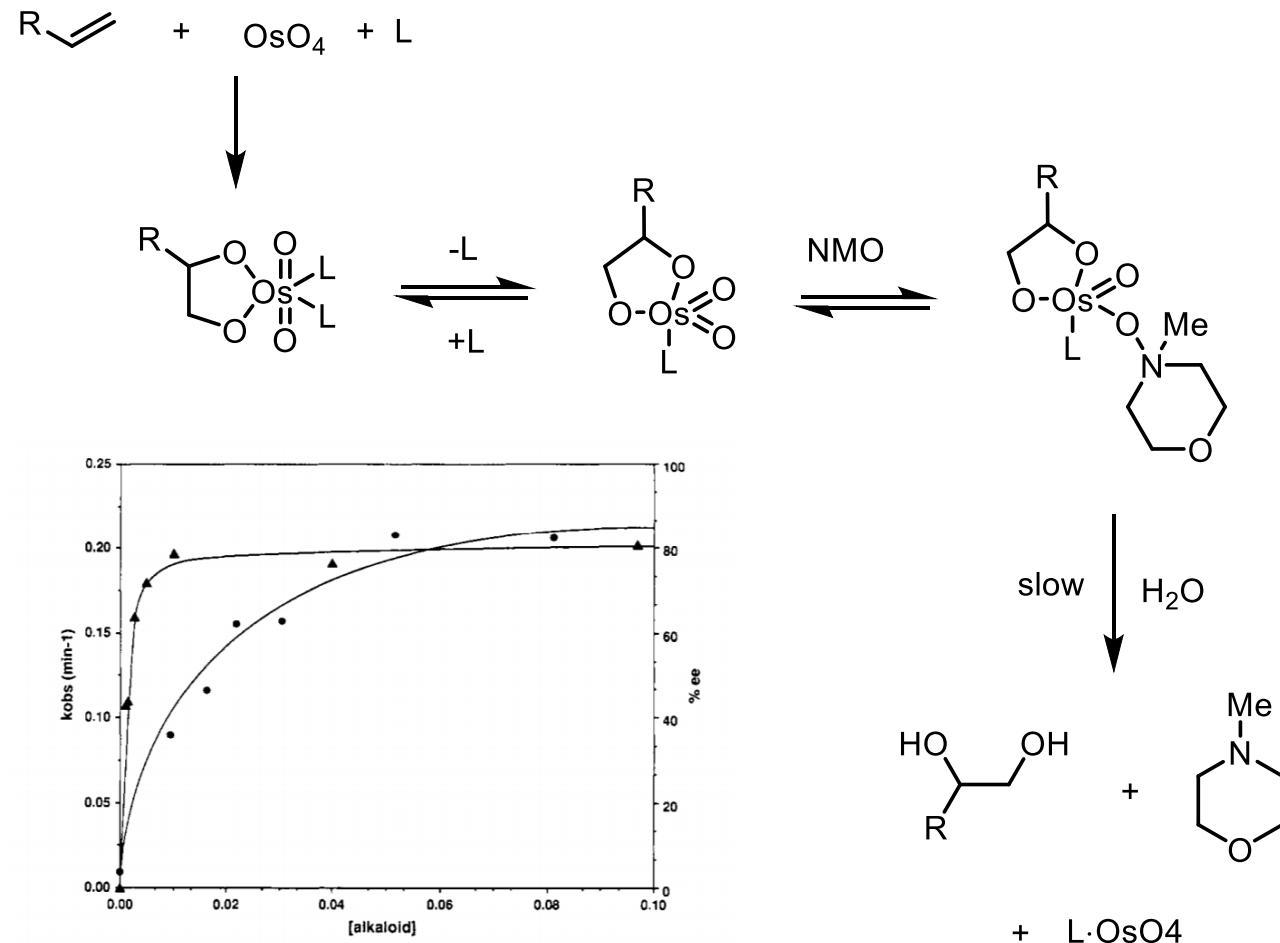


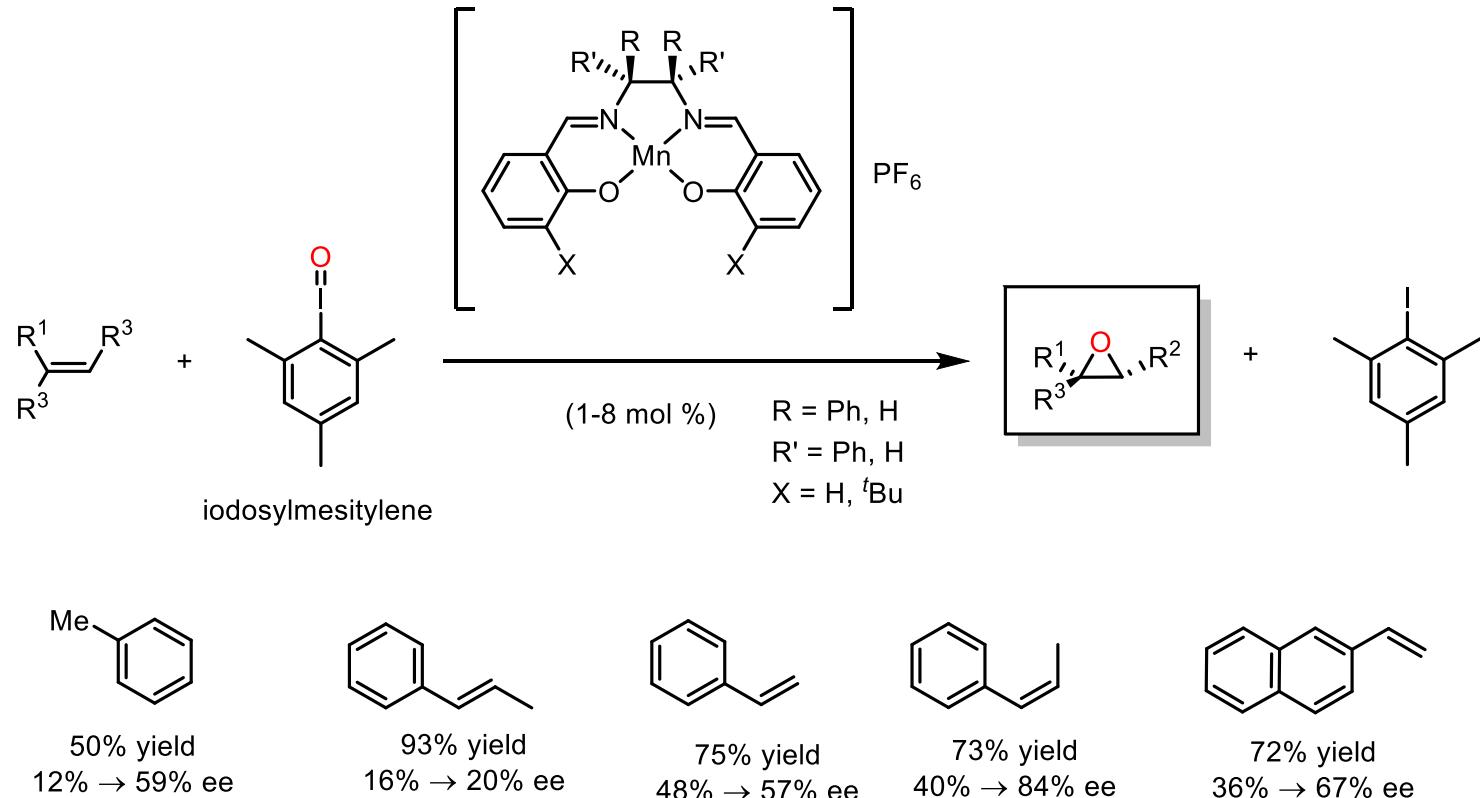
Figure 1. Plot of the concentration of alkaloid ligand 1 vs observed rate constant k_{obs} (●) and % ee (▲) for the catalytic dihydroxylation of *trans*-stilbene. Conditions: 25 °C, $[\text{OsO}_4]_0 = 3.8 \times 10^{-4}$ M, $[\text{NMO}]_0 = 0.2$ M, $[\text{stilbene}]_0 = 0.1$ M.

Selected Independent Career Research

- Asymmetric Epoxidation
- Epoxide Ring Opening
- Hydrolytic Kinetic Resolution (HKR)
- Asymmetric Michael Additions
- Asymmetric Strecker Reaction
- H-Bond Donor Catalysis
- Hypervalent Iodine

**“Substrate
Generality
&
Reaction
Generality”**

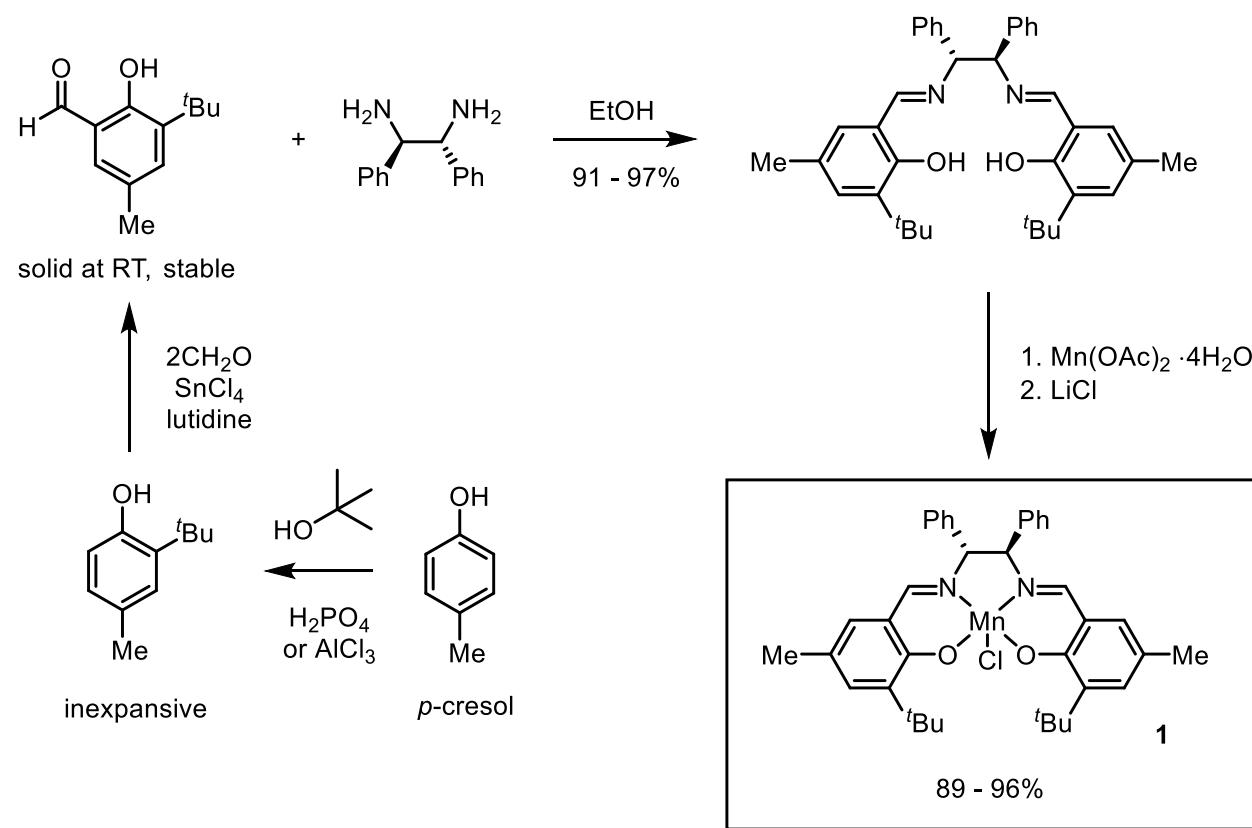
Epoxidation



- The first report of UNDIRECTED asymmetric epoxidation of UNFUNCTIONALIZED olefin substrates
 - Stereoselectivity relies solely on nonbonded interactions
- “[...]the pool of potential substrates could in principle be unlimited”
- Difficult catalyst synthesis
- Iodosylarene as stoichiometric oxidants

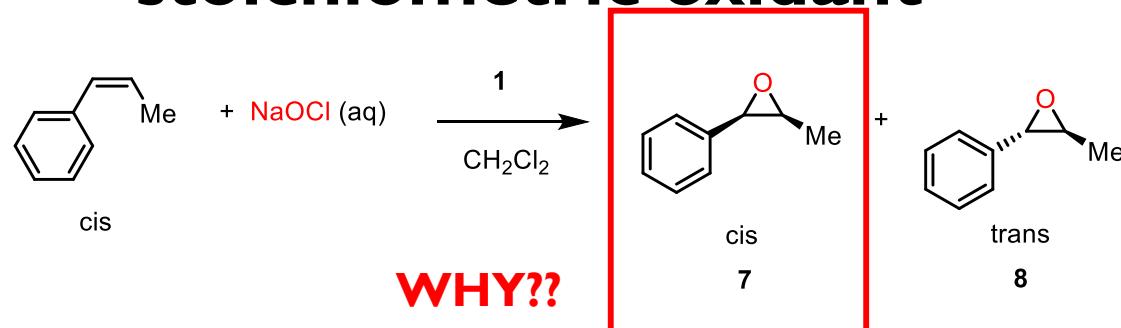
Epoxidation

- Improved Synthesis



Thermally stable, indefinitely in the solid state despite light, air, or moisture

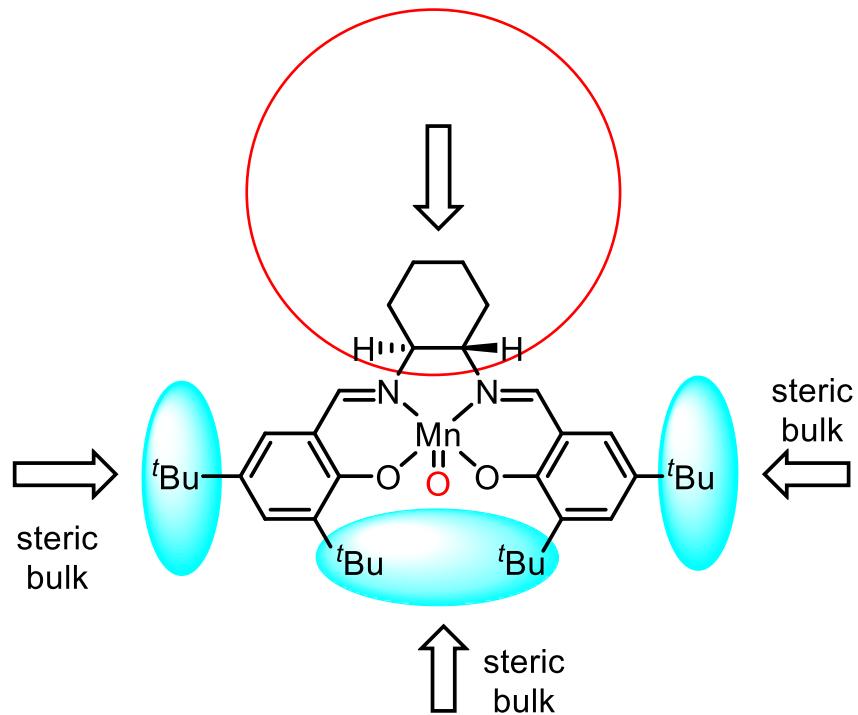
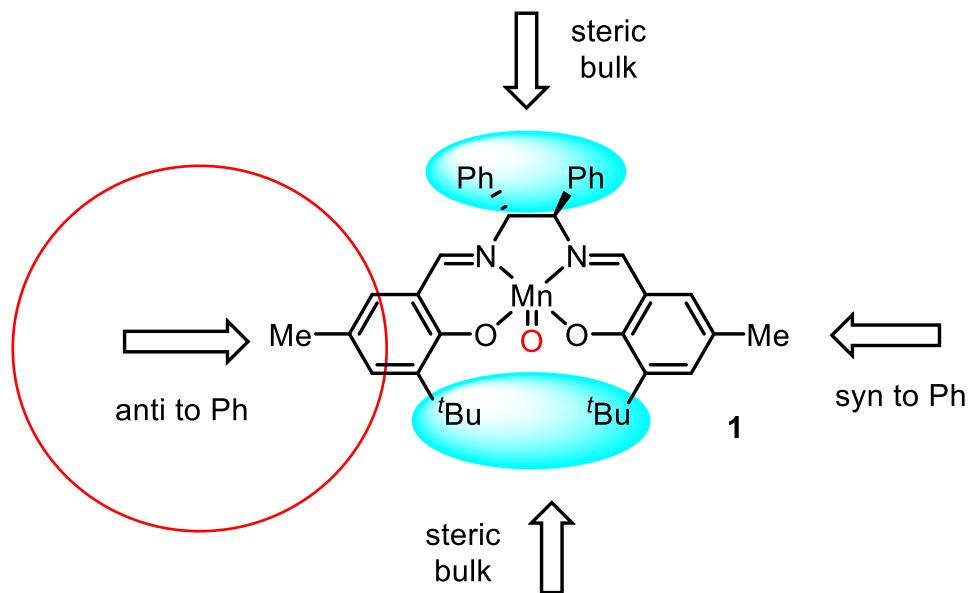
- NaOCl as stoichiometric oxidant



| pH ^b | yield of 7 ^c | % ee of 7 | yield 7 / yield 8 | total catalyst turnovers | initial rate ^d (turnovers/min) |
|-----------------|-------------------------|-----------|-------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| 9.5 | 56 | 80 | 7.4 | 37 | 7.3 |
| 10 | 74 | 79 | 11.5 | 35 | 5.8 |
| 10.5 | 81 | 81 | 15 | 37 | 3.0 |
| 11 | 86 | 81 | 15 | 37 | 2.9 |
| 11.5 | 87 | 82 | 14 | 35 | 2.2 |

Epoxidation

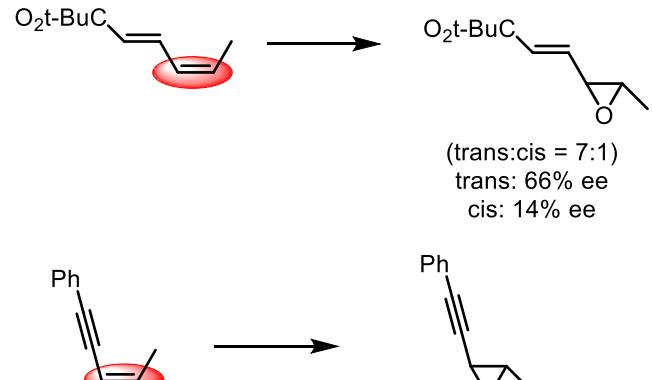
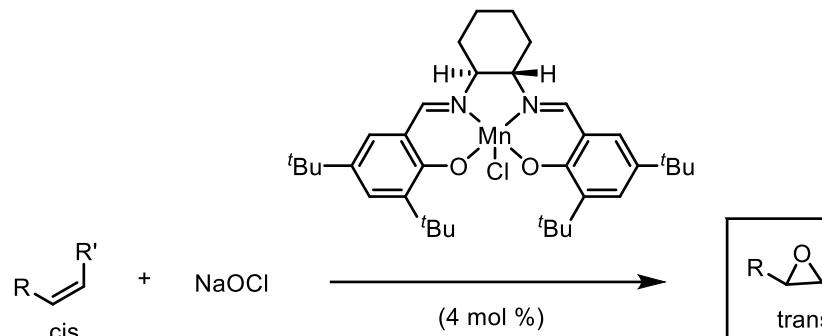
- **Jacobsen's Catalyst: Ligand modification using 1,2-diaminocyclohexane**



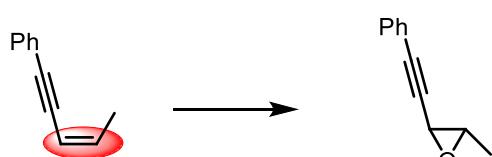
- Maximized stereochemical communication
- Limitation of competing substrate approach
- No directing affect by pi stacking
- Low selectivity for trans olefins

Epoxidation

- Epoxidation of conjugated dienes and enynes**

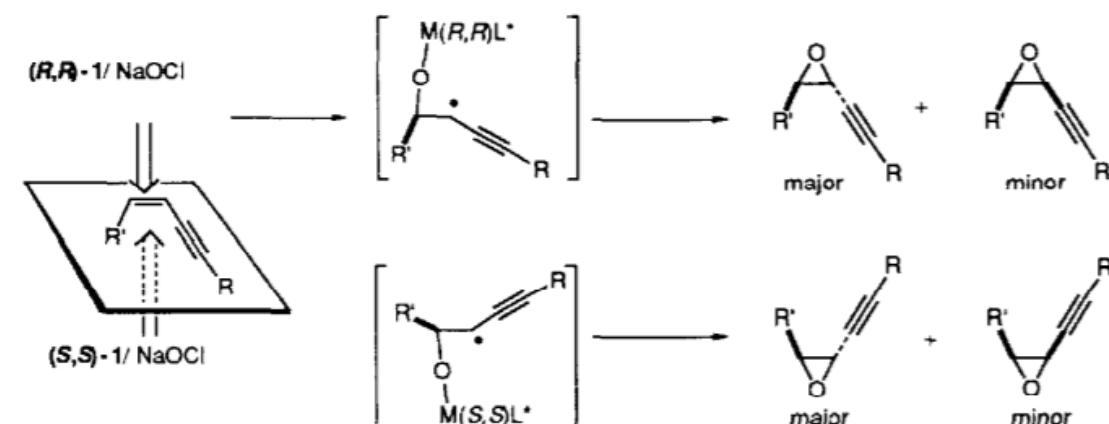


(trans:cis = 7:1)
trans: 66% ee
cis: 14% ee



(trans:cis = 2:1)
trans: 93% ee
cis: 58% ee

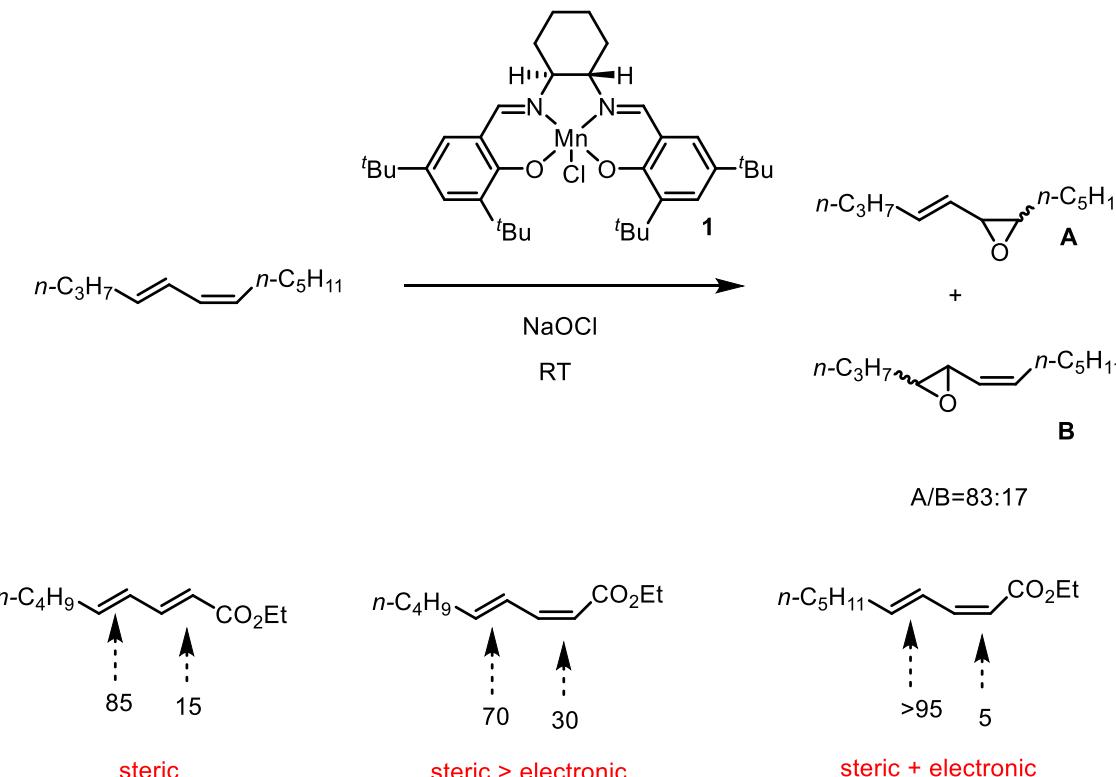
Figure 1



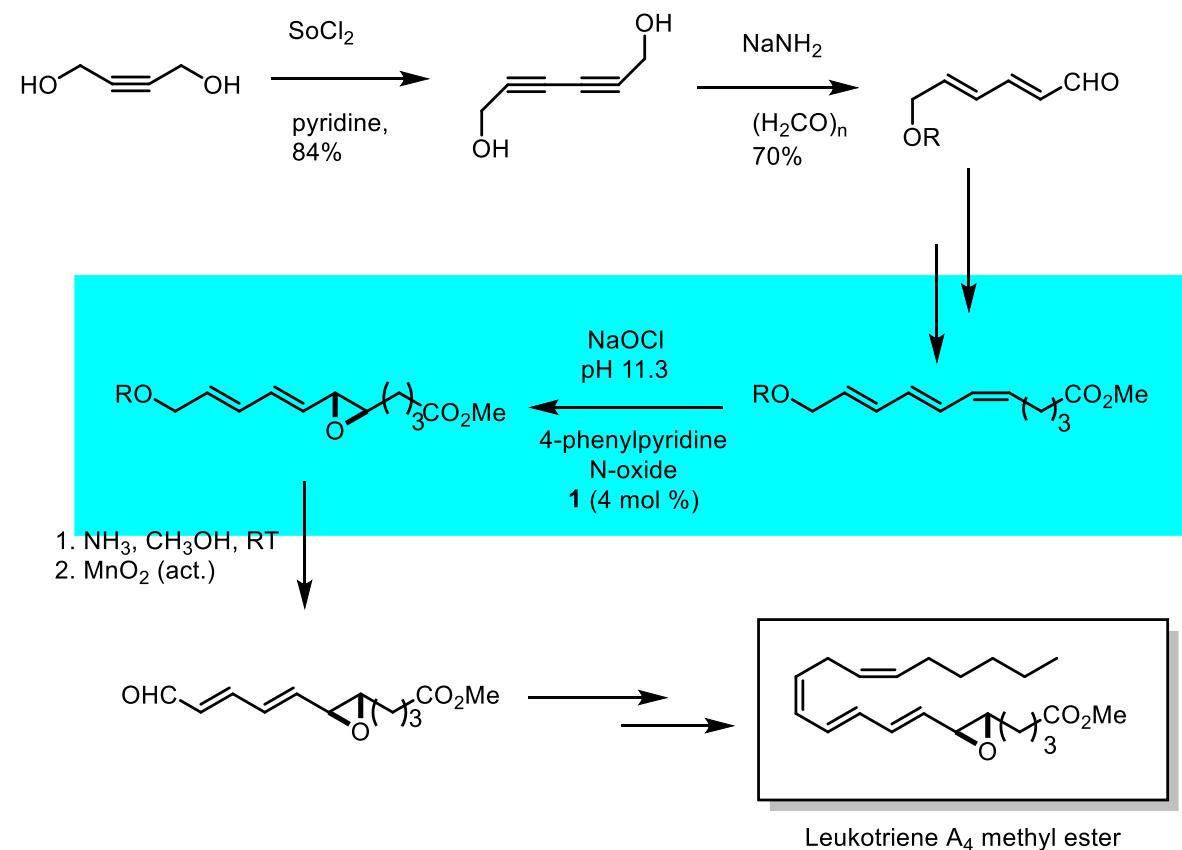
Lee, N. H.; Jacobsen, E. N. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1991**, 32, 6533–6536.

Epoxidation

- More on regioselectivity:
Epoxidation of conjugated polyenes

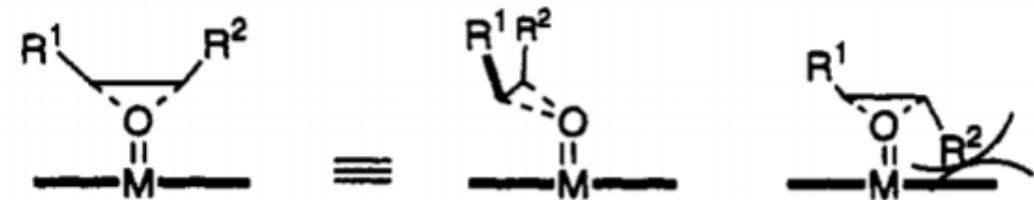
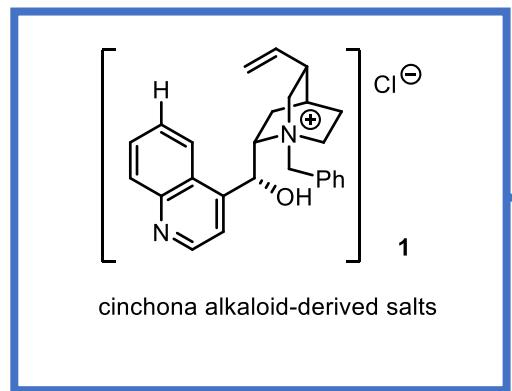
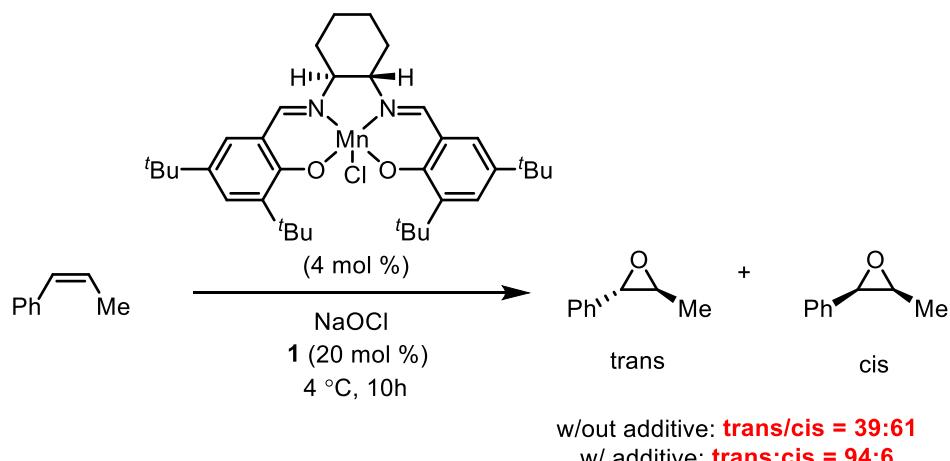


- Synthesis of LTA₄ Methyl Ester



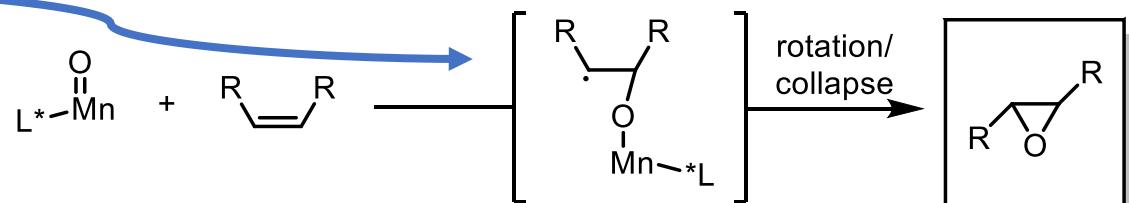
Epoxidation

- Reversing diastereoselectivity with chiral quaternary ammonium salts



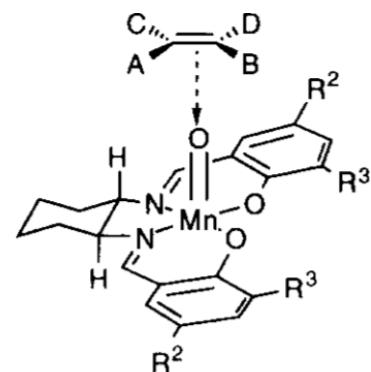
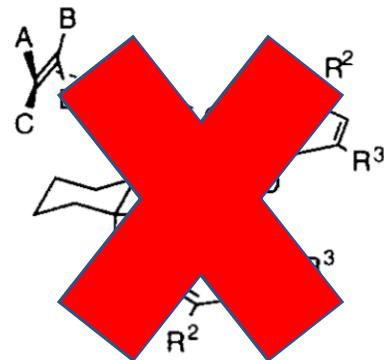
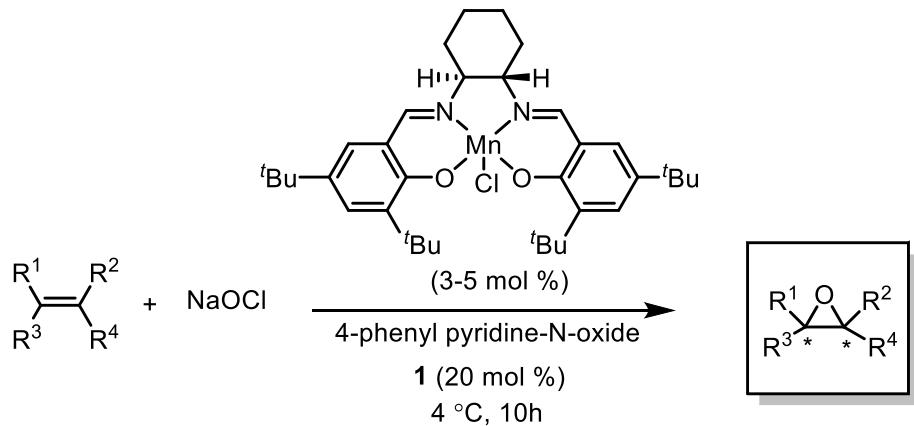
- Possible Mechanism:

1. ammonium salts interact with **1**
2. Extend the lifetime of radical intermediate
3. Allows free rotation of the C-C bond
4. Selectively collapses to trans product

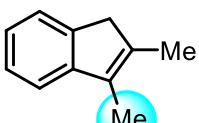


Epoxidation

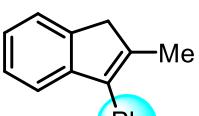
- Epoxidation of tetrasubstituted olefins**



indene derivatives:

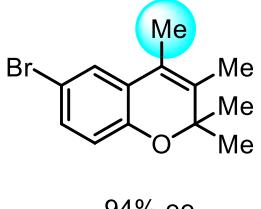


32% ee

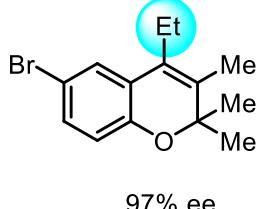


77% ee

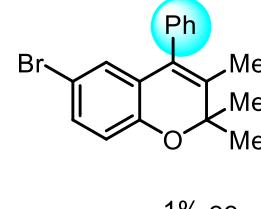
choromene derivatives:



94% ee



97% ee



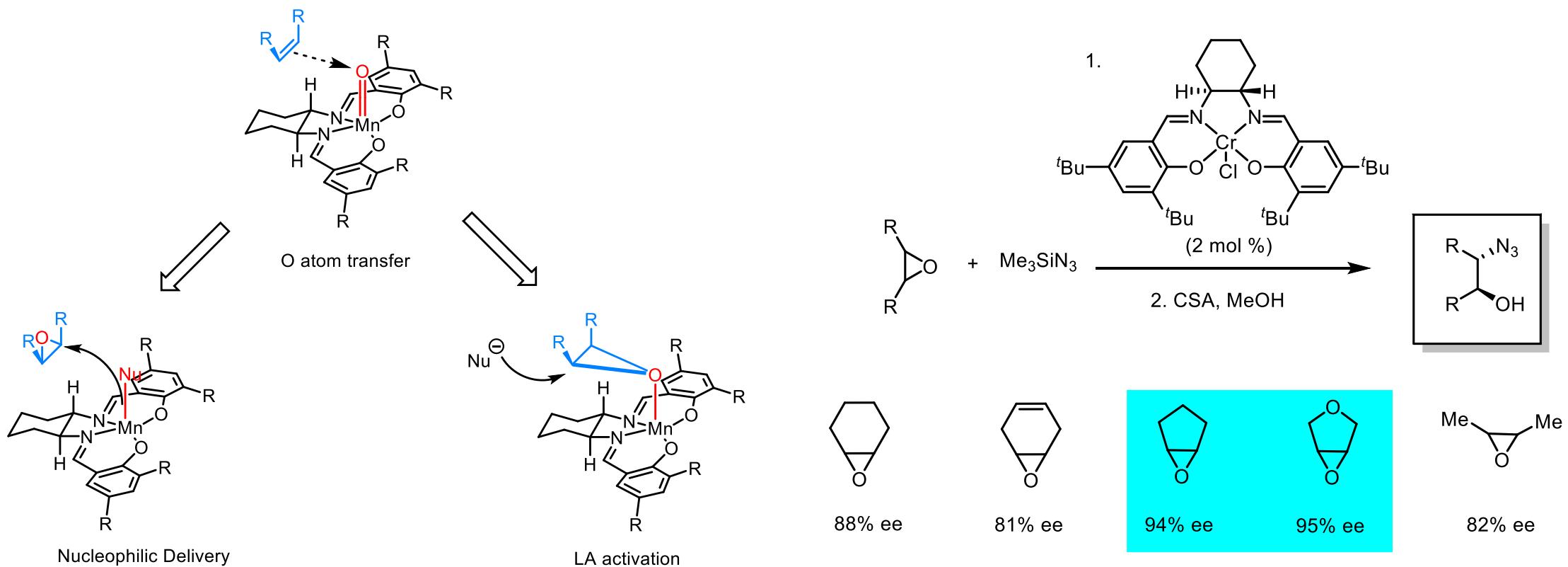
1% ee

“Clearly, there exists subtleties to the chiral recognition [...] that defy straightforward interpretations”

Brandes, B. D.; Jacobsen, E. N. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1995**, 36, 5123–5126.

Epoxide Ring Opening

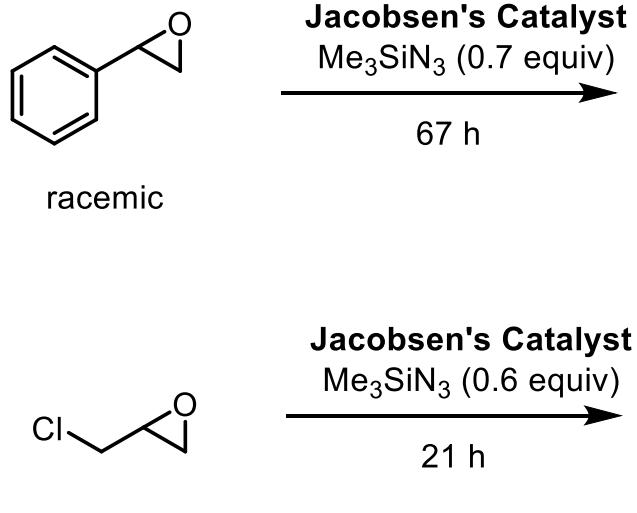
- **Going beyond substrate generality:**



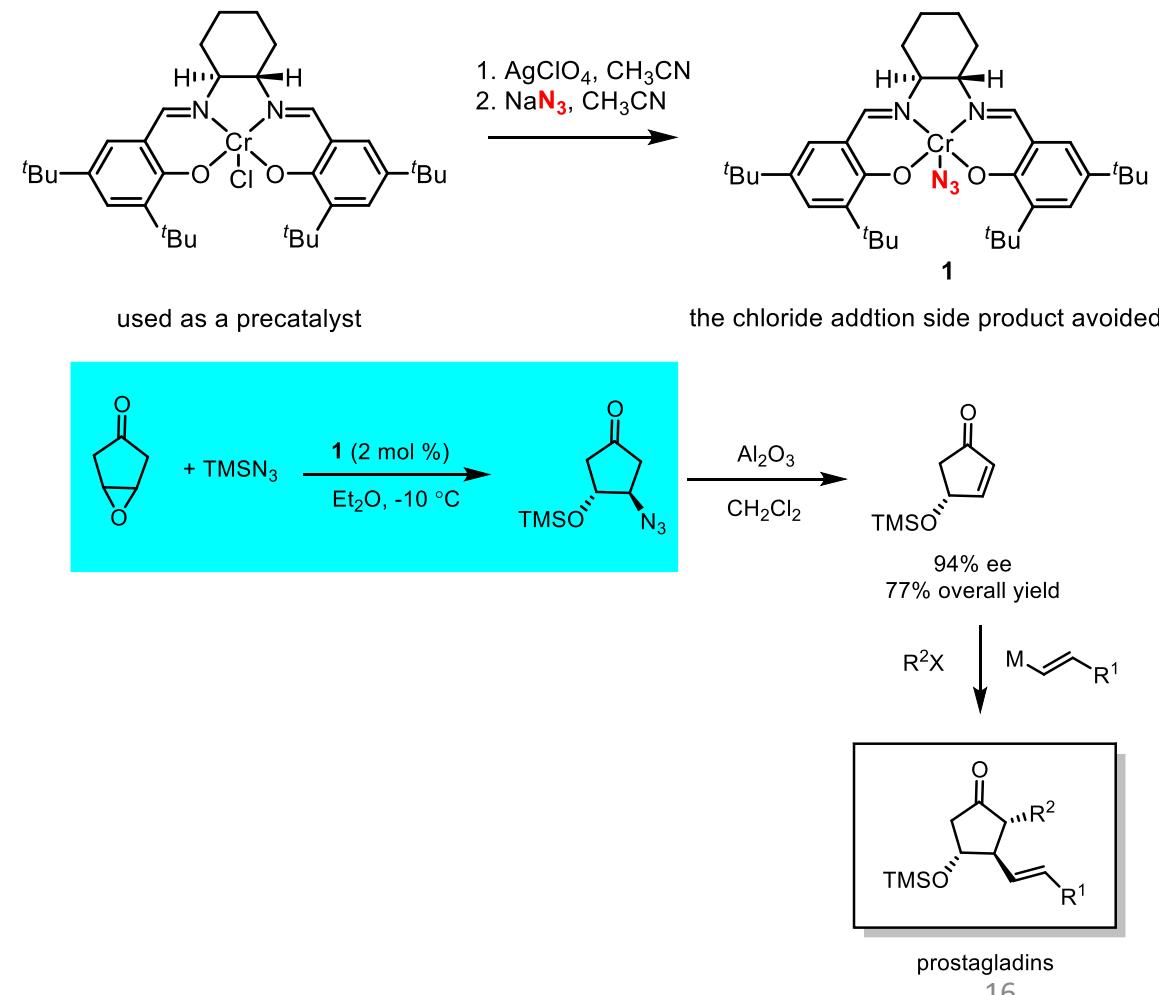
Martínez, L. E.; Leighton, J. L.; Carsten, D. H.; Jacobsen, E. N. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1995**, *117*, 5897–5898.
Leighton, J. L.; Jacobsen, E. N. *J. Org. Chem.* **1996**, *61*, 389–390.

Epoxide Ring Opening

- **Kinetic Resolution**

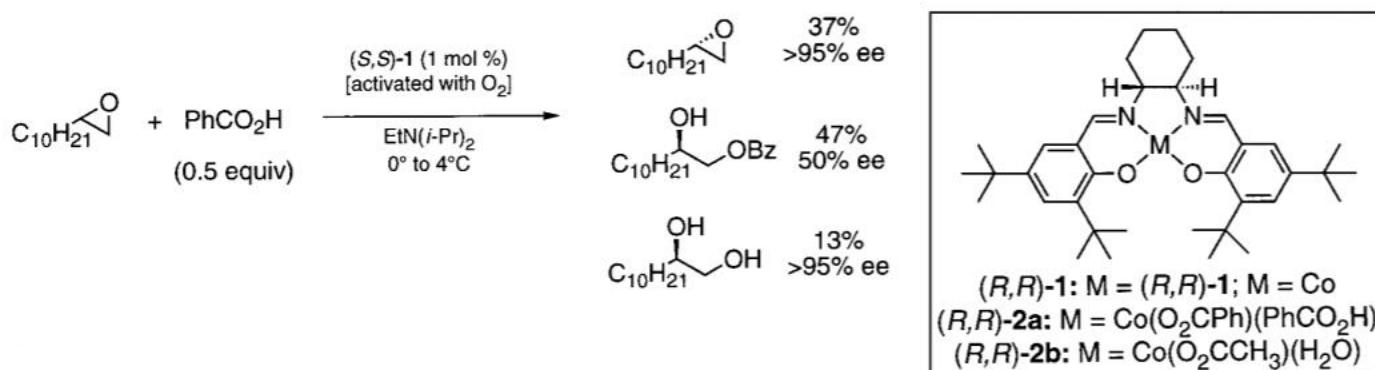


- **Synthetic Application**



Hydrolytic Kinetic Resolution

- **Unexpected Discovery**



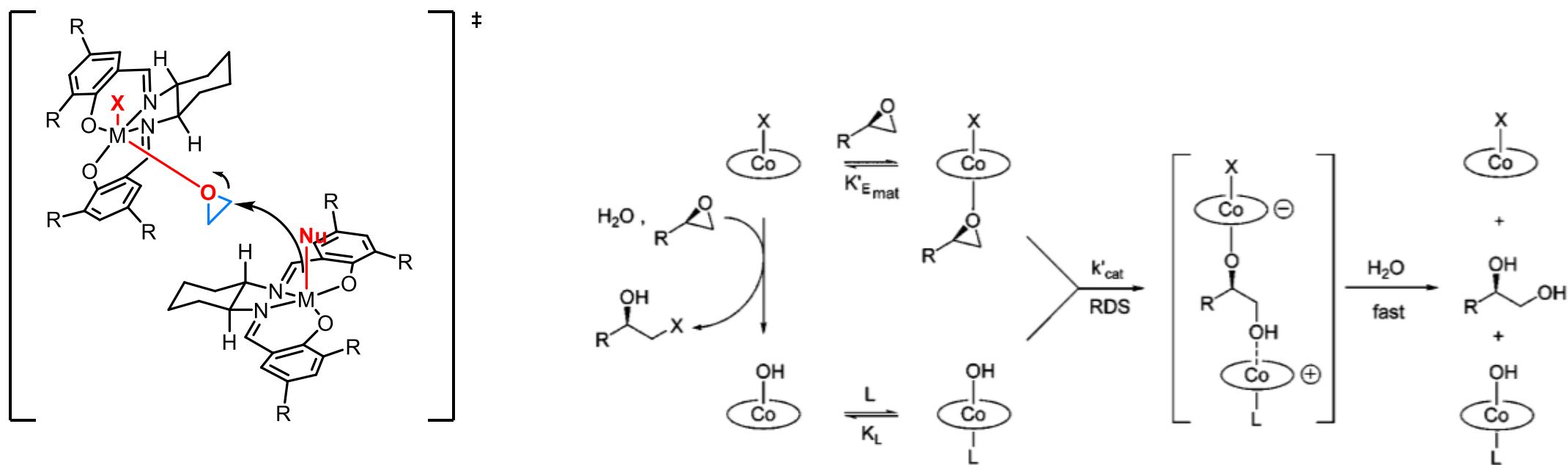
$(\pm)\text{-RCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O} + \text{H}_2\text{O} \xrightarrow{(\text{S},\text{S})-\mathbf{2b}}$

| Entry | R | Concentration | | Time (hours) | Epoxide | | Diol | | k_{rel} |
|-------|------------------------------|----------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------|-----------------------|-----------|-----------------------|------------------|
| | | 2b (mol %) | Water (equiv) | | ee (%) | Isolated yield (%) | ee (%) | Isolated yield (%) | |
| 1 | CH_3 | 0.2 | 0.55 | 12 | >98 | 44 | 98 | 50 | >400 |
| 2 | CH_2Cl | 0.3 | 0.55 | 8 | 98 | 44 | 86 | 38 | 50 |
| 3 | $(\text{CH}_2)_3\text{CH}_3$ | 0.42 | 0.55 | 5 | 98 | 46 | 98 | 48 | 290 |
| 4 | $(\text{CH}_2)_5\text{CH}_3$ | 0.42 | 0.55 | 6 | 99 | 45 | 97 | 47 | 260 |
| 5 | Ph | 0.8 | 0.70 | 44 | 98 | 38 | 98* | 39* | 20 |
| 6 | $\text{CH}=\text{CH}_2$ | 0.64 | 0.50 | 20 | 84 | 44 | 94 | 49 | 30 |
| 7 | $\text{CH}=\text{CH}_2$ | 0.85 | 0.70 | 68 | 99 | 29 | 88 | 64 | 30 |

*After recrystallization.

Hydrolytic Kinetic Resolution

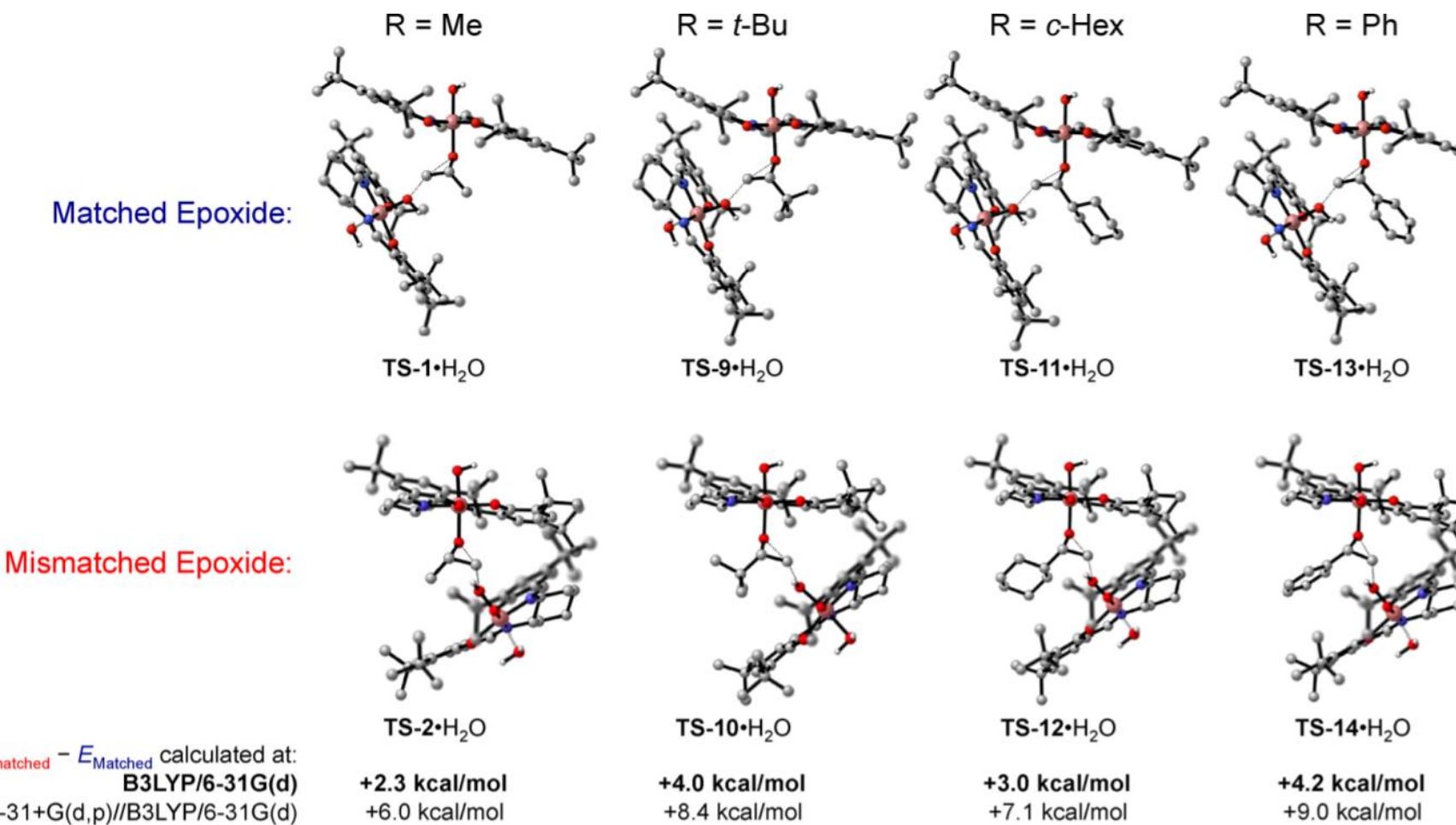
- Mechanistic study for HKR



How can HKR be general and selective
at the same time?

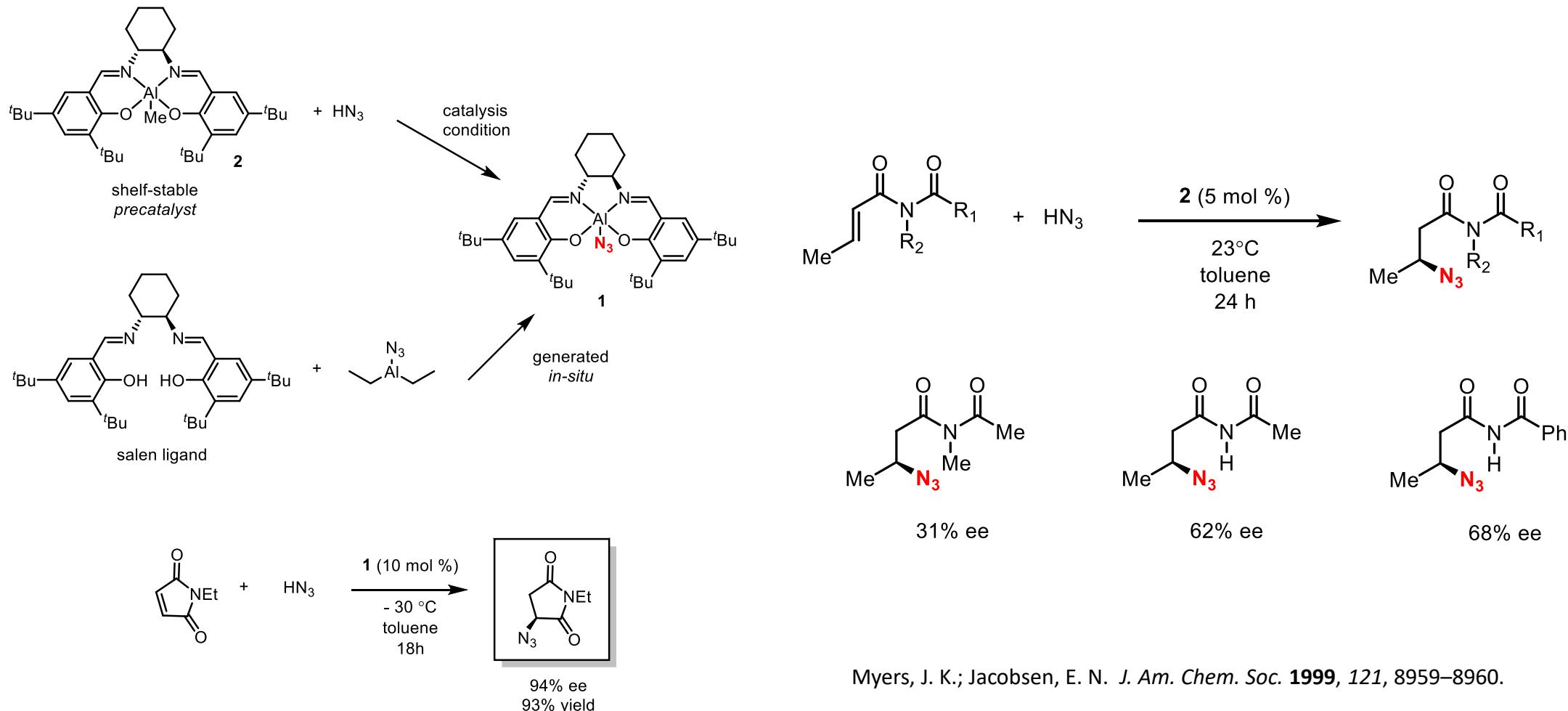
Hydrolytic Kinetic Resolution

- The Selectivity and Generality of HKR



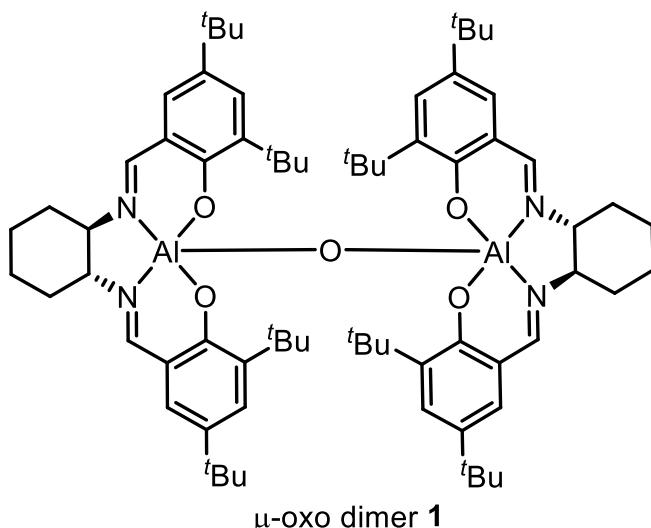
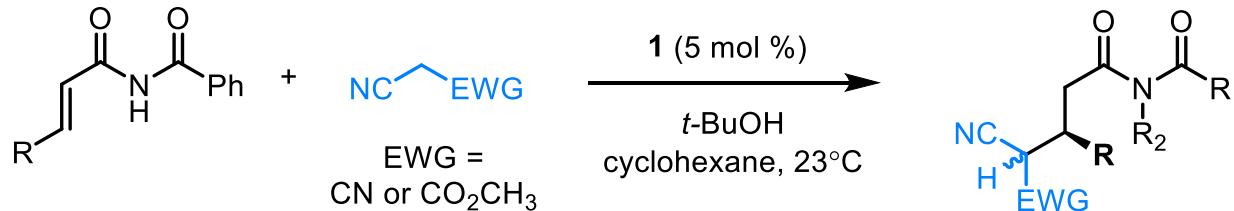
Asymmetric Michael Addition

- Conjugate Addition of Hydrazoic Acid

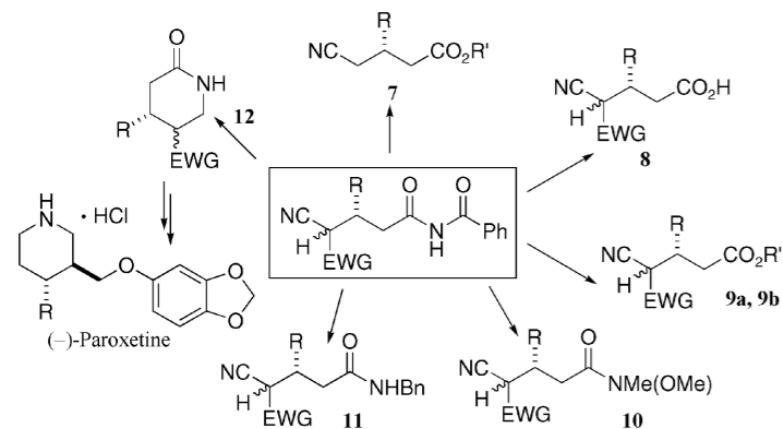


Asymmetric Michael Addition

- Conjugate Addition of Malononitrile and Methyl Cyanoacetate**

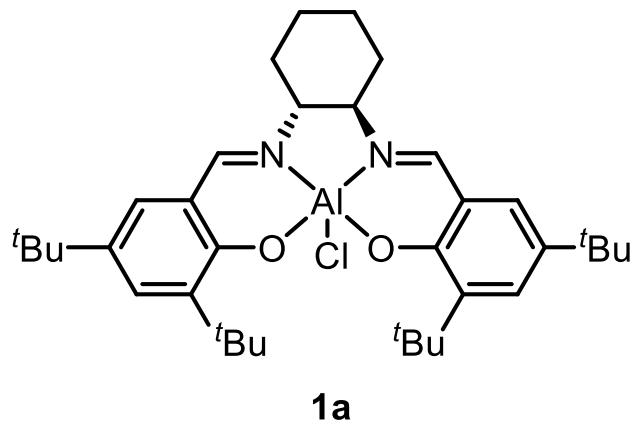


| product | R | EWG | time | yield (%) ^a | ee (%) ^b |
|---------|-----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|------|------------------------|---------------------|
| 3a | Ph ^c | CN | 28 h | 87 | 90 |
| 3b | <i>p</i> -FC ₆ H ₄ ^{c,j} | CN | 36 h | 88 | 93 |
| 3c | <i>p</i> -ClC ₆ H ₄ ^c | CN | 38 h | 99 | 92 |
| 3d | Me ^{c,d} | CN | 20 h | 89 | 96 |
| 3e | <i>n</i> -Pr ^{c,d} | CN | 20 h | 95 | 97 |
| 3f | <i>i</i> -Pr ^c | CN | 36 h | 91 | 96 |
| 3g | <i>t</i> -Bu ^c | CN | 48 h | 88 | 97 |
| 4a | Ph ^e | CO ₂ CH ₃ | 40 h | 98 | 88 ^f |
| 4b | <i>p</i> -FC ₆ H ₄ ^{e,g,k} | CO ₂ CH ₃ | 54 h | 94 | 89 ^f |
| 4c | <i>p</i> -ClC ₆ H ₄ ^e | CO ₂ CH ₃ | 56 h | 99 | 89 ^f |
| 4d | Me ^e | CO ₂ CH ₃ | 48 h | 96 | 86 ^{f,h} |
| 4e | <i>n</i> -Pr ^e | CO ₂ CH ₃ | 40 h | 88 | 90 ^f |
| 4f | <i>i</i> -Pr ⁱ | CO ₂ CH ₃ | 6 d | 89 | 95 ^f |

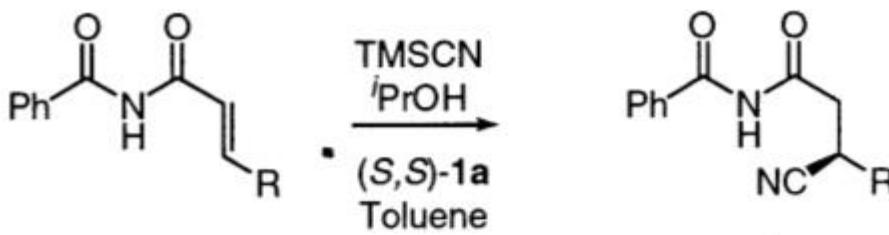


Asymmetric Michael Addition

- Conjugate Addition of Cyanide



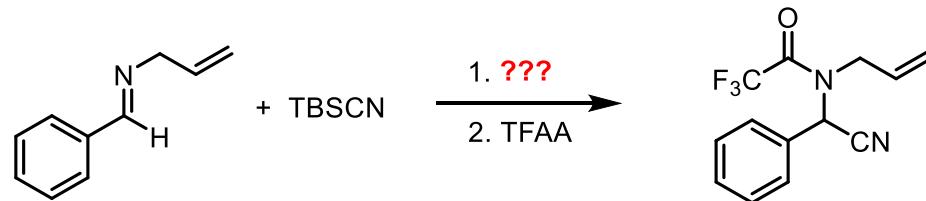
Btw, cyanide & imine (or imide)
reminds me of...



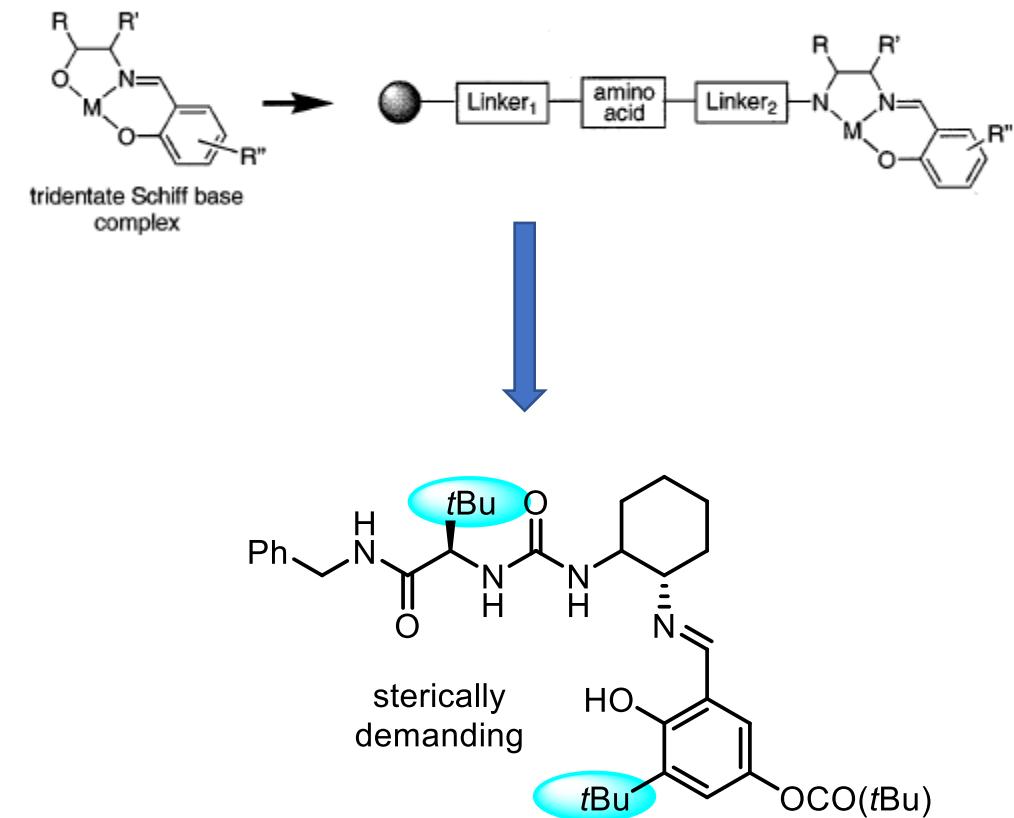
| product | R | method ^a | time (h) | isolated yield (%) | ee ^b (%) |
|---------|---------------------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 3a | Me | A | 26 | 92 | 98 ^c |
| 3b | Et | A | 26 | 95 | 97 |
| 3c | ⁿ Pr | A | 26 | 90 | 97 |
| 3d | ⁱ Pr | A | 26 | 91 | 94 |
| 3e | ^t Bu | A | 26 | 93 | 96 |
| 3f | (CH ₂) ₃ CHCH ₂ | A | 48 | 96 | 95 |
| 3g | ^t Bu | B | 48 | 90 | 97 |
| 3h | CH ₂ OBn | B | 48 | 70 | 87 |

Asymmetric Strecker Reaction

- **Catalyst Design**

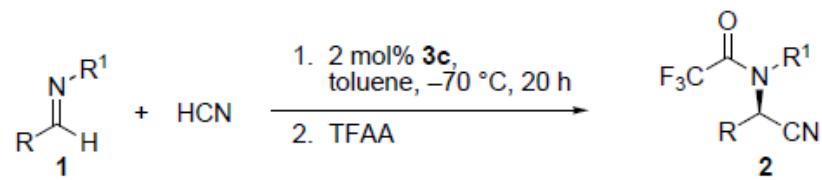


- **The parallel library approach:** the basic features of the target structures have already been established
 - **The selection of potential catalyst system:**
 - Amenable to solid-phase synthesis
 - Systematic structural variation
 - A selective system for chirality transfer
- Tridentate Schiff base!!**

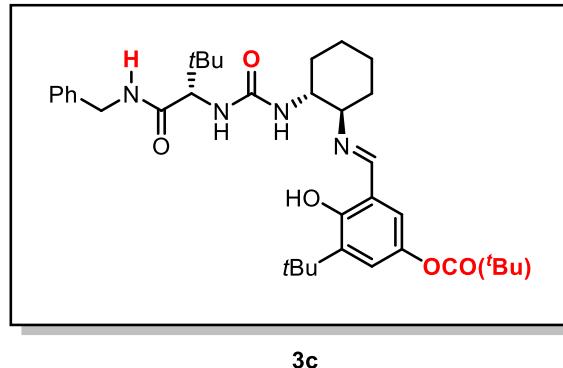


Sigman, M. S.; Jacobsen, E. N. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1998**, *120*, 4901–4902.
M. S.; Jacobsen, E. N. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1998**, *120*, 5315–5316.

Asymmetric Strecker Reaction



| Entry | R | Imine 1 | R ¹ | Yield [%] | ee [%] ^[a] |
|-------|----------|------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 | a | C ₆ H ₅ | allyl | 74 | 95 |
| 2 | b | tert-butyl | allyl | 75 | 95 (91) |
| 3 | c | p-OCH ₃ C ₆ H ₄ | allyl | 98 | 95 |
| 4 | d | m-OCH ₃ C ₆ H ₄ | allyl | 99 | 93 |
| 5 | e | <i>o</i> -OCH ₃ C ₆ H ₄ | allyl | 93 | 77 |
| 6 | f | p-CH ₃ C ₆ H ₄ | allyl | 99 | 95 |
| 7 | g | m-CH ₃ C ₆ H ₄ | allyl | 97 | 96 |
| 8 | h | <i>o</i> -CH ₃ C ₆ H ₄ | allyl | 96 | 95 |
| 9 | i | p-BrC ₆ H ₄ | allyl | 89 | 89 |
| 10 | j | <i>m</i> -BrC ₆ H ₄ | allyl | 87 | 90 |
| 11 | k | <i>o</i> -BrC ₆ H ₄ | allyl | 88 ^[b] | 95 |
| 12 | l | p-(CH ₃) ₃ CC ₆ H ₄ | allyl | 89 | 97 |
| 13 | m | tert-butyl | benzyl | 88 | 96 (93) |
| 14 | n | cyclohexyl | benzyl | 85 | 87 |
| 15 | o | cyclohexyl | allyl | 88 | 86 |
| 16 | p | 1-cyclohexenyl | benzyl | 90 | 91 (87) |
| 17 | q | (CH ₃) ₃ CCH ₂ | benzyl | 85 | 90 (87) |
| 18 | r | CH ₃ (CH ₂) ₄ | benzyl | 69 | 78 |
| 19 | s | (CH ₃) ₂ CH | benzyl | 74 | 79 |
| 20 | t | cyclopropyl | benzyl | 89 | 91 |
| 21 | u | cyclooctyl | allyl | 65 | 90 |



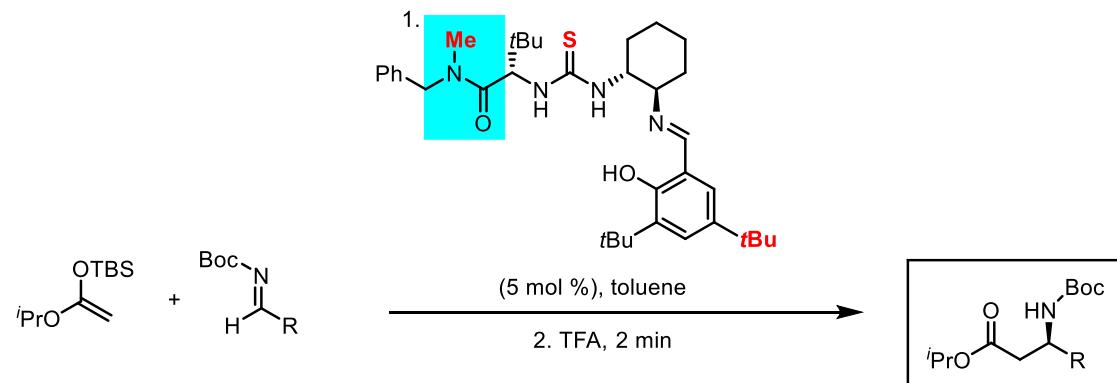
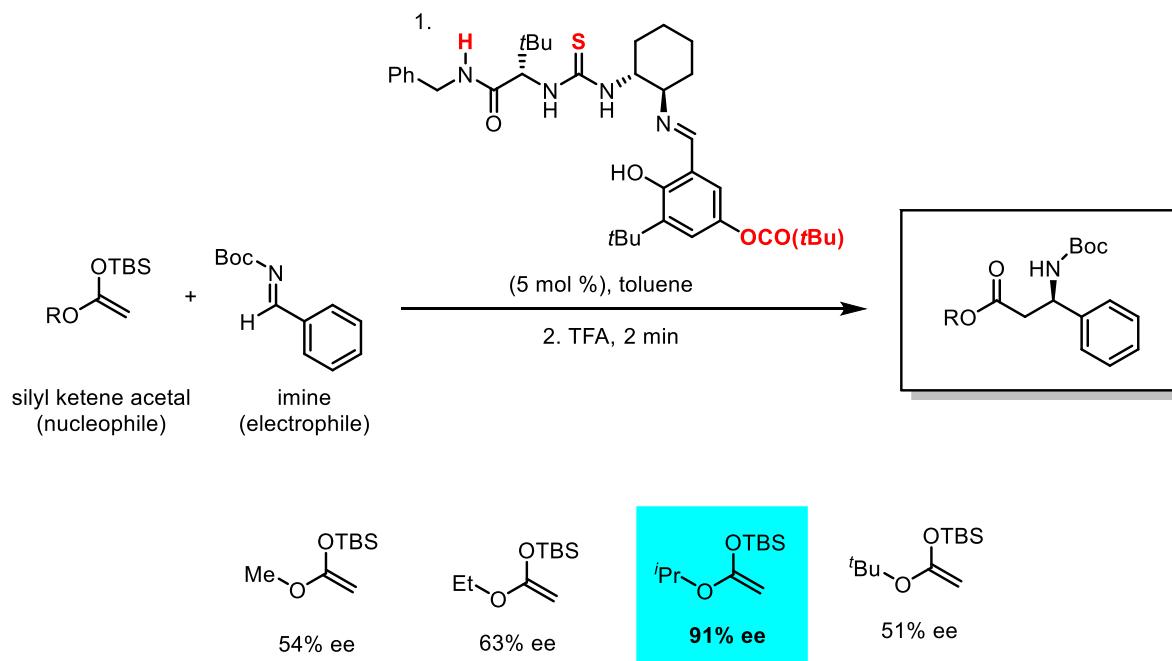
**Remarkably
general
substrate scope!**

**Can this new catalyst be
also general for other
types of reactions?**

Sigman, M. S.; Jacobsen, E. N. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1998**, *120*, 4901–4902.
M. S.; Jacobsen, E. N. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1998**, *120*, 5315–5316.

H-Bond Donor Catalysis

- Asymmetric Mannich Reaction**

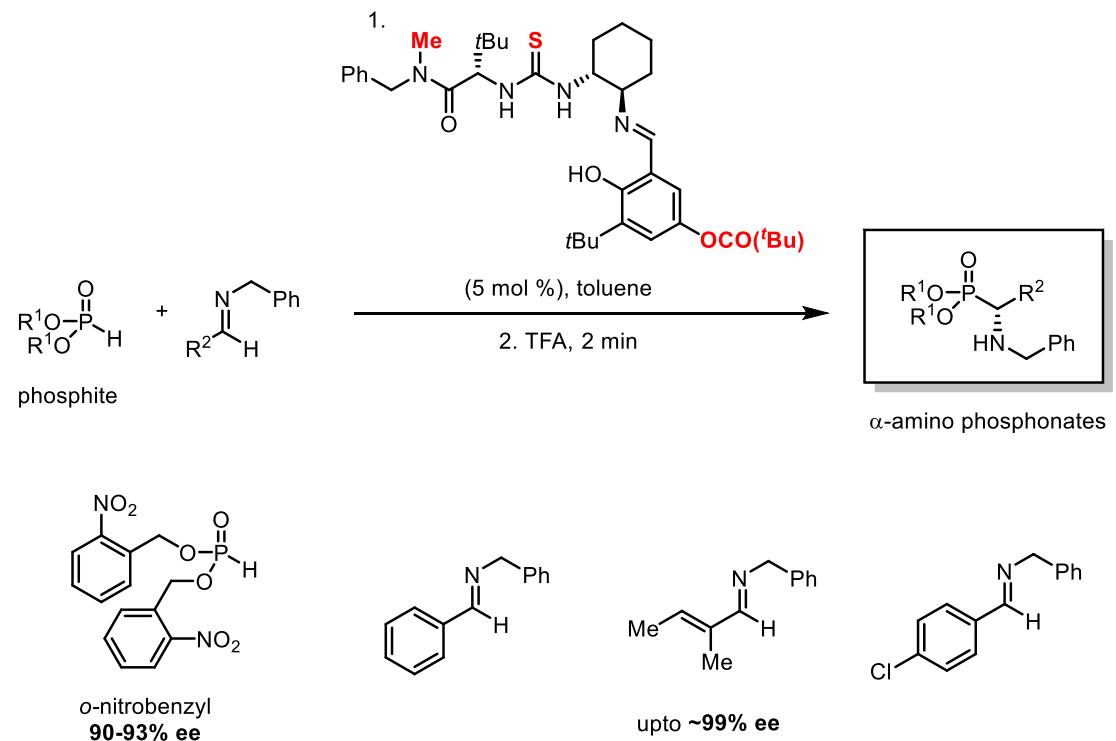


| entry | imine | R | temp (°C) | yield (%) ^a | ee (%) ^b |
|-------|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------|-----------|------------------------|---------------------|
| 1 | 3a | Ph | -40 | 95 | 97 |
| 2 | 3b | <i>o</i> -CH ₃ C ₆ H ₄ | -30 | 88 | 91 |
| 3 | 3c | <i>m</i> -CH ₃ C ₆ H ₄ | -30 | 98 | 94 |
| 4 | 3d | <i>p</i> -CH ₃ C ₆ H ₄ | -30 | 87 | 96 |
| 5 | 3e | <i>p</i> -OMeC ₆ H ₄ | 4 | 91 | 86 |
| 6 | 3f | <i>p</i> -FC ₆ H ₄ | -30 | 88 | 93 |
| 7 | 3g | <i>m</i> -BrC ₆ H ₄ | -30 | 96 | 92 |
| 8 | 3h | <i>p</i> -BrC ₆ H ₄ | -30 | 93 | 94 |
| 9 | 3i | 1-naphthyl | -30 | 93 | 87 |
| 10 | 3j | 2-naphthyl | -30 | 88 | 96 |
| 11 | 3k | 2-furyl | -40 | 84 | 91 |
| 12 | 3l | 2-thienyl | -30 | 95 | 92 |
| 13 | 3m | 3-quinolinyl | -30 | 99 | 96 |
| 14 | 3n | 3-pyridyl | -30 | 99 | 98 |

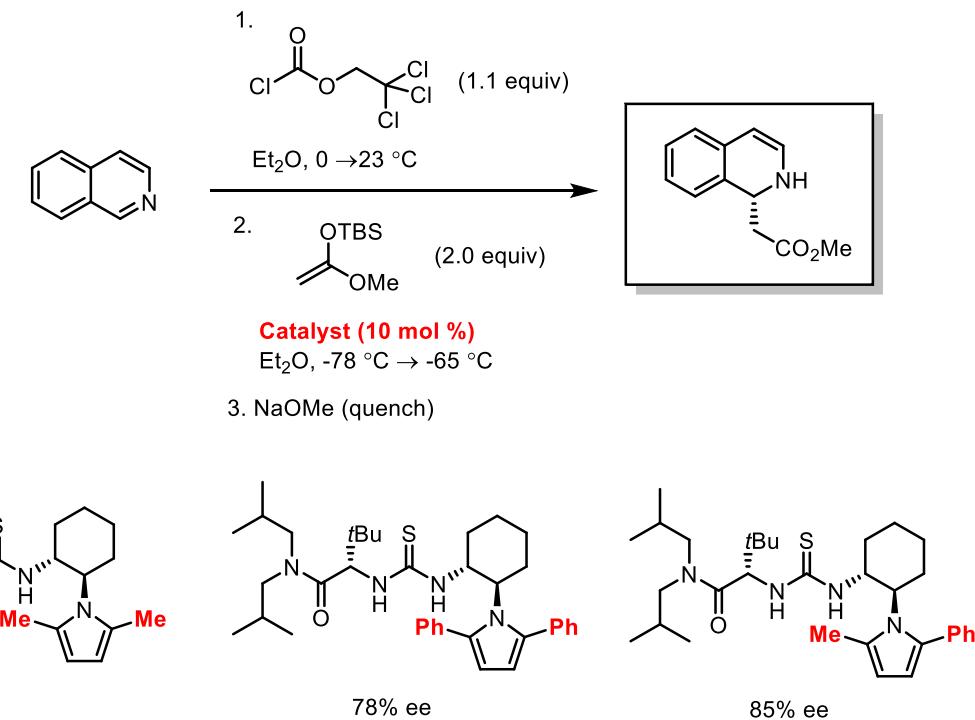
Wenzel, A. G.; Jacobsen, E. N. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2002**, *124*, 12964–12965.

H-Bond Donor Catalysis

- Hydrophosphonylation of Imines



- Acyl-Mannich Reactions of Isoquinolines

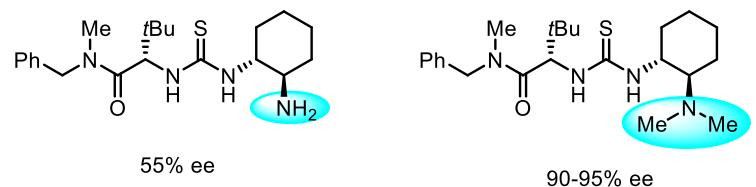
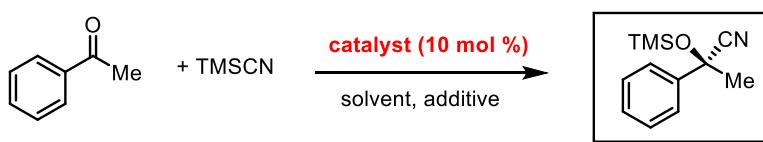
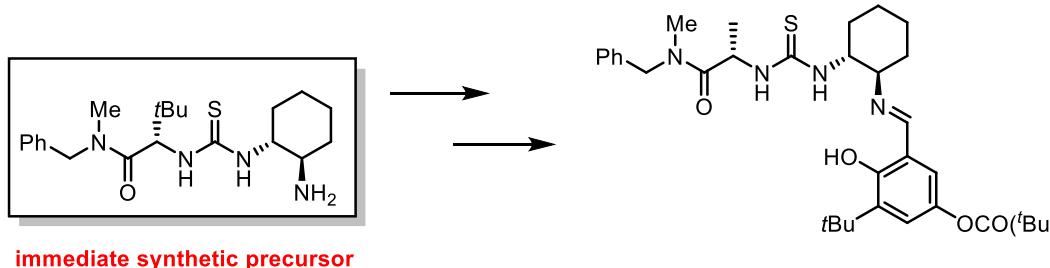


Joly, G. D.; Jacobsen, E. N. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2004**, 126, 4102–4103.

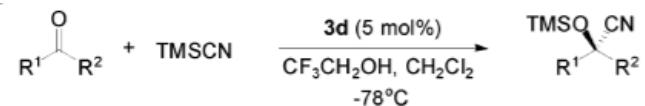
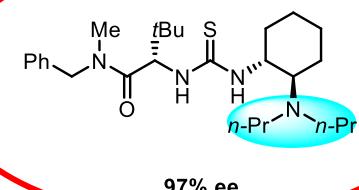
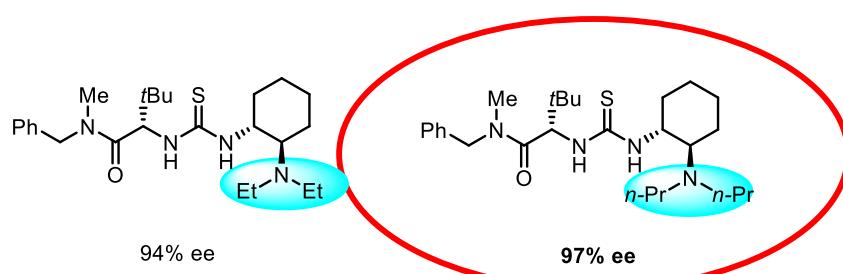
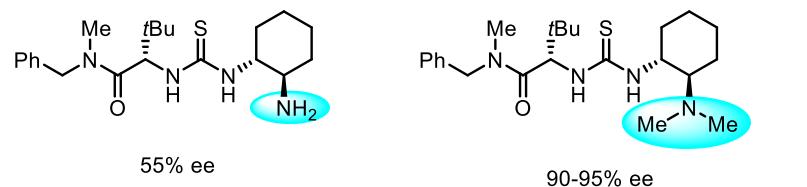
Taylor, M. S.; Jacobsen, E. N. *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.* **2005**, 44, 6700–6704

H-Bond Donor Catalysis

- Cyanosilylation of Ketones



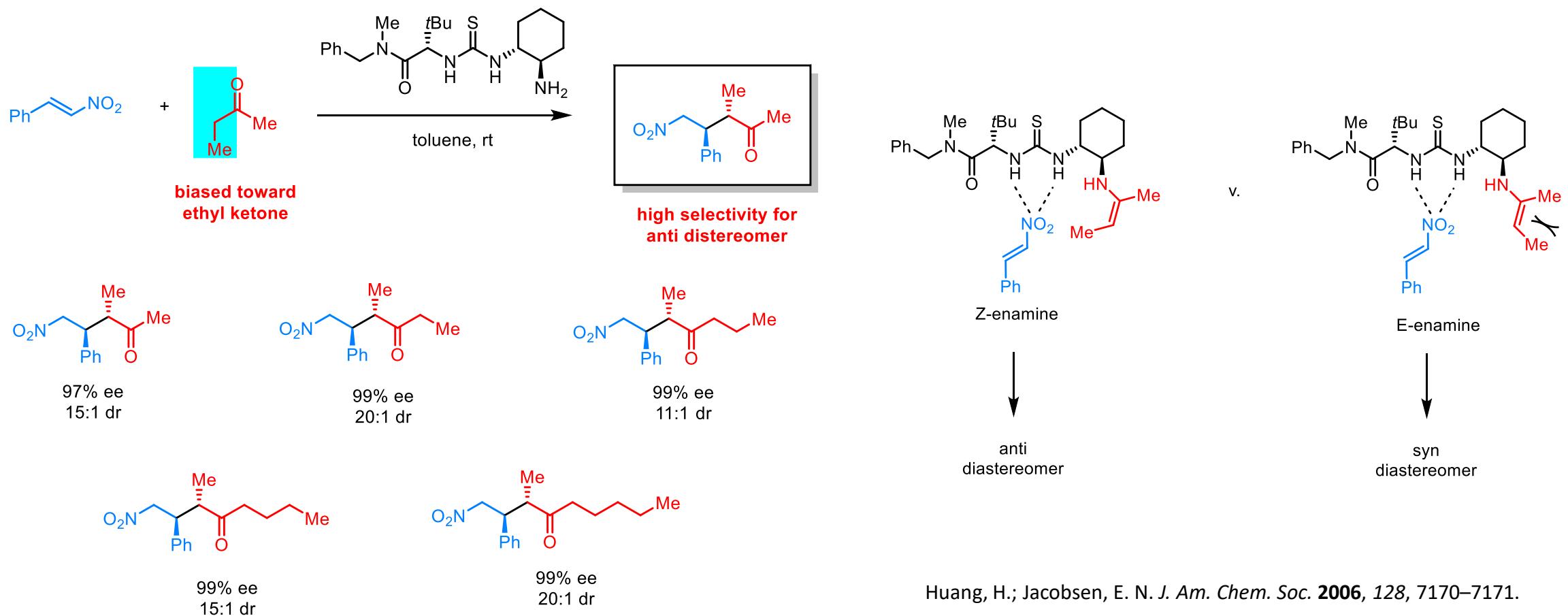
showed no measurable catalytic activity



| entry | ketone | time (h) | yield (%) ^b | ee (%) ^c |
|-------------------|--------|-----------|------------------------|---------------------|
| 1 | | R = Me | 24 | 96 |
| 2 | | R = Et | 24 | 95 |
| 3 | | R = i-Pr | 24 | 97 |
| 4 ^d | | R = o-Me | 36 | 96 |
| 5 | | R = p-Me | 36 | 97 |
| 6 ^e | | R = m-OMe | 12 | 97 |
| 7 | | R = p-OMe | 48 | 93 |
| 8 | | R = p-Br | 12 | 94 |
| 9 | | | 36 | 91 |
| 10 | | | 12 | 98 |
| 11 ^e | | | 48 | 81 |
| 12 ^{f,j} | | | 48 | 88 |
| 13 ^e | | | 48 | 87 |
| 14 | | R = Me | 12 | 94 |
| 15 | | R = n-Bu | 12 | 97 |
| 16 | | | 48 | 95 |
| 17 | | | 12 | 95 |
| 18 ^e | | | 48 | 97 |

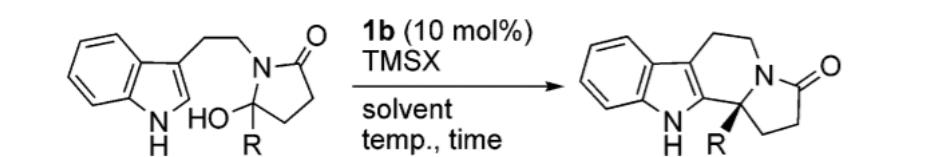
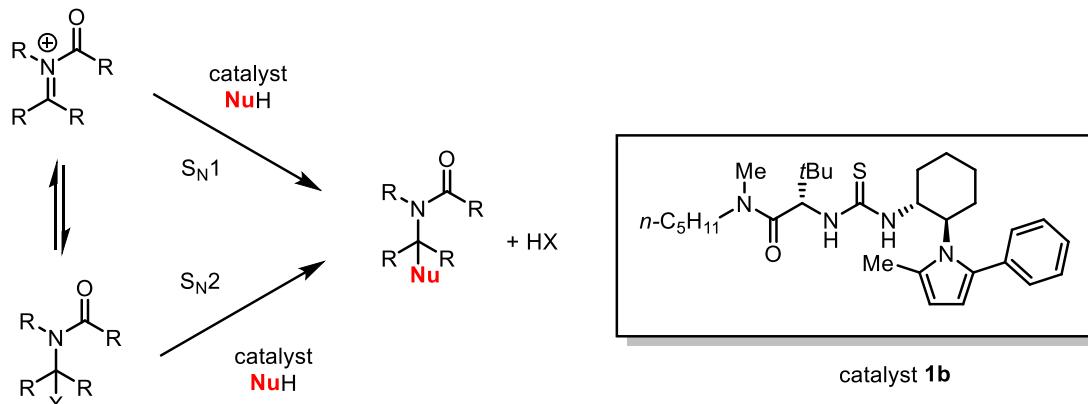
H-Bond Donor Catalysis

- Conjugate Addition to Ketones

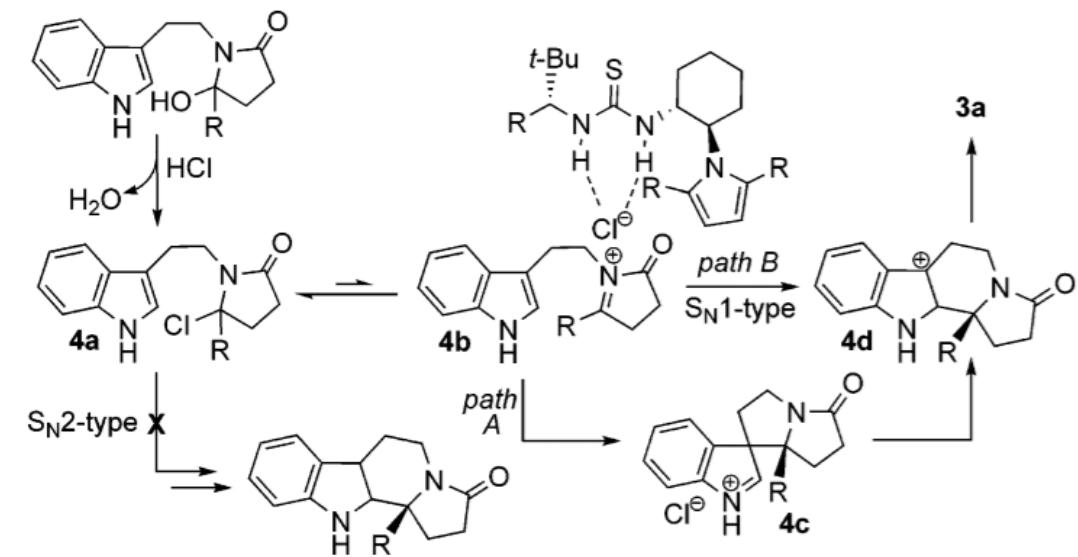


H-Bond Donor Catalysis

- Anion Binding: Pictet-Spengler-Type Cyclization**

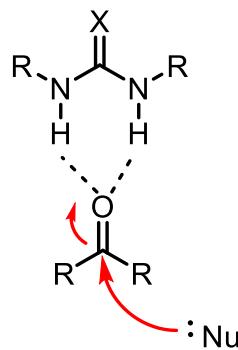


| entry | solvent | X | R | temp (°C) | time (h) | conv ^a (%) | ee ^b (%) |
|-------|---------------------------------|----|-----------------|--------------|-------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| 1 | TBME | Cl | H | -78 | 8 | 12 | 99 |
| 2 | TBME | Cl | CH ₃ | -78 | 8 | 94 | 96 |
| 3 | TBME | Cl | H | -55 | 23 | 80 | 97 |
| 4 | TBME | Br | H | -55 | 23 | 82 | 68 |
| 5 | TBME | I | H | -55 | 23 | 75 | <5 |
| 6 | TBME | Cl | H | -55 | 8 | 65 | 97 |
| 7 | THF | Cl | H | -55 | 8 | >95 | 34 |
| 8 | CH ₂ Cl ₂ | Cl | H | -55 | 8 | >95 | <5 |



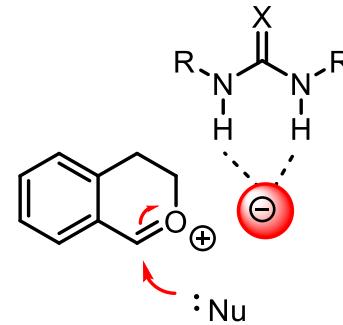
Raheem, I. T.; Thiara, P. V.; Jacobsen, E. N. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2007**, 129, 13404–13405

H-Bond Donor Catalysis



Direct Electrophile Activation

LUMO-lowering effect on Lewis basic electrophile



Anion-binding Activation

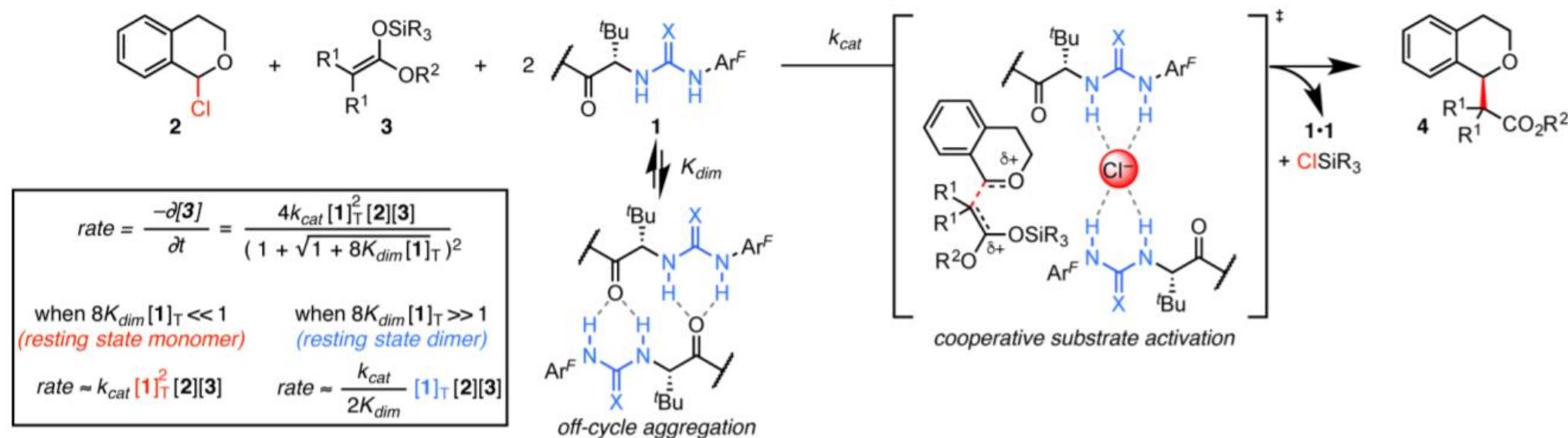
Chiral ion pairs promotes enantioselective addition to a reactive cationic intermediate

- **Limitations: low catalytic efficiency**

- Requires high catalyst loadings (5-20 mol %)
- Long reaction time (>24 h)
- Most effective under dilute reaction conditions (<0.1 M)
- **WHY??**

H-Bond Donor Catalysis

- On- and Off- Cycle

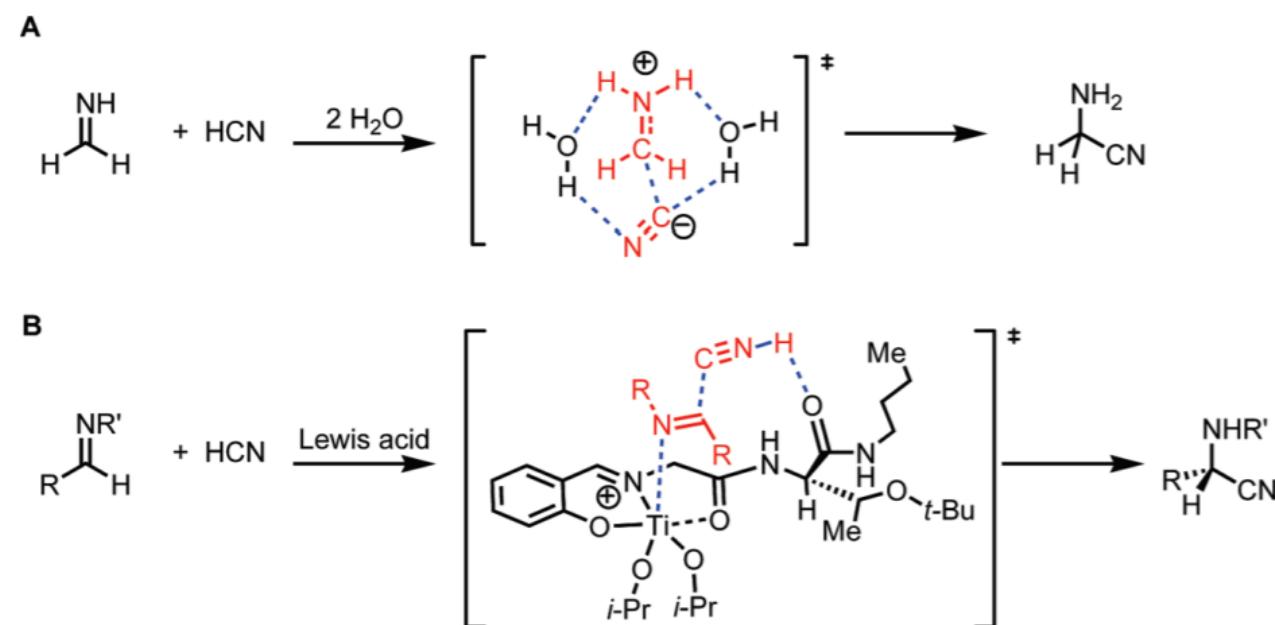
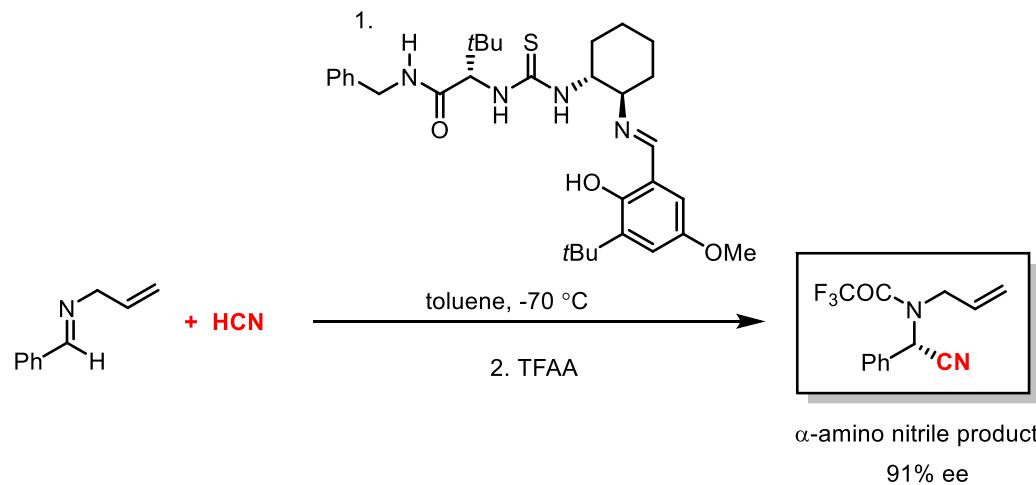


- How to improve this?

- Favor cooperative substrate activation
- Avoid nonproductive aggregation
- Link the dimeric catalysts

H-Bond Donor Catalysis

- **Transition State Stabilization: Hydrocyanation of Imines**



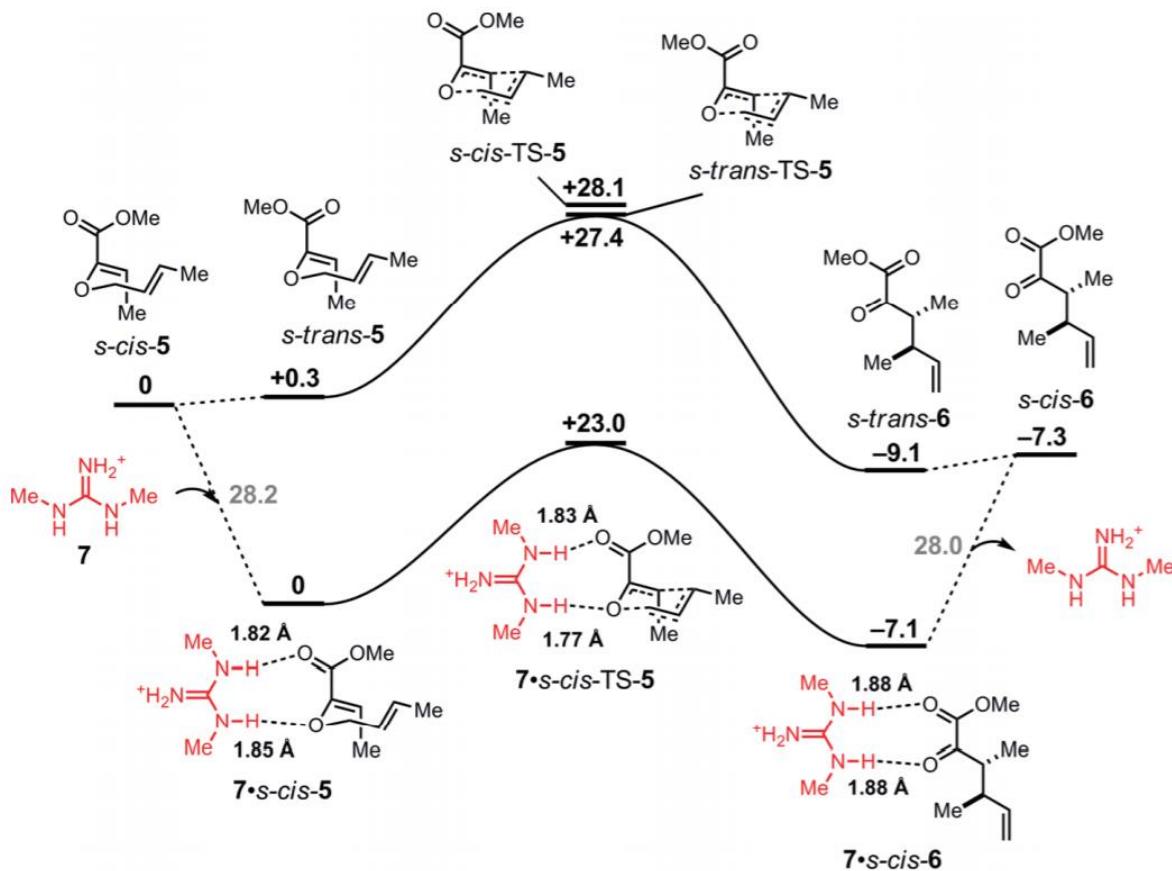
- **Nonasymmetric Imine Hydrocyanation:**

- Promoted by polar, protic solvents
- Charge separation and proton transfer
- Formation of iminium/cyanide ion pair

But LA only works in nonpolar, aprotic solvents

H-Bond Donor Catalysis

- Transition State Stabilization: Claisen Rearrangement

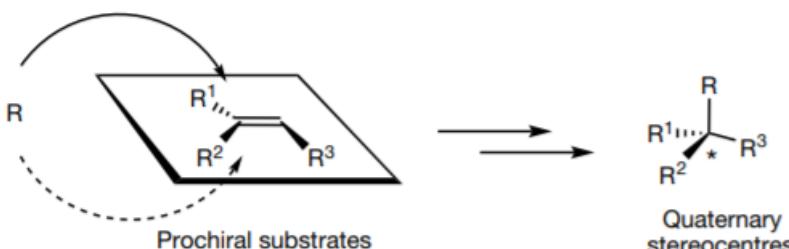


H-Bond Donor Catalysis

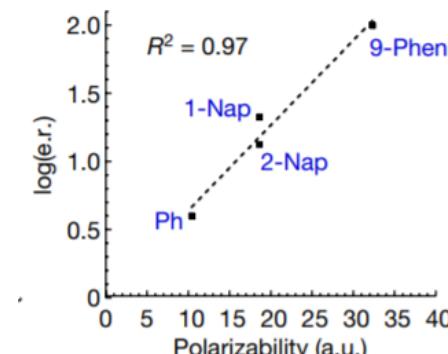
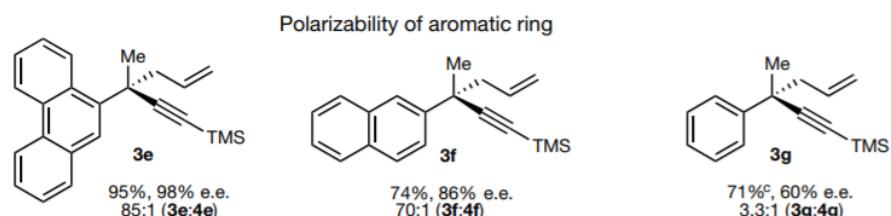
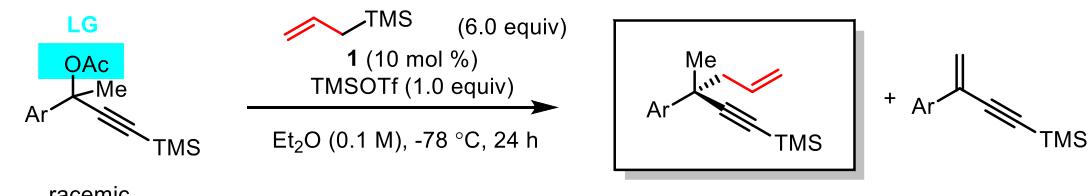
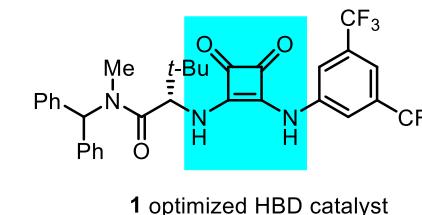
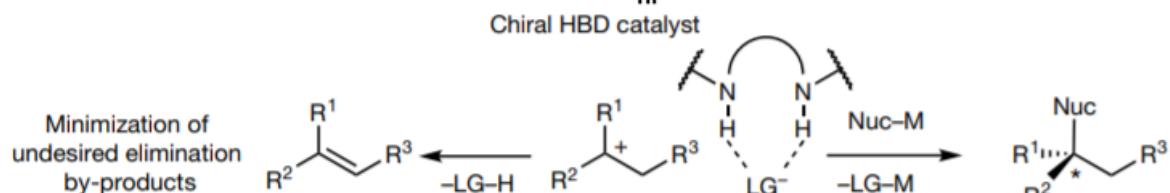
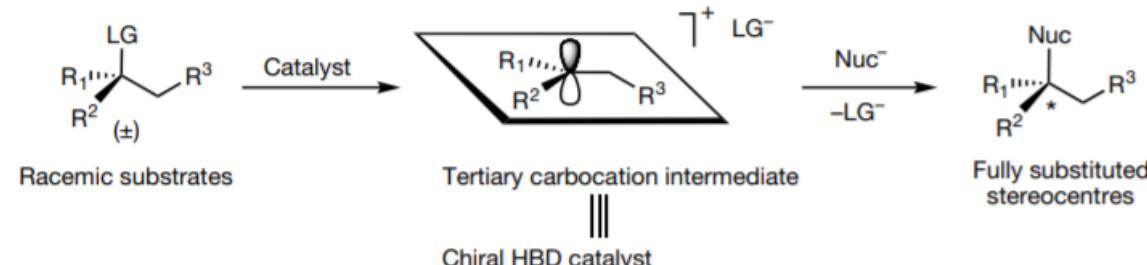
- Quaternary Stereocenters**

a

- Carbonyl α -functionalizations
- Alkene cross-couplings
- Conjugate additions
- 3,3'- and S_N2' additions
- Cycloadditions



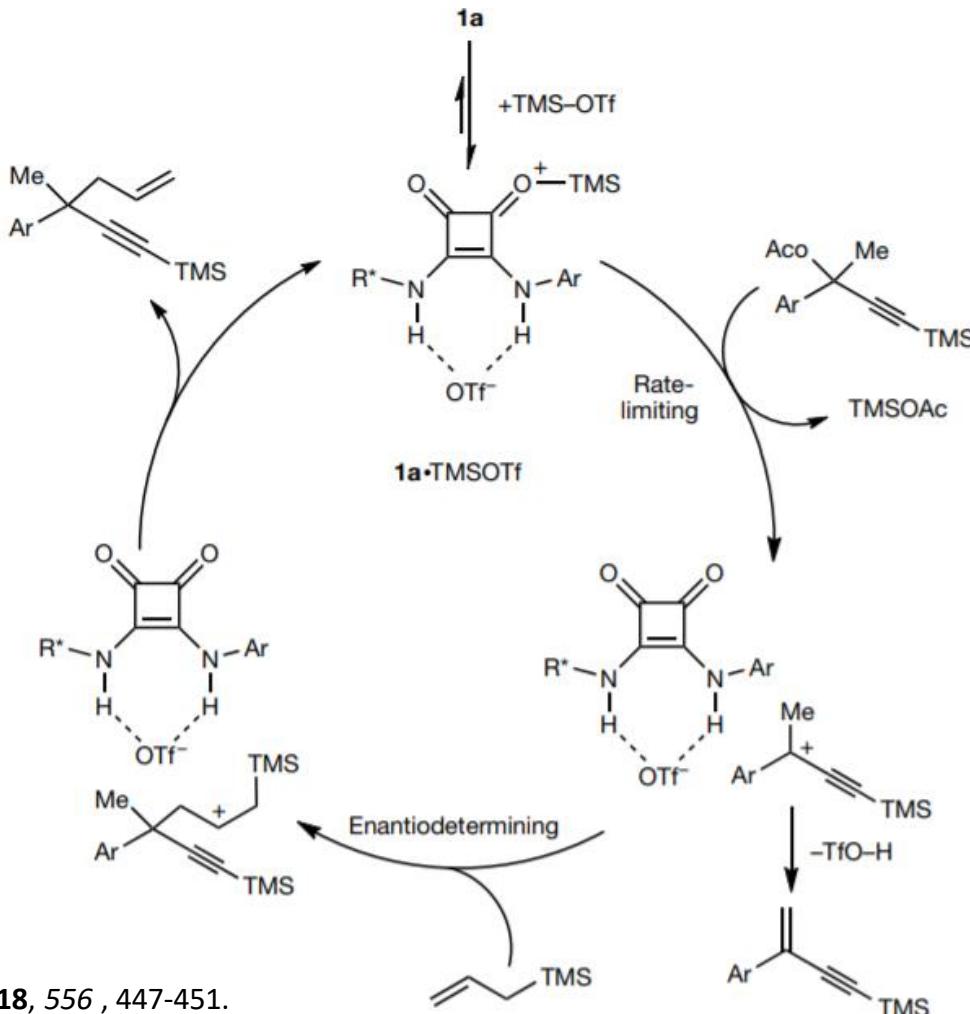
b



Wendlandt, A.E.; Vangal, P.; Jacobsen, E.N. *Nature* 2018, 556, 447-451.

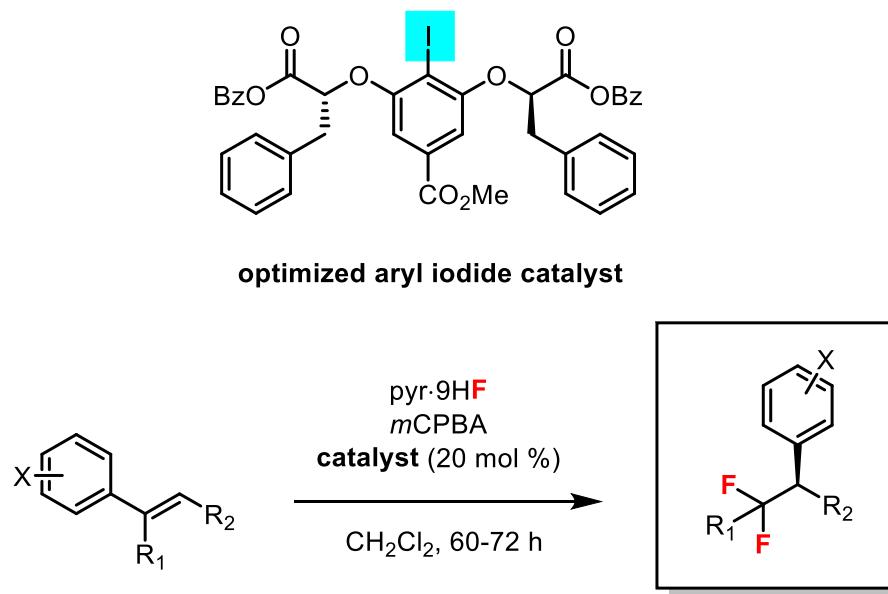
H-Bond Donor Catalysis

- Quaternary Stereocenters

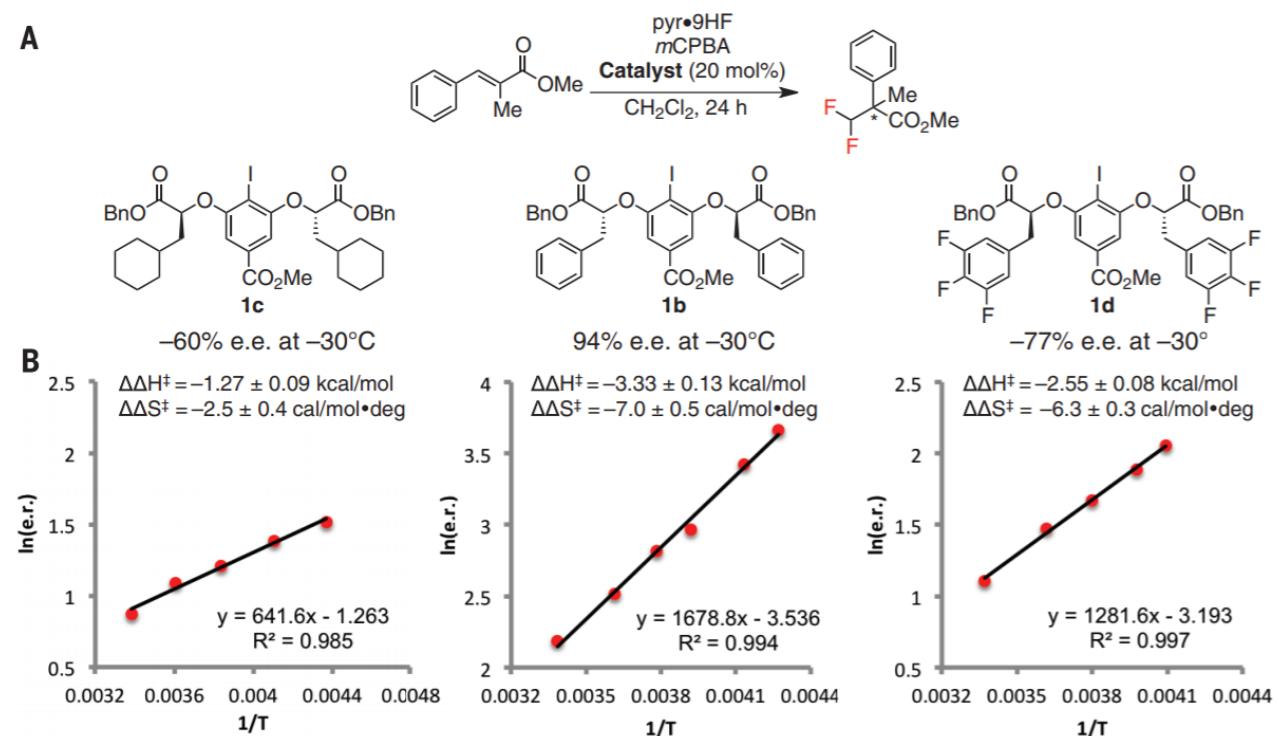


Hypervalent Iodine

- Asymmetric Difluorination**



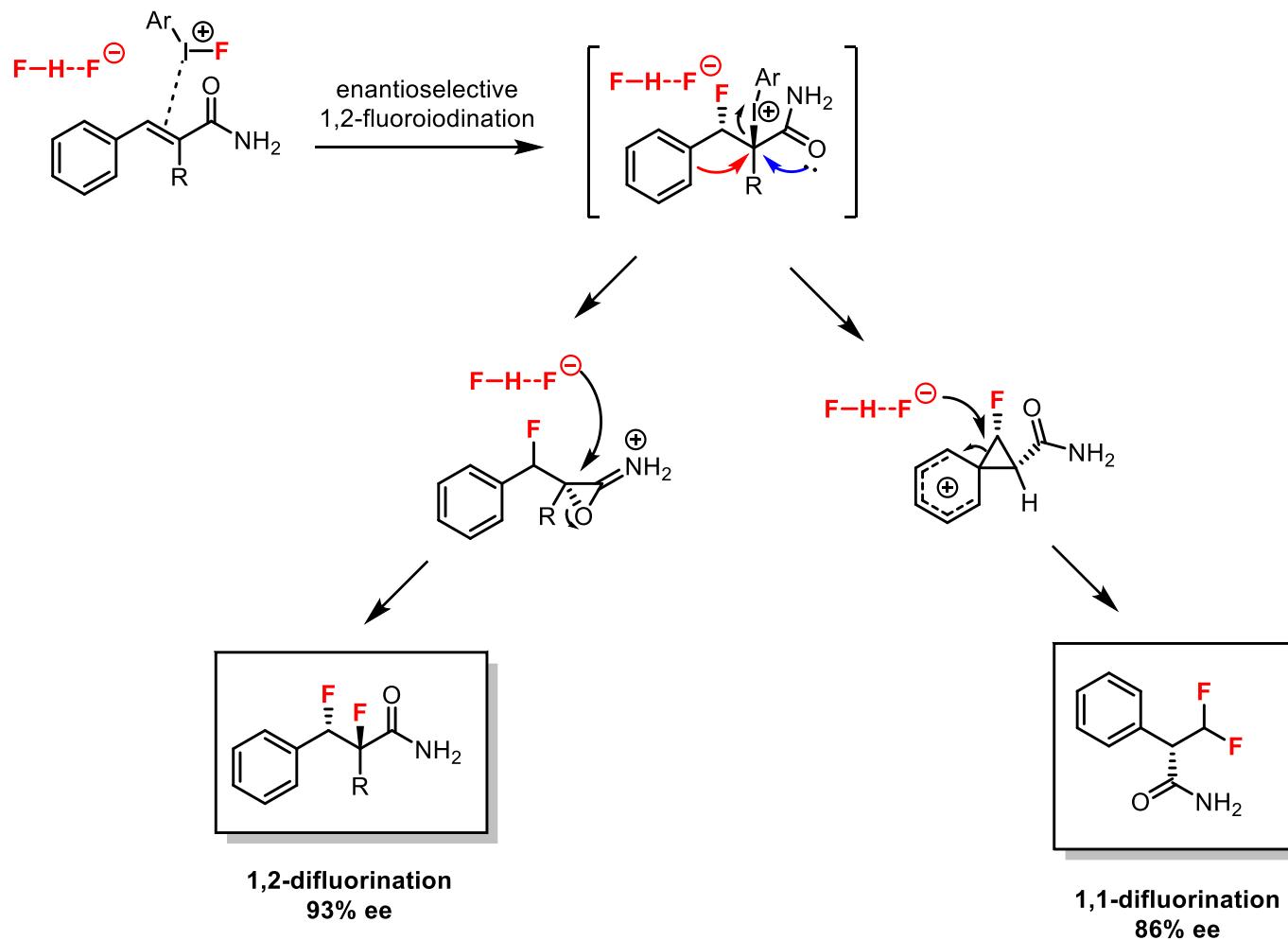
- Primary, secondary, and tertiary cinnamamides:** all highly enantioselective
- Substrate with no conjugation to $\text{C}=\text{O}$:** good reactivity with modest selectivity



Banik, S. M.; Medley, J. W.; Jacobsen, E. N. *Science*, 2016, 353, 6294

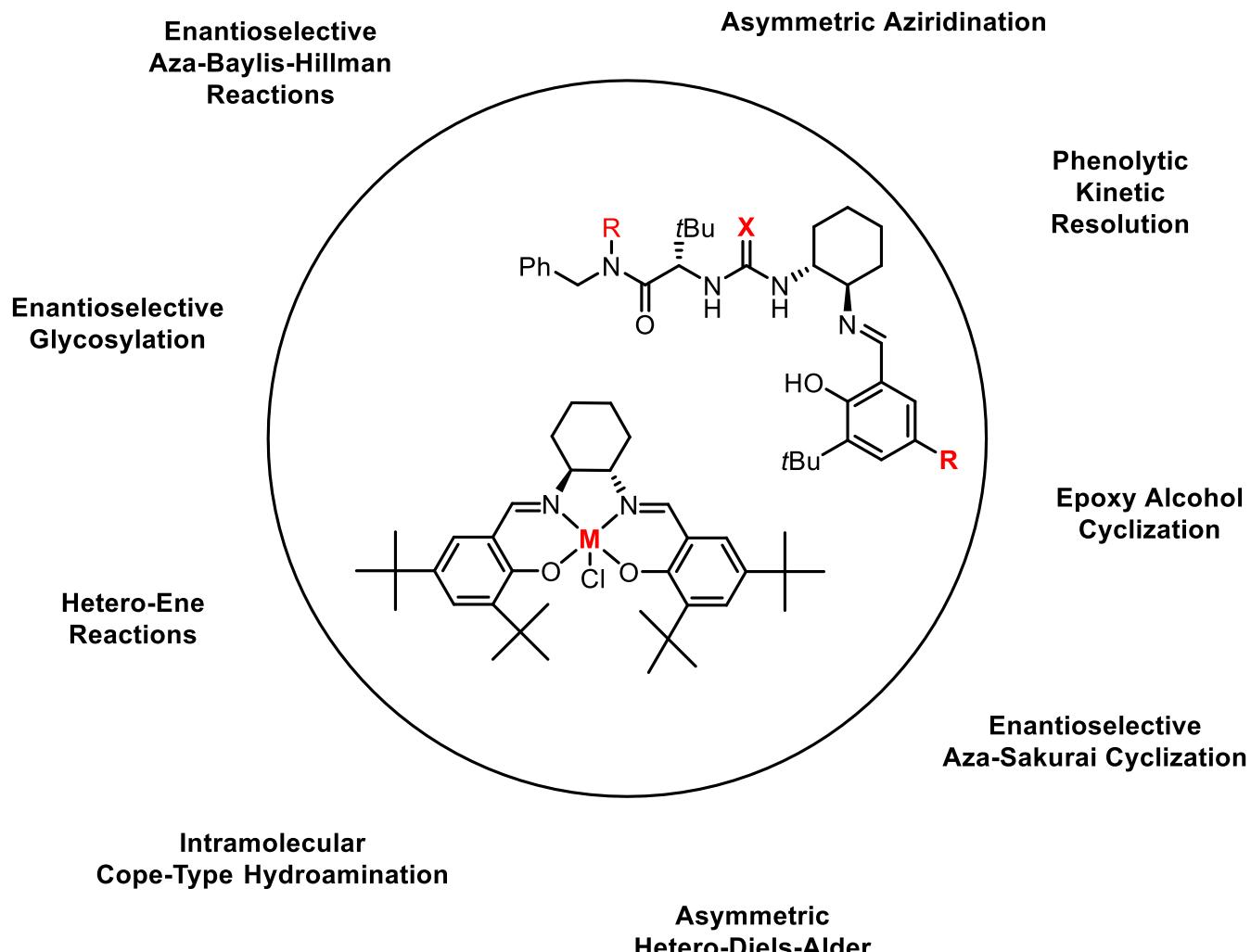
Hypervalent Iodine

- Mechanistic Insight



...And Many More!

- “Privileged” Ligands



“If you have a [asymmetric] reaction you wanna develop, try these [general] ligands and look for a hit or leads, and optimize from those leads”

“[privileged chiral ligands] Took asymmetric catalysis out of the realm of specialists to the realm of just synthetic chemistry”

-Prof. Jacobsen