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# Asymmetric Radical Reactions

Literature Review  
MARIE WONG | 12 JULY 2019

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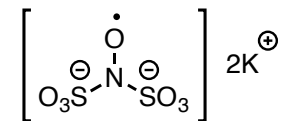
# INTRODUCTION

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- Frémy's salt (1845)

- First man-made persistent radical



- Moses Gomberg – triphenylmethyl radical (1900)

- “The experimental evidence presented above forces me to the conclusion that we have to deal here with a free radical.”

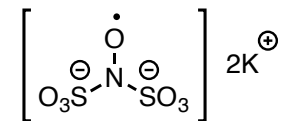
**AN INSTANCE OF TRIVALENT CARBON: TRIPHENYLMETHYL.**

BY M. GOMBERG.

# INTRODUCTION

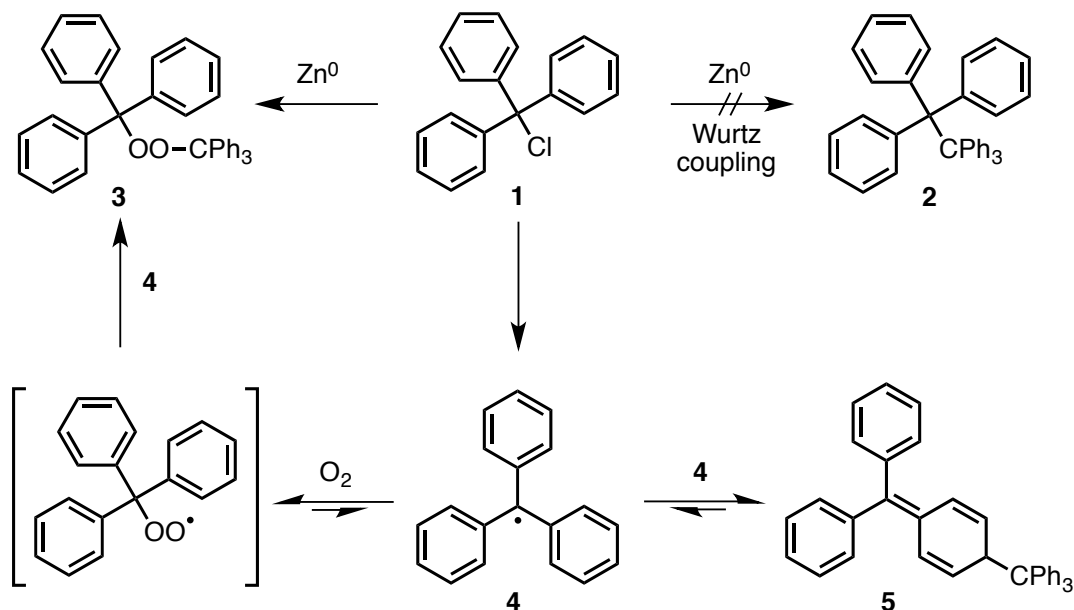
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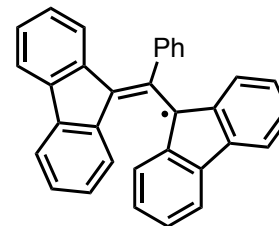
“This work will be continued and I wish to reserve the field for myself.”

# INTRODUCTION

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- C. F. Koelsch (1932)
  - EPR (1957)
- Sir Christopher Ingold (1993)
  - “Homolysis, even between consenting adults, is grounds for instant dismissal from this Department”
- Morris Kharasch
  - Barton, D. H. R. Private communication.
  - “...became so frustrated with his manuscripts being rejected by the reviewers of his day that he used his influence to convince the ACS board to launch *The Journal of Organic Chemistry*.”
  - “Being on the Board of Editors made it easier for him to identify reviewers with the correct expertise.”



“Radical chemistry has always taken a backseat to ionic chemistry.”

low selectivity • scarce • exotic • messy • unpredictable  
unpromising • mysterious • chemical curiosity • impatient  
invisible • unselective • chaotic • uncontrollable  
mysteriously baffling • suspicious • unwieldiness

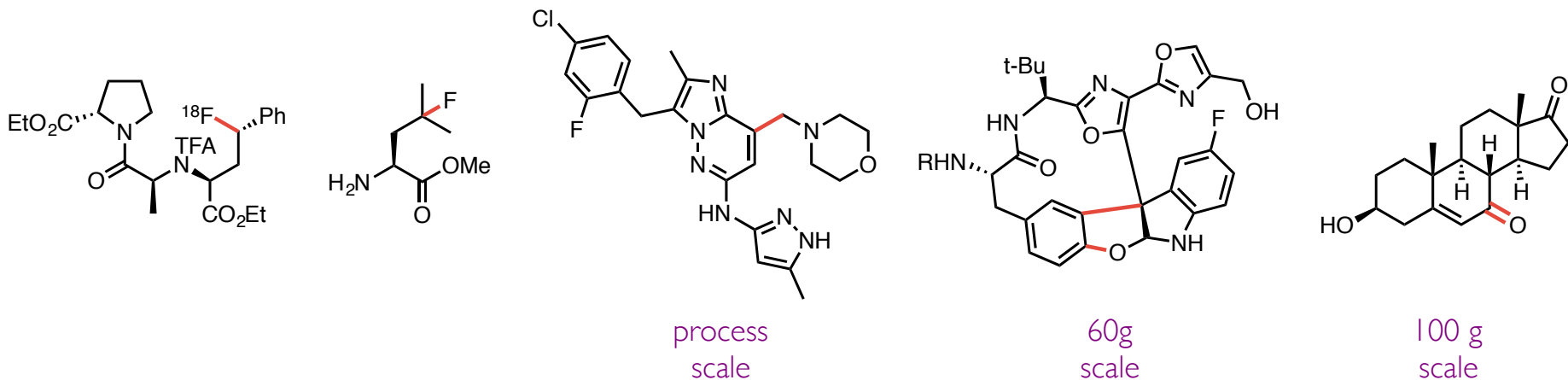
“...radicals still occasionally conjure up visions of runaway reactions, of messy black tars, and of intractable mixtures.”

beautiful • predictability • reactivity • selectivity • generality  
variability • functional group tolerance • pH neutral • elaborate  
efficient • molecular complexity • green chemistry

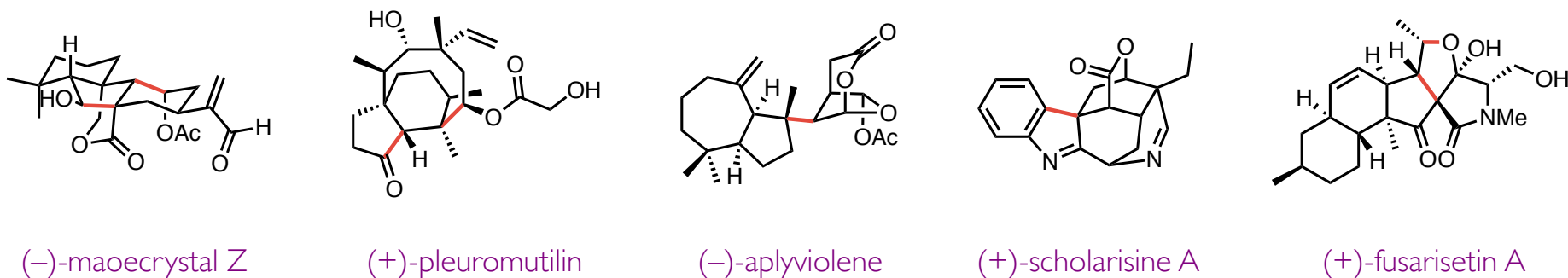
“I didn’t think that radical chemistry could be so mild and selective.”

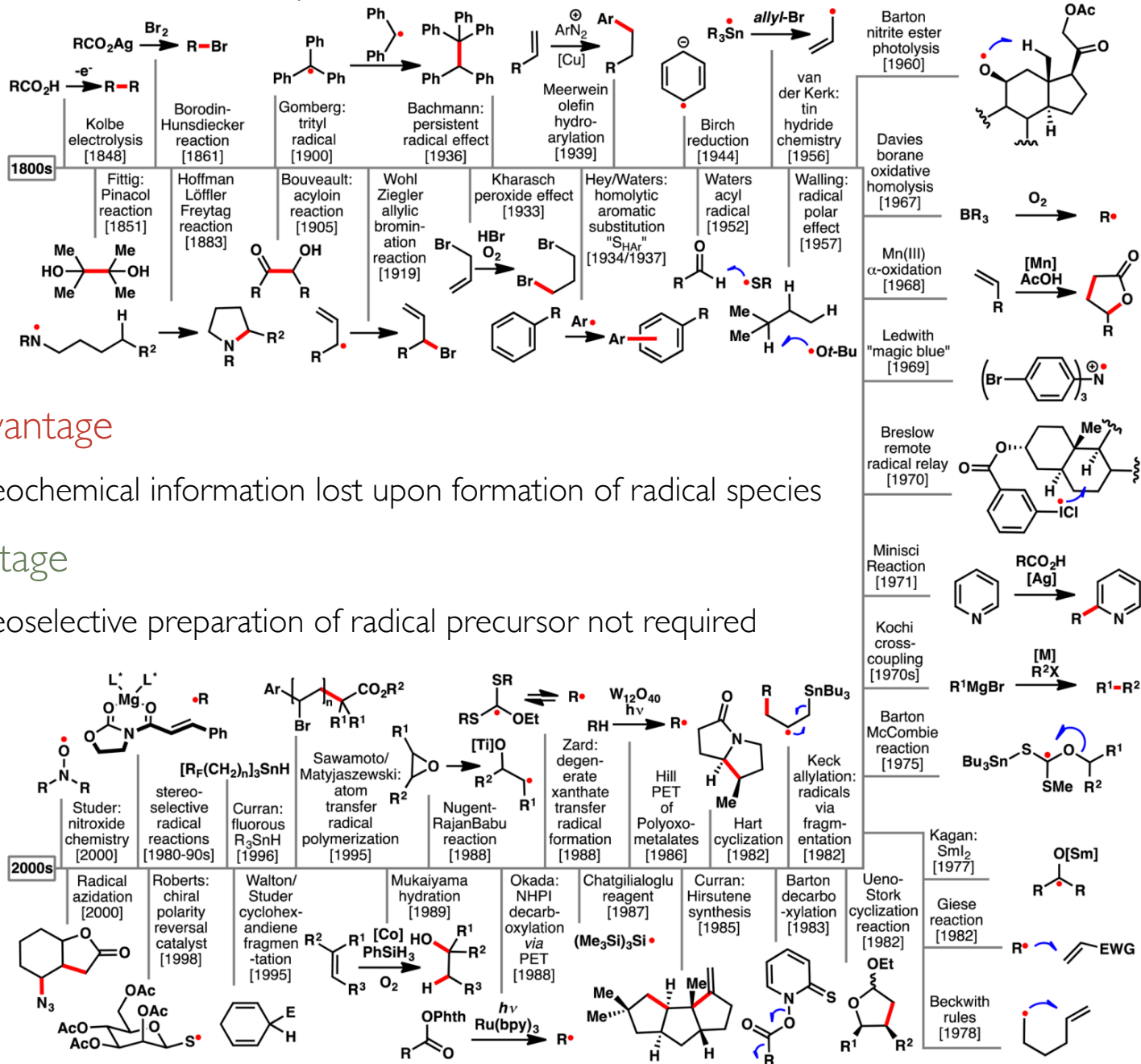
# INTRODUCTION

- Practical reactions and unique reactivities



- Natural product synthesis





## Disadvantage

- Stereochemical information lost upon formation of radical species

## Advantage

- Stereoselective preparation of radical precursor not required

- Diastereoselective reactions

- Substrate control
  - Intramolecular reactions
  - Intermolecular reactions
- Reagent control
- Chiral auxiliaries

- Enantioselective reactions

- Substrate control
  - Intramolecular reactions
  - Intermolecular reactions
- Reagent control

# DIASTEREOSELECTIVE REACTIONS



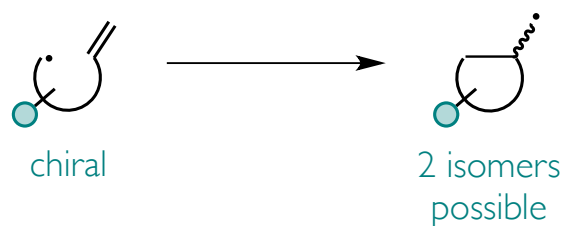
- Substrate control – Intramolecular reactions

- Achiral radicals with a prostereogenic radical or acceptor

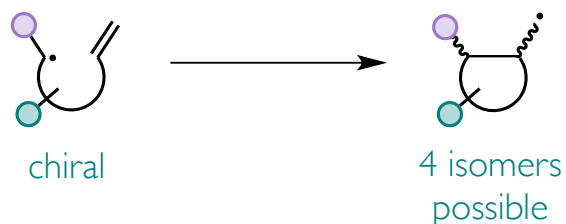


- Chiral radicals

- Prostereogenic acceptor

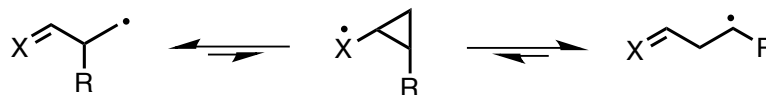


- Prostereogenic radical and acceptor

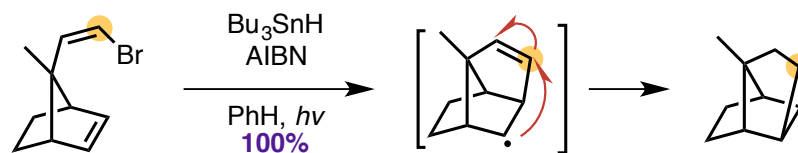


# DIASTEREOSELECTIVE REACTIONS

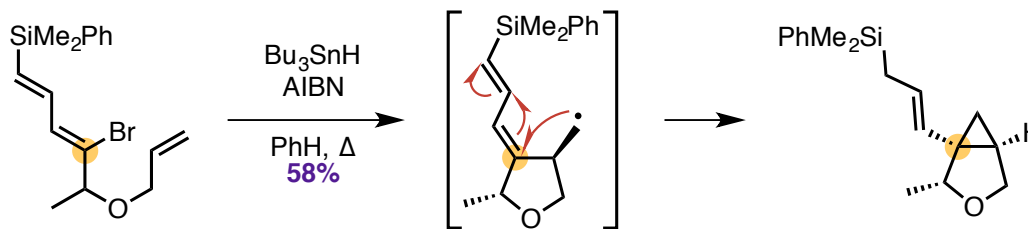
- Face selective radical cyclization to multiple bonds
  - 3-membered rings



- Ring strain into precursor



- Substitution to stabilize product
  - Radical cyclization forms ring fusion bond – predominantly *cis*

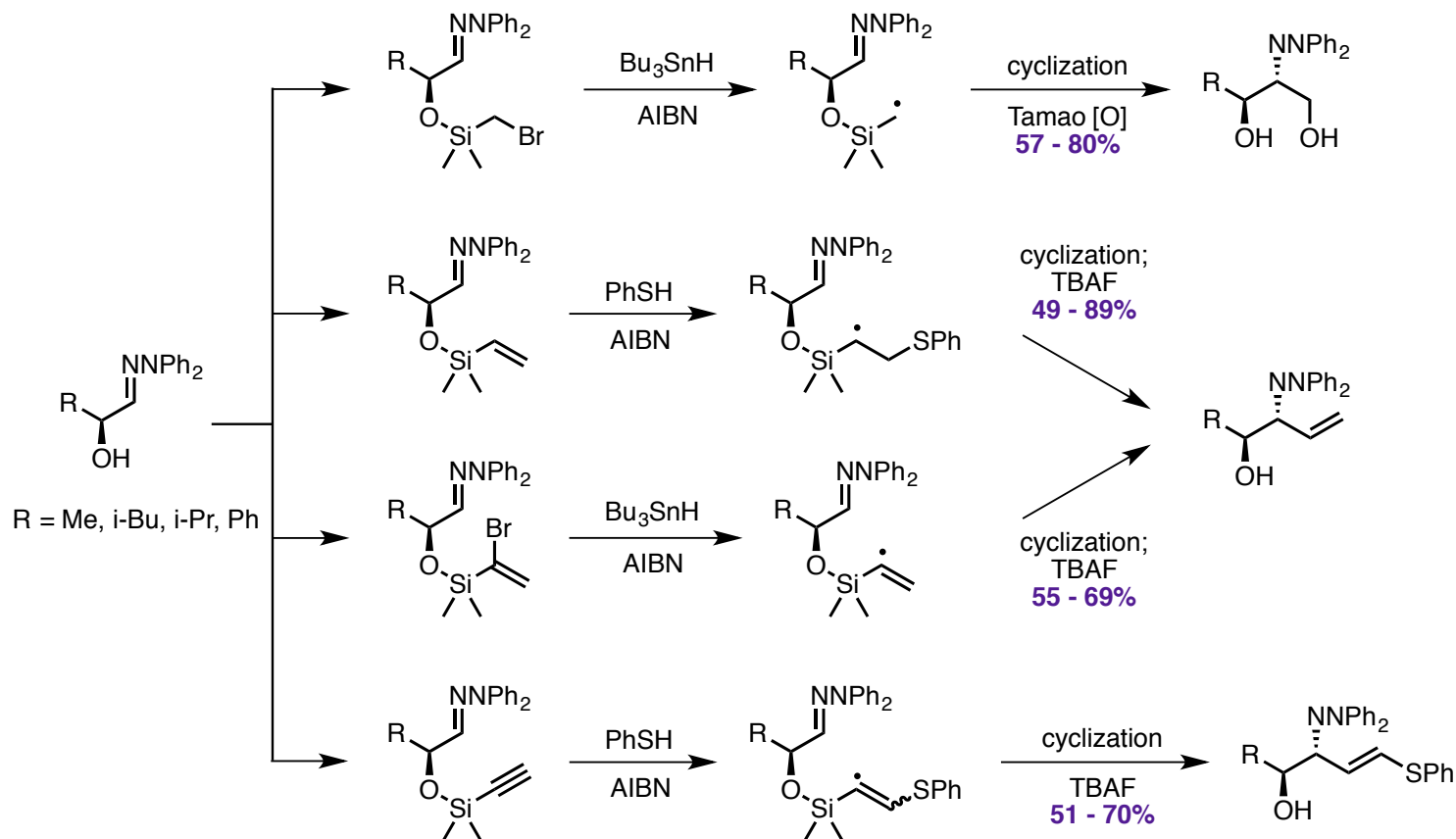




# DIASTEREOSELECTIVE REACTIONS



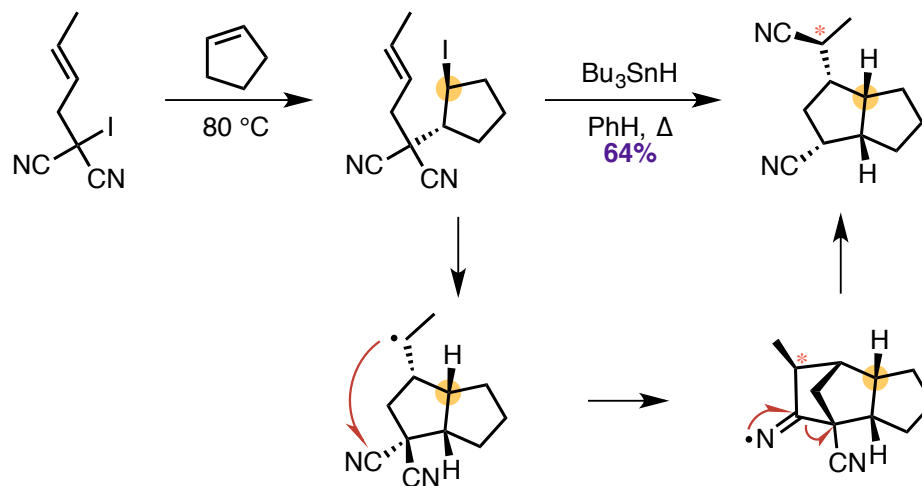
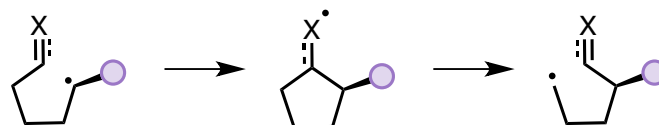
- Face selective radical cyclization to multiple bonds
  - Silicon tethered radical addition



# DIASTEREOSELECTIVE REACTIONS

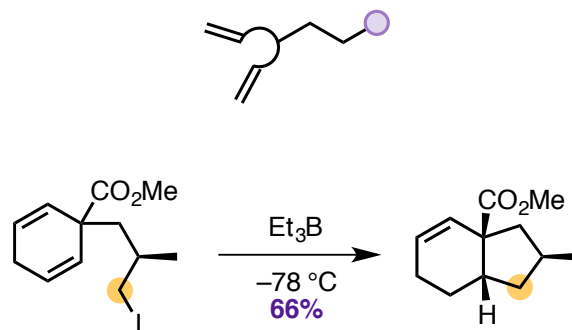
- Cyclization-fragmentation

- Use of stereoselective cyclization to indirectly control acyclic stereochemistry

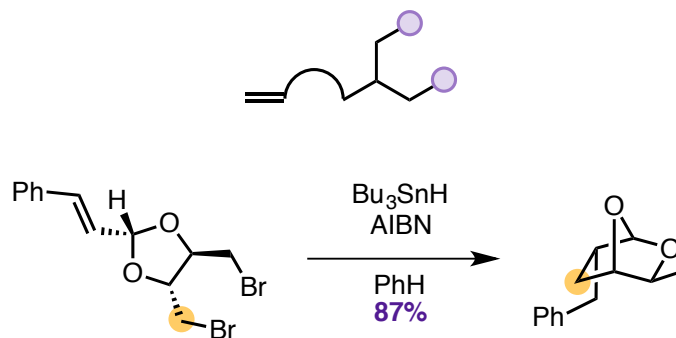


# DIASTEREOSELECTIVE REACTIONS

- Group selective cyclizations
  - One radical precursor and two diastereotopic radical acceptors



- Two diastereotopic radical precursors and one acceptor

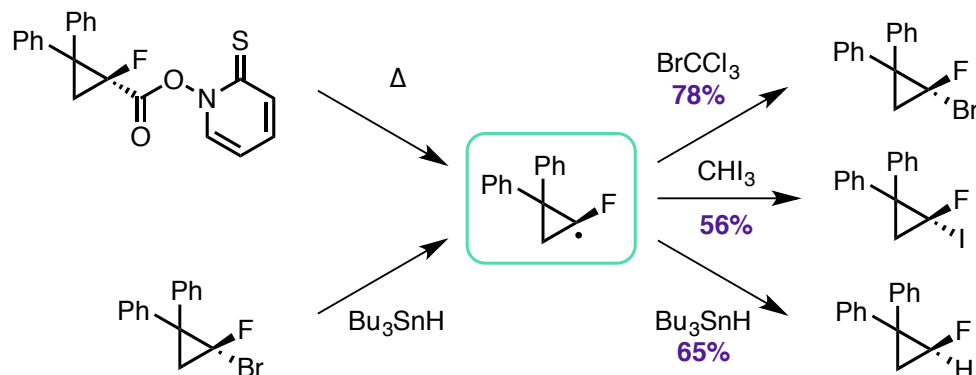


# DIASTEREOSELECTIVE REACTIONS

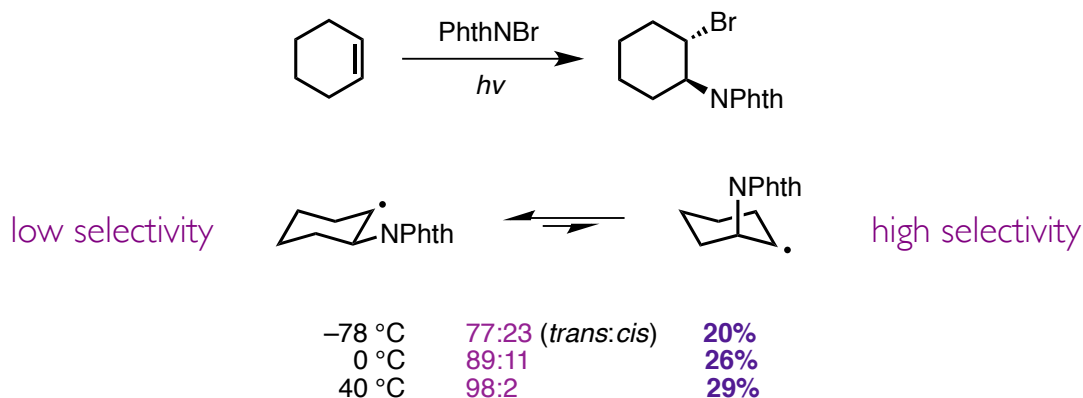
- Substrate control – Intermolecular reactions

- Cyclic radicals

- Rate of inversion



- Reactive conformer

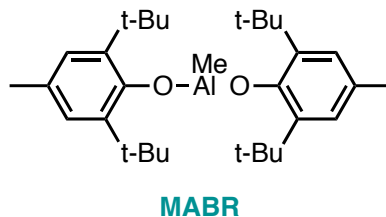
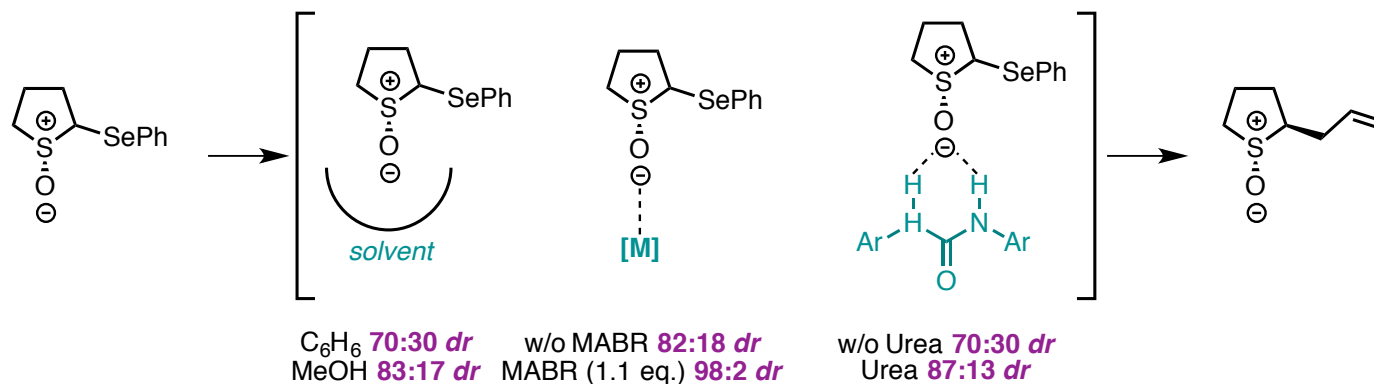


# DIASTEREOSELECTIVE REACTIONS



- Substrate control – Intermolecular reactions

- Cyclic radicals
  - Additive effects

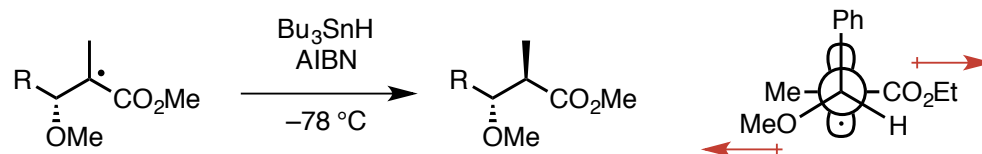


# DIASTEREOSELECTIVE REACTIONS

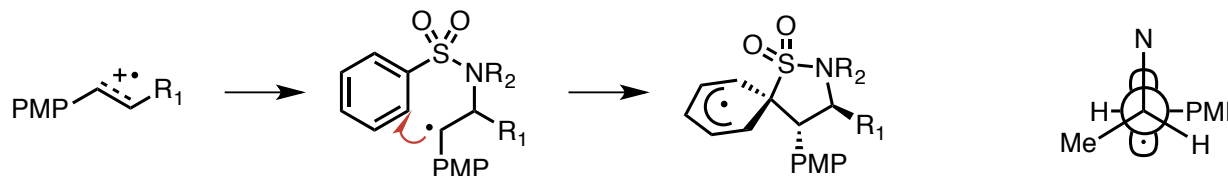
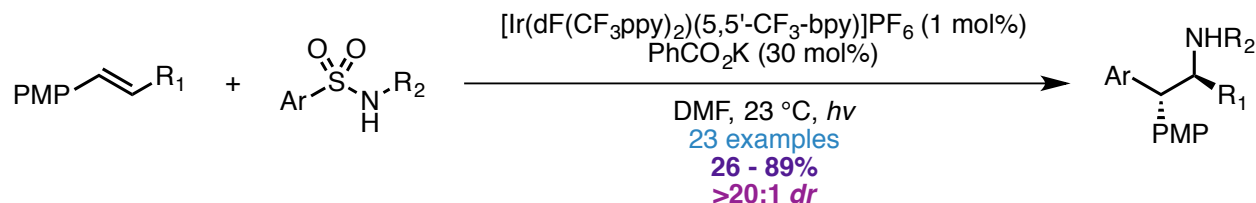


- Substrate control – Intermolecular reactions

- Acyclic radicals
  - Polar substituents

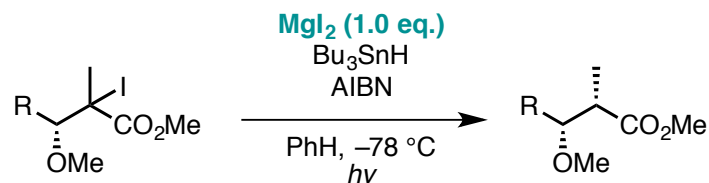


- Sterics

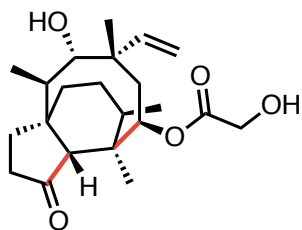


# DIASTEREOSELECTIVE REACTIONS

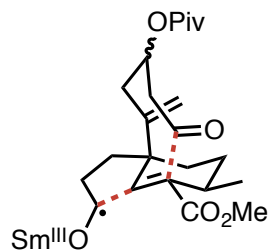
- Reagent control
  - Lewis acid additives



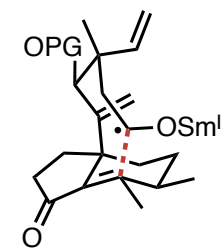
- Electron transfer reactions



(+)-pleuromutilin



*Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.*, **2009**, 48, 9315  
*Chem. Eur. J.*, **2013**, 19, 6718

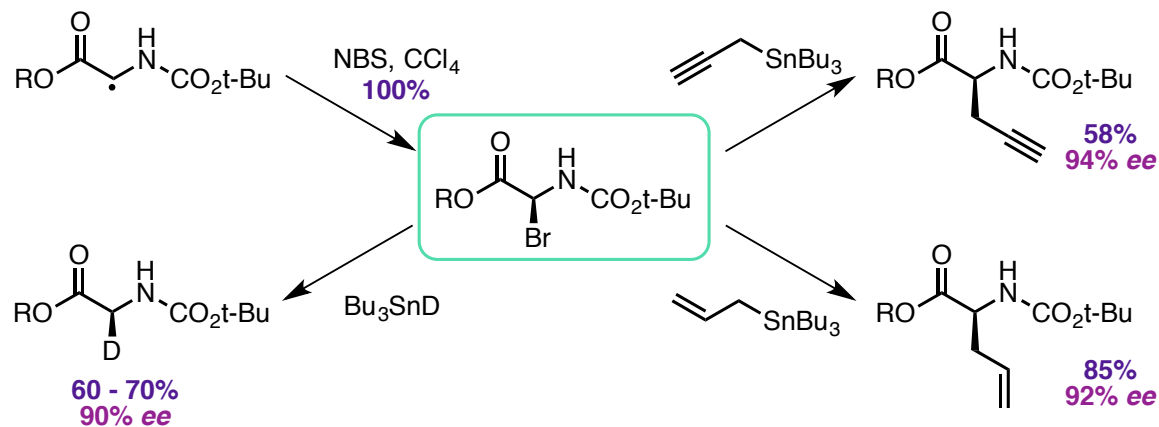
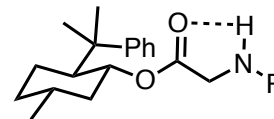


*J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **2018**, 140, 1267

# DIASTEREOSELECTIVE REACTIONS

- Chiral auxiliaries

- Ester chiral auxiliaries

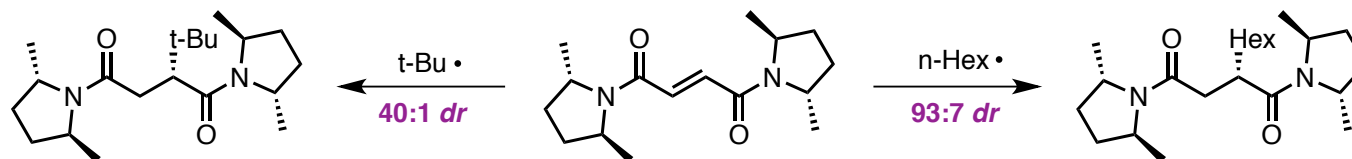
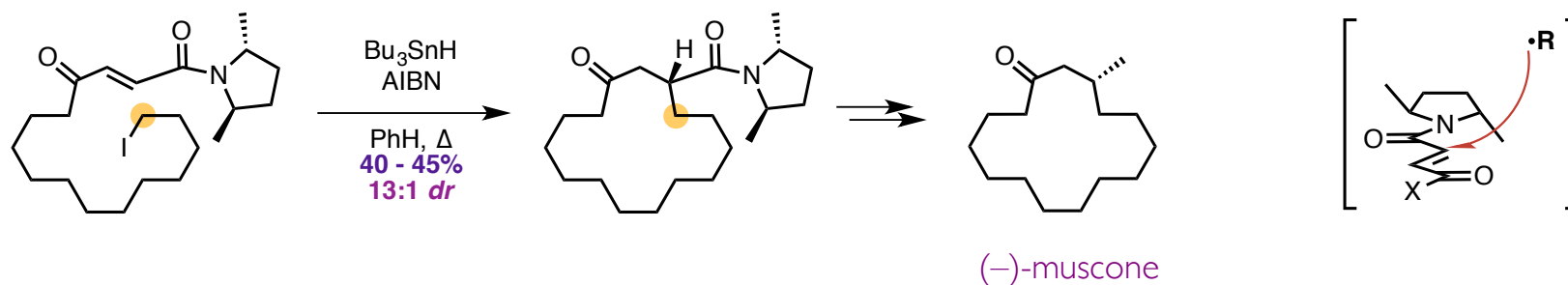


- Also used with Lewis acids: *J. Org. Chem.*, **2000**, *65*, 2208

# DIASTEREOSELECTIVE REACTIONS

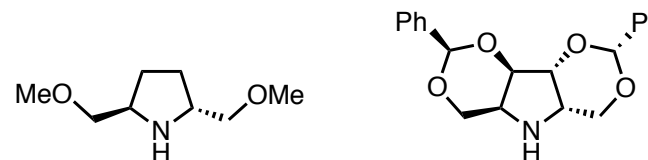
- Chiral auxiliaries

- C2 symmetry



- Disadvantages

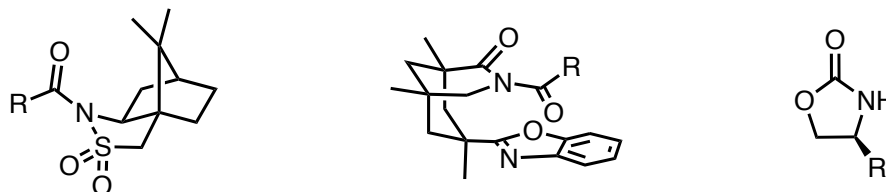
- Chiral auxiliary difficult to prepare
- Difficult to hydrolyze, especially without racemization



# DIASTEREOSELECTIVE REACTIONS

- Chiral auxiliaries

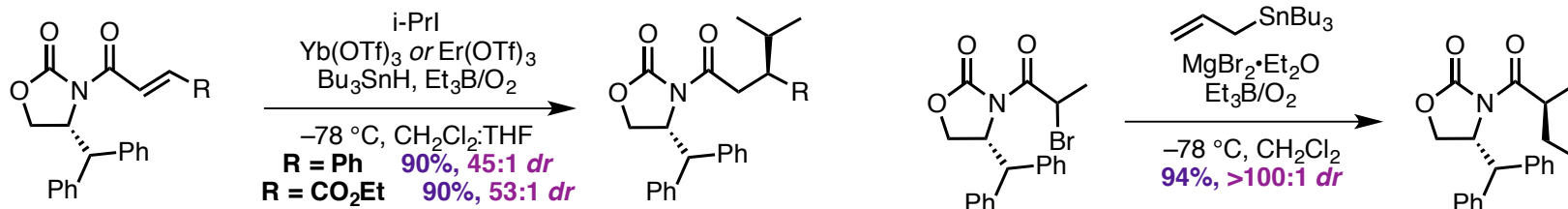
- Steric conformational control



- Oxazolidinone auxiliaries

- Lewis acid catalysis

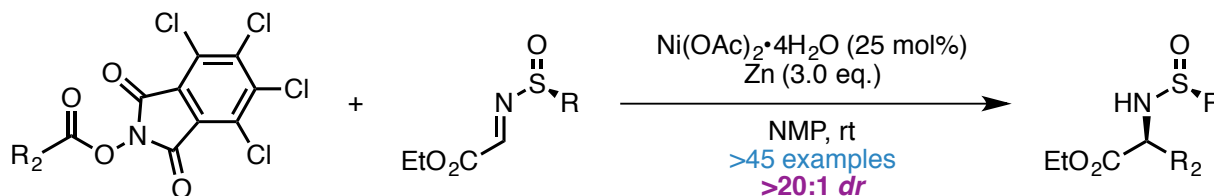
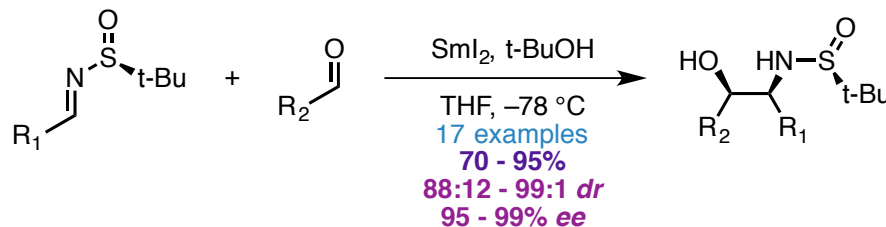
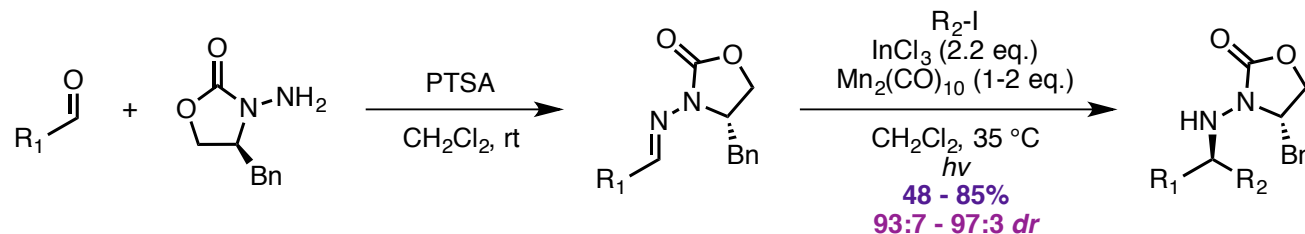
- Similar reactions: *J. Org. Chem.*, **1996**, *61*, 6090; *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **1999**, *121*, 5155; *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **2002**, *124*, 2924.



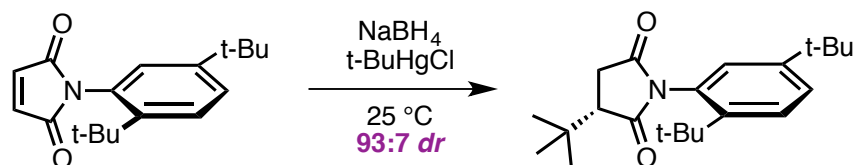
# DIASTEREOSELECTIVE REACTIONS

- Chiral auxiliaries

- Imine addition



- Restricted rotation



- Diastereoselective reactions

- Substrate control
  - Intramolecular reactions
  - Intermolecular reactions
- Reagent control
- Chiral auxiliaries

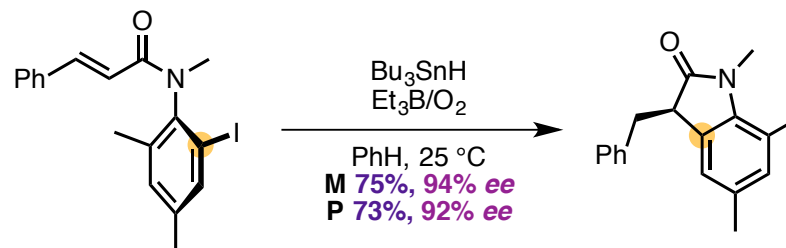
- Enantioselective reactions

- Substrate control
  - Intramolecular reactions
  - Intermolecular reactions
- Reagent control

# ENANTIOSELECTIVE REACTIONS

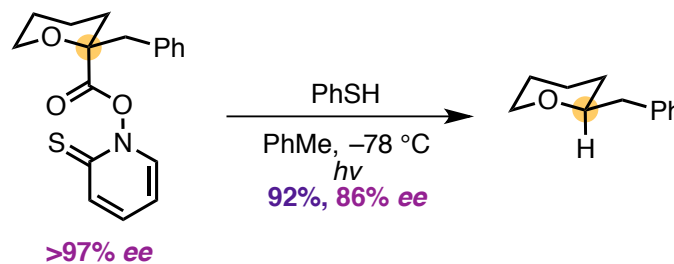
- Substrate control – Intramolecular reactions

- Restricted rotation
  - Axial chirality transferred into new stereocenter



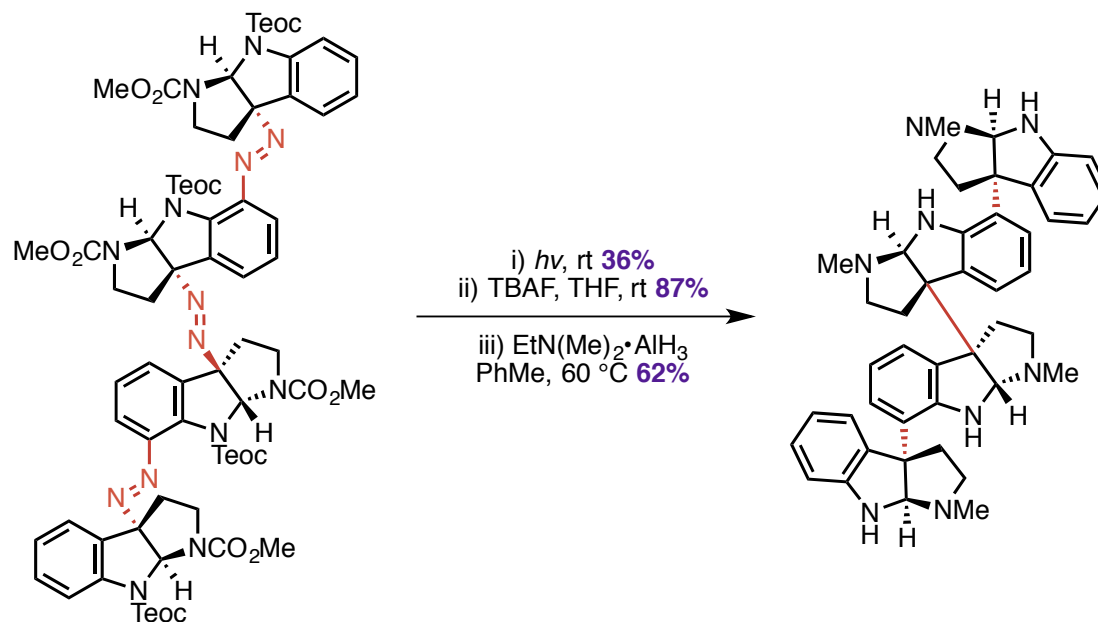
- Substrate control – Intermolecular reactions

- Memory of chirality



# ENANTIOSELECTIVE REACTIONS

- Substrate control – Intermolecular reactions
  - Radical recombination

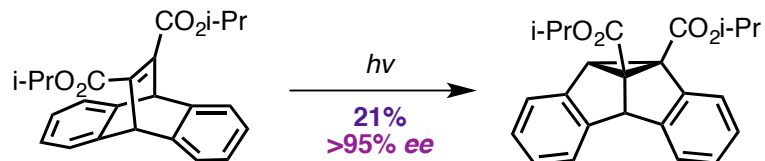


# ENANTIOSELECTIVE REACTIONS

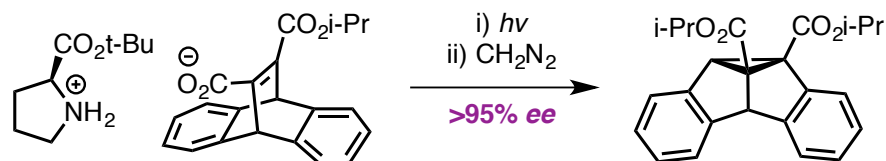
- Substrate control – Solid state

- Photochemical processes – generation of biradicals and recombination

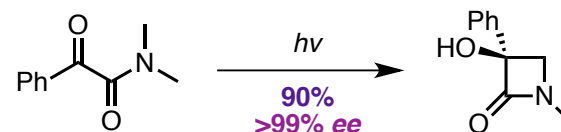
- Chiral space group



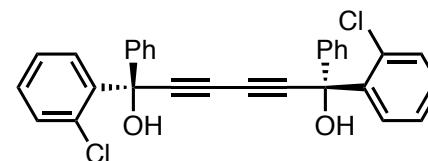
- Ionic chiral auxiliaries



- Host-guest complexes



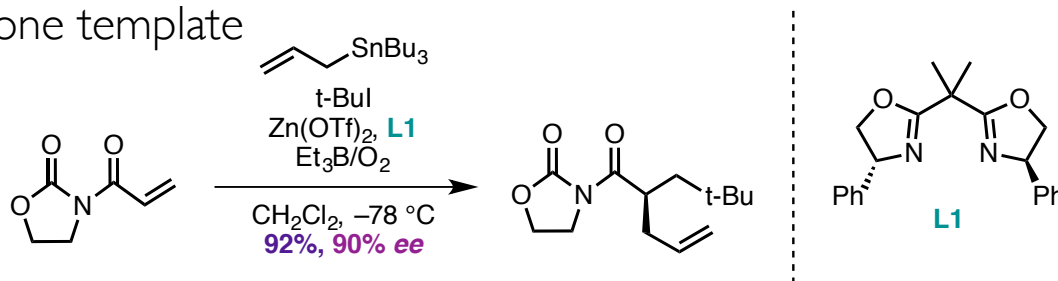
- Zeolites with chiral inductor



# ENANTIOSELECTIVE REACTIONS

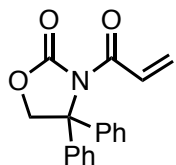
- Reagent control – Lewis Acids & chiral ligands

- Oxazolidinone template

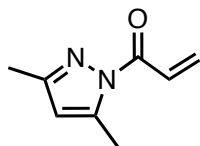


- Similar reactions: *Tetrahedron Lett.*, **1997**, 38, 2067; *J. Org. Chem.*, **1997**, 62, 3800

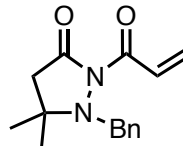
- Other templates



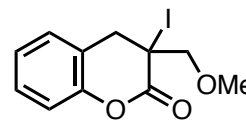
*Org. Lett.*,  
**2001**, 3, 299



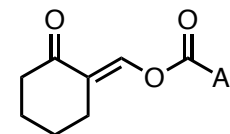
*Tetrahedron Lett.*,  
**1997**, 38, 5955



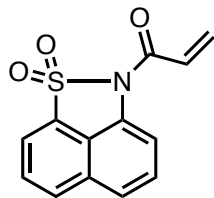
*Synlett.*,  
**2004**, 2421



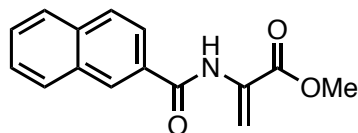
*J. Chem. Soc. Chem. Commun.*,  
**1995**, 481



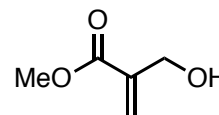
*Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.*,  
**2007**, 46, 9231



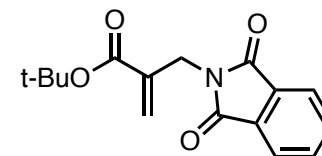
*J. Am. Chem. Soc.*,  
**2002**, 124, 984



*Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.*,  
**2001**, 40, 1293



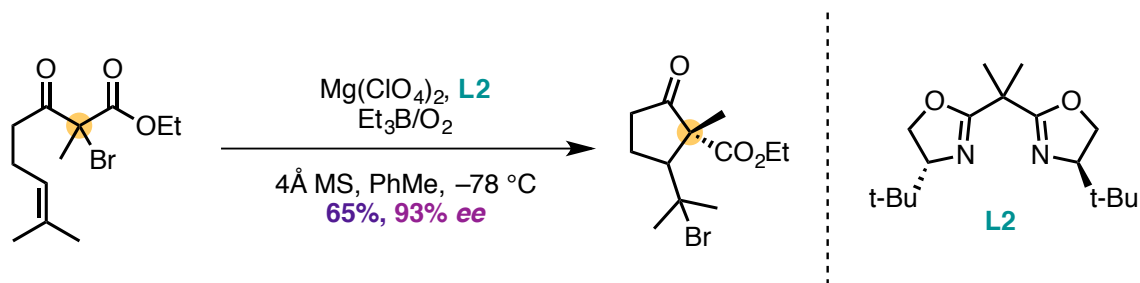
*Org. Lett.*,  
**2005**, 7, 1453



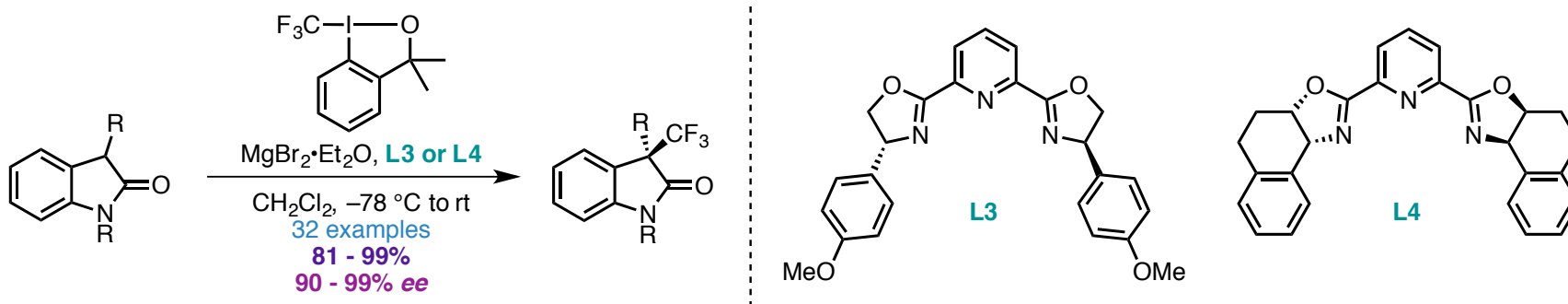
*Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.*,  
**2004**, 43, 1235

# ENANTIOSELECTIVE REACTIONS

- Reagent control – Lewis Acids & chiral ligands
  - Atom transfer radical cyclization



- Trifluoromethylation

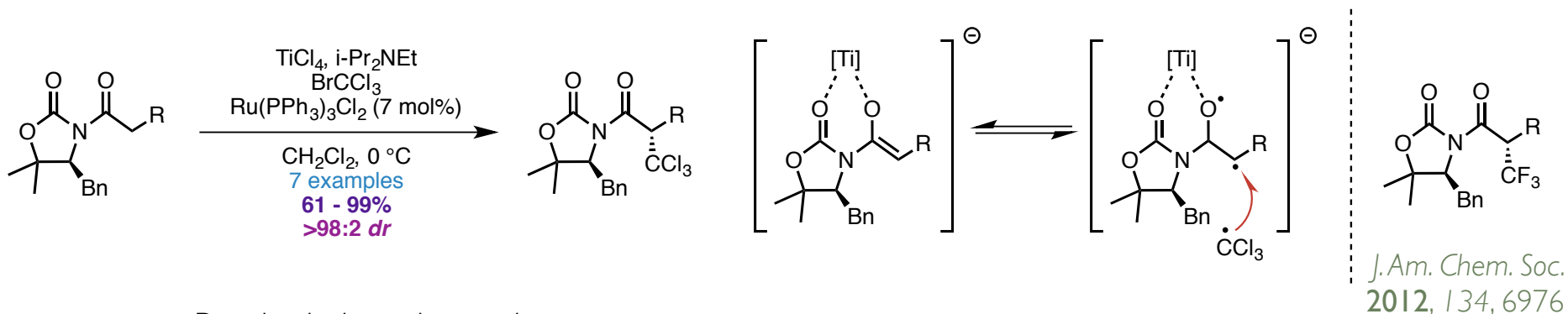


# ENANTIOSELECTIVE REACTIONS

- Reagent control – Metal & chiral ligands

- Electron transfer reactions

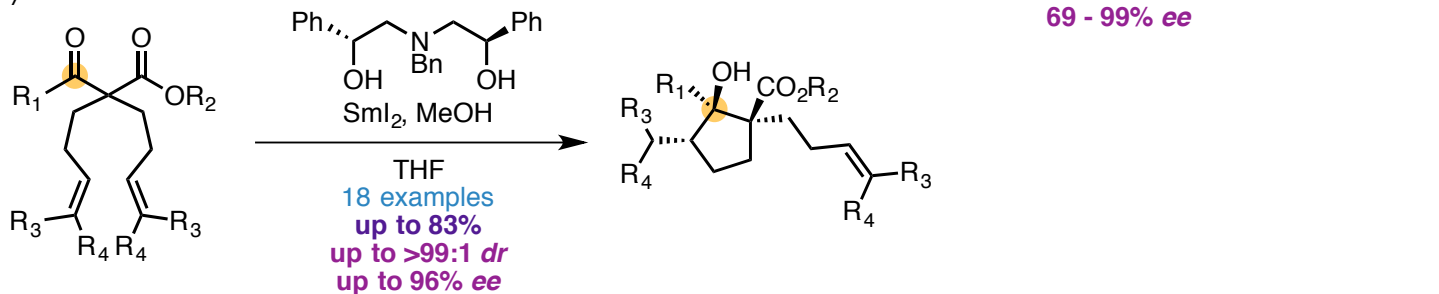
- Valence tautomerism



- Porphyrin-based complexes

- Oxidations
- Cyclopropanation

- Ketyl radicals

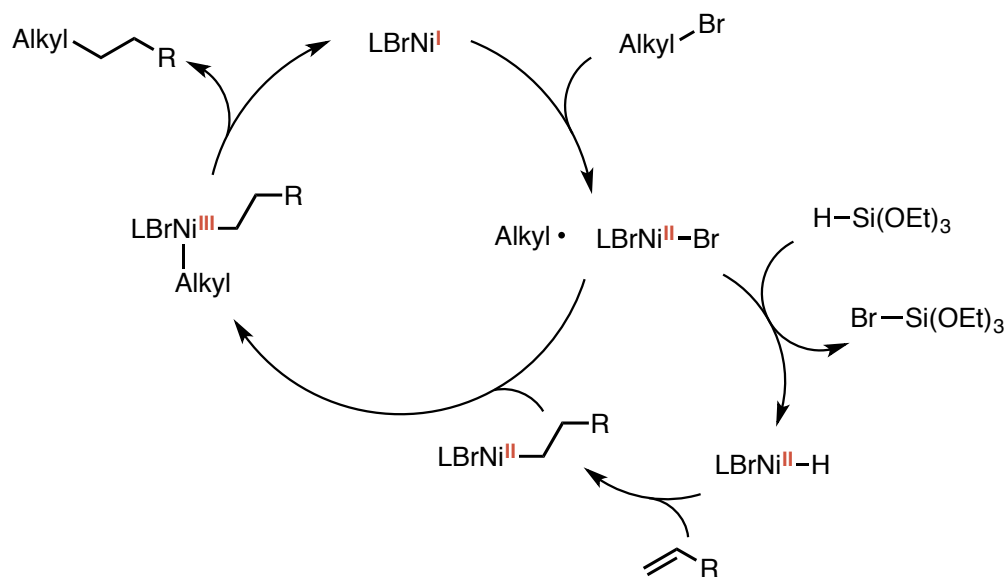
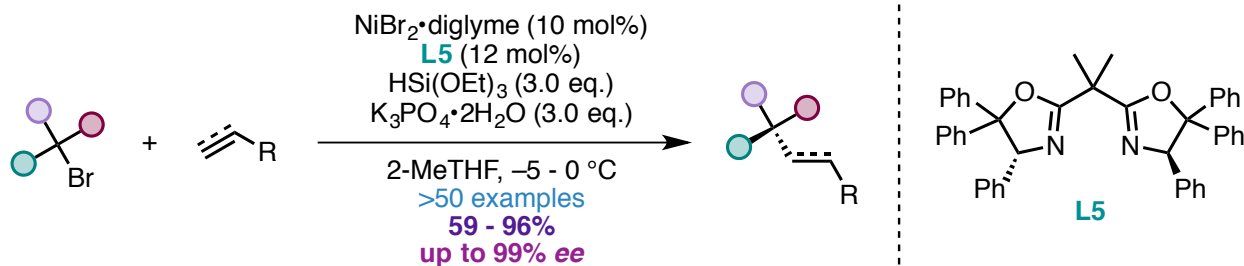


# ENANTIOSELECTIVE REACTIONS

- Reagent control – Metal & chiral ligands

- Cross coupling

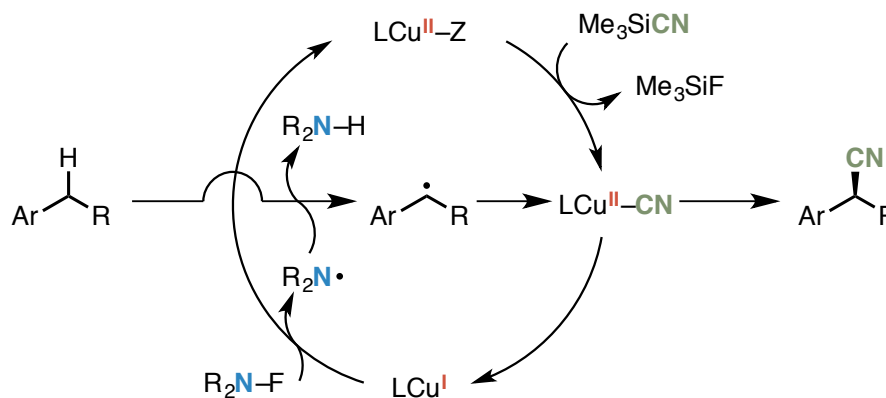
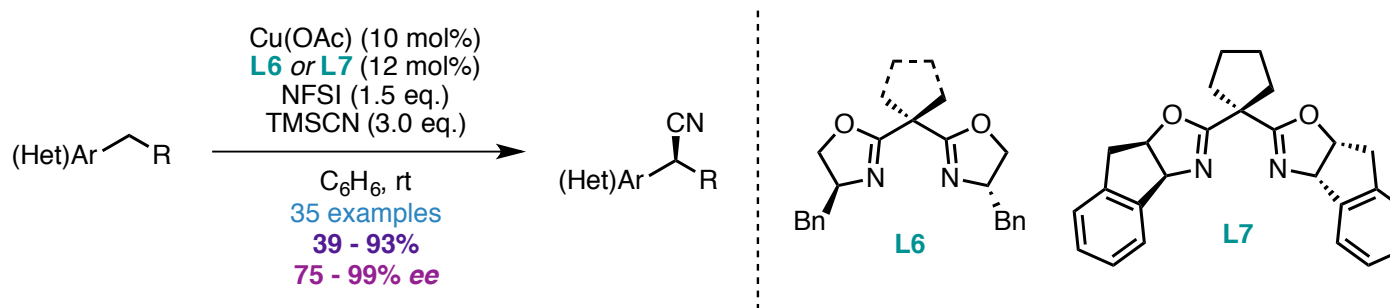
- Alkyl halides generally react with Ni(I) complexes through  $e^-$  transfer processes



# ENANTIOSELECTIVE REACTIONS



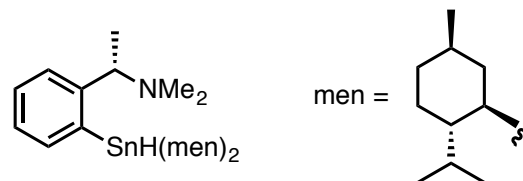
- Reagent control – Metal & chiral ligands
  - Radical relay
    - Reactive radical abstracts H atom



# ENANTIOSELECTIVE REACTIONS

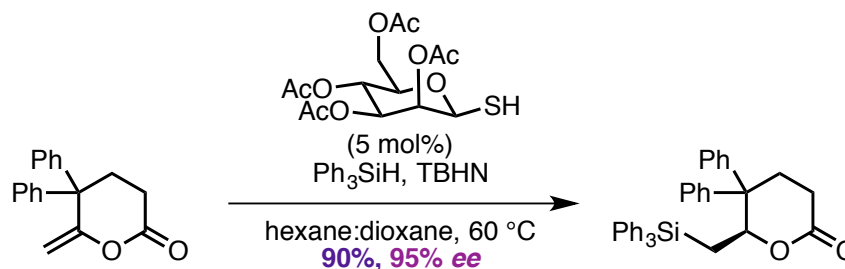
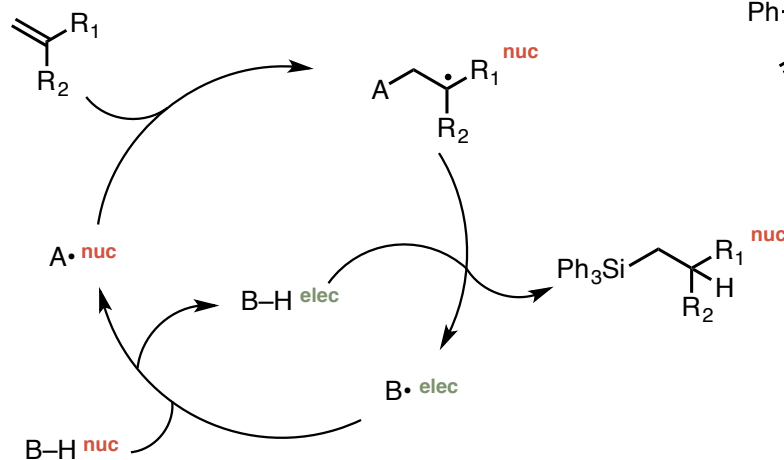
- Reagent control – Chiral reagents

- Chiral tin reagent



- Chiral thiols

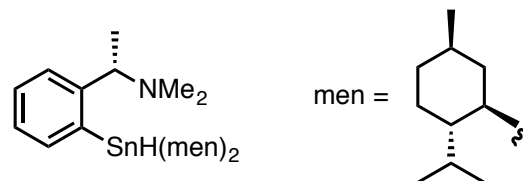
- Polarity reversal catalysis



# ENANTIOSELECTIVE REACTIONS

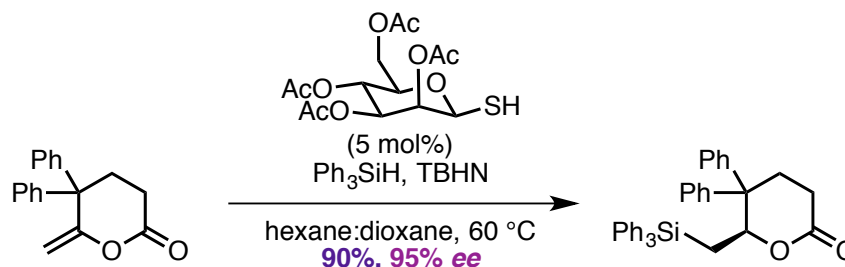
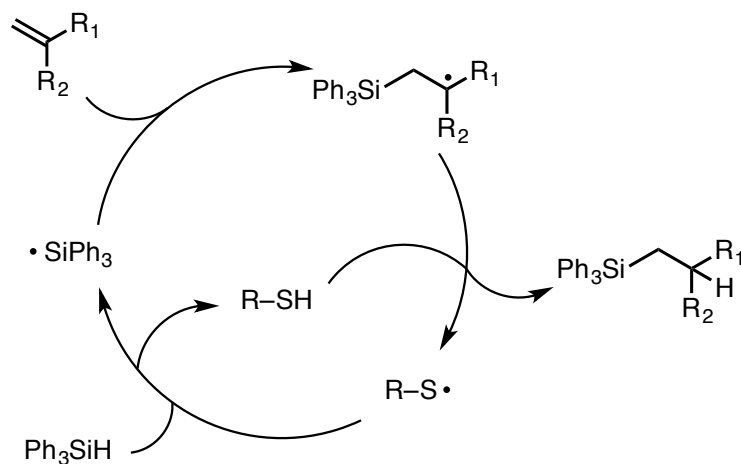
- Reagent control – Chiral reagents

- Chiral tin reagent



- Chiral thiols

- Polarity reversal catalysis

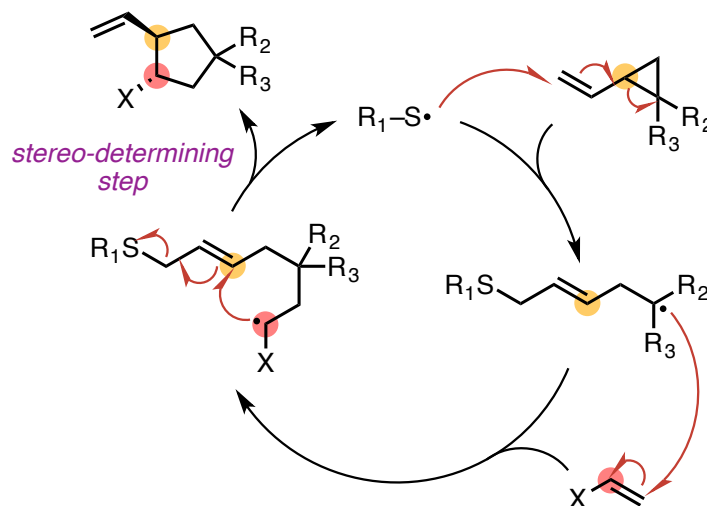
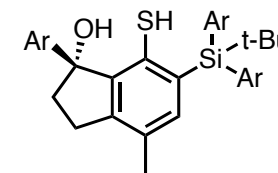
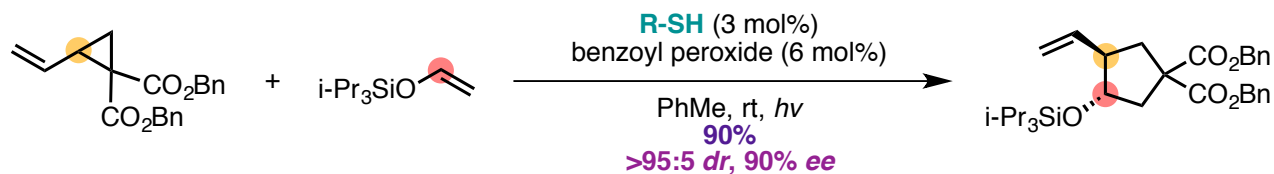


# ENANTIOSELECTIVE REACTIONS

- Reagent control – Chiral reagents

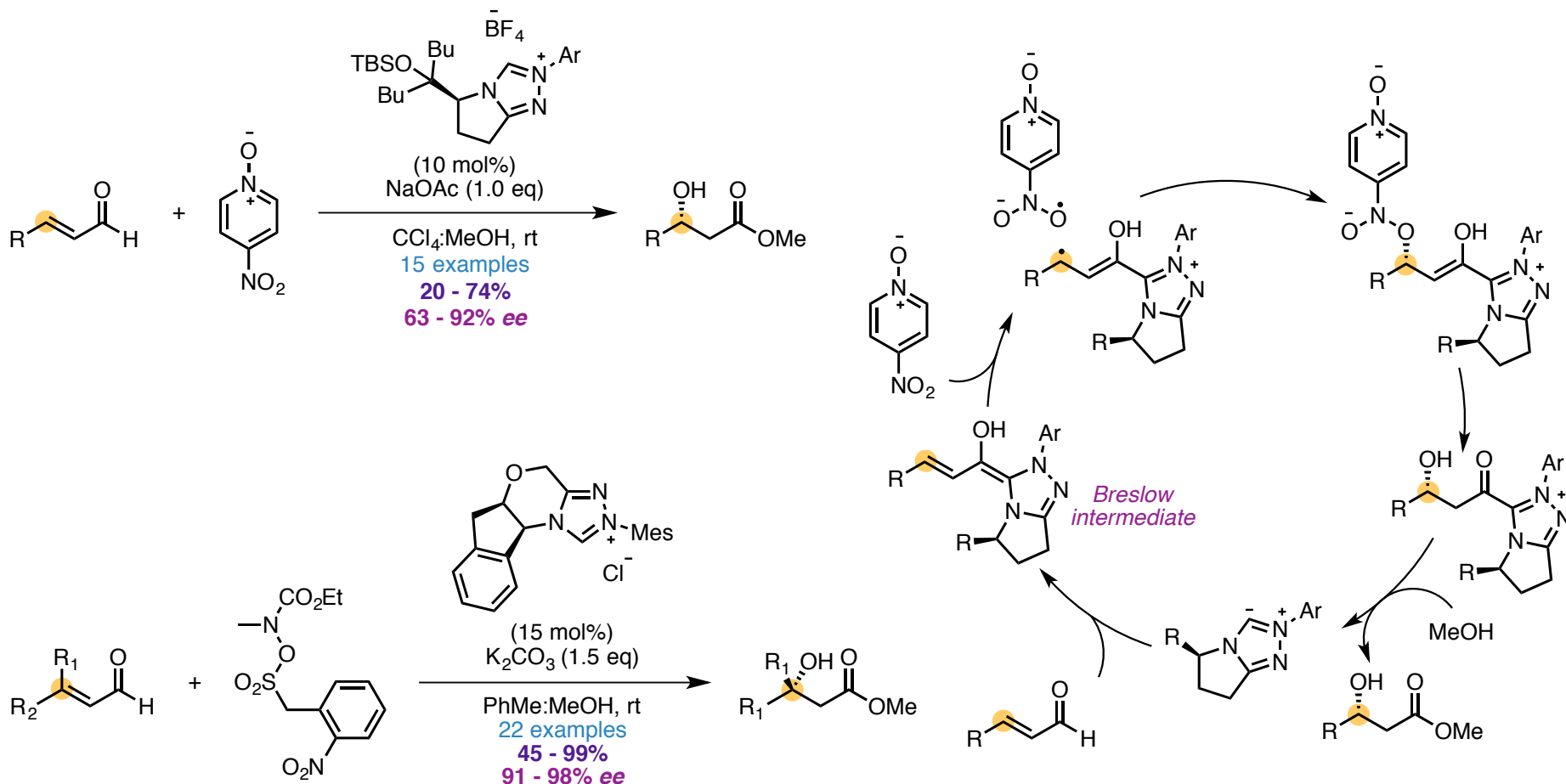
- Chiral thiols

- Addition/elimination



# ENANTIOSELECTIVE REACTIONS

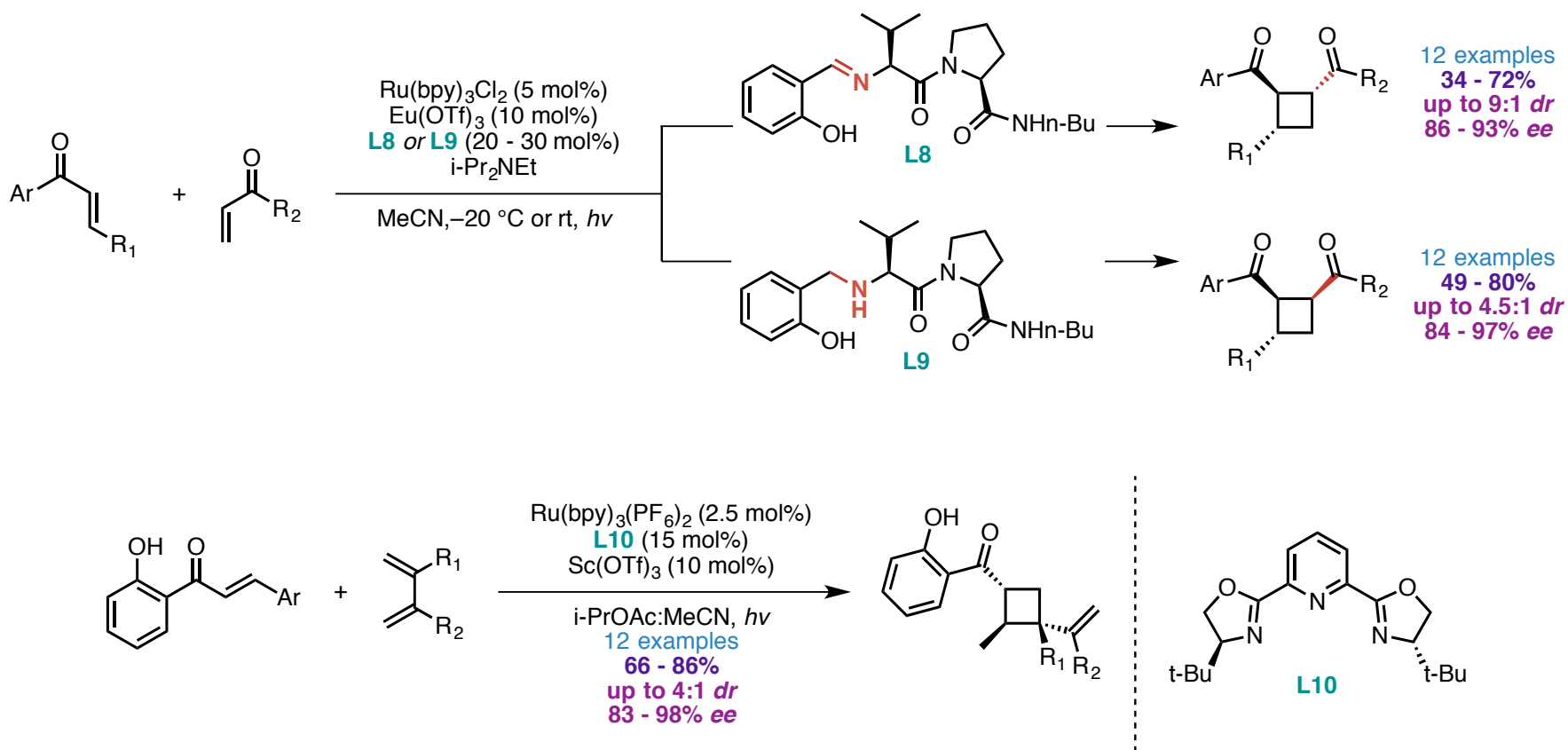
- Reagent control – NHC catalysis



- Giacomo Ciamician (1912)
  - Photochemistry of the future
  - “On the arid lands there will spring up industrial colonies without smoke and without smokestacks; forests of glass tubes will extend over the plains and glass buildings will rise everywhere; inside of these will take place the **photochemical processes** that hitherto have been the guarded secret of the plants, but that will have been mastered by human industry which will know how to make them bear even more abundant fruit than nature.”
- “...until very recently the enantioselective catalysis of photochemical reactions has – somewhat figuratively speaking – been **hidden in the dark.**”
- Circularly polarized light
- Dual catalyst strategies

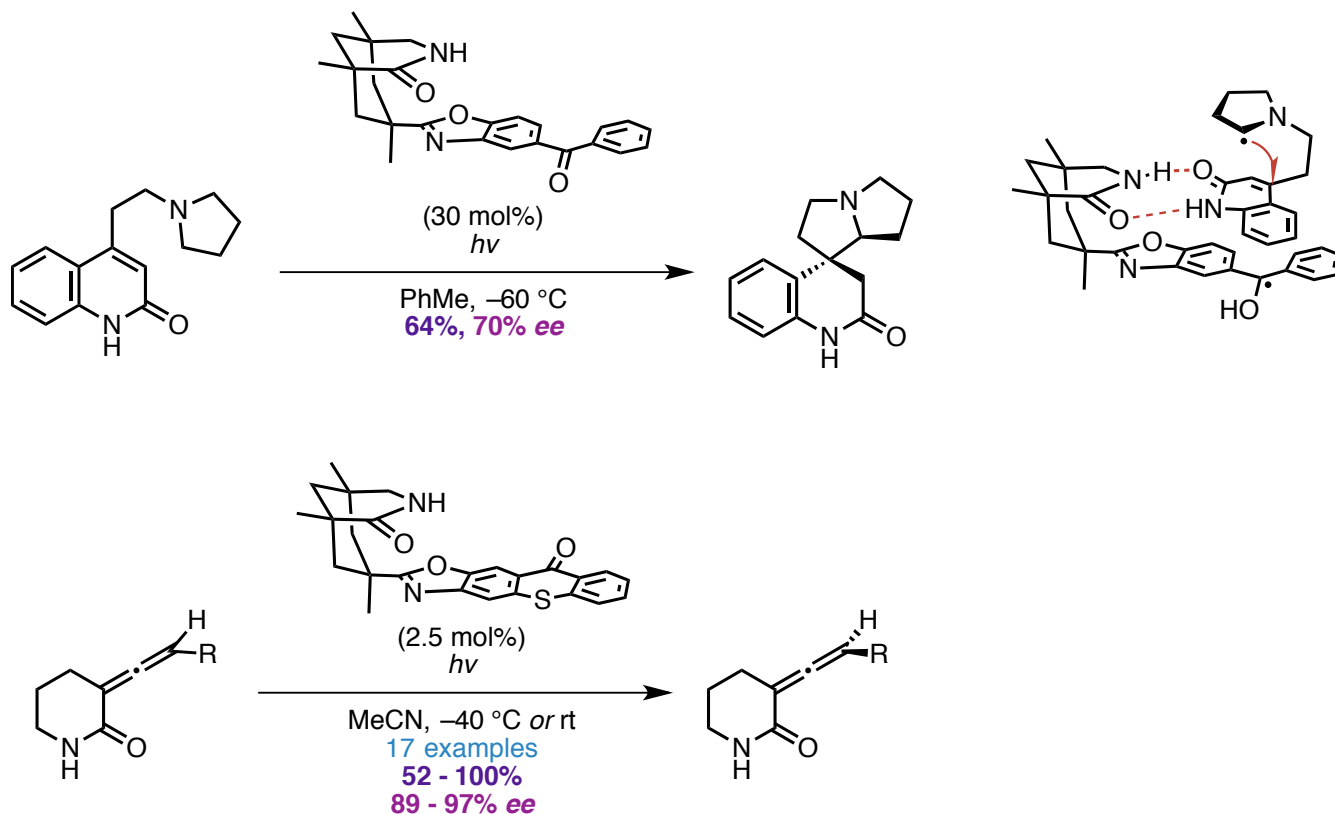
# ENANTIOSELECTIVE REACTIONS

- Reagent control – Lewis acids
  - [2+2] photocycloadditions



# ENANTIOSELECTIVE REACTIONS

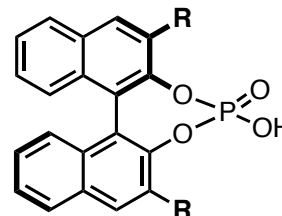
- Reagent control – H-bonding/ion pairing
  - Chiral sensitizers
    - Chiral iridium: *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **2017**, 139, 17186.



# ENANTIOSELECTIVE REACTIONS

- Reagent control – H-bonding/ion pairing

- Chiral phosphoric acids

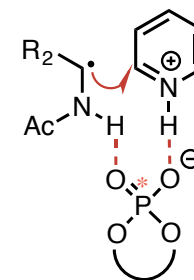
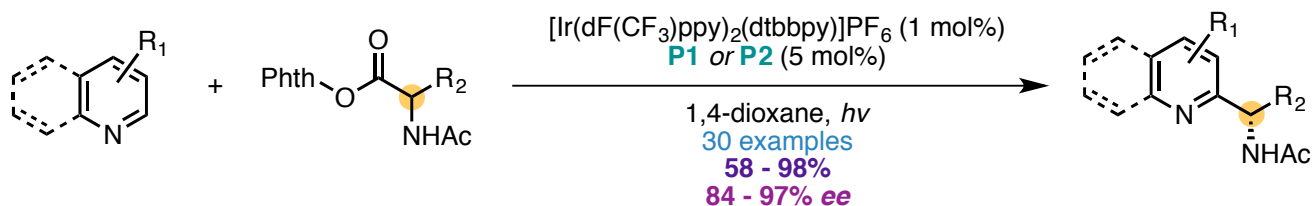


**P1** R = 2,4,6-i-Pr-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>2</sub>

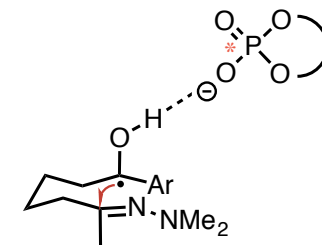
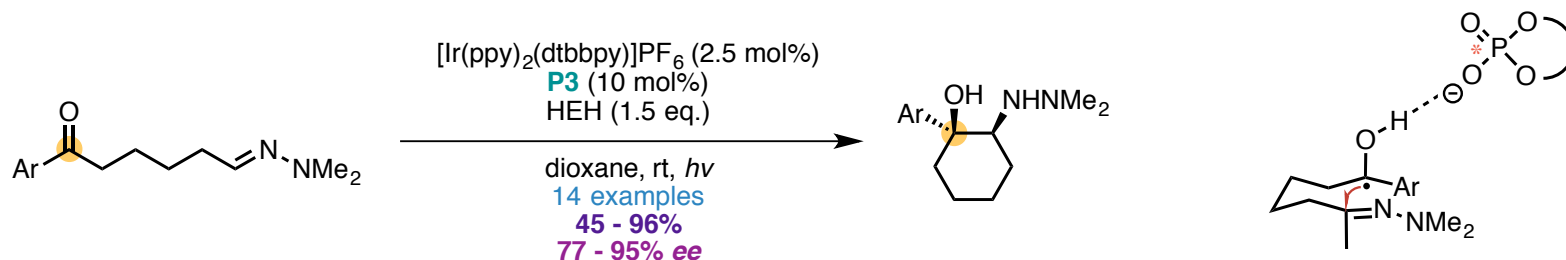
**P2** R = 2,4,6-Cy-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>2</sub>

**P3** R = SiPh<sub>3</sub>

- Minisci reaction

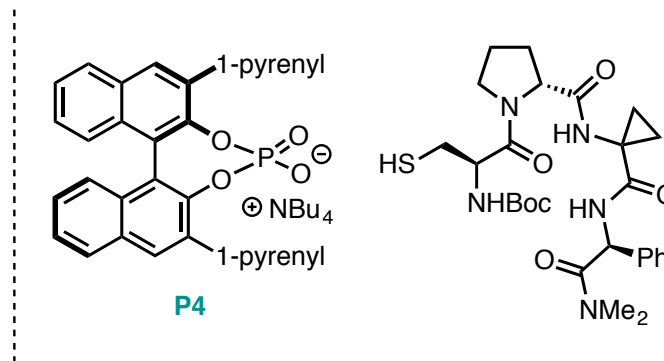
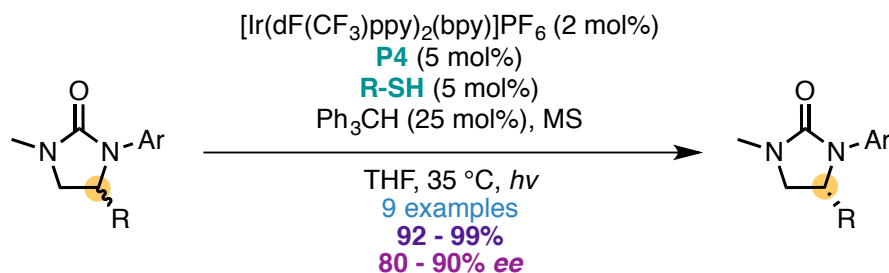


- Proton coupled electron transfer

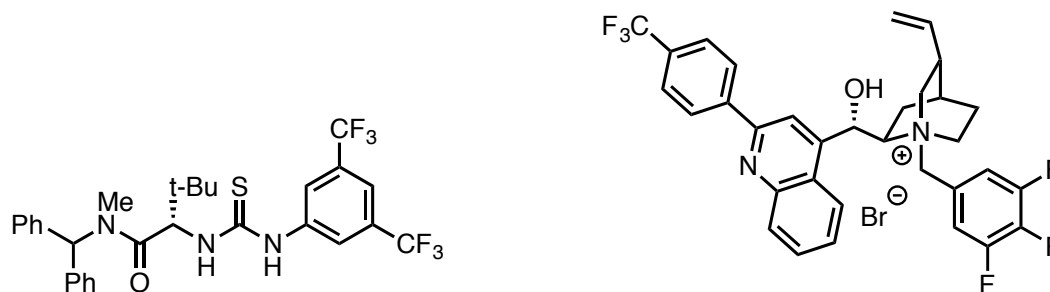


# ENANTIOSELECTIVE REACTIONS

- Reagent control – H-bonding/ion pairing
  - Chiral phosphoric acid + chiral thiol

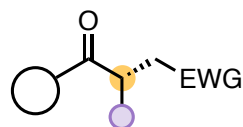
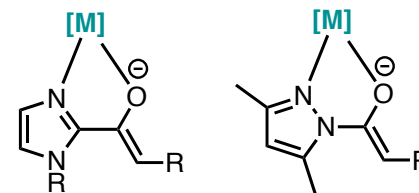
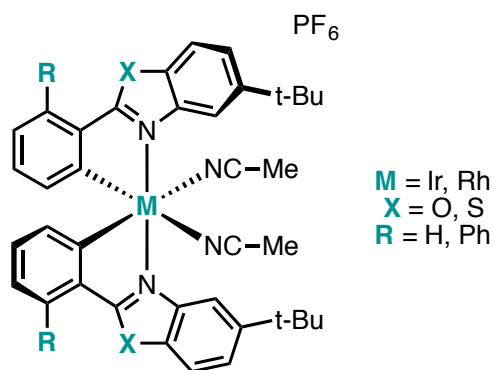


- Phase transfer catalysis
- Chiral urea

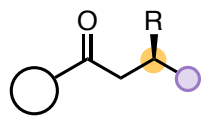


# ENANTIOSELECTIVE REACTIONS

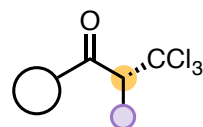
- Reagent control – Chiral photocatalysts



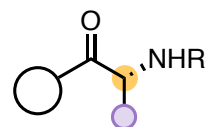
*Nature* 2014, 515, 100  
*JACS* 2016, 138, 12636



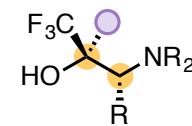
*JACS* 2016, 138, 6936



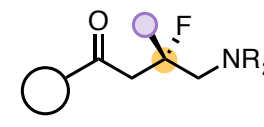
*JACS* 2015, 137, 9551



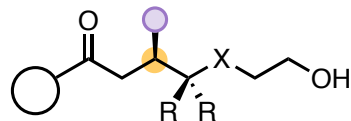
*JACS* 2016, 138, 12636



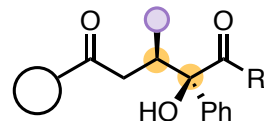
*ACIE* 2016, 55, 685



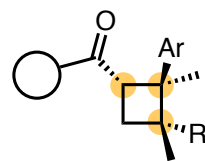
*ACIE* 2018, 57, 11193



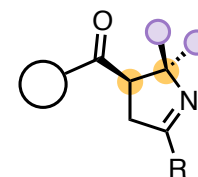
*ACIE* 2016, 55, 13495



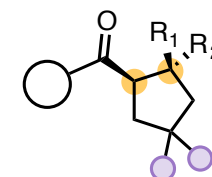
*JACS* 2017, 139, 17245



*JACS* 2017, 139, 9120



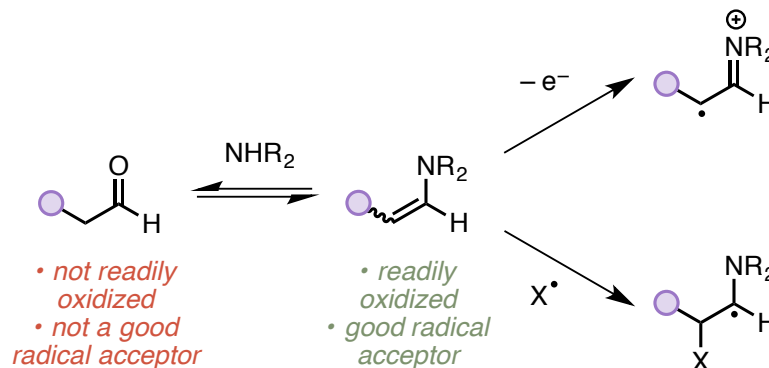
*Nat Commun* 2017, 8, 2245



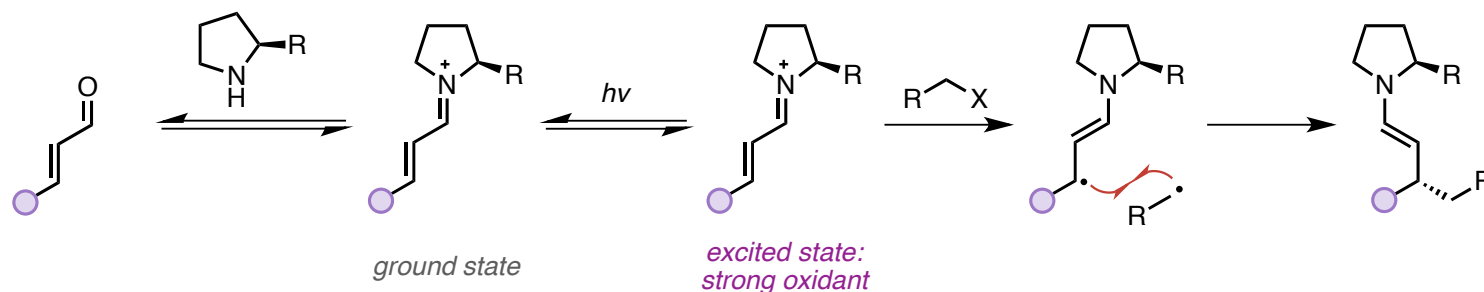
*ACIE* 2018, 57, 5454

# ENANTIOSELECTIVE REACTIONS

- Reagent control – Enamine and iminium ion catalysis
  - Enamine catalysis

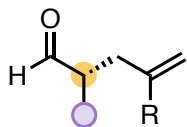


- Iminium ion catalysis

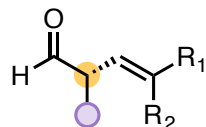


# ENANTIOSELECTIVE REACTIONS

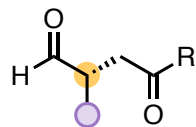
## • Reagent control – Enamine catalysis



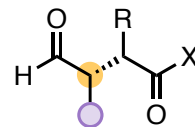
*Science* **2007**, 316, 582



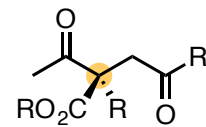
*JACS* **2008**, 130, 398



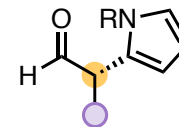
*JACS* **2007**, 129, 7004



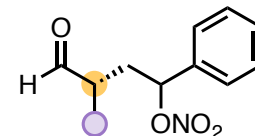
*Science* **2008**, 322, 77



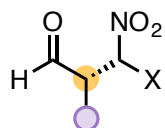
*JACS* **2014**, 136, 14642



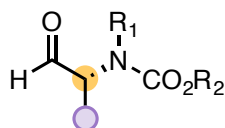
*Science* **2007**, 316, 582



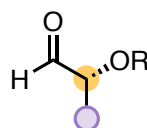
*JACS* **2008**, 130, 16494



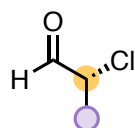
*JACS* **2009**, 131, 11332



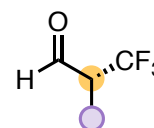
*JACS* **2013**, 135, 11521



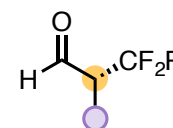
*JACS* **2007**, 129, 4124  
*Chem Sci* **2012**, 3, 58



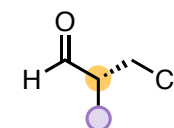
*ACIE* **2009**, 48, 5121



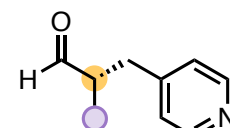
*JACS* **2009**, 131, 10875  
*JACS* **2010**, 132, 4986



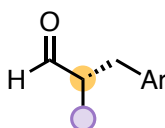
*JACS* **2009**, 131, 10875



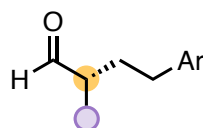
*ACIE* **2015**, 54, 1



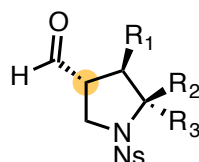
*JACS* **2018**, 140, 3322



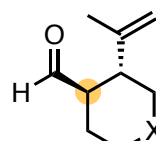
*JACS* **2010**, 132, 13600



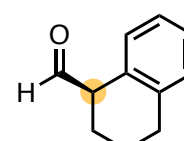
*Nat Chem* **2017**, 9, 1073



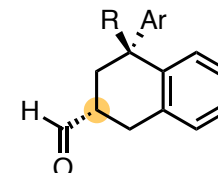
*JACS* **2012**, 134, 11400



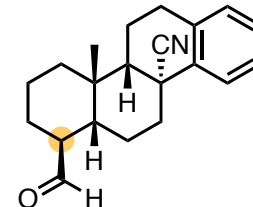
*Chem Sci* **2011**, 2, 1470  
*JACS* **2013**, 135, 9358



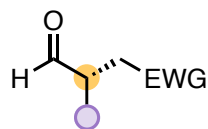
*JACS* **2009**, 131, 11640



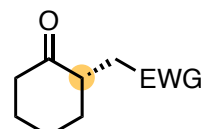
*JACS* **2010**, 132, 10015



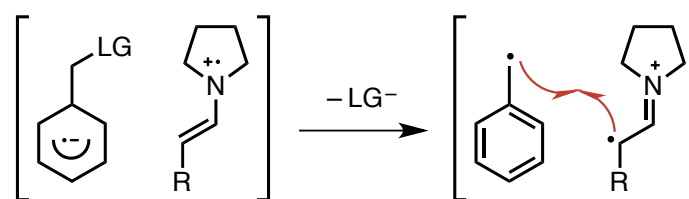
*JACS* **2010**, 132, 5027



*Nat Chem* **2013**, 5, 750  
*ACIE* **2017**, 56, 4447



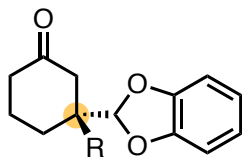
*Chem Sci* **2014**, 5, 2438



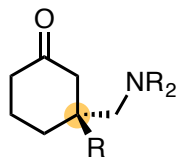
# ENANTIOSELECTIVE REACTIONS



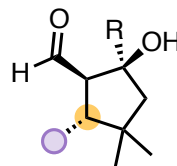
- Reagent control – Iminium ion catalysis



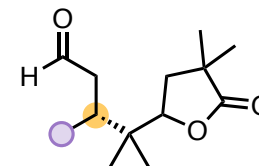
*Nature* **2016**, 532, 218



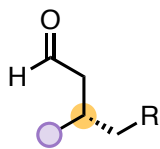
*Nature* **2016**, 532, 218  
*Nat. Commun.* **2018**, 9, 3274



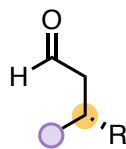
*ACIE* **2018**, 57, 1068



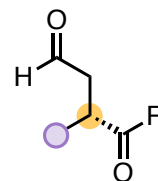
*ACIE* **2018**, 57, 12819



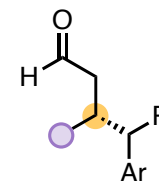
*Nat. Chem.* **2017**, 9, 868



*ACS Catal.* **2018**, 8, 1062



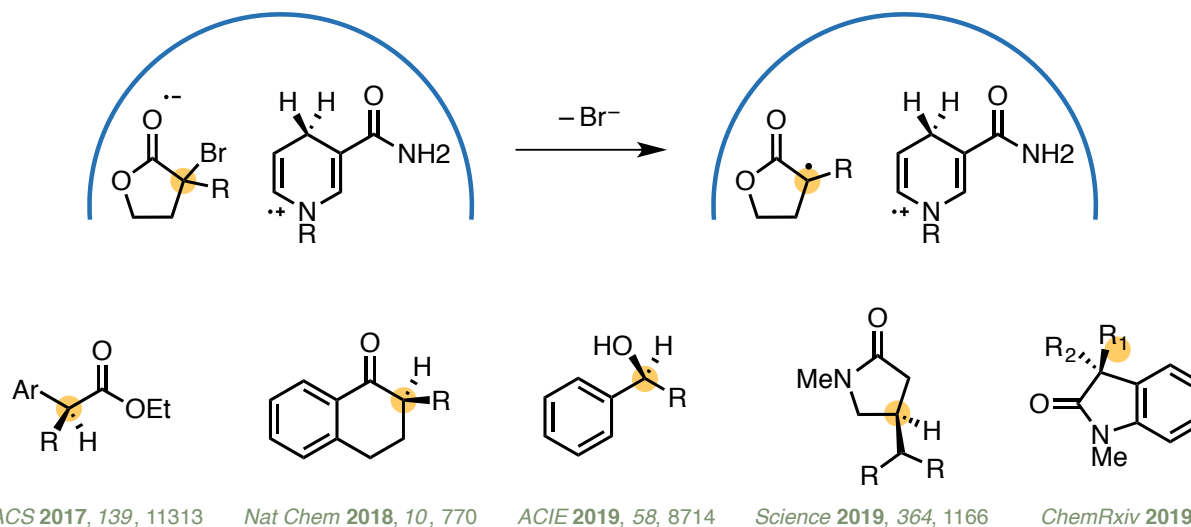
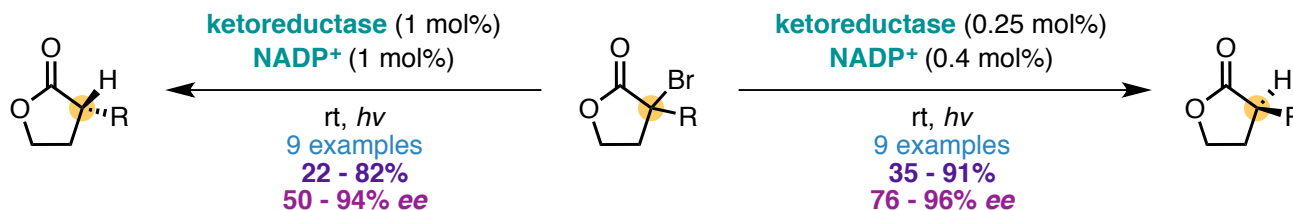
*ACIE* **2019**, 58, 1213



*JACS* **2018**, 140, 8439

# ENANTIOSELECTIVE REACTIONS

- Reagent control – Redox active cofactors
  - Molecules that assist enzyme mediated catalysis
  - Enzymes with photoactive cofactors – adapted to generate radical intermediates



*Reactions are ever so quizzical,  
Some gentle some wild, some hysterical;  
But the good ones I've seen  
So seldom are clean,  
And the clean ones so seldom are radical*

## General

- An Instance of Trivalent Carbon: Triphenylmethyl  
*J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1990**, *22*, 757
- Basic Principles of Reactivity in Free Radical Chemistry  
*Free Rad. Res. Comms.* **1987**, *2*, 197
- The history and modern problems of free radical chemistry. 100 years of free radical chemistry  
*Designed Monomers and Polymers* **2001**, *4*, 281
- Radicals in Synthesis I: Methods and Mechanisms  
Andreas Gansäuer, 2006
- Radicals in Synthesis II: Complex Molecules  
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- Radicals in Synthesis III: Methods and Mechanisms  
Andreas Gansäuer, Markus Heinrich, 2012
- Radicals in Organic Synthesis  
Philippe Renaud, Mukund P. Sibi, 2001
- Some properties of radical reactions important in synthesis  
*Tetrahedron* **1985**, *41*, 3887
- Radicals in organic synthesis: Part 1  
*Tetrahedron* **2009**, *65*, 8603
- Radicals in organic synthesis: Part 2  
*Tetrahedron* **2010**, *66*, 1593
- Radicals: Reactive Intermediates with Translational Potential  
*J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2016**, *138*, 12692
- Radicals in Action: A Festival of Radical Transformations  
*J. Org. Chem.* **2017**, *82*, 2805  
*Org. Lett.* **2017**, *19*, 1257

## Asymmetric radical reactions

- Stereochemistry of Radical Reactions  
Dennis P. Curran, Ned A. Porter, Bernd Giese, 1995
- Enantioselective Free Radical Reactions  
*Acc. Chem. Res.* **1999**, *32*, 163
- Enantioselective Radical Processes  
*Chem. Rev.* **2003**, *103*, 3263
- Acyclic stereochemical control in free-radical reactions  
*Acc. Chem. Res.* **1991**, *24*, 296
- Acyclic Diastereofacial Selection in Intermolecular Radical Reactions: Steric vs Electronic Controls  
*Synlett* **1994**, 1
- Stereoselective radical reactions  
*Chem. Soc. Rev.* **2003**, *32*, 251
- Organocatalytic Enantioselective Photoreactions  
*Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2006**, *45*, 2168

- Enantioselective organocatalysis using SOMO activation  
*New. J. Chem.* **2016**, *40*, 4855
- Chirality Control in Photochemical Reactions: Enantioselective Formation of Complex Photoproducts in Solution  
*Aust. J. Chem.* **2008**, *61*, 557
- Enhancing the potential of enantioselective organocatalysis with light  
*Nature* **2018**, *554*, 41
- Enantioselective Catalysis of Photochemical Reactions  
*Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2015**, *54*, 3872
- Light on chirality  
*Nature* **2005**, *436*, 1099
- Asymmetric catalysis activated by visible light  
*Chem. Commun.* **2015**, *51*, 3290

## Types of radicals/reactions

- Use of Lewis Acids in Free Radical Reactions  
*Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **1998**, *37*, 2562
- Free radical cyclizations involving nitrogen  
*Tetrahedron* **1997**, *53*, 17543
- Reagent-Controlled Transition-Metal-Catalyzed Radical Reactions  
*Chem. Rev.* **2000**, *120*, 2771
- Catalysis of Radical Reactions: A Radical Chemistry Perspective  
*Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2016**, *55*, 58
- Thiyl Radicals: From Simple Radical Additions to Asymmetric Catalysis  
*Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2014**, *53*, 13660
- Copper-Catalyzed Radical Relay for Asymmetric Radical Transformations  
*Acc. Chem. Res.* **2018**, *51*, 2036
- Photoredox Catalysis in Organic Chemistry  
*J. Org. Chem.* **2016**, *81*, 6898
- Dual Catalysis Strategies in Photochemical Synthesis  
*Chem. Rev.* **2016**, *116*, 10035

## Natural Products

- Radicals in natural product synthesis  
*Chem. Soc. Rev.* **2018**, *47*, 7851
- Forging C(sp<sup>3</sup>)-C(sp<sup>3</sup>) Bonds with Carbon-Centered Radicals in the Synthesis of Complex Molecules  
*J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2019**, *141*, 2800