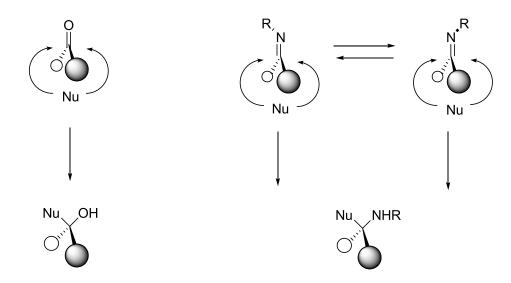
Direct Catalytic Asymmetric Addition of Allylic Cyanides to Ketoimines

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$$\begin{array}{c} O \\ P - Ph \\ N - Ph \\ Ph \\ R^{1} - R^{2} \\ aromatic \\ and \\ aliphatic \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} CN \\ CN \\ E - Ph \\ CN \\ CN \\ CN \\ CN \\ CH_{2}Cl_{2}/THF, -20 °C \\ yield up to 95\% \\ E/Z = up to <2/98 \\ up to 94\% ee \end{array}$$

Asymmetric catalysis for the construction of quaternary carbon centers: nucleophilic addition on ketones vs. ketimines



- lower reactivity compared to ketones
- rapid isomerization to an enamine under basic conditions
- difficulty in differentiating the two substituents

J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2007, 129, 500.

Catalytic Enantioselective Mannich-type Reactions of Ketoimines

$$\begin{array}{c} O \\ P \\ Ar_{2} \\ Me \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} Cu(I) \ (10 \ mol \ \%) \\ \textbf{6} \ (10 \ mol \ \%) \\ additive \\ \hline THF, \ 40 \ ^{\circ}\text{C}, \ 20 \ h \\ \textbf{2d} : \ Ar = Ph \\ \textbf{2d} : \ Ar = 3,5-xylyl \\ \hline \\ (R)-DTBM-SEGPHOS \ (\textbf{6}) = \\ \\ \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c} Cu(I) \ (10 \ mol \ \%) \\ \textbf{6} \ (10 \ mol \ \%) \\ additive \\ \hline THF, \ 40 \ ^{\circ}\text{C}, \ 20 \ h \\ \hline \\ P \\ \hline \\ \text{6} \\ \text{10} \\ \text{10}$$

		Cu		yield ^b	ee^c
entry	ketoimine	source	additive ^a	(%)	(%)
1	1d	CuF^d	$(EtO)_3SiF + PhBF_3K$	60	60
2	1d	CuOAc	$(EtO)_3SiF + PhBF_3K$	58	85
3	1d	CuOAc	(EtO) ₃ SiF	54	94
4	1d	CuOAc	$(MeO)_2SiF_2$	85	93
5	1d	CuOAc	$Me_2Si(OAc)_2$	68	78
6	1d	CuOAc	EtSi(OAc) ₃	60	80
7	1d	CuOAc	$(EtO)_2Si(OAc)_2$	82	92
8	2d	CuOAc	$(EtO)_2Si(OAc)_2$	74	96

^a In entries 1 and 2, 1 equiv of (EtO)₃SiF and 10 mol % of PhBF₃K were used. In other entries, 1 equiv of additive was used. ^b Isolated yield. ^c Determined by chiral HPLC. ^d CuF·3PPh₃·2EtOH.

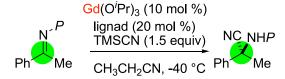
Table 2. Optimization of Catalytic Enantioselective Mannich Reaction to Aliphatic Ketoimine

entry	ligand	additive	yield ^a (%)	ee ^b (%)
1	6	(EtO) ₂ Si(OAc) ₂	29	87
2	6	(EtO) ₃ SiF	58	86
3	7	(EtO) ₃ SiF	90	75
4	8	(EtO) ₃ SiF	99	81

^a Isolated yield. ^b Determined by chiral HPLC.

J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2007, 129, 500.

Catalytic Enantioselective Strecker Reaction of Ketoimines



entry	Р	ligand	time (h)	conversion (%) ^a	ee (%) ^b
1 C, d	CH ₂ Ph	1	24	95	35
2 ^{c,d}	H ₂ C O	1	88	84	48
3^d	P(O)Ph ₂	1	16	100	72
4 ^e	P(O)Ph ₂	1	14	100	82
5 ^e	P(O)Ph ₂	2	8	100	85
6 ^e	P(O)Ph ₂	3	6	100	96

J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2003, 125, 5634.

Catalytic Asymmetric Strecker Reaction of Ketoimines: Asymmetric Activation of *tropos* 2,2'-Biphenol with Cinchonine

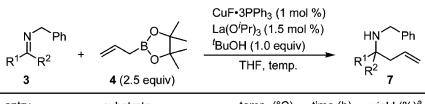
Entry	R^1	R^2	Product	X	<i>t</i> [h]	Yield [%] ^[b]	ee [%] ^[c]
1	Ph	Ме	7 a	5	8	>99	> 99 (S)
2	$4-FC_6H_4$	Me	7 b	5	4	90	98
3	$4-CIC_6H_4$	Me	7 c	5	4	>99	>99 (S)
4	$4-BrC_6H_4$	Me	7 d	5	8	>99	>99 (S)
5	$4-MeC_6H_4$	Me	7 e	10	4	>99	>99 (S)
6	$4-MeOC_6H_4$	Me	7 f	10	4	99	>99 (S)
7	$3-CIC_6H_4$	Me	7 g	5	4	>99	>99
8	$2-FC_6H_4$	Me	7 h	10	4	>99	90
9	2-naphthyl	Me	7 i	5	22	90	>99 (S)
10	2-furyl	Me	7 j	5	22	97	99

Entry	Activator	Diol	t [h]	Yield [%] ^[b]	ee [%] ^[c]
1	1	3 h	3.5	> 99	> 99 (S)
2	none	(S)- 8	8	_	_ ` `
3	1	(S)- 8	3.5	> 99	> 99 (S)
4	1	(R)- 8	3.5	25	71 (<i>S</i>)
5	2	(R)- 8	8	95	98 (R)
6	2	(S)- 8	8	49	68 (R)
7	2	3 h	8	87	94 (R)

[a] Unless noted otherwise, reactions were carried out with imine (0.1 mmol), TMSCN (0.12 mmol), iPrOH (0.12 mmol), and toluene (0.5 mL) at -20°C. [b] Isolated yield. [c] Determined by HPLC.

Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2007, 46, 8468.

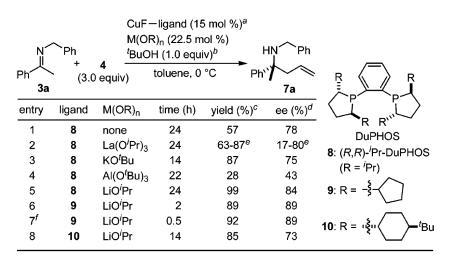
Catalytic Enantioselective Allylation of Ketoimines



entry	substrate)	temp. (°C)	time (h)	yield (%) ^a
1		3a : R = H	45	2	94
2		3b : R = 3-Me	45	1.5	88
3		3c : R = 3-OMe	45	1	94
4	R# ∫ 3	3d : R = 3-F	45	1	92
5	✓ 3	Be : R = 4-0Me	45	5	93
6	3	sf : R = 4-Cl	45	1.5	96
7	NBn NBr	3g	45	0.5	98
8 ^b		3h	45	4	92
9	Ph	3i	rt	1	85
10	Ph	1 3 j	rt	1	96
11	NBn	3k	rt	1	96
12		31	45	1	94

^a Isolated yield. ^b 5 mol % of CuF·3PPh₃ and 7.5 mol % of La(OⁱPr)₃ were used.

Optimization of Catalytic Enantioselective Allylation of Ketoimine



^a Catalyst was prepared by reducing CuF₂•2H₂O with 2 equiv of chiral phosphine to Cu in situ. See Experimental Section for details. ^b ¹BuOH was slowly added over 2 h. ^c Isolated yield. ^d Determined by chiral HPLC. ^e Yield and enantioselectivity were not constant in each run. ^f 10 mol % of chiral Cu catalyst and 30 mol % of LiO¹Pr were used.

J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2006, 128, 7687.

Catalytic Enantioselective Allylation of Ketoimine: Origin of Rate Acceleration by LiOⁱPr

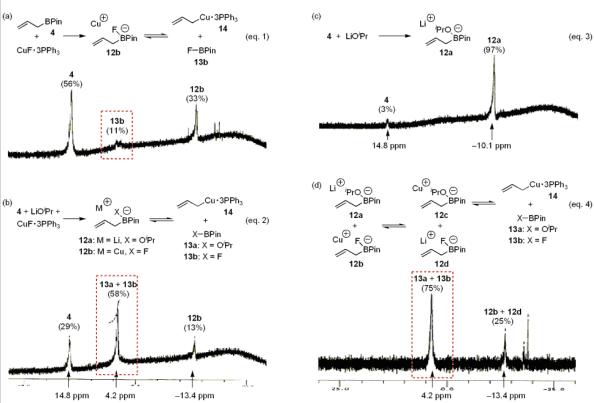
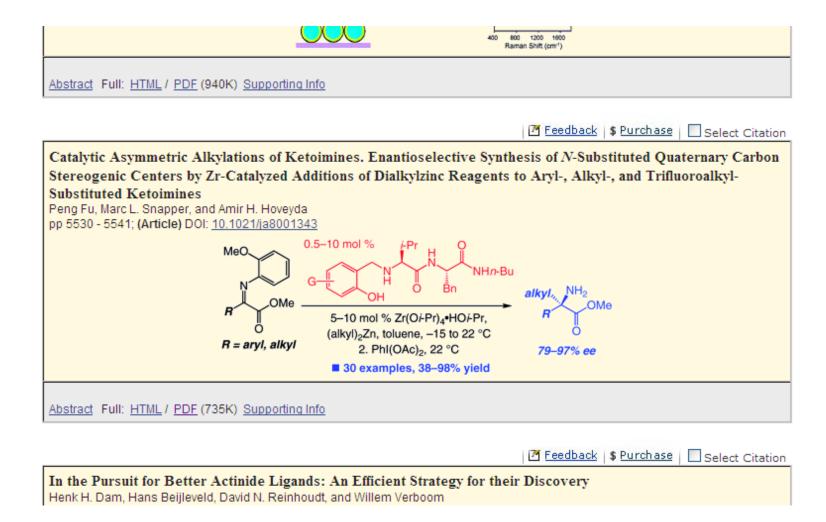


Figure 1. ¹¹B NMR studies for the rate acceleration mechanism of LiO'Pr. (a) CuF·3PPh₃ + allylboronate 4 (1:3). (b) CuF·3PPh₃ + 4 + LiO'Pr (1:3:1.5). (c) LiO'Pr + 4 (1:1). (d) {LiO'Pr + 4 (1:1)} + {CuF·3PPh₃ + 4 (1:1)} (1:1). The intensity of 13a and 13b (the peak in dashed squares) corresponds to the concentration of the active allylcopper.

J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2006, 128, 7687.

Catalytic Asymmetric Alkylations of Ketoimines



Catalytic Asymmetric Alkylations of Ketoimines

J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2008, 130, 5530.

Title Paper: Catalytic Asymmetric Addition of Allylic Cyanides to Ketoimines

- nitriles are readily available and stable enough
- unique topology poses minimal steric bias
- nitriles can be viewed as a masked carboxylic acids or amine

Title Paper: Initial Screening

entry	LA	ligand	temp.		yield ^b	
			(°C)	(h)	(%)	(%)
1	CuOAc	(S,S) - i Pr-DuPHOS	0	16	59^c	33
2	[Cu(CH ₃ CN) ₄]PF ₆	(S,S)- ⁱ Pr-DuPHOS	0	16	83 ^c	37
3	$[Pd(CH_3CN)_4](BF_4)_2$	(S,S)- ⁱ Pr-DuPHOS	0-rt	24	<5	
4	$[Ag(CH_3CN)_4]BF_4$	(S,S)- ⁱ Pr-DuPHOS	0-rt	24	0	
5	[Cu(CH ₃ CN) ₄]PF ₆	(S,S)- ⁱ Pr-DuPHOS	-20	16	67	65
6^d	[Cu(CH ₃ CN) ₄]ClO ₄	(S,S)- ⁱ Pr-DuPHOS	-20	16	95	53
7^d	[Cu(CH ₃ CN) ₄]ClO ₄	(S,S)-Ph-BPE	-20	16	95	86
$8^{d,e}$	[Cu(CH ₃ CN) ₄]ClO ₄	(S,S)-Ph-BPE	-20	12	50	73
$9^{d,f}$	[Cu(CH ₃ CN) ₄]ClO ₄	(S,S)-Ph-BPE	-20	12	<5	84

 a **1a/2a** = 0.2 mmol/2.0 mmol. b Determined by 1 H NMR analysis with Bn₂O as an internal standard. c The formation of diene was observed. d Solvent was CH₂Cl₂/THF = 2/1. e Na(OC₆H₄-p-OMe) was used instead of Li(OC₆H₄-p-OMe). f K(OC₆H₄-p-OMe) was used of Li(OC₆H₄-p-OMe).

- copper acetate promoted α -addition sluggishly and isomerization occurred rapidly with good geometric control
- cationic Pd(II) and Ag(I) complex failed
- cationic Cu(I) complex enhances catalytic activity ([Cu(CH₃CN)₄]ClO₄ is the best Cu source)
- the use of Ph-BPE and DCM/THF solvent improves enantioselectivity
- the use of Na or K aryloxide results in inferior conversion (bimetallic system stability)

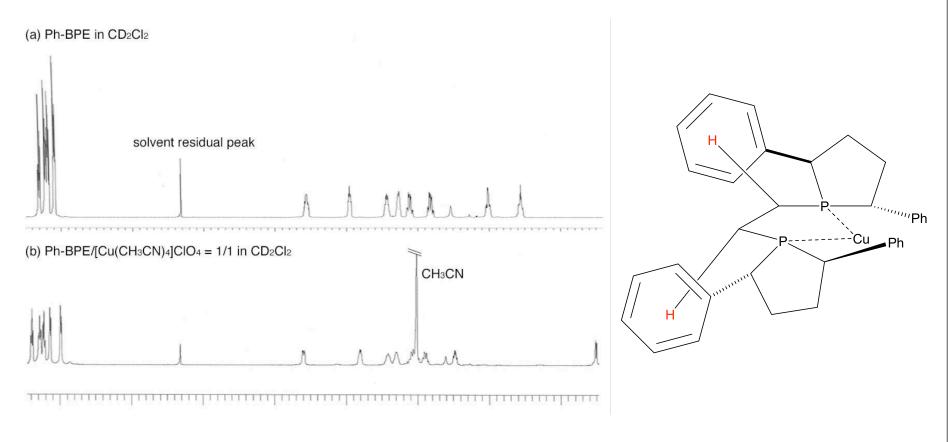
Title Paper: Scope of the Reaction

entry		allylic cyanide	X	product	yield ^b (%)	E/Z ^c	ee (%)
1 ^d	N Dpp	CN 2a	10	3aa	91	7/93	90 ⁱ
2	n a	o 2a	10	3ba	74	9/91	91
3 Me	eO Dpp	e 2a	10	Зса	95	11/89	89
4	1c	2a	5	3ca	88	12/88	83
5 ^e	1c	2a	10	3ca	71	10/90	94
6^d	CI Dpp	l 2a	10	3da	84	5/95	77 ⁱ
7	Dpp 1e	e 2a	10	3ea	78	6/94	90
8	N Dpp	2a	10	3fa	83	3/97	88
9	Et 1g	g 2a	10	3ga	63	8/92	71
10 ^f	N Dpp	ı 2a	10	3ha	76	<2/98	92
11 ^f	Ph Dpp	2a	10	3ia	80	4/96	89
12 ^g	1c	2b	10	3eb	62 ^h	<2/98	90

$$R^{1} \xrightarrow{N} R^{2} \xrightarrow{R^{3}} CN \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} [Cu(CH_{3}CN)_{4}]CIO_{4} \\ (R,R)-Ph-BPE \\ Li(OC_{6}H_{4}-P-OPh) \end{bmatrix}}_{CH_{2}Cl_{2}/THF, -20 °C, 40 h} x mol % R^{1} \xrightarrow{R^{2}} R^{3}$$

 a 1/2 = 0.2 mmol/2.0 mmol, CH₂Cl₂/THF = 2/1. b Isolated yield of E and Z geometrical isomers. c Determined by 1 H NMR analysis of the crude mixture. d (S,S)-Ph-BPE was used. e 3 equiv (0.6 mmol) of **2a** were used. f The reaction was conducted at 0.5 M in THF. Li(OC₆H₄-p-OMe) was used instead of Li(OC₆H₄-p-OPh). g Reaction time was 60 h. h Isolated yield after two steps (α-addition/isomerization by DBU). i Opposite absolute configuration.

Title Paper: Control Experiments



- 1:1 complex of Ph-BPE/[Cu(CH₃CN)₄]ClO₄ is formed
- upon the addition of LiOAr, 1:1 complex Ph-BPE/CuOAr and LiClO₄ are formed

Title Paper: Control Experiments

(a) Li-free catalyst

(b) Li-free catalyst + LiClO₄

(c) Without [Cu(CH₃CN)₄]ClO₄

- Li-free conditions provided trace amounts of product
- in situ generated LiClO₄ is essential to drive the reaction
- Lack of [Cu(CH₃CN)₄]ClO₄ provided small amount of product: soft Cu was required to promote the reaction

Title Paper: Mechanistic Proposal

- 2 Ph-BPE/CuOAr could work together to deprotonate allyl nitrile
- Li⁺ could be beneficial for the association of two Ph-BPE/CuOAr complexes via a hard-hard Li-O interaction
- more reactive N-Dpp aldimine in the absence of LiClO₄ provided only 10% yield of the product, so LiClO₄ was important in deprotonation step

Conclusions

- Direct catalytic asymmetric addition of allylic nitriles to ketoimines was developed
- In this reaction, CuOAr/Ph-BPE work cooperatively with LiClO₄
- This methodology enables the formation of α,β -unsaturated nitriles with a stereogenic tetrasubstituted carbon atom
- The reaction conditions tolerate both aryl-alkyl and alkyl-alkyl ketoimines with no loss in E/Z and enantioselectivity
- More detailed mechanistic studies are ongoing