

Quaternary stereocentres via an enantioconvergent catalytic SN1 reaction

Alison E. Wendlandt, Prithvi Vangal & Eric N. Jacobsen
Nature, **556**, 447-451 (2018)

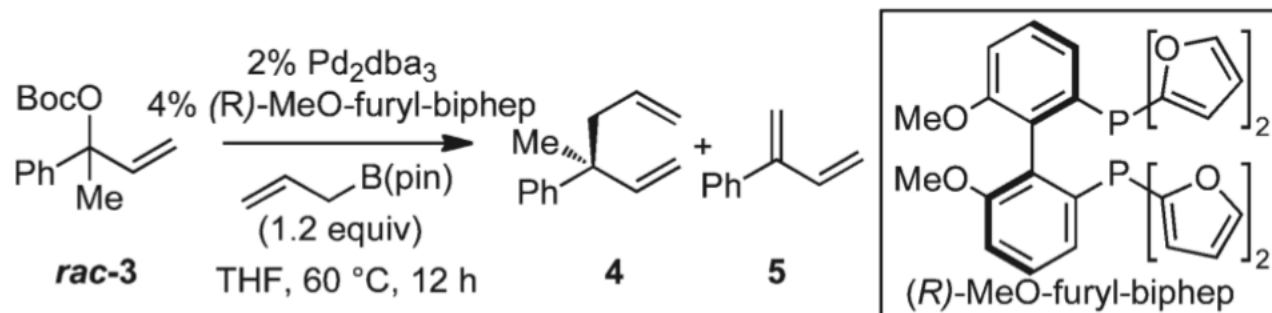
Ruiting Liu
Wipf Group Current Literature
08/05/2017

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Quaternary Stereocenter

- Formation
 - Carbonyl α -functionalization
 - Alkene cross coupling
 - Conjugate addition
 - Rearrangement or S_N2' reaction
 - Cycloaddition
- Downsides: requires the preparation of stereochemically well-defined starting materials (such as trisubstituted olefins) and subsequent enantioselective bond formation

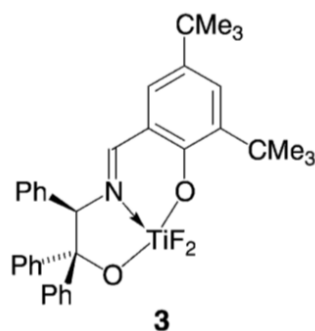
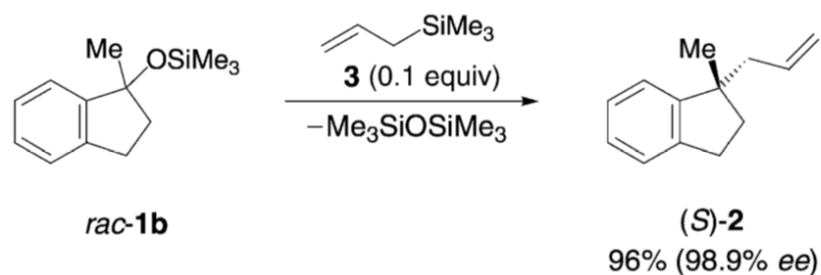
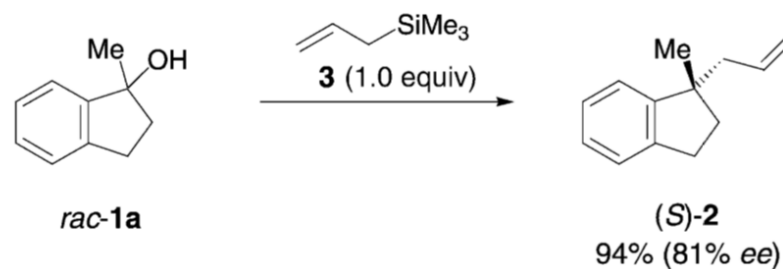
Previous Studies



entry	variation of conditions	4:5 ^a	yield ^b	er of 4 ^c
1	10% catalyst	1:1	38	96:4
2	10% catalyst, Cs ₂ CO ₃ (1.2 equiv)	2:1	90	96:4
3	10% catalyst, CsF (1.2 equiv)	5:1	79	96:4
4	CsF (3 equiv)	9:1	82	95:5
5	CsF (10 equiv)	20:1	77	95:5
6	THF/H ₂ O (10:1)	14:1	88	96:4
7	CsF (3 equiv), THF/H ₂ O (10:1)	>20:1	90	96:4

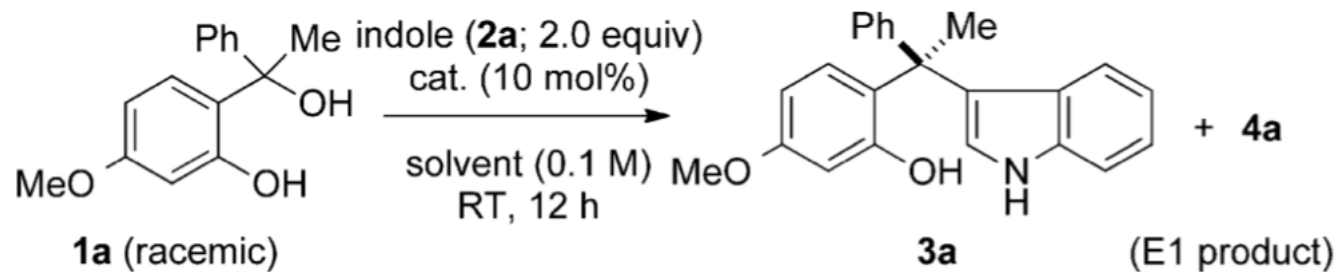
J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2011, 133, 9716–9719

Previous Studies

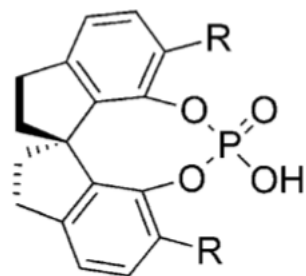


Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2004, 43, 514–517

Previous Studies



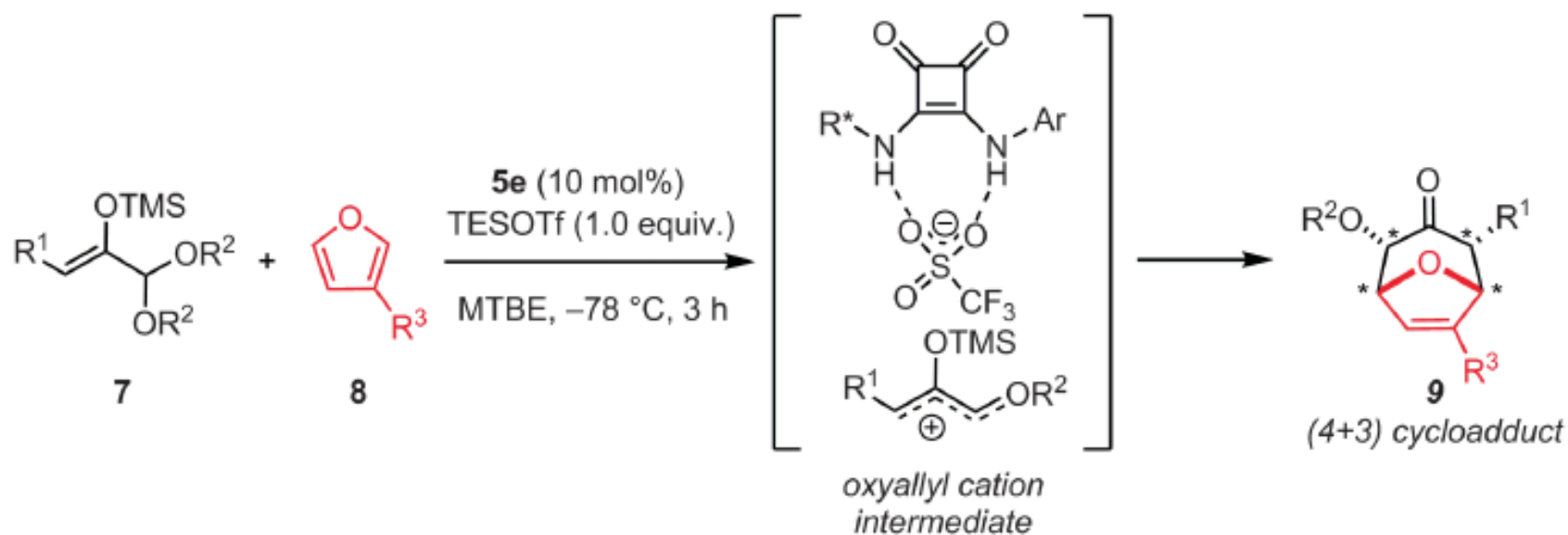
Entry	Cat.	Solvent	3 a/4 a ^[a]	3 a	
				Yield [%] ^[a]	<i>ee</i> [%] ^[b]
9	B5	CH ₂ Cl ₂	> 20:1	87	80



(*R*)-**B5**: R = 9-phenanthryl

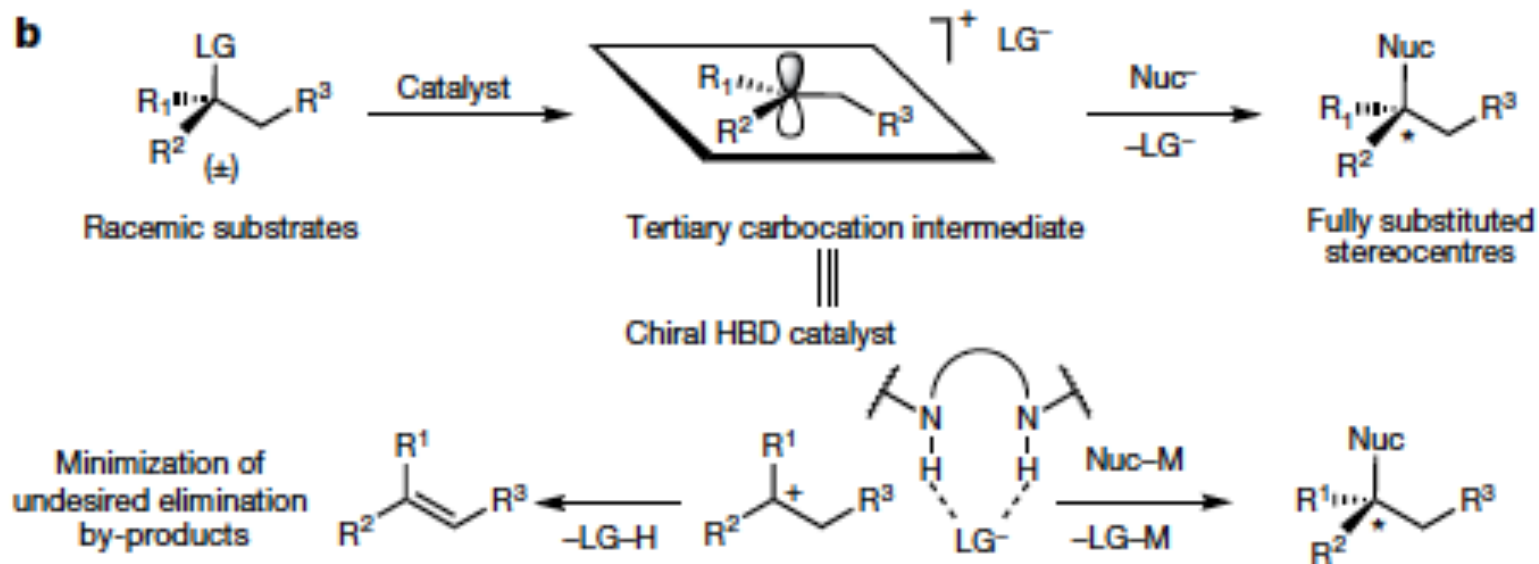
Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2015, 54, 1910–1913

Lewis acid enhancement HBD for asymmetric catalysis



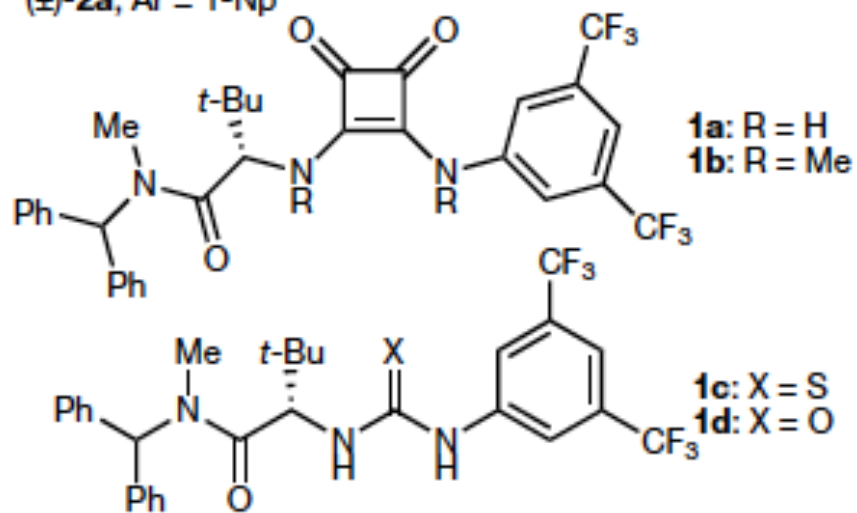
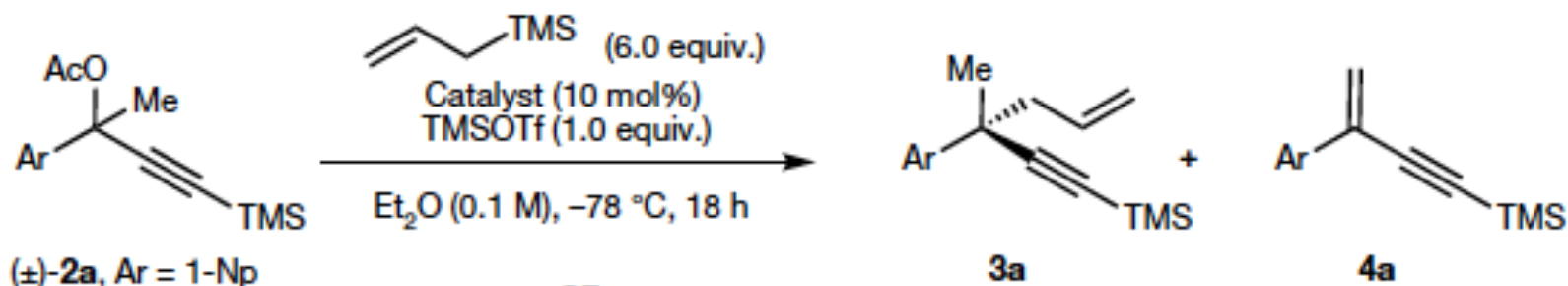
Banik et al., Science 358, 761–764 (2017)

Jacobsen's approach from SN1 reaction



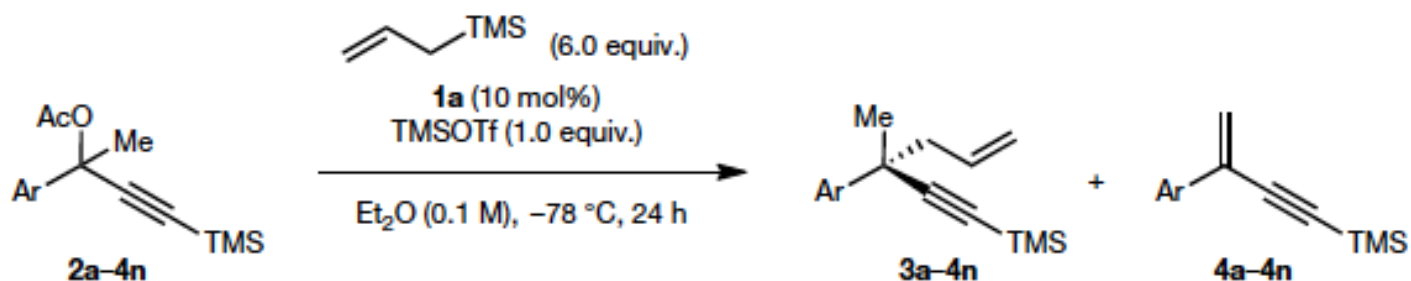
b, The SN1 approach to the construction of quaternary stereocentres described here. c, Enantioselective allylation of propargyl acetates using chiral squaramide catalysts and TMSOTf as a promoter. LG, leaving group; Np, naphthyl; TMS, trimethylsilyl.

Reaction Optimization

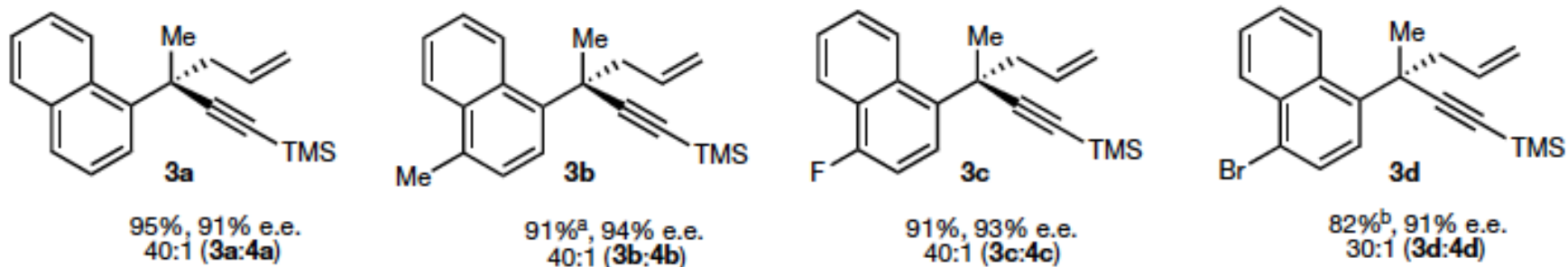


Entry	Catalyst	3a:4a	e.e. 3a (%)
1	None	1:1	0
2	1a	40:1	91
3	1b	3.4:1	1
4	1c	2.9:1	20
5	1d	3.3:1	-3

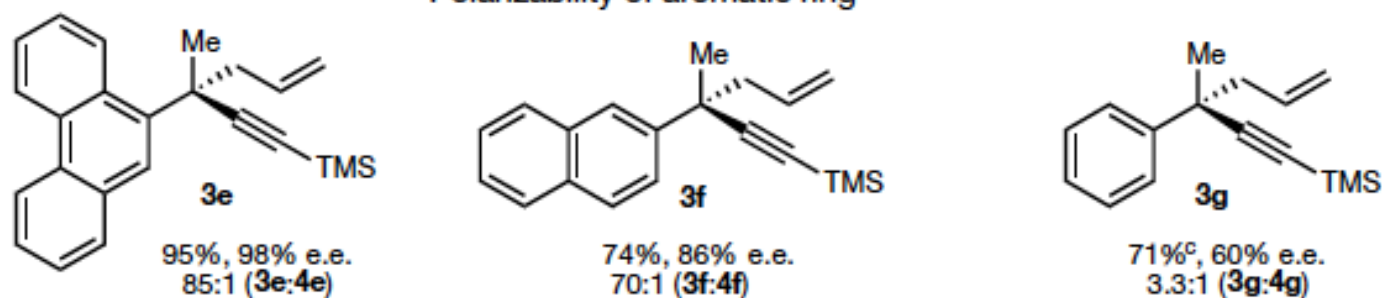
Substrate Scope



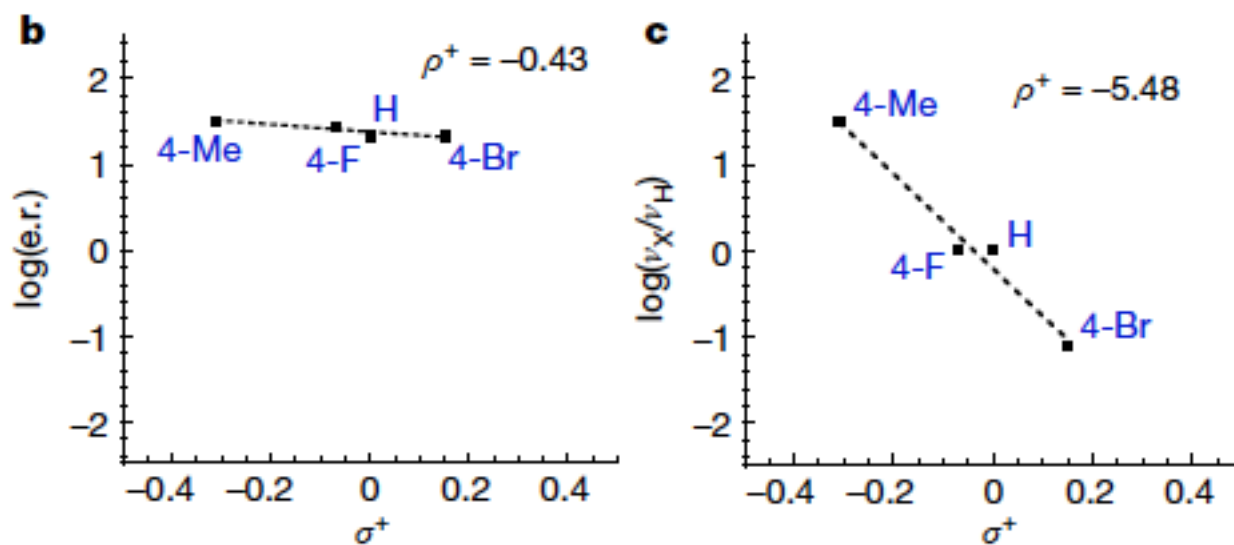
Substituent effects



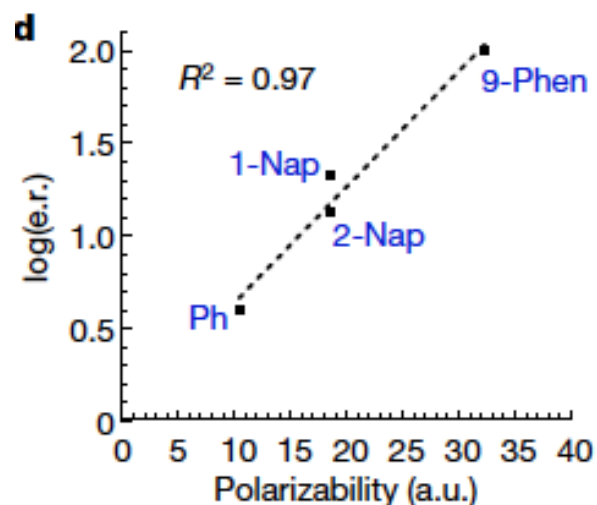
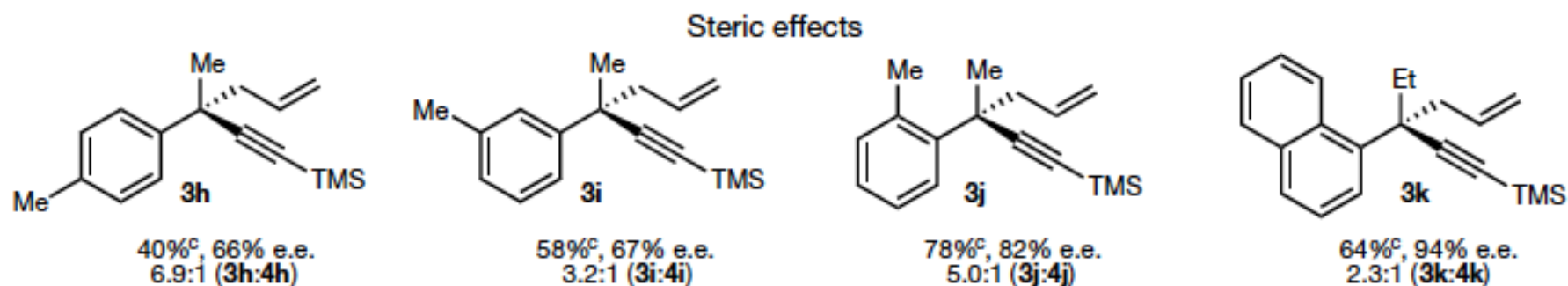
Polarizability of aromatic ring



SN1-type ionization mechanism

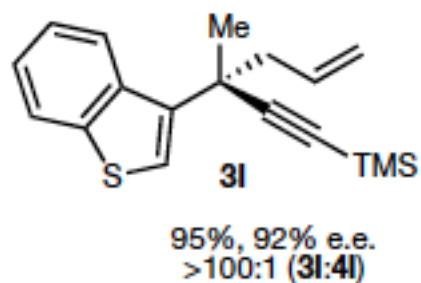


Substrate Scope

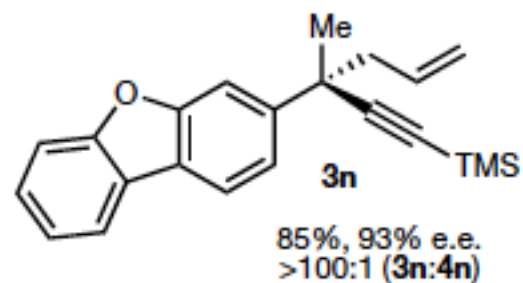
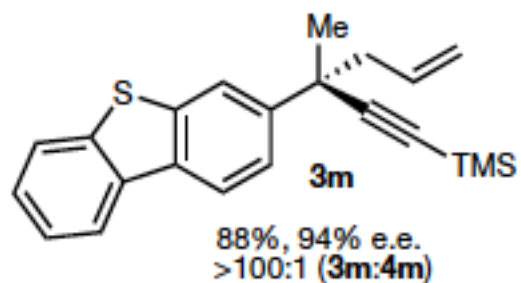


- stabilizing aromatic interactions are likely to serve as a contributing factor in enantiodifferentiation
- Steric congestion near the reaction site also correlates with enantioselectivity.

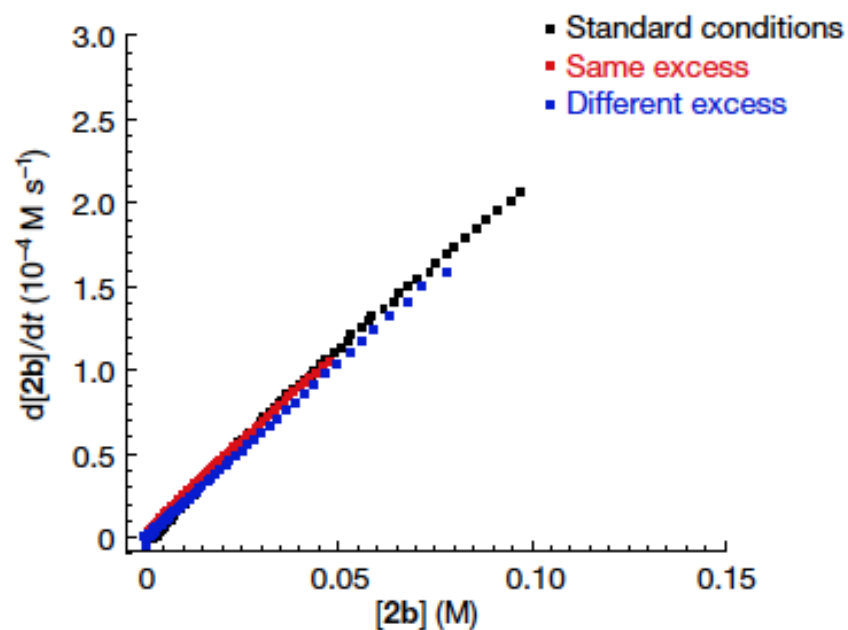
Substrate Scope



Heterocyclic substrates

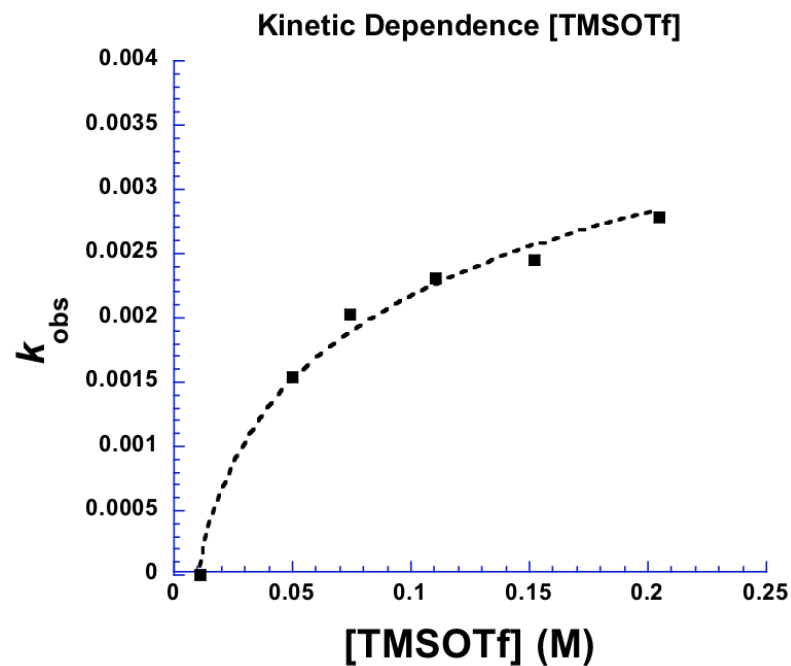
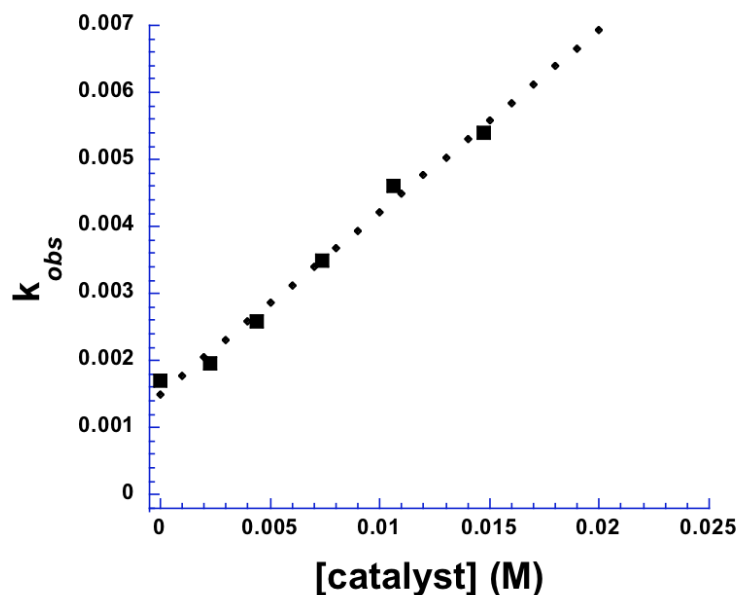


Mechanistic studies



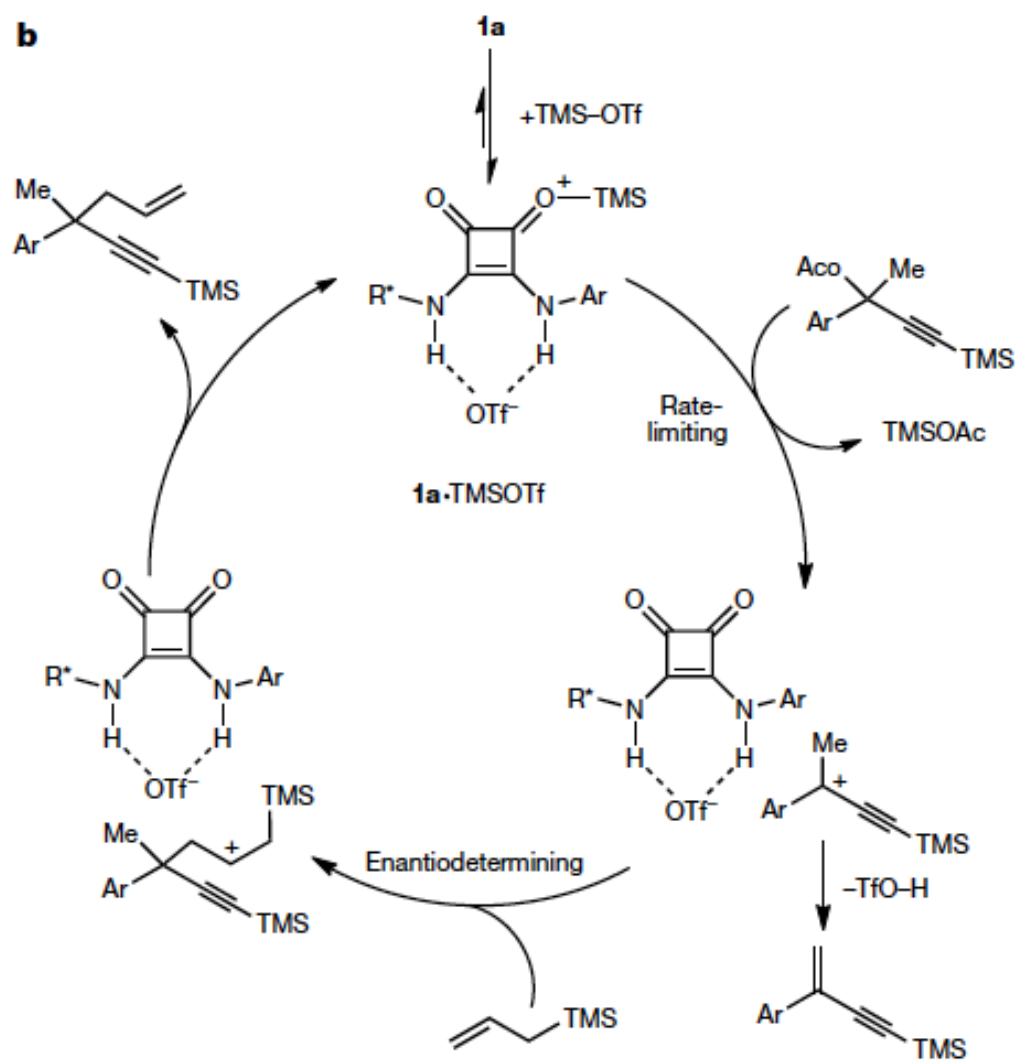
- Monitoring disappearance of **2b** using in situ infrared spectroscopy reaction obeys a first-order rate
- Reaction has dependence on the concentration of **2b** and has no rate dependence on the concentration of allyltrimethylsilane

Mechanistic studies

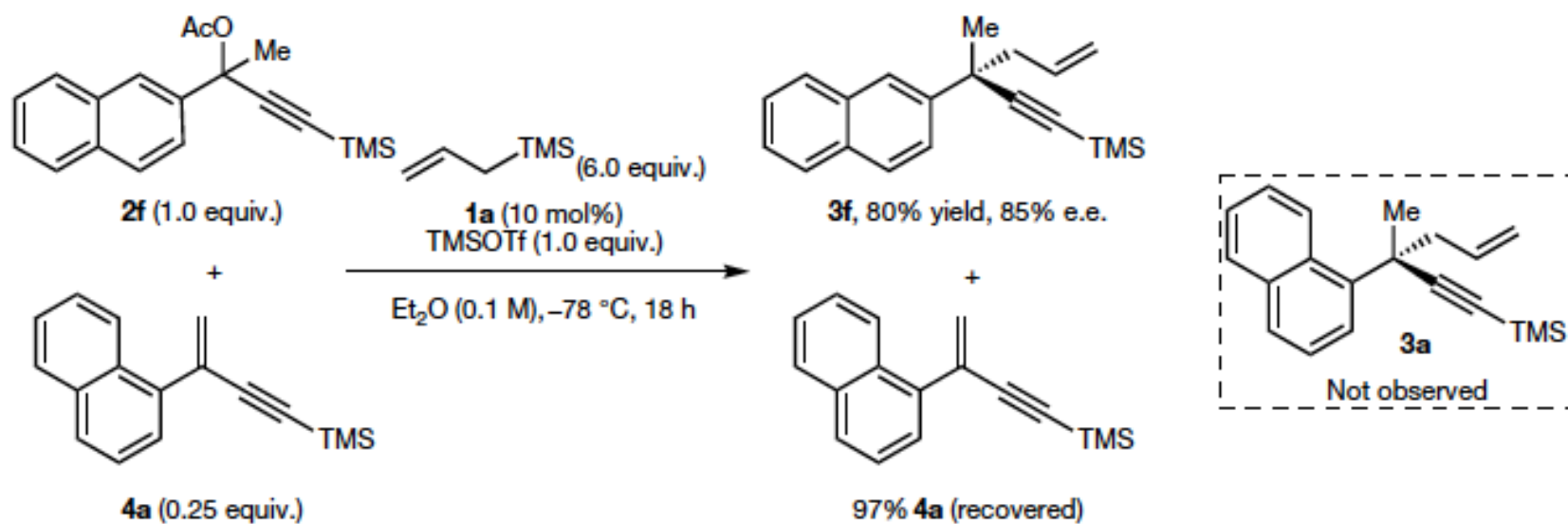


sub-first-order dependence of the reaction rate on the concentration of TMSOTf, and a first-order dependence of the reaction rate on the concentration of **1a**

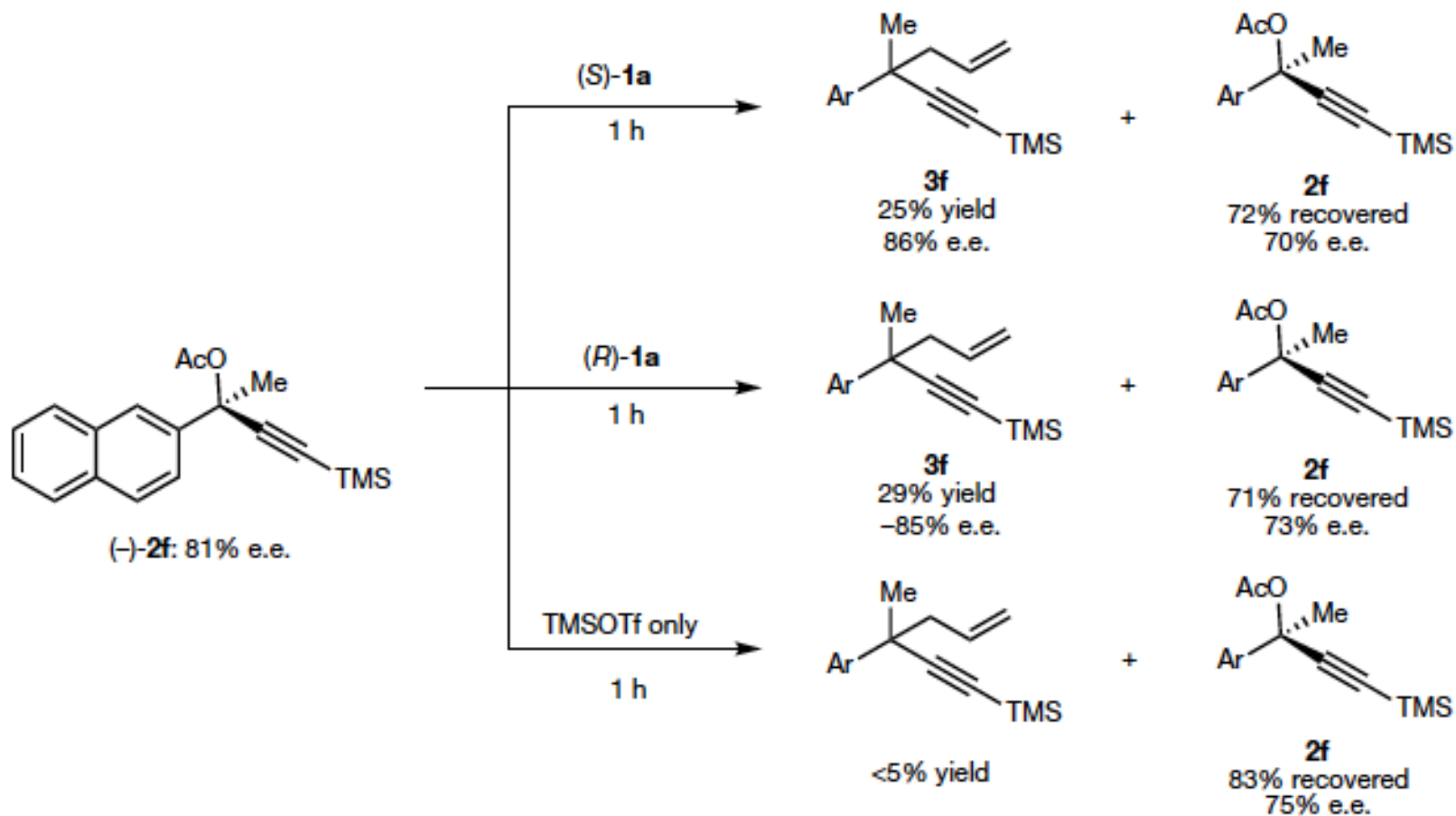
Proposed catalytic mechanism



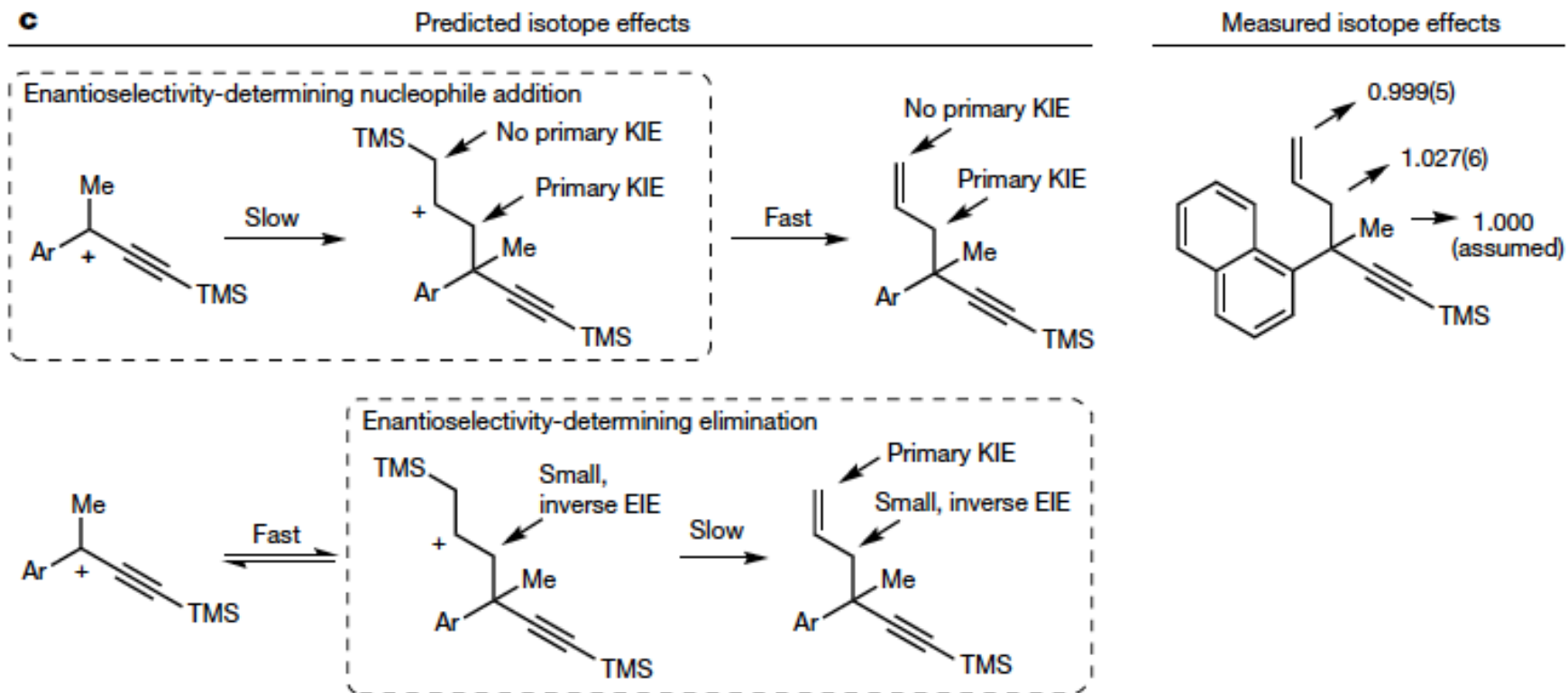
Elimination by-product was irreversible



Enantioselective



Enantiodetermining Step



the first C–C bond-forming step is irreversible and therefore enantiodetermining.

Conclusion

- Cooperative effect of chiral squaramides and TMSOTf generates tertiary carbocations that lack heteroatom stabilization from racemic precursors
- Controls enantioselectivity in additions of a carbon-centred nucleophile, and attenuates undesired elimination pathways.