Enantioselective Organo-Cascade Catalysis

Huang, Y.; Walji, A. M.; Larsen, C. H.; MacMillan, D. W. C. JACS, 2005, ASAP

and

Catalytic Asymmetric Reductive Michael Cyclization

Yang, J. W.; Hechavarria Fonseca, M. T.; List, B. JACS, 2005, ASAP

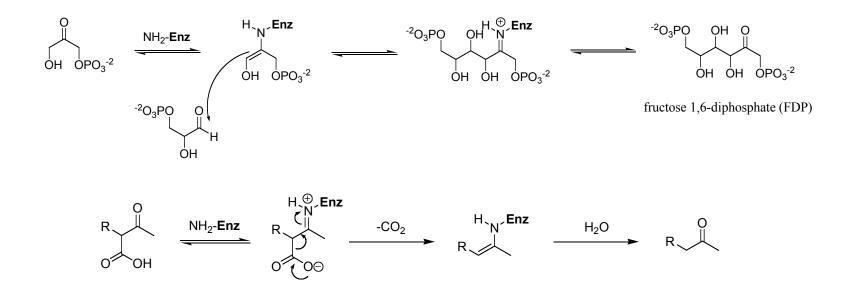
> Erick B. Iezzi, PhD Current Literature October 15, 2005

Why are these articles significant?

- Use chiral amines as enantioselective catalysts (iminium and enamine intermediates) to rapidly assemble complex structures
- MacMillan and co-workers use amine catalysts to mimic an enzymatic 'cascade catalysis' that controls product stereochemistry via intermolecular reactions
- List and co-workers use a single amine catalyst to generate complexity via an intramolecular tandem sequence
- Both achieve products with high yields and selectivities (diastereo- and enantioselectivity) under user-friendly conditions with safe and simple starting materials

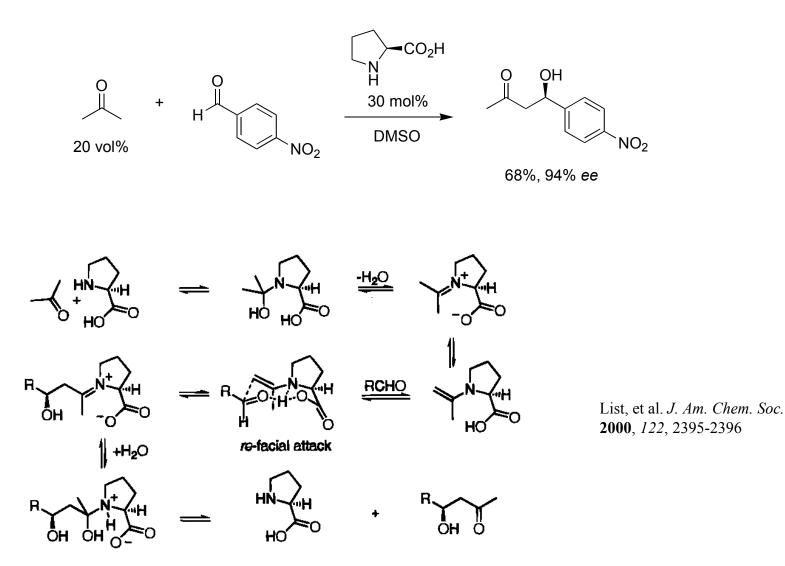
Asymmetic Aminocatalysis

- Amines can activate carbonyl groups (i.e., acetone) as do Lewis or Brønsted acids
 - Iminium ion enhances both electrophilicity and α -C-H-acidity
- Two aminocatalytic pathways:
 - 1. Iminium catalysis Knoevenagel-type condensations, cyclo- and nucleophilic additions
 - 2. Enamine catalysis Electrophilic addition and pericyclic reactions
- Aminocatalysis is a biomimetic strategy used by important enzymes such as class I aldolases (enamine catalysis) and ketoacid decarboxylases (iminium catalysis)

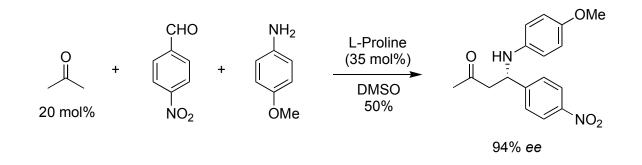


List, et al. Synlett. 2001, 11, 1675; Lerner, et al. Science 1997, 278, 2085

Proline-Catalyzed Direct Asymmetric Aldol Reaction (List and co-workers)

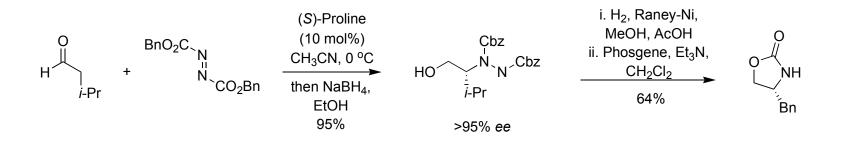


Direct Catalytic Asymmetric Three-Component Mannich Reaction (List and co-workers)



List, et al. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2000, 122, 9336-9337

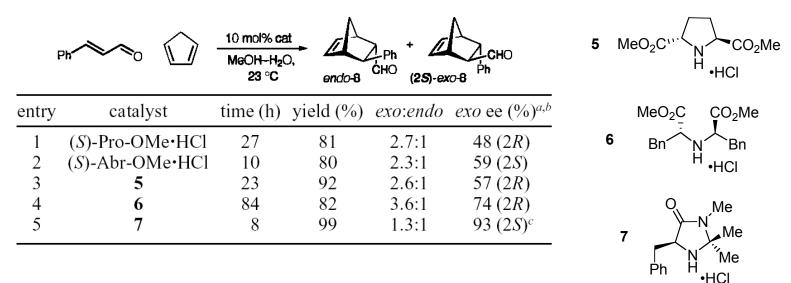
Direct Catalytic Asymmetric **a**-Amination of Aldehydes (List and co-workers)

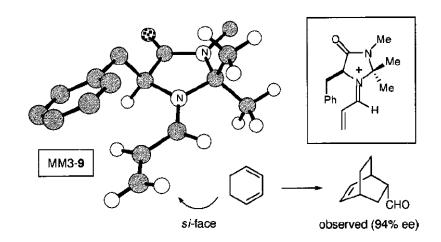


List, et al. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2002, 124, 5656-5657

New Strategies for Organic Catalysis: The First Highly Enantioselective Organocatalytic Diels-Alder Reaction (MacMillan and co-workers)

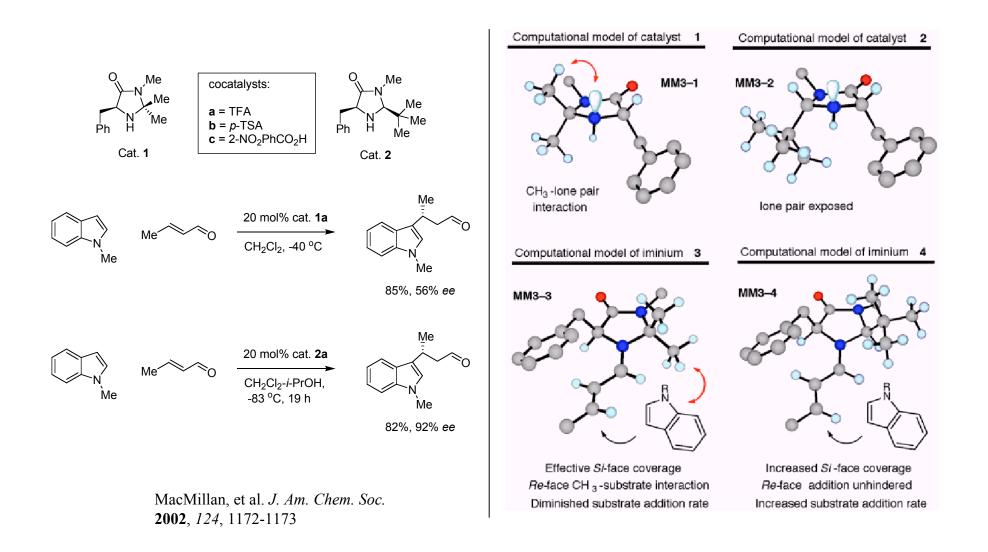
Catalysts



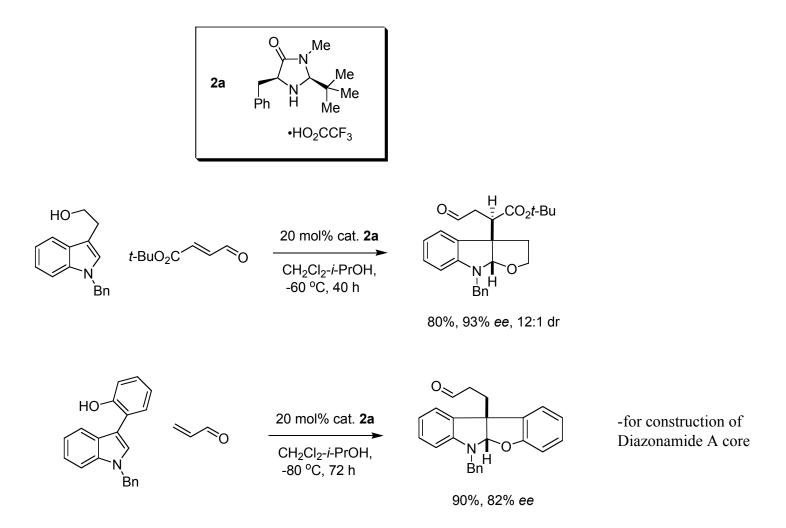


MacMillan, et al. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2000, 122, 4243-4244

Enantioselective Organocatalytic Indole Alkylations. Design of a New and Highly Effective Chiral Amine for Iminium Catalysis (MacMillan and co-workers)



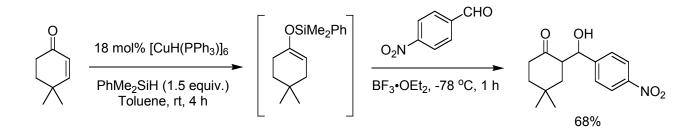
Enantioselective Organocatalytic Indole Alkylations: Furanoindole Construction (MacMillan and co-workers)



MacMillan, et al. PNAS 2004, 101, 5482-5487

Catalytic Asymmetric Reductive Michael Cyclization (ASAP Article, List and co-workers)

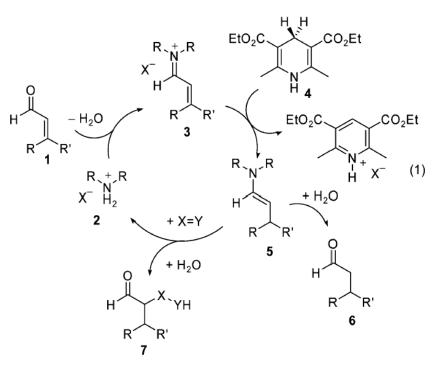
• Use an amine catalyst to carry out a tandem sequence of events, which is similar to the metal-mediated reductive enolate generation-electrophile trapping process



Lipshutz, et al. *Tetrahedron* 2000, 56, 2779-2788

• Use reductively generated (via Hantzsch ester) enamine intermediate (5) to react with in situ electrophiles

List, et al. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2005, ASAP

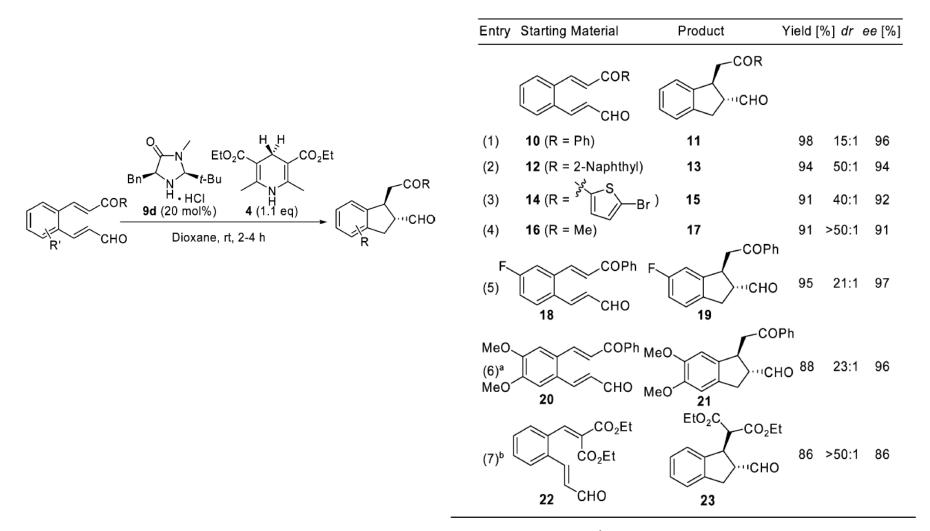


Catalyst Screening for the Reductive Michael Cyclization

$\begin{array}{c} O \\ R^{1} \\ N \\ R^{2} \\ HX \\ HX \\ (20 \text{ mol}\%) \\ \end{array} \begin{array}{c} H \\ H $							
CHO Dioxane, rt 11 (<i>dr</i> > 15 : 1)							
catalyst	R ¹	R ²	R ³	х	time [h]	yield [%]	ee [%]
9a	Н	t-Bu	Н	CF ₃ CO ₂	2	82	93
9b	Н	t-Bu	Н	Cl	12	90	95
9c	Н	2,6-Ph ₂ Ph	Н	Cl	12	75	16
9d	Bn	t-Bu	Н	Cl	3	98	96
9e	<i>p</i> -BnOBn	t-Bu	Н	Cl	6	91	95
9f	<i>p-t-</i> BuOBn	t-Bu	Н	Cl	6	90	95
9g	Bn	Me	Me	Cl	24	<10	

List, et al. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2005, ASAP

Substrate Variation in the Reductive Michael Cyclization



^{*a*} Using catalyst **9a**. ^{*b*} Using catalyst **9c**.

List, et al. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2005, ASAP

Enantioselective Organo-Cascade Catalysis (ASAP Article, MacMillan and co-workers)

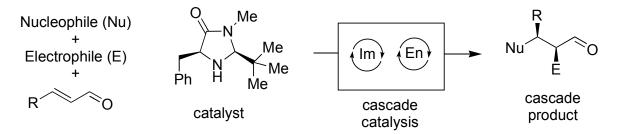
• Use amine catalysts to perform a 'cascade catalysis' of discrete events that mimic a biocatalytic assembly line, as opposed to the traditional 'stop and go' sequences

- Specifically, polyketide natural products (i.e., erythromycin and actinomyces) are assembled by polyketide synthases, which perform a successive decarboxylative condensations of simple precursors

(Khosla, et al. Annu. Rev. Biochem. 1999, 68, 219)

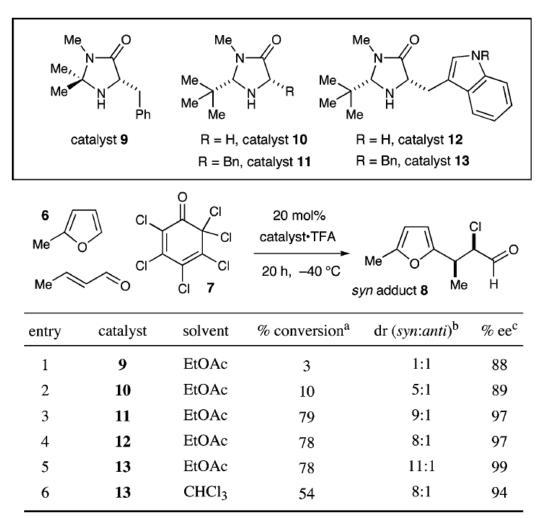
• Imidazolidinone-based catalytic cycles are used to generate complex structures without catalyst-catalyst interactions

Cascade Catalysis: Merging Iminium (Im) and Enamine (En) Activation



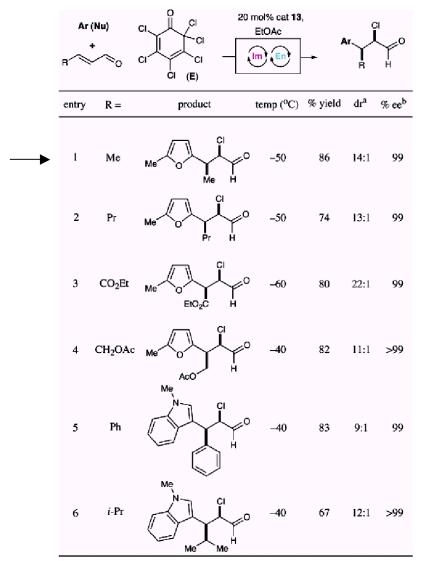
MacMillan, et al. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2005, ASAP

Organo-Cascade Catalysis: Effect of Catalyst and Solvent

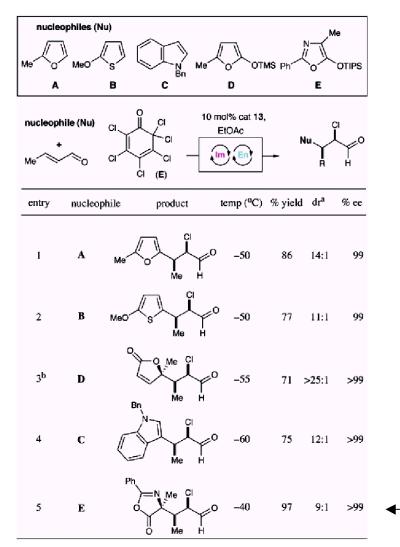


^{*a*} Conversion determined by GLC analysis of product relative to an internal standard (benzyl methyl ether). ^{*b*} Absolute and relative configuration assigned by chemical correlation. ^{*c*} Enantiomeric excess determined by chiral GLC analysis (Bodman β -DM).

Organo-Cascade Catalysis: Scope of Enal Component and Representative Nucleophiles

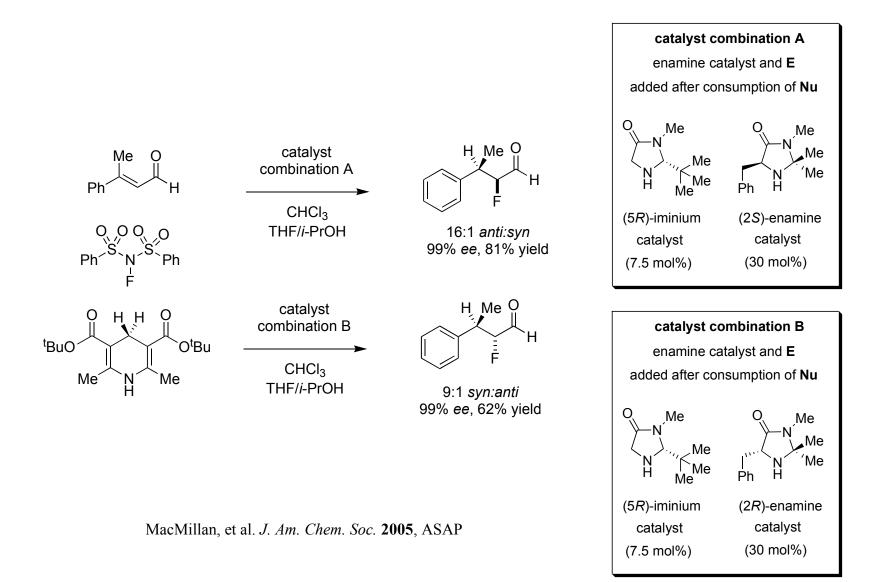


^{*a*} Absolute and relative configuration assigned by chemical correlation. ^{*b*} Enantiomeric excess determined by chiral GLC analysis.



^{*a*} Absolute and relative configuration assigned by chemical correlation. ^{*b*} Superior yields were obtained when the electrophile was added after consumption of the silyloxy furan.

Organo-Cascade Catalysis: Employment of Discrete Amine Catalysts to Enforce Cycle-Specific Selectivities



Summary

List and co-workers:

- Developed a highly enantioselective organocatalytic reductive Michael cyclization of enal enones
- Practical and user-friendly conditions
- Potential application in the synthesis of natural products

MacMillan and co-workers:

- Developed a new strategy for organo-catalysis based on the biochemical blueprints of cascade catalysis
- Rapid access to structural complexity while achieving exquisite levels of enantiocontrol (combining catalytic cycles leads to enantioenrichment)
- Studies in the area of triple cascade catalysis are underway