

TETRAHEDRON: ASYMMETRY REPORT NUMBER 79

# Enantioselective protonations: fundamental insights and new concepts

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Received 13 August 2004; accepted 27 September 2004

**Abstract**—This review deals with the main results obtained in the field of enantioselective protonations. This method allows easy access to various enantiomerically enriched compounds starting from either the corresponding racemic mixture (deracemization process) or various prochiral precursors. Discussions about different factors governing the stereoselectivity as well as a compilation of literature data are given.

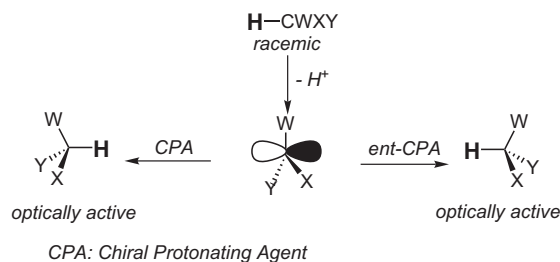
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## Contents

1. Introduction . . . . .	3653
2. Chiral protonating agents (CPA). . . . .	3654
2.1. Structural requirements. . . . .	3654
2.2. Acidity requirements. . . . .	3655
3. Prochiral substrates . . . . .	3656
4. Enantioselective protonation reaction . . . . .	3657
4.1. Influence of the <i>E/Z</i> -configuration: RSC and NSC reactions . . . . .	3657
4.2. Protonation in the presence of amines . . . . .	3660
4.3. Influence of temperature . . . . .	3661
4.4. Catalytic enantioselective protonations . . . . .	3661
4.4.1. Enols . . . . .	3661
4.4.2. Enolates . . . . .	3662
4.4.2.1. Protonation by a chiral protonating agent (Scheme 23, route a) . . . . .	3662
4.4.2.2. Protonation of chiral aggregates by achiral acids (Scheme 23, route b) . . . . .	3664
4.4.3. Enol ethers and ketene acetals . . . . .	3666
5. Conclusion and outlook . . . . .	3666
References . . . . .	3689

## 1. Introduction

Introduced for the first time in 1976 by one of us along with the concept of deracemization,<sup>1a</sup> the kinetically controlled conversion of an electron-rich prostereogenic center into a stereogenic one, by enantioselective protonation, using a chiral protonating agent (CPA), (Scheme 1)



Scheme 1.

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is nowadays a well-known broad avenue for the access to optically active compounds.<sup>1–17</sup>

The most important advances in this field are due to the groups of Fehr,<sup>2</sup> Fuji,<sup>3</sup> Hunig,<sup>4</sup> Jacquier,<sup>5</sup> Koga,<sup>6</sup> Pète-Hénin-Muzart,<sup>7</sup> Takeuchi,<sup>8</sup> Vedejs,<sup>9</sup> Yamamoto<sup>10</sup> and more recently of Eames,<sup>11</sup> Asensio,<sup>12</sup> Brunner,<sup>13</sup> Koizumi,<sup>14</sup> Kosugi,<sup>15</sup> Mikami,<sup>8f,g</sup> Nakai,<sup>16</sup> and Tomioka.<sup>17</sup> For reviews, see Refs. 1i, 2b, 2g, 4f, 10e, 11c, and 18.

The term ‘deracemization’ was first proposed by one of us<sup>1a,i</sup> for describing the transformation of a racemic mixture into one of its enantiomers using an enantioselective protonation, in order to differentiate this new type of reaction from the well-documented asymmetric transformation occurring with thermodynamically controlled protonation. In the recent literature, the term asymmetric transformation is more and more replaced by thermodynamically controlled deracemization.<sup>19</sup> Thus, to be unambiguous, it seems necessary at the present time to specify if the deracemization involving protonation is either thermodynamically or kinetically controlled.<sup>20</sup> The deracemization can also be extended to compounds bearing one atom or a group differing from hydrogen provided that it could be mobilized and reintroduced asymmetrically.<sup>1i,21</sup>

The first enantiomerically pure compound obtained using an enantioselective protonation was reported as early as 1983.<sup>1h,i</sup>

Surprisingly, the creation of a stereogenic center by the formation of a C–H bond using enantioselective protonation was unexploited until our first reports,<sup>1a,i,22a</sup> whereas methods using either a hydride anion (as part of a chiral reagent) or molecular hydrogen (in the presence of a chiral catalyst) have previously been reported.<sup>22</sup> Biocatalytic deracemizations are beyond the topic of this review.

In order to be successful in such work, one needs not only to think about classical parameters concerning the chiral protonating agent, prochiral substrate, reaction medium and so on, but also to take into account the *E/Z* configuration of the substrate (Latent Trigonal Center concept, vide infra, part 4.1).<sup>1m–o</sup> Moreover, availability, cost, and easy recovery of the chiral protonating agent after use, must obviously be taken into consideration as well.

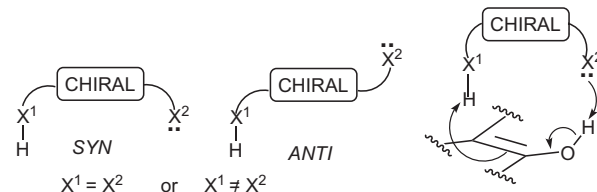
## 2. Chiral protonating agents (CPA)

First of all, regarding the chiral protonating agent, the usual requirements relating to structure and acidity must be fulfilled.

### 2.1. Structural requirements

Good enantiomeric excesses for the protonation of enolic systems are generally obtained when chiral agents (i) bear in a vicinity two sites with one acting, as a proton

donor and the other as a proton acceptor, (ii) when these two sites are in a *syn* arrangement. Obviously, this *syn* conformation maximizes chiral–prochiral interactions when protonation occurs. We suggested previously that these two sites were involved in the tautomerization of an enol.<sup>1j</sup> (Scheme 2 and T10, entry 2).



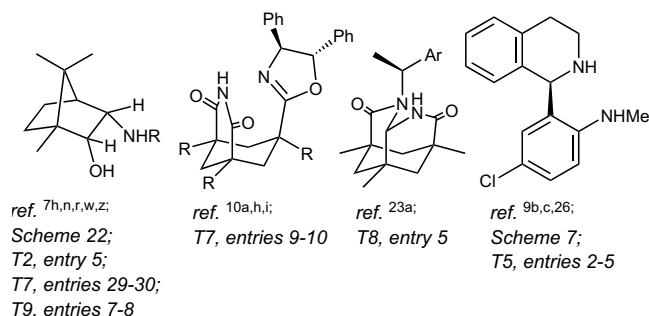
Scheme 2.

In support to this proposal, we noticed that with other things being equal, an increase in the crowding of the R substituents of *O,O*-diacyltartaric acids, encouraging the *syn* form, led to an important increase in the ee (Scheme 3 and T6, entry 1).<sup>1g</sup> Conversely, locking the two operating groups of tartaric acid in an *anti* position by an acetalic linkage resulted in a dramatic decrease in enantioselectivity (Scheme 3).<sup>1g</sup>



Scheme 3.

The following CPA with locked type *syn* or *gauche* forms gave, as expected, very high enantiomeric excesses (Scheme 4).



Scheme 4.

Although necessary, this condition is obviously not sufficient enough and in order to be successful in the findings of new CPA, the thought process should be firstly, to choose a structure where the two functional groups are in a *syn* (or *gauche*) relationship and secondly, to test variations of the backbone substituents in order to favor the optimal match between the CPA and the prochiral

substrate (T2, entry 5; T6, entry 1; T7, entries 11, 29; T9, entries 5 and 7).

In brief, the most efficient CPA reported until now are polyfunctional compounds,<sup>4c</sup> whose structures allow an increase of the rigidity of the protonation model by means of a better coordination between the CPA and the substrate.

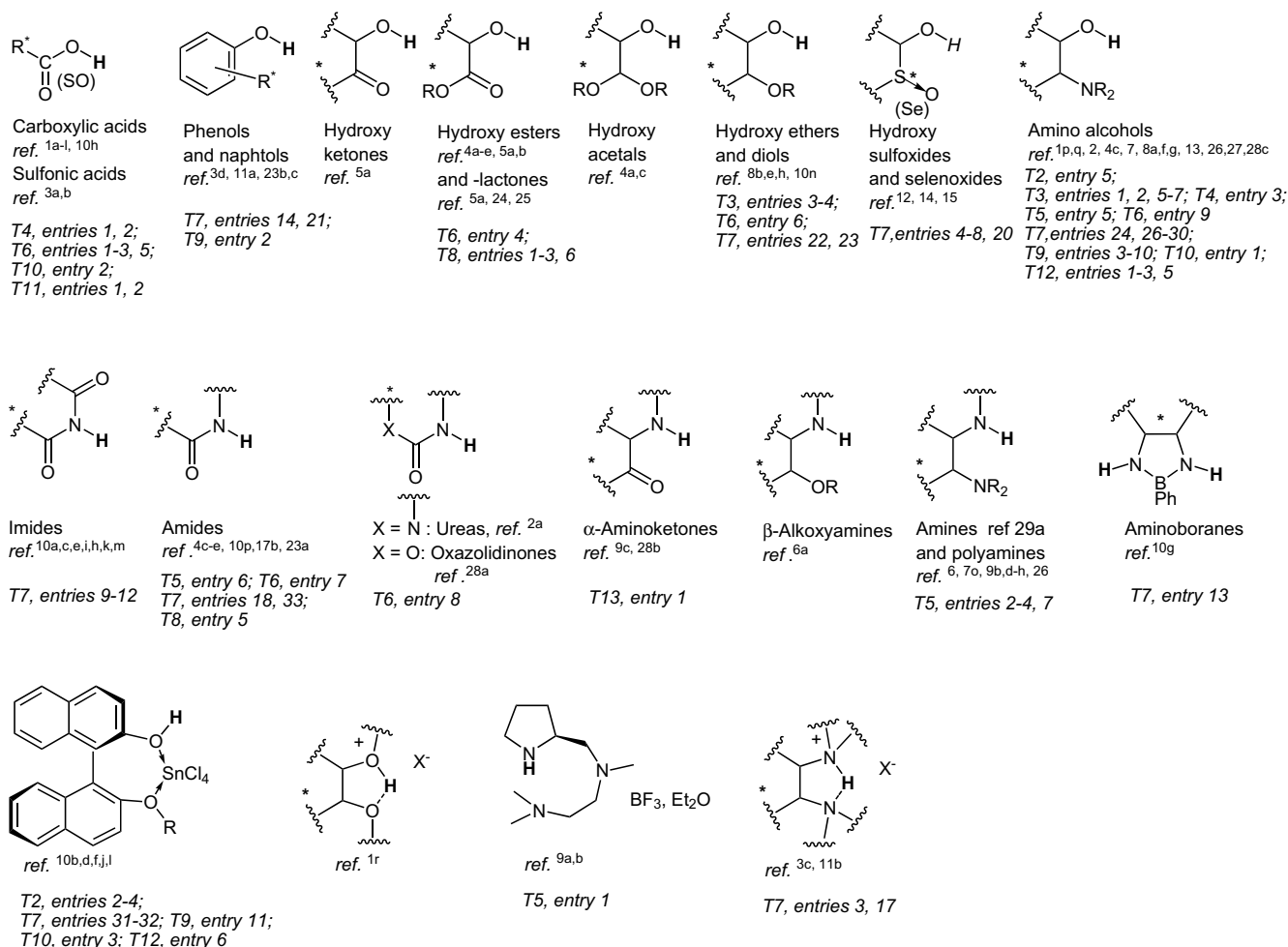
## 2.2. Acidity requirements

In most chiral agents, a proton is linked either to an oxygen atom (carboxylic acids, phenols, alcohols) or to a nitrogen atom (ureas, imides, amides, amines, amino-boranes). In some cases, the acidity is enhanced either by coordination with a Lewis acid or by adding a proton to afford an onium salt (Scheme 5).

If their acidity is sufficient, they act as a CPA. On the other hand, if the acidity is insufficient (chiral aliphatic amines for example), they act as chiral ligands of the prochiral substrates with the protonation step occurring possibly during the work-up by means of an achiral protonating agent (for instance,<sup>6,29b</sup> Schemes 35, 36 and T5, entry 1; T7, entries 1, 2, 19).

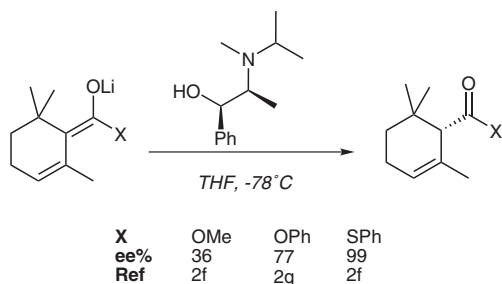
The most commonly used CPAs exhibit a large range of  $pK_a$ s, with a mobile proton belonging to functional groups, such as carboxylic acids ( $pK_a \approx 5$ ), phenols ( $pK_a \approx 10$ ), imides ( $pK_a \approx 11$ ), amides ( $pK_a \approx 15$ ), alcohols ( $pK_a \approx 17$ ), and aromatic amines ( $pK_a \approx 25$ ).

In a typical enantioselective protonation, the protonation must be as complete as possible. Otherwise, the remaining substrate will be protonated during the work-up, mostly without or with a low enantioselectivity. According to standard  $pK_a$  calculations,  $pK_a$  differences ( $\Delta pK_a = pK_a \text{ substrate} - pK_a \text{ HA}^*$ ) of 2, 3 or 4 units lead, respectively, to a 91%, 97%, or 99% protonation. However, not only the thermodynamic, but also the kinetic acidity has to be taken into account.<sup>9g</sup> There is often a correlation between the kinetic and the thermodynamic acidity.<sup>30</sup> So it is assumed that as the  $\Delta pK_a$  decreases, the rate of proton transfer is lowered, which in turn increases enantioselectivity. A priori, the compromise for the best enantioselectivity (requiring the lowest  $\Delta pK_a$ ) and for a complete protonation (requiring the highest  $\Delta pK_a$ ) is  $2 \leq \Delta pK_a \leq 4$ . Unfortunately, the  $pK_a$ s of the substrates and of  $\text{HA}^*$  have usually not been established.



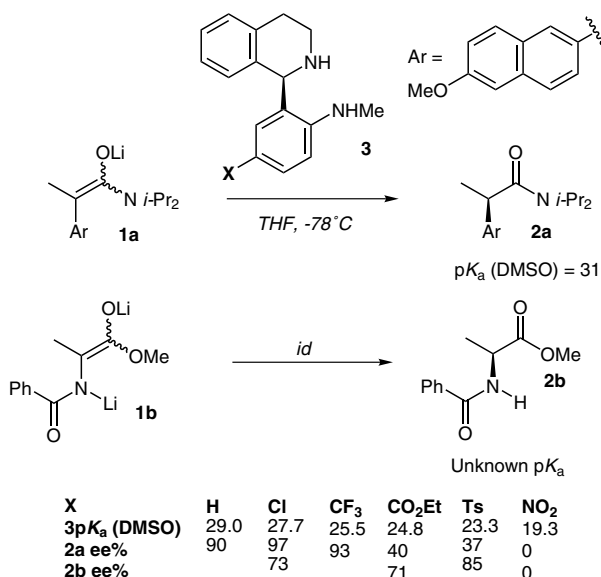
Scheme 5.

Fehr was the first to emphasize, the importance of the acidity parameter by using the same chiral acid; he established that the lower the  $pK_a$  of the substrate, the higher the  $ee^{2d}$  (Scheme 6).



Scheme 6.

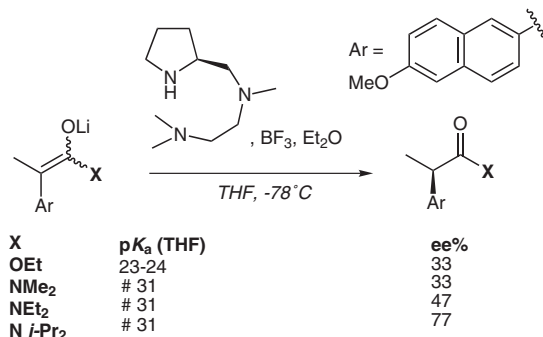
The importance of this parameter was thoroughly investigated by Vedejs.<sup>9g</sup> Lithium enolates **1a** and **1b** were protonated by a series of anilines **3** whose  $pK_a$ s have been estimated (Scheme 7). A good correlation was observed between the  $ee$  of **2a** and the  $pK_a$  of CPA **3**. The best results ( $ee > 93\%$ ) were obtained for  $\Delta pK_a = 3$ –5 with an optimal value ( $ee = 97\%$ ) for  $\Delta pK_a = 3$ .<sup>31</sup> For the deracemization of **2b**, the optimal  $ee$  (85%) observed with **3** (X = Ts) suggests that the  $pK_a$  of the monoprotonated enolate **1b** is lower than that of **1a**.



Scheme 7.

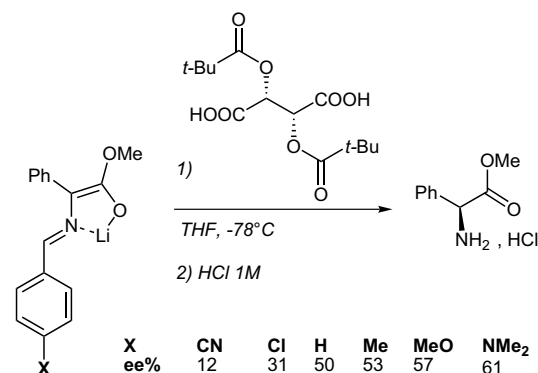
To take advantage of Vedejs results, it is essential to know the  $pK_a$ s of the studied enolates in order to choose the adequate protonating aniline **3** involving a  $\Delta pK_a$  of approximately 3. (*R*)-Aniline **3** (X = Cl) is commercially available while the synthesis of the (*S*)-**3** analogue (X = H) has already been reported.<sup>9f</sup>

It is very probable that not only the  $\Delta pK_a$  but also other variables play a role in the enantioselectivities. For instance, if the  $pK_a$  is modified by substituting the aniline nitrogen atom of **3** instead of the aromatic nucleus, comparisons become difficult because the steric and electronic changes near the aniline nitrogen may be large enough to obscure the role of  $\Delta pK_a$ .<sup>9g</sup> Also difficult to explain are the  $ee$  of the deracemization of a carboxylic acid by protonation of its esters enolates and amides enolates. The highest  $ee$  expected from the less basic esters enolates have not been observed (Scheme 8).<sup>9d,32</sup>



Scheme 8.

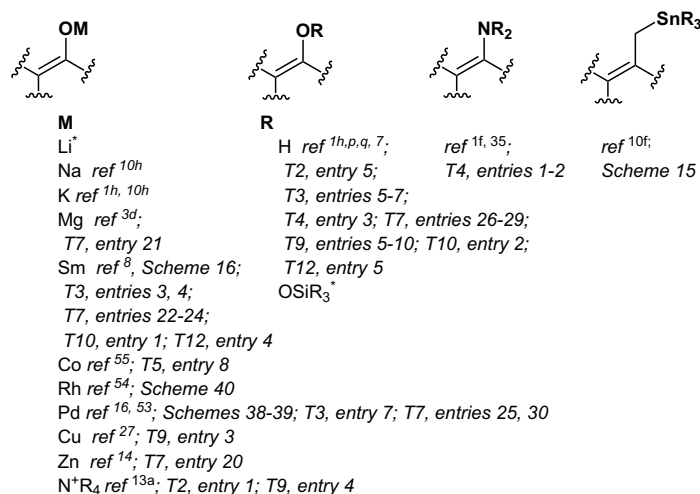
Lastly, previous results of our group concerning the protonation of a series of enolates of increasing basicities by the same CPA have shown that the higher the  $\Delta pK_a$  the higher the  $ee$  (Scheme 9).<sup>1g,33</sup>



Scheme 9.

### 3. Prochiral substrates

The substrates generally used, had an  $sp^2$  prostereogenic center being part of either enolates of ketones, esters, lactones, amides, or enols, silylenolethers, ketene acetals, enamines, or allyltins (synthetic equivalents of allylic anions). The metallic cations of enolates are mainly the lithium cation and less usually the sodium, potassium, magnesium, samarium, copper, and zinc cations. Enolates of cobalt, rhodium, palladium,<sup>34</sup> and tetraalkylammoniums have also been used (Scheme 10). A large increase in the  $ee$  was reported

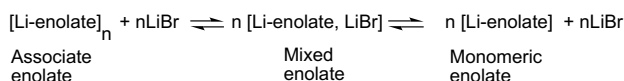


\* See numerous examples, Tables 2–13.

#### Scheme 10.

by replacing the lithium cation by either magnesium<sup>3d</sup> or zinc.<sup>14a</sup>

There are some questions about the degree of aggregation of lithium enolates. In many cases, the addition of metallic salts (LiBr, LiCl),<sup>4d,6a,10i</sup> or lithium alkoxides<sup>2b</sup> have a favorable effect concerning the enantioselectivity (T7, entries 1, 10, 15, 19; T8, entry 3). In fact, lithium enolates are generally obtained as associate contact ion pairs of different orders.<sup>36</sup> Addition of lithium salts results in the disaggregation and formation of mixed aggregates (Scheme 11).<sup>36b,37</sup>



#### Scheme 11.

In the presence of a large excess of LiBr, the mixed aggregate is largely predominant. The results depend both on the concentration of each species and on its reactivity. Obviously, according to the Curtin–Hammett principle, the minor species may be predominantly involved if its reactivity is large enough, as reported for the alkylation reaction where kinetic studies have shown that the monomeric lithium enolate is the dominant reactant, although the mixed aggregate is largely predominant.<sup>38</sup>

Symmetrical 1,2-enediols<sup>1h</sup> and 1,2-enediols bistrimethylsilyl ethers<sup>39a</sup> have also been transformed into optically active acyloins by enantioselective protonation (T10). Particular benzylic lithium anions have been successfully protonated (T5, entry 7, T13).<sup>9c,29a,39b</sup> The first deracemization of a phosphine oxide<sup>9c,28b</sup> was reported by Vedejs (T13, entry 1).<sup>9c</sup> The sole enantioselective protonation of an sp<sup>3</sup> prostereogenic center was described by Fuji (T11, entry 1).<sup>3a,b</sup> Data taken from the literature are given in Tables 2–13.

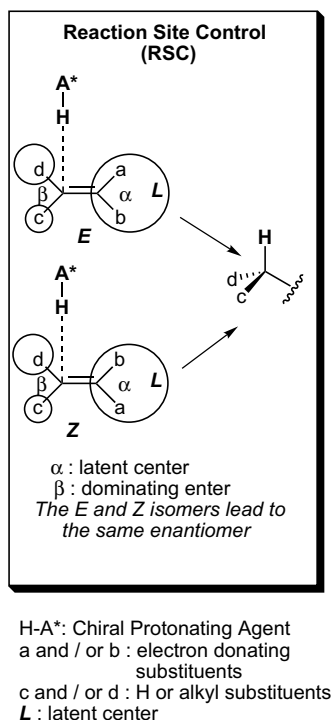
### 4. Enantioselective protonation reaction

In the following section is discussed the different factors governing enantioselective protonations, such as the geometry of the prochiral substrate, temperature, and presence of an amine in the reaction medium. Another important question is the possibility of *O*- versus *C*-protonation of enolates. However, oxygen protonation is generally reversible while carbon protonation, which is the asymmetric step, is not. It has been shown that low pH stabilizes the enolic tautomer, while *C*-protonation via the enolate occurs rapidly under relatively neutral conditions.<sup>40</sup>

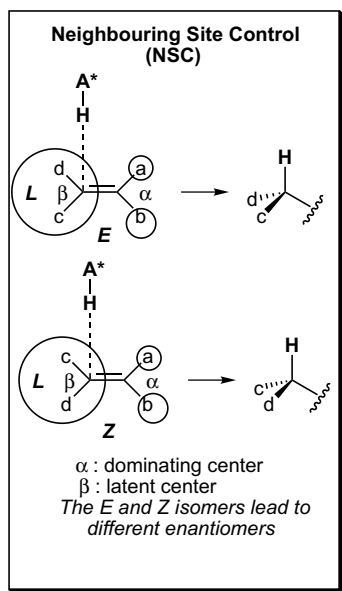
#### 4.1. Influence of the *E/Z*-configuration: RSC and NSC reactions

Concerning the regioselectivity, in all cases the fixation of the proton occurs, as expected, on the most electron rich prostereogenic-center designated by β (Schemes 12 and 13).

Concerning the chiral recognition when the chiral protonating agent H-A\* approaches the substrate, it is faced not only with one, but with two stereogenic centers α and β (Schemes 12 and 13). According to the LTC concept (Latent Trigonal Center concept),<sup>1m-o</sup> we have proposed that one of these two centers (the dominating center) prevails over the other (the latent center). Inside of the circle *L* including the latent trigonal center (Schemes 12 and 13), the protonating agent H-A\* cannot distinguish the *Re*-face from the *Si*-face. Therefore, it cannot appreciate the difference when the two substituents are permuted inside of the circle *L*, although this variation results in a change of the configuration of the double bond. Thus the LTC behaves as one of the three substituents of the trigonal dominating center. Two extreme cases are resulting depending on the coincidence (Scheme 12) or not (Scheme 13)



Scheme 12.



Scheme 13.

of the dominating center ( $\alpha$  or  $\beta$ ) and the reaction center  $\beta$ :

**Reaction site control (RSC)** (Latent Trigonal Center:  $\alpha$ -carbon atom, Scheme 12): Accordingly, the dominating center and the  $\beta$ -reaction site coincide. Therefore, the linkage of H-A\* occurring on the same face of the  $\beta$ -trigonal center, starting, respectively, from the *E*- and *Z*-isomers affords the same enantiomer as the reaction product (Scheme 12 and Table 1, entry 1).<sup>41a</sup>

**Neighboring Site Control (NSC)** (Latent Trigonal Center:  $\beta$ -carbon atom, Scheme 13): In this case, the dominating  $\alpha$  center does not coincide with the reaction site ( $\beta$ -carbon). The approach of the  $\beta$ -trigonal center by the chiral reagent occurs always in front of the same face of the  $\alpha$  dominating trigonal center, which is in the neighborhood of the  $\beta$  reaction site. This is the reason why we say that such a reaction occurs with a NSC. In the case of the *E*-isomer, H-A\* binds to one face of the  $\beta$ -reaction site whereas in the case of the *Z*-isomer, it binds to the other face of the  $\beta$ -center. Thus two products of opposite configurations are obtained from the *Z*- and *E*-isomers (Scheme 13 and Table 1, entry 2).

For these two RSC and NSC ways, we have to consider the enantioface selectivity (% attack on each face). In cases of partial enantioselectivity, products with ee < 100% are obtained from the *E*- and *Z*-isomers, with the same ee and the same configuration for the RSC way and with the same ee and an opposite configuration for the NSC way. Beside these two extreme ways, mixed cases are involved.

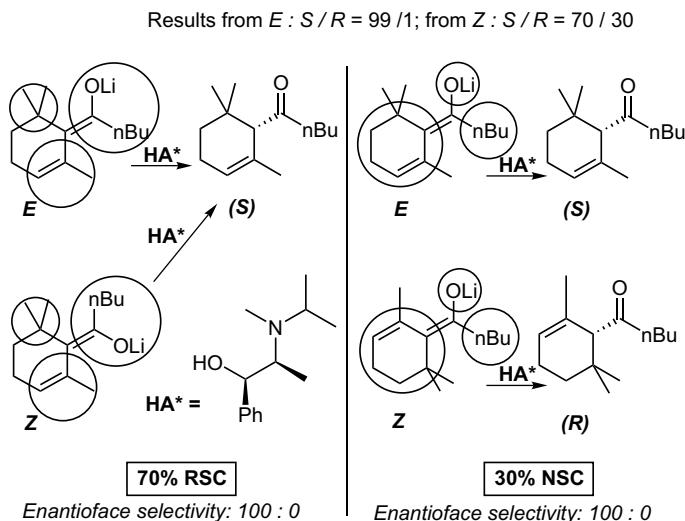
**Mixed RSC/NSC reactions:** In this case, electrophilic attacks occur partly by the RSC way and partly by the NSC way.<sup>41b</sup> It is noteworthy that a racemic product can be obtained by ways involving a total enantioselectivity (100/0): in the particular case of mixed ways RSC/NSC = 50/50, a racemic product is obtained from a single geometrical isomer, while the other geometrical isomer affords one enantiomerically pure enantiomer (Table 1, entry 5).<sup>42</sup>

**Literature examples:** Only a few examples concerning the influence of the *E*- and *Z*-configuration of the prochiral substrates have been reported. Protonation of lithium enolates of damascone analogues by *N*-*i*-propyl ephedrine published by Fehr is RSC predominant.<sup>2g</sup> Protonation of silyl enol ethers obtained from thiol esters of  $\alpha$ -aryl propionic acids by binaphthol/SnCl<sub>4</sub>

Table 1. Theoretical results with enantioface selectivity: 100/0

	RSC (%)	NSC (%)	From pure <i>E</i> isomer product	Ee (%)	From pure <i>Z</i> isomer product	Ee (%)
1	100	0	One enantiomer	100	The same enantiomer	100
2	0	100	One enantiomer	100	The other enantiomer	100
3	75	25	One enantiomer	100	The same enantiomer	50
			or one enantiomer	50	The same enantiomer	100
4	25	75	One enantiomer	100	The other enantiomer	50
			or one enantiomer	50	The other enantiomer	100
5	50	50	One enantiomer	100	Racemic	0
			or racemic	0	One enantiomer	100



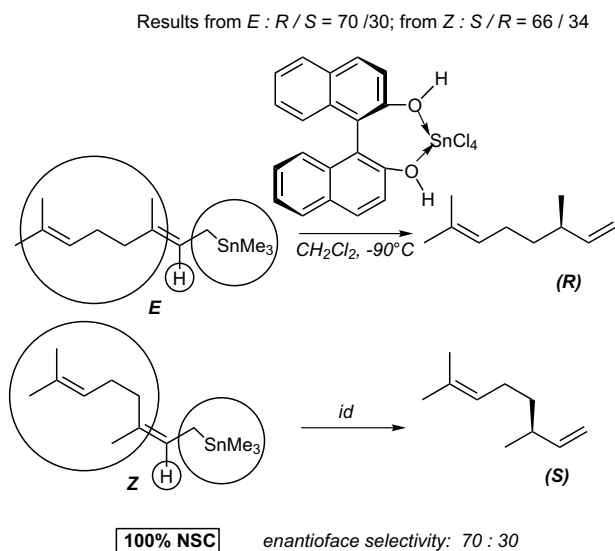


Scheme 14.

led to enantioselectivities, which were independent of the  $E/Z$  ratio (RSC reaction) (T12, entry 6).<sup>43,44</sup> Protonation of  $Z$ - and  $E$ -enamines of phenylhydatropic aldehyde by DPTA<sup>1b</sup> as well as protonation of  $E$ - and  $Z$ -allyltins reported by Yamamoto<sup>10f</sup> are NSC preponderant.

In the Fehr example<sup>2g</sup> (Scheme 14), the results could be explained by mixed reactions with RSC/NSC = 70/30 and an enantioface selectivity near of 100:0 for each type of reaction; from the  $E$ -isomer, the RSC and NSC routes could lead independently to the same ( $S$ )-enantiomer, whereas from the  $Z$ -isomer, they could lead to products with opposite configurations.

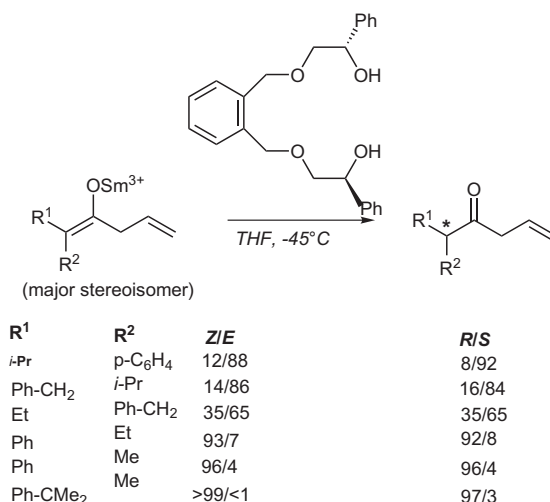
In the Yamamoto example (Scheme 15), the  $E$ - and  $Z$ -isomers lead to products with opposite configurations (NSC reactions).<sup>10f</sup> Moreover, as the ees are nearly iden-



Scheme 15.

tical, the participation of the RSC-type reaction is negligible. The results can be explained by a nearly pure NSC reaction with a moderate enantioface selectivity of about 70:30.<sup>45</sup>

Takeuchi has reported the enantioselective protonation of a series of samarium enolates with known configurations (Scheme 16).<sup>8b</sup> Although in each case the results from the  $E$ - and  $Z$ -enolates are not given, the excellent correlation observed between the enantiomeric excesses and the  $E/Z$  ratio suggests a pure NSC reaction.



Scheme 16.

Discussion: From a more general point of view in the studies of asymmetric reactions, when a product is obtained either racemic or with a modest ee from one geometrical isomer using a chiral electrophilic reagent, before searching a more efficient chiral reagent, it is

worthwhile to know the result from the other geometrical isomer.

In cases of a pure RSC route, it is not necessary to work with pure geometrical isomers since the two pure forms *E* and *Z*, as well as their mixtures, afford the same enantiomer with the same ee. Consequently, obtaining the other enantiomer requires the use of a chiral reagent of opposite configuration.

In cases of a pure NSC route, it is necessary to work with pure *Z*- and *E*-isomers, since products of opposite configurations are obtained from each of them, with the same ee. The advantage is that by using the same chiral reagent, it is possible to access to the enantiomers of opposite configurations starting, respectively, from the *E*- or *Z*-material. Nevertheless, when only one pure stereoisomer (*E* or *Z*) is available, the two desired enantiomers can be obtained using the two chiral reagents of opposite configuration. Obviously, most of asymmetric reactions behave as more complex mixed processes.

The preceding considerations suggest that at the beginning of the study of a new asymmetric reaction it is essential to determine if the process is of NSC or RSC type. If the two isomers *E* and *Z* are not available in their pure forms, it is sufficient enough to know the results from two different mixtures of *E*- and *Z*-isomers.

In the cases of asymmetric reactions involving a substrate bonded to a chiral auxiliary (covalently or not), and an achiral reagent, the same NSC and RSC schemes have to be considered. Numerous examples of asymmetric reactions exhibiting very high ee, both from *E*- and *Z*-isomers, are described (pure NSC- or RSC-type reactions).<sup>46</sup> In the field of enantioselective protonations, high ee have been reported from one geometrical isomer, whereas in most cases, the results from the other are not known. Obviously, in the case where the *a* and *b* substituents are identical (Schemes 12 and 13), the only possibility is the RSC way.

#### 4.2. Protonation in the presence of amines

When the protonation of a lithium enolate is performed in the presence of an amine, we may consider not only the direct protonation of the Li-enolate complexed by the amine via the protonating agent H-A\* but also the protonation of the Li-enolate by the intermediary of

the ammonium salt  $^+\text{NHR}_3$ ,  $^-\text{A}^*$ . An oversimplified representation of these two cases is presented in Scheme 17.



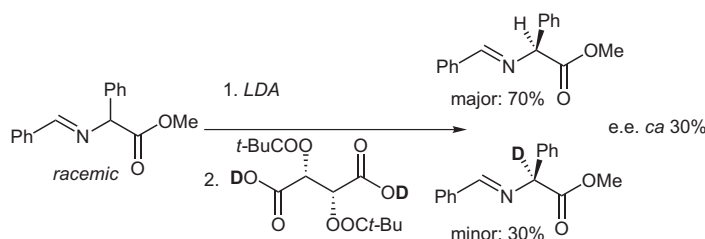
Scheme 17.

The formation of molecular complexes between Li-enolates and amines in the solid state as in solution is very well documented.<sup>47</sup> The enantioselectivity of the protonation of an enolate is generally influenced by the presence of an amine, its nature, and its structure (T6, entries 2 and 3).<sup>1g,i,k,6</sup> In some cases, products with opposite configurations are obtained using LDA instead of LiHMDS in order to prepare the enolate (T6, entry 4).<sup>24</sup> Protonation of a Li-enolate prepared in the presence of a chiral amine by an achiral acid led us to a significant ee (T6, entry 2)<sup>1g,i</sup> opening up the chemistry of chiral bases in asymmetric synthesis. Examples of this type of protonation have been reported (Schemes 20, 35, 36; T7, entries 1, 2, 16, 19; T8, entry 2),<sup>4d,6,11b,29b</sup> some of which with very high ee.<sup>6a,b,d</sup>

Additionally, we observed that the addition of a deuterated chiral acid D-A\* to a Li-enolate generated from a carboxylic ester and LDA does not furnish the desired  $\alpha$ -deutero carboxylic compound, but mainly the  $\alpha$ -protonated product (Scheme 18) whereas the quenching of an aliquot with D<sub>2</sub>O gave a total incorporation of deuterium.<sup>1e</sup>

Many observations of this type have been reported.<sup>4d,6a,b,36f,48</sup> It should be noted that the deuterating (or protonating) agent is confronted to many basic sites such as the solvent, the liberated secondary amine, the *C*- and *O*-centers of the enolate and can encounter them before bonding thermodynamically to the carbon center of the enolate.

According to Scheme 19, in order to enhance the deuteration versus the protonation the factors lowering the stability of the intermediate ammonium salt must be considered. These are, for a given amine, the decreased acidity of D-A\*, and for a given D-A\*, the decreased basicity of the amine.



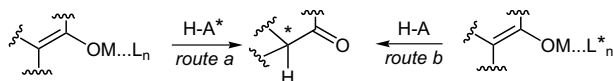
Scheme 18.





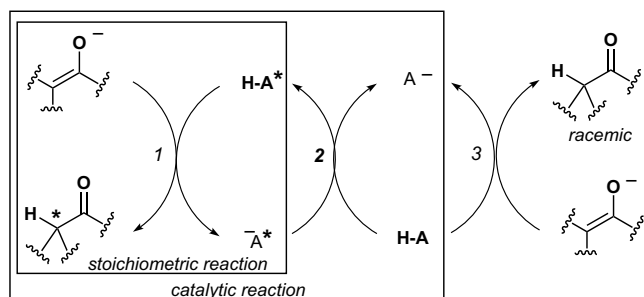
Scheme 22 and T2, entry 5; T7, entries 29 and 30; T9, entries 7–10).

**4.4.2. Enolates.** In order to present the literature results, two types of reactions have been considered, according to the starting materials: (route a) the prochiral enolate is brought into the presence of a chiral acid  $H-A^*$ ; (route b) the prochiral enolate, part of a chiral aggregate is brought into the presence of an achiral acid (Scheme 23).



Scheme 23.

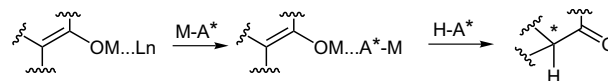
**4.4.2.1. Protonation by a chiral protonating agent (Scheme 23, route a).** The chiral protonating agent  $H-A^*$  can be used in a catalytic amount if it is regenerated by introducing a stoichiometric amount of an achiral acid  $H-A$  (Scheme 24, routes 1 and 2). However, the achiral acid  $H-A$  is solicted by two bases: the anion  $A^{*-}$  (route 2) and the enolate (route 3). Obviously, for an optimum catalytic cycle, route 3 must be avoided, requiring  $k_1$  and  $k_2 \gg k_3$ .



Scheme 24.

To minimize route 3, the ratio  $H-A^*/H-A$  must be as high as possible. This result is obtained when  $H-A$  is introduced slowly,<sup>2d,8c,9e,10c</sup> or when a liquid–liquid biphasic system<sup>8e</sup> or solid–liquid biphasic system<sup>8e</sup> is used.

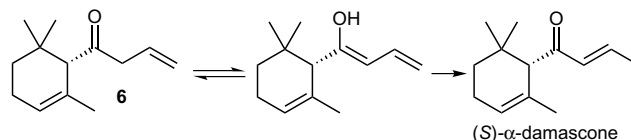
In fact, at the beginning of the protonation step, the liberated  $M-A^*$  can behave as a ligand of the enolate ( $L = M-A^*$ ) and acts upon its protonation. Thus a chiral aggregate is protonated by a chiral acid  $H-A^*$ , involving a double stereodifferentiation (Scheme 25).



Scheme 25.

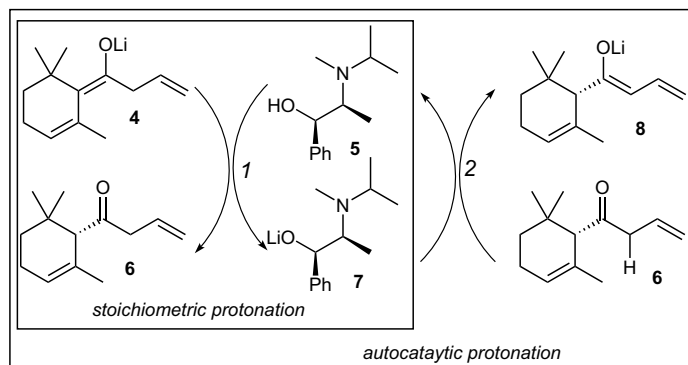
Moreover, the chiral acid  $H-A^*$  often contains a basic site able to complex the cation (see Section 2.1). Thus, route a is a simplified representation. The first examples of catalytic enantioselective protonation of enolates were reported in 1993 and 1994, by Fehr.<sup>2d,e</sup> Protonation of Li-enolate **4** by a stoichiometric amount of aminoalcohol **5** led to ketone **6** with an excellent enantioselectivity (95%) (Scheme 26, route 1).<sup>2e</sup> In fact, preliminary mechanistic studies have shown that this reaction did not need an equivalent of  $H-A^*$  **5** since protonation of the Li-aminoalkoxide **7** by ketone **6** regenerates aminoalcohol **5** with concomitant formation of isomeric Li-enolate **8** (Scheme 26, route 2). Using only 0.3 equiv of chiral protonating agent, **5** afforded ketone **6** with 93% ee and 86% yield.<sup>2e</sup>

Li-enolate **8** was transformed during the work-up into ketone **6**, which can be easily isomerized into (*S*)- $\alpha$ -damascone, a fragrance material (Scheme 27).<sup>2e,g</sup> It was established that enolate **4** was not enantioselectively protonated by ketone **6**.



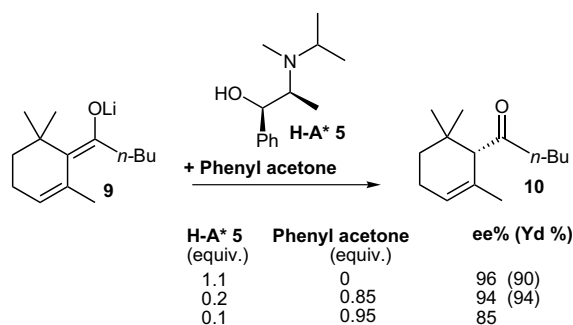
Scheme 27.

Generally, the resulting carbonyl compound did not have sufficient acidity to regenerate the chiral protonat-



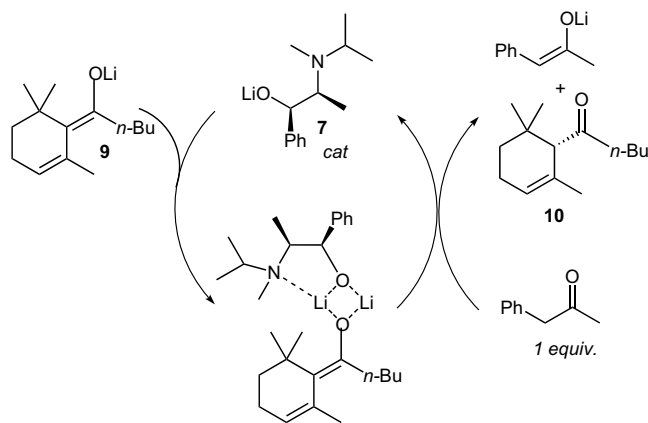
Scheme 26.

ing agent, as in this particular case of autocatalytic enantioselective protonation. To circumvent this problem, the authors added an achiral acid with adequate  $pK_a$ , in stoichiometric amount.<sup>2c</sup> Li-enolate **9**, an analogue of **4**, was transformed into ketone **10** by protonation with a catalytic amount of chiral aminoalcohol **5**, in the presence of phenyl acetone (Scheme 28).



Scheme 28.

Although these results apparently agree with route a (Scheme 23), mechanistic studies suggest a pathway related to route b, as it was observed that phenyl acetone protonates Li-enolate **9** much faster than Li-aminoalkoxide **7**. The authors suggested that phenyl acetone furnishes its proton to a chiral complex formed from Li-enolate **9** and Li-aminoalkoxide **7**, leading to chiral ketone **10** and regenerating chiral Li-aminoalkoxide **7** (Scheme 29).<sup>2e,g,51</sup> Unlike the general Scheme 23 (route a), the enolate is not directly protonated by a chiral acid, but is transformed into a chiral aggregate, which is protonated by an achiral acid.

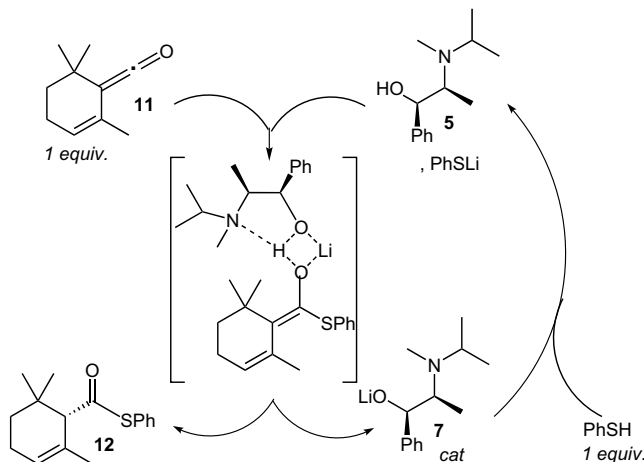


Scheme 29.

In this catalytic cycle, the achiral acid (phenyl acetone) may be replaced by  $\beta$ -keto esters, thiophenol, 2,6-dimethyl-4-methylphenol,  $H_2O$ , and carboxylic acids.<sup>2c</sup>

Similarly, excellent results were obtained for the deracemization of thioaryl esters, using catalytic conditions (T12, entries 1 and 2).<sup>2c,f,g</sup> As chiral thioarylesters can also be prepared by the addition of Li-thioarylalkoxides to ketene **11** at  $-55^\circ\text{C}$ , in the presence of 1 equiv of chi-

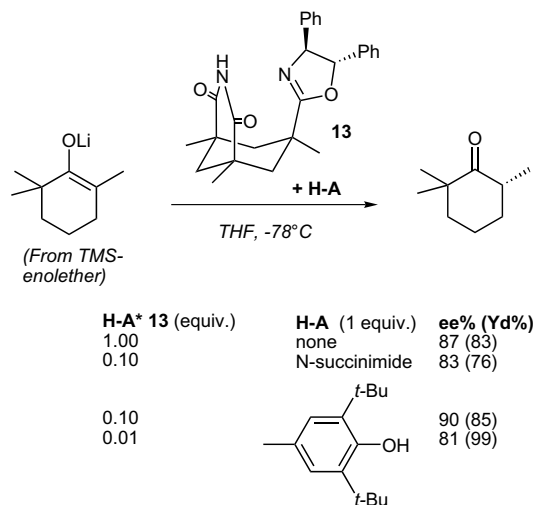
ral protonating agent **5** (ee: 95–97%),<sup>2c</sup> a clever catalytic process was reported. Addition of PhSH to a mixture of ketene **11** in the presence of 5% of chiral Li-aminoalkoxide **7** afforded thiophenyl ester **12** with 89% ee and 86% yield (Scheme 30).<sup>2c</sup> The added thiol acts as a proton source and the Li-thioarylalkoxide as a nucleophile.



Scheme 30.

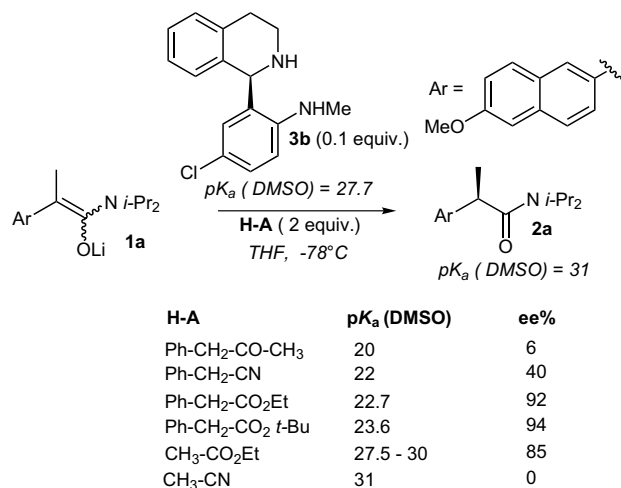
Moreover, this catalytic process has the advantage of taking place at  $-27^\circ\text{C}$  given that the thioester enolate is consumed as soon as it appears, thus avoiding its reverse transformation into ketene **11** and PhSLi, which occurs at  $T > -80^\circ\text{C}$  and requiring in the case of the stoichiometric protonation of the enolate prepared from racemic **12**, to work at  $-100^\circ\text{C}$ .<sup>2c</sup>

Enantioselective protonation of a single enolate, using as the chiral protonating agent a catalytic quantity of chiral imide **13** in the presence of 1 equiv of an achiral acid such as *N*-succinimide or a phenol (BHT) was reported by Yamamoto.<sup>10c,m</sup> Using only 0.01 equiv of chiral imide **13** afforded the reaction product with 81% ee, versus 87% for the stoichiometric conditions (Scheme 31).<sup>10a</sup>



Scheme 31.

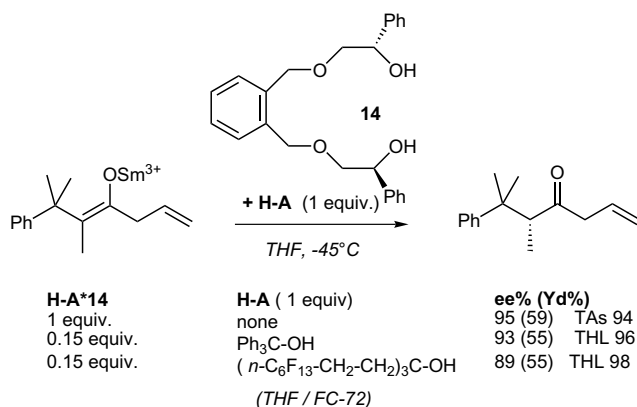
Good results were also obtained with phthalimide, pentafluorophenol, or dipivaloylmethane in the presence of less than 0.10 equiv of chiral imide **13**.<sup>10c</sup> Chiral imide **13** and its enantiomer can be readily prepared from Kemp's tricarboxylic acid and enantiomeric  $\beta$ -aminoalcohols.<sup>10a</sup> Vedejs reported the catalytic enantioselective protonation of enolate **1a** using 0.1 equiv of chiral aniline **3b** in the presence of achiral carbon acids H-A of increasing  $pK_a$  (Scheme 32).<sup>9e</sup>



Scheme 32.

The protonation occurs with a very low ee using the more and the less acidic carbon acids H-A of a series. In the first case (lowest  $pK_a$ ) route 3 of Scheme 24 is favored, in the second case (highest  $pK_a$ ), route 2 of Scheme 24 is locked, preventing the regeneration of H-A\* **3b**. Optimum conditions (ee 94% vs 97% for the stoichiometric conditions) were encountered when using *tert*-butyl phenylacetate as H-A. Good levels of enantioselectivities were obtained for carbon acids H-A with  $22 < pK_a$  (DMSO)  $< 30$ . According to Vedejs, this large range of  $pK_a$  is due to a proton transfer between a heteroatom base (aniline **3b**) and a carbon acid H-A (Scheme 24, route 2), which is inherently much faster than the proton transfer involving a carbon acid and a carbon base (Scheme 24, route 3).<sup>9e</sup> Similarly, deracemization of a  $\beta$ ,  $\gamma$ -unsaturated amide using 0.05 equiv of aniline **3b** was reported with an ee of up to 92% (T5, entry 3).<sup>9e</sup>

Takeuchi has extensively studied the enantioselective protonation of samarium enolates. Excellent results were obtained with C<sub>2</sub> symmetrical chiral diols, such as **14**, which act as chiral proton sources (and/or as tetradentate ligands of the samarium cation) (T3, entry 3; T7, entries 22–24).<sup>8f</sup> The author succeeded in extending this reaction to its catalytic version (ee 93% vs 95% for the stoichiometric conditions), using trityl alcohol as achiral acid H-A (Scheme 33).<sup>8c</sup> Various other achiral proton sources such as *tert*-butanol, BHT, acetylacetone, dipivaloylmethane,<sup>8c</sup> a fluororous tertiary alcohol<sup>8c</sup> were also effective (Scheme 33).

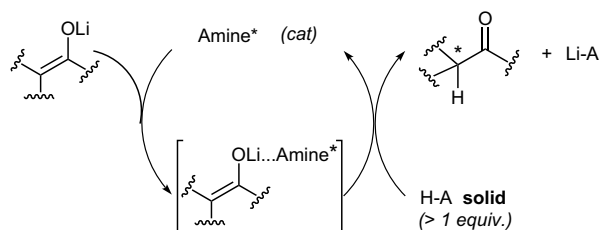


Scheme 33.

Takeuchi introduced fluororous chiral and achiral acids H-A and H-A\* associated with the use of fluororous solvents such as FC-72 (*n*-C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>13</sub>).<sup>8e,h</sup> Catalytic conditions have been realized (ee 89%, Scheme 33) in a biphasic system THF/FC-72, using **14** as a chiral acid and a fluororous alcohol as an achiral proton source.<sup>8e</sup> The fluororous achiral alcohol remains in the fluororous solvent, while the chiral protonating agent **14** and/or its conjugate base shuttles between the THF and the FC-72 phases. The advantage of this procedure is that the achiral proton source H-A does not need to be added slowly to the reaction mixture as in the usual way, since in such a system, the ratio of H-A\*/H-A is very high in the THF phase where the protonation occurs. Moreover fluororous products are easily separated from non-fluororous compounds by simple extraction with a fluororous solvent such as FC-72.

**4.4.2.2. Protonation of chiral aggregates by achiral acids (Scheme 23, route b)<sup>52</sup>.** Koga<sup>6c</sup> and Nakai<sup>16</sup> reported in 1997 this type of catalytic enantioselective protonation.

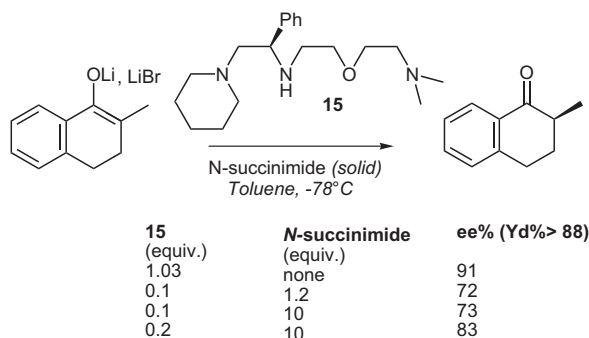
Koga studied alkylation<sup>49</sup> together with the protonation<sup>6c</sup> of Li-enolates in the presence of stoichiometric and catalytic amounts of chiral tetradentate amines. The first example of catalytic enantioselective protonation involved a solid-liquid biphasic system using achiral acids, such as *N*-succinimide, which are solid and not soluble in toluene, allowing a slow reaction of the achiral proton source, even when added in one portion. A simplified catalytic cycle is depicted in Scheme 34. Catalytic chiral amine with the starting enolate gives a chiral aggregate, which is protonated by the achiral acid H-A. The reaction of the starting



Scheme 34.

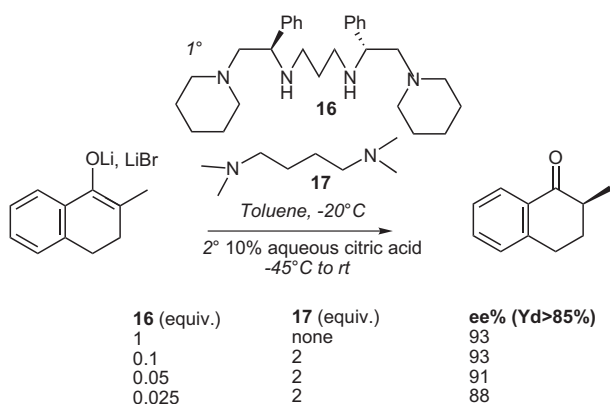
enolate with H-A must be slower than the formation of the chiral aggregate and its reaction with H-A.

Thus, the Li-enolate of 2-methyltetralone in the presence of 0.2 equiv of chiral amine **15** with an excess of *N*-succinimide affords the corresponding ketone with an ee up to 83%,<sup>6c</sup> versus 91% for the stoichiometric reaction (Scheme 35).<sup>6a</sup>



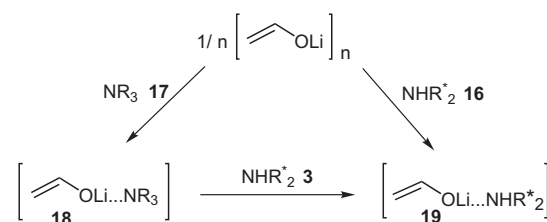
Scheme 35.

A second example involves a liquid–liquid biphasic system with a large excess of water as the proton source in the presence of a catalytic amount of chiral tetramine **16** used together with 2 equiv of achiral bidentate diamine **17** in toluene (Scheme 36).<sup>6d</sup>



Scheme 36.

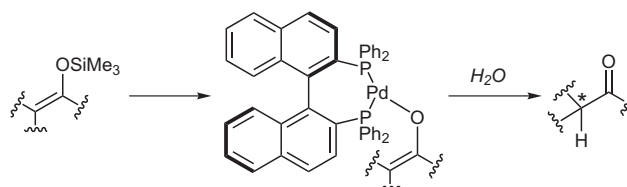
Using 0.1 equiv of chiral amine **16**, enantioselective protonation was achieved with the same ee of 93% as in the stoichiometric conditions. With only 0.025 equiv of **16**, the enantioselectivity did not decrease substantially (ee 88%). A possible role of the achiral diamine **17** is the disaggregation of the starting Li-enolate by complexation affording achiral aggregate **18**, which is a relay to accede to chiral aggregate **19**, thus obtained more easily than by the direct way. Chiral aggregate **19**, which is more reactive and more hydrophilic than achiral aggregate **18**, is protonated more rapidly in the biphasic system toluene/H<sub>2</sub>O (Scheme 37). Lithium bromide, which is necessary for an enantioselective protonation, has been omitted in Schemes 34 and 37.<sup>6a</sup>



Scheme 37.

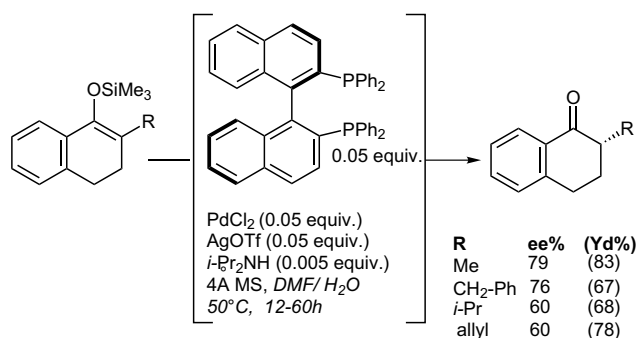
Using the catalytic conditions with 0.1 equiv of chiral amine **16** afforded 2-*n*-butyltetralone with an ee of 90% versus 92% for the stoichiometric procedure.<sup>6d</sup>

Nakai reported the protonation of a transient chiral palladium enolate generated by reaction of a chiral cationic Pd complex with a trimethylsilyl enol ether, using water as the proton source (Scheme 38).<sup>16</sup>



Scheme 38.

The protonation of this chiral palladium enolate afforded the enantiomerically enriched carbonyl compound with regeneration of the chiral Pd complex, thus working as catalyst. Addition of diisopropylamine or trimethylamine modifies the catalyst, thus making the reaction slower and providing an enhanced enantioselectivity. Cyclic ketones were obtained with ees up to 79% (Scheme 39 and T7, entry 25).

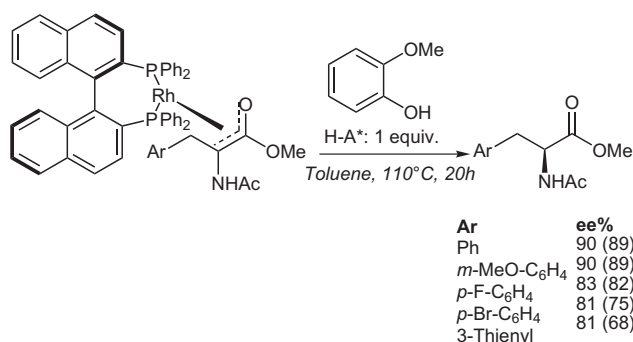


Scheme 39.

Genêt developed an access to  $\alpha$ -amino esters with ee up to 90% using the protonation of (*R*)-BINAP complexed rhodium enolates, by guaiacol (Scheme 40).<sup>53</sup>

These enolates were obtained by the addition of Ar-BF<sub>3</sub>K to 2-methyl acetamido acrylate in the presence of [Rh(cod)<sub>2</sub>][PF<sub>6</sub>] and (*R*)-BINAP.

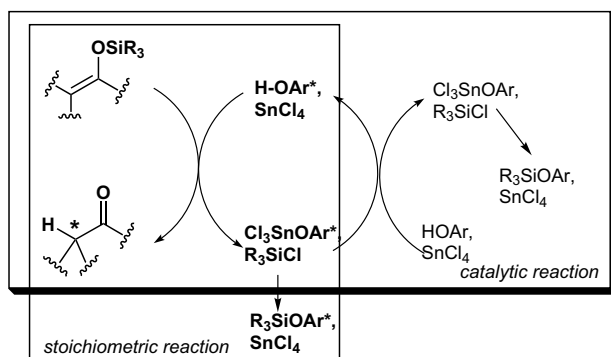




Scheme 40.

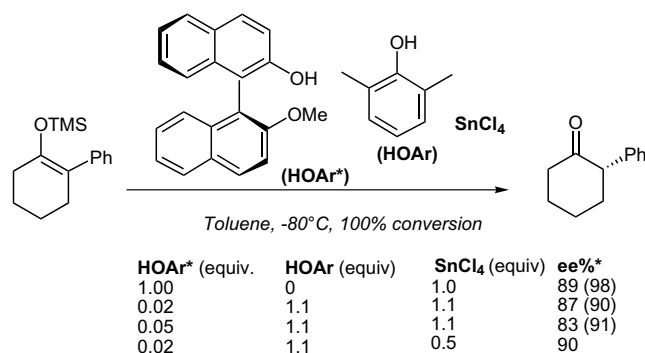
Transient samarium<sup>54</sup> and cobalt<sup>55</sup> enolates complexed by chiral ligands have been protonated by achiral acids (T5, entry 8; T12, entry 4), with success.

**4.4.3. Enol ethers and ketene acetals.** Yamamoto et al. went extensively into the enantioselective protonation of silyl enol ethers and disilyl ketene acetals.<sup>10a,d,f,j,l,o</sup> Using stoichiometric conditions, excellent results were obtained with chiral binaphthol derivatives (represented as  $\text{HOAr}^*$  in Scheme 41) as Brønsted acids associated with Lewis acids such as  $\text{SnCl}_4$ , which restricts the orientation of the proton and raises its acidity (T2, entries 2–4; T7, entries 31 and 32; T9, entry 11; T10, entry 3; T12, entry 6). Mechanistic studies have shown that the silyl group of the starting material was transferred to the binaphthol derivative via a tin oxide intermediate (Scheme 41). A catalytic version can be realized if the chiral proton source  $\text{HOAr}^*$  is regenerated from an achiral proton donor  $\text{HOAr}$ , if  $\text{SnCl}_4$  is preferentially coordinated to  $\text{HOAr}^*$  and if the reactivity of  $\text{HOAr}^*$ ,  $\text{SnCl}_4$  is greater than that of  $\text{HOAr}$ ,  $\text{SnCl}_4$  (Scheme 41).<sup>10d,f,j,l</sup>



Scheme 41.

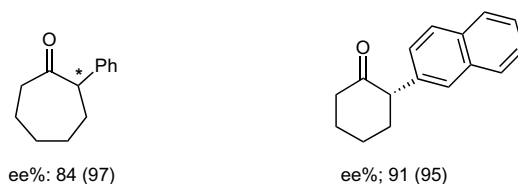
Thus, enantioselective protonation of TMS enol ether of 2-phenylcyclohexanone was achieved with ees up to 90% using stoichiometric amounts of 2,6-dimethylphenol and catalytic amounts of monomethyl ether of optically active binaphthol, in the presence of  $\text{SnCl}_4$  (Scheme 42).<sup>10d,m</sup>



\* Values in parentheses were corrected for the regioisomeric purity.

Scheme 42.

Similarly, the following ketones were obtained from the corresponding tetrasubstituted TMS enol ethers with corrected ees of 97% and 95% (Scheme 43).<sup>10m</sup>



Scheme 43.

Examples of catalytic enantioselective protonation of disilyl ketene acetals are reported in T2, entry 2.

## 5. Conclusion and outlook

In this review we have discussed the main concepts for realizing enantioselective protonations. We expect that this will be a useful tool for chemists interested in this area.

Access to various classes of organic compounds is reported in Tables 2–13. Numerous examples concern *perfumery*:  $\alpha$ - and  $\gamma$ -damascones (T12, entries 1 and 2), vulcanolide (T3, entries 1 and 2; T12, entry 3), lavandulol (T9, entry 9), *medicinal chemistry*: ibuprofen (T2, entries 2 and 4; T5, entry 2; T12, entry 6), naproxen (T2, entries 3 and 4; T5, entries 1 and 2; T9, entries 2, 4, 11), epibatidine (T7, entry 7) muscarinic receptor antagonist (T5, entries 4 and 5), neutral endopeptidase inhibitors (T9, entry 10, T12, entries 4 and 5) and *biochemistry*:  $\alpha$ -amino acids (T6),  $\beta$ -amino acids (T5, entry 6), chromanones (T7, entry 30), pheromones (T11, entry 1).

Various chiral structures have been obtained in high ee, proving that enantioselective protonation reactions are now powerful tools in asymmetric synthesis, for academic and industrial laboratories.



Table 2. Acids

Substrate

Chiral Agent

Product

1

From

H-A\*: 1.33 equiv.
   
 +
   
 cinchonine:
   
 1.53 equiv.
   
*CH<sub>3</sub>CN*, 60°C, 3h
   
 + *CuCl* (0.03 equiv.)

ref. 13a
   
 ee: 28% (quant.)

2

*Toluene*, -80°C, 1h.

H-A\*, *SnCl<sub>4</sub>*

ref. 101

Ar	H-A equiv.	<i>SnCl<sub>4</sub></i> equiv.	H-A* equiv.	ee% (Yd%)
C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub>	0	1	1	92 (quant)
	1.1	0.08	0.1	94 (quant)
	1.1	0.04	0.05	80 (quant)
<i>p</i> - <i>t</i> -Bu-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	0	0	1	94 (quant)
	1.1	0.08	0.10	93 (80)

3

*Toluene* or *CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>*
  
 -78°C, 1h.

H-A\* : 1.0 equiv.

ref. 101

Ar	R	ee%
Ph	OMe	87
4-MeO-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	Me	92*
	F	70
	Cl	91
Ph	Br	83

\* ee: 98% after recrystallization

(continued on next page)

Table 2 (continued)

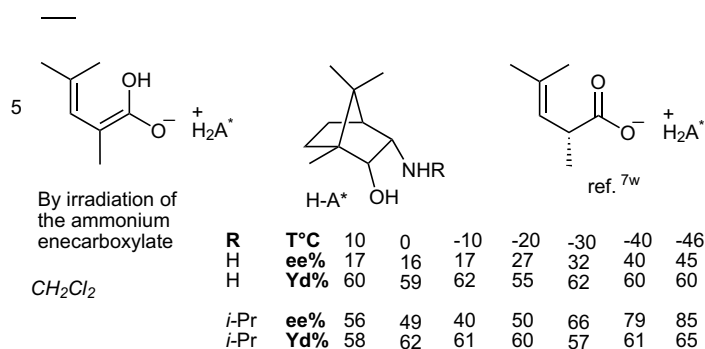
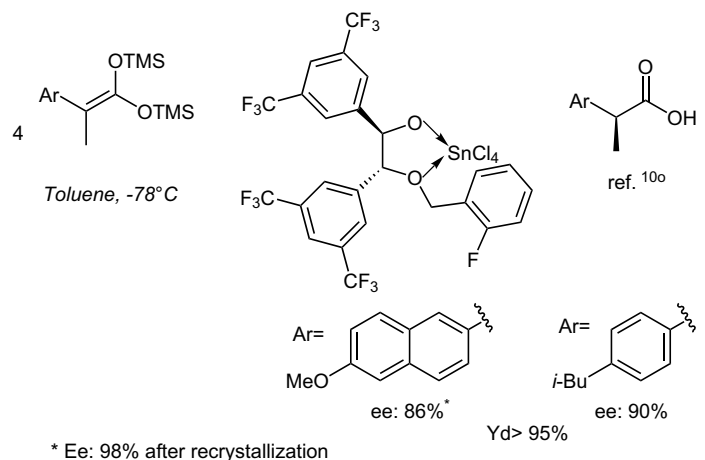


Table 3. Acyclic ketones

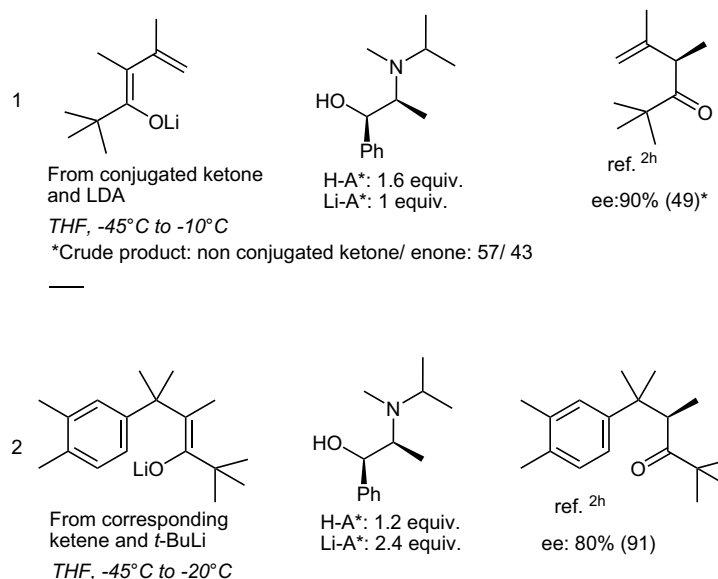


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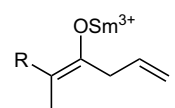
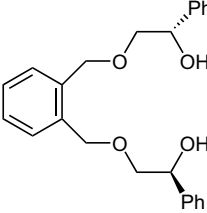
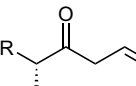
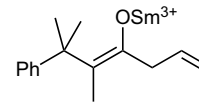
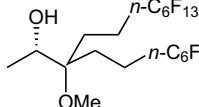
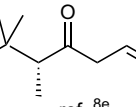
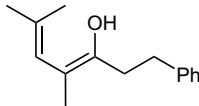
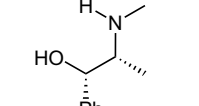
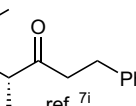
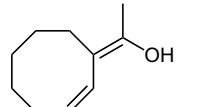
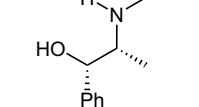
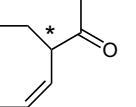
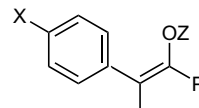
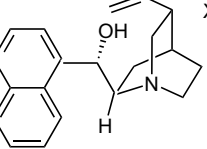
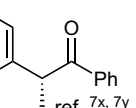
3	 <p>From ketene/ alkyl iodide/ <math>\text{SmI}_2</math> <i>THF</i>, <i>HMPA</i>, <math>-78^\circ\text{C}</math> to <i>RT</i>    <math>\text{H-A}^*</math>: 1.5 equiv.</p> <p>*With trace of conjugated ketone.</p>	 <p><math>\text{H-A}^*</math>: 1.5 equiv.</p>	 <p>ref. <sup>8b</sup></p> <table> <tr> <th>R</th><th>ee% (Yd%)</th></tr> <tr> <td>t-Bu</td><td>93 (21)*</td></tr> <tr> <td>Ph</td><td>91 (51)*</td></tr> <tr> <td>Ph-Me<sub>2</sub>C</td><td>97 (65)*</td></tr> </table>	R	ee% (Yd%)	t-Bu	93 (21)*	Ph	91 (51)*	Ph-Me <sub>2</sub> C	97 (65)*													
R	ee% (Yd%)																							
t-Bu	93 (21)*																							
Ph	91 (51)*																							
Ph-Me <sub>2</sub> C	97 (65)*																							
4	 <p>From ketene/ alkyl iodide/ <math>\text{SmI}_2</math> <i>THF</i>, <i>HMPA</i>, <math>-45^\circ\text{C}</math></p>	 <p><math>\text{H-A}^*</math>: 2 equiv. <math>\text{H-A}^*</math>: 0.16 equiv.: <math>\text{H-A}</math>: (<i>n</i>-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>13</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>3</sub>C-OH, <i>THF</i>/FC-72)</p>	 <p>ref. <sup>8e</sup></p> <p>ee: 66% (55) ee: 60% (59)</p>																					
5	 <p>By irradiation of the <math>\alpha,\beta</math>-unsaturated ketone <i>CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub></i>, <math>-40^\circ\text{C}</math></p>	 <p><math>\text{H-A}^*</math>: 0.1 equiv.</p>	 <p>ref. <sup>7i</sup></p> <p>ee: 52% (75)</p>																					
6	 <p>By irradiation of the <math>\alpha,\beta</math>-unsaturated ketone <i>CH<sub>3</sub>CN</i>, <math>-40^\circ\text{C}</math></p>	 <p><math>\text{H-A}^*</math>: 0.1 equiv.</p>	 <p>ref. <sup>7i</sup></p> <p>ee: 36% (40)</p>																					
7	 <p>(unknown conf.) <math>\text{Z} = \text{H}</math> or <math>\text{PdL}_n</math> By <math>\text{Pd}</math>-cat hydroge- nolysis of benzyl 2- benzoyl-2-aryl- propanoate <i>AcOEt</i>, <i>RT</i>, 1-2h</p>	 <p><math>\text{H-A}^*</math>: cinchonine</p>	 <p>ref. <sup>7x, 7y</sup></p> <table> <tr> <th>X</th><th><math>\text{H-A}^*</math> equiv.</th><th>ee%</th></tr> <tr> <td>H</td><td>0.3</td><td>71 (100)</td></tr> <tr> <td>H</td><td>0.05</td><td>68 (100)</td></tr> <tr> <td>p-OMe</td><td>0.025</td><td>75 (92)</td></tr> <tr> <td>p-Me</td><td>0.025</td><td>71 (99)</td></tr> <tr> <td>p-Ph</td><td>0.025</td><td>72 (95)</td></tr> <tr> <td>p-F</td><td>0.025</td><td>66 (99)</td></tr> </table>	X	$\text{H-A}^*$ equiv.	ee%	H	0.3	71 (100)	H	0.05	68 (100)	p-OMe	0.025	75 (92)	p-Me	0.025	71 (99)	p-Ph	0.025	72 (95)	p-F	0.025	66 (99)
X	$\text{H-A}^*$ equiv.	ee%																						
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p-Me	0.025	71 (99)																						
p-Ph	0.025	72 (95)																						
p-F	0.025	66 (99)																						

Table 4. Aldehydes

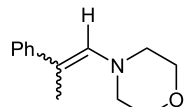
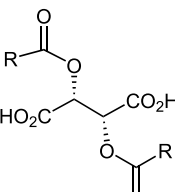
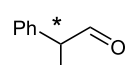
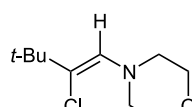
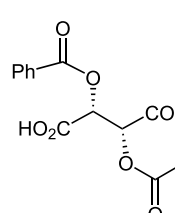
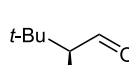
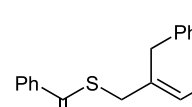
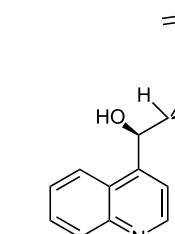
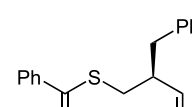
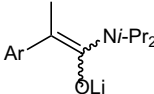
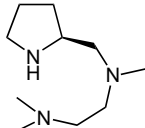
<p>1</p>  <p><i>E</i>-isomer: crystallisation with isomerization of <i>E/Z</i> mixtures  <i>Z</i>-isomer: cracking of racemic amination of hydratropic aldehyde</p> <p><math>Et_2O</math>, <math>-30^\circ C</math></p>	 <p>H-A*: 4 equiv.</p>	 <p>ref. <sup>1b</sup></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>R</th> <th>E</th> <th>Z</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><i>t</i>-Bu</td> <td>13 (S)</td> <td>14 (R)</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>t</i>-Bu-CH<sub>2</sub></td> <td>6 (S)</td> <td>25 (R)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ph</td> <td>20 (S)</td> <td>4 (R)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2-Me-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub></td> <td>25 (S)</td> <td>3 (R)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	R	E	Z	<i>t</i> -Bu	13 (S)	14 (R)	<i>t</i> -Bu-CH <sub>2</sub>	6 (S)	25 (R)	Ph	20 (S)	4 (R)	2-Me-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	25 (S)	3 (R)
R	E	Z															
<i>t</i> -Bu	13 (S)	14 (R)															
<i>t</i> -Bu-CH <sub>2</sub>	6 (S)	25 (R)															
Ph	20 (S)	4 (R)															
2-Me-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	25 (S)	3 (R)															
<p>2</p>  <p>From racemic chloro aldehyde</p> <p><math>Et_2O</math>, <math>-50^\circ C</math></p>	 <p>H-A*: 1.5 equiv.</p>	 <p>ref. <sup>1b</sup></p> <p>ee: 32%</p>															
<p>3</p>  <p>Isolated from benzylacroleine with thiobenzoic acid</p> <p><math>CH_2Cl_2</math>, <math>-70^\circ C</math>, 48h</p>	 <p>H-A*: cinchonidine: 1 equiv.</p>	 <p>ref. <sup>1p</sup></p> <p>ee: 71% (95)</p>															

Table 5. Amides

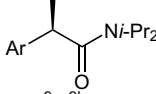
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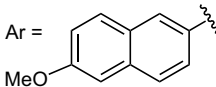


From racemic amide and *s*-BuLi  
THF, -78°C  
+ *s*-BuLi: 1.0 equiv.



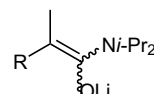
2 equiv.  
BF<sub>3</sub>, Et<sub>2</sub>O: 2 equiv.



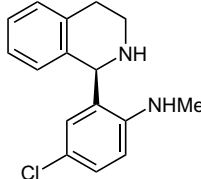
ref. 9a, 9b  
Ar =   
ee: 77% (99)\*

\* ee: 97% (70), after elimination of the less soluble racemate

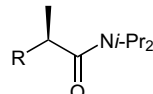
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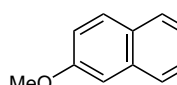
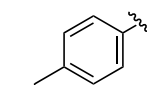
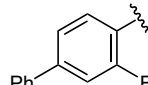
From racemic amide and *s*-BuLi  
THF -78°C  
+ *s*-BuLi: 0.75 equiv.









H-A\*: 2 equiv.



ref. 9b, 9h

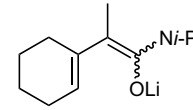
<b>R</b>		<b>Ph</b>		
<b>ee% (Yd%)</b>	97 (> 90)	97 (> 90)	97 (> 90)	97 (> 90)

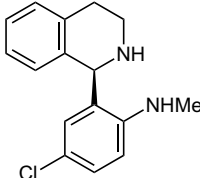
<b>R</b>						
<b>ee% (Yd%)</b>	97 (quant.)	95 (18)*	97	93 (60)*	**	50

\* With conjugated amide      \*\* Mainly conjugated amide

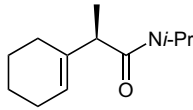
3



From racemic amide and *s*-BuLi  
THF, -78°C  
+ *s*-BuLi: 0.75 equiv.  
+ *s*-BuLi: 0.50 equiv.

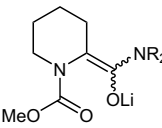


H-A\*: 2 equiv.  
H-A\*: 0.05 equiv.  
H-A: 2 equiv.: *p*-Me<sub>2</sub>N-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>-CO<sub>2</sub>Et

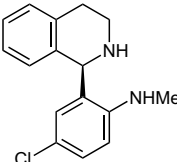


ref. 9b, 9f  
ee: 97% (> 90)  
ee: 92% (94)

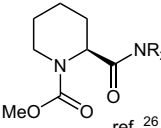
4



From racemic amide and *s*-BuLi, LiBr  
THF -78°C



H-A\*: 2 equiv.



ref. 26  
**NR<sub>2</sub>**: NPr<sub>2</sub>, N(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>5</sub>  
**ee%**: 95 (74), >99

(continued on next page)

Table 5 (continued)

5

From racemic amide  
and *s*-BuLi, LiBr

THF, -78°C

H-A\*: 2 equiv.

ee: 93%

ref. 26

6

From racemic  
pyrimidone  
and LDA

Toluene, -78°C, 1h

H-A\*

ref. 23c

ee%  
62 (90)

68 (89)

7

From racemic amide,  
*t*-BuLi, TMEDA

THF, -78°C

H-A\*: 1 equiv.

LiCl: 1 equiv.

ref. 29a

R	ee%	Yd%
H	86	>90
OMe	86*	94

\* ee: 96% after elimination of the less soluble racemate

8

By NaBH<sub>4</sub> reduction of  
 $\alpha$ -methyl cinnamic amide

L\*: 0.02 equiv.

ref. 55

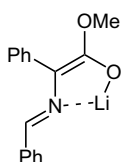
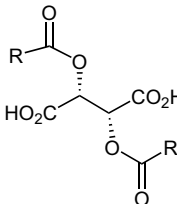
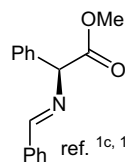
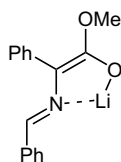
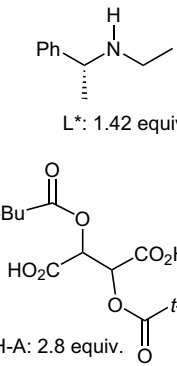
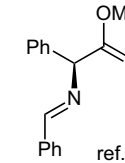
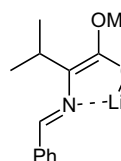
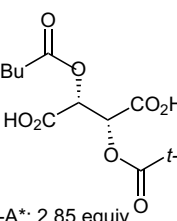
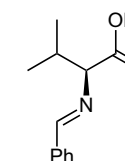
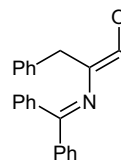
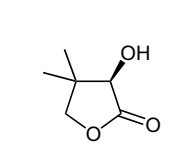
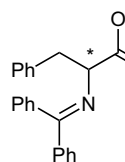
Tetrahydrofurfuryl alcohol,  
MeOH, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, rt

R	ee%
H	50
Me	59
CH <sub>2</sub> Ph	60

Yd >95%



Table 6. Amino esters

1	 <p>From racemic amino ester Schiff base and LDA</p> <p>THF, -70°C</p>	 <p>H-A*: 3 equiv.</p>	 <p>ref. 1c, 1g</p> <table> <tr> <th>R</th><th>ee%</th></tr> <tr> <td>Me</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr> <td><i>i</i>-Pr</td><td>12</td></tr> <tr> <td>Ph</td><td>12</td></tr> <tr> <td><i>t</i>-Bu</td><td>50</td></tr> <tr> <td>adamantyl</td><td>53</td></tr> </table> <p>80&lt; yd%* &lt;85</p>	R	ee%	Me	3	<i>i</i> -Pr	12	Ph	12	<i>t</i> -Bu	50	adamantyl	53		
R	ee%																
Me	3																
<i>i</i> -Pr	12																
Ph	12																
<i>t</i> -Bu	50																
adamantyl	53																
2	 <p>From racemic amino ester Schiff base and chiral Li-amide (1.42 equiv.)</p> <p>THF, -70°C</p>	 <p>L*: 1.42 equiv.</p> <p>H-A: 2.8 equiv.</p>	 <p>ref. 1d</p> <table> <tr> <th>H-A</th><th>ee%*</th></tr> <tr> <td>meso</td><td>24 (85)</td></tr> <tr> <td>racemic</td><td>40 (75)</td></tr> <tr> <td>2R, 3R</td><td>70 (84)</td></tr> <tr> <td>2S, 3S</td><td>6** (85)</td></tr> </table>	H-A	ee%*	meso	24 (85)	racemic	40 (75)	2R, 3R	70 (84)	2S, 3S	6** (85)				
H-A	ee%*																
meso	24 (85)																
racemic	40 (75)																
2R, 3R	70 (84)																
2S, 3S	6** (85)																
3	 <p>From racemic amino ester Schiff base and LiHMDS (1.42 equiv.)</p> <p>THF, -70°C</p>	 <p>H-A*: 2.85 equiv.</p>	 <p>ref. 1k</p> <table> <tr> <th>Added amine</th><th>ee%</th></tr> <tr> <td>none</td><td>34</td></tr> <tr> <td>EtNH<sub>2</sub> (1.42 equiv.)</td><td>55</td></tr> <tr> <td>EtNH<sub>2</sub> (0.25 equiv.)</td><td>53</td></tr> <tr> <td>Et<sub>2</sub>NH (1.42 equiv.)</td><td>44</td></tr> <tr> <td>Et<sub>3</sub>N (1.42 equiv.)</td><td>18</td></tr> <tr> <td><i>i</i>-Pr<sub>2</sub>NH (1.42 equiv.)</td><td>50</td></tr> </table>	Added amine	ee%	none	34	EtNH <sub>2</sub> (1.42 equiv.)	55	EtNH <sub>2</sub> (0.25 equiv.)	53	Et <sub>2</sub> NH (1.42 equiv.)	44	Et <sub>3</sub> N (1.42 equiv.)	18	<i>i</i> -Pr <sub>2</sub> NH (1.42 equiv.)	50
Added amine	ee%																
none	34																
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Et <sub>3</sub> N (1.42 equiv.)	18																
<i>i</i> -Pr <sub>2</sub> NH (1.42 equiv.)	50																
4	 <p>From racemic amino ester Schiff base.</p> <p>-85°C, + LiCl (3 equiv.)</p> <p>Using LDA</p> <p>Using LiHMDS</p>	 <p>H-A*</p>	 <p>ref. 24</p> <table> <tr> <th>ee%</th><th>conf.</th></tr> <tr> <td>40</td><td>(<i>R</i>)</td></tr> <tr> <td>76</td><td>(<i>S</i>)</td></tr> </table>	ee%	conf.	40	( <i>R</i> )	76	( <i>S</i> )								
ee%	conf.																
40	( <i>R</i> )																
76	( <i>S</i> )																

(continued on next page)

Table 6 (continued)

5

From racemic Schiff base and LDA  
THF, -78°C

H-A\*: 1.1 equiv.

ref. 10n

X	ee%*
COOH	29 (91)
t-Bu	49

\* Corrected ee based on the percentage of the protonated product

6

From racemic Schiff base and mesityl Li  
Et<sub>2</sub>O, -78°C

H-A\*: 1 equiv.  
One diastereomer  
The other diastereomer

ref. 10n

ee%*	(Yd%)	conf
53	(84)	S
48	(99)	R

\* Corrected ee based on the percentage of the protonated product

7

From racemic Schiff base and mesityl Li  
Et<sub>2</sub>O, -20°C, 2.5 h

H-A\*: 1.1 equiv.

ref. 10p

R	ee%*	(Yd%)
Me	87	73
i-Bu	85	66
CH <sub>2</sub> -Ph	65	27

\* Corrected ee based on the percentage of the protonated product

8

By Birch reduction of methyl N-Boc pyrrole-2-carboxylate  
THF, -78°C

H-A\*: 2.1 equiv.

ref. 28a

X	ee%	Conf
O	68 (50)	R
S	31 (55)	S

9

By Birch reduction of dimethyl N-Boc pyrrole-2,5-dicarboxylate  
THF, -78°C

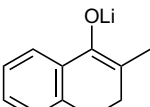
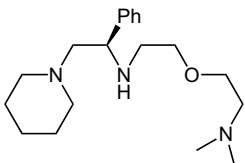
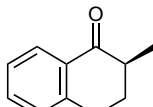
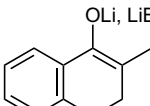
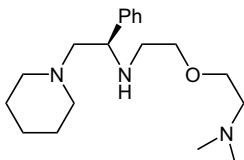
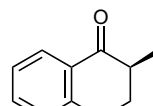
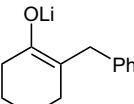
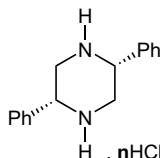
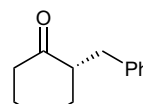
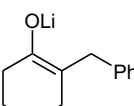
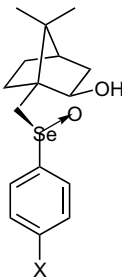
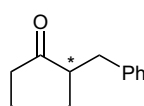
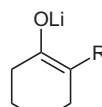
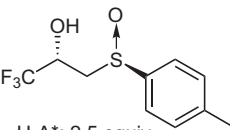
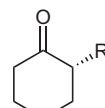
H-A\*: 2.5 equiv.

ref. 28c

R	ee%
H	74* (84)**
Me	0 (35)**

\* Ee: 94% after recrystallization  
 \*\* A 1/1 mixture of cis/trans diesters is obtained

Table 7. Cyclic ketones

1	 <p>From TMS-enol ether and MeLi</p> <p><i>Toluene</i>, -78°C</p>	 <p>L*: 1 equiv. H-A: 1.2 equiv. : AcOH</p> <p>Without LiBr With LiBr (1 equiv.)</p>	 <p>ref. 6a</p> <p>ee: 0% (87) ee: 91% (88)</p>																
2	 <p>From TMS-enol ether and MeLi</p> <p><i>Toluene</i>, -78°C</p>	 <p>L*: 1 equiv. H-A: 1.2 equiv. : AcOH</p>	 <p>ref. 6a</p> <table> <tr> <th>R</th><th>ee%</th><th>(Yd%)</th></tr> <tr> <td>Me</td><td>91</td><td>(88)</td></tr> <tr> <td><i>n</i>-Bu</td><td>90</td><td>(88)</td></tr> <tr> <td><i>i</i>-Pr</td><td>67</td><td>(89)</td></tr> <tr> <td>CH<sub>2</sub>Ph</td><td>83</td><td>(86)</td></tr> </table>	R	ee%	(Yd%)	Me	91	(88)	<i>n</i> -Bu	90	(88)	<i>i</i> -Pr	67	(89)	CH <sub>2</sub> Ph	83	(86)	
R	ee%	(Yd%)																	
Me	91	(88)																	
<i>n</i> -Bu	90	(88)																	
<i>i</i> -Pr	67	(89)																	
CH <sub>2</sub> Ph	83	(86)																	
3	 <p>From enolacetate and MeLi (2 equiv.) in Et<sub>2</sub>O</p> <p><i>Et</i><sub>2</sub>O/ <i>CH</i><sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (1:1), -78°C, 1h</p>	 <p>H-A*: 3 equiv.</p>	 <p>ref. 3c</p> <table> <tr> <th>n</th><th>ee%</th><th>(Yd%)</th></tr> <tr> <td>1</td><td>63</td><td>(89)</td></tr> <tr> <td>2</td><td>70*</td><td>(85)*</td></tr> <tr> <td></td><td>50**</td><td>(89)**</td></tr> </table>	n	ee%	(Yd%)	1	63	(89)	2	70*	(85)*		50**	(89)**				
n	ee%	(Yd%)																	
1	63	(89)																	
2	70*	(85)*																	
	50**	(89)**																	
<p>* Protonation at -90°C. **Protonation in Et<sub>2</sub>O.</p>																			
4	 <p>From enolacetate and MeLi (2 equiv.) in Et<sub>2</sub>O</p> <p><i>CH</i><sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, -100°C</p>	 <p>H-A*: 4.3 equiv.</p>	 <p>ref. 14</p> <table> <tr> <th>X</th><th>ee%</th><th>(Yd%)</th><th>conf</th></tr> <tr> <td>H</td><td>29</td><td>51</td><td>R</td></tr> <tr> <td>F</td><td>0</td><td>68</td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>OMe</td><td>64</td><td>47*</td><td>S</td></tr> </table>	X	ee%	(Yd%)	conf	H	29	51	R	F	0	68		OMe	64	47*	S
X	ee%	(Yd%)	conf																
H	29	51	R																
F	0	68																	
OMe	64	47*	S																
<p>* Obtained with a mixture of unidentified compounds.</p>																			
5	 <p>From enolacetate and MeLi (2 equiv.) in Et<sub>2</sub>O</p> <p><i>CH</i><sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, -100°C</p>	 <p>H-A*: 2.5 equiv.</p>	 <p>ref. 15b</p> <table> <tr> <th>R</th><th>ee%</th><th>(Yd%)</th></tr> <tr> <td>CH<sub>2</sub>-Ph</td><td>97</td><td>93</td></tr> <tr> <td>CH<sub>2</sub>-CH=CH-Ph</td><td>92</td><td>93</td></tr> </table>	R	ee%	(Yd%)	CH <sub>2</sub> -Ph	97	93	CH <sub>2</sub> -CH=CH-Ph	92	93							
R	ee%	(Yd%)																	
CH <sub>2</sub> -Ph	97	93																	
CH <sub>2</sub> -CH=CH-Ph	92	93																	

(continued on next page)

Table 7 (continued)

6

H-A\*: 2.5 equiv.

ref. 15b

From enolacetate and MeLi (2 equiv.) in Et<sub>2</sub>O

CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, -100°C

R	ee%	(Yd%)
Me	94	94
CH <sub>2</sub> -Ph	78	94
	87	97

---

7

H-A\*: 2.5 equiv.

ref. 15a

From enolacetate and MeLi (2 equiv.) in Et<sub>2</sub>O

CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, -90°C

ee: 82% (63)

---

8

H-A\*: 3 equiv.

ref. 12c

From enolacetate and MeLi, LiBr (2 equiv.) in Et<sub>2</sub>O

CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, -100°C

n	ee%*	(Yd%)
0	85	89
1	88	95

\* Corrected ee for the regioisomeric purity of the starting material

---

9

H-A\*: 1 equiv.

ref. 10a, 10h

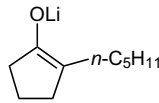
From TMS enol ether and MeLi

Et<sub>2</sub>O / THF, -78°C

ee: 96% (95)

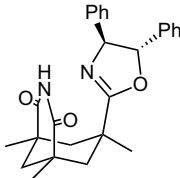
Table 7 (continued)

10

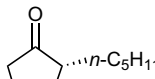


From TMS enol ether and MeLi

*Et*<sub>2</sub>O, -78°C



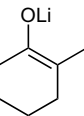
H-A\*: 1 equiv.



ref. 10h, 10i

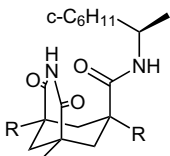
LiBr (equiv.)	ee%(Yd%)
0	74 (79)
1	83 (90)
2	85 (99)
5	90 (> 99)
10	88 (82)

11

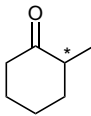


From TMS enol ether and *n*-BuLi

THF, -78°C, 2h



H-A\*: 1.1 equiv.

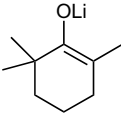


ref. 10k, 10m

R	Me	<i>n</i> -Pr	CH <sub>2</sub> -Ph	<i>i</i> -Bu	<i>i</i> -Pr	<i>c</i> -Pent	<i>c</i> -Hexyl
ee%	85	25	44	73	79	80	91
Conf.	S	R	R	R	R	R	R

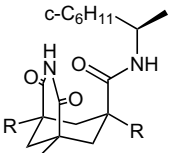
Yd%>86

12

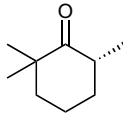


From TMS enol ether and *n*-BuLi

THF, -78°C



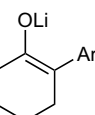
H-A\*: 1.1 equiv.



ref. 10h

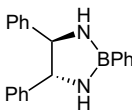
R	ee% (Yd%)
Me	58 (88)
<i>c</i> -C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>11</sub>	97 (80)

13

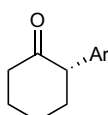


From TMS enol ether and *n*-BuLi

THF, -78°C



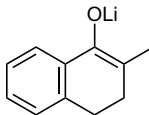
H-A\*: 1.5 equiv.



ref. 10g

Ar	ee% (Yd%)
Ph	84 (94)
2-Naphtyl	89 (93)

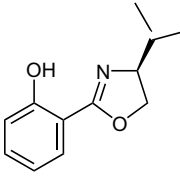
14



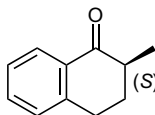
Toluene, -78°C

From racemic ketone and LDA, LiCl

From TMS-enol ether and MeLi, LiBr



H-A\* (excess)



ref. 11a

ee: 14% (89)

ee: 14% (92)

(continued on next page)

Table 7 (continued)

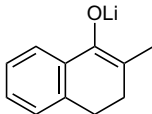
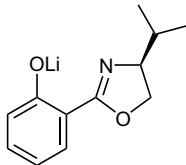
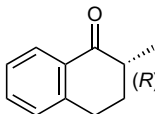
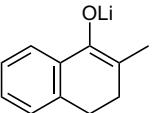

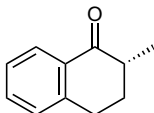
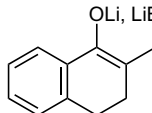
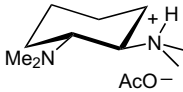
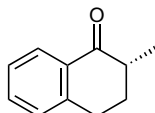
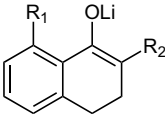
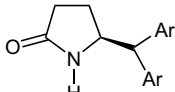
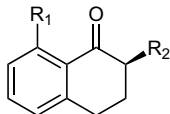
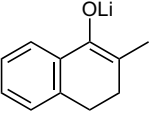
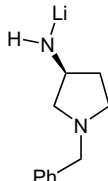
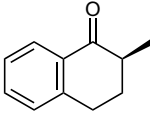
15	 <p>From TMS-enol ether and MeLi</p> <p><i>Toluene</i>, -78°C</p>	 <p>L*: 1 equiv. H-A: HOAc (excess)</p> <p>Without LiBr ee: 8% (84) With LiBr (2 equiv.) ee: 29% (87)</p>	 <p>ref. 11a</p>												
16	 <p>From TMS-enol ether and MeLi</p> <p><i>Toluene</i>, -78°C</p>	 <p>L*: 1 equiv. H-A: HOAc (excess)</p> <p>Without LiBr ee: 16% (45) With LiBr (2 equiv.) ee: 47% (48)</p>	 <p>ref. 11b</p>												
17	 <p>From TMS-enol ether and MeLi, LiBr</p> <p><i>THF</i>, -78°C</p>	 <p>H-A*: 1 equiv.</p> <p>ee: 5% (55)</p>	 <p>ref. 11b</p>												
18	 <p>From TMS-enol ether and MeLi</p> <p><i>Toluene</i>, -78°C</p>	 <p>Ar = 4-<i>t</i>-Bu-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub> H-A*: 1.5 equiv.</p>	 <p>ref. 17a</p> <table> <tr> <th>R<sup>1</sup></th> <th>R<sup>2</sup></th> <th>ee%</th> </tr> <tr> <td>H</td> <td>Me</td> <td>63</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Me</td> <td>Me</td> <td>72</td> </tr> <tr> <td>H</td> <td>Ph-CH<sub>2</sub></td> <td>64</td> </tr> </table> <p>78 &lt; Yd% &lt; 82</p>	R <sup>1</sup>	R <sup>2</sup>	ee%	H	Me	63	Me	Me	72	H	Ph-CH <sub>2</sub>	64
R <sup>1</sup>	R <sup>2</sup>	ee%													
H	Me	63													
Me	Me	72													
H	Ph-CH <sub>2</sub>	64													
19	 <p>From TMS-enol ether and MeLi</p> <p><i>Toluene</i>, -78°C</p>	 <p>L*: 1.1 equiv. H-A: 2 equiv. : AcOH</p> <p>Without LiBr ee: &lt; 3% (90%) With LiBr (2 equiv.) ee: 40% (90%)</p>	 <p>ref. 29b</p>												



Table 7 (continued)

20

From enolacetate, MeLi (4 equiv.) and ZnBr<sub>2</sub> (M=ZnBr) or MeLi (2 equiv.) (M=Li), in Et<sub>2</sub>O  
CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, -100°C

H-A\*: 4.3 equiv.

M	R	ee% (Yd%)
ZnBr	<i>n</i> -Pr	88 76
ZnBr	<i>i</i> -Pr	65 39
ZnBr	CH <sub>2</sub> -Ph	89 81
Li	CH <sub>2</sub> -Ph	62 35*

ref. 14a, 14b

\* Obtained with a mixture of unidentified compounds.

21

From enolacetate and MeLi or MeMgI in Et<sub>2</sub>O  
Et<sub>2</sub>O, -78°C, 0.5h

H-A\*

R	M	ee% (Yd%)
Me	Li	10* (66)
	MgI	58 (73)**
<i>i</i> -Pr	Li	9 (72)
	MgI	92 (90)**

ref. 3d

\*(S)-configuration.

\*\* Yield based on the recovered starting material.

22

From 2-OMe 2-R cyclohexanone / Sml<sub>2</sub>  
THF, -45°C

H-A\*: 2 equiv.

X	R	ee% (Yd%)
H	Ph	87 (70)* ref. 8h
	<i>p</i> -MeO-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	87 (79) id
	<i>p</i> -Me-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	94 (75) id
	1-Naphtyl	16 (81) id
	2-Naphtyl	90 (86) id
	<i>i</i> -Bu	65 (81) id
	CH <sub>2</sub> Ph	80 (70) id
	(C <sub>6</sub> F <sub>13</sub> -CH <sub>2</sub> -CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> Si	95 (crude product)
	Ph	81-89 (73-82) after purification*. ref. 8h

ref. 8g, 8h

\* A partial racemization might occur during the work-up.

23

From 2-OMe 2-Ph cyclohexanone / Sml<sub>2</sub>  
THF, -45°C, 120 min.

H-A\*: 2 equiv.

ee: 85% (88)\*

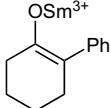
ref. 8f, 8g

\* A partial racemization might occur during the work-up. (ref. 8h)

(continued on next page)

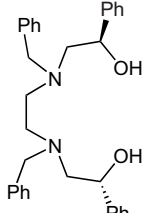
Table 7 (continued)

24

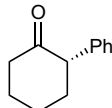


From 2-OMe 2-Ph cyclohexanone /  $\text{SmI}_2$

THF,  $-45^\circ\text{C}$ , 30 min.



H-A\*: 2 equiv.

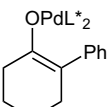


ref. <sup>8g</sup>

ee: 76% (91)\*

\* A partial racemization might occur during the work-up. (ref. <sup>8h</sup>)

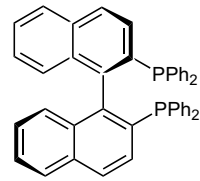
25



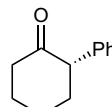
From TMS-enol ether

DMF,  $50^\circ\text{C}$

Conditions:  
see scheme 39



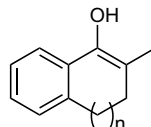
L\*: 0.05 equiv.  
H-A: 2 equiv. :  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$



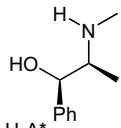
ref. <sup>16</sup>

ee: 74% (86)

26



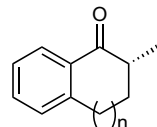
(a) By irradiation of 2-Me-2*i*-Bu-indan-1-one or 1-tetralone  
(b) By Pd-deprotection of the corresponding allyl carbonate  
(c) By decarboxylation of 2-carboxy-2-methyl-1-tetralone



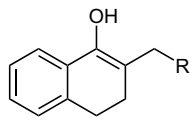
H-A\*

H-A* equiv.	n	T $^\circ\text{C}$	ee%	ref
(a) 0.1	0	-40	53 (82)	7n
(a) 0.1	1	-40	54 (52)	7n
(b) 2.0*	1	rt	50 (86)	7r
(c) 0.2	1	rt	30 (74)	7u

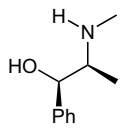
$\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$   
\* solvent: Ph-Me



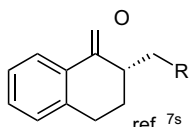
27



By Pd-cat. hydrogenation of the corresponding *E*-enone



H-A\*: 0.5 equiv.



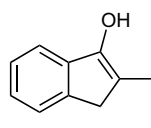
ref. <sup>7s</sup>

R	ee%
Ph	32* (100)
<i>i</i> -Pr	30 (67)
H	28 (68)

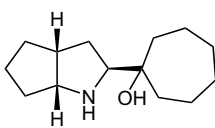
$\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ , rt

\* ee: 36% at  $0^\circ\text{C}$

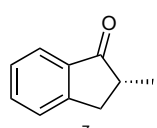
28



(a) By Pd-deprotection of the corresponding benzyl carbonate  
(b) By Pd-decarboxylation of 2-Me-2-CO<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>Ph-indane-1-one



H-A\*: 0.3 equiv.

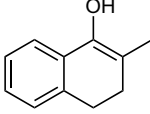
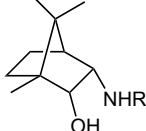
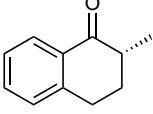
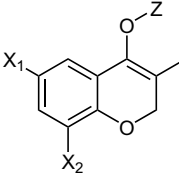
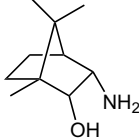
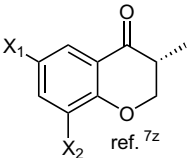
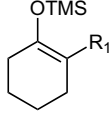
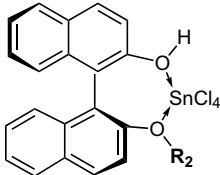
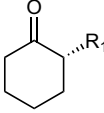
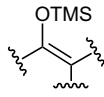
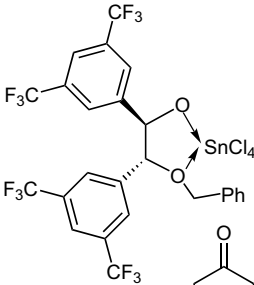
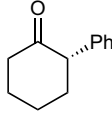
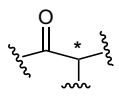


ref. <sup>7v</sup>

(a) ee: 48% (79)  
(b) ee: 72% (64)

$\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ ,  $55^\circ\text{C}$

Table 7 (continued)

29	 <p>(a) By irradiation of 2-Me-2<i>i</i>-Bu-1-tetralone</p> <p>(b) By Pd-deprotection of the corresponding benzyl carbonate</p> <p><math>CH_3CN</math>, <math>-40^\circ C</math>, 1h</p> <p>* H-A*: 0.3 equiv., rt</p>	 <p>H-A*: 0.1 equiv.</p>	 <p>(a) ref. <sup>7n</sup>, (b) ref. <sup>7r</sup></p> <table> <tr> <th></th><th>R</th><th>ee%</th></tr> <tr> <td>(a)</td><td>H</td><td>71 (57)</td></tr> <tr> <td>(a)</td><td>Me</td><td>76 (56)</td></tr> <tr> <td>(a)</td><td>Benzyl</td><td>83 (47)</td></tr> <tr> <td>(a)</td><td><i>i</i>-Pr</td><td>89 (40)</td></tr> <tr> <td>(b)</td><td>H</td><td>64 (90)</td></tr> </table>		R	ee%	(a)	H	71 (57)	(a)	Me	76 (56)	(a)	Benzyl	83 (47)	(a)	<i>i</i> -Pr	89 (40)	(b)	H	64 (90)									
	R	ee%																												
(a)	H	71 (57)																												
(a)	Me	76 (56)																												
(a)	Benzyl	83 (47)																												
(a)	<i>i</i> -Pr	89 (40)																												
(b)	H	64 (90)																												
30	 <p>Z = PdL<sub>n</sub> or AH<sub>2</sub> By Pd deprotection and decarboxylation of corresponding benzyl β-keto ester</p> <p><math>AcOEt</math>, rt, 4-9h</p>	 <p>H-A*: 0.3 equiv.</p>	 <p>ref. <sup>7z</sup></p> <table> <tr> <th>X<sup>1</sup></th><th>X<sup>2</sup></th><th>ee%</th></tr> <tr> <td>H</td><td>H</td><td>73 (99)</td></tr> <tr> <td>OMe</td><td>H</td><td>69 (94)</td></tr> <tr> <td>Cl</td><td>H</td><td>60 (97)</td></tr> <tr> <td><i>t</i>-Bu</td><td>H</td><td>75 (89)</td></tr> <tr> <td>H</td><td>OMe</td><td>69 (78)</td></tr> </table>	X <sup>1</sup>	X <sup>2</sup>	ee%	H	H	73 (99)	OMe	H	69 (94)	Cl	H	60 (97)	<i>t</i> -Bu	H	75 (89)	H	OMe	69 (78)									
X <sup>1</sup>	X <sup>2</sup>	ee%																												
H	H	73 (99)																												
OMe	H	69 (94)																												
Cl	H	60 (97)																												
<i>t</i> -Bu	H	75 (89)																												
H	OMe	69 (78)																												
31	 <p><math>Toluene</math>, <math>-78^\circ C</math>, 1h. 100% conversion</p>	 <p>H-A* : 1.0 equiv.</p> <table> <tr> <th>R<sup>1</sup></th><th>R<sup>2</sup></th><th>ee%*</th></tr> <tr> <td>Ph</td><td>H</td><td>91 (97)</td></tr> <tr> <td></td><td>Me</td><td>94 (98)</td></tr> <tr> <td><i>p</i>-MeO-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub></td><td>H</td><td>96</td></tr> <tr> <td>2-naphtyl</td><td>H</td><td>91 (99)**</td></tr> <tr> <td>Me</td><td>H</td><td>40 (42)</td></tr> <tr> <td></td><td>Me</td><td>51 (53)</td></tr> <tr> <td>Cl</td><td>H</td><td>83 (84)</td></tr> <tr> <td></td><td>Me</td><td>87 (88)</td></tr> </table>	R <sup>1</sup>	R <sup>2</sup>	ee%*	Ph	H	91 (97)		Me	94 (98)	<i>p</i> -MeO-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	H	96	2-naphtyl	H	91 (99)**	Me	H	40 (42)		Me	51 (53)	Cl	H	83 (84)		Me	87 (88)	 <p>ref. <sup>10i</sup></p>
R <sup>1</sup>	R <sup>2</sup>	ee%*																												
Ph	H	91 (97)																												
	Me	94 (98)																												
<i>p</i> -MeO-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	H	96																												
2-naphtyl	H	91 (99)**																												
Me	H	40 (42)																												
	Me	51 (53)																												
Cl	H	83 (84)																												
	Me	87 (88)																												
32	 <p><math>CH_2Cl_2</math>, <math>-78^\circ C</math></p>	 <p>ee: 96%</p>  <p>ee: 83%</p> <p>Yd &gt; 95%</p>	 <p>ref. <sup>10o</sup></p>																											

\* In parentheses: corrected ee for the regioisomeric purity of starting material  
 \*\* ee: 99% after recrystallisation

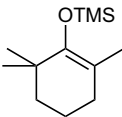
\* In parentheses: corrected ee for the regioisomeric purity of starting material

\*\* ee: 99% after recrystallisation

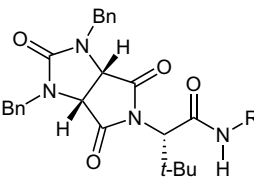
(continued on next page)

Table 7 (continued)

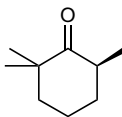
33



THF, -20°C, 1h



H-A\*: 1.1 equiv.



ref. 10p

R	ee%	(Yd%)
<i>i</i> -Pr	69	98
<i>o</i> -C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>11</sub>	71	>99
<i>c</i> -C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>13</sub>	53	88
<i>c</i> -C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>23</sub>	78	62

Table 8. Dioxolanones

1

From racemic dioxolanone  
and LiHMDS or  
from TMS derivative and MeLi

THF, -78°C

H-A\*: 2 equiv.

ref. 4a

ee: 53%

2

From racemic  
dioxolanone  
and LiHMDS

Solvent, -78°C

H-A\*: 6 equiv.

ref. 4d

**Solvent**

**ee%**

Et<sub>2</sub>O  
Et<sub>2</sub>O: THF = 90: 10  
THF

27  
72  
44

3

From racemic  
lactone and  
LiHMDS

THF, -78°C

H-A\*: 6 equiv.

ref. 4d

Y	LiCl (equiv.)	ee%
S	0	39
S	5	77
O	0	46
O	3	69

4

From racemic  
lactone and  
LiHMDS

THF, -78°C

L\*: 4 equiv.

H-A : AcOH: 10 equiv

ref. 4d

ee: 25%

Table 8 (continued)

5

From racemic  
dioxolanone  
and LDA

THF, -78°C

\* R configuration

H-A\*: 1-7 equiv.

Ar =

ref. 23a

R	ee%
Me	9*
Et	28
<i>n</i> -Bu	33
<i>i</i> -Pr	76
<i>t</i> -Bu	91
benzyl	50

6

From dioxolanone  
LDA, TMS

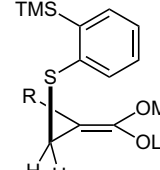
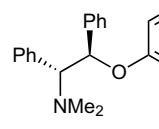
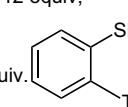
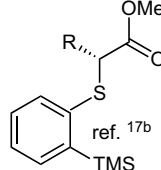
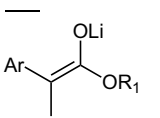
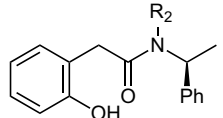
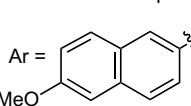
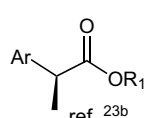
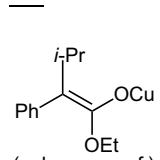
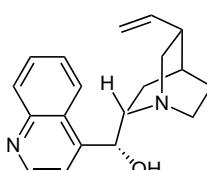
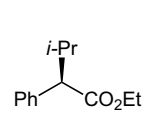
THF, -78°C, <30min

H-A\*: 3 equiv.  
+ LiCl: 1 equiv.

ref. 5a

ee: 50% (88)

Table 9. Esters

<p>1</p>  <p>From conjugated ester (1equiv.) and 2-TMS-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>-SLi (0.01 equiv.)</p> <p>Toluene/hexane, -78°C</p> <p>*The protonation conditions were slightly modified</p>	 <p>L*: 0.012 equiv;</p> <p>H-A:</p>  <p>1.2 equiv.</p>	 <p>ref. 17b</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>R</th> <th>ee%</th> <th>(Yd%)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Ph</td> <td>92</td> <td>(99)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1-Naphthyl</td> <td>88</td> <td>(99)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2-Naphthyl</td> <td>91</td> <td>(93)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6-MeO-2-naphthyl</td> <td>90</td> <td>(99)*</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	R	ee%	(Yd%)	Ph	92	(99)	1-Naphthyl	88	(99)	2-Naphthyl	91	(93)	6-MeO-2-naphthyl	90	(99)*
R	ee%	(Yd%)															
Ph	92	(99)															
1-Naphthyl	88	(99)															
2-Naphthyl	91	(93)															
6-MeO-2-naphthyl	90	(99)*															
<p>2</p>  <p>From racemic ester and LDA</p> <p>Toluene, -78°C</p>	 <p>H-A*: 1.2 equiv.</p> <p>Ar =</p> 	 <p>ref. 23b</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Me</th> <th>i-Pr</th> <th>t-Bu</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>69</td> <td>72</td> <td>76</td> </tr> <tr> <td>78</td> <td>70</td> <td>93</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Yd &gt; 87%</p>	Me	i-Pr	t-Bu	69	72	76	78	70	93						
Me	i-Pr	t-Bu															
69	72	76															
78	70	93															
<p>3</p>  <p>(unknown conf.)</p> <p>From phenylmalonic hemiester and CuCl (0.2 equiv.)</p> <p>CH<sub>3</sub>CN, 60°C, 2h</p>	 <p>L*: cinchonidine 0.4 equiv.</p>	 <p>ee: 31% (&gt;85)</p> <p>ref. 27</p>															

(continued on next page)

Table 9 (continued)

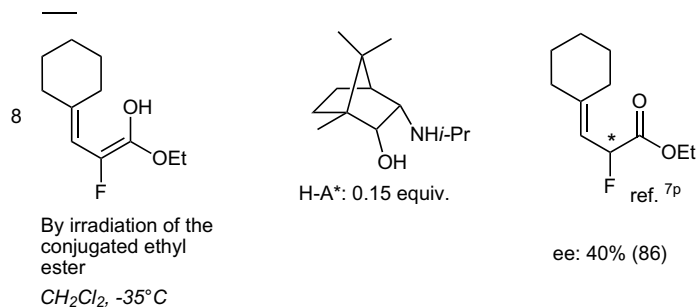
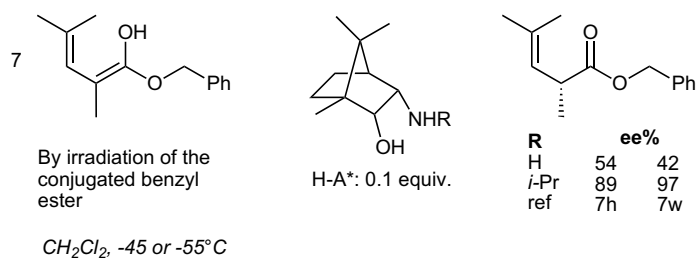
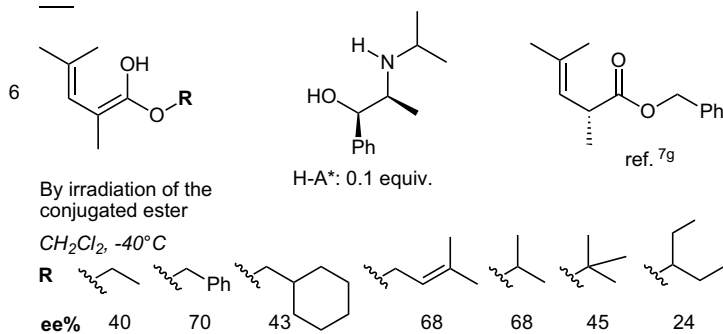
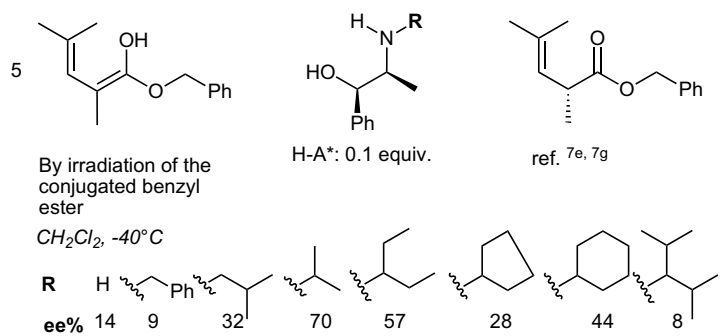
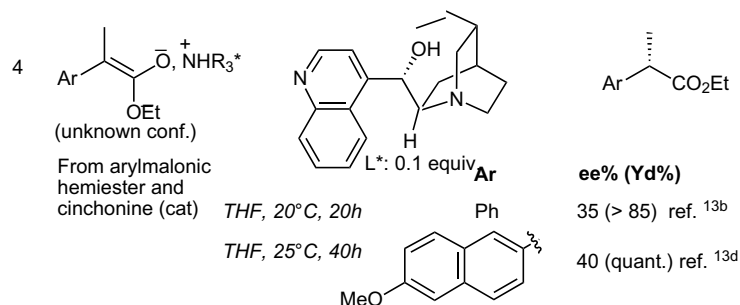


Table 9 (continued)

9		 H-A*: 0.15 equiv.	 ref. 7q
	By irradiation of the conjugated ethyl ester <i>CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub></i> , -40°C		ee: 41% (>67%)
10	 From conjugated ester and AcSH (unknown configuration) <i>Toluene</i> , rt	 H-A*: quinidine: 0.01 equiv.	 ref. 1q ee: 37% (85)
	See also Thio esters, ex 5		
11	 From racemic methyl ester of naproxen <i>E/Z</i> = 63:37 <i>Toluene</i> or <i>CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub></i> -78°C, 1h.	 H-A* : 1.0 equiv. Ar = (compare with T2, entry 3)	 ref. 10l ee: 79%

See also T12, entry 5.

Table 10. Hydroxy ketones

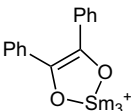
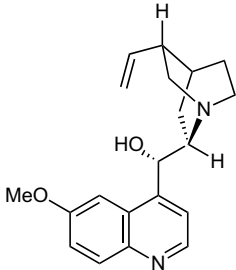
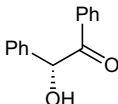
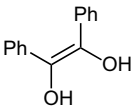
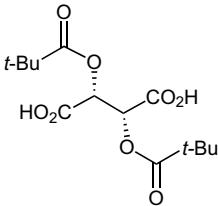
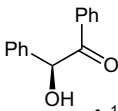
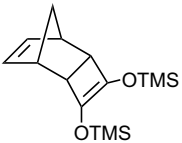
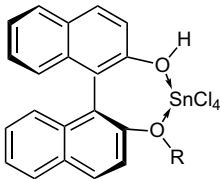
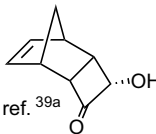
<p>1</p>  <p>From benzil/ <math>\text{SmI}_2</math></p> <p>THF, HMPA, rt</p>	 <p>H-A*: Quinidine 3 equiv. (<math>\text{O}_2</math> bubbling before work-up)</p>	 <p>ref. 8a</p> <p>ee: 91% (61)</p>								
<p>2</p>  <p>From K-enediolate obtained from racemic benzoin and KH</p> <p>THF, <math>-70^\circ\text{C}</math>, 15h</p> <p>* Ee: 100% after one crystallization</p>	 <p>H-A*: 1.06 equiv.</p>	 <p>ref. 1h</p> <p>ee: 80%* (83)</p>								
<p>3</p>  <p>From racemic acyloin</p> <p>Toluene, <math>-78^\circ\text{C}</math>, 3h.</p>	 <p>H-A*: 1.2 equiv.</p>	 <p>ref. 39a</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>R</th> <th>ee% (Yd%)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>H</td> <td>9 (88)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Me</td> <td>72 (86)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>i-Pr</td> <td>90 (87)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	R	ee% (Yd%)	H	9 (88)	Me	72 (86)	i-Pr	90 (87)
R	ee% (Yd%)									
H	9 (88)									
Me	72 (86)									
i-Pr	90 (87)									

Table 11. Lactones

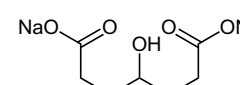
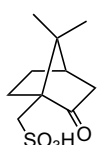
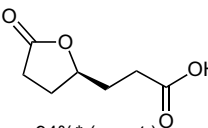
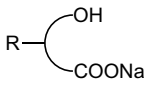
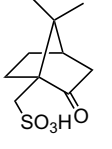
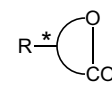
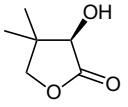
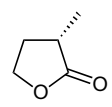
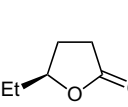
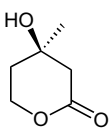
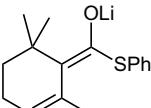
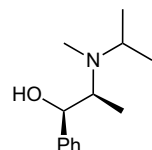
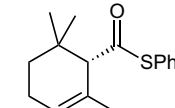
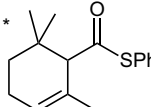
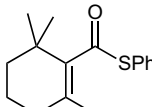
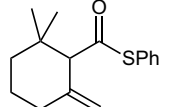
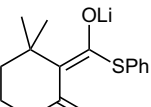
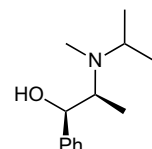
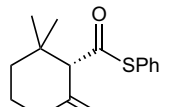
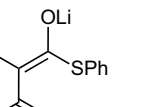
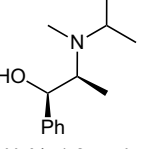
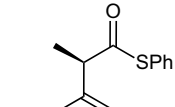
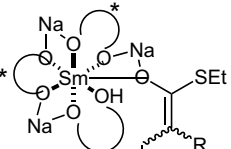
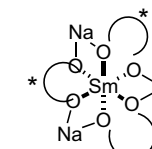
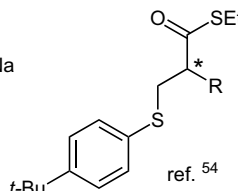
<p>1</p>  <p>From racemic lactic acid</p> <p>EtOH, <math>-78^\circ\text{C}</math></p> <p>* Ee: 100% after one recrystallisation</p>	 <p>H-A*: 1 equiv.</p>	 <p>ee: 94%* (quant.)</p> <p>ref. 3a</p>
<p>2</p>  <p>From racemic lactone</p> <p>EtOH, <math>-78^\circ\text{C}</math></p>	 <p>H-A*: 0.1 equiv.</p>	 <p>ref. 3b</p>
 <p>ee: 99.4% (79)</p>	 <p>ee: 93% (57)</p>	 <p>ee: 79% (71)</p>  <p>ee: 86% (62)</p>



Table 12. Thio esters

1	 <p>From <math>\alpha</math>-thiocyclohexanone* and <i>n</i>-BuLi</p> <p>THF-hexane, <math>-100^\circ\text{C}</math></p> <p>+ <i>n</i>-BuLi: 0.50 equiv.</p> <p>+ <i>n</i>-BuLi: 0.50 equiv.</p> <p>+ <i>n</i>-BuLi: 0.50 equiv.</p>	 <p>H-A*: 2 equiv.</p> <p>H-A*: 0.5 equiv. H-A: 1.55 equiv.: phenylacetone.</p> <p>H-A*: 0.20 equiv. H-A: 1.85 equiv.: phenylacetone</p>	 <p>ee: 99% (87) ref. <sup>2c</sup></p> <p>ee: 98% ref. <sup>2g</sup></p> <p>ee: 81% ref. <sup>2g</sup></p>															
	 <p><math>\alpha</math>-Thiocyclohexanone</p>	 <p><math>\beta</math>-Thiocyclohexanone</p>	 <p><math>\gamma</math>-Thiocyclohexanone</p>															
2	 <p>From <math>\beta</math>-thiocyclohexanone and LDA</p> <p>THF-hexane, <math>-100^\circ\text{C}</math></p> <p>+ LDA: 0.50 equiv.</p> <p>+ LDA: 0.50 equiv.</p>	 <p>H-A*: 2 equiv.</p> <p>H-A*: 0.50 equiv. H-A: 1.50 equiv.: phenylacetone.</p>	 <p>ee: 99% (84)*, ref. <sup>2f</sup></p> <p>ee: 88% (80)*, ref. <sup>2f</sup></p>															
	* With 44–55% $\beta$ -thiocyclohexanone																	
3	 <p>From conjugated thioester and LDA*</p> <p>THF, <math>-100^\circ\text{C}</math> to <math>-10^\circ\text{C}</math></p>	 <p>H-A*: 1.6 equiv. Li-A*: 1.0 equiv.</p>	 <p>ref. <sup>2h</sup></p> <p>ee: 59% (22)**</p>															
	* The configuration of the Li-enolate is not given ** Crude product: unconjugated ester/ conjugated ester: 35/ 65.																	
4	 <p>From conjugated thioester (1 equiv), 4-<i>t</i>-Bu-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>-SH, and chiral agent</p> <p>CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, <math>-78^\circ\text{C}</math></p>	 <p>L*: 0.1 equiv.*</p>  <p>ref. <sup>54</sup></p> <table> <tr> <th>R</th> <th>ee%</th> <th>conf</th> </tr> <tr> <td>Me</td> <td>93</td> <td>S</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>i</i>-Pr</td> <td>90</td> <td>*</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ph</td> <td>84</td> <td>*</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ph-CH<sub>2</sub></td> <td>87</td> <td>*</td> </tr> </table> <p>76&lt; Yd %&lt; 98</p> <p>H-A: 4-<i>t</i>-Bu-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>-SH: 1 equiv.</p>	R	ee%	conf	Me	93	S	<i>i</i> -Pr	90	*	Ph	84	*	Ph-CH <sub>2</sub>	87	*	
R	ee%	conf																
Me	93	S																
<i>i</i> -Pr	90	*																
Ph	84	*																
Ph-CH <sub>2</sub>	87	*																

(continued on next page)

Table 12 (continued)

5

From conjugated ester and AcSH (unknown configuration)

Toluene, rt

H-A\*: quinine: 0.01 equiv.

ref. 1<sup>q</sup>

X	ee%	(Yd%)
OPh	46	70
SEt	55	87

6

From racemic thiol ester

CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (R = Me) or toluene (R = *t*-Bu), -90°C

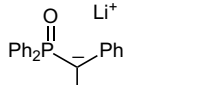
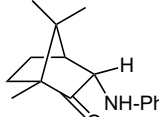
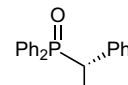
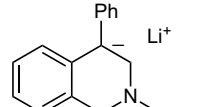

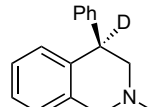
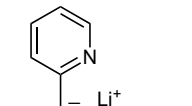
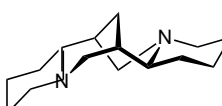
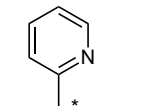
H-A\*: 1 equiv.

ref. 43

R	E/Z	ee*	(Yd%)
Me	15/85	64	78
Me	32/68	66	45
Me	92/8	68	78
<i>t</i> -Bu	15/85	76	99
<i>t</i> -Bu	48/52	80	98

\* Determined after conversion to ibuprofen by oxidative hydrolysis

Table 13. Miscellaneous

1	 <p>From racemic phosphine and <i>n</i>-BuLi Toluene, -78°C</p>	 <p>H-A*: 1.15 equiv.</p>	 <p>ref. 9<sup>c</sup> ee: 83%*</p>												
	* ee > 99% (78) after one crystallization														
2	 <p>From racemic tetrahydroisoquinoline and <i>s</i>-BuLi (4 equiv.) Et<sub>2</sub>O, -45°C</p>	 <p>L*: (-)-sparteine: 4 equiv. H-A: MeOD</p>	 <p>ref. 39<sup>b</sup> ee: 88% (60)</p>												
3	 <p>From racemic diaryl-ethane and <i>s</i>-BuLi (2 equiv.) Et<sub>2</sub>O, -78°C</p>	 <p>L*: (-)-sparteine: 2 equiv.</p>	 <p>ref. 39<sup>b</sup></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>H-A</th> <th>ee%</th> <th>Yd%</th> <th>Conf</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Et-OH</td> <td>50</td> <td>85</td> <td>S</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>t</i>-Bu-OH</td> <td>50</td> <td>85</td> <td>R</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	H-A	ee%	Yd%	Conf	Et-OH	50	85	S	<i>t</i> -Bu-OH	50	85	R
H-A	ee%	Yd%	Conf												
Et-OH	50	85	S												
<i>t</i> -Bu-OH	50	85	R												

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  33. We attributed the increase of the ee to an increase of rigidity of the enolate with electrodonating substituents X, reinforcing the coordination between the lithium and the nitrogen atoms.<sup>1g,i</sup> Another interpretation may be the variation of the crowding of the aromatic nucleus with the electronic effects of the substituents Guetté, J. P.; Perlat, M.; Capillon, J.; Boucherot, D. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1974**, 2409–2410; Pirkle, W. H.; Hoekstra, M. S.; Miller, W. H. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1976**, 2109–2112; Capillon, J.; Guetté, J. P. *Tetrahedron* **1979**, 35, 1807–1815.
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