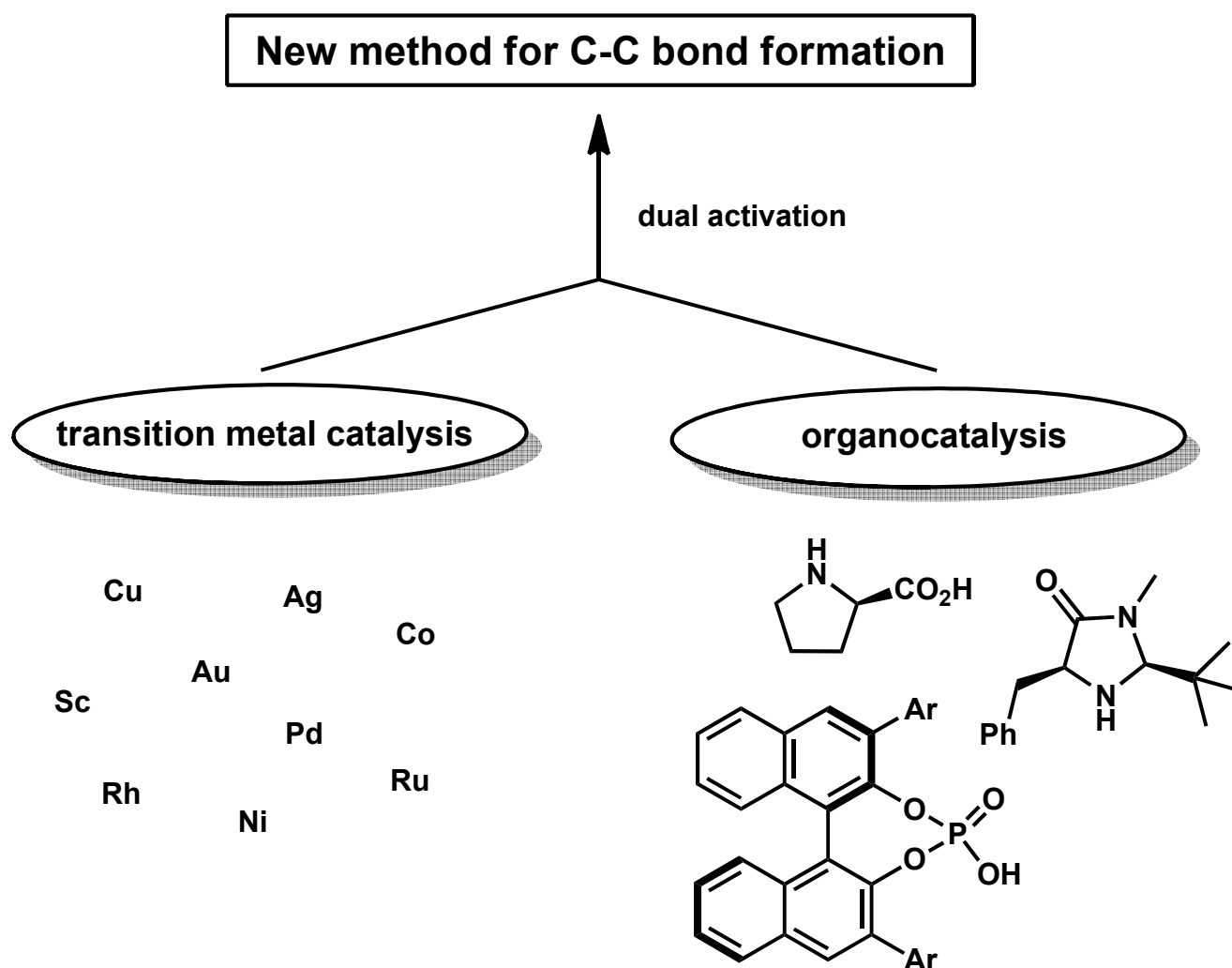


# Combining transition metal catalysis and organocatalysis

~for dual activation of carboxylic acids  
by transition metal and boron catalysts~



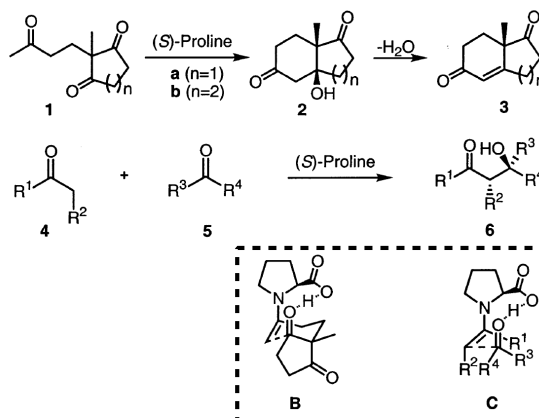
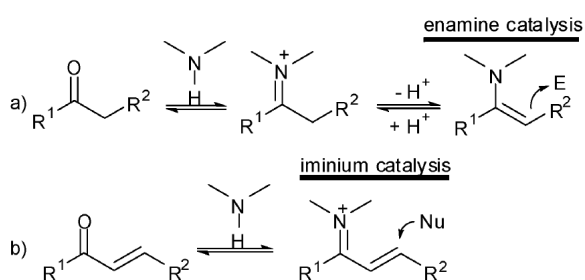
## Contents

1. Combining transition metal catalysts and aminocatalysts
2. Boron compounds as catalysts
3. Dual activation of carboxylic acids by combining transition metal and boron catalysts

# 1. Combining transition metal catalysts and aminocatalysts

## 0. introduction

two types of activation mode by aminocatalysts



enamine - bifunctional catalyst

Proline has been playing a major role in enamine-based catalysis.

In this view, proline can be regarded as a Lewis base/Brønsted acid "bifunctional catalyst".



"replace" the Brønsted acid with a metal Lewis acid

a novel class of metal Lewis acid-enamine bifunctional catalysts with the intention to bridge more traditional transition-metal catalysis with the newly established prosperous area of organocatalysis

the Challenging Problem

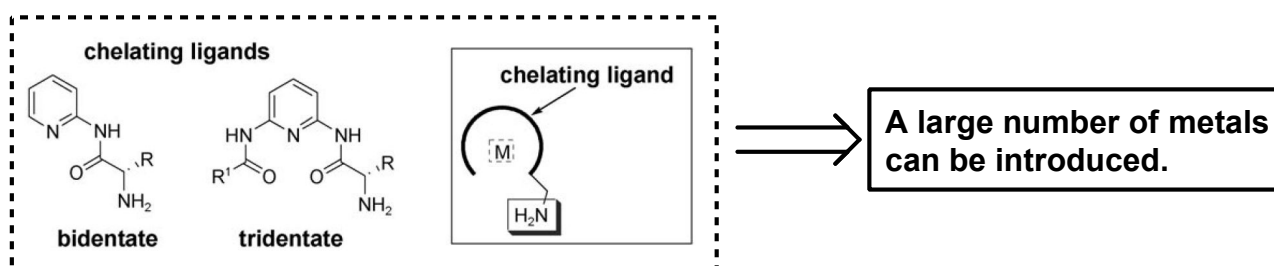
the acid-base self-quenching reaction leading to catalyst inactivation

•finetuning the reaction conditions and catalysts

e.g.) using a "soft" Lewis acid (metal such as Cu(I), Ag(I), Au(I), and Pd(0)) and a "hard" Lewis base (amine)

1. combining enamine catalysis and  $\pi$ -allyl palladium complexes
2. combining enamine catalysis and  $\pi$ -activation of C-C triple bond
4. combining enamine catalysis and SOMO photoredox catalysis
5. combining enamine catalysis and Rhodium-catalyzed hydroformylation

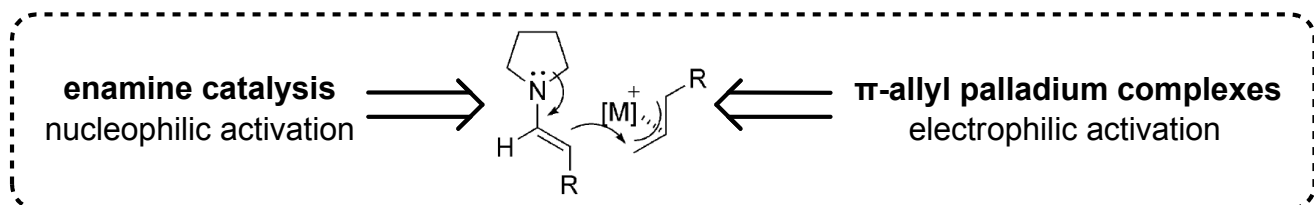
•using a tridentate (or bidentate) ligand tethered with a chiral amine (the Lewis acid and Lewis base are incorporated into one molecule)



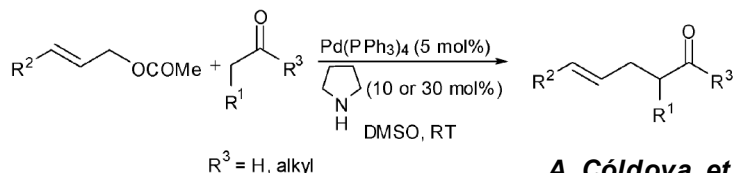
3. combining enamine catalysis and metal activating carbonyl groups

This new concept aims to achieve organic transformations that cannot be accessed by organocatalysis or metal catalysis alone.

# 1. combining enamine catalysis and $\pi$ -allyl palladium complexes



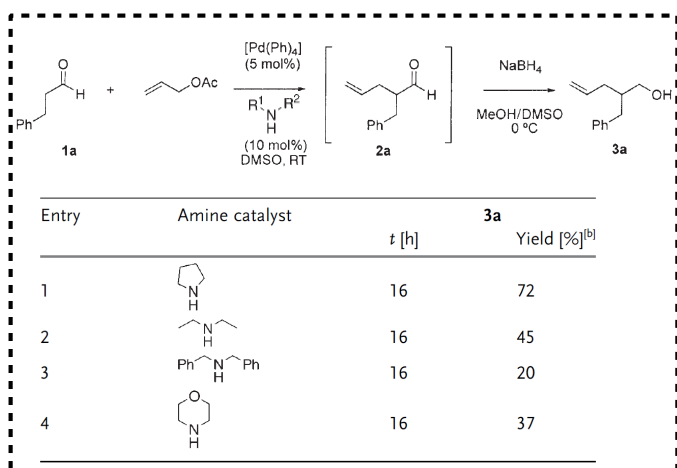
## 1-1. Direct Intermolecular $\alpha$ -Allylic Alkylation of Aldehydes and Cyclic Ketones



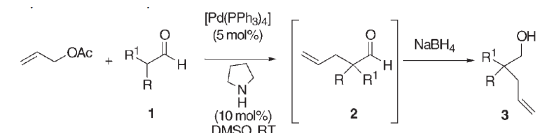
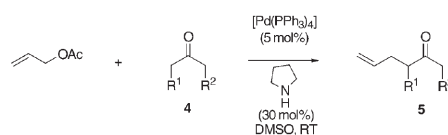
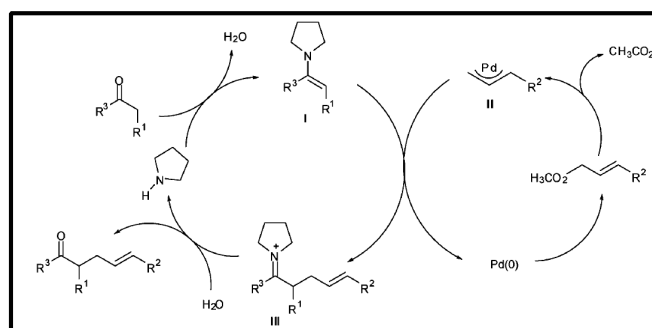
A. Córdova, et al. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* 2006, 45, 1952

### The first example of the one-pot combination of transition metal and enamine catalysis!!

#### screening of amine catalysts



#### mechanism



Entry	Aldehyde	Product	t [h]	Yield [%] <sup>[b]</sup>
1			16	72
2			16	70
3			17	76
4			17	80
5			15	65 <sup>[c]</sup>

[a] See the Experimental Section for the reaction conditions. [b] Yield of the isolated product of the corresponding alcohol **3** after column chromatography on silica gel. [c] The yield of the isolated product of aldehyde **2e**.

Entry	Ketone	Product	t [h]	d.r. <sup>[b]</sup>	Yield [%] <sup>[c]</sup>
1			16		95
2			16	1:1	90
3			16	1:1	85
4			16		82
5			15	2:1	70
6			14		65

[a] See the Experimental Section for the reaction conditions. [b] Determined by NMR spectroscopic analysis. [c] Yield of the isolated product after column chromatography on silica gel.

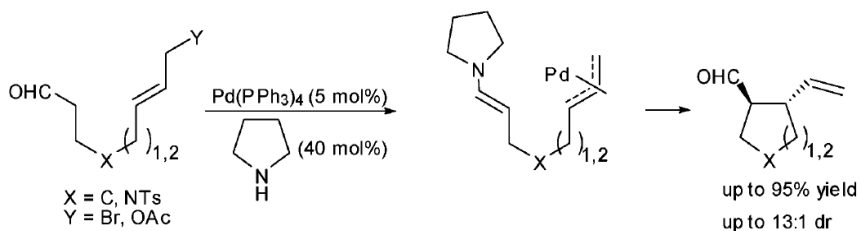
**This is the first direct intermolecular  $\alpha$ -alkylation of aldehydes.**  
conventional method...

(stoichiometric amounts of metal, preactivated aldehydes...)

**But...**

The satisfactory results are not obtained in asymmetric version of this reaction

## 1-2. Intramolecular $\alpha$ -Allylic Alkylation of Aldehydes

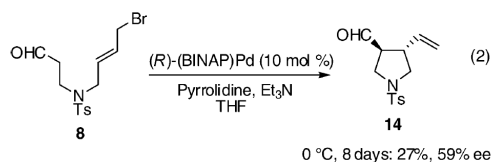
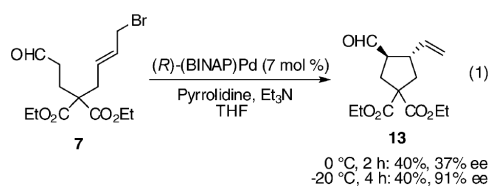


R. N. Saicic, et al. *Org. Lett.* 2007, 9, 5063

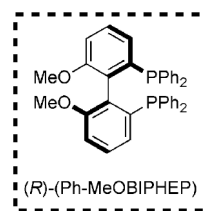
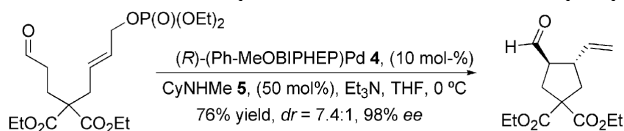
### catalytic asymmetric cyclization

- using chiral amine catalysts  
MacMillan's catalyst, (S)-proline, (S)-2-diphenylprolinol did not catalyze the reaction. (S)-2-methoxymethyl pyrrolidine failed to effect the asymmetric induction.

- using the chiral metal complex



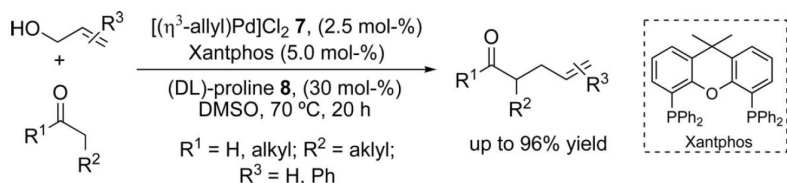
R. N. Saicic, et al. *Tetrahedron.* 2009, 65, 10485



entry	reactant	method <sup>a</sup>	product	yield <sup>b</sup> trans/cis
1		A		72% <sup>c</sup> 11/1
2		B		63% <sup>c</sup> 10/1
3		B		53% 2/1
4		A		75% 13/1
5		A		80% 10/1
6		A		60% 7/1
7		B		65% 10/1
8		A		95% <sup>d</sup> 7/1

<sup>a</sup> Method A: Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (5 mol %), pyrrolidine (40 mol %), Et<sub>3</sub>N (1 equiv), THF, rt, 30 min. Method B: Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (5 mol %), pyrrolidine (40 mol %), DMSO, rt, 30 min. <sup>b</sup> Yield of the isolated, pure compound. <sup>c</sup> Isolated as the corresponding alcohol, after the reduction with NaBH<sub>4</sub>. <sup>d</sup> 10 mol % of Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>.

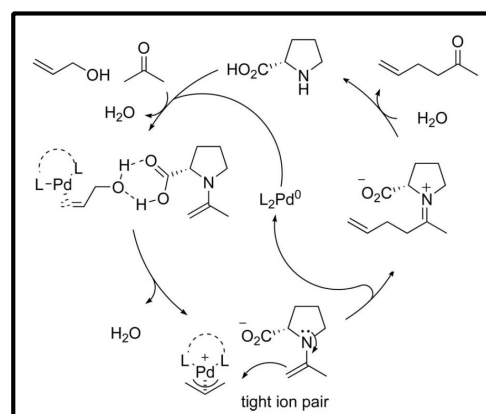
## 1-3. $\alpha$ -Allylic Alkylation of Aldehydes with Allylic Alcohols



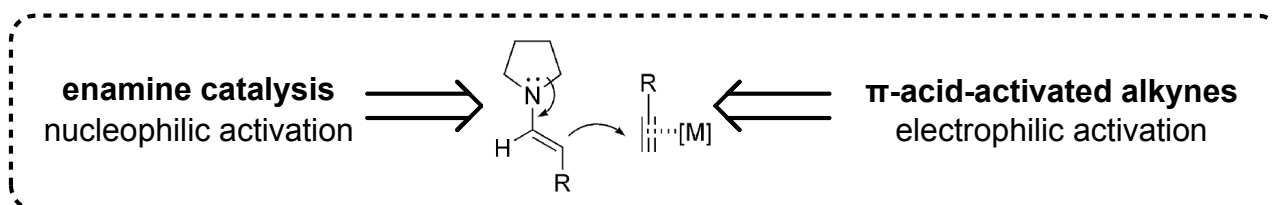
B. Breit, et al. *Org. Lett.* 2009, 11, 1453

But...

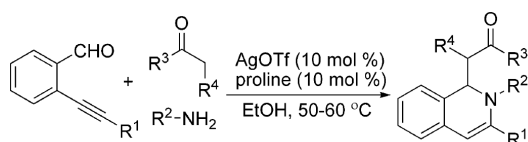
The satisfactory results are not obtained in asymmetric version of this reaction



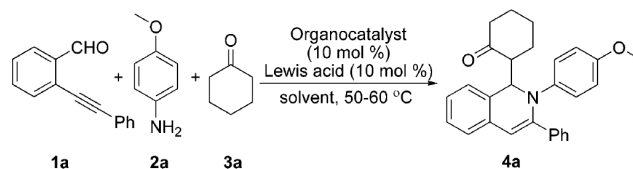
## 2. combining enamine catalysis and $\pi$ -activation of C-C triple bond



### 2-1. 1,2-Dihydroisoquinoline Synthesis

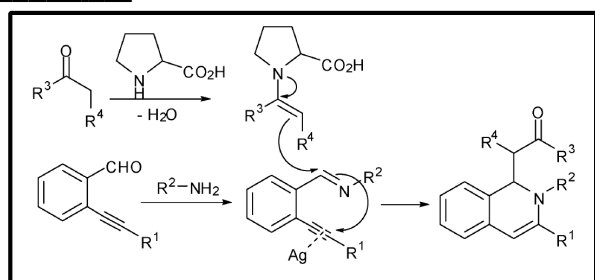


Q. Ding and J. Wu, *Org. Lett.* 2007, 9, 4959



entry	Lewis acid (10 mol %)	organocatalyst (10 mol %)	solvent	time (h)	yield (%) <sup>b</sup>
1	PdCl <sub>2</sub>	proline	EtOH	6	10
2	PdCl <sub>2</sub> (PhCN) <sub>2</sub>	proline	EtOH	6	11
3	Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub>	proline	EtOH	6	20
4	Cu(OTf) <sub>2</sub>	proline	EtOH	6	15
5	CuSO <sub>4</sub>	proline	EtOH	6	27
6	CuI	proline	EtOH	4	59
7	AgOTf	proline	EtOH	4	65
8	AgOTf	proline	MeOH	4	65
9	AgOTf	proline	toluene	24	22
10	AgOTf	proline	THF	24	25
11	AgOTf	proline	DCE	24	13
12	AgOTf	<sup>t</sup> Pr <sub>2</sub> NH <sub>2</sub>	EtOH	4	52
13	AgOTf	pyrrolidine	EtOH	4	41
14	AgOTf	piperidine	EtOH	4	40
15	AgOTf	proline <sup>c</sup>	EtOH	4	65
16	AgOTf	—	EtOH	24	18
17	AgOTf <sup>d</sup>	proline	EtOH	8	42
18	AgOTf <sup>e</sup>	proline	EtOH	8	32
19 <sup>f</sup>	AgOTf	proline	EtOH	4	40

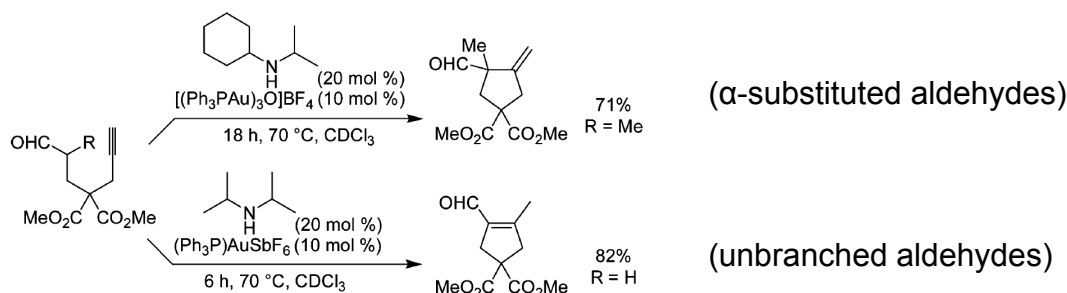
#### mechanism



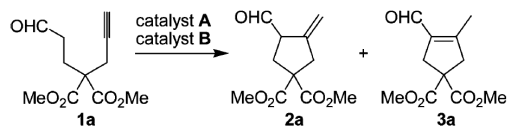
This is the first example of combination of enamine catalysis and  $\pi$  acidic transition metal catalysts.

<sup>a</sup> Reaction conditions: 2-alkynylbenzaldehyde **1a** (0.30 mmol), *p*-anisidine **2a** (1.0 equiv), cyclohexanone **3a** (5.0 equiv), Lewis acid (10 mol %), organocatalyst (10 mol %), solvent (2.0 mL), 50–60 °C. <sup>b</sup> Isolated yield based on 2-alkynylbenzaldehyde **1a**. <sup>c</sup> 30 mol % of proline was utilized. <sup>d</sup> 5 mol % of AgOTf. <sup>e</sup> 2.5 mol % of AgOTf. <sup>f</sup> 2.5 equiv of cyclohexanone **3a** was employed.

### 2-2. Direct Carbocyclization of Aldehydes with Alkynes



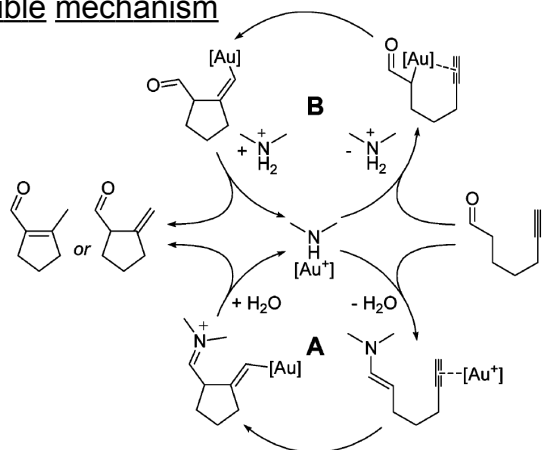
S. F. Kirsch, et al. *Org. Lett.* 2008, 10, 1025



entry	catalyst <b>A</b> (mol %)	catalyst <b>B</b> (mol %)	conditions	yield [%] <sup>a</sup> <b>1a:2a:3a</b>
1			120 °C, toluene, 24 h	100:0:0 <sup>b</sup>
2	(Ph <sub>3</sub> P)AuSbF <sub>6</sub> (10)		70 °C, CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 6 h	0:0:0 <sup>b</sup>
3	[(Ph <sub>3</sub> PAu) <sub>3</sub> O]BF <sub>4</sub> (10)		70 °C, CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 6 h	82:0:0
4		HN( <i>i</i> -Pr) <sub>2</sub> (20)	70 °C, CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 6 h	100:0:0 <sup>b</sup>
5	(Ph <sub>3</sub> P)AuSbF <sub>6</sub> (10)	HN( <i>i</i> -Pr) <sub>2</sub> (20)	70 °C, CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 6 h	0:0:82
6	(Ph <sub>3</sub> P)AuSbF <sub>6</sub> (2)	HN( <i>i</i> -Pr) <sub>2</sub> (20)	70 °C, CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 10 h	0:0:75
7	(Ph <sub>3</sub> P)AuSbF <sub>6</sub> (10)	HN( <i>i</i> -Pr) <sub>2</sub> (20)	70 °C, CH <sub>3</sub> NO <sub>2</sub> , 6 h	0:0:80
8	[(Ph <sub>3</sub> PAu) <sub>3</sub> O]BF <sub>4</sub> (10)	HN( <i>i</i> -Pr) <sub>2</sub> (20)	70 °C, CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 3 h	0:0:86
9	[(Ph <sub>3</sub> PAu) <sub>3</sub> O]BF <sub>4</sub> (10)	HN( <i>i</i> -Pr)( <i>c</i> -Hex) (20)	70 °C, CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 3 h	0:0:83
10	[(Ph <sub>3</sub> PAu) <sub>3</sub> O]BF <sub>4</sub> (10)	H <sub>2</sub> N( <i>i</i> -Pr) (20)	70 °C, CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 3 h	0:0:74
11	LAuSbF <sub>6</sub> (10) <sup>c</sup>	HN( <i>i</i> -Pr) <sub>2</sub> (20)	70 °C, CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 6 h	0:0:74
12	(Ph <sub>3</sub> P)AuNTf <sub>2</sub> (10)	HN( <i>i</i> -Pr) <sub>2</sub> (20)	70 °C, CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 2 h	0:0:13
13	AgSbF <sub>6</sub> (10)	HN( <i>i</i> -Pr) <sub>2</sub> (20)	70 °C, CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 24 h	0:0:16
14	AgOTf (10)	HN( <i>i</i> -Pr) <sub>2</sub> (20)	70 °C, CDCl <sub>3</sub> , 2 h	0:0:59
15	PtCl <sub>2</sub> (10)	HN( <i>i</i> -Pr) <sub>2</sub> (20)	120 °C, toluene, 24 h	0:0:50

<sup>a</sup> Yield of pure product after column chromatography unless otherwise indicated. <sup>b</sup> The ratios were determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectroscopy. <sup>c</sup> L = 2-(biphenyl)di-*tert*-butylphosphine. <sup>d</sup> Traces of **3a** (<5%) were detected by capillary gas chromatography in the absence of HN(*i*-Pr)<sub>2</sub>.

### possible mechanism



•AgOTf

EtN(*i*-Pr)<sub>2</sub> gave TM is 73% isolated yield.

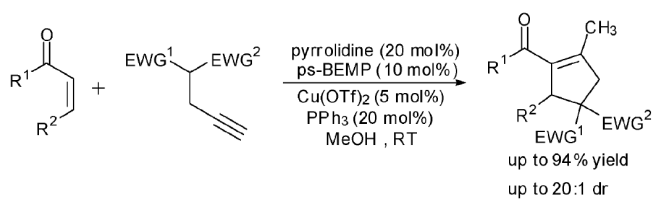
→ mechanism B

•[(Ph<sub>3</sub>PAu)<sub>3</sub>O]BF<sub>4</sub>

EtN(*i*-Pr)<sub>2</sub> failed to give significant amount of TM.

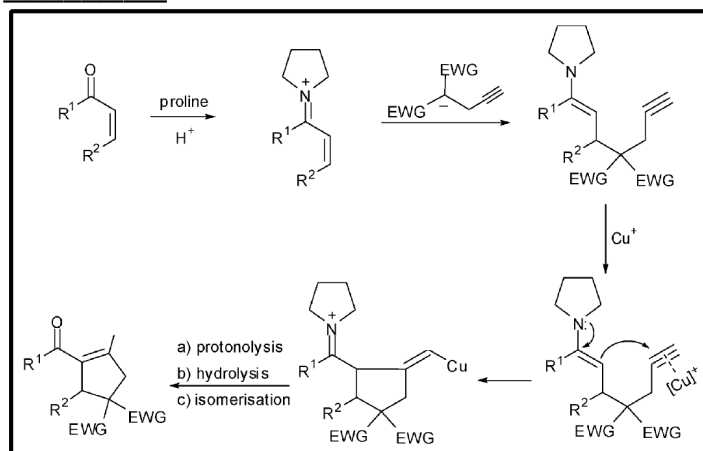
→ mechanism A

### 2-3. A Carboannulation for the Synthesis of Cyclopentene



D. J. Dixon, et al. Chem. Commun. 2008, 2923

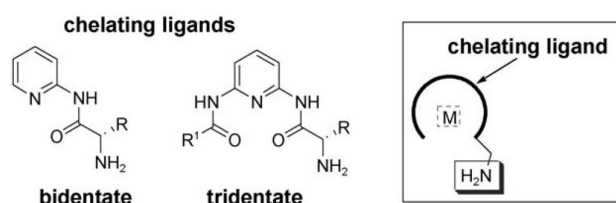
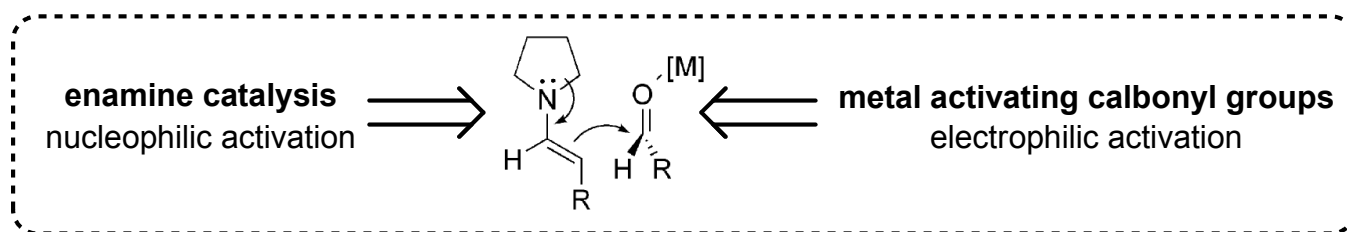
### mechanism



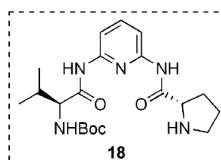
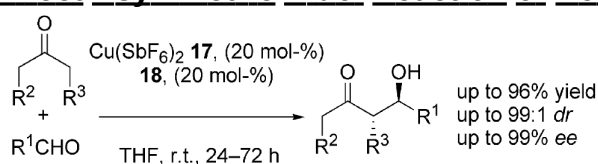
But...

Good enantioselectivity was not observed in this type of reaction.

### 3. combining enamine catalysis and metal activating carbonyl groups

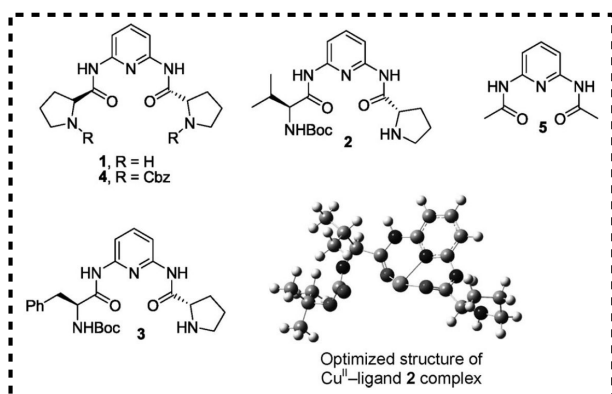


#### 3-1. Direct Asymmetric Aldol Reaction of Ketones

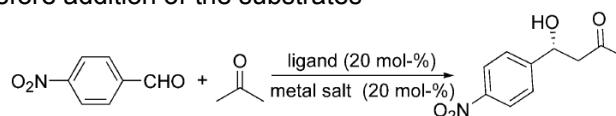


H. Wang, et al. *Eur. J. Org. Chem.* 2009, 4581

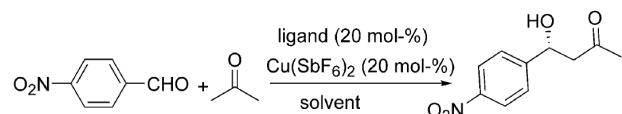
#### tridentate ligands



\*the catalysts were prepared by stirring the ligand and the metal salt in solvent for 2-4 hours at room temperature before addition of the substrates



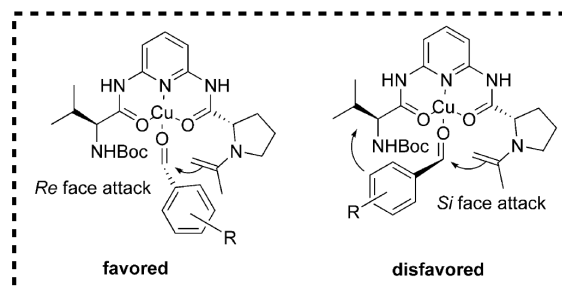
Entry	Metal	Ligand	Time [h]	Yield [%] <sup>[c]</sup>	<i>ee</i> [%] <sup>[d]</sup>
1 <sup>[8]</sup>	—	1	48	74	43
2	Zn(OAc) <sub>2</sub>	1	24	73	53
3	Zn(ClO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	1	36	45	28
4 <sup>[b]</sup>	Ni(OAc) <sub>2</sub>	1	48	84	38
5 <sup>[b]</sup>	Ni(ClO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	1	48	63	58
6	Co(ClO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	1	24	83	42
7	Cu(OTf) <sub>2</sub>	1	48	85	48
8	Cu(ClO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	1	72	81	47
9 <sup>[b]</sup>	Cu(NO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	1	48	48	70
10	Cu(SbF <sub>6</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	1	48	58	75
11	Cu(SbF <sub>6</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	4	72	0	≈
12	Cu(SbF <sub>6</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	5	72	0	≈
13 <sup>[e]</sup>	Cu(SbF <sub>6</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	5	60	20	≈



Entry	Ligand	THF [mL]	Acetone [mL]	Time [h]	Yield [%] <sup>[c]</sup>	<i>ee</i> [%] <sup>[f]</sup>
1	1	2	0.5	72	31	83
2	1	2	1	60	51	82
3 <sup>[b]</sup>	1	2	1	60	61	79
4	1	0.6	0.3	48	84	75
5	2	2	1	48	93	88
6	2	0.6	0.3	24	93	87
7 <sup>[c]</sup>	2	0.6	0.3	48	75	90
8	3	0.6	0.3	48	92	85
9 <sup>[d]</sup>	2	0.6	0.3	72	95	83

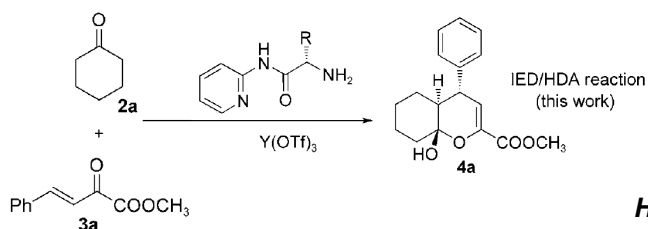
[a] Reactions were performed with 0.2 mmol aldehyde. [b] H<sub>2</sub>O (0.3 mL) was added. [c] At 0 °C. [d] 10 mol-% of catalyst. [e] Isolated yield. [f] Determined by chiral HPLC.

#### proposed transition state



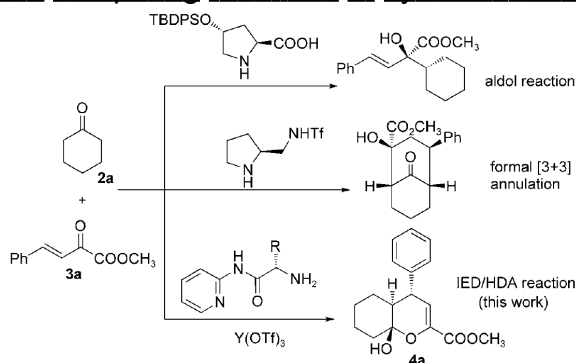
**The tethered pyrrolidine moiety in the ligand did not participate in the coordination to the metal and the acid-base self-quenching reaction did not happen as expected!!**

### 3-2. Asymmetric Inverse-Electron-Demand Hetero-Diels-Alder Reaction



H. Wang, et al. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* 2011, 50, 3484

#### The competing reactions of cyclohexanone with enone 3a in the presence of an amine catalyst

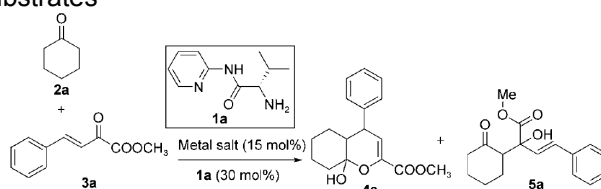


• a highly enantioselective aldol reaction occurs in the presence of a proline-derived catalyst

• a novel asymmetric formal [3+3] annulation reaction occurs in the presence of another proline-derived catalyst

#### optimization of HDA reaction<sup>[a]</sup>

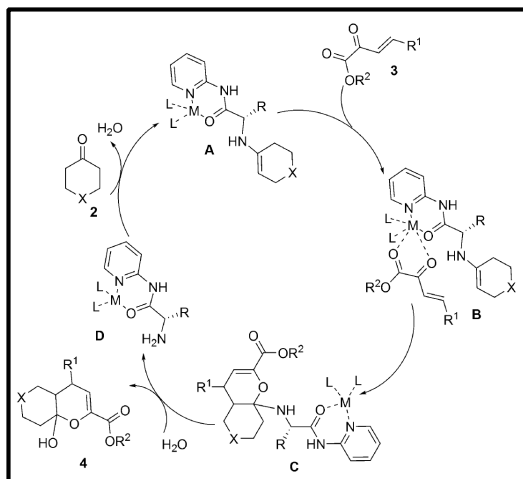
\*the catalysts were prepared by stirring the ligand and the metal salt in solvent for 1-4 hours before addition of the substrates



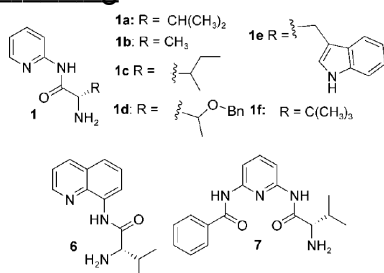
Entry	Metal	Solvent	t [h]	Yield [%] <sup>[b]</sup>	d.r. <sup>[c]</sup>	4a/5a <sup>[c]</sup>	ee [%] <sup>[d]</sup>
1	Cu(SbF <sub>6</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	THF	72	72	–	0:100	–
2	La(OTf) <sub>3</sub>	THF	16	95	4:1	95:5	49
3	Yb(OTf) <sub>3</sub>	THF	36	61	3:1	70:30	70
4	Sc(OTf) <sub>3</sub>	THF	60	60	–	0:100	–
5	Eu(fod) <sub>3</sub>	THF	60	37	–	0:100	–
6	<b>Y(OTf)<sub>3</sub></b>	<b>THF</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>7:1</b>	<b>92:8</b>	<b>83</b>
7	Y(OTf) <sub>3</sub>	CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>	36	75	4:1	96:4	75
8	Y(OTf) <sub>3</sub>	Toluene	36	74	4:1	>99:1	67
9	<b>Y(OTf)<sub>3</sub></b>	<b>CH<sub>3</sub>CN</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>4:1</b>	<b>92:8</b>	<b>85</b>
10	Y(OTf) <sub>3</sub>	Neat	36	76	4:1	58:42	82
11	Y(OTf) <sub>3</sub>	MeOH	72	31	–	< 1:99	–
12 <sup>[e]</sup>	Y(OTf) <sub>3</sub>	CH <sub>3</sub> CN	36	50	5:1	91:9	82
13 <sup>[f]</sup>	Y(OTf) <sub>3</sub>	CH <sub>3</sub> CN	72	20	–	8:92	–
14 <sup>[g]</sup>	Y(OTf) <sub>3</sub>	CH <sub>3</sub> CN	72	20	–	4:96	–
15 <sup>[h]</sup>	Y(OTf) <sub>3</sub>	CH <sub>3</sub> CN	72	38	4:1	83:17	80

[a] Reaction conditions: enone **3** (0.2 mmol) and cyclohexanone (0.5 mL), room temperature in 1 mL of solvent. [b] Yield of the isolated HDA products. [c] Determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectroscopy.<sup>[10]</sup> [d] Determined by HPLC analysis using a chiral stationary phase. [e] 50 mg of silica gel was added. [f] 5 equivalents of H<sub>2</sub>O was added. [g] 10 equivalents of H<sub>2</sub>O was added. [h] 100 mg of 4 Å M.S. was added. fod = 6,6,7,7,8,8,8-heptafluoro-2,2-dimethyl-3,5-octadiene, M.S. = molecular sieves, THF = tetrahydrofuran.

#### proposed catalytic cycle



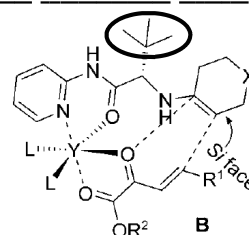
#### ligand screening



Entry	Ligand	Solvent	t [h]	Yield [%] <sup>[b]</sup>	d.r. <sup>[c]</sup>	4a/5a <sup>[c]</sup>	ee [%] <sup>[d]</sup>
1	1a	CH <sub>3</sub> CN	36	70	4:1	92:8	85
2	1b	CH <sub>3</sub> CN	36	21	13:1	50:50	66
3	1c	CH <sub>3</sub> CN	36	72	4:1	95:5	80
4	1d	CH <sub>3</sub> CN	48	48	4:1	75:25	48
5	1e	CH <sub>3</sub> CN	36	64	6:1	88:12	71
6	6	CH <sub>3</sub> CN	72	51	–	10:90	–
7	7	CH <sub>3</sub> CN	36	54	6:1	85:15	67
8	1f	CH <sub>3</sub> CN	36	91	3:1	98:2	92
9	1f <sup>[e]</sup>	CH <sub>3</sub> CN	72	86	2.5:1	>99:1	>99
10	1f <sup>[e]</sup>	THF	84	81	9:1	>99:1	>99

[a] Reaction conditions: enone **3a** (0.2 mmol) and cyclohexanone (0.5 mL) at room temperature in 1 mL of solvent. [b] Yield of the isolated HDA products. [c] Determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectroscopy.<sup>[10]</sup> [d] Determined by HPLC analysis using a chiral stationary phase. [e] Run at 4 °C. Bn = benzyl.

#### proposed transition state



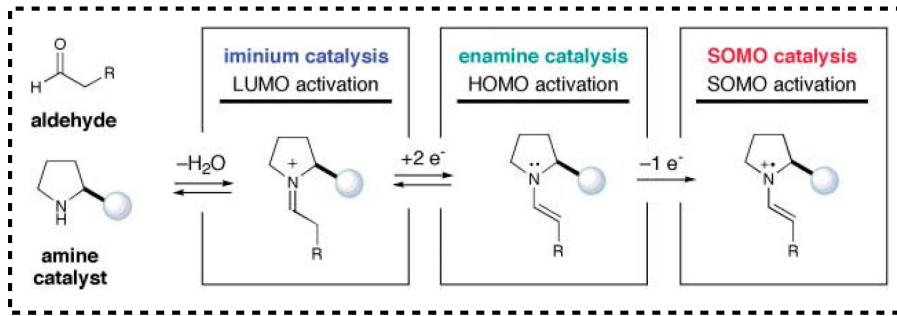
The big R (tert-butyl) group shields the *Re* face of the enamine, thus the activated enone attacks from the *Si* face.



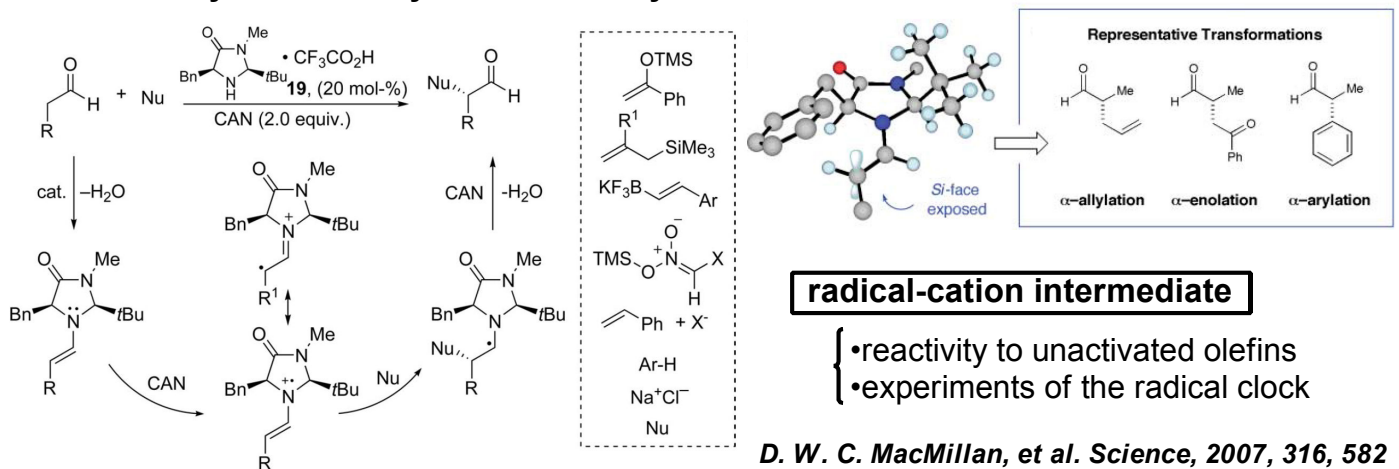
## 4. combining enamine catalysis and SOMO photoredox catalysis

### SOMO activation strategy

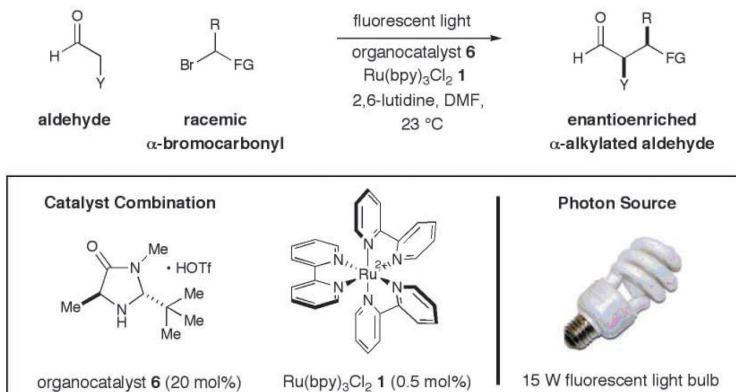
- single-electron oxidation of a transient chiral enamine intermediate was achieved on treatment of enamines with suitable metal oxidants (such as CAN)  $\text{CAN} = \text{Ce}(\text{NH}_4)_2(\text{NO}_3)_6$
- the enamine nucleophiles were transformed into radical cationic electrophiles



### 4-1. Direct Asymmetric Alkylation of Aldehydes

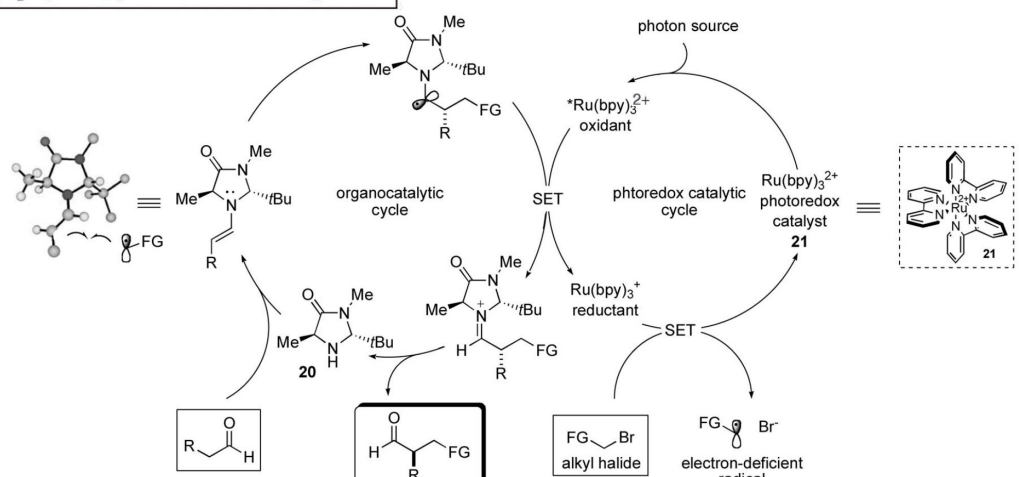


### 4-2. combining enamine catalysis and photoredox catalysis



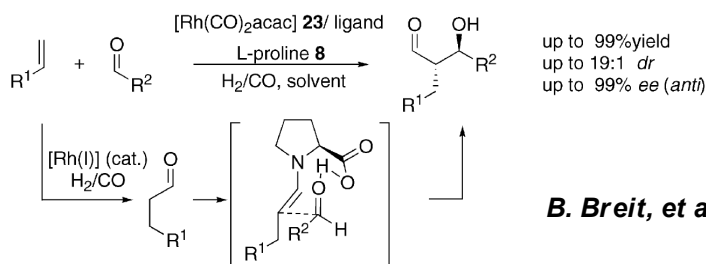
(The experiment of radical clock indicates that a  $3\pi$  electron SOMO activated intermediate is not operative in the organocatalytic cycle.)

*D. W. C. MacMillan, et al. Science, 2008, 322, 77*



## 5. combining enamine catalysis and Rhodium-catalyzed hydroformylation

### 5-1. Tandem Hydroformylation/Enantioselective Aldol Reactions



B. Breit, et al. *Adv. Synth. Catal.* 2007, 349, 1891

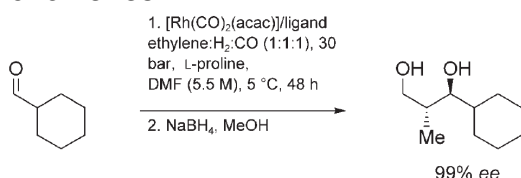
The difficulty of this cross-aldol reaction between two non-equivalent aldehydes

- two aldehydes have to show significant rate differences in enamine formation
- the homo-aldol of the aldehyde component has to be suppressed

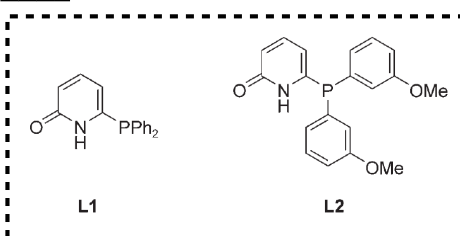


#### tandem hydroformylation/organocatalytic aldol reaction

generate the donor aldehyde in a low stationary concentration by the hydroformylation of alkenes



#### ligands



A crucial factor for success of this reaction is the correct adjustment of the hydroformylation rate to the rate of proline-catalyzed aldol addition since accumulation of the donor aldehyde would facilitate undesired homodimerization.

Entry	Conditions <sup>[a]</sup>	Ligand	CA:HA <sup>[b]</sup>	Yield <sup>[c]</sup> [%]	<i>dr</i> <sup>[b]</sup>
1	1:20:20:450	L1	3:1	77	95:5
2	1:4:20:450	L2	5:1	74	95:5
3	1:20:25:450	PPh <sub>3</sub>	15:1	77	94:6
4	1:20:20:400	PPh <sub>3</sub>	11:1	81	93:7

<sup>[a]</sup> [Rh]:ligand:proline:substrate.

<sup>[b]</sup> Determined by GC after conversion to the corresponding acetonide.

<sup>[c]</sup> Isolated yield of purified cross aldol product.<sup>[14]</sup>

\*In case of the more electrophilic aryl aldehydes, the more reactive hydroformylation catalyst based on L1 gave optimal results.

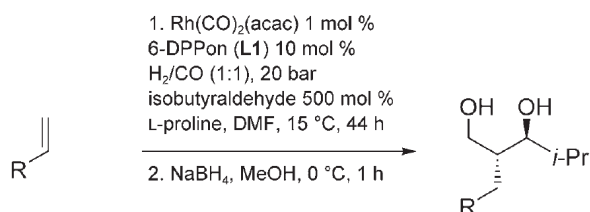
Entry	Product	Yield [%] <sup>[a]</sup>	<i>dr</i> <sup>[b]</sup>	<i>ee</i> [%] <sup>[c]</sup>
1		86	19:1	97
2		50	10:1	99

<sup>[a]</sup> Isolated yields of purified cross aldol products (two steps).

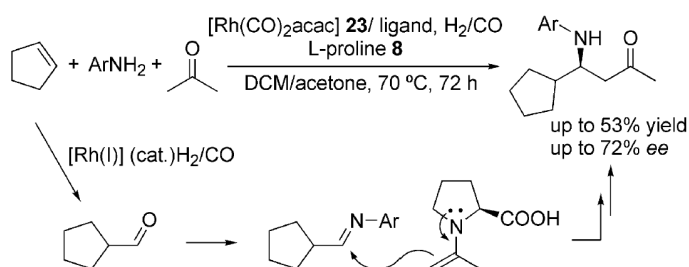
<sup>[b]</sup> Determined by GC after conversion to the corresponding acetonide.

<sup>[c]</sup> Determined by chiral GC (Chiraldex (G-TA)).

#### Application to terminal alkenes



### 5-2. Tandem Hydroformylation/Enantioselective Mannich Reactions



P. Eilbracht, et al. *Adv. Synth. Catal.* 2009, 351, 339

## 2. Boron compounds as catalysts

### 1. combined acid catalysis

combined acids system (Lewis acid and Brønsted acid)

an effective asymmetric environment  
by more-organized structures

more reactivity  
by associative interaction

e.g.)  $\text{HSO}_3\text{F}\cdot\text{SbF}_5$  (magic acid)

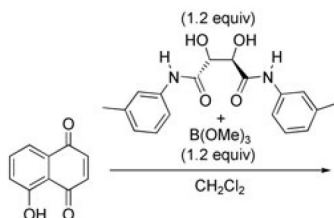
The concept of combined acids can be a particularly useful tool for the design of asymmetric catalysis.

H. Yamamoto, K. Futatsugi, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* 2008, 47, 2876

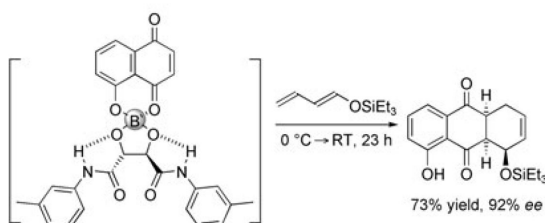
Table 1: General classifications of combined acid catalysis.

Catalyst system	General structure	Examples
* Brønsted acid assisted Lewis acid catalyst (BLA) Enhancement of Lewis acidity by the combination with Brønsted acid		
* Lewis acid assisted Lewis acid catalyst (LLA) Enhancement of Lewis acidity by the combination with Lewis acid		
Lewis acid assisted Brønsted acid catalyst (LBA) Enhancement of Brønsted acidity by the combination with Lewis acid		
Brønsted acid assisted Brønsted acid catalyst (BBA) Enhancement of Brønsted acidity by the combination with Brønsted acid		

#### 1-1. a chiral boron reagent (BLA)



Yamamoto, H. et al. *Tetrahedron Lett.* 1986, 27, 4895

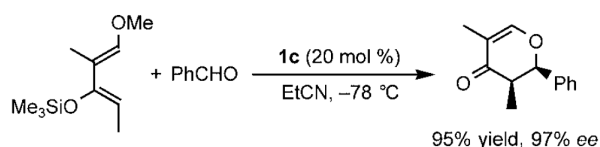
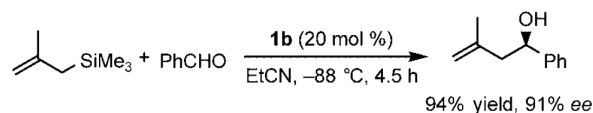
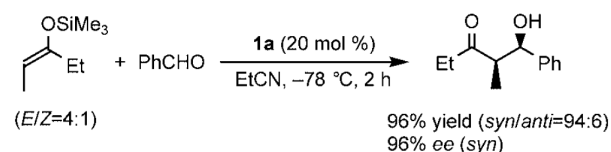
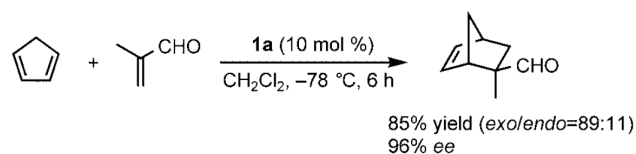
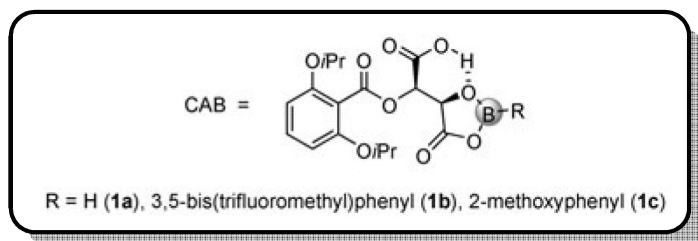


The intramolecular **hydrogen bonding** between the hydrogen atom on the amide and the oxygen atom attached to the boron center increases the Lewis acidity of boron.

But...

1.2 equiv of boron reagent is required in this reaction.

## 1-2. CAB (chiral acyloxyborane) catalysts (BLA)



Scheme 2. Asymmetric reactions promoted by CAB catalysts.

### Mechanism studies of a CAB-catalyzed asymmetric diel-Alder reactions

Table I. Asymmetric Diels-Alder Reaction of  $\alpha,\beta$ -Enal with Cyclopentadiene Catalyzed by **1**<sup>a</sup>

CAB <b>1</b> R	% ee (config)		
1-hexynyl	64 (R)	58 (R)	42 (R)
PhC≡C	62 (R)	48 (R)	40 (R)
H	87 (R) [96 (R)] <sup>b,c</sup>	47 (R) [84 (R)] <sup>b,c</sup>	2 (S) [2 (S)] <sup>b,c</sup>
Me		2 (S)	14 (S)
Ph	80 (R)	10 (S) [3 (S)] <sup>b</sup>	37 (S)
3,5-(CF <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>3</sub>		3 (S)	59 (S)
<i>o</i> -PhOC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	93 (R)	57 (S)	67 (S)
<i>o</i> -NpOC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> <sup>d</sup>		53 (S)	77 (S)

<sup>a</sup> Unless otherwise noted, the reaction was carried out in propionitrile for several hours using 10–20 mol % of **1** and cyclopentadiene (3 equiv) at –78 °C. <sup>b</sup> Dichloromethane was used in place of propionitrile. <sup>c</sup> (2*R*,3*R*)-2-*O*-(2,6-Dimethoxybenzoyl) tartaric acid was used as a chiral ligand. <sup>d</sup> *o*-Naphthoxyphenyl.

Table II. Summary of NOE Data for Methacrolein

complex	<i>t</i> (°C)	NOE (saturated/observed, %)			
		H <sup>a</sup> /H <sup>b</sup>	H <sup>a</sup> /H <sup>c</sup>	H <sup>a</sup> /H <sup>d</sup>	H <sup>c</sup> /H <sup>a</sup>
methacrolein only	–95	0	6.3	0	18
methacrolein- <b>1</b> , R = H <sup>b</sup>	–95	0	–10	0	6.3
methacrolein- <b>1</b> , R = <i>o</i> -PhOC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> <sup>b</sup>	–75	0	–22	0	–33

<sup>a</sup> Calibrated probe temperature. <sup>b</sup> Complexed formed by addition of 0.72 equiv of the aldehyde to **1**.

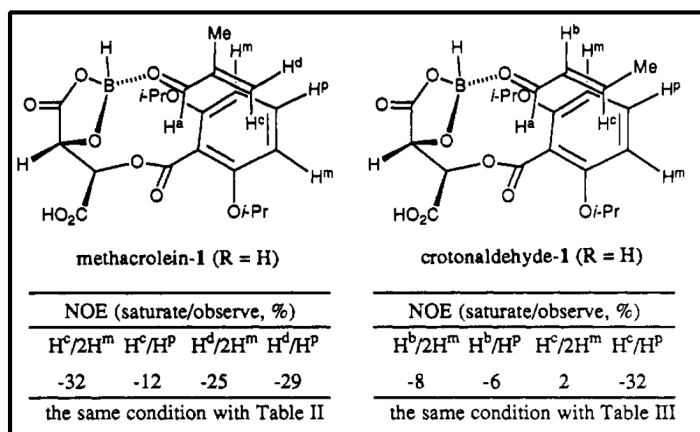
Yamamoto, H. et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1993, 115, 10412

Table III. Summary of the NOE Data for Crotonaldehyde

complex	<i>t</i> (°C)	NOE (saturated/observed, %)			
		H <sup>a</sup> /H <sup>b</sup>	H <sup>a</sup> /H <sup>c</sup>	H <sup>b</sup> /H <sup>a</sup>	H <sup>c</sup> /H <sup>a</sup>
crotonaldehyde only	–95	0	5.4		
crotonaldehyde- <b>1</b> , R = C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>9</sub> C≡C <sup>b</sup>	–75	0	6		13
crotonaldehyde- <b>1</b> , R = H <sup>b</sup>	–95	0	18		
crotonaldehyde- <b>1</b> , R = 3,5-(CF <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>3</sub> <sup>b</sup>	–75	–32	0	–48	
crotonaldehyde- <b>1</b> , R = <i>o</i> -PhOC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> <sup>b</sup>	–75	–14	0	–18	

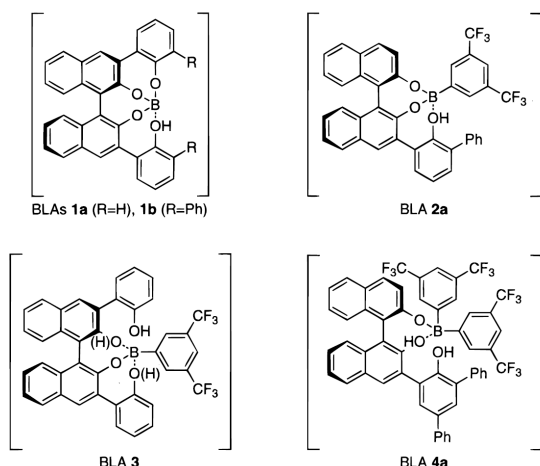
<sup>a</sup> Calibrated probe temperature. <sup>b</sup> Complex formed by addition of 0.72 equiv of the aldehyde to **1**.

### CAB-methacrolein and CAB-crotonaldehyde complex



Based on the NOE experiments, it was established that the effective shielding of the CAB-coordinated aldehydes arises from  $\pi$  stacking of 2,6-diisopropoxybenzaldehyde ring and the coordinated aldehyde.

### 1-3. $\pi$ - $\pi$ donor-acceptor interaction (BLA)



Yamamoto, H. et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1998, 120, 6920

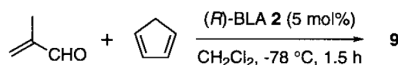
The coordination of a proton of the 2-hydroxyphenyl group with an oxygen of the adjacent B-O bond in complex plays an important role.

hydrogen bonding interaction *via* a Brønsted acid



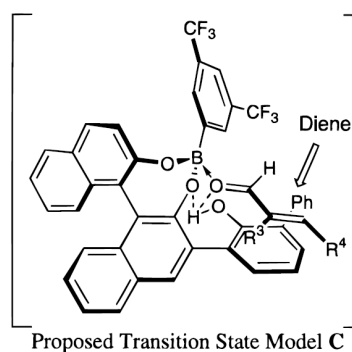
- increase the Lewis acidity of boron
- increase the  $\pi$ -basicity of the phenoxy moiety

### Asymmetric Diels-Alder reactions catalyzed by BLA 2



entry	chiral ligand	method <sup>b</sup>	yield <sup>c</sup> (%)	ee (%) <sup>d</sup> [config]
1	(R)-18a	A	96	99 [S]
2		B	94	98 [S]
3		A <sup>e</sup>	95	48 [S]
4	(R)-18b	B	89	50 [S]
5	(R)-18c	B	97	77 [S]
6	(R)-18d	B	63	60 [S]
7	(R)-18a (MeO) <sup>f</sup>	B	9	45 [S]
8	(R)-Binaphthol	B	22	46 [S]

<sup>a</sup> The reactions were conducted in dichloromethane using aldehyde (1 equiv, 0.25 M) and diene (4 equiv) in the presence of 5 mol % of **2** at  $-78\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$  for 1.5 h. <sup>b</sup> See text. <sup>c</sup> Isolated yield. <sup>d</sup> The ee of major isomer and the absolute configuration of its carbonyl  $\alpha$ -carbon are indicated. The absolute configuration was assigned by comparison with data in the literature. For the determination method, see Experimental Section. <sup>e</sup> No THF was added. <sup>f</sup> (R)-3-(2-Methoxyphenyl)-2,2'-dihydroxy-1,1'-binaphthyl was used.



The attractive  $\pi$ - $\pi$  donor-acceptor interaction between a dienophile and a chiral ligand is highly effective for inducing asymmetry.

### synthesis of BLA catalysts

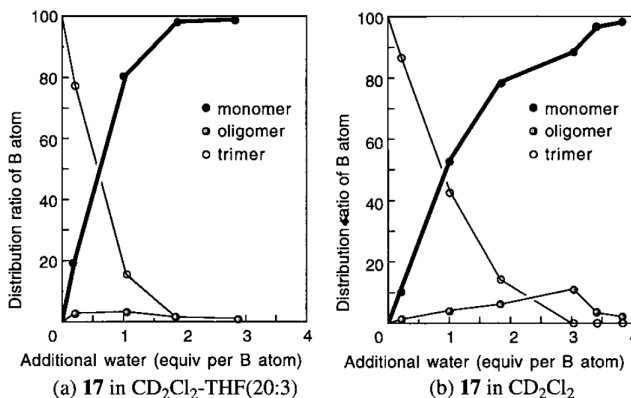
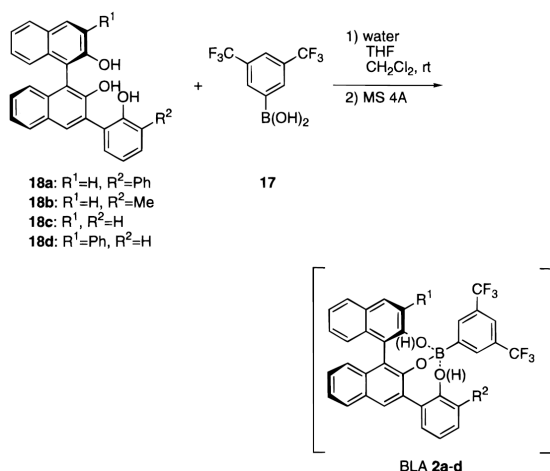
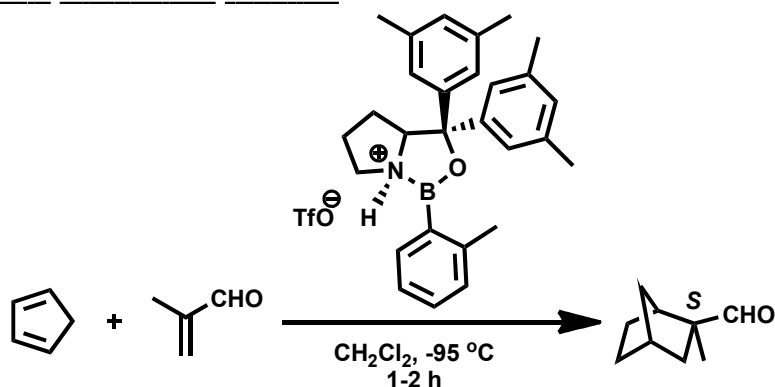


Figure 1. Plot of the distribution ratio of boron atom in a solution of **17** versus additional water.

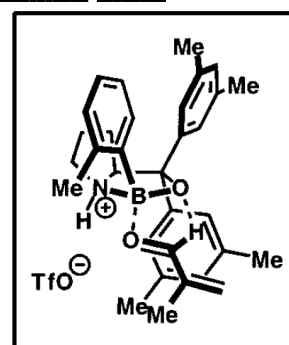
\*THF and additional water are required for the preparation of a sufficient amount of BLA2.

### 1-4. oxazaborolidine (BLA)

asymmetric Diels-Alder reaction



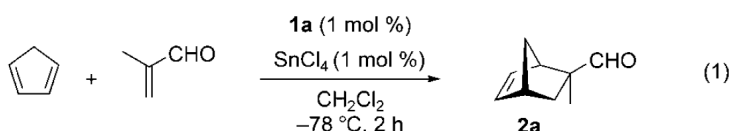
transition state



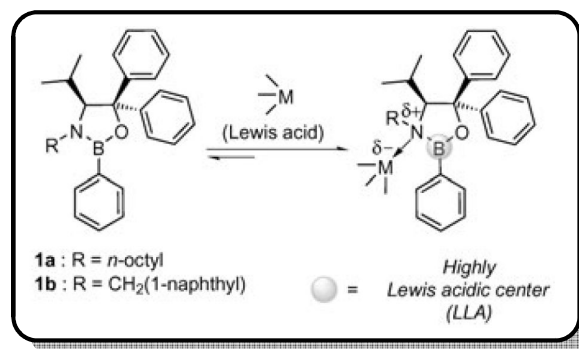
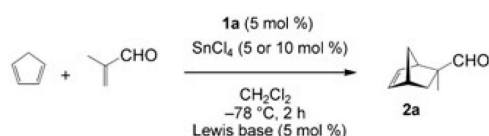
E. J. Corey, et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2002, 124, 3808

### 1-5. oxazaborolidine (LLA)

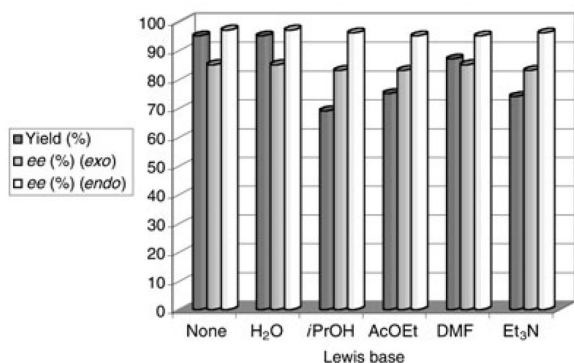
asymmetric Diels-Alder reaction



95% yield (*exolendo* = 75:25)  
84% ee (*exo*), 96% ee (*endo*)

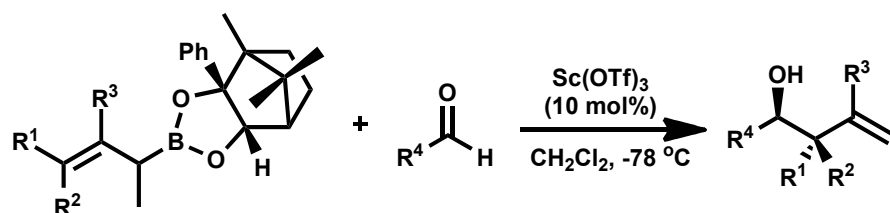


H. Yamamoto, et al., *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* 2005, 44, 1484



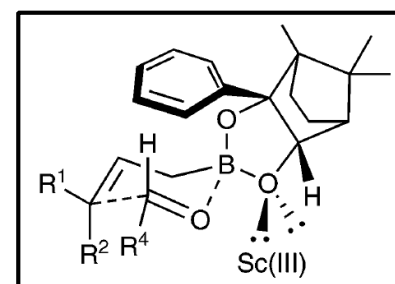
The reactivity and asymmetric induction ability can be maintained even in the presence of a small amount of water as well as other Lewis bases by adding a slightly larger amount of  $\text{SnCl}_4$ .

### 1-6. dioxaborolane (LLA)



A close investigation pointed to electrophilic activation by coordination of the metal ion to one of the boronate oxygens in a closed bimolecular transition state.

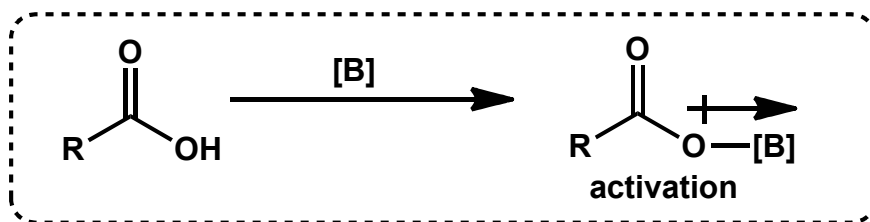
transition state



D. G. Hall, et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2004, 126, 4518

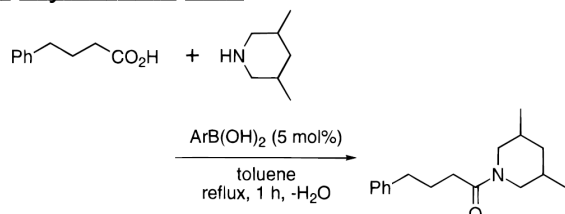


## 2. activation of carboxylic acid



### 2-1. boron compound-catalyzed amide condensation

#### 1. arylboronic acid



Yamamoto, H. et al. *J. Org. Chem.* 1996, 61, 4196

entry	Ar	yield <sup>b</sup> (%)	entry	Ar	yield <sup>b</sup> (%)
1	3,4,5-F <sub>3</sub> C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>2</sub>	74	5	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub>	23
2	3-NO <sub>2</sub> C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	60	6	2,4,6-(CF <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>2</sub>	21
3	3,5-(CF <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>3</sub>	56	7	2,3,4,5-F <sub>4</sub> C <sub>6</sub> H	11
4	4-CF <sub>3</sub> C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	54	8	c	<2

<sup>a</sup> In the presence of 5 mol % of arylboronic acid, a mixed solution of 1 equiv of 4-phenylbutyric acid (0.2 M) and 1 equiv of 3,5-dimethylpiperidine (0.2 M) in toluene was refluxed with removal of water (4-Å molecular sieves in a Soxhlet thimble). <sup>b</sup> Isolated yield. <sup>c</sup> No catalyst was added.

#### proposed catalytic cycle

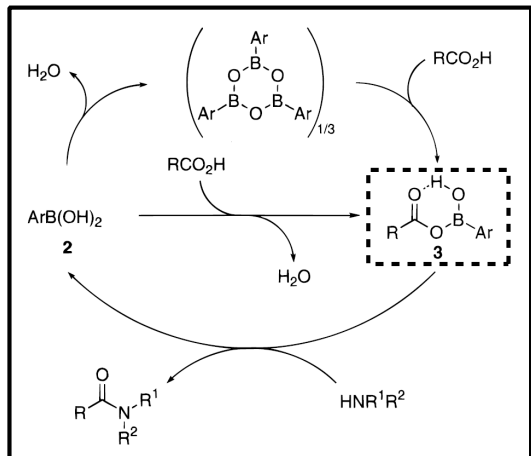


Table 2. Amidation Reaction between Carboxylic Acids and Amines Catalyzed by 1<sup>a</sup>

carboxylic acid	amine	solvent	time (h)	yield <sup>b</sup> (%)
		toluene	18	96
		toluene	16	>99
	Bu <sub>2</sub> NH	xylene	20	56
		mesitylene	14.5	99
	PhNH <sub>2</sub>	mesitylene <sup>c</sup>	4	99
		xylene	18	96
		mesitylene <sup>c</sup>	2	92
		xylene	29	99
PhCO <sub>2</sub> H		mesitylene	20	95

<sup>a</sup> Unless otherwise noted, in the presence of 1 mol % of 1, a mixed solution of 1 equiv of carboxylic acid (0.2 M) and 1 equiv of amine (0.2 M) in toluene, xylene, or mesitylene was refluxed with removal of water (4-Å molecular sieves in a Soxhlet thimble). <sup>b</sup> Isolated yield by column chromatography on silica gel. <sup>c</sup> A mixed solution of 1 equiv of carboxylic acid (2 M) and 1 equiv of amine (2 M) in mesitylene was used.

#### arylboronic acids with electron-withdrawing substituents at the aryl group

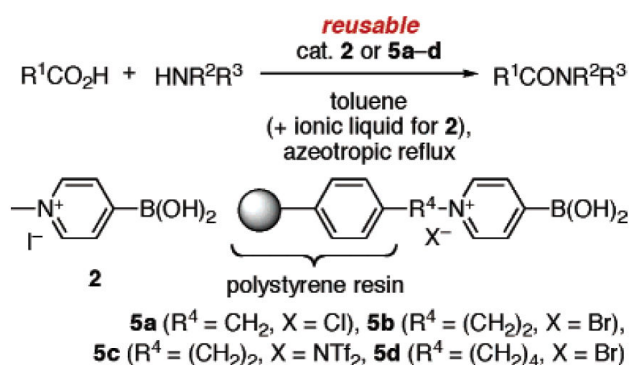
- water-, acid-, and base-tolerant
- thermally stable and can be readily handled in air
- strong Lewis acidity enhances the rate of the generation of acyloxyborane species and their reactivity with amines

→ **only catalytic amount of boronic acids are required!!**

But...

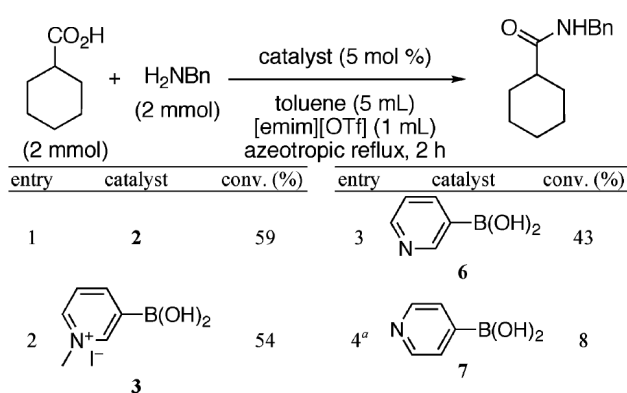
Catalytic activities of these neutral boronic acids are greatly diminished in polar solvents. This solvent limitation restricts the scope of substrates.

## 2. *N*-Alkyl-2-boronopyridinium Salt



Yamamoto, H. et al. *Org. Lett.* 2005, 7, 5043

- 4-borono-*N*-methylpyridinium iodide (**2**) is effective in polar solvents.
- A catalyst **2** can be reused through the use of ionic liquid-toluene biphasic solvents.
- Catalysts **5** are reusable without the need for ionic liquids.



<sup>a</sup> **7** did not dissolve under these conditions.

**Table 3.** Direct Amide Condensation Reaction Catalyzed by **2**

$$\text{R}^1\text{CO}_2\text{H} + \text{R}^2\text{R}^3\text{NH} \xrightarrow[\text{[emim][OTf] (1 mL)}]{\mathbf{2} \text{ (5 mol \%)}}$$

$$\text{R}^1\text{CONR}^2\text{R}^3$$

(2 mmol)    (2 mmol)      solvent (5 mL)  
 azeotropic reflux

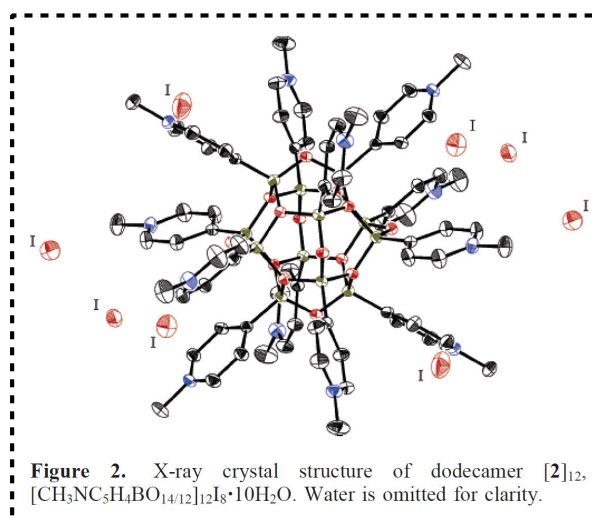
entry	solvent	time (h)	product	yield (%)
1	toluene	6		92
2	toluene	18		95
3 <sup>a</sup>	toluene	5 (1 <sup>st</sup> ) 5 (2 <sup>nd</sup> ) 5 (3 <sup>rd</sup> )		98 (1 <sup>st</sup> ) 93 (2 <sup>nd</sup> ) 95 (3 <sup>rd</sup> )
4	<i>o</i> -xylene	18		91
5	<i>o</i> -xylene	18		80
6	<i>o</i> -xylene	10		91
7	<i>o</i> -xylene	3		90
8	<i>o</i> -xylene	6		98
9 <sup>a</sup>	<i>o</i> -xylene	5 (1 <sup>st</sup> ) 5 (2 <sup>nd</sup> ) 5 (3 <sup>rd</sup> )		99 (1 <sup>st</sup> ) 98 (2 <sup>nd</sup> ) 99 (3 <sup>rd</sup> )

<sup>a</sup> A solution of **2** in [emim][OTf] was reused three times.

**Table 2.** Catalytic Activities of **2** and [**2**]<sub>12</sub> for Amide Condensation

entry	catalyst (mol %)	solvents (mL)	time (h)	yield (%)
1	<b>2</b> (5)	toluene (5)	1	41
2	[ <b>2</b> ] <sub>12</sub> (10) <sup>a</sup>	toluene (5)	1	15
3	<b>2</b> (5)	toluene (5)–[emim][OTf] (1)	1	74
4	[ <b>2</b> ] <sub>12</sub> (5) <sup>b</sup>	toluene (5)–[emim][OTf] (1)	1	75
5	<b>2</b> (5)	toluene (5)–[emim][OTf] (1)	5	>99
6 <sup>c</sup>	<b>2</b> (5)	toluene (5)–[emim][OTf] (1)	5	>99
7 <sup>d</sup>	<b>2</b> (5)	toluene (5)–[emim][OTf] (1)	5	>99
8	<b>1</b> (5)	toluene (5)–[emim][OTf] (1)	1	88
9 <sup>e</sup>	<b>1</b> (5)	toluene (5)–[emim][OTf] (1)	1	7

<sup>a</sup> [**2**]<sub>12</sub> (10 mol % for B-atom) was used. <sup>b</sup> [**2**]<sub>12</sub> (5 mol % for B-atom) was used. <sup>c</sup> **2** used in entry 5 was recovered and reused in entry 6. <sup>d</sup> **2** used in entry 6 was recovered and reused in entry 7. <sup>e</sup> A solution of **1** in [emim][OTf] used in entry 8 was recovered and reused in entry 9.

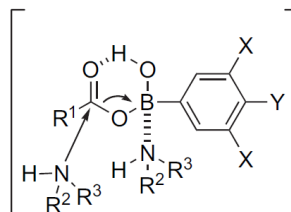
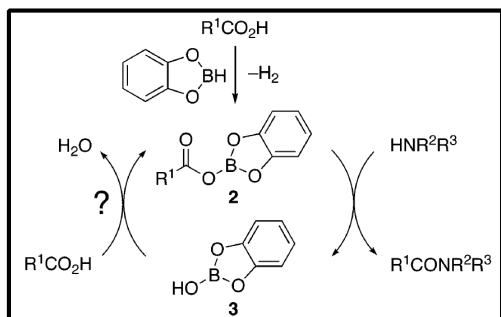
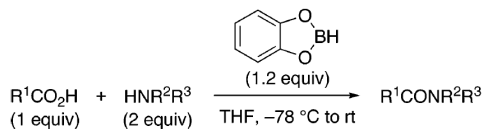


1-ethyl-3-methylimidazolium trifluoromethanesulfonate [emim][OTf] plays an important role in suppressing the condensation of **2** to [**2**]<sub>12</sub>.



### 3. catecholborane

#### Ganem's amide condensation



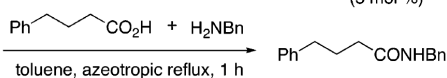
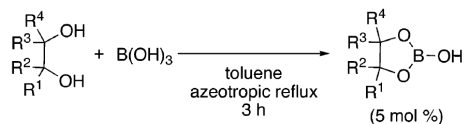
Ganem, B. et al. *J. Org. Chem.* 1978, 43, 4393

Under this condition, benzo[d][1,3,2]dioxaborol-2-ol (**3**) is inert as a condensing reagent.

How can we use **3** as a condensing reagent??

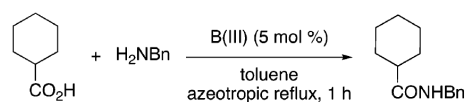
**3** serves as a dehydrative catalyst under azeotropic reflux conditions with the removal of water in less polar solvents!!

Yamamoto, H. et al. *Org. Lett.* 2006, 8, 1431



entry	B(III) catalyst	conv (%)	entry	B(III) catalyst	conv (%)
1		61	3		64
2		93	4		74
			5 <sup>a</sup>	B(OH) <sub>3</sub>	31
			6 <sup>a</sup>		96

<sup>a</sup> B(OH)<sub>3</sub> and **1** were used instead of 1,3,2-dioxaborolan-2-ol derivatives.



entry	B(III) catalyst <sup>a</sup>	conv (%)	entry	B(III) catalyst <sup>a</sup>	conv (%)
1		62	5		3
2	<b>4b</b>	52			
3	<b>1</b>	32			
4	B(OH) <sub>3</sub>	2			

<sup>a</sup> **4b** and **4c** were prepared from B(OH)<sub>3</sub> and tetrachlorocatechol in situ before the addition of carboxylic acids and amines.

RCO <sub>2</sub> H + R <sup>2</sup> R <sup>3</sup> NH		1 or <b>4a</b> (5 mol %)		R <sup>1</sup> CONR <sup>2</sup> R <sup>3</sup>	
		toluene or <i>o</i> -xylene azeotropic reflux			
entry	product (5-18)	solvent, time (h)	yield (%)		
			<b>1</b>	<b>4a</b>	
1	Ph(CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>4</sub> CONHBn <b>5</b>	toluene, 0.25	60	41	
2	Ph(CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>4</sub> CONHBn Me <b>6</b>	toluene, 1	42	26	
3	PhCONHBn <b>7</b>	<i>o</i> -xylene, 0.5	59	51	
4	PhCONMeBn <b>8</b>	<i>o</i> -xylene, 1	37	16	
5		toluene, 1	32	62	
		toluene, 5	-	94	
6		toluene, 24	8	93	
7		toluene, 19	11	55	
		<i>o</i> -xylene, 24	-	99	
8	<i>t</i> -BuCONHBn <b>12</b>	toluene, 20	5	55	
		<i>o</i> -xylene, 15	-	94	
9	PhCH <sub>2</sub> CONHBn <b>13</b>	toluene, 2	25	77	
		toluene, 5	-	95	
10		toluene, 24	15	22	
		<i>o</i> -xylene, 20	20	99	
11	Ph <sub>2</sub> CHCONHBn <b>15</b>	toluene, 2	30	32	
		toluene, 11	-	93	
12		<i>o</i> -xylene, 5	47	53	
		<i>o</i> -xylene, 19	-	93	
13		toluene, 5	35	42	
		toluene, 20	-	91 <sup>a</sup>	
14		<i>o</i> -xylene, 1	32	62	
		<i>o</i> -xylene, 9	-	92	

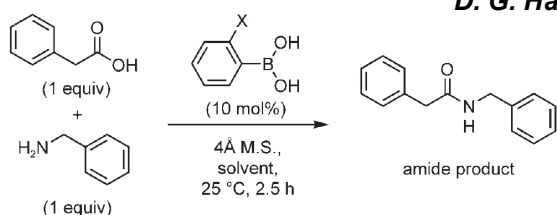
<sup>a</sup> Optical purity of the amide was reduced from >99% ee to 86% ee through amide condensation.

But...

These catalysts(1~3) required heating at reflux in solvent at temperatures over 110 °C.

## 4. *o*-halophenylboronic acid

D. G. Hall, et al. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* 2008, 47, 2876



				<b>1</b> 	<b>2</b> 
THF	22%	27%	47%	49%	71%
CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>	42%	41%	64%	76%	91%

**Scheme 2.** Comparison of product yields between the most promising *ortho*-substituted arylboronic acid catalysts in a model amidation reaction.

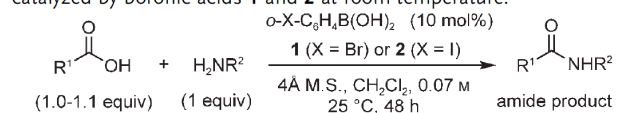
\*MS4Å is essential to scavenge the water by-product of the reaction.

### Why is the catalyst **2** so effective?

- *para* isomer is significantly less effective
- *o,o'*-dihaloarylboronic acids are less reactive
- inductive effects alone cannot account for

The reason is unclear at present...

**Table 1:** Direct amidations between carboxylic acids and amines catalyzed by boronic acids **1** and **2** at room temperature.<sup>[a]</sup>



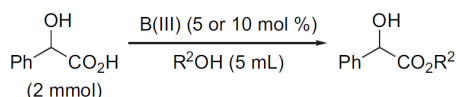
<b>1</b>		<b>2</b>	
	99%		0%
<b>3</b>		<b>4</b>	
	66% (87% in THF)		80%
<b>5</b>		<b>6</b>	
	99%		41% 76% (with <b>2</b> )
<b>7</b>		<b>8</b>	
	52% (with <b>2</b> ) 97% (with <b>2</b> in THF)		24% (with 20 mol% <b>2</b> in toluene at 50 °C)
<b>9</b>		<b>10</b>	
	74% (with <b>2</b> )		95% (with 20 mol% <b>2</b> )
<b>11</b>		<b>12</b>	
	R = (CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> CHCH <sub>2</sub> 73% R = PhCH <sub>2</sub> 93%		R = H 73% (with <b>2</b> in THF) R = CH <sub>3</sub> 70% (with 20 mol% <b>2</b> , THF, 16 h)

[a] The boronic acid (0.05 mmol), carboxylic acid (0.50-0.55 mmol), and the amine (0.5 mmol) were stirred at 24–25 °C for 48 h in solvent containing powdered activated 4Å molecular sieves (1 g). Unless indicated otherwise, amidations took place in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> with catalyst **1** (10 mol%). Product purity was greater than 95% according to <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectroscopic analysis. Boc = butoxycarbonyl.

**Catalyst 2 functions under practical and mild conditions at room temperature!!**

## 2-2. boron compound-catalyzed ester condensation

### ester condensation of $\alpha$ -hydroxycarboxylic acids



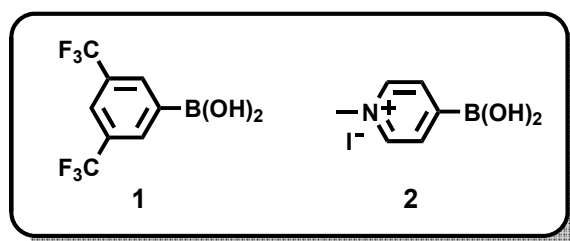
Yamamoto, H. et al. *Tetrahedron.* 2007, 63, 8645

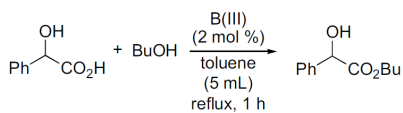
Entry	R <sup>2</sup> OH	Temp, time (h)	Conv. (%)		
			B(OH) <sub>3</sub>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
1 <sup>a</sup>	MeOH	rt, 2	28	48	77
2 <sup>a</sup>	EtOH	rt, 5	24	19	43
3 <sup>b</sup>	<i>i</i> -BuOH	Reflux, 1	36	32	83
4 <sup>a</sup>	<i>i</i> -PrOH	Reflux, 5	29	14	52
5 <sup>b</sup>	(CH <sub>2</sub> OH) <sub>2</sub>	80 °C, 1.5	48 <sup>c</sup>	29 <sup>c</sup>	83 <sup>c</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Catalyst (10 mol%) was used.

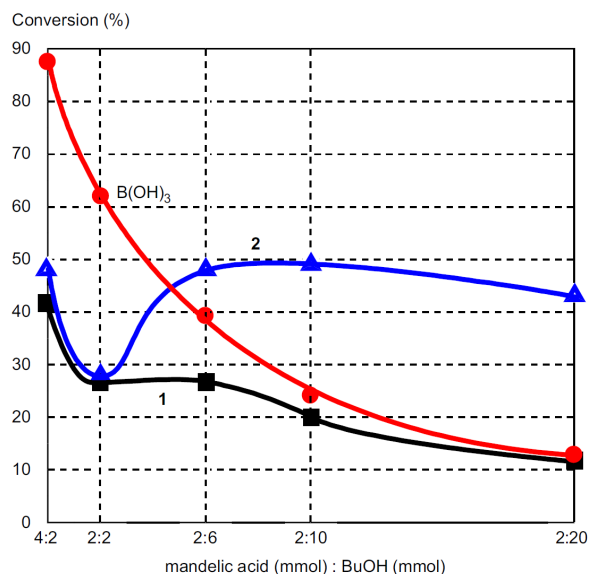
<sup>b</sup> Catalyst (5 mol%) was used.

<sup>c</sup> 2-Hydroxyethyl mandelate was produced.

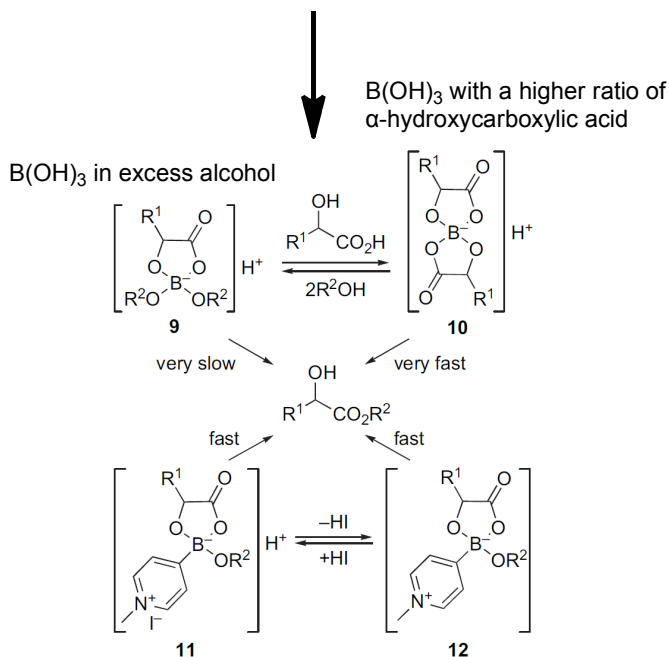




- Boric acid was the most active catalyst with a molar ratio of mandelic acid/butanol of >1:2.
- 2** was the most active catalyst with a molar ratio of mandelic acid/butanol of <1:3.



**Figure 3.** Correlation between the catalytic activity of boron(III) compounds and the molar ratio of mandelic acid and butanol.

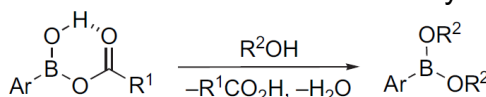


Not only α-hydroxycarboxylic acids but also β-hydroxycarboxylic acids were condensed.

### limitation of this reaction

**Boron(III) compounds were much less effective for the esterification of simple carboxylic acids.**

This is because an alkoxyborane species is preferentially produced rather than the desired acyloxyborane species.

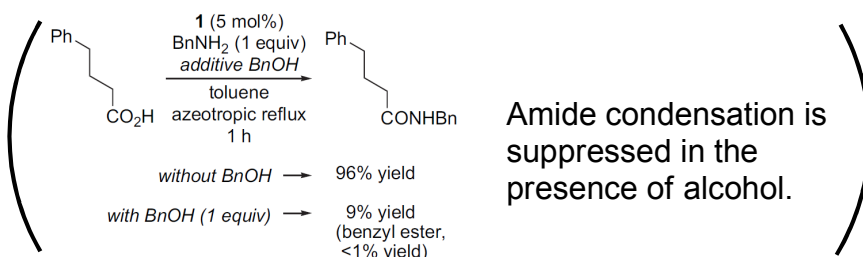


Entry	Temp, time (h)	Product	Yield (%)
1	rt, 10		93
2	Reflux, 6		99
3	rt, 10		96
4	Reflux, 15		92
5	Reflux, 4		95
6 <sup>a</sup>	Reflux, 21		81
7	80 °C, 5		97
8 <sup>a</sup>	Reflux, 15		95
9 <sup>a</sup>	Reflux, 23		86
10 <sup>a</sup>	Reflux, 18		92
11	Reflux, 17		85
12 <sup>b,c</sup>	Reflux, 20		84
13	Reflux, 20		93
14	Reflux, 22		89

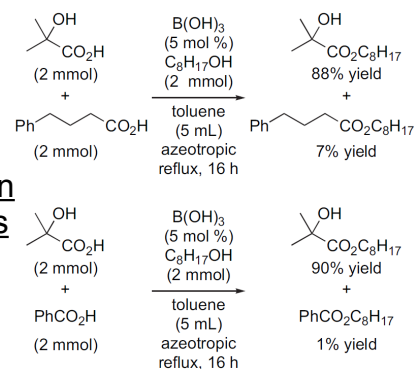
<sup>a</sup> Dicarboxylic acid was used as a substrate.

<sup>b</sup> Compound **2** (10 mol %) was used.

<sup>c</sup> Diisobutyl 4-hydroxyisophthalate and 2-hydroxy-5-(isobutoxycarbonyl)-benzoic acid were produced in respective yields of 5 and 2%.

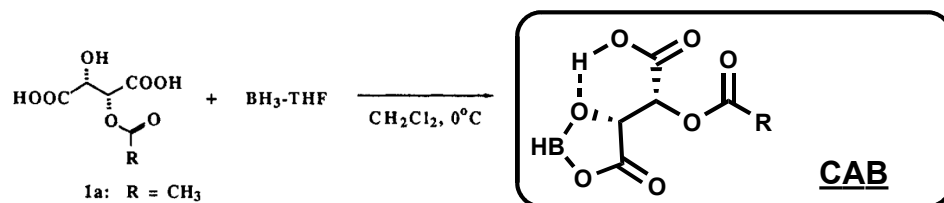


### chemoselective esterification of α-hydroxycarboxylic acids



## 2-3. boron compound-catalyzed Diels-Alder reaction

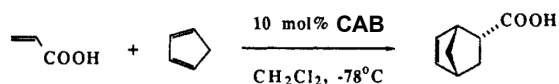
### 1. CAB (chiral acyloxyborane) catalysts



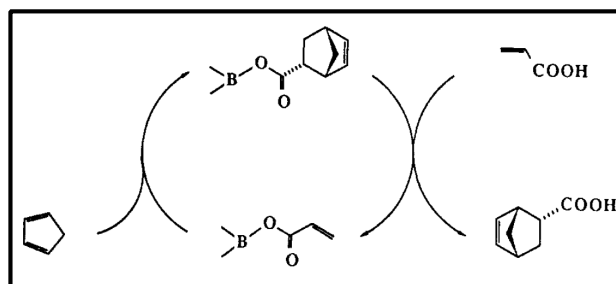
- 1a: R = CH<sub>3</sub>  
 b: R = t-Bu  
 c: R = Ph  
 d: R = 2,6-(MeO)<sub>2</sub>Ph

Yamamoto, H. et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1988, 110, 6254

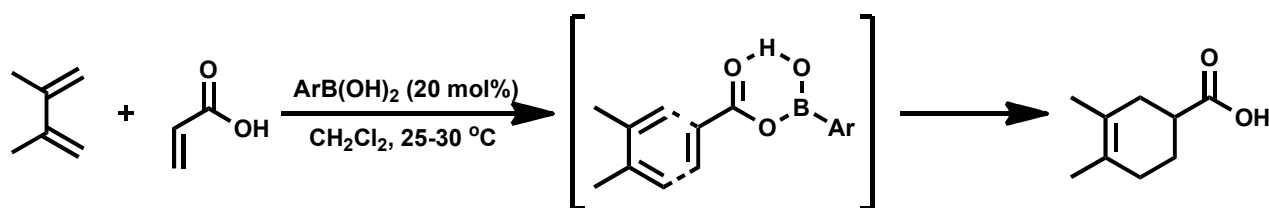
#### catalytic cycle



	Yield(%)	ee(%)
2a:	66	34
b:	68	51
c:	88	35
d:	93	78



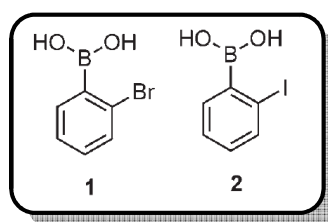
### 2. boronic acid



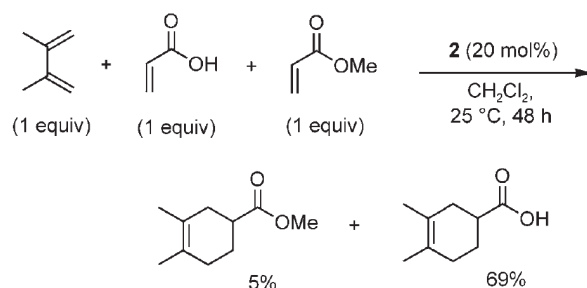
D. G. Hall, et al. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* 2008, 47, 2876

**Table 2:** Diels-Alder cycloadditions of free  $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated carboxylic acids catalyzed by boronic acids **1** and **2**.<sup>[a]</sup>

diene (2 equiv)	dienophile (1 equiv)	catalyst (20 mol%)	conditions	cycloadduct	Yield (%)
1	1	1	CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> , 1.0 M, 25-30 °C, 48 h	1	90%
		no catalyst		1	5%
		1 with 1.0 equiv water		1	25%
		1 with 0.1 equiv water		1	76%
		1 with no water added		1	90%
		1 with 4Å M.S.		1	20%
2	2	1		2	99% (24 h)
3	3	1		3	35% (with 2)
4	4	1		4	71%



#### selective activation of carboxylic acid

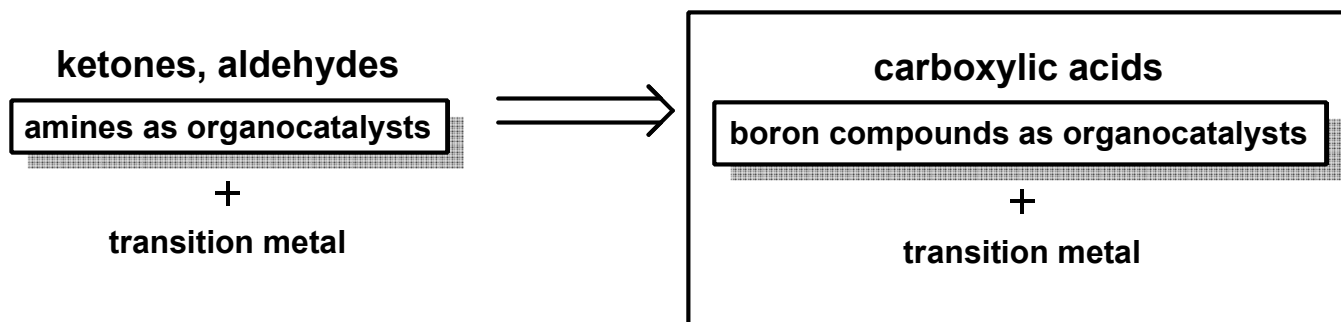


[a] The boronic acid (0.28 mmol), carboxylic acid (1.4 mmol), and diene (2.78 mmol) were stirred at 25 °C in dichloromethane. Unless indicated, the mixture was stirred for 48 h with catalyst **1** (20 mol%). Yields are for purified products.

**A remarkable selectivity of carboxylic acids over the corresponding esters!!**

### 3. Dual activation of carboxylic acids by combining transition metal and boron catalysts

#### 0. concept

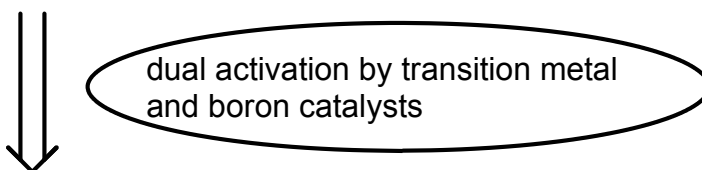


#### 1. motivation

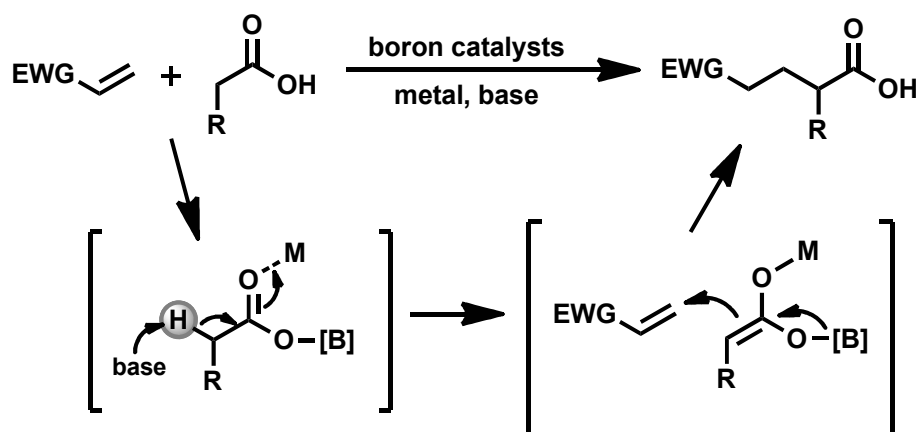
Some boron compounds-catalyzed reactions using carboxylic acids as substrates were reported.

- amide condensation
  - ester condensation
  - Diels-Alder reaction
- (see Chapter 2-2)

But the reaction using carboxylic acids as nucleophiles seemed to be difficult so far.



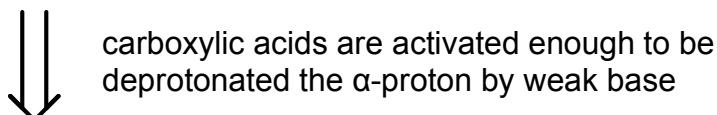
These reactions (such as Michael addition, aldol reaction...) will be possible.



\*boron catalysts, metal, and base(NEt<sub>3</sub> etc.) can coexist (see p.14)

#### 2. advantage

Boron compounds can selectively activate carboxylic acids. (see p.20)

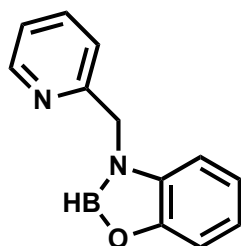


**Chemoselective nucleophilic addition of carboxylic acids will be possible.**

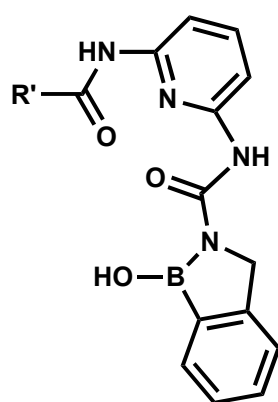
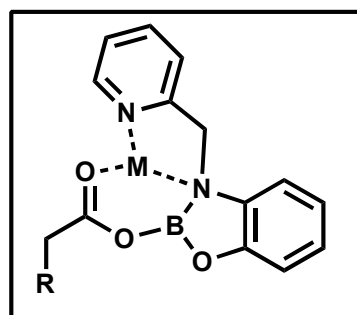
### 3. catalyst design

- using a bidentate (or tridentate) ligand tethered with a boron compound

active species



catalyst



catalyst

