

# Literature Report

## An Isothiourea-Catalyzed Asymmetric [2,3]-Rearrangement of Allylic Ammonium Ylides

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**Checker: Zhang-Pei Chen**  
**Date: 2014-04-22**

**Smith, A. D. *et al.***  
***J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2014, 136, 4476-4479.**



University  
of St Andrews

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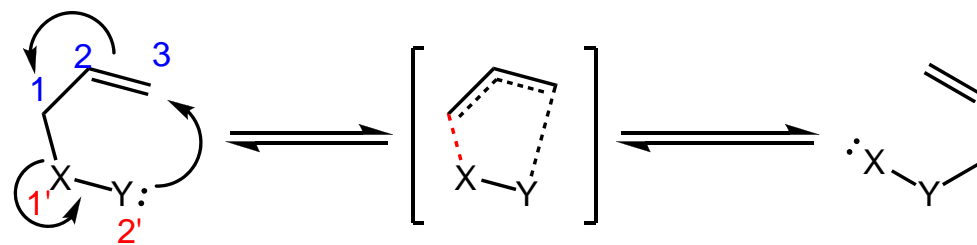
**4**

**Summary**

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## [2,3]-Sigmatropic Rearrangements:

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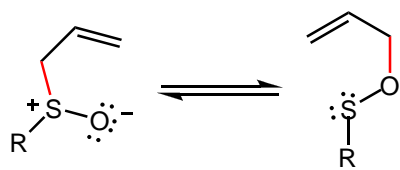
X and Y can be  
O, N, C, S, Se, P  
and others.

5-membered cyclic  
transition state

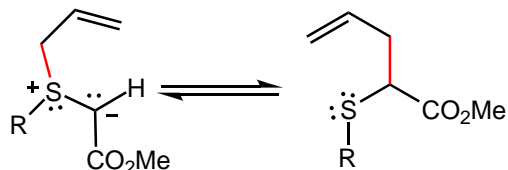
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# [2,3]-Sigmatropic Rearrangements

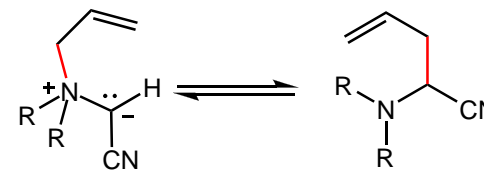
Ylidic (oxide, imide)



Sulfoxide-sulfenate

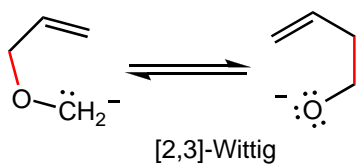


Sulfonium ylide

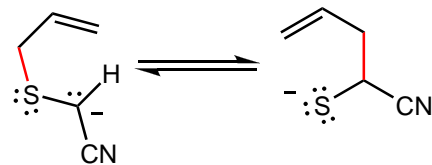


Ammonium ylide

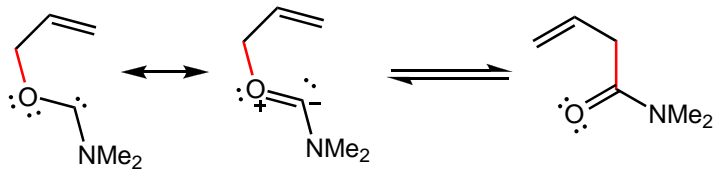
Anionic:



[2,3]-Wittig



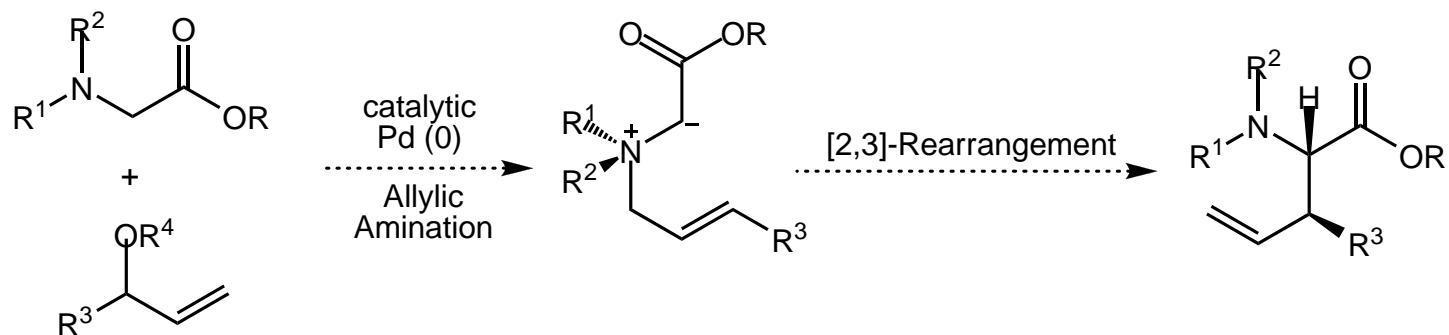
Carbenic:



Stabilized carbene

# Tandem Catalytic Allylic Amination and [2,3]-Stevens Rearrangement of Tertiary Amines

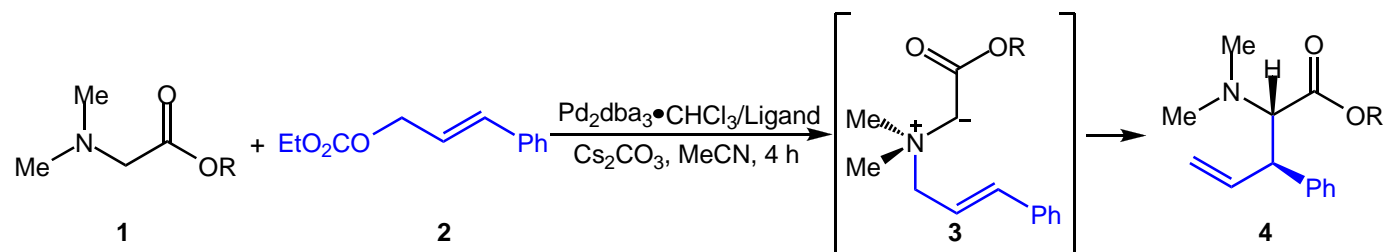
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Tambar, U. K. *et al.* *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2011**, *133*, 12956-12959.

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## Optimization of Reaction Conditions



Entry	OR	Ligand	Yield [%] <sup>b</sup>	Dr <sup>c</sup>
1	OEt	/	< 5	/
2	OEt	dppp	< 5	/
3	OEt	BINAP	< 5	/
4	OEt	PCy <sub>3</sub>	< 5	/
5	OEt	P( <i>t</i> -Bu) <sub>3</sub>	< 5	/
6	OEt	PPh <sub>3</sub>	90	2:1
7	<i>Ot</i> -Bu	PPh <sub>3</sub>	39	9:1
8	<i>Ot</i> -Bu	P( <i>p</i> -Tol) <sub>3</sub>	< 5	/
9	<i>Ot</i> -Bu	P( <i>p</i> -OMe-Ph) <sub>3</sub>	< 5	/

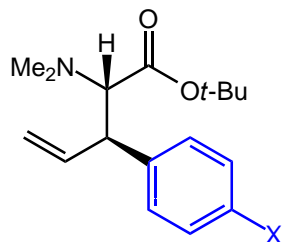
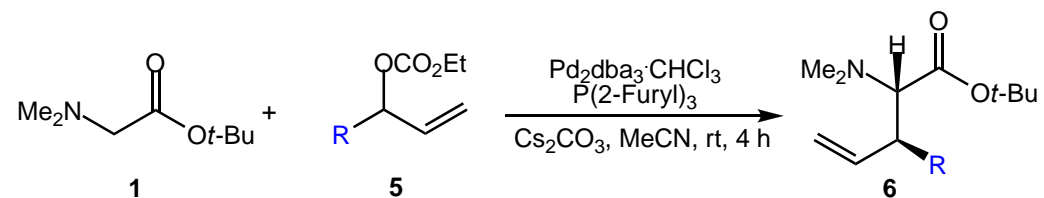
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Entry	OR	Ligand	Yield [%] <sup>b</sup>	Dr <sup>c</sup>
10	<i>Ot</i> -Bu	P( <i>p</i> -Cl-Ph) <sub>3</sub>	65	9:1
11	<i>Ot</i> -Bu	P(2-Furyl) <sub>3</sub>	95	9:1
12 <sup>d</sup>	<i>Ot</i> -Bu	P(2-Furyl) <sub>3</sub>	38	9:1

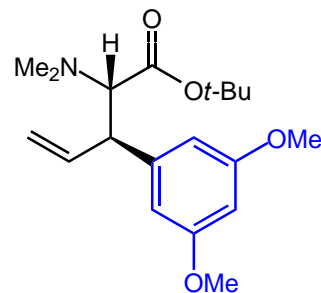
<sup>a</sup> Reaction conditions: 1.5 equiv. of aminoester **1**, 1 equiv of allylcarbonate **2**, 1 mol % Pd<sub>2</sub>dba<sub>3</sub> . CHCl<sub>3</sub>, 4 mol % ligand, 3 equiv of Cs<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, 0.2 M in MeCN. <sup>b</sup> GC yields. <sup>c</sup> Diastereomeric ratios as determined by GC. <sup>d</sup> No Cs<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> was used.

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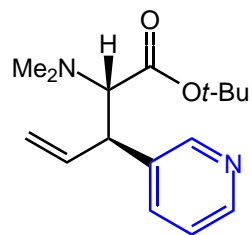
# Substrate Scope of Allylcarbonates



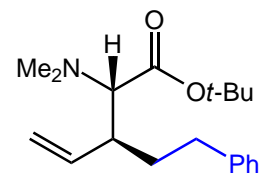
X = H, 87% (yield), 9:1 (dr)  
X = Br, 89% (yield), 7:1 (dr)  
X = Cl, 87% (yield), 7:1 (dr)  
X = F, 87% (yield), 7:1 (dr)  
X = OMe, 84% (yield), 9:1 (dr)



82% (yield), 12:1 (dr)



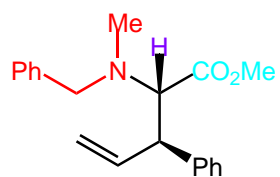
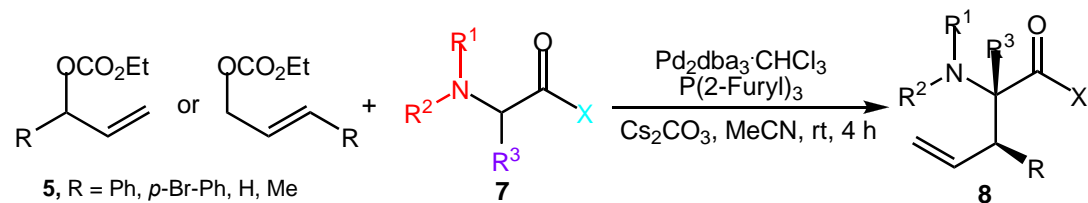
76% (yield), 5:1 (dr)



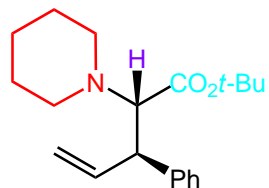
83% (yield), 9:1 (dr)



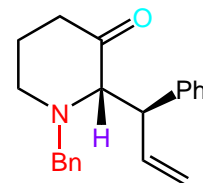
# Substrate Scope of Tertiary Amine Nucleophiles



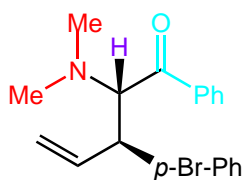
70% (yield), 3:1 (dr)



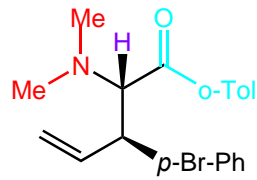
76% (yield), 6:1 (dr)



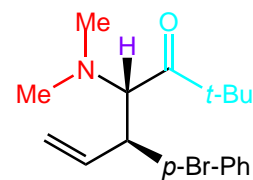
80% (yield), 4:1 (dr)



93% (yield), 2:1 (dr)



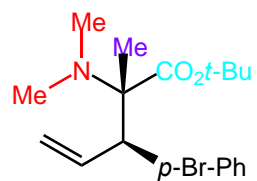
93% (yield), 4:1 (dr)



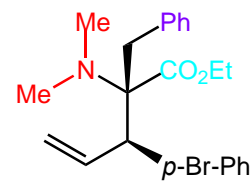
80% (yield), 7:1 (dr)

# Substrate Scope of Tertiary Amine Nucleophiles

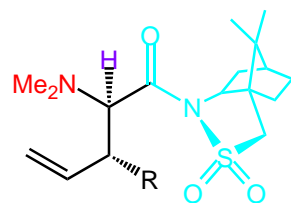
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88% (yield), 6:1 (dr)



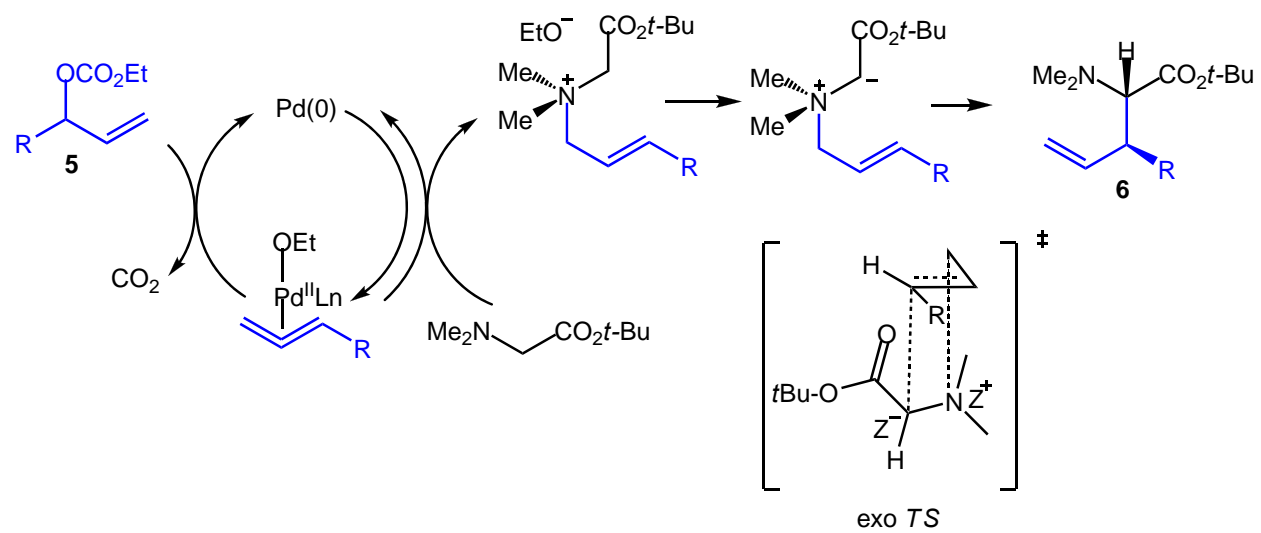
90% (yield), 7:3 (dr)



R = H, 89% (yield), 20:1 (dr)  
R = Me, 97% (yield), 20:2:1:0 (dr),  
R = Ph, 97% (yield), 22:2:1:0 (dr)

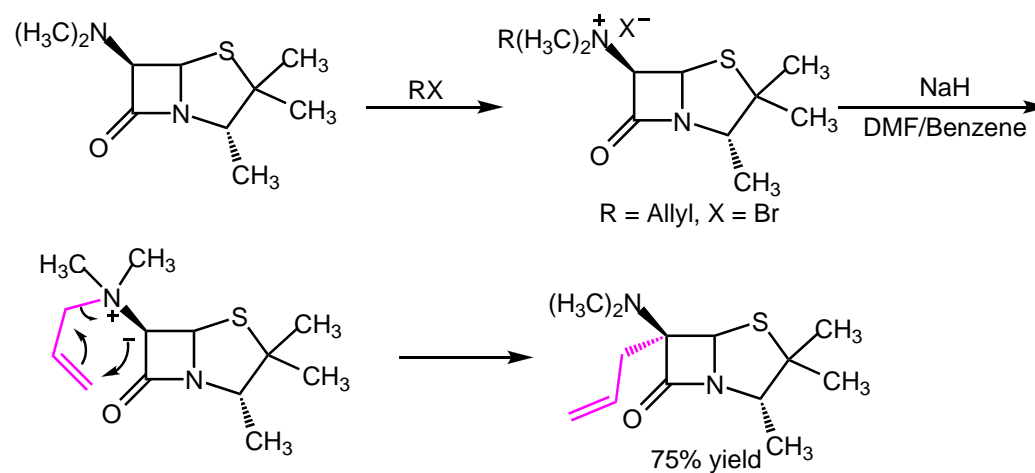
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# Proposed Mechanism



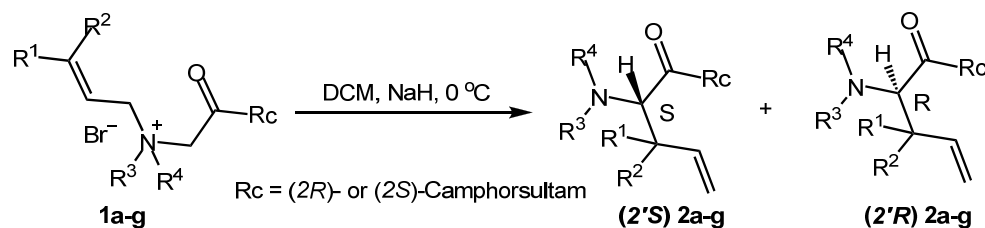
# Stereospecific Alkylation of a Penicillin at C-6 Using a Nitrogen Ylide. Methyl 6- $\alpha$ -Allyl-6- $\beta$ -*N,N*-dimethylaminopenicill

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Kaiser, G. V. *et al. J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1971**, *93*, 2342-2344.

## Asymmetric [2,3]-Rearrangement of Glycine-Derived Allyl Ammonium Ylids

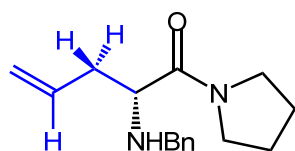
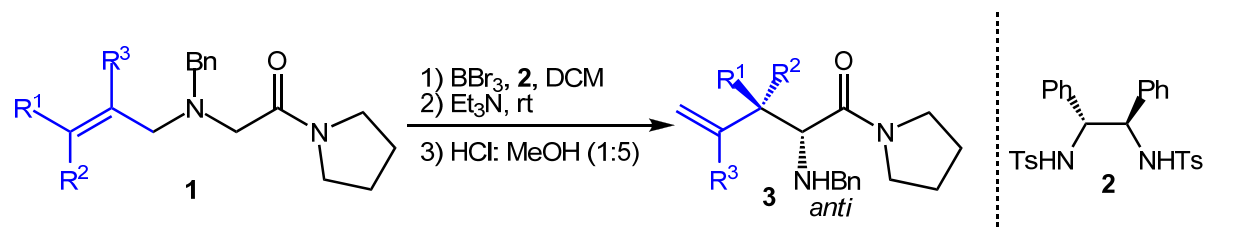


Entry	Salt	R <sup>1</sup>	R <sup>2</sup>	R <sup>3</sup>	R <sup>4</sup>	Yield [%] <sup>a</sup>	anti:syn	2'S:2'R
1	<b>1a<sup>b</sup></b>	H	H	Me	Me	99		2:98 <sup>a</sup>
2	<b>1b<sup>c,d</sup></b>	H	H	Me	allyl	99		97:3 <sup>e</sup>
3	<b>1c<sup>c,d</sup></b>	H	H	allyl	allyl	86		97:3 <sup>e</sup>
4	<b>1d<sup>d</sup></b>	H	H	Bn	allyl	80		>99:1 <sup>e</sup>
5	<b>1e<sup>d</sup></b>	Me	H	Me	Me	86	>99:1	96:4 <sup>a</sup>
6	<b>1f<sup>d</sup></b>	Me	Me	Me	Me	70		96:4 <sup>a</sup>
7	<b>1g<sup>d</sup></b>	MeO <sub>2</sub> C	H	Me	Me	64 <sup>f</sup>	>99:1	>99:1 <sup>a</sup>

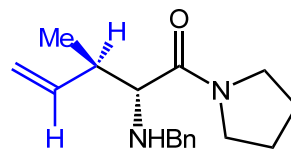
<sup>a</sup> Absolute stereochemistry was assigned using X-ray crystallography. <sup>b</sup> R<sub>c</sub> = (2R)-Camphorsultam. <sup>c</sup> Iodide salt used. <sup>d</sup> R<sub>c</sub> = (2S)-Camphorsultam. <sup>e</sup> Stereochemistry assigned by analogy and/or chemical correlation. <sup>f</sup> Trace amount of [1,2]-product also observed.

Sweeney, J. B. *et al. J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2005**, *127*, 1066-1067.

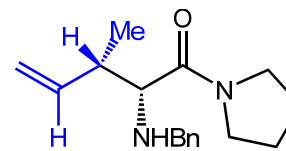
# Asymmetric [2,3]-Sigmatropic Rearrangement of Allylic Ammonium Ylides



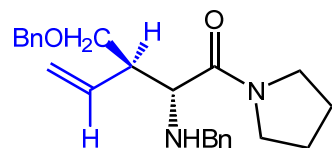
87% (yield), 97% (ee)



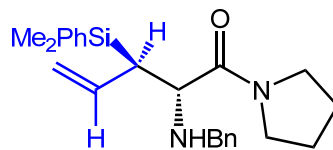
82% (yield), *anti* : *syn* = 79:21  
96% (2*R*,3*R*): 75% (2*R*,3*S*) (ee)



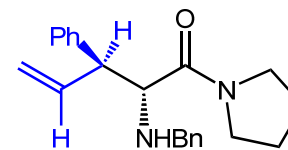
85% (yield), *anti* : *syn* = 20:80  
82% (2*R*,3*R*): 90% (2*R*,3*S*) (ee)



70% (yield), *anti* : *syn* = 88:12  
93% (2*R*,3*R*): n.d. (ee)



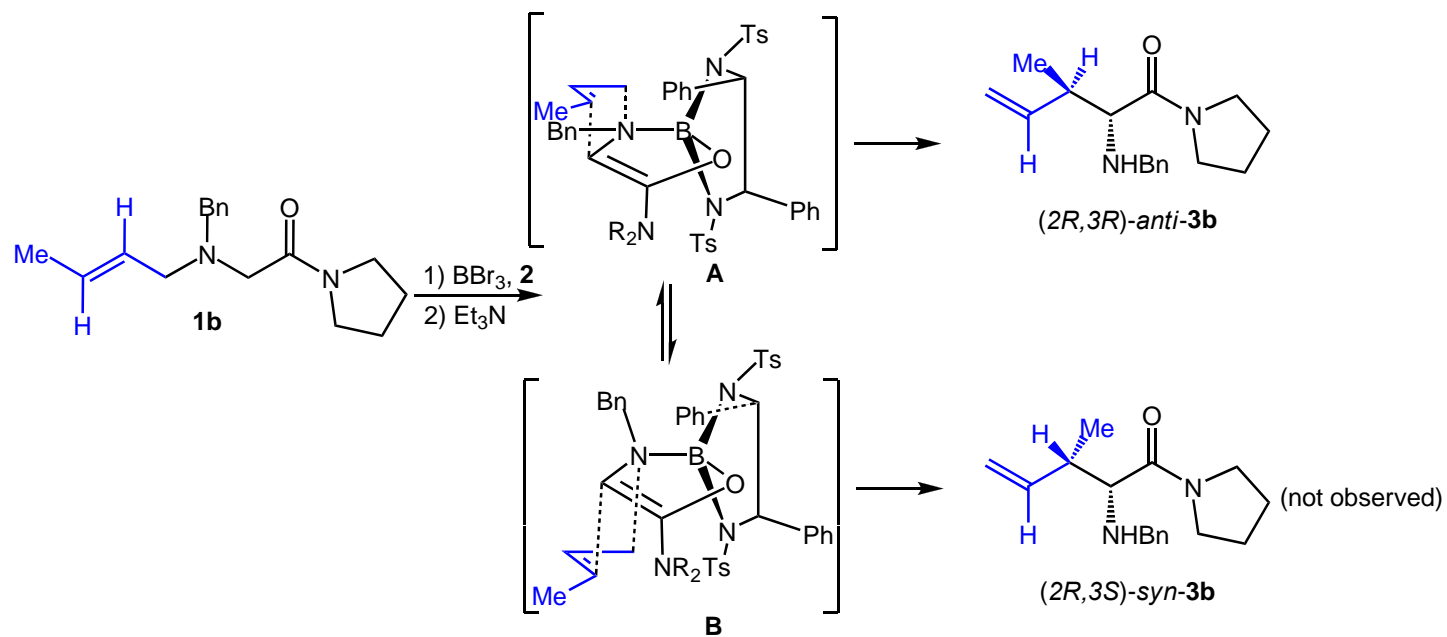
52% (yield), *anti* : *syn* = 95:5  
99% (2*R*,3*R*): n.d. (ee)



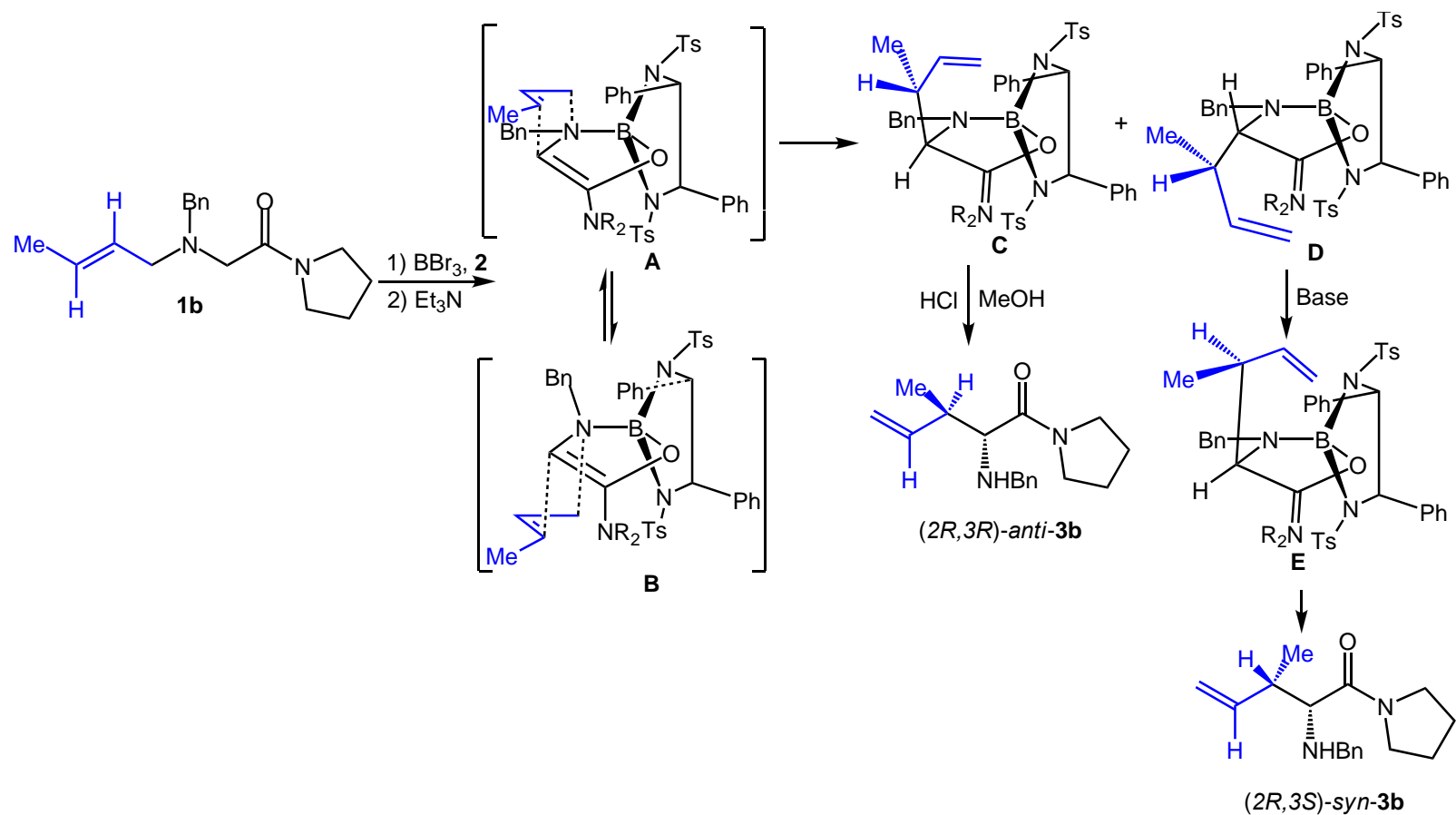
92% (yield), *anti* : *syn* = 67:33  
97% (2*R*,3*R*): 77% (2*R*,3*S*) (ee)

Somfai, P. *et al.* *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2005**, *127*, 9352-9353.

# Kinetically Controlled Stereoselection in the Rearrangement of 1b

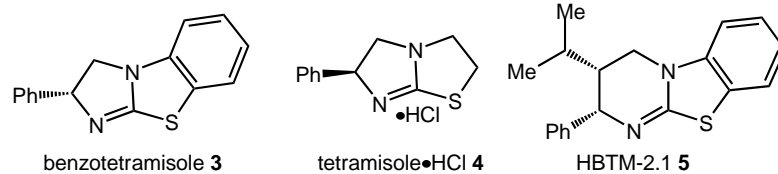
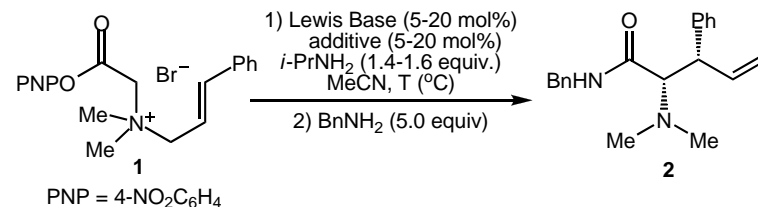


# Thermodynamic Controlled Stereoselection in the Rearrangement of 1b





# An Isothiourea-Catalyzed Asymmetric [2,3]-Rearrangement of Allylic Ammonium Ylides



Entry <sup>a</sup>	LB	Additive	T (°C)	Yield [%] <sup>b,c</sup>	d.r. <sup>d</sup>	Ee (%) <sup>e</sup>
1	<b>4</b>	/	rt	83 <sup>c</sup>	89:11	81 ( <i>ent</i> )
2	<b>4</b>	HOBt	rt	68	93:7	84 ( <i>ent</i> )
3	<b>4</b>	HOBt	0 to rt	88	92:8	89 ( <i>ent</i> )
4	<b>4</b>	HOBt	-20	65	91:9	93 ( <i>ent</i> )
5	<b>3</b>	/	-20	61	92:8	95

Smith, A. D. *et al.* *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2014**, *136*, 4476-4479.

## Optimization of Reaction Conditions

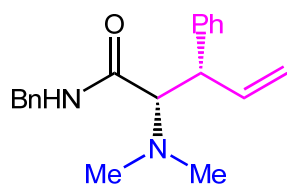
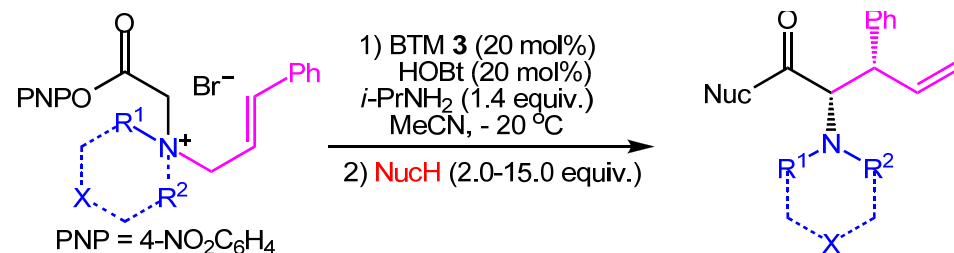
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Entry <sup>a</sup>	LB	Additive	T (°C)	Yield [%] <sup>b,c</sup>	d.r. <sup>d</sup>	Ee (%) <sup>e</sup>
6	3	HOBt	-20	76	>95:5	99
7	5	HOBt	-20	33 <sup>c</sup>	62:38	ND <sup>f</sup>
8	3	HOAc	-20	49	90:10	98
9	3 <sup>g</sup>	HOBt <sup>g</sup>	-20	62	88:12	96
10	3 <sup>h</sup>	HOBt <sup>h</sup>	-20	41 <sup>i</sup>	79:21	92

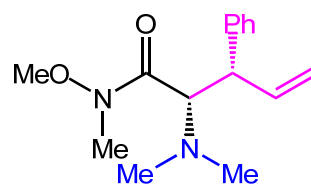
<sup>a</sup> Reactions performed on 0.24 mmol scale, 20 mol %, unless stated otherwise. <sup>b</sup> Isolated yield after chromatographic purification of >95:5 dr. <sup>c</sup> Yield in parentheses determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR in comparison with internal standard (4-nitrotoluene). <sup>d</sup> Determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis of crude material. <sup>e</sup> Determined by chiral HPLC analysis. <sup>f</sup> ND = not determined. <sup>g</sup> 10 mol %. <sup>h</sup> 5 mol %. <sup>i</sup> 84:16 mixture of diastereoisomers (isolated).

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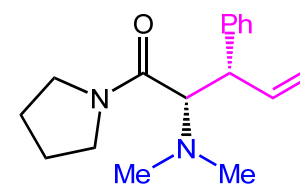
# Scope of Isolable Ammonium Salts



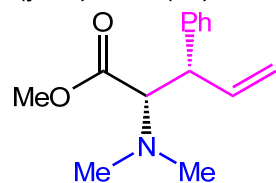
76% (yield), 99% (ee), >95:5 (dr)



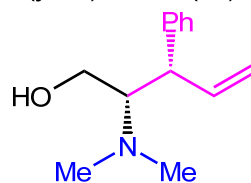
65% (yield), >99% (ee), >95:5 (dr)



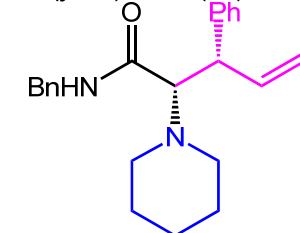
61% (yield), 99% (ee), >95:5 (dr)



64% (yield), 98% (ee), 94:6 (dr)  
87% (yield), 95% (ee), 95:5 (dr)  
9.6 mmol scale

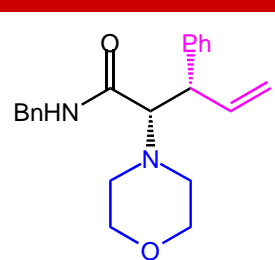


59% (yield), 96% (ee), >95:5 (dr)

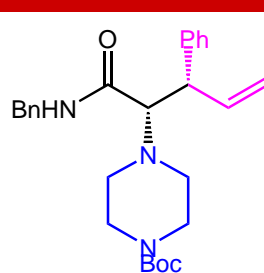


84% (yield), >99% (ee), >95:5 (dr)

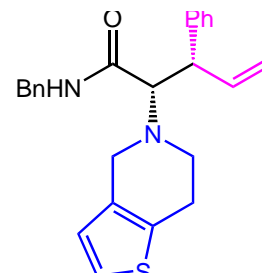
## Scope of Isolable Ammonium Salts



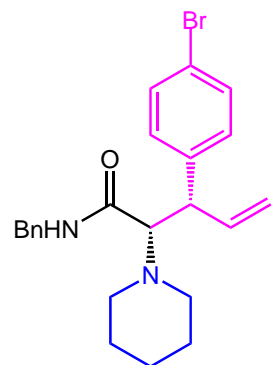
82% (yield), 86% (ee), 94:6 (dr)



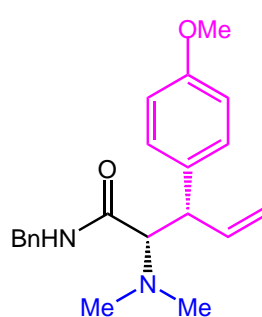
89% (yield), 96% (ee), 97:3 (dr)



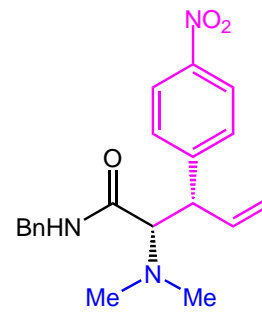
80% (yield), >99% (ee), >95:5 (dr)



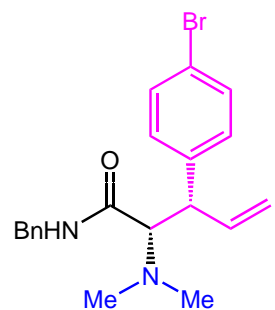
87% (yield), 98% (ee), >95:5 (dr)



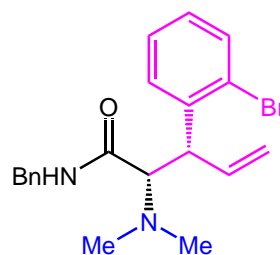
60% (yield), >99% (ee), 88:12 (dr)



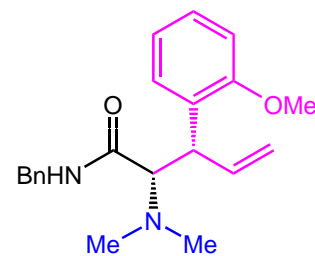
71% (yield), 96% (ee), >95:5 (dr)



76% (yield), >99% (ee), 95:5 (dr)

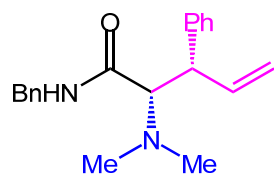
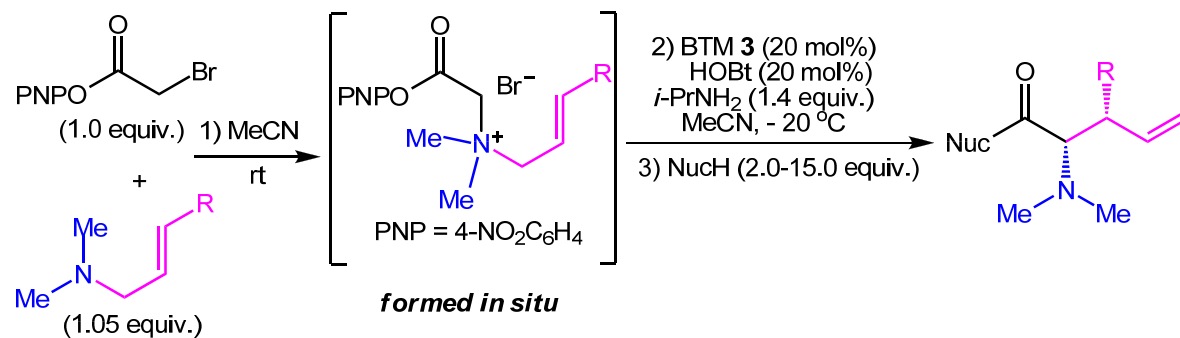


55% (yield), 86% (ee), >95:5 (dr)

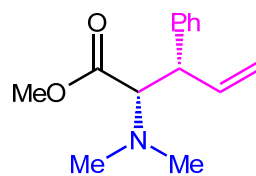


33% (yield), 95% (ee), 94:6 (dr)

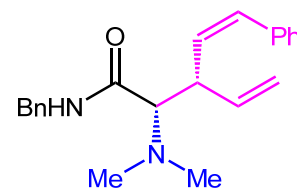
# In Situ Generated Ammonium Salts



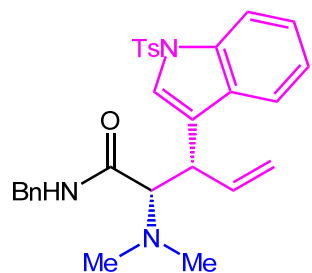
60% (yield), 92% (ee), >95:5 (dr)



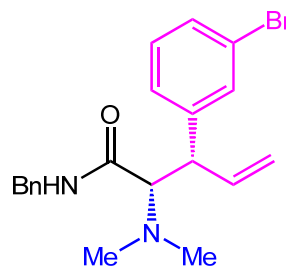
63% (yield), 94% (ee), 95:5 (dr)



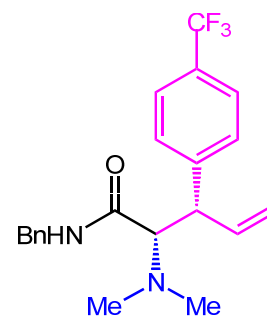
51% (yield), 96% (ee), 88:12 (dr)



56% (yield), 92% (ee), >95:5 (dr)

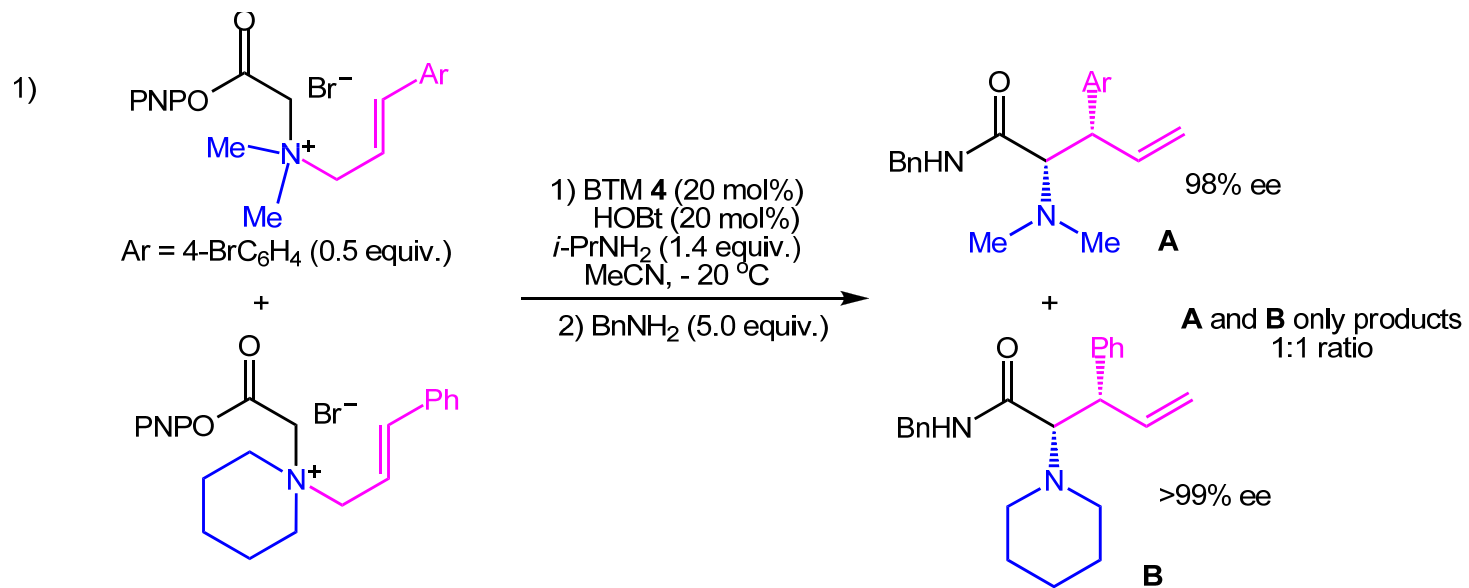


70% (yield), 91% (ee), >95:5 (dr)

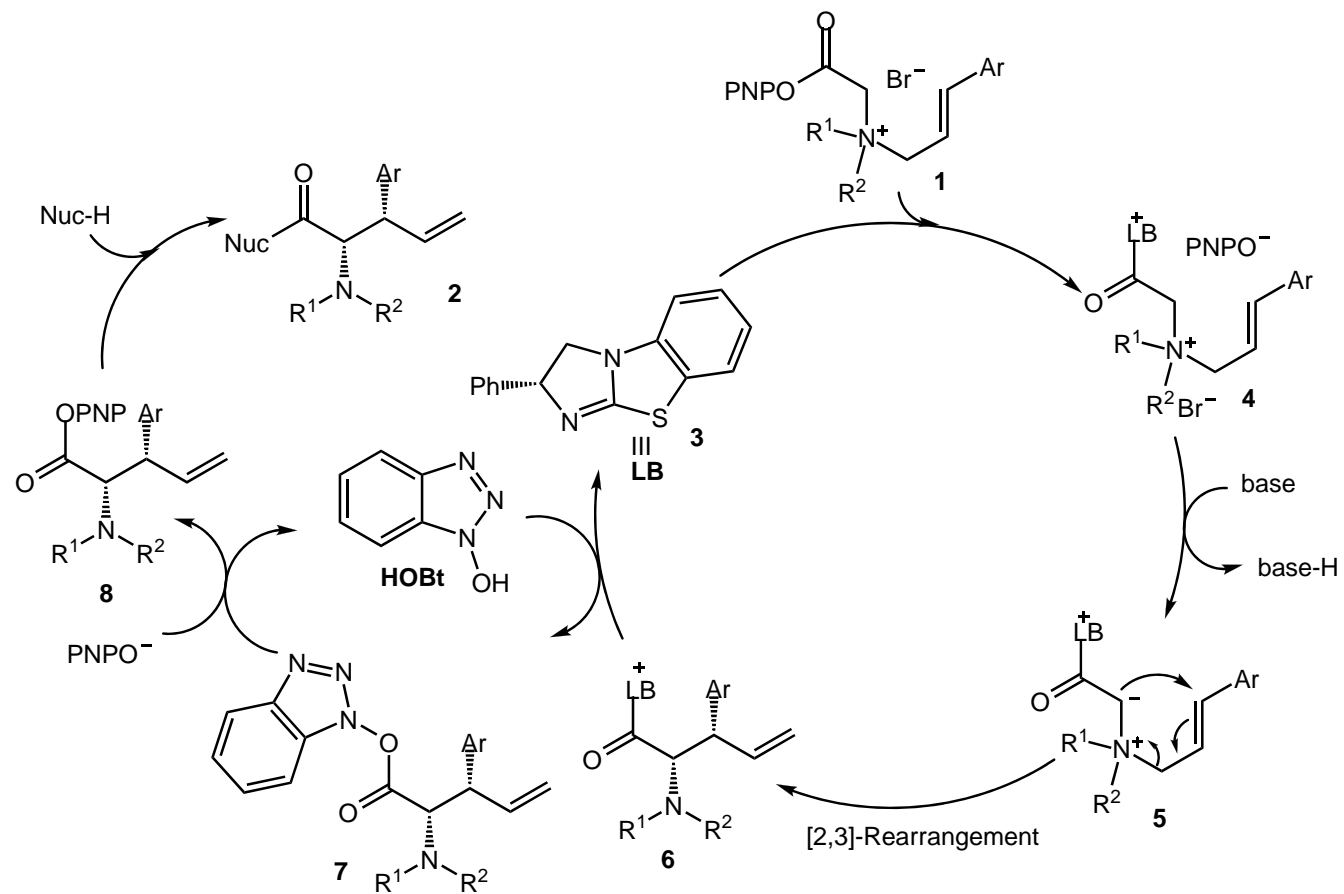


52% (yield), 85% (ee), >95:5 (dr)

# Mechanistically Significant Examples

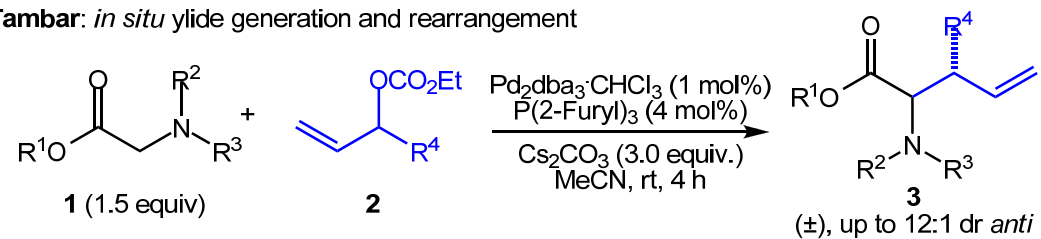


# Mechanistic and Stereochemical Proposal

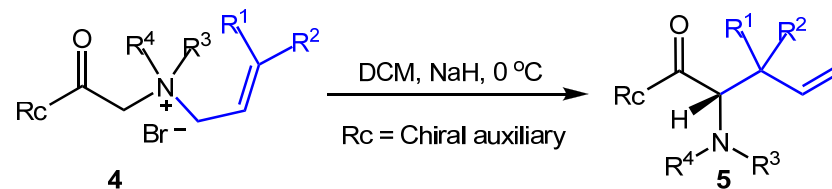


## Summary:

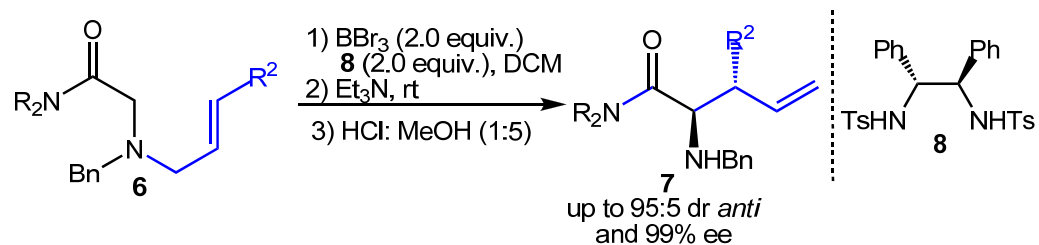
**Tambar:** *in situ* ylide generation and rearrangement



**Kaiser and Sweeney:** rearrangement relied on intramolecular chirality transfer

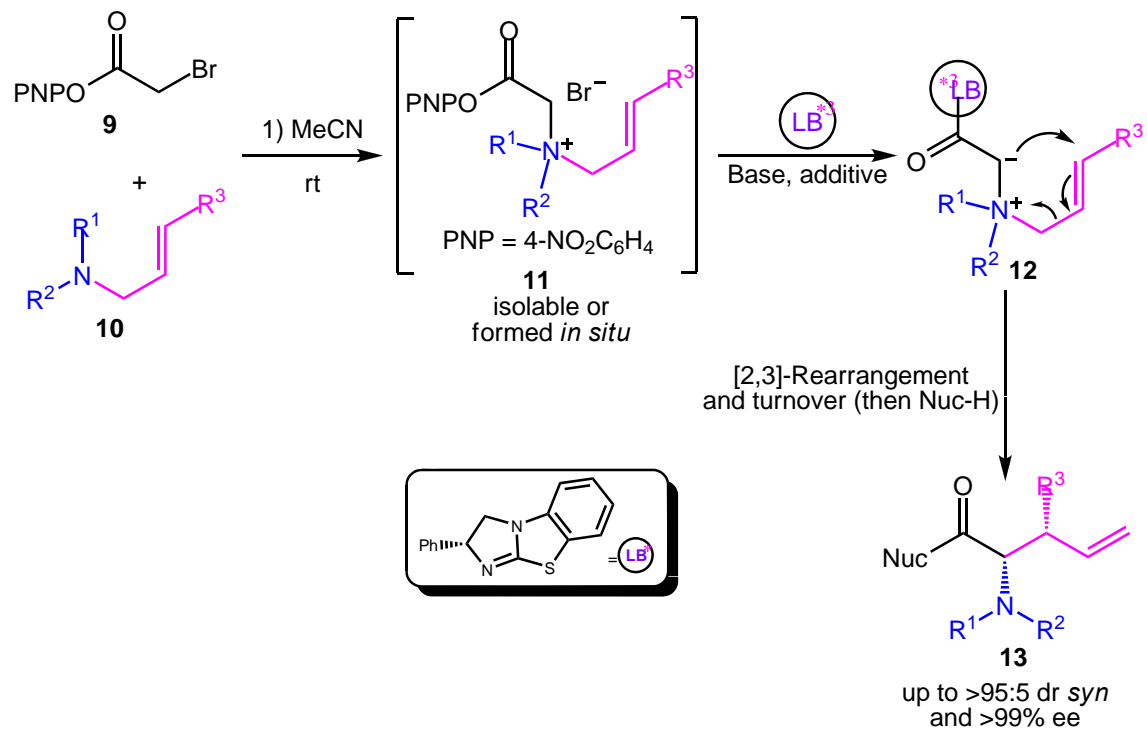


**Somfai:** stoichiometric asymmetric rearrangement





**Simth:** catalytic asymmetric rearrangement



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The [2,3]-rearrangement of glycine-derived allylic ammonium ylides is widely recognized as a versatile process for the synthesis of stereodefined unnatural  $\alpha$ -amino acid derivatives containing multiple stereocenters. Current limitations of this process include the difficulty associated with the generation and isolation of the reactive ammonium salts, alongside the paucity of catalytic asymmetric methods for inducing enantiocontrol. Recent work by Tambar and Sohelie has elegantly utilized Pd-catalyzed allylic substitution to facilitate tandem ammonium ylide generation and [2,3] rearrangement, generating racemic *anti*-configured products with high diastereoselectivity. While asymmetric [2,3]-rearrangements of allylic ammonium ylides can be induced by chiral auxiliary control as demonstrated by Sweeney and co-workers, Somfai *et al.* have applied stoichiometric asymmetric Lewis acids to promote the enantioselective rearrangement of allylic. Within the past 15 years, advances in asymmetric organocatalysis have been applied to asymmetric [3,3]-sigmatropic rearrangements. However, organocatalytic [2,3]-sigmatropic rearrangements are an underexplored concept, with the secondary amine-catalyzed [2,3]-Wittig rearrangement developed by Gaunt *et al.* representing the current

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**state-of the-art within this area.** Given our interest in Lewis base promoted organocatalytic processes, in this manuscript we show that sub-stoichiometric isothiourreas promote the asymmetric [2,3]-rearrangement of ylides derived from isolable *or in situ* generated allylic ammonium salts, forming stereodefined  $\alpha$ -amino acid derivatives with excellent *syn*-diastereo- and enantiocontrol (up to >95:5 dr and 99% ee).

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In summary, we have developed the first catalytic asymmetric [2,3]-rearrangement of allylic ammonium ylides. Isothiourea BTM12 promotes the rearrangement of *p*-nitrophenyl ester ammonium salts, producing *syn*-configured  $\alpha$ -amino acid derivatives with excellent stereocontrol (up to >95:5 dr and >99% ee). Further investigations into this process are currently being pursued in our laboratory.