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# Literature Report

**Aldehydes as alkyl carbanion equivalents  
for additions to carbonyl compounds**

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**Checker: Hong-Qiang Shen**

**2017-09-04**

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# CV of Chao-Jun Li

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## Prof. Chao-Jun Li



1983年在郑州大学获学士学位

1988年在北京化学所获得硕士学位

1992年在加拿大麦吉尔大学获得博士学位

1992至1994年在美国斯坦福大学Barry M. Trost教授小组 博士后研究

1994年任美国杜兰大学助理教授、1998年任副教授、2000年起任教授

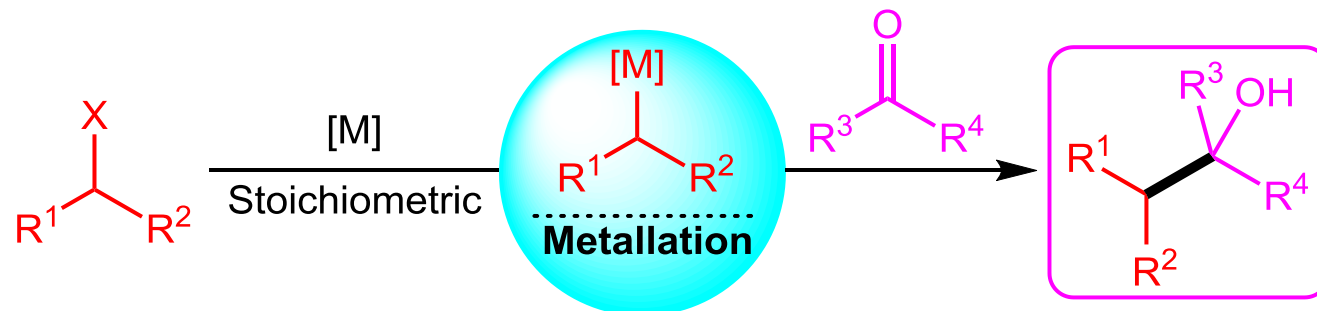
2003年起任麦吉尔大学教授、加拿大绿色化学首席科学家

2009年起任麦吉尔大学E. B. Eddy 讲座教授

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# Generation of carbanions

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R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup> = alkyl, aryl or H

X = Cl, Br, I, etc.

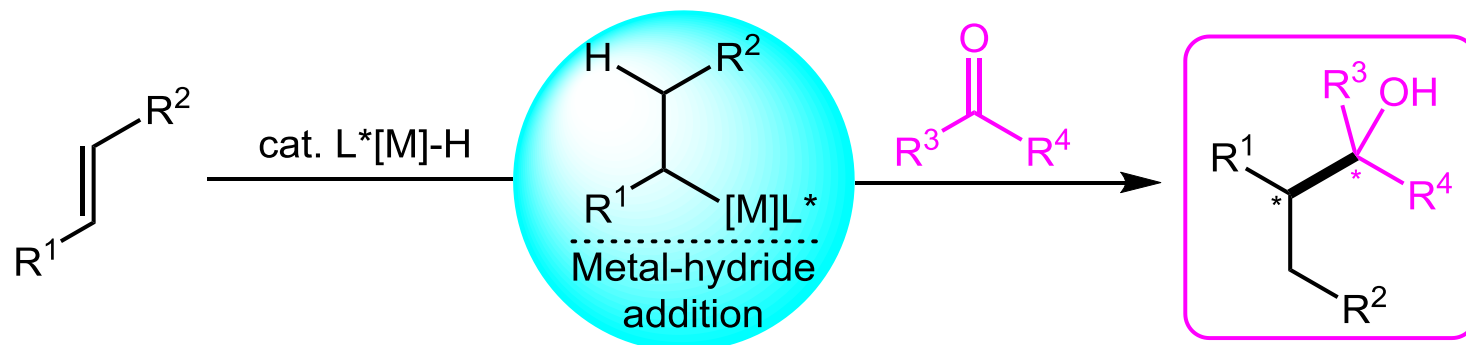
[M] = Mg, Li, Cu, Zn, Ti, etc.

缺点:

- 1) 当量的金属和卤代物，反应后产生大量的金属废弃物；
  - 2) 金属试剂活泼，官能团兼容性差。
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# Generation of carbanions

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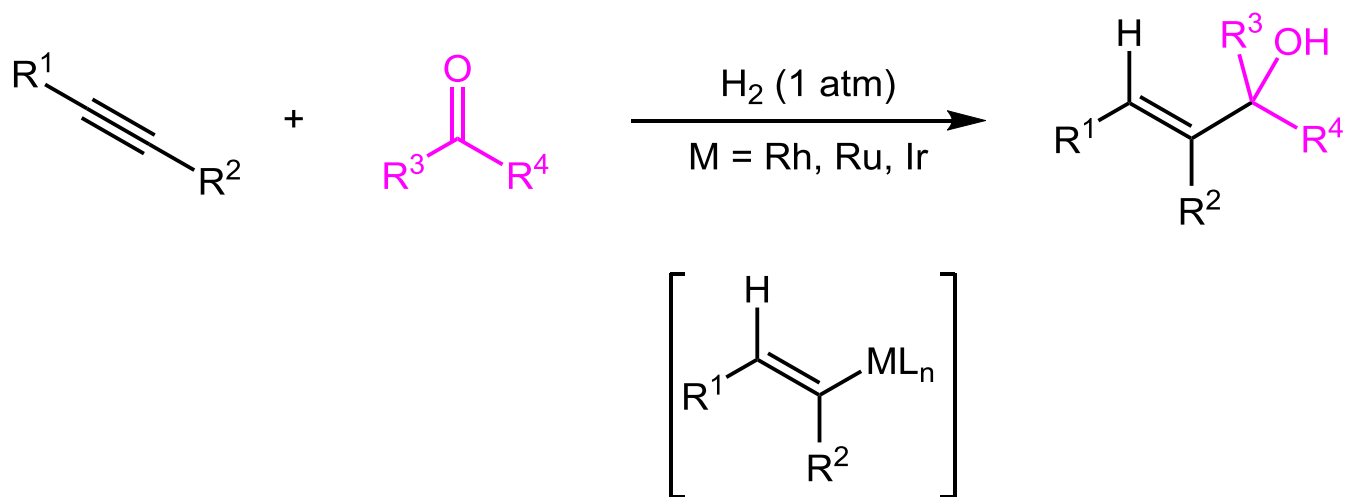
R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup> = alkyl, aryl or H  
[M] = Ir, Rh, Ru, Cu, Ni, etc.

**Krische, Hoveyda, Montgomery, Jamison, Buchwald, Liu, etc.**

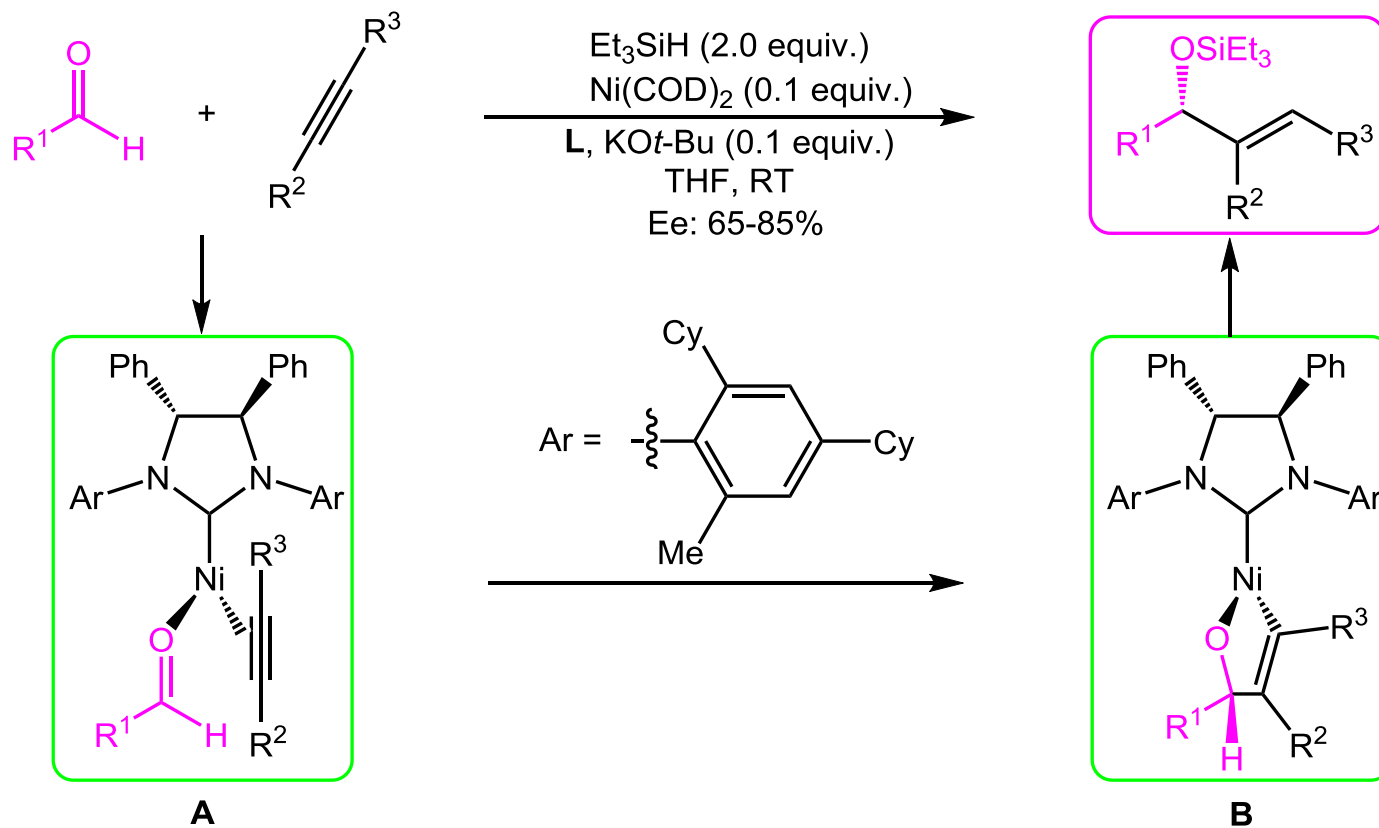
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# Hydrogenation intermediates

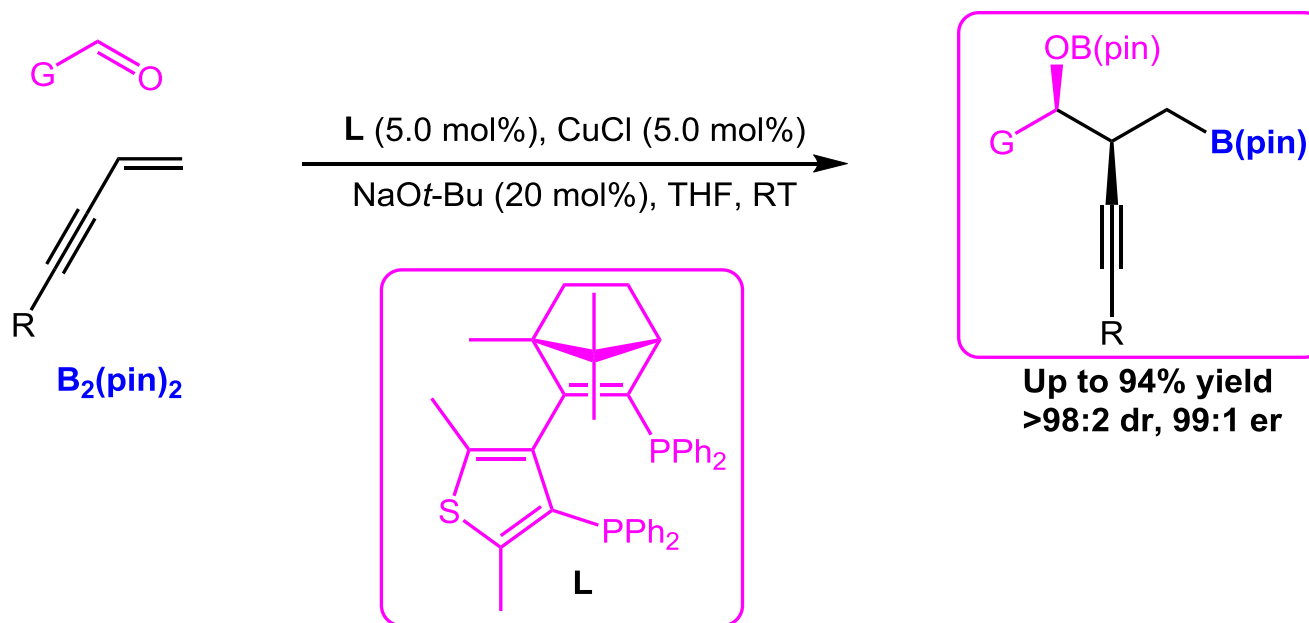
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# Nickel-catalyzed aldehyde/alkyne reductive couplings

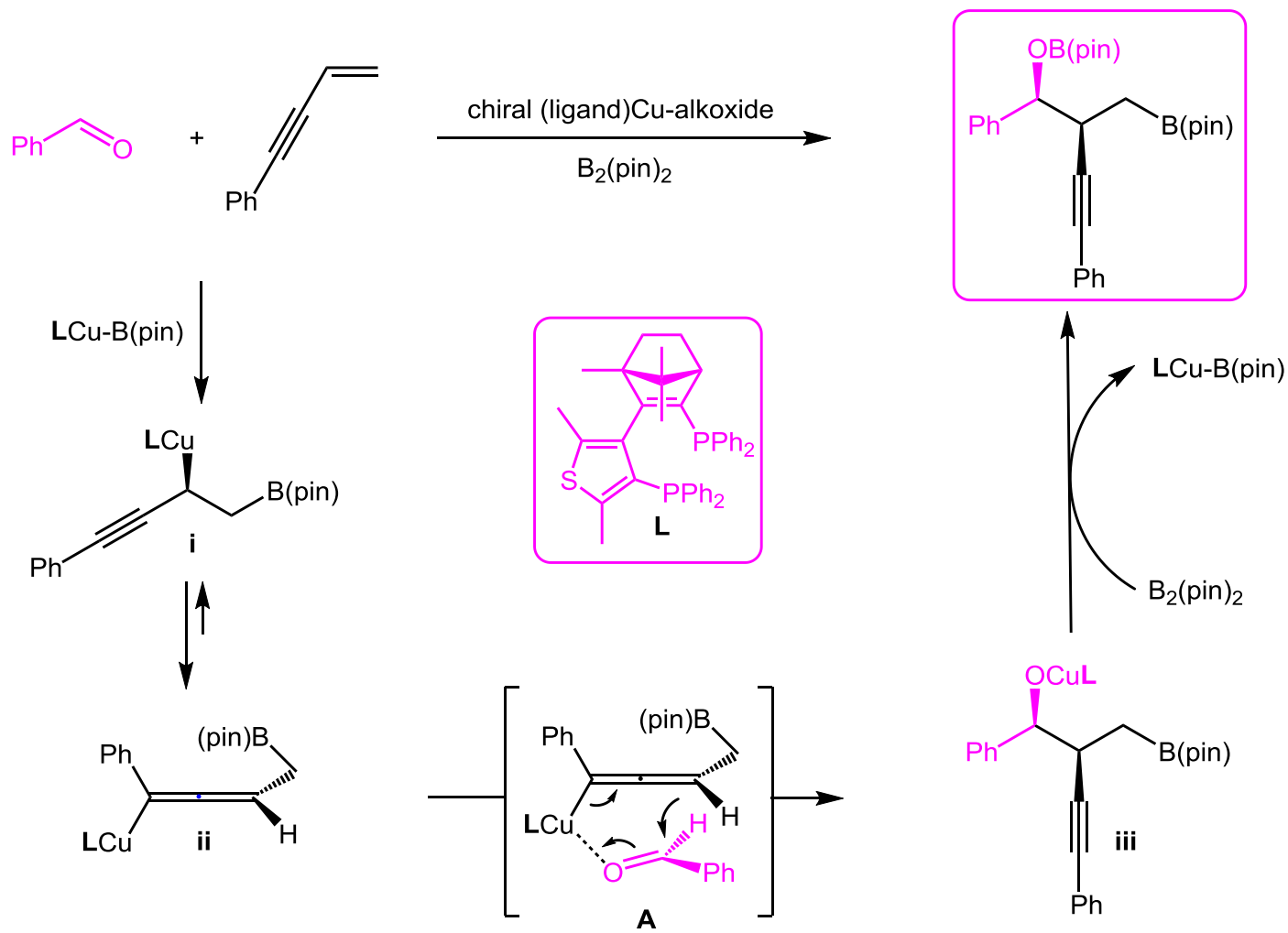


# Copper-catalyzed reaction of aldehyde/1,3-enyne/boron





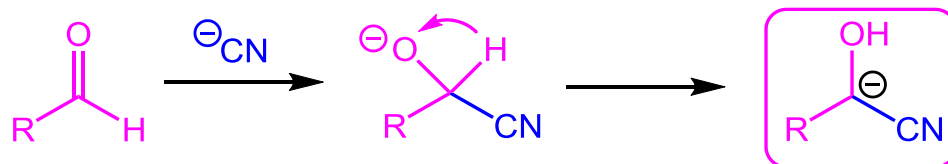
# Possible pathway



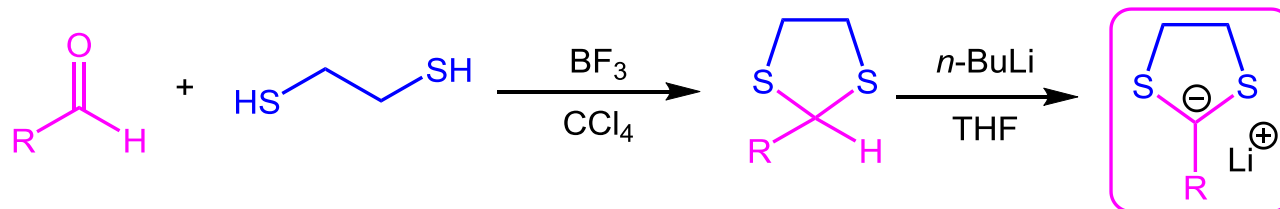
# Umpolung reactions of aldehydes

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## Benzoin condensation

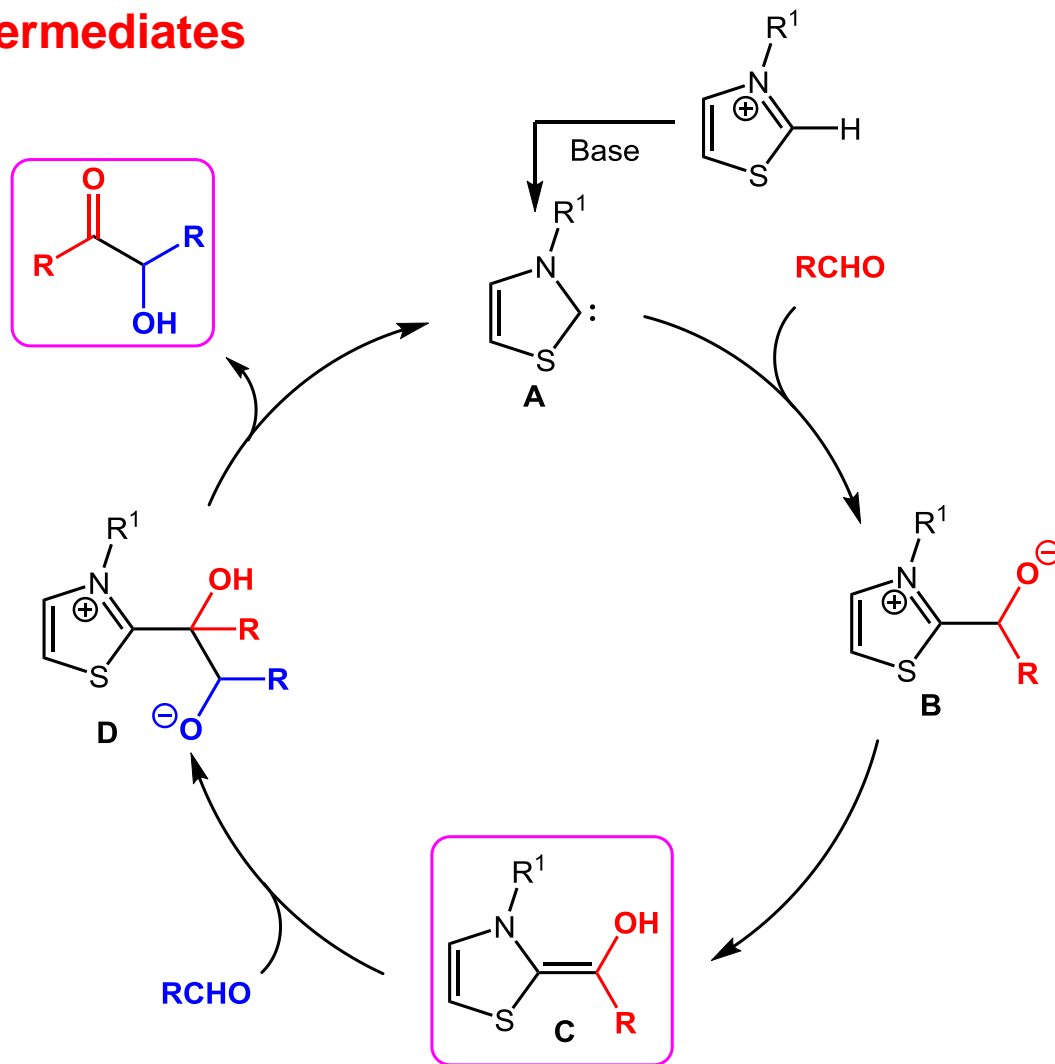


## Thioacetal intermediates

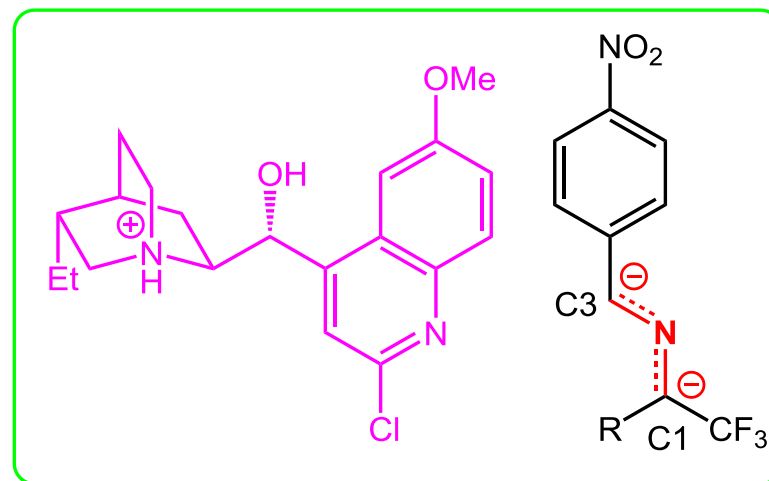
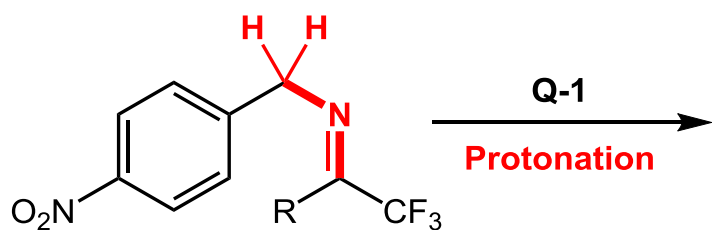


# Umpolung reactions of aldehydes

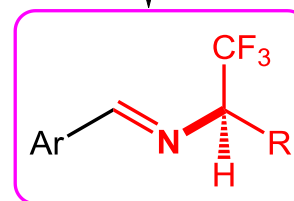
## Carbene intermediates



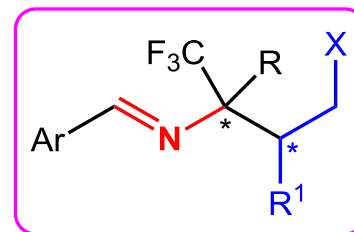
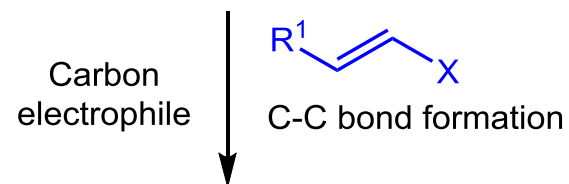
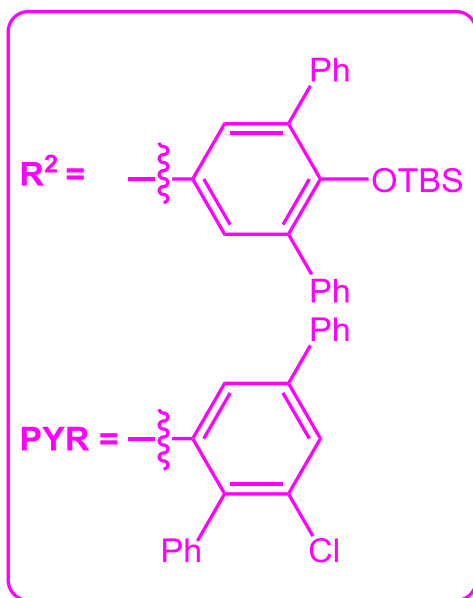
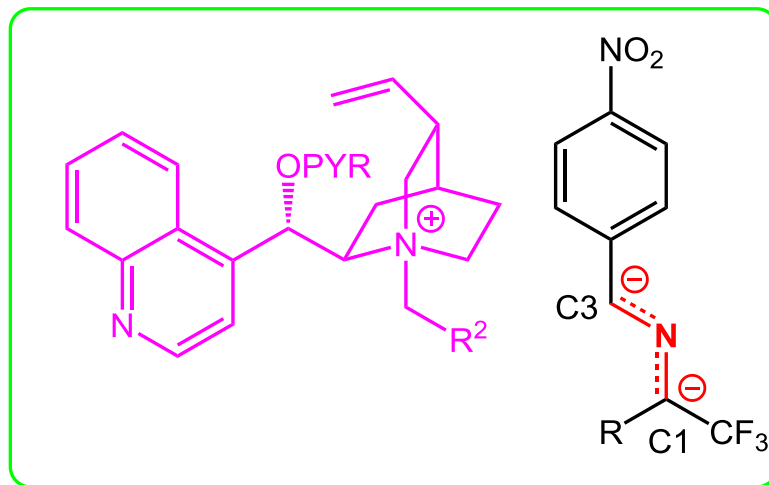
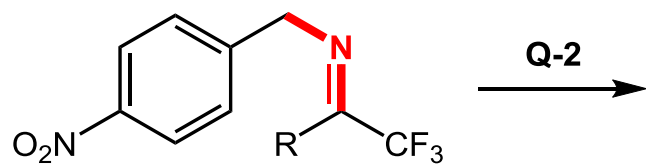
# Umpolung reactions of imines



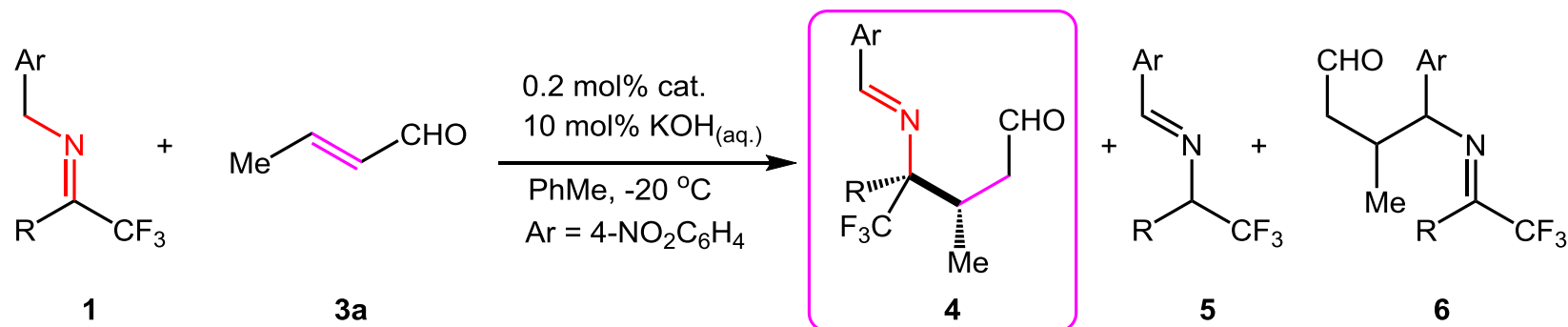
Ee: 80-94%



# Umpolung reactions of imines

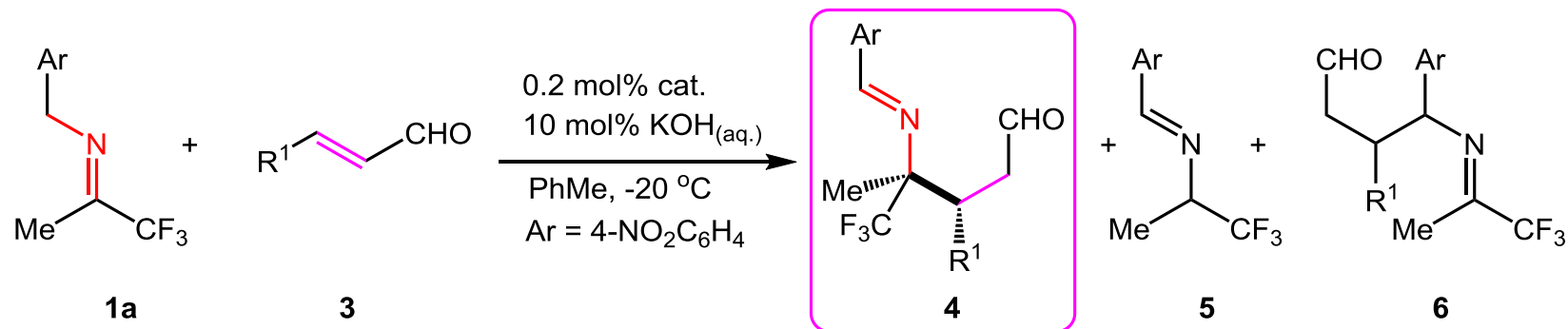


# Substrate scope



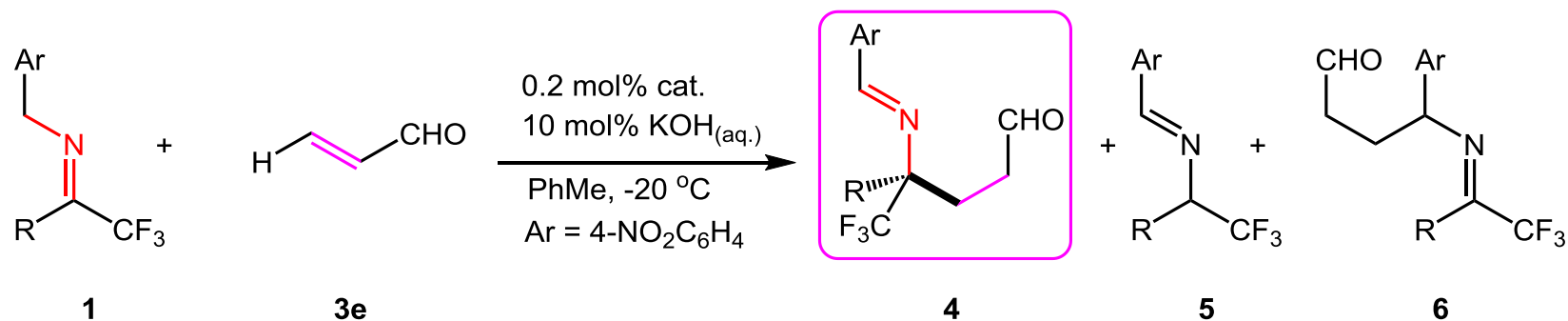
Entry	R	t (h); Conv. (%)	4:5; 4:6	d.r. of 4	Yield (%)	Ee (%)
1	Me	5; 99	>95:5; >95:5	93:7	81	95
2	Et	5; 97	>95:5; >95:5	91:9	84	94
3	<i>n</i> -Bu	5; 98	>95:5; >95:5	91:9	83	96
4	Br(CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>4</sub>	5; 99	>95:5; >95:5	91:9	75	96
5	BnO(CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>3</sub>	7; 94	>95:5; >95:5	91:9	72	96
6	CyCH <sub>2</sub>	12; 98	91:9; >95:5	93:7	54	95

# Substrate scope



Entry	R <sup>1</sup>	t (h); Conv. (%)	<b>4:5</b> ; <b>4:6</b>	d.r. of <b>4</b>	Yield (%)	Ee (%)
1	CH <sub>3</sub> CH <sub>2</sub>	5; 99	89:11; >95:5	>95:5	64	95
2	CH <sub>3</sub> (CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>5</sub>	12; 93	86:14; >95:5	>95:5	51	96
<b>3</b>	<b>Ph</b>	<b>12; 98</b>	<b>&gt;95:5; 68:32</b>	<b>&gt;95:5</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>91</b>

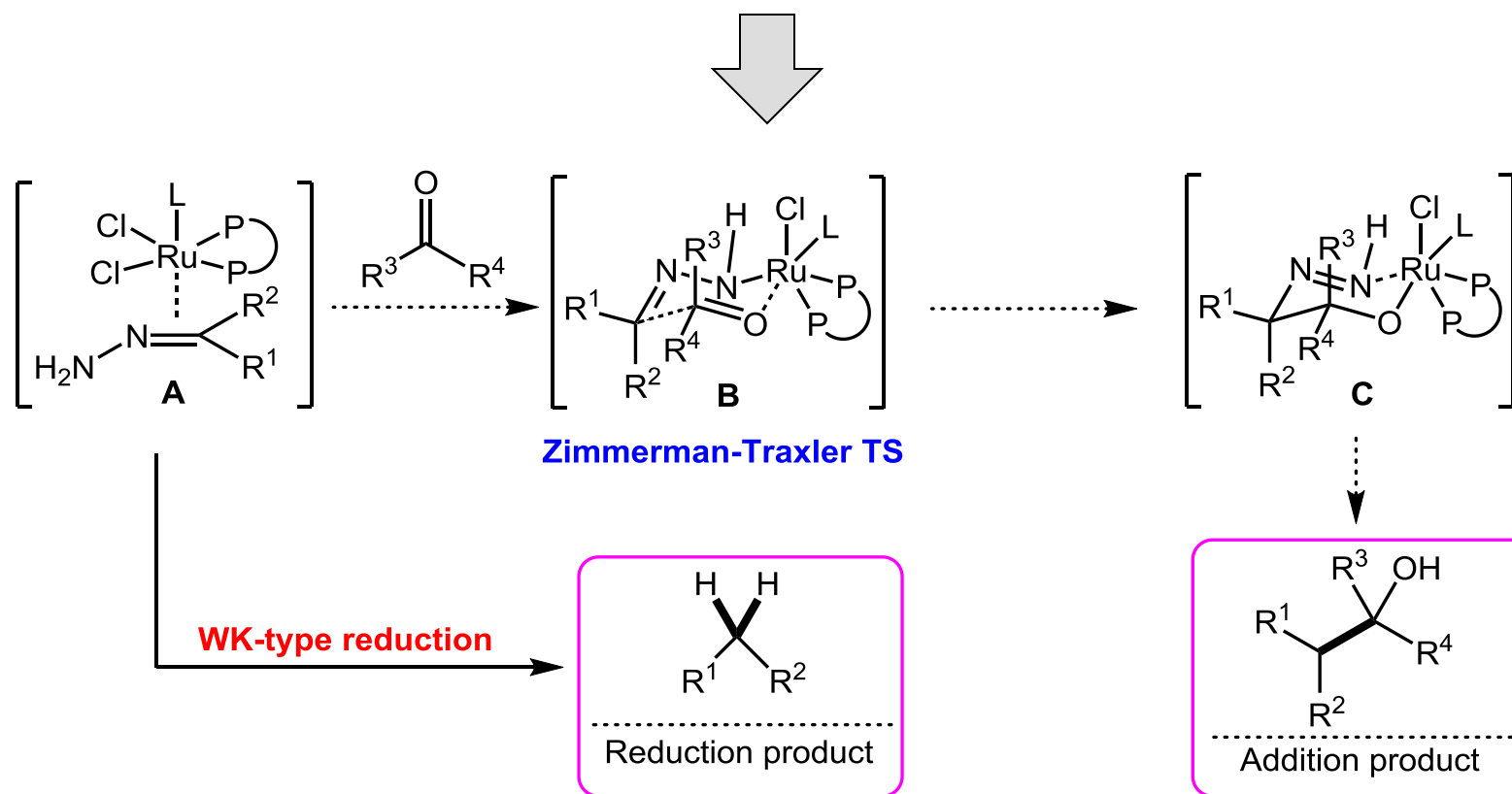
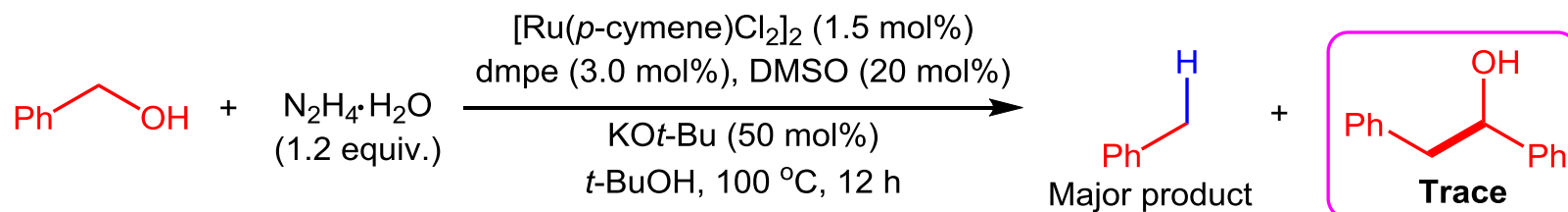
# Substrate scope



Entry	R	t (h); Conv. (%)	<b>4:5; 4:6</b>	Yield (%)	Ee (%)
1	CH <sub>3</sub>	3; 99	>95:5; >95:5	89	92
2	CH <sub>3</sub> CH <sub>2</sub>	3; 99	>95:5; >95:5	82	91
3	Br(CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>4</sub>	3; 97	>95:5; >95:5	84	91
<b>4</b>	<b>CyCH<sub>2</sub></b>	<b>3; 99</b>	<b>&gt;95:5; &gt;95:5</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>92</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Ph</b>	<b>3; 99</b>	<b>94:6; &gt;95:5</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>94</b>
6	<i>p</i> -MeOC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	3; 94	92:8; >95:5	67	94
7	<i>p</i> -CF <sub>3</sub> C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	3; 99	88:12; >95:5	78	92
8	PhCH=CH	1; 99	>95:5; >95:5	90	93

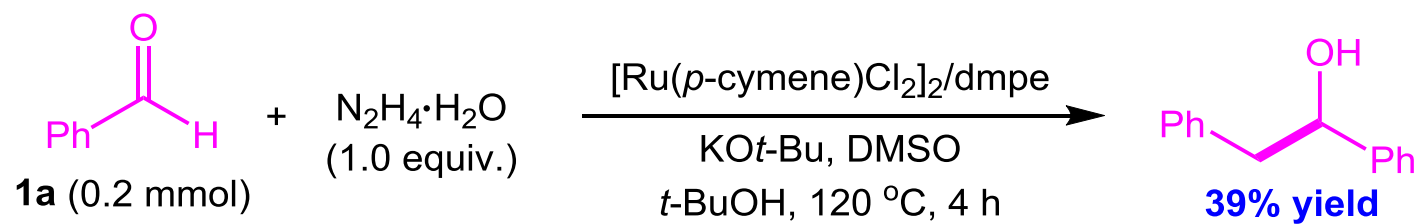


# Mechanistic hypothesis

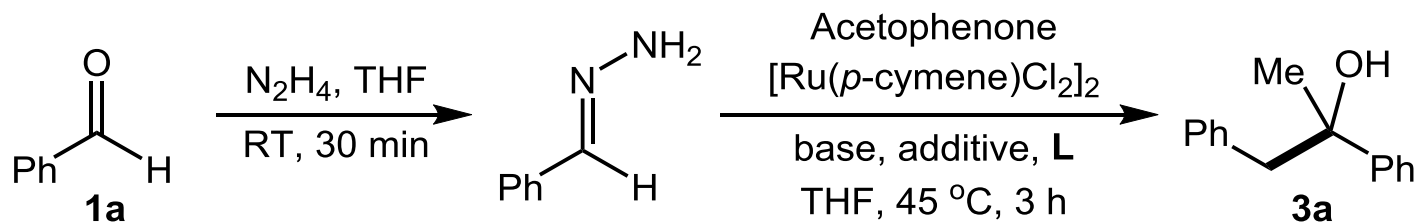


# Preliminary result

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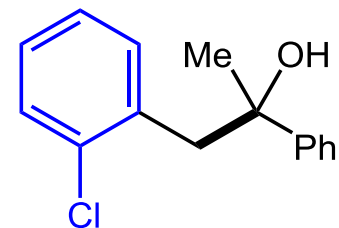
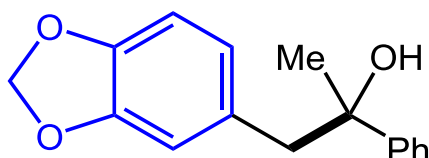
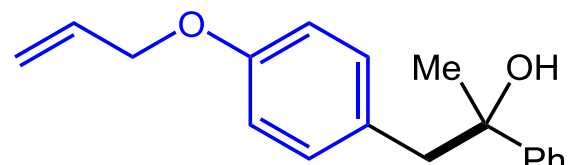
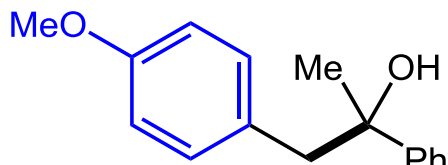
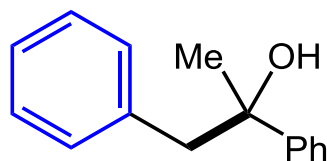
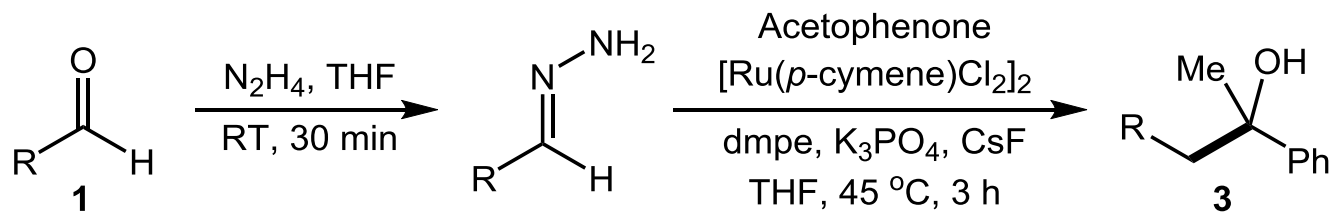
# Evaluation of reaction parameters



Entry	Ligand	Base	Additive	<b>3a</b> (%)
1	-	$\text{K}_3\text{PO}_4$	CsF	13
2	dppe	$\text{K}_3\text{PO}_4$	CsF	78
3	dppp	$\text{K}_3\text{PO}_4$	CsF	92
4	dppf	$\text{K}_3\text{PO}_4$	CsF	58
5	dmpe	-	CsF	3
6	dmpe	$\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3$	CsF	57
7	dmpe	$\text{Cs}_2\text{CO}_3$	CsF	51
8	dmpe	KOt-Bu	CsF	82
<b>9</b>	<b>dmpe</b>	<b><math>\text{K}_3\text{PO}_4</math></b>	<b>CsF</b>	<b>95</b>
10	dmpe	$\text{K}_3\text{PO}_4$	-	85

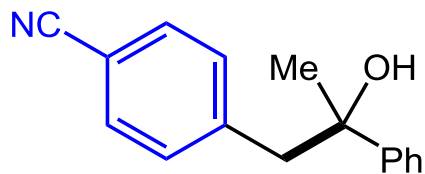
# Substrate scope

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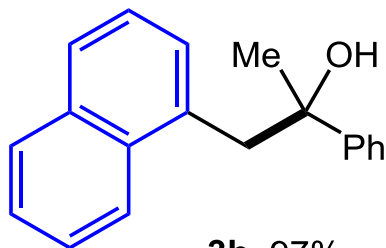


# Substrate scope

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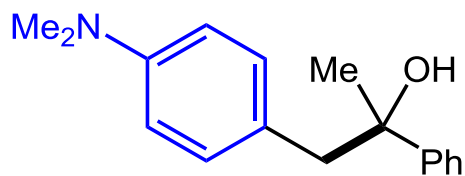
**3g**, 43%



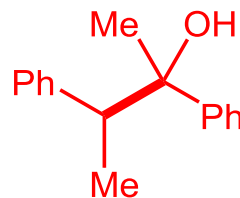
**3h**, 97%



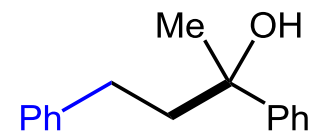
**3i**, 95%



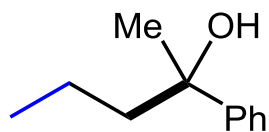
**3j**, 67%



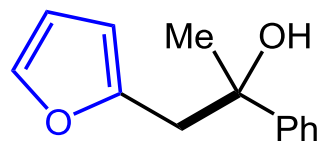
**3k**, 30%



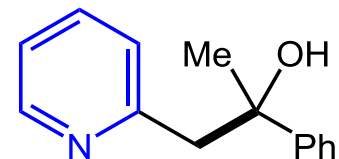
**3l**, 23%



**3m**, 20%



**3n**, 75%

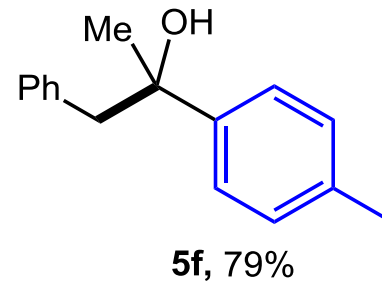
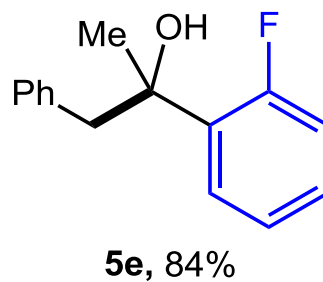
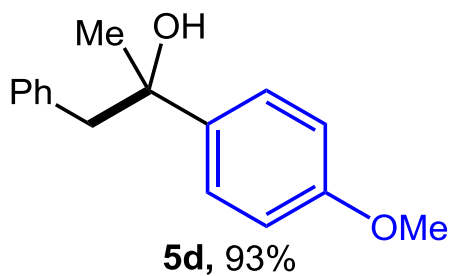
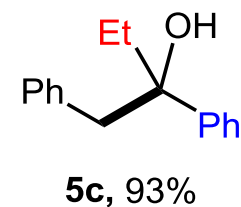
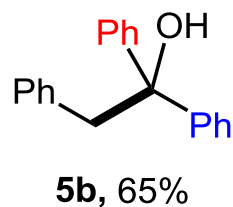
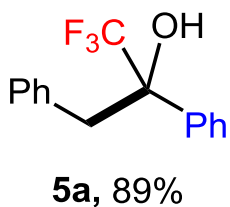
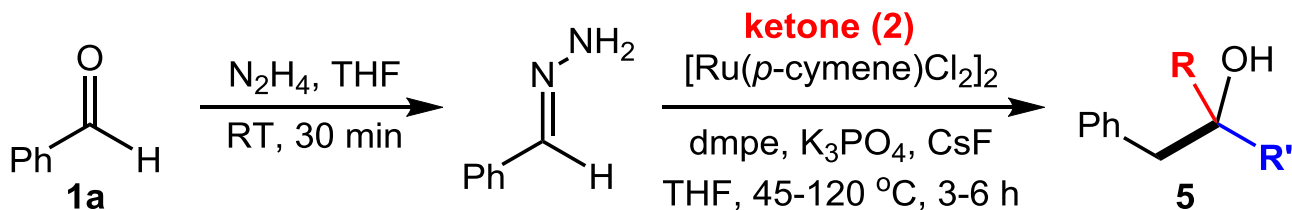


**3o**, 53%

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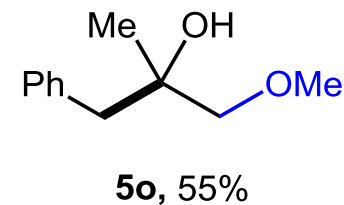
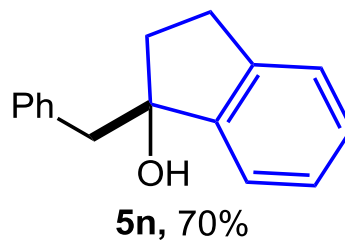
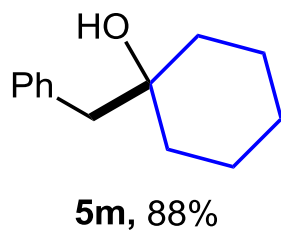
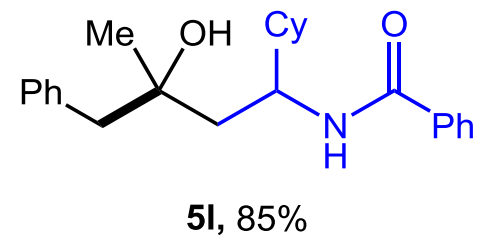
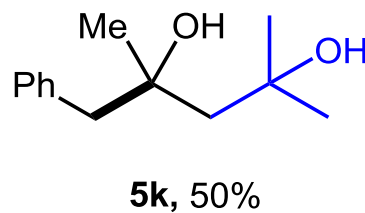
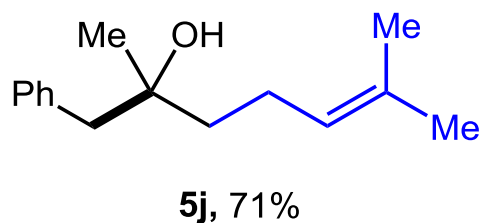
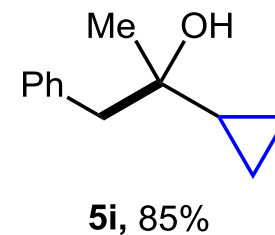
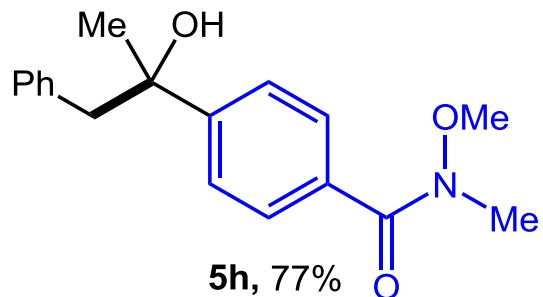
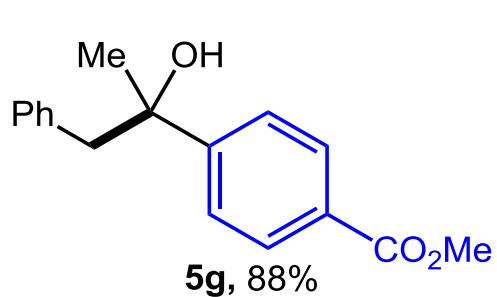
# Substrate scope

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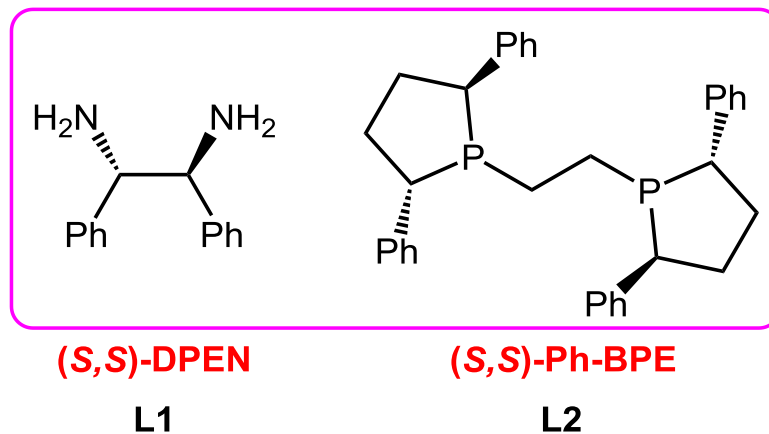
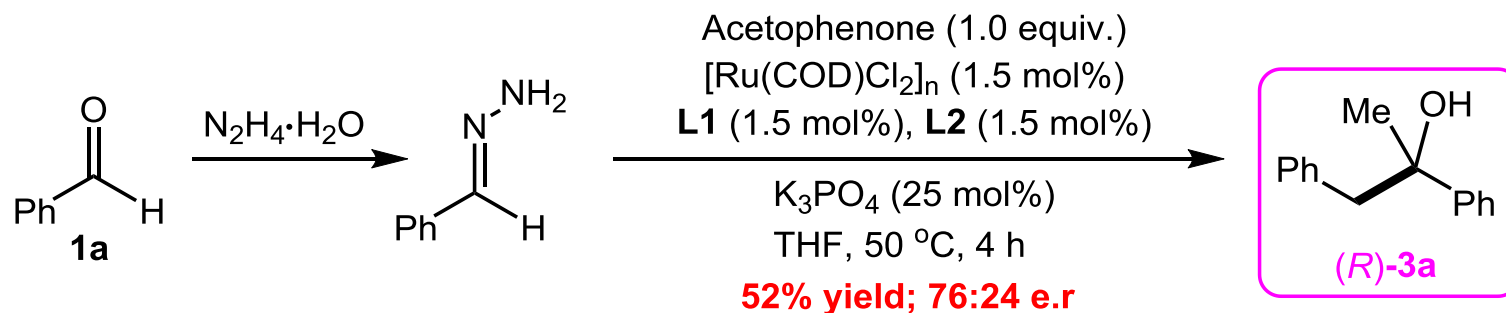


# Substrate scope

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# Enantioselective carbonyl addition

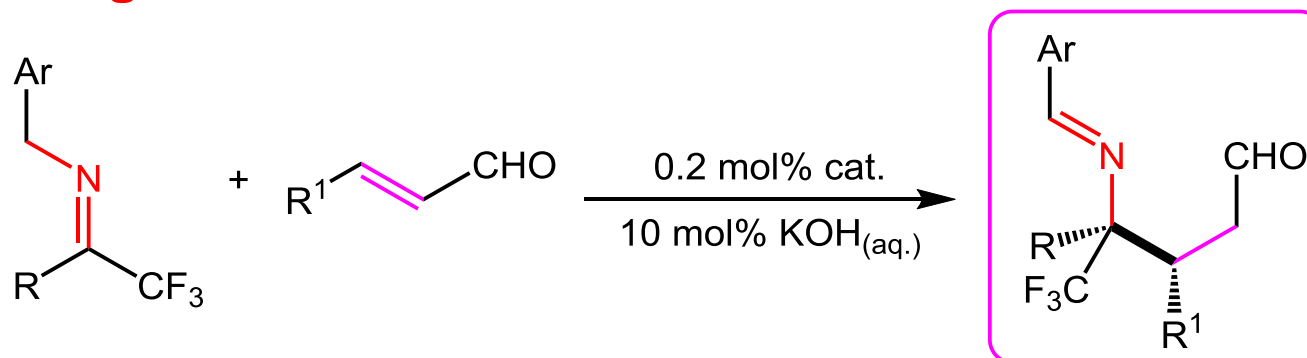




# Summary

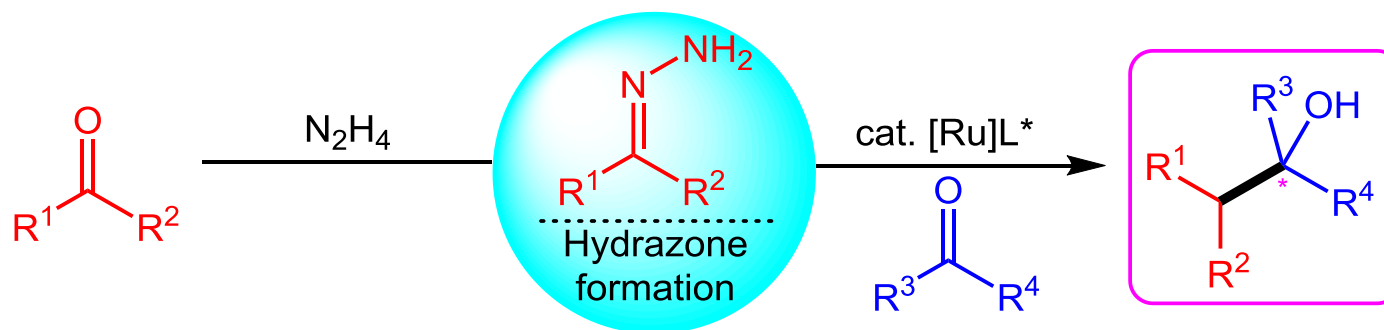
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## Umpolung reactions of imines:



Y.-W. Wu, L. Hu, Z. Li, **L. Deng**, *Nature* **2015**, 523, 4451.

## Umpolung reactions of aldehydes:



H. Wang, I.-J. Dai, **C.-J. Li**, *Nat. Chem.* **2017**, 9, 374.

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## The first paragraph:

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The nucleophilic addition of organometallic reagents to carbonyl compounds is a fundamental process in organic synthesis. This simple alkylation process provides a reliable method for generating a wide array of alcohol products. The discovery of Grignard reagents as carbanion equivalents and their subsequent additions to carbonyl compounds marked a milestone in synthetic chemistry. Since then, other organometallic reagents, such as those based on zinc, aluminium, copper and titanium, have been sought and used to achieve better selectivity. However, the preparation of these organometallic reagents requires stoichiometric quantities of metal.

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## The last paragraph:

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In summary, we have described a catalytic umpolung strategy to use aldehydes as alkyl carbanion equivalents for additions to carbonyl compounds. The full potential of this novel chemistry is yet to be revealed, as it is currently limited by accessible nucleophilic carbonyls, and safety and toxicity issues concerning hydrazine. We believe that this chemistry is a stepping stone towards carbon–carbon bond forming processes built upon more sustainable chemical feedstocks. With a deeper understanding of this reaction, new strategies using carbonyl-derived carbanion equivalents for chemical bond formation beyond carbon–carbon bonds are likely to emerge.

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# Wolff-Kishner (WK) reduction

