



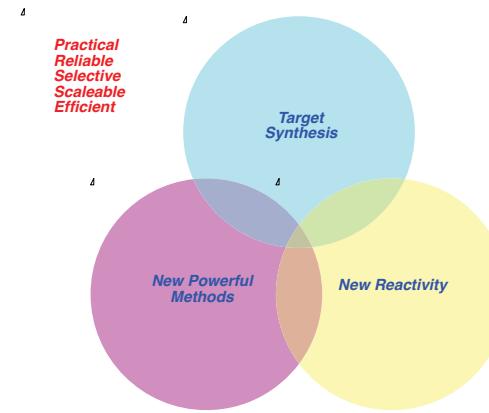
## Exploring and Exploiting New Reactivity with Novel Classes of High-Performance Multifunctional Cooperative Catalysts

Darren J Dixon  
University of Oxford

Ischia Advanced School of Organic Chemistry  
Ischia Island, Napoli, Italy  
September 21-25, 2014

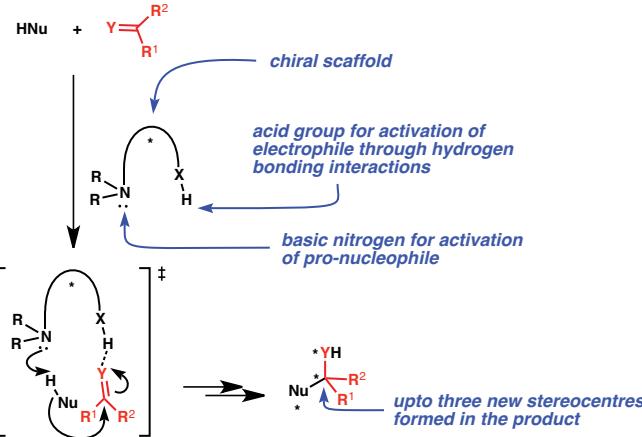
1

## Dixon Group Research

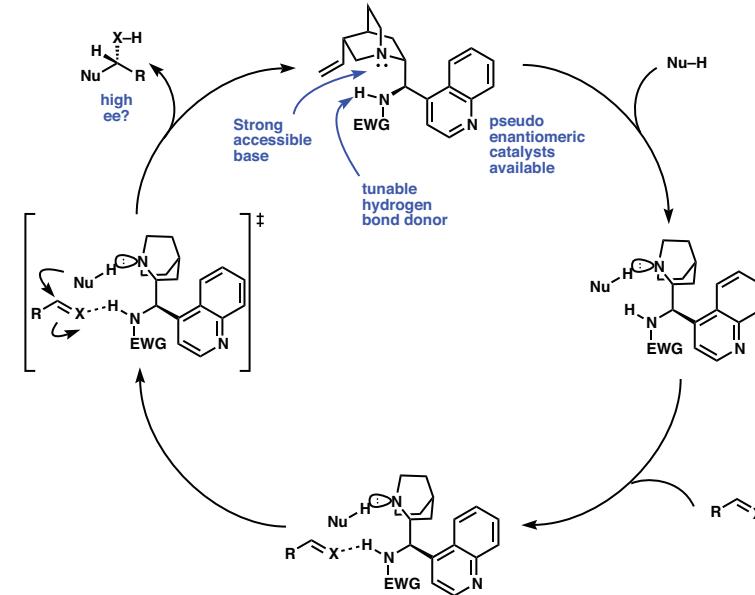


2

### Enantioselective Bifunctional Organocatalysis



### A Versatile Design for a New Family of Bifunctional Catalysts From Cinchona Alkaloids

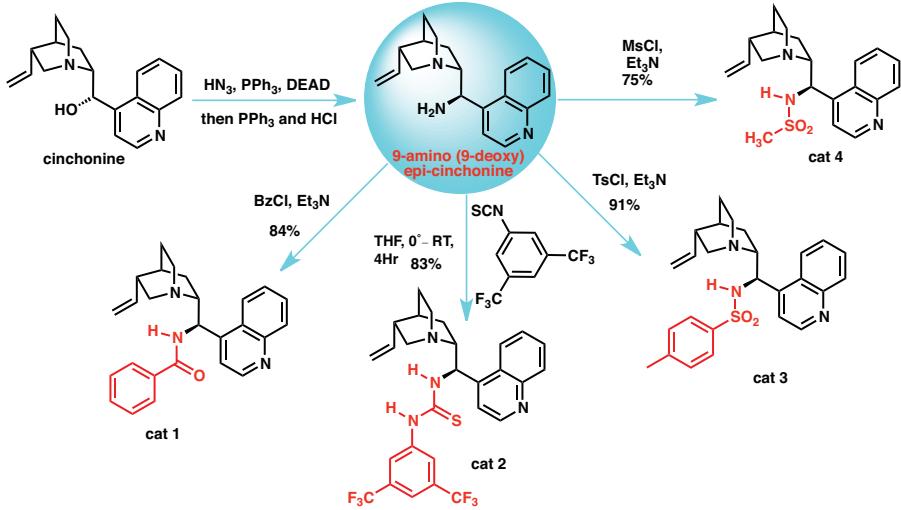


For recent selected reviews of bifunctional organocatalysis see: (a) Berkessel, A.; Groger, H. Asymmetric Organocatalysis: From Biomimetic Concepts to Applications in Asymmetric Synthesis; Wiley-VCH: Weinheim, 2005. (b) Taylor, M. S.; Jacobsen, E. N. *Angew Chem. Int. Ed.* 2006, 45, 1520; (c) Takemoto, Y. *Org. Biomol. Chem.* 2005, 3, 4299; (d) Doyle, A. G.; Jacobsen, E. N. *Chem. Rev.* 2007, 107, 5713; (e) Connan, S. J. *Chem. Commun.* 2008, 22, 2499; (f) Dondoni, A.; Massi, A. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* 2008, 47, 4638. (g) Melchiorre, P.; Marigo, M.; Carlone, A.; Bartoli, G. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* 2008, 47, 6138; (h) Pihko, P. M.; Rahaman, H. Bifunctional Acid-Base Catalysis in Enantioselective Organocatalyzed Reactions 1, 2011, 185-207; (i) Giacalone, F.; Gruttaduria, M.; Agrigento, P.; Noto, R. *Chem. Soc. Rev.* 2012, 41, 2406; (j) Wende, C. R.; Schreiner, P. R. *Green Chem.* 2012, 14, 1821.

3

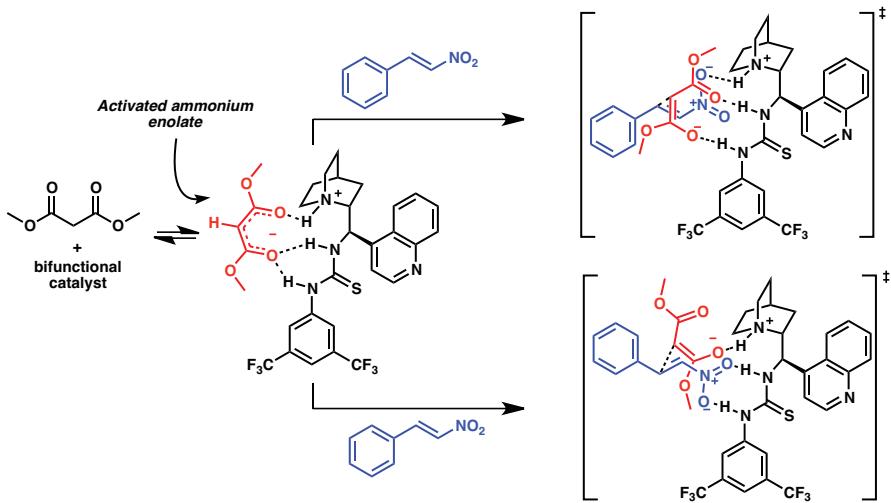
4

## **Rapid Synthesis of a New Family of Bifunctional Catalysts**



5

## **Possible Explanation for Enantiocontrol in Michael Addition Reaction**

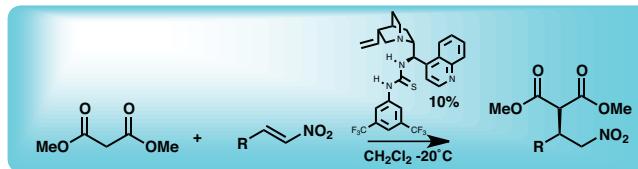


---

For theoretical studies on the mechanism and the bifunctionality of chiral thio urea-based organocatalysts see:  
A. Hamza et al *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2006, 128, 13151

7

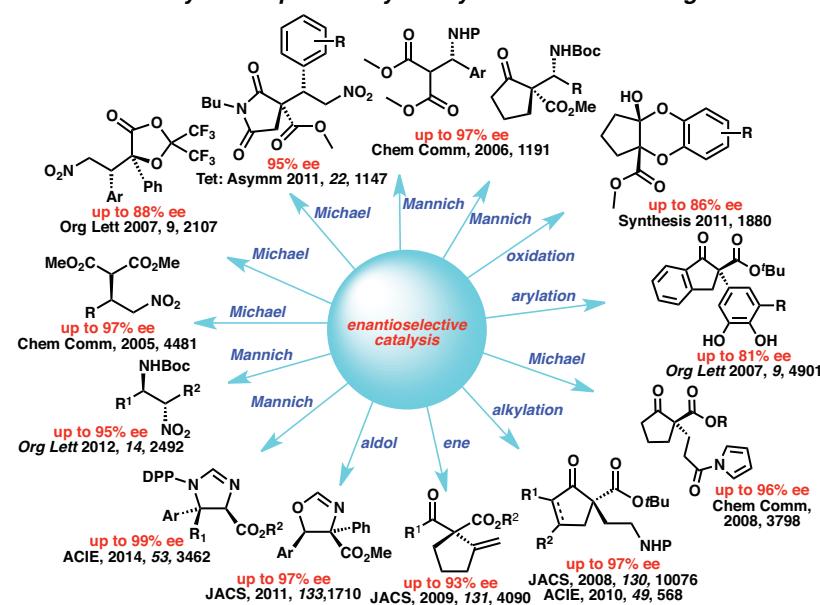
## *Scope of the Dimethyl Malonate Michael Addition to Nitro Alkenes*



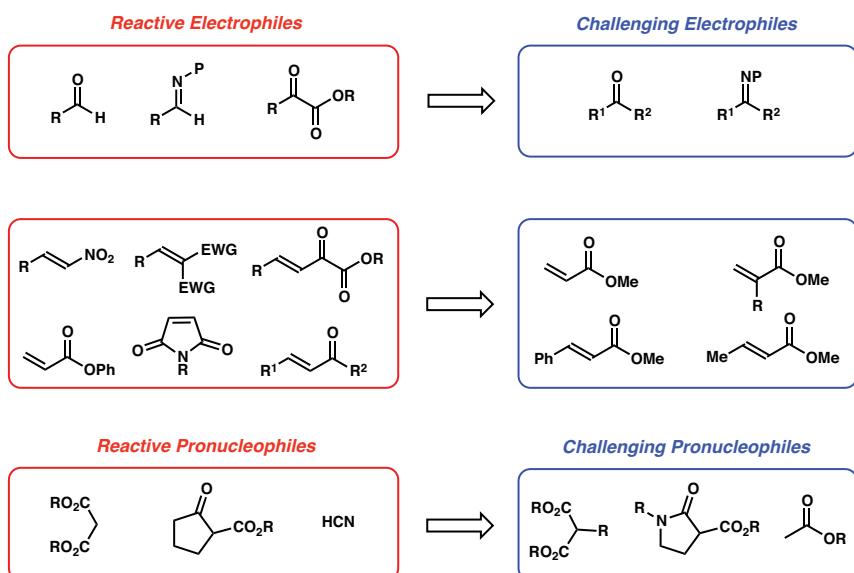
R	time/Hr	yield/%	ee/%
Ph	30	95	94
2-naphthyl	48	83	89
2-Cl phenyl	30	99	94
2-Br phenyl	30	95	92
3-Br phenyl	30	85	90
4-Br phenyl	48	87	90
4-Me phenyl	48	82	92
3-Me phenyl	52	92	91
2-MeO phenyl	30	96	97
2-furyl	30	93	95
2-thienyl	30	87	94
n-pentyl	72	81	87
c-hexyl	31	82	82 (at R)

J. Ye, D. J. Dixon and P. Hynes, *Chem. Comm.*, 2005, 4481  
 (thiophenol to enones); B. J. Li, L. Jiang, M. Liu, Y. C. Chen, L. S. Ding and Y. Wu, *Synlett*, 2005, 601  
 (nitromethane to chalcones); B. Yakulova, S. Varga, A. Csampa and T. Scós, *Org. Lett.*, 2005, 7, 1961  
 (malonate to nitroolefins); S. H. McCooey and S. J. Connan, *Anorg. Chem. Int. Ed.* 2005, 43, 6367

## **Newly Developed Catalytic Asymmetric Methodologies**

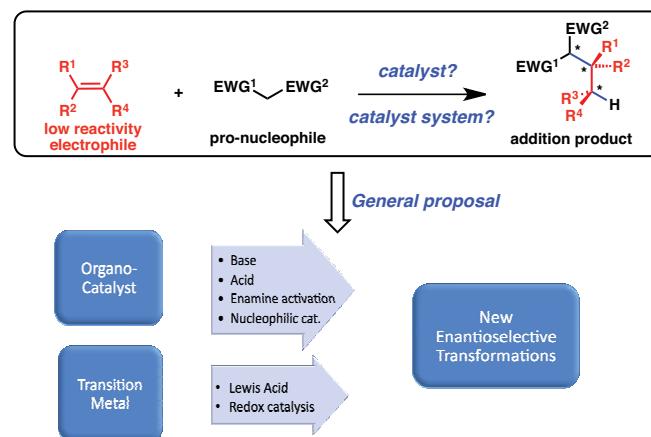


## New Opportunities in Bifunctional Asymmetric Catalysis



9

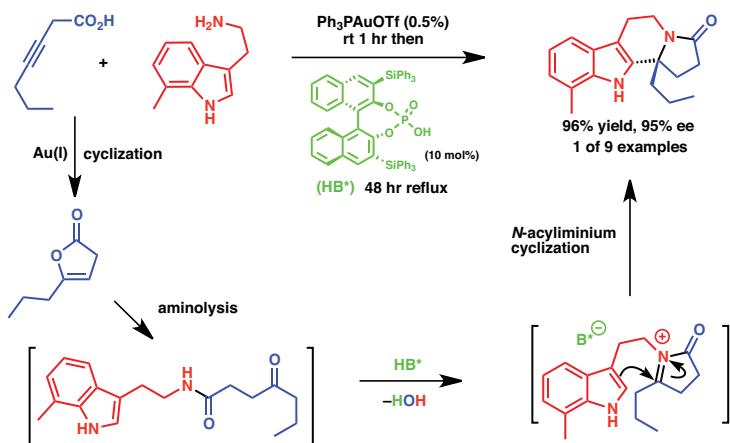
## Escaping the Limits of Enantioselective Bifunctional Organocatalysis



For selected reviews/highlights on the combination of organocatalysis and transition-metal catalysis, see: a) Z. Shao, H. Zhang, *Chem. Soc. Rev.* 2009, 38, 2745-2755; b) C. Zhong, X. Shi, *Eur. J. Org. Chem.* 2010, 2999-3025; c) M. Rueping, R. M. Koenigs, I. Atodiresei, *Chem. Eur. J.* 2010, 16, 9350-9365; d) N. T. Patil, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* 2011, 50, 1759-1761; e) M. Albrecht, H. Jiang, K. A. Jorgensen, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* 2011, 50, 8492-8509; f) N. T. Patil, V. S. Shinde, B. Gajula, *Org. Biomol. Chem.* 2012, 10, 211-224; g) L. Stegbauer, F. Sladojevich, D. J. Dixon, *Chem. Sci.*, 2012, 3, 942-958; h) C. C. J. Low, D. Enders, *Chem. Eur. J.* 2012, 18, 10212-10225.

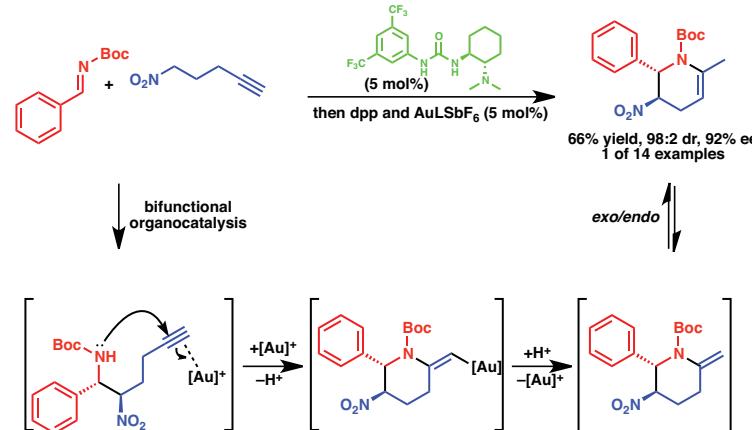
10

## Au(I) and Chiral Bronsted Acid Cascade



M. E. Muratore, C. A. Holloway, A. W. Pilling, R. I. Storer, G. Trevitt, D. J. Dixon *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2009, 131, 10796

## Au(I) and Bifunctional Organocatalyst Cascade

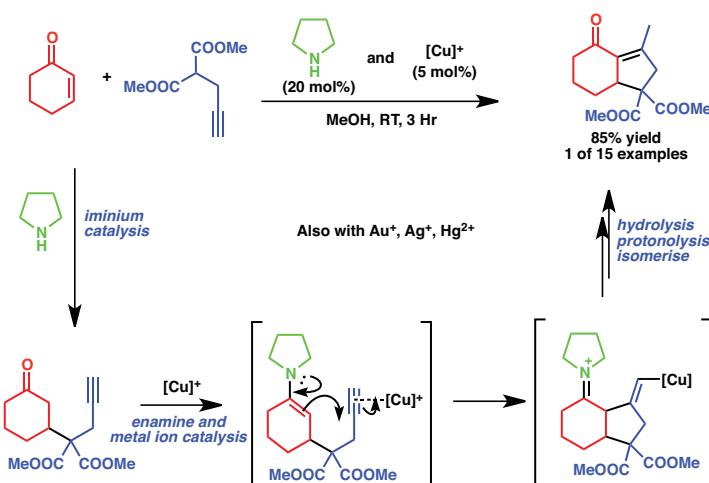


D. Barber, H. Sangane, D. J. Dixon, *Org. Lett.* 2012, 14, 5290

11

12

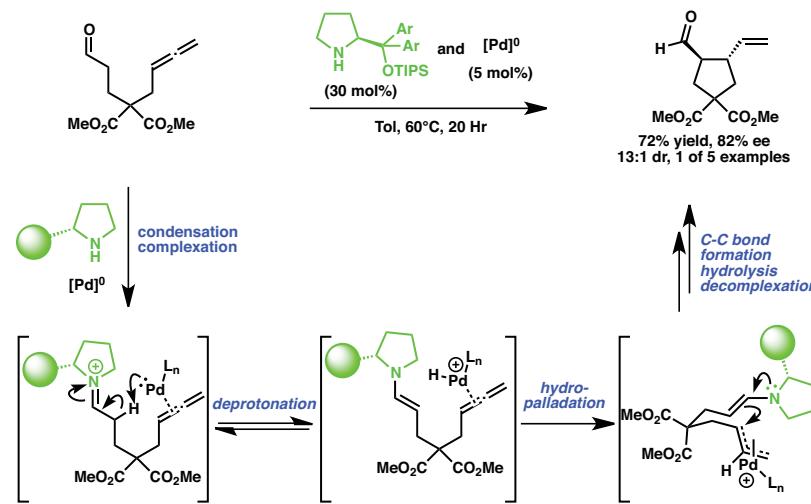
### Combination Iminium, Enamine and Copper (I) Cascade Catalysis



T. Yang, A. Ferrali, L. Campbell and D. J. Dixon, *Chem. Commun.* 2008, 2923

13

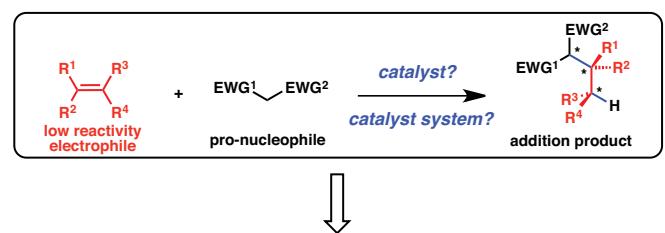
### Dual Amine and Palladium Catalysis in Allene Carbocyclisation Reactions



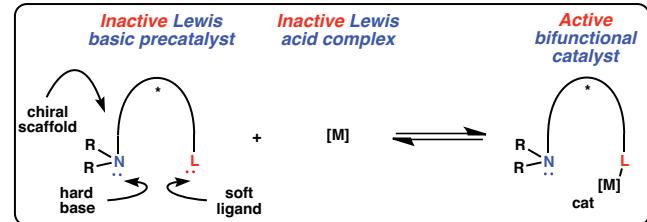
M. Li, S. Datta, D. M. Barber and D. J. Dixon, *Org. Lett.* 2012, 14, 6350

14

### Escaping the Limits of Enantioselective Bifunctional Organocatalysis



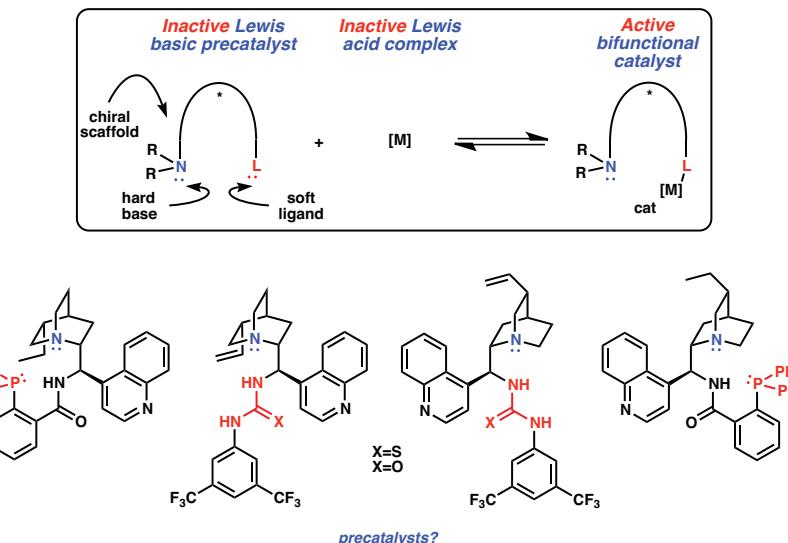
### Bronsted Base / Lewis Acid Enantioselective Bifunctional Catalysis



For a relevant examples see: Casarotto, V.; Li, Z.; Boucau, J.; Lin, Y.-M. *Tetrahedron Lett.* 2007, 48, 5561. For reviews see: (a) Ikariva, T.; Murata, K.; Noyori, R. *Org. Biomol. Chem.* 2006, 4, 393. (b) Muniz, K. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* 2005, 44, 6622. (c) Kanai, M.; Kato, N.; Ichikawa, E.; Shibasaki, M. *Pure Appl. Chem.* 2005, 77, 2047. (d) Kanai, M.; Kato, N.; Ichikawa, E.; Shibasaki, M. *Synlett* 2005, 1491. (e) Ma, J. A.; Cahard, D. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* 2004, 44, 4566.

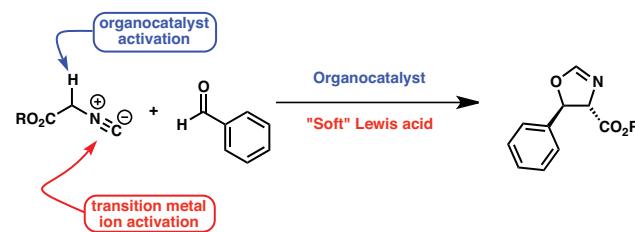
15

### Bronsted Base / Lewis Acid Enantioselective Bifunctional Catalysis



16

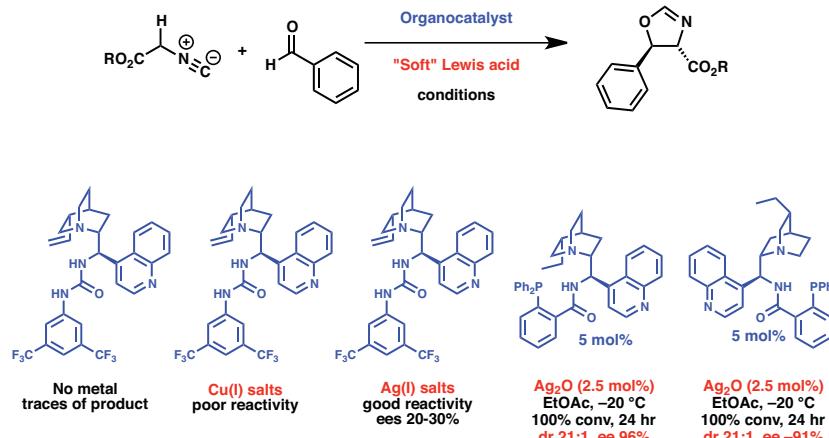
### Application to the Catalytic Asymmetric Isocyanoacetate Aldol Reaction



For Au catalysed examples see: (a) Ito, Y.; Sawamura, M.; Hayashi, T. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1986, **108**, 6405.  
(b) Pastor, S.D.; Togni, A. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1989, **111**, 2333.

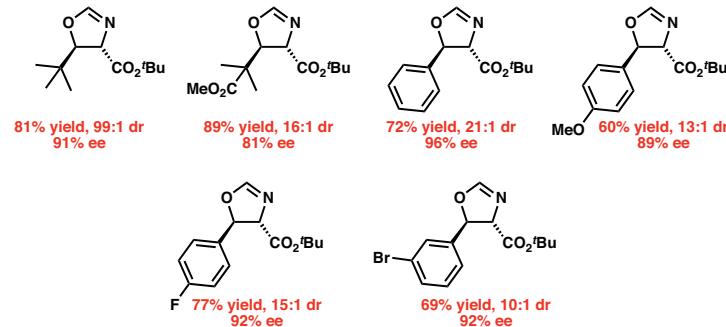
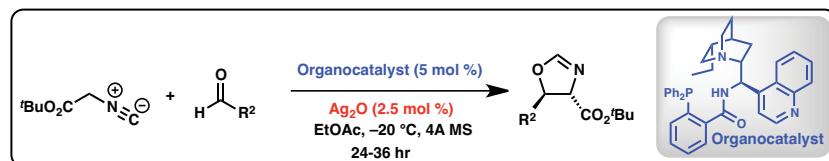
17

### Proof of Principle Studies and Catalyst Identification



18

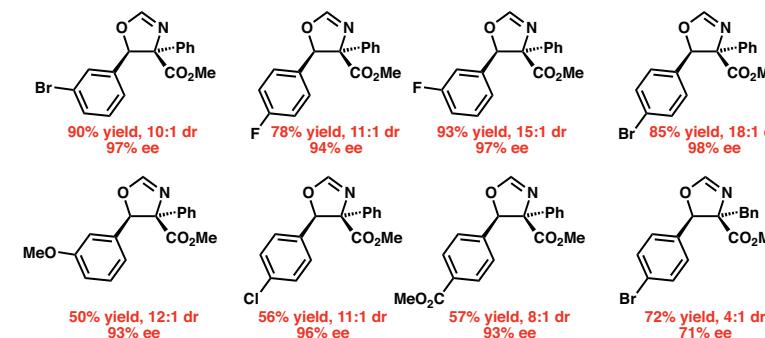
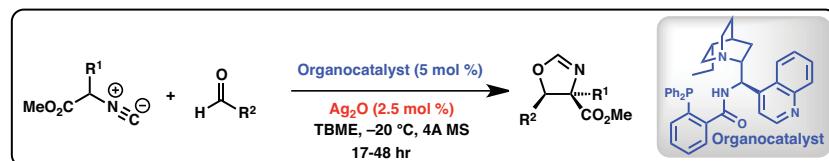
### Scope of the Catalytic Asymmetric Isocyanoacetate Aldol Reaction



Sladojevich, F.; Trabocchi, A.; Guarna, A.; Dixon, D. J. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2011, **133**, 1710

19

### Scope of the Catalytic Asymmetric Isocyanoacetate Aldol Reaction

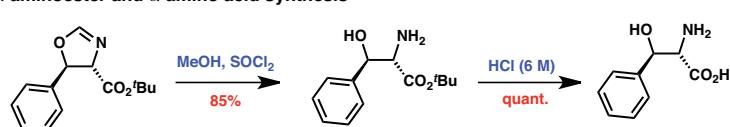


Sladojevich, F.; Trabocchi, A.; Guarna, A.; Dixon, D. J. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2011, **133**, 1710

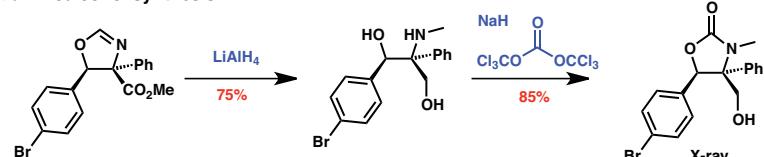
20

## Synthetic Utility of the Isocyanoacetate Aldol Reaction

$\alpha$ -aminoester and  $\alpha$ -amino acid synthesis



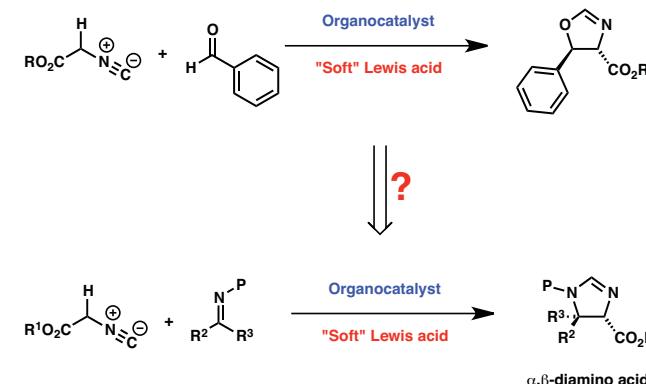
$\alpha$ -aminoalcohol synthesis



Sladojevich, F.; Trabocchi, A.; Guarna, A.; Dixon, D. J. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2011, 133, 1710

21

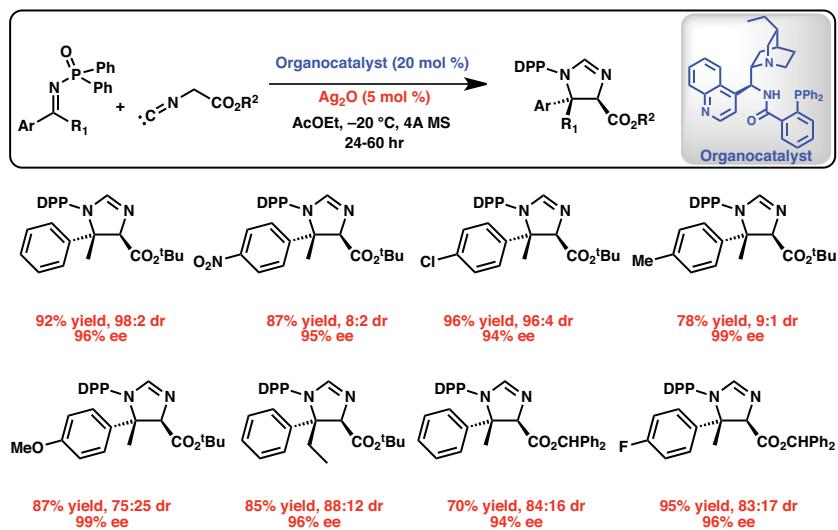
## Extension to the Catalytic Asymmetric Isocyanoacetate Mannich Reaction



For Au catalysed examples see: (a) Ito, Y.; Sawamura, M.; Hayashi, T. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1986, 108, 6405.  
(b) Pastor, S.D.; Togni, A. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1989, 111, 2333.

22

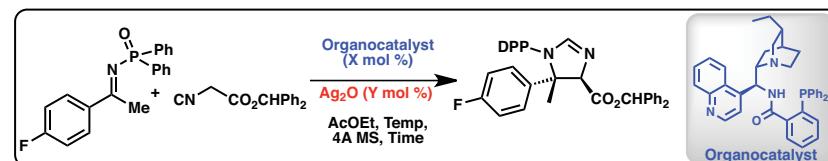
## Scope of the Catalytic Asymmetric Isocyanoacetate Mannich Reaction



I. Ortín and D. J. Dixon, *Angew. Chemie. Int. Ed.* 2014, 53, 3462-3465

23

## Loading Studies in the Catalytic Isocyanoacetate Mannich Reaction



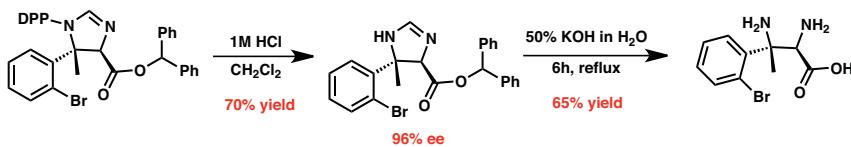
entry	X	Y	T (°C)	Time (h)	Yield (%)	Dr[a]	Ee [b]
1	10	2.5	-20	60	87	94:6	96
2	5	1.25	-20	120	78	93:7	96
3	1	0.25	-20	160	77	92:8	95
4	1	0.25	0	60	58	87:13	94

I. Ortín and D. J. Dixon, *Angew. Chemie. Int. Ed.* 2014, 53, 3462-3465

24

## **Synthetic Utility of the Isocyanoacetate Mannich Reaction**

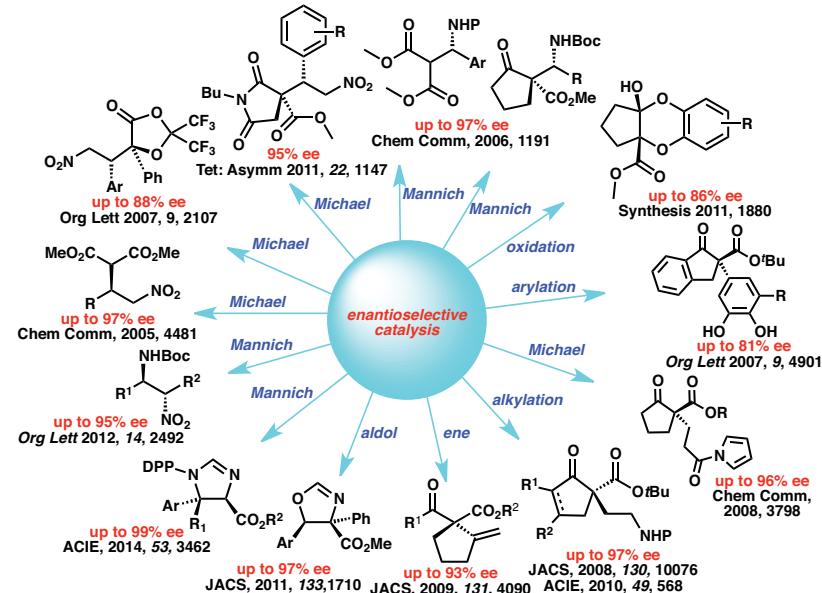
## Mild DPP removal and hydrolysis of imidazoline



I. Ortín and D. J. Dixon, *Angew. Chemie. Int. Ed.* 2014, 53, 3462-3465

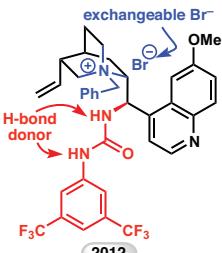
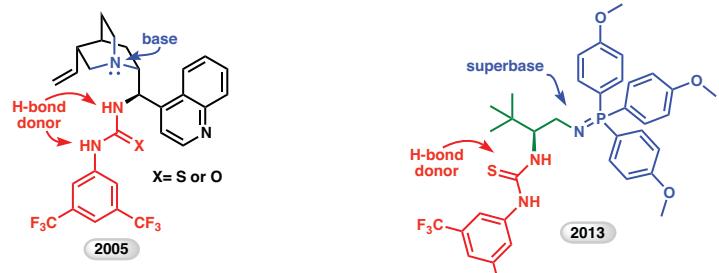
25

## **Newly Developed Catalytic Asymmetric Methodologies**

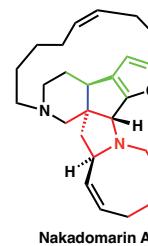


20

## **Multifunctional Catalysts Developed in the Dixon Group**



*Nakadomarin A - Structure and Biological Activity*



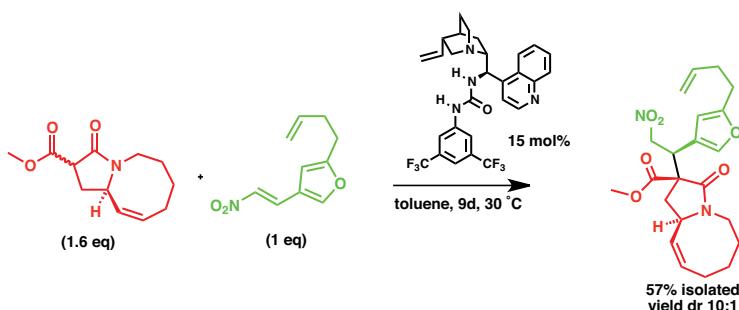
**Structure:**  
Hexacyclic alkaloid, consisting of an 8/5/5/15/6 ring system  
4 stereogenic carbons

**Biology:**  
Found to be cytotoxic (murine lymphoma L1210, IC<sub>50</sub> 1.3 µg/ml)  
Inhibits cyclin dependent kinase 4 (CDK4) (IC<sub>50</sub> 9.9 µg/ml)  
Also antifungal and antibacterial (MIC 23 and 11 µg/ml respectively)

27

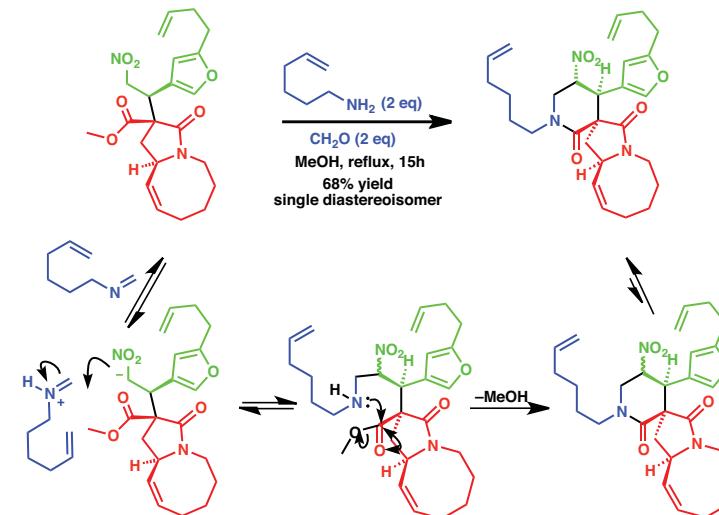
2

## **Diastereoselective Michael Addition of 8,5-Bicyclic Pronucleophile to 2-Butenyl-Substituted Furanyl Nitro Olefin**



29

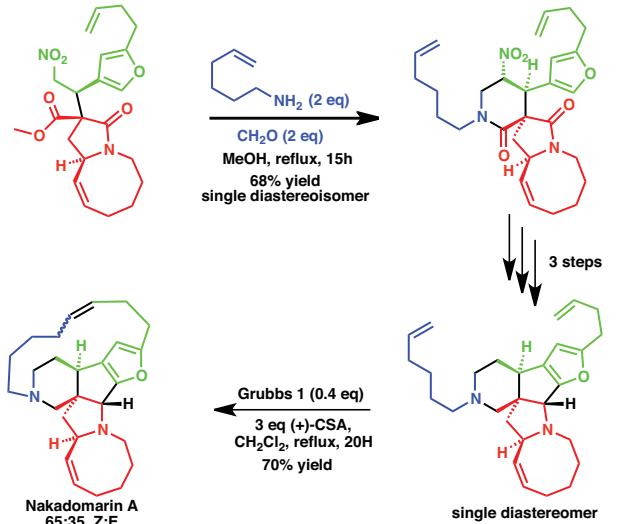
## *Development of a Nitro Mannich / Lactamisation Cascade to the A Ring*



**Early studies:** a) Muhlstadt, M; Schultze, B. *J. Prakt. Chemie.* 1975, 317, 919-925. b) Bhagwatheeswaran, H.; Gu S. P.; Jain, P.C. *Synthesis.* 1976, 615. Recent developments: Jakubec, P.; Hellwili, M.; Dixon, D. *J. Org. Lett.* 2008, 10, 4267 and S. M.-C. Pelletier, P. C. Ray and D. J. Dixon, *Org. Lett.* 2009, 11, 4512

31

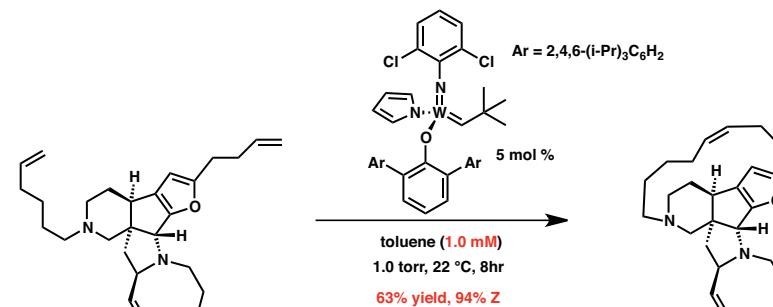
## **Z-Selective Ring Closing Metathesis**



P. Jakubec, D. M. Cockfield, D. J. Dixon *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 2009, 131, 16632

31

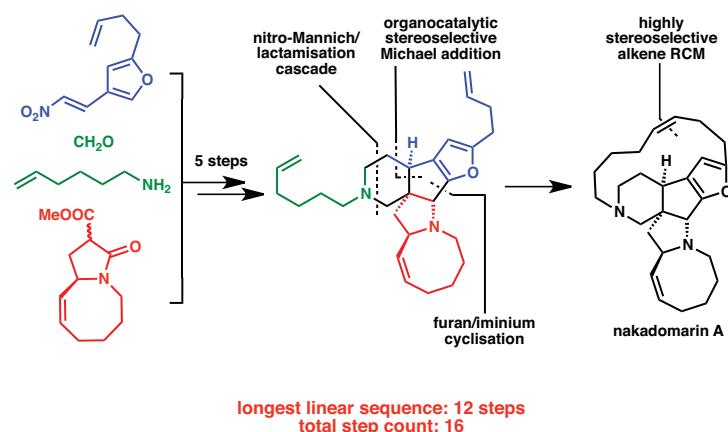
## **Route 2 Revisited: Z-Selective Catalyst Control in the Macrocyclic Alkene RCM**



M. Yu, C. Wang, A. F. Kyle, P. Jakubec, D. J. Dixon, R. R. Schrock, A. H. Hoveyda, *Nature*, 2011, 479, 88–93.

32

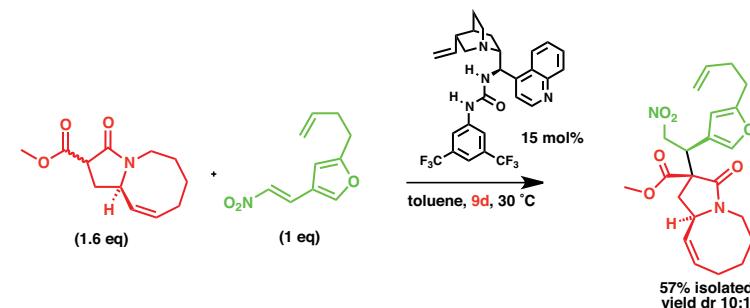
### Total Synthesis of Nakadomarin A



a) Jakubec, P.; Cockfield, D. M.; Dixon, D. J. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2009, 131, 16632.  
b) Yu, M.; Wang, C.; Kyle, A. F.; Jakubec, P.; Dixon, D. J.; Schrock, R. R.; Hoveyda, A. H. *Nature* 2011, 479, 88.

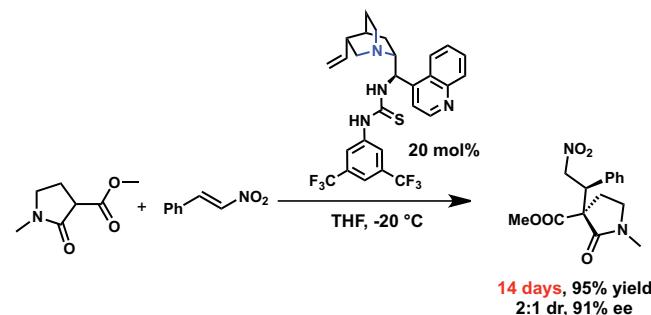
33

### Diastereoselective Michael Addition of 8,5-Bicyclic Pronucleophile to 2-Butenyl-Substituted Furanyl Nitro Olefin



34

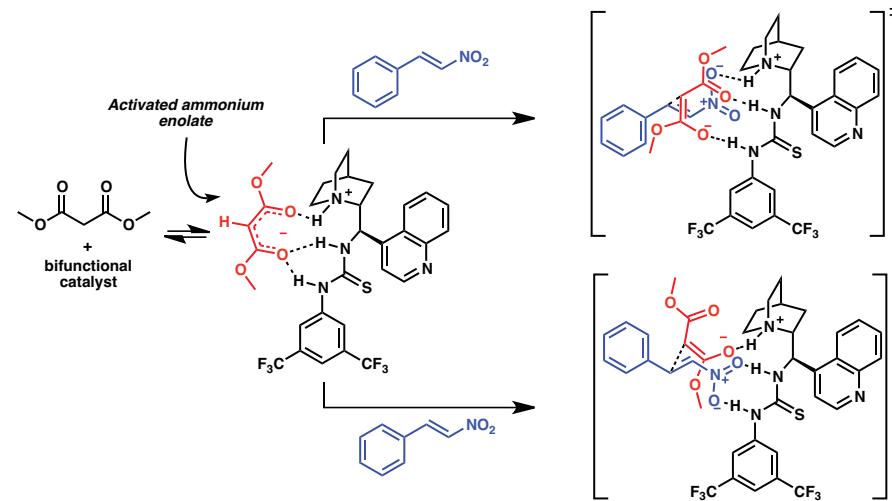
### Limitations of Tertiary Amine Bifunctional Organocatalysts



P. Jakubec, M. Heliwell, D. J. Dixon, *Org. Lett.* 2008, 10, 4267-4270

35

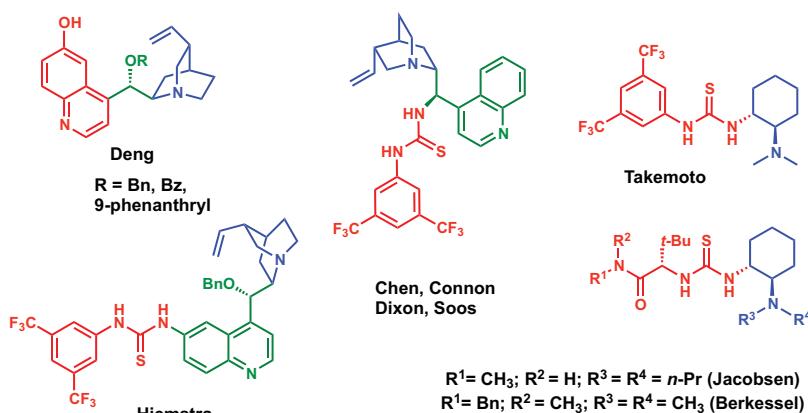
### Possible Explanation for Enantiocontrol in Michael Addition Reaction



For theoretical studies on the mechanism and the bifunctionality of chiral thio urea-based organocatalysts see:  
A. Hamza et al *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2006, 128, 13151

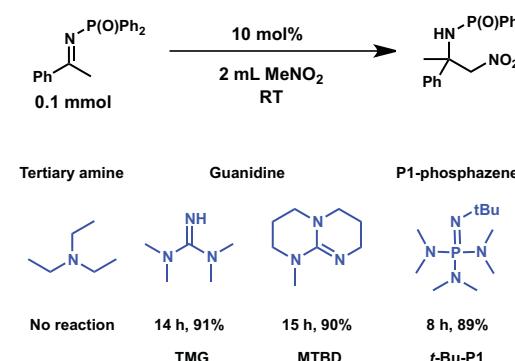
36

### Common Bifunctional Bronsted basic / H-bond Donor Organocatalysts



37

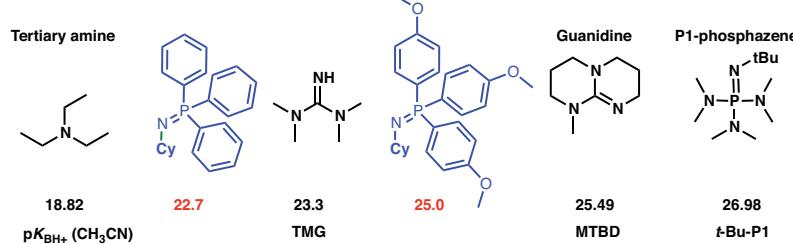
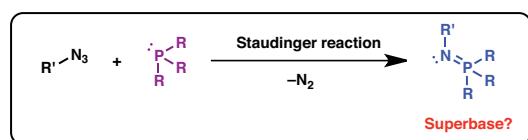
### Nitro-Mannich Reaction of Nitromethane to DPP-Ketimines



N. K. Pahadi, H. Ube, M. Terada, *Tetrahedron Lett.* 2007, **48**, 8700-8703

38

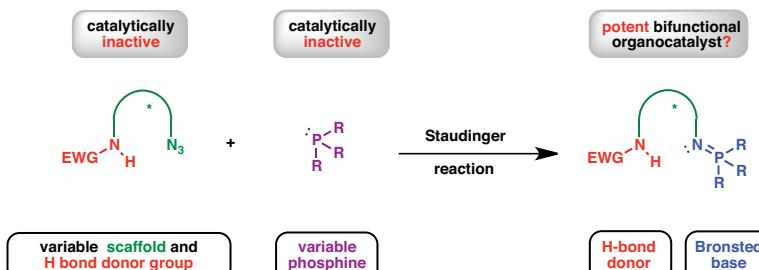
### Organic Superbases



Ishikawa, T. Superbases for Organic Synthesis: Guanidines, Amidines, Phosphazenes and Related Organocatalysts (Wiley, 2009).

39

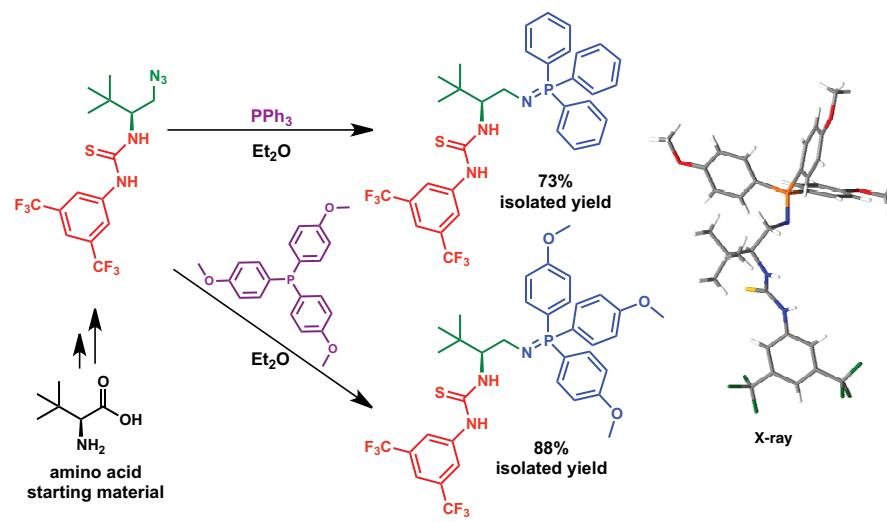
### Design of New Class of Superbase Bifunctional Bronsted Basic / H-bond Donor Organocatalysts



M. G. Núñez, A. J. M. Farley, D. J. Dixon, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2013, **135**, 16348

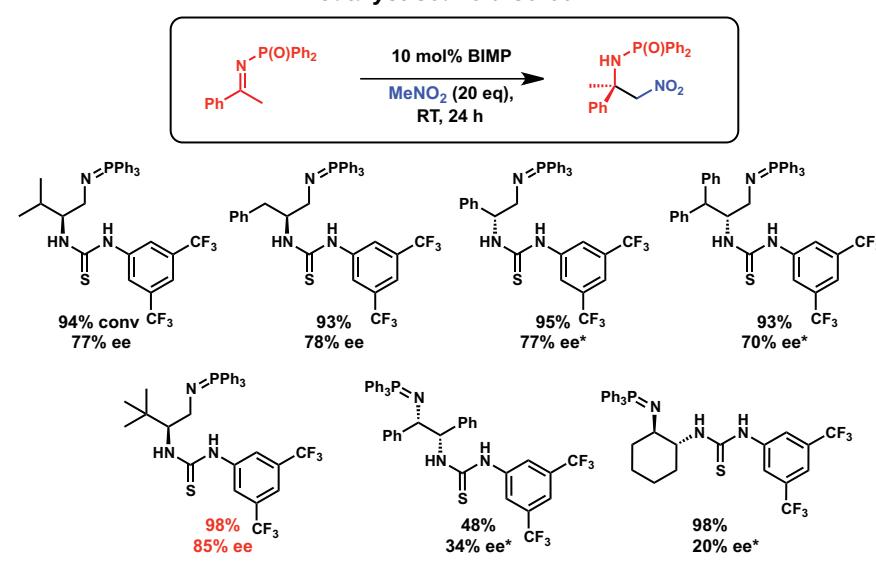
40

**Synthesis of New Superbase Bifunctional Iminophosphorane (BIMP) Organocatalysts**



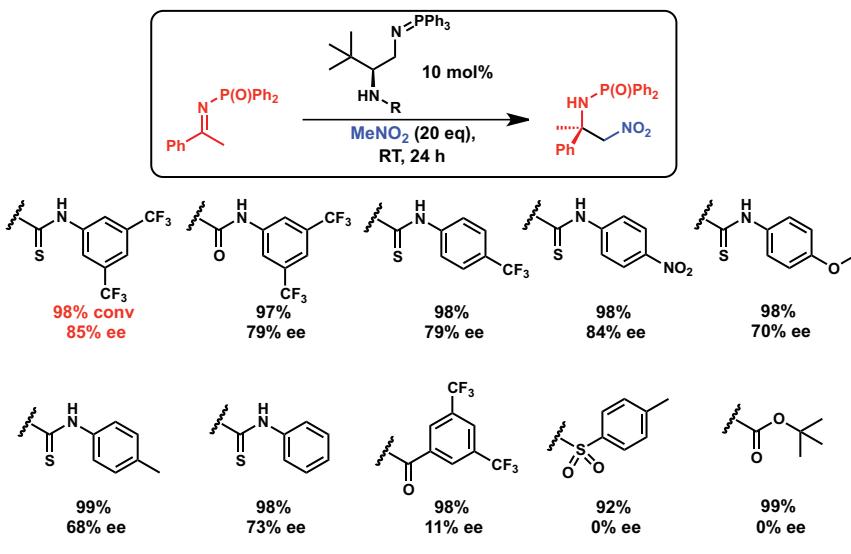
41

**Catalyst Scaffold Screen**



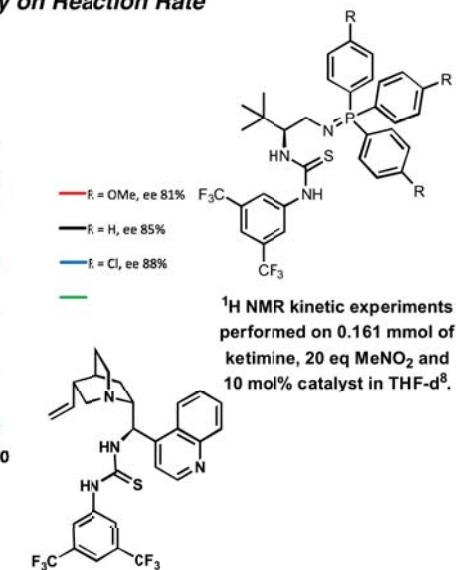
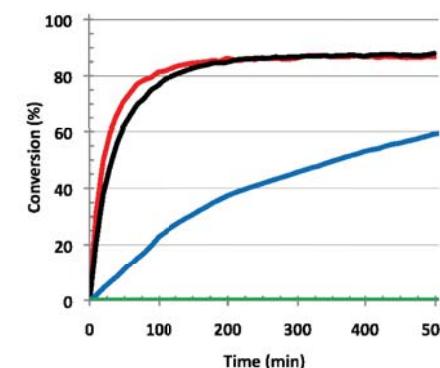
42

**H-Bond Donor Screen**



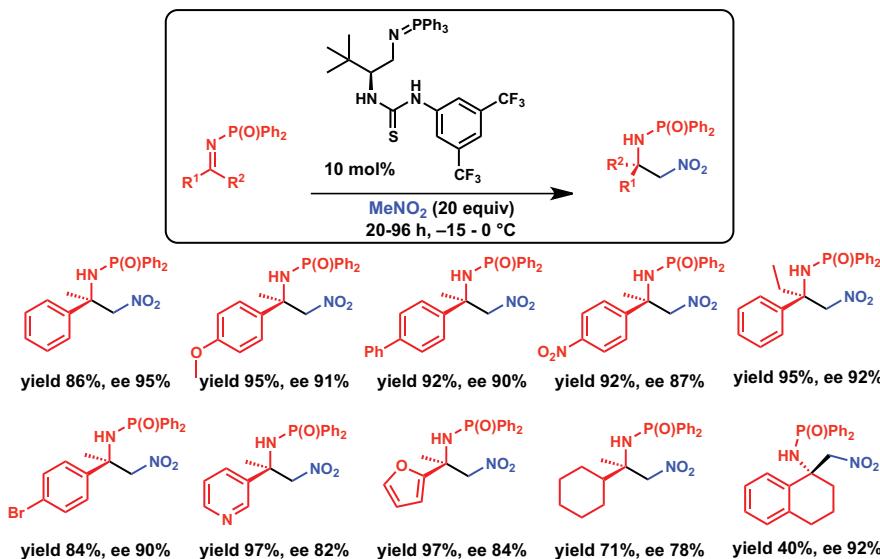
43

**Effect of Basicity on Reaction Rate**



44

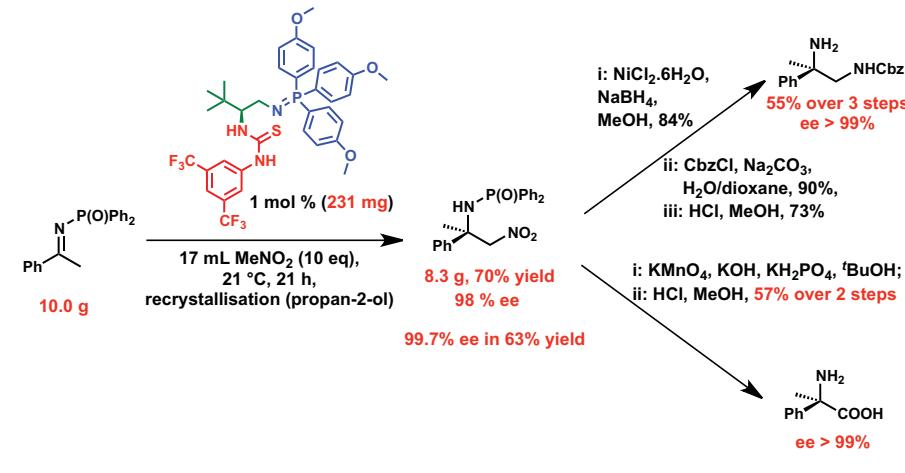
### Scope of the BIMP Catalysed Nitro-Mannich Reaction to Ketamines



M. G. Núñez, A. J. M. Farley, D. J. Dixon, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2013, 135, 16348

45

### Preparative Scale of Nitro-Mannich Reaction



M. G. Núñez, A. J. M. Farley, D. J. Dixon, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2013, 135, 16348

46

### Acknowledgements

#### 1st Generation Bifunctional Organocatalysis

Dr Jinxing Ye  
Peter Hynes

#### Nakadomarin A

Dr Pavol Jakubec  
Dane Cockfield  
Andrew Kyle

#### Strychnos Alkaloids

Adam Gammack  
Linus Stegbauer  
Dr Swarup Datta

#### Reaction Cascades

Michael Muratore  
David Barber

#### Metal + Organocatalysis

Ting Yang  
Dr Filippo Sladojevich  
Dr Alessandro Ferrali  
Dr Irene Ortin

#### BIMP Superbase Bifunctional Organocatalysis

Marta G. Núñez  
Alistair Farley  
Anna Goldys  
Chris Sandford  
Jinchai Yang

#### Collaborators

Prof Richard Schrock  
Prof Amit Hoveyda  
Dr Rob Paton  
Kelvin Jackson



47