Brønsted Acids in Asymmetric Catalysis



Outline

- I. Introduction
 - Benefits of Organic Catalysts
 - Early Developments -- Racemic Catalysts
- **II. Catalysts in Asymmetric Reactions**
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 - The Strecker Reaction
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 - Hydrophosphination of Imines
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 - The Aza-Henry Reaction
 - Michael Reaction of Malonates to Nitroolefins
 - The Baylis-Hillman Reaction
 - The Diels-Alder Reaction
- **III. Summary**



Reviews:

- Pihko, P. M. Activation of Carbonyl Compounds by Double Hydrogen Bonding: An Emerging Tool in Asymmetric Catalysis. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2004**, *43*, 2062-2064.
- Schreiner, P. R. Metal-free organocatalysis through explicit hydrogen bonding interactions. *Chem. Soc. Rev.* **2003**, *32*, 289-296.
- Dalko, P. I. and Moisan, L. Enantioselective Organocatalysis. Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2001, 40, 3726-3748.

Why Organic Catalysts? Why Hydrogen-Bonding?

- The usual suspects (drawbacks to metal-catalysis)
 - cost
 - toxicity
 - sensitivity & stability issues
 - product inhibition
 - amenable to high-throughput process/medicinal chemistry?
 - ability to attach to solid support
- Why not regular protic acids?
 - Reactions catalyzed by H⁺ often contain functionality sensitive to strong acids
 - reaction partner quenching
 - side reactions elimination, epimerization, polymerization
- Hydrogen-bonding -- eliminate need for H⁺
 - catalyst-stabilized transition state
 - proton transfer in transition state (TS) (concept precedented in enzymes
- Selectivity
 - utilize lone-pairs of carbonyl to acheive bidentate binding through double H-bonding



Double H-Bonding -- Non-Enantioselective Catalysts



Hine biphenylene diol catalyst (epoxide opening) J. Org. Chem. 1985, 50, 5096-9. J. Org. Chem. 1987, 52, 2083-6.



NO₂



Jorgenson model for H₂Ocatalyzed Diels-Alder Reactions and Claisen Rearrangements

J. Am. Chem. Soc. **1991**, *113*, 7430-2. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1992**, *114*, 10966-8.



Curran urea and thiourea catalysts (sulfoxide allylation &Claisen rearrangents) *J. Org. Chem.* **1994**, *59*, 3259-61. *Tet. Lett.* **1995**, *36*, 6647-50.



Schreiner thiourea catalyst (Diels-Alder) Chem. Soc. Rev. 2003, 32, 289-96.



Göbel aminopyridinium catalyst (diastereoselective Diels-Alder) *J. Org. Chem.* **2000**, *65*, 1697-701.

Kelly biphenylene diol catalyst (Diels-Alder) Tet. Lett. 1990, 31, 3381-4.

NO₂



Binding model for catalysis by ureas and thioureas



Etter Urea Catalyst (co-crystallizes) *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1988**, *110*, 5896-7.

Asymmetric HCN Addition to Aldehydes



J. Org. Chem. 1990,55, 181-185.



The Strecker Amino Acid Synthesis



Pre-transition-state assembly for aryl benzhydryl aldimines

Corey, et al. Org. Lett. 1999, 1, 157-60.

Pre-transition-state assembly for alkyl benzhydryl aldimines



HO.

R³

H₂N

R4

The Strecker Amino Acid Synthesis

Catalyst Identification via Parallel Library Synthesis

 \mathbf{R}^2

0

Library 1 - 12 Compounds



Μ	None	Ti	Mn	Fe	Ru	Со	Cu	Zn	Gd	Nd	Yb	Eu	
% ee	19	4	5	10	13	0	9	1	2	3	9	5	
% conv.	59	30	61	69	63	68	55	91	95	84	94	34	
													4

Salicylaldehydes

R⁴

t-Bu

Н

t-Bu

OMe

Br

NO₂

R³

t-Bu

t-Bu

Η

t-Bu

Br *t*-Bu <u>Key Results</u> AA derived from Leu (*R,R*)-diamines matched case: L-Leu (32% ee) mismatched: D-Leu (5% ee) R³ = *t*-Bu

Jacobsen, et al. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1998, 120, 4901-2.

Amino Acids

Leu, D-Leu, His

Phg (phenylglycine)



Jacobsen, et al. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1998, 120, 4901-2.



The Strecker Amino Acid Synthesis

Also a General Catalyst for Ketoimines





- Ground state conformations confirmed by ROESY and NOE.
- Catalyst obeys Michaelis-Menten kinetics (first order in catalyst and HCN).
- Saturation kinetics of imine substrate indicate reversible formation of imine-catalyst complex.
- Urea/thiourea protons were identified as the only essential protons for catalysis.
- Reactive imine stereoisomer (Z-imine) was determined by NMR titration with the catalyst.
- Confirmed by reactivity of cyclic imines.
- Double H-bond: urea/imine: 8.5 kcal/mol, thiourea/imine: 10 kcal/mol; H-bond to pdt: 5.0 and 6.3 kcal/mol, respectively.

Jacobsen, et al. J. Am. Chem. Soc., 2002, 124, 10012-4.

The Strecker Amino Acid Synthesis Mode of Action for Jacobsen Catalyst

Can face selectivity be altered by amino acid bulk?



Jacobsen, et al. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2002, 124, 10012-4.



Jacobsen, et al. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2002, 124, 12964-5.

The Mannich Reaction

Mechanism of Stereoinduction for Jacobsen Catalyst -- Same as Strecker Reaction?

Aldimines for Strecker and Mannich reactions differ electronically and sterically.



Nucleophiles are also sterically and electronically different.

OTBS

O*i*-Pr

HCN

Reference Reactions for Structure-Activity Studies:

Strecker Reaction:



- Amide bond and urea functionalities
- Amino acid
- Salicylaldimine
- Diamine linker



Jacobsen, et al. Synlett 2003, 1919-22.

The Mannich Reaction

Mechanism of Stereoinduction -- Amide Bond, Urea, and Amino Acid Influence

D 1	D ²	v	v	Strecker	Mannich	
<u>n</u>	K -	^	T	/0 66	76 EE	
Bn	Me	Ν	S	98	97	$R^2 \bigvee Y$
Bn	Н	Ν	S	98	91	
Bn	Н	Ν	0	97	81	
Bn	Bn	Ν	S	98	97	ö '' '' Ñ
Bn	Bn	Ν	0	97	82	
Ме	Ме	Ν	S	99	86	
Ме	Ме	Ν	0	98	80	、人人
<i>i</i> -Bu	<i>i</i> -Bu	Ν	S	95	93	$\gamma \sim c$
Су	Н	Ν	0	97	84	I
Bn		Ο	0	80	44	

- Thiourea enhances enantioselectivity for both reactions; effect is more dramatic for Mannich reaction.

- Tertiary amides provided better selectivity than secondary amides, again, more dramatic for Mannich.

- Esters are not acceptable replacements for amides.

- For the Strecker reaction, the sterically smaller N,N-dimethyl amide catalyst was better than the sterically larger N,N-diisobutyl amide. The opposite was true for the Mannich reaction.

R	Strecker % ee	Mannich % ee
<i>i</i> -Pr (L-Val)	96	51
Me (L-Ala)	91	22
Ph (L-Phg)	92	38
CMe ₂ Ph (D-2-amino-3-methyl -3-phenylbutyric acid)	98	90

- For the Mannich reaction, the amino acid identity is integral to the efficacy of the catalyst. Bulky amino acids are essential, but increasing the bulk too much also lowers the enantioselectivity somewhat.

- The Strecker reaction is not significantly altered by the amino acid size.

The Mannich Reaction Mechanism of Stereoinduction -- Salicylaldimine and Diamine Influences

			Strecker	Mannich
R ¹	R ²	R ³	% ee	% ee
Н	<i>t</i> -Bu	<i>t</i> -Bu	92	97
Н	<i>i</i> -Pr	<i>t</i> -Bu	92	97
Н	Ме	<i>t</i> -Bu	91	96
Н	Н	н	94	91
Me	<i>t</i> -Bu	<i>t</i> -Bu	64	92
1-hyc	droxy-2-na	aphthyl	67	94 (98) ^{in THF}



- The Strecker reactionwas largely insensitive to changes in R^2 , but altering R^3 resulted in significant drops in ee. (Recall the original catalyst gave an ee of 98% where $R^2 = t$ -Bu and $R^3 = OCOt$ -Bu).
- The identity of the R² group was inconsequential for the Mannich reaction, as was the R³ group (original catalyst gave an ee of 97%).

R ¹	R ²	configuration	Strecker % ee	Mannich % ee
Ph	Ph	(<i>R,R</i>)	98	80
<i>t</i> -Bu	<i>t-</i> Bu	(<i>R,R</i>)	NR	NR
-(CH ₂) ₄ -		(<i>S,S</i>)	27(<i>R</i>)	90



- The Strecker reaction tolerates substitution of the (R,R)-cyclohexyl unit with an (R,R) diphenylethylene, but it does not tolerate further increase in steric bulk or the mismatched (S,S) cyclohexyl unit.
- The Mannich reaction suffers from replacement of the cyclohexyl unit by the diphenylethylene and is also unreactive with the bulky diamine. However, reversing the configuration of the diamine is well-tolerated and, interestingly, provides the same sense of stereoinduction in high ee.

The Mannich Reaction Simplified Catalysts Based on Structure-Mechanism Studies



- Schiff base and diamine linker are unnecessary for the efficient catalysis of the Mannich reaction.
- The C₂-symmetric catalyst is ineffective, perhaps due to the significant increase in bulk in the right half of the compound.
- Returning to a C₁-symmetric compound revives catalytic activity.
- Further modification of the cyclohexyl ring to a phenyl ring brings the ee nearly to the original catalyst ee, accompanied by an increase in conversion.



Akiyama, et al. Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2004, 43, 1566-8.

The Mannich Reaction



Terada, et al. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2004, 126, 5356-7.

Aza-Friedel-Crafts Alkylation of Furan



Hydrophosphonylation of Imines



The Acyl-Pictet-Spengler Reaction

- Pictet-Spengler imine substrates are fairly unreactive; normally strong Brønsted acids, naked Lewis acids or high temperatures are required to promote the reaction.
- All compounds initially tested were unreactive unless at high temps.
- No ee was observed due to the temps required.
- Activate the substrate? --> Acyl-Pictet Spengler

Catalyst Optimization Reaction:



-40

-50

81^a

76^b

93

86

Jacobsen, et al. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2004, 126, 10558-9.

 $CH(CH_2CH_3)_2$

 $CH(CH_2CH_3)_2$

5-OMe

6-OMe



65% yield, 59% ee



45% yield, 61% ee



R = R¹ = R² = Me: 65% yield, 77% ee R = Me, R¹ = R² = Ph: 55% yield, 71% ee R = R¹ = Me, R² = Ph: 70% yield, 93% ee R = *i*-Bu, R¹ = Me, R² = Ph: 70% yield, 93% ee

The Aza-Henry Reaction



Takemoto, et al. Org. Lett. 2004, 6, 625-7.

The Michael Reaction of Malonates to Nitroolefins



Takemoto, et al. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2003, 125, 12672-3.

The Michael Reaction of Malonates to Nitroolefins





		10 mol% Q or Q THF, -20 °C	D EtO ₂ C	CO₂Et
R´		EtO ₂ C CO ₂ (3 equiv)	Et R´	↓ NO ₂
	R	time, h (QD)	% yield (QD)	% ee (QD)
	Ph	36 (36)	97 (99)	96 (93)
	<i>p</i> -FPh	36 (36)	97 (97)	97 (94)
	<i>p-</i> CIPh	36 (36)	97 (97)	97 (94)
	<i>p</i> -BrPh	36 (36)	99 (98)	96 (94)
	<i>p</i> -MePh	36 (44)	97 (97)	98 (94)
	<i>p</i> -(<i>i</i> -Pr)Ph	36 (39)	95 (96)	97 (93)
	<i>p</i> -OMePh	44 (47)	90 (94)	97 (95)
	<i>m</i> -MePh	36 (36)	97 (99)	98 (96)
	<i>o</i> -MePh	36 (36)	95 (97)	98 (96)
	<i>o</i> -FPh	36 (36)	97 (94)	97 (95)
	<i>o</i> -NO₂Ph	69 (72)	90 (88)	97 (92)
	1-naphthyl	36 (36)	99 (99)	98 (92)
	2-thienyl	36 (44)	99 (96)	98 (95)
	2-furyl	36 (36)	97 (95)	98 (96)
	3-pyridinyl	36 (36)	98 (99)	96 (92)
	pentyl	72 (72)	86 (84)	94 (92)
	<i>i</i> -Bu	72 (72)	86 (84)	94 (92)
	cyclohexyl	108 (108)	71 (80)	94 (91)

The Baylis-Hillman Reaction

Achiral reaction experiences a 60-fold increase in rate upon addition of the achiral thiourea catalyst.
NMR experiments indicate that the catalyst interacts with both the enone and the aldehyde.

- Asymmetric catalyst was designed based on idea for one catalyst to bind to both reaction partners at once, allowing for further rate increase by proximity effects.





R	Base	temp, °C	time, h	% yield	% ee
Ph	DMAP	-5	72	88	33
	Imid	RT	120	40	57
<i>o</i> -CF₃Ph	DMAP	-5	72	38	30
<i>m</i> -CF ₃ Ph	DMAP	-5	72	88	19
<i>p</i> -CF₃Ph	DMAP	-5	72	99	33
	Imid	4	120	95	44
-(CH ₂) ₂ Ph	DMAP	-5	72	33	59
hexyl	DMAP	-5	72	63	60
<i>i</i> -Pr	DMAP	-5	72	67	60
cyclopentyl	DMAP	-5	72	55	86
cvclohexvl	DMAP	-5	72	72	90

- Base screen indicated that DMAP provides the best yields and imidazole provided the highest ee.

- Aromatic aldehydes -- low ee, generally higher yields

- Aliphatic aldehydes -- higher ee, generally lower yields



F₃C

ĊF₃

Proposed Transition State



The Diels-Alder Reaction

Key Sources of Inspiration:

- Double H-bonding in urea catalysts (as already discussed)
- Success of BINOL catalysts (already discussed)
- Diels-Alder catalysis acheived by Göbel et. al. (Org. Lett. 2000, 2, 179-81.)
- Solvent-acccelerated hetero-Diels-Alder reactions. (J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2002, 124, 9662-3.)



Solvent	constant	rate
THF-d ₈	7.6	1.0
benzene- <i>d</i> 6	2.3	1.3
ACN-d ₃	37.5	3.0
CDCI ₃	4.8	30
<i>t</i> -butyl alcohol- <i>d</i> ₁₀	10.9	280
<i>i</i> -propyl alcohol- <i>d</i> ₈	18.3	630

Rawal, et al. Proc. Nat. Acad. Sci. 2004, 101, 5846-50. Nature, 2003, 424, 146.



Rawal, et al. Proc. Nat. Acad. Sci. 2004, 101, 5846-50. and Nature, 2003, 424, 146.

Summary

- By utilizing double hydrogen-bonding, chiral organic catalysts can accomplish rotational control and organized transition states.

 Brønsted acids are unique as catalysts because of their ability to readily dissociate from the product, allowing catalyst turnover without any parallel catalyst pathways.

- Because there is no need to coordinate to a metal center, only to the compound itself, the scope of novel catalysts that could be developed is expansive, and catalysts can be more readily optimized for a specific reaction, if the need arises.

- With no metal center, the chiral framework also has the opportunity to be closer to the reacting center than with Lewis acid catalysts.

 A variety of well-known reactions have been cayalyzed asymmetrically using Brønsted acid catalysts that serve as hydrogen-bond donors. They include HCN addition to aldehydes, the Strecker reaction, the Mannich reaction, the Aza-Friedel-Crafts reaction, hydrophosphination of imines, the acyl-Pictet-Spengler reaction, the Aza-Henry reaction, Michael Reaction of malonates to nitroolefins, the Baylis-Hillman reaction and its Morita modification, and hetero- and all-carbon Diels-Alder reactions.

"Hydrogen bonding by a simple chiral alcohol to a carbonyl group can accomplish what has previously been considered to be in the domain of enzymes, catalytic antibodies and chiral metal-based Lewis acids. These studies indicate the broad potential for hydrogen-bond catalysis in asymmetric synthesis." ~ V. H. Rawal

The Direct Aldol Reaction



Wu, et. al. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2003, 125, 5262-3. and Chem. Soc. Rev. 2004, 33, 65-75.