Activation Modes









DMAP

Carbene

Proline-derived



#### Phase Transfer Catalysis (PTC)



Begining with Makosza and Brandstrom, Stark coined the term phase transfer catalysis

Starks, R. M. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1971, 93, 195.

Phase-Transfer Catalysis. I. Heterogeneous Reactions Involving Anion Transfer by Quaternary Ammonium and Phosphonium Salts

Charles M. Starks

Contribution from the Petrochemical Research Division, Continental Oil Company, Ponca City, Oklahoma 74601. Received February 12, 1970

An alternative solution to the heterogeneity problem, *phase-transfer catalysis*, is introduced here. Reaction is brought about by the use of small quantities of an agent which transfers one reactant across the interface into the other phase so that reaction can proceed. The

#### Phase Transfer Catalysis (PTC)



"The phenomenon of rate enhancement of a reaction between chemical species located in different phases by addition of a small quantity of an agent (called the 'phase-transfer catalyst') that extracts one of the reactants, most commonly an anion, across the interface into the other phase so that reaction can proceed..." – IUPAC Gold book

#### In 1984 researchers at Merck published their work towards asymmetric alkylations

#### Efficient Catalytic Asymmetric Alkylations. 1. Enantioselective Synthesis of (+)-Indacrinone via Chiral Phase-Transfer Catalysis

Ulf-H. Dolling,\* Paul Davis, and Edward J. J. Grabowski

Merck Sharp & Dohme Research Laboratories Merck & Co., Inc., Rahway, New Jersey 07065

Received September 26, 1983

We wish to report the first efficient, catalytic, enantioselective alkylation in the asymmetric synthesis of the new uricosuric (+)-indacrinone (5) (MK-0197)<sup>4</sup> via chiral phase-transfer catalysis. Methylation of 0.61 g of 6,7-dichloro-5-methoxy-2phenyl-1-indanone (1)<sup>4a</sup> with 0.7 g of CH<sub>3</sub>Cl in toluene/50% aqueous NaOH (25 mL/5mL) using 0.11 g of *N*-(*p*-(trifluoromethyl)benzyl)cinchoninium bromide as phase-transfer catalyst at 20 °C for 18 h produced (*S*)-(+)-6,7-dichloro-5-methoxy-2methyl-2-phenyl-1-indanone (2) in up to 92% ee in 95% yield.<sup>3</sup> Subsequent O-demethylation (AlCl<sub>3</sub>, toluene, 45 °C), giving 3, followed by O-alkylation with ethyl chloroacetate (K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, NaI, toluene, reflux), giving 4, hydrolysis (toluene, NaOH, reflux), acidification (HCl), and crystallization (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) afforded the S-(+)-enantiomer<sup>40</sup> of 5 in 63% isolated yield (overall from 1), identical in all respects with resolved material<sup>4x,d</sup> (Scheme I).

■ In 1984 researchers at Merck published their work towards asymmetric alkylations



Dolling, U.-H.; Davis, P.; Grabowski, E. J. J. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1984, 106, 446.

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The catalyst controls the orientation of the enolate alkylation

Lygo, B.; Andrews, B. I. Acc. Chem. Res. 2004, 37, 518.

Ph. Ot-Bu Ph

**Glycine Imine Ester** 

Organic

Aqueous



The catalyst controls the orientation of the enolate alkylation



**Glycine Imine Ester** 



The catalyst controls the orientation of the enolate alkylation



The catalyst controls the orientation of the enolate alkylation



#### The catalyst controls the orientation of the enolate alkylation



#### Switching Enantioselectivity Using Pseudoenantiomers

Catalyst diastereomers give rise to the opposite product configuration



Catalysts have been benchmarked using the benzylation of glycine imine:



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Shirakawa, S.; Marouka, K. Catalytic Asymmetric Synthesis. Hoboken: Wiley, 2010.

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#### The PTC Activation Mode Beyond Alkylation Reactions

PTC activation of carbonyls has enabled the development of many different asymmetric reactions



Recent review: Ooi, T.; Maruoka, K. Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2007, 46, 4222.

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PTC activation of carbonyls has enabled the development of many different asymmetric reactions

HN SO<sub>2</sub>Mes









70%, 81% ee Darzens epoxidation *Tetrahedron* **2002**, *58*, 1407.



94%, 84% ee β-ketoester fluorination *J. Org. Chem.* **2003**, *68*, 2494.



99%, 92% ee β-ketoester amination *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2008**, *47*, 9466.



79%, 84% ee aziridation *Synthesis* **2005**, 2022.

Recent review: Hashimoto, T.; Maruoka, K. Chem. Rev. 2007, 107, 5656.

#### Phase Transfer Catalysis

Since the original reports the area continues to be a strong sector of organocatalysis research

■ ISI web of knowledge references containing the key phrase "phase transfer catalysis" total 3698



Carbenes were long suspected as catalytic intermediates

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Breslow, R. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1958, 14, 3719.



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For many years a carbene catalyst for the enantioselective benzoin condensation was elusive



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The newly proposed intermediate exhibits umpolung reactivity







Breslow-type

Intermediate

⊖ ⊖ Ph

acyl anion synthon

electrophilic

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The newly proposed intermediate exhibits umpolung reactivity



■ Isolated in 1991 by Arduengo while working at DuPont



Arduengo III, A. J.; Harlow, R. L.; Kline, M. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1991, 113, 361.

In 1995 Enders and Teles develop stable triazole-based carbenes



Preparation, Structure, and Reactivity of 1,3,4-Triphenyl-4,5-dihydro-1*H*-1,2,4-triazol-5-ylidene, a New Stable Carbene\*\*

Dieter Enders,\* Klaus Breuer, Gerhard Raabe, Jan Runsink, J. Henrique Teles,\* Johann-Peter Melder, Klaus Ebel, and Stefan Brode

Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 1995, 34, 1021.

#### Asymmetric Carbene Catalysts



The genesis of a new platform for asymmetric catalysis



#### ■ 2002 Chiral triazole are made and are efficient and selective for the benzoin condensation

Sheehan, J.; Hunneman, D. H. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1966, *88*, 3666.
Knight, R. L.; Leeper, F. J. *Tetrahedron Lett.* 1997, *38*, 3611.
Enders, D.; Kallfass, U. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* 2002, *41*, 1743.

#### Carbenes: Generic Activation Platform

It was soon realized that carbenes activate carbonyls for a number of useful reactions



#### Recent Advance in Carbene Catalysis

After the initial disclosures in the 1990's the Stetter reaction has been championed by Rovis



Kerr, M. S.; Read de Alaniz, J.; Rovis, T. J. Am Chem. Soc. 2002, 124, 10298.



Published on Web 08/10/2002

#### A Highly Enantioselective Catalytic Intramolecular Stetter Reaction

Mark S. Kerr, Javier Read de Alaniz, and Tomislav Rovis\*

Department of Chemistry, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado 80523

Received June 21, 2002

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The Rovis catalyst design has been have been proven to be excellent for many more reactions


Beyond the Stetter and Bezoin Reactions



He, M.; Struble, J. R.; Bode, J. W. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2006, 128, 8418.

Beyond the Stetter and Bezoin Reactions



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### Substrate Activation Towards New Reactivity

 $\blacksquare$   $\alpha$ -chloroaldehydes provide access to alternate manifolds for e.g. esterification



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J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1981, 103, 417-430

Addition of Aromatic Thiols to Conjugated Cycloalkenones, Catalyzed by Chiral  $\beta$ -Hydroxy Amines. A Mechanistic Study on Homogeneous Catalytic Asymmetric Synthesis<sup>1</sup>

#### Henk Hiemstra and Hans Wynberg\*

Contribution from the Laboratory of Organic Chemistry, The University of Groningen, Nijenborgh 16, 9747 AG Groningen, The Netherlands. Received February 25, 1980



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### Early examples using cinchonia alkaloidsas H-bonding catalysts



# Early Examples of Hydrogen Bonding Catalysis



A small dipeptide was designed by Inoue to mimic oxynitrilase

Tanaka, K.; Mori, A.; Inoue, S. J. Org. Chem. 1990, 55, 181. Grogan, M. J.; Corey, E. J. Org. Lett. 1999, 1, 157.

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Asymmetric Strecker reaction using Corey's guanidine H-bonding catalyst



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Parallel synthetic ligand libraries were evaluated with various metals

Schiff Base Catalysts for the Asymmetric Strecker Reaction Identified and Optimized from Parallel Synthetic Libraries

Matthew S. Sigman and Eric N. Jacobsen\*

Department of Chemistry and Chemical Biology Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138

Received January 13, 1998



Parallel synthetic ligand libraries were evaluated with various metals

Modifed Schiff bases were prepared in a combinatorial fashion on a solid support





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The structure was quickly optimized to provide an efficient Strecker catalyst



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Sigman, M. S.; Jacobsen, E. N. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1998, 120, 4901.

## How Do These New Catalysts Function?



Knock-out studies show that the urea functional group is essential

Hydrogen bonding established as the activation mode

### How Do These New Catalysts Function?



Urea Stereochemical Model





### Urea Stereochemical Model



With a better understanding of how these catalysts work new reaction methods can be developed



#### Enantioselective Mannich Reaction



Wenzel, A. G.; Jacobsen, E. N. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2002, 124, 12964.

#### Enantioselective Mannich Reaction



Wenzel, A. G.; Jacobsen, E. N. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2002, 124, 12964.

### Enantioselective Acyl Pictet–Spengler Reaction





Taylor, M. S.; Jacobsen, E. N. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2004, 126, 10558.

### Enantioselective Aza-Henry Reaction



Yoon, T.; Jacobsen, E. N. Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. 2005, 124, 466.

### Enantioselective Aza-Henry Reaction





Yoon, T.; Jacobsen, E. N. Angew. Chem., Int. Ed. 2005, 124, 466.

#### Enantioselective Hydrophosphorylation





Joly, G. D.; Jacobsen, E. N. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2004, 126, 4102.

### Bifunctional Urea Catalysts

#### Enantioselective Michael Addition



Both thiourea and tertiary amine are needed



Okino, T.; Hoashi, Y.; Takemoto, Y. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2003, 128, 12672.

## Bifunctional Urea Catalysts

#### Enantioselective Michael Addition



Okino, T.; Hoashi, Y.; Takemoto, Y. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2003, 128, 12672.

### Urea Catalyzed Double Michael Cascade

#### Enantioselective Double Michael Addition





Hoashi, Y.; Yabuta, T.; Takemoto, Y. Tettrahdron Lett. 2003, 45, 9185.

# Rawal's Discovery of H-Bonding Catalyzed Diels–Alder



Observed that the hetero Diels-Alder reaction is accelerated in alcohol solvent

## Rawal's Discovery of H-Bonding Catalyzed Diels–Alder



Observed that the hetero Diels–Alder reaction is accelerated in alcohol solvent
This observation was turned into an asymmetric reaction using a chiral H-donor catalyst



Huang, Y.; Unni, A. K.; Thadani, A. N.; Rawal, V. H. Nature 2003, 424, 146.

# Mechanism of Rawal's H-Bonding Diels–Alder Reaction



■ Is single or double point activation in operation?

Single or Double-point activation

## Mechanism of Rawal's H-Bonding Diels-Alder Reaction



Is single or double point activation in operation?

Unni, A. K.; Takenaka, N.; Yamamoto, H.; Rawal, V. H. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2005, 127, 1336.

Chiral Phosphoric Acids



Akiyama, T.; Itoh, K.; Yokota, K.; Fuchibe, K. *Angew Chem. Int. Ed.* **2004**, *43*, 1566. Uraguchi, D.; Terada, M. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2004**, *126*, 5356.

# Chiral Phosphoric Acids



Long used for chiral resolutions

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# Chiral Phosphoric Acids



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- 2004 Terada and Akiyama use as Brønsted acid catalyst



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# Chiral Phosphoric Acids



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- Used as a ligand for Lewis acid catalysis
- 2004 Terada and Akiyama use as Brønsted acid catalyst
- Size of R group very important for enantioselectivity



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# New Reactivity – Imine Amination



Rowlan, G. B.; Zang, H.; Rowland, E. B.; Chennamadhavuni, S.; Wang, Y.; Antilla, J. C. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2005, 127, 15696.

## New Reactivity – Imine Amination





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#### Consideration of priviledged architecture and stereogenicity



Perhaps the most important stereogenicity for biomedical applications



There are vast technologies for the construction of amine stereogenicity

■ Favourite: Ellman imine, most general–dogma breaking



There are vast technologies for the construction of amine stereogenicity

Favourite: Ellman imine, most general–dogma breaking



■ Reductive Amination: Simultaneous fragment coupling and C–N bond formation



# Organic Catalyzed Reductions in Biological Systems NADH: Natures Reduction (Hydrogenation) Reagent (Coenzyme)

alanine transferase .CONH<sub>2</sub> NH<sub>2</sub> OH  $NH_3$ OH Me enzyme catalyst methyl NADH alanine pyruvate  $H_2N_2$ His NΗ active site Hľ Arg NADH reduction NHR

#### Selective reduction of pyruvate imines to create amino acids

Could this organocatalytic sequence be utilized in the redution of carbon-carbon double bonds

## Organic Catalyzed Reductions in Laboratory Systems

Hantzsch ester as a useful surrogate for NADH reductions in the lab





#### Can we translate a biochemical concept to a laboratory reaction

Can we develop a useful transformation on the basis of established Bronsted acid catalysts

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Hantzsch ester as a useful surrogate for NADH reductions in the lab



#### Can we translate a biochemical concept to a laboratory reaction

Can we develop a useful transformation on the basis of established Bronsted acid catalysts

Organocatalysis and the advent of Bronsted Acid/H-bonded catalysis



Organocatalysis and the advent of Bronsted Acid/H-bonded catalysis



Pioneers



Organocatalysis and the advent of Bronsted Acid/H-bonded catalysis



Pioneers











The impact of additives and temperature on the reductive amination



#### What is the impact of the water biproduct

additive	Time	Yield	%ee
	28 h	90	85
H <sub>2</sub> O (1eq)	72 h	35	77
H <sub>2</sub> O (2eq)	72 h	<10	72
MgSO <sub>4</sub>	20 h	79	83
Na <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	36 h	83	85

What is the scope of this transformation with respect to ketones?

The impact of additives and temperature on the reductive amination



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5A mol sieves	6 h	85	90 🗖

Temp	Time	Yield	%ee
80°	6 h	85	90
60°	22 h	90	93
40°	36 h	86	95

What is the scope of this transformation with respect to ketones?

The scope of the reductive amination with respect to aryl ketones



Are there other systems that are successful in this transformation?



Scope of the ketone-ketimine component



97% ee

82% yield



Scope of the ketone-ketimine component



97% ee

82% yield



<mark>79% ee</mark> 27% yield



MM3-Calculations Provide Good Prediction of Asymmetric Environment



MM3-structure

## MM3-Calculations Provide Good Prediction of Asymmetric Environment





**X-ray structure** Crystal grown in toluene at –20 °C in glove box













The scope of the reductive amination: alkyl ketones



TPS

Scope of the alkyl ketone component





This reductive amination process appears to be general for methyl ketones



With Storer, Carrera, Ni. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2006, 128, 84

Activation Modes Are Enabled by Priviledged Catalyst Achitectures

Catalysis Platform / Concept

MacMillan, D. W. C. Nature 2008, 455, 304.

Activation Modes Are Enabled by Priviledged Catalyst Achitectures

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