Catalytic Asymmetric Epoxidation via Chiral Oxaziridines Dioxiranes and Sulfonium Ylides

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<u>1967 Henbest reports first asymmetric epoxidation:</u>



1984 Curci provides the first catalytic dioxirane-promoted epoxidation:



Ewins, R. C.; Henbest, H.B.; McKarvey, M.A. J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun. **1967**, 1085. Curci et. al., J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun., **1984**,155.

<u>1996 Shi provides the first general enantioseletive dioxirane epoxidation of *trans*-olefins:</u>



Ketone decomposed under reaction conditions

Reactions were stopped before complete conversion to limit ee reduction

Yang et. al., J. Amer. Chem. Soc., 1996, 491.

pH study allows catalytic asymmetric epoxidation:



Plot of the conversion of *trans*-methylstyrene against pH using ketone (0.2 eq.) as catalyst in two solvent systems, H_2O-CH_3CN (1:1.5 v/v) (A) and $H_2O-CH_3CN-DMM$ (2:1:2 v/v) (B)

Wang, Z.; Tu, Y.; Frohn, M.; Shi, Y. *J. Org. Chem.*, **1997**, 2328. Wang, Z.; Tu, Y.; Frohn, M.; Zhang, J.; Shi, Y. *J. Amer. Chem. Soc.*, **1997**, 11224.

Shi Epoxidation catalytic cycle:



Wang, Z.; Tu, Y.; Frohn, M.; Shi, Y. J. Org. Chem., **1997**, 2328.

Wang, Z.; Tu, Y.; Frohn, M.; Zhang, J.; Shi, Y. J. Amer. Chem. Soc., 1997, 11224.





Discovery leads to design of C2-symmetric catalyst:



Yang et. al., J. Amer. Chem. Soc., 1996, 491.

¹⁸<u>O labelling provides evidence for dioxirane intermediate</u>:



23% experimentally obtained

Yang et. al., J. Amer. Chem. Soc., 1998, 5949.

Possible Dioxirane Geometries:



Spiro calculated by Houk to be lower in energy

Cis-olefins epoxidize 7-9 times faster; only the spiro geometery explains this observation

Molecular Orbital Considerations:





No overlap in planar geometery

olefin π -orbitals attack oxygen σ^* -orbital

oxygen lone-pair attacks olefin π^* -orbital

Comprehensive Asymmetric Catalysis, Vol II. Jacobsen, E. N.; Pfaltz, A.; Yamamoto, H. Eds; Springer: Berlin 1999

Stereochemical Considerations:



Design of asymmetric catalyst must be able to differentiate between possible dioxirane orientations



Two possible orientations when R₁=R₂

Distant stereocenter less affective with small or long-chain aliphatic R groups

Yang et. al., J. Amer. Chem. Soc., 1998, 5943.

Shi's non-C₂-symmetric catalyst proved more effective for other functionalities:

Attack underneath prevented by acetal; olefin approach directed by anomeric acetal Quaternary center α to carbonyl minimizes epimerization of stereogenic centers Stereogenicity in close proximity to reacting centers enhances stereocontrol Effective for *trans* or tri-substituted olefins, but not *cis* or terminal olefins



Wang, Z.; Tu, Y.; Frohn, M.; Zhang, J. Shi, Y. J. Amer. Chem. Soc., 1997, 11224.

2002 Shi reports catalyst for enantioselective epoxidation of terminal and *cis*-olefins:



2004 Shi reports catalyst for enantioselective epoxidation of styrenes:



Tian, H.; She, X.; Yu, H.; Shu, L.; Shi, Y. *J. Org. Chem.* **2002**, 2435. Hickey, M.; Goeddel, D.; Crane, Z.; Shi, Y. *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci.* **2004**, xxx.

Electronic Considerations:



Hickey, M.; Goeddel, D.; Crane, Z.; Shi, Y. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. 2004, xxx.

Electronic Considerations:





Nonbonding orbital of dioxirane oxygen raised Secondary overlap increased Spiro even more favored over planar

Hickey, M.; Goeddel, D.; Crane, Z.; Shi, Y. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. 2004, xxx.

Electronic Considerations:





Spiro L

Planar M Favored Electronically





Spiro N Favored Electronically



Planar O

Hickey, M.; Goeddel, D.; Crane, Z.; Shi, Y. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. 2004, xxx.



1983 Davis demonstrates enantioselective epoxidation using chiral oxaziridines:







Davis et. al., J. Amer, Chem. Soc., 1983, 3123. Davis et. al., Tet. Lett., 1986, 5079.



1988 Lusinchi finds oxaziridinium salts to be efficient oxygen transfer agents:



Hanquet, G.; Lusinchi, X.; Milliet, P. *Tet. Lett.* **1988**, 3941. Hanquet, G.; Lusinchi, X.; Milliet, P. *Tetrahedron* **1993**, 423. Aggarwal, et. al. *Chem. Commun.* **1996**, 191.

Recent reports show minor improvements in enantioselectivity:



Page, et. al. *J. Org. Chem.* **1998**, 2774. Wong, M. et. al. *Org. Lett.* **2001**, 2587. Page, P. C. B. et. al. *Org. Lett.* **2004**, 1543.



Stereochemical Considerations:

Two diastereomeric oxaziridines may be formed

Each oxaziridine may lead to the same product enantiomer, but will have different selectivities

Page, et. al. J. Org. Chem. 2001, 6926.

Stereochemical Considerations:



Spiro calculated by Houk to be lower in energy by 4.1 kcal/mol



Early transition state predicted, allowing flexibility unlike dioxiranes

Washington, I.; Houk, K. N. J. Amer. Chem. Soc. 2000, 2948.

1965 Corey demonstrates epoxidation of aldehydes and ketones with sulfur ylides:



1989 Furukawa achieves enantioselectivity and some turnover via sulfide alkylation/deprotonation:



31% ee

1996 Dai improves enantioselectivity and turnover for this system:



Corey, E. et. al. *J. Amer. Chem. Soc.* **1965**, 1356. Furukawa, N. et. al. *J. Org. Chem.* **1989**, 4222. Dai, L. et. al. *J. Org. Chem.* **1996**, 489.

2001 Metzner's C₂ symmetric catalyst achieves best results to date:



Reactions limited to aromatic aldehydes and benzyl bromides





2004 Goodman achieves methylene transfer stoichiometrically:



Bellenie, B.; Goodman, J. Chem Commun. 2004, 1076.

1994 Aggarwal uses diazo compounds to generate sulfur ylide catalyst in situ:



Aggarwal, V. et. al. J. Amer. Chem. Soc. 1994, 5973.

Ο Rh₂(OAc)₄ н + R٠ 11 N₂CHPh R ш 20 mol% 64-73% Yield 92-93% ee >96% de (trans) Rh₂(OAc)₄ + N₂CHPh Ph Ph 20 mol% 73% Yield 89% ee >96% de (trans) Ο Rh₂(OAc)₄ н + N₂CHPh 20 mol% 32% Yield 90% ee 40% de (trans)

1996 Aggarwal achieves good diastereoselectivity and enantioselectivity:

Aggarwal, V. et. al. J. Amer. Chem. Soc. 1996, 7004.

Stereochemical Considerations:

Diastereoselectivity:



anti betaine: small barreir of rotation. $k_2 > k_{-1}$

syn betaine: large barrier of rotation. $k_5 < k_{-4}$

Aliphatics have lower k₅, making *syn* betaine more pronounced

Aggarwal, V. et. al. Acc. Chem. Res. 2004, ASAP.

Stereochemical Considerations:

Enantioselectivity:

Sulfur lone pair and filled orbital on ylide carbon calculated to be orthogonal Ylide formation could give mixture of only two diastereomers





Favored

Disfavored



Favored



Disfavored

Comprehensive Asymmetric Catalysis, Vol II. Jacobsen, E. N.; Pfaltz, A.; Yamamoto, H. Eds; Springer: Berlin 1999

Stereochemical Considerations:

Enantioselectivity:

Facial selectivity determined by catalyst



Comprehensive Asymmetric Catalysis, Vol II. Jacobsen, E. N.; Pfaltz, A.; Yamamoto, H. Eds; Springer: Berlin 1999

Concerted pathway or anti-addition?

Kawashima reports oxirane formation with retention of configuration



Koskinen calculates anti-addition to be lower in energy by atleast 10 kcal/mol



Kawashima, T. et. al. *J. Amer. Chem. Soc.* **1996**, 12455. Lindvall, M.; Koskinen, A. *J. Org. Chem.* **1999**, 4596.

Conclusions:

	Ph OPh	Ph		Ph Ph Ph	Pr	
Jacobsen ^c	80% yield 90% ee ^a	36% yield 86% ee	88% yield 86% ee	97% yield 92% ee		
Shi ^d	75% yield 97% ee	87% yield 91% ee	63% yield 90% ee	54% yield 97% ee	60% yield 78% ee	85% yield 93% ee
Yang ^d	99% yield 47% ee			82% yield 81% ee		
Page ^e	78% yield 73% ee			43% yield 54% ee		
Metzner ^f	97% yield 93% ee ^b					
Goodman ^f	61% yield 48% ee					
Aggarwal ^f	87% yield 94% ee					

^a >92% de ^c metal Salen ^e oxaziridine

^b 88% de ^d dioxirane ^f sulfur ylide

Conclusions:

Improvements in yield and enantioselectivity are needed for the following substrates:

Aliphatic epoxides

Terminal epoxides

Styrenes

Cis-epoxides

Tetra-substituted epoxides