

**STEREO GROUP MEETING: 11/25/2013**

## **Angewante Communications**

**Enantioselective Sulfonation of Enones with Sulfonyl  
Imines by Cooperative N-Heterocyclic-Carbene/ Thiourea/  
Tertiary-Amine Multicatalysis**

**Zhichao Jin, Jianfeng Xu, Song Yang,\* Bao-An Song, and Yonggui Robin Chi\***

*Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2013**, 52, 12354 –12358

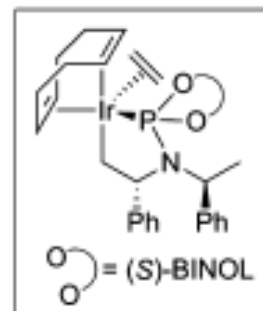
**REPORTER: Yajun REN**

➤ It is the first organocatalytic enantioselective sulfonation of  $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated ketones

## Why I choose this paper?

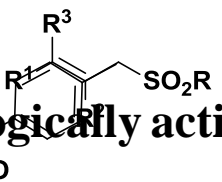
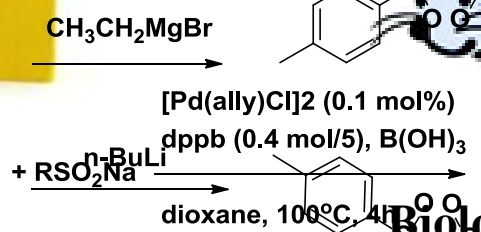
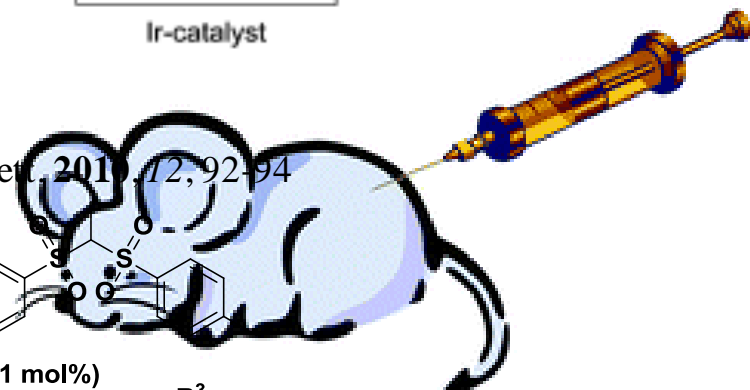
➤ Two organic catalysts containing three catalytic moieties  
an NHC, a thiourea and a tertiary amine operate in an cooperative manner

# CONTEXT



**suicides**

Mitsuhiro Ueda and John F. Hartwig, *Org. Lett.* **2010**, *12*, 92-94



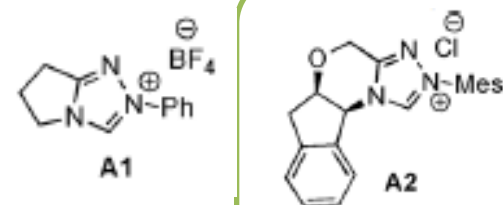
Wu, Y. Chen, M.-B. Li, M.-G. Zhou, S.-K. Tian, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2012**, *134*, 14694  
 H. Fukuda, F. J. Frank, W. E. Truce; *J. Org. Chem.* **1963**, *28*, 1420

**Table 1:** Optimization of the reaction conditions.<sup>[a]</sup>

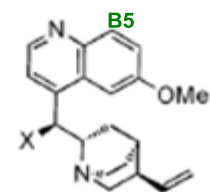
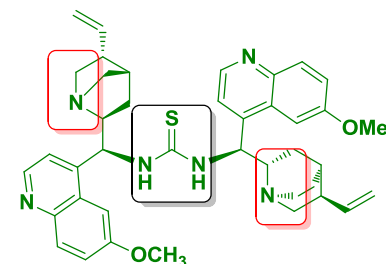


Entry	Conditions	Yield [%] <sup>[b]</sup>	e.r. <sup>[d]</sup>
1	<i>p</i> -TolSO <sub>2</sub> Na (no 1 a), various conditions	0	–
2	A1, DABCO	14	–
3	only A1 or DABCO	0	–
4	A2, DABCO	66	50:50
5	A1, B1	18	55:45
6	A2, B1	45	52:48
7	A2, quinine ( <i>9-epi</i> -B2)	36	42:58
8	A2, B3	38	70:30
9	A2, B4	79	73:27
10	A2, B5 (40 mol%)	68	88:12
11	A2, B5 (10 mol%), 0 °C, 72 h <sup>[d]</sup>	67	96:4
12	<i>ent</i> -A2, <sup>[e]</sup> B5 (10 mol%), 0 °C, 72 h <sup>[d]</sup>	65	95:5
13	achiral A1, B5 (40 mol%), RT, 12 h	ca. 5	57:43

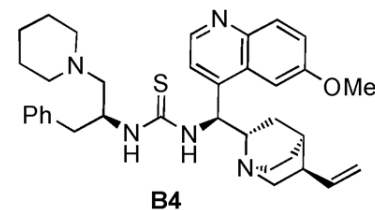
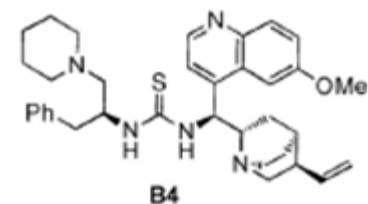
**NHC Precucor :**



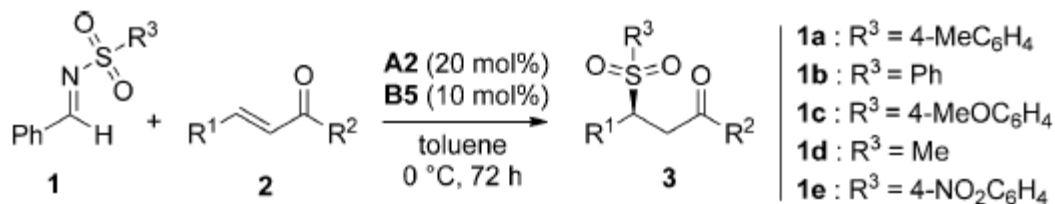
**Cocatalyst:**



X = NH<sub>2</sub>, B1  
X = OH, B2

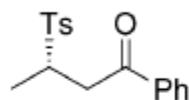
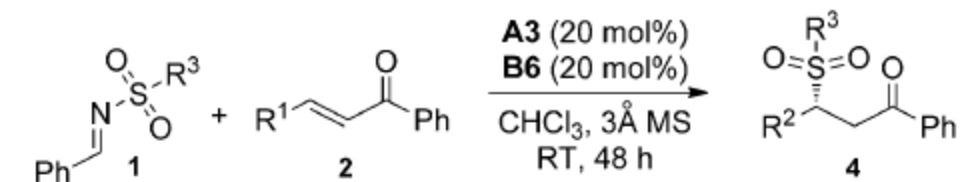


**Table 2:** Examples of the sulfonation reaction.<sup>[a]</sup>

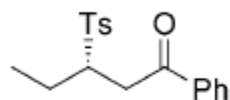


Entry	1	R <sup>1</sup>	R <sup>2</sup>	3	Yield [%]	e.r.
1 <sup>[b]</sup>	1a	Ph	Ph	3a	69	96:4
2 <sup>[c]</sup>	1a	4-MeOC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	Ph	3b	60	90:10
3	1a	3-NO <sub>2</sub> C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	Ph	3c	76	89:11
4	1a	4-ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	Ph	3d	49	95:5
5	1a	4-MeC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	Ph	3e	54	94:6
6	1a	4-NO <sub>2</sub> C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	Ph	3f	84	> 99:1
7	1a	Ph	4-MeOC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	3g	64	97:3
8	1a	Ph	4-ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	3h	79	97:3
9 <sup>[b]</sup>	1a	Ph	4-BrC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	3i	77	> 99:1
10	1a	Ph	2-naphthyl	3j	57	91:9
11	1a	4-ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	4-ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	3k	52	99:1
12	1a	Ph	2-furyl	3l	63	95:5
13	1b	Ph	Ph	3m	52	96:4
14	1c	Ph	Ph	3n	67	92:8
15	1d	Ph	Ph	3o	44	73:27
16 <sup>[c]</sup>	1e	Ph	Ph	3p	13	93:7
17	1a	COOEt	Ph	3q	50	50:50
18 <sup>[c]</sup>	1a	Ph	Me	3r	30	77:23
19	1a	nBu	Me	3s	58	60:40
20	1a	Me	Ph	4a	86	50:50

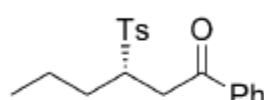
## Scheme 1 Examples of the sulfonation of aliphatic enones



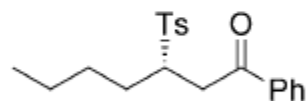
66% yield, e.r. 83:17  
(86% yield, e.r. 50:50)<sup>[a]</sup>



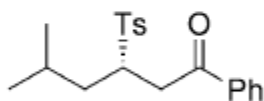
63% yield  
e.r. 85:15



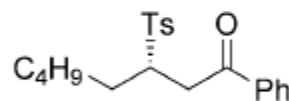
70% yield, e.r. 86:14  
(82% yield, e.r. 33:67)<sup>[a]</sup>



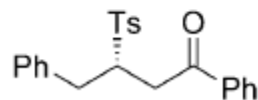
70% yield  
e.r. 83:17



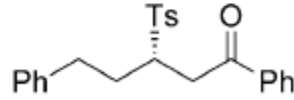
62% yield  
e.r. 81:19



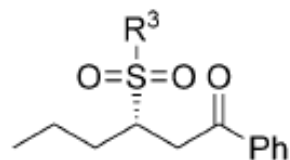
69% yield  
e.r. 85:15



86% yield, e.r. 78:22  
(76% yield, e.r. 20:80)<sup>[a]</sup>



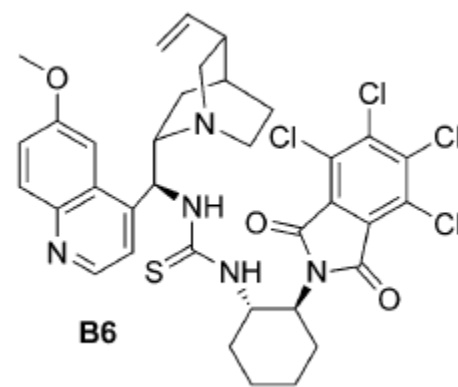
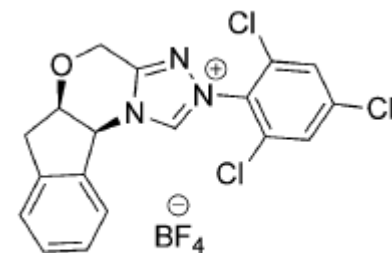
60% yield, e.r. 84:16  
(67% yield, e.r. 31:69)<sup>[a]</sup>



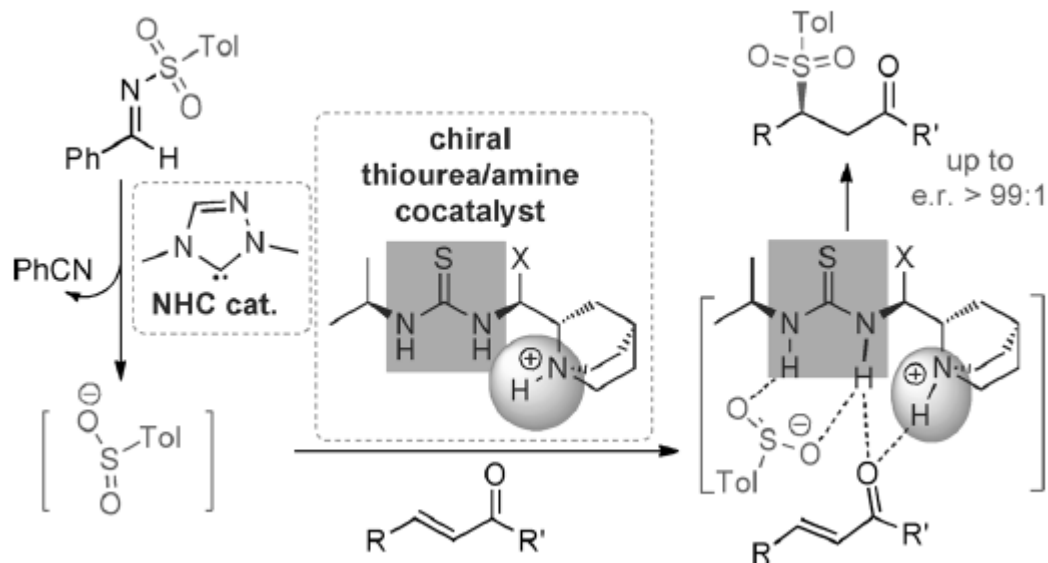
4i:  $\text{R}^3 = 4\text{-CH}_3\text{OC}_6\text{H}_4$ , 86% yield, e.r. 83:17

4j:  $\text{R}^3 = \text{C}_6\text{H}_5$ , 87% yield, e.r. 82:18

4k:  $\text{R}^3 = \text{CH}_3$ , 79% yield, e.r. 85:15<sup>[b]</sup>

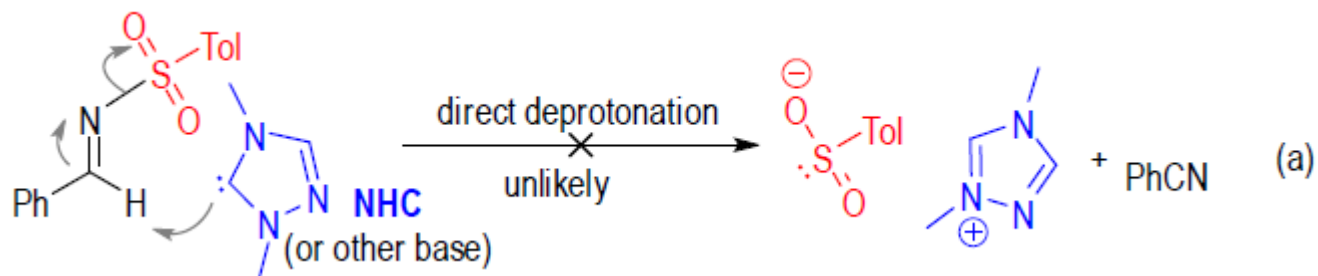


# Mechanism



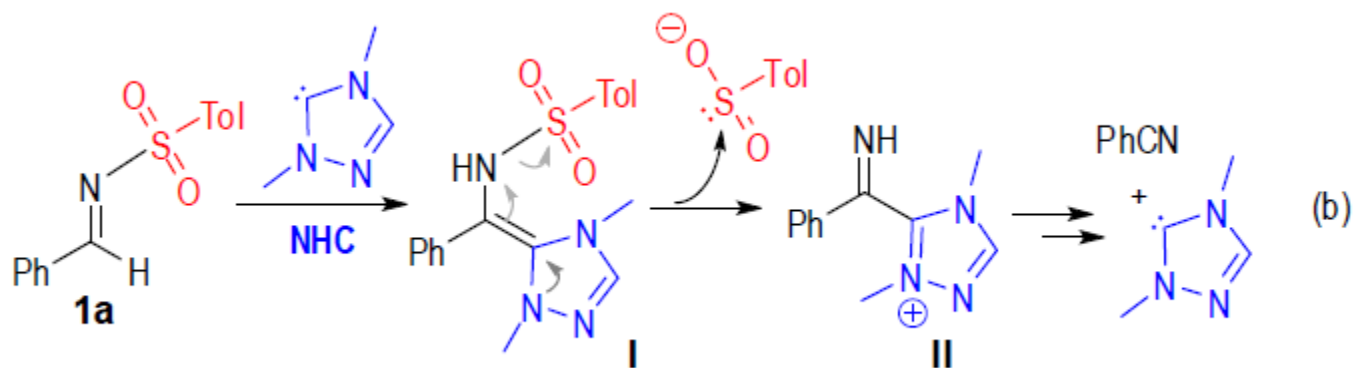
**Scheme 2:** Enantioselective catalytic sulfonation of enones. Tol = p-tolyl

➤ the sulfonic anion is probably released from the imine substrate before its addition to the enone



➤ in the absence of an NHC, none of the product 3a was obtained when a variety of bases were used

➤ the acidity of the imine hydrogen atom is much weaker than that of the hydrogen atom on the triazolium ring of the NHC precatalyst as evidenced by H/D-exchange experiments in the presence of D<sub>2</sub>O (see supporting info.)





# Conclusion

- developed the first organocatalytic enantioselective synthesis of  $\beta$ -sulfonyl ketones
- The sulfinic anion was generated from sulfonyl imines under NHC catalysis
- The enantioselectivity of the transformations was controlled by the use of noncovalent thiourea/tertiary-aminecatalysts

THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND  
ATTENTION!