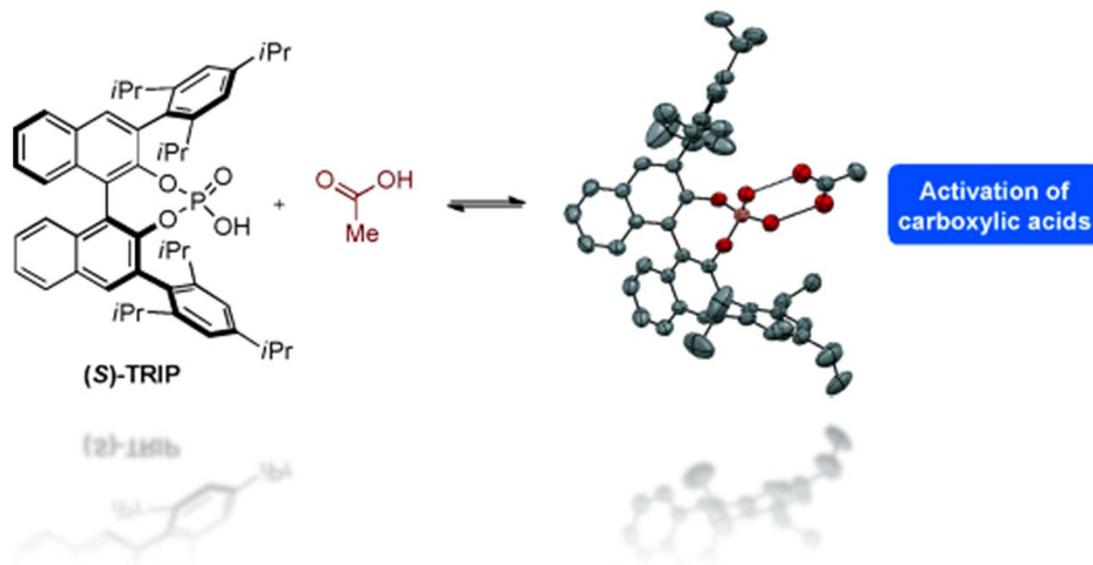


Activation of Carboxylic Acids in Asymmetric Organocatalysis



Mattia Riccardo Monaco, Beln Poladura, Miriam Diaz de Los Bernardos, Markus Leutzsch, Richard Goddard, and Benjamin List*
Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. **2014**, *53*, 7063–7067

1. Hydrogen Bonding

G. N. Lewis

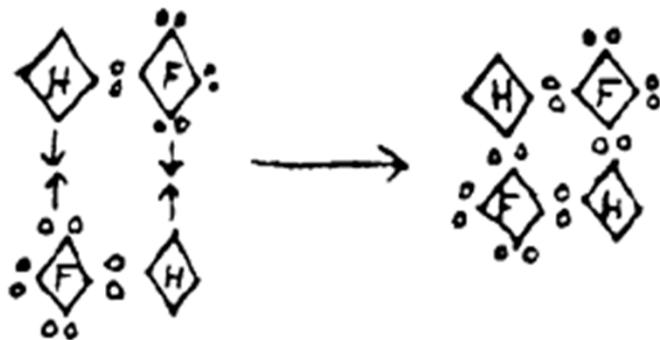
It seems to me that the most important addition to my theory of valence lies in the suggestion of what has become known as the **hydrogen bond**

1920



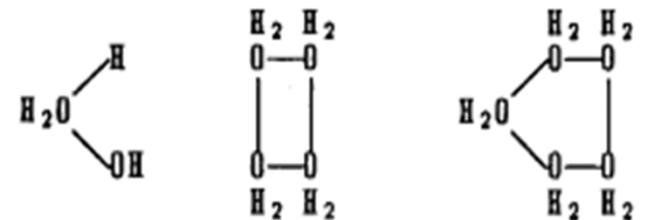
1923

Wendell Latimer, Worth Rodebush and Maurice Huggins



The hydrogen nucleus held between two octets constitutes a weak 'bond'

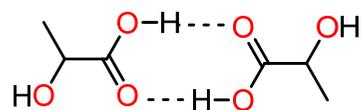
Henry Edward Armstrong



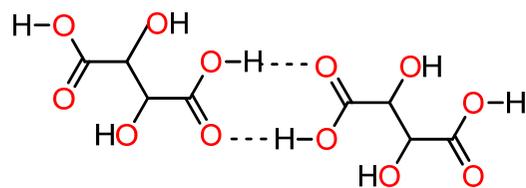
hydranol tetrahydrone pentahydrone

The association is assumed to be by way of O-O bond

1. Hydrogen Bonding

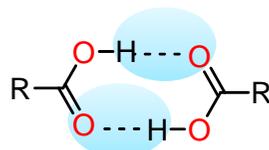


lactic acid

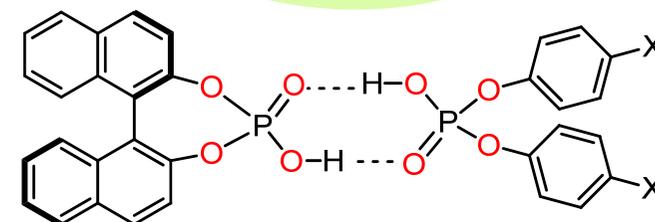
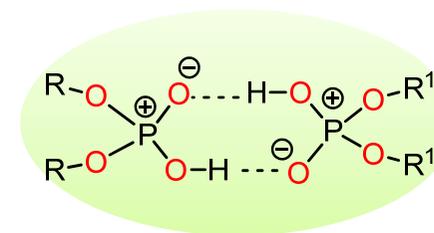


tartaric acid

Hydrogen-bond acceptor

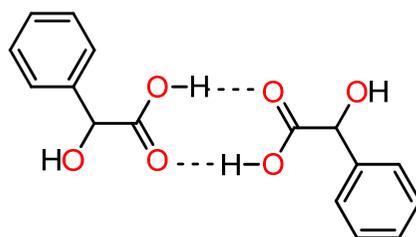


Hydrogen-bond donor

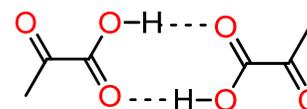


X = H, CH₃, Cl, NO₂

phosphoric acid diesters

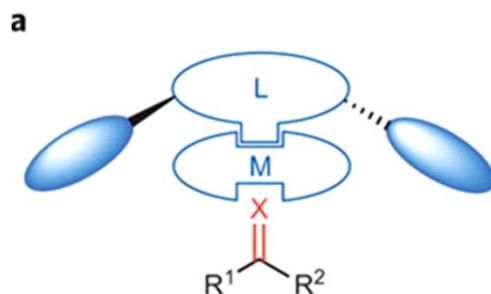


mandelic acid



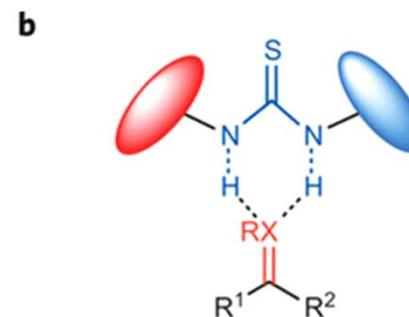
pyruvic acid

1. Asymmetric activation modes of a carbonyl group or imine



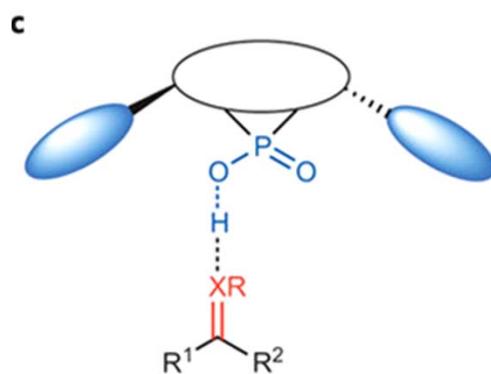
Coordinative interaction

'Lewis acid catalysis'



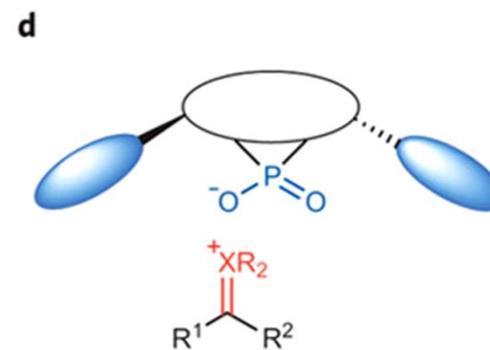
Double hydrogen-bonding interaction

'Hydrogen-bonding catalysis'



Single hydrogen-bonding interaction

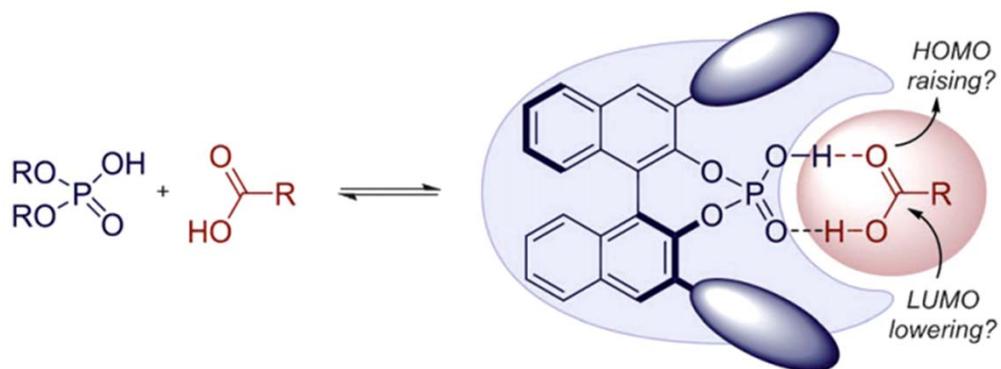
'Brønsted acid catalysis'



Electrostatic interaction only

'Chiral anion catalysis'

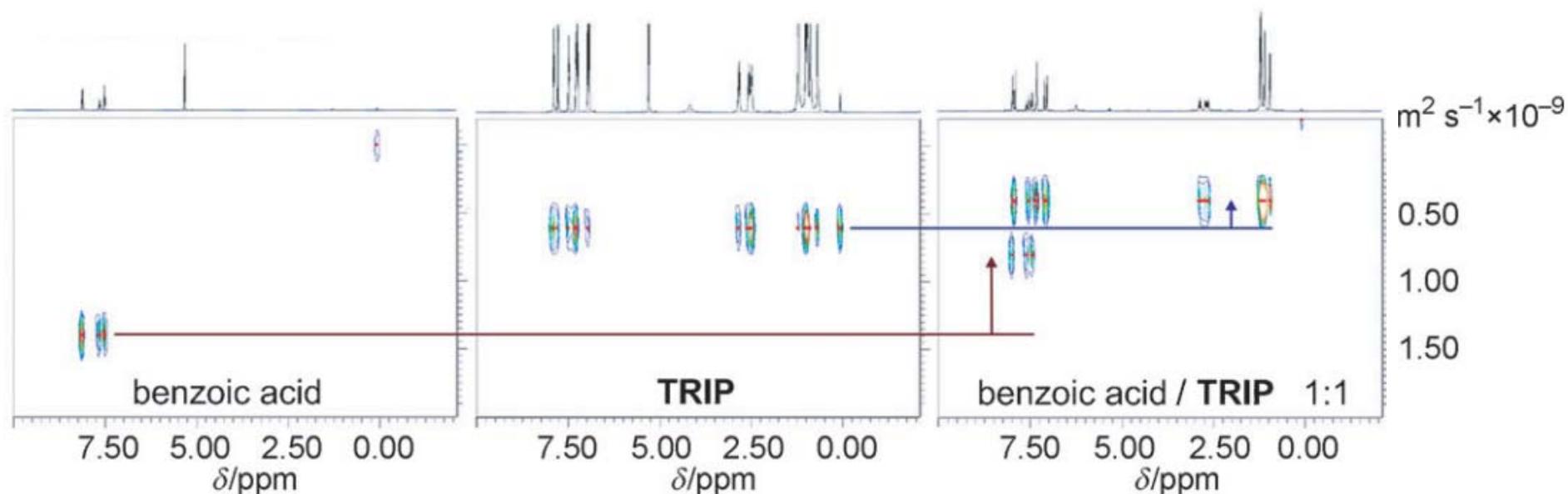
2. Activation of carboxylic acids by heterodimerization with phosphoric acids



partial deprotonation of the RCO_2H

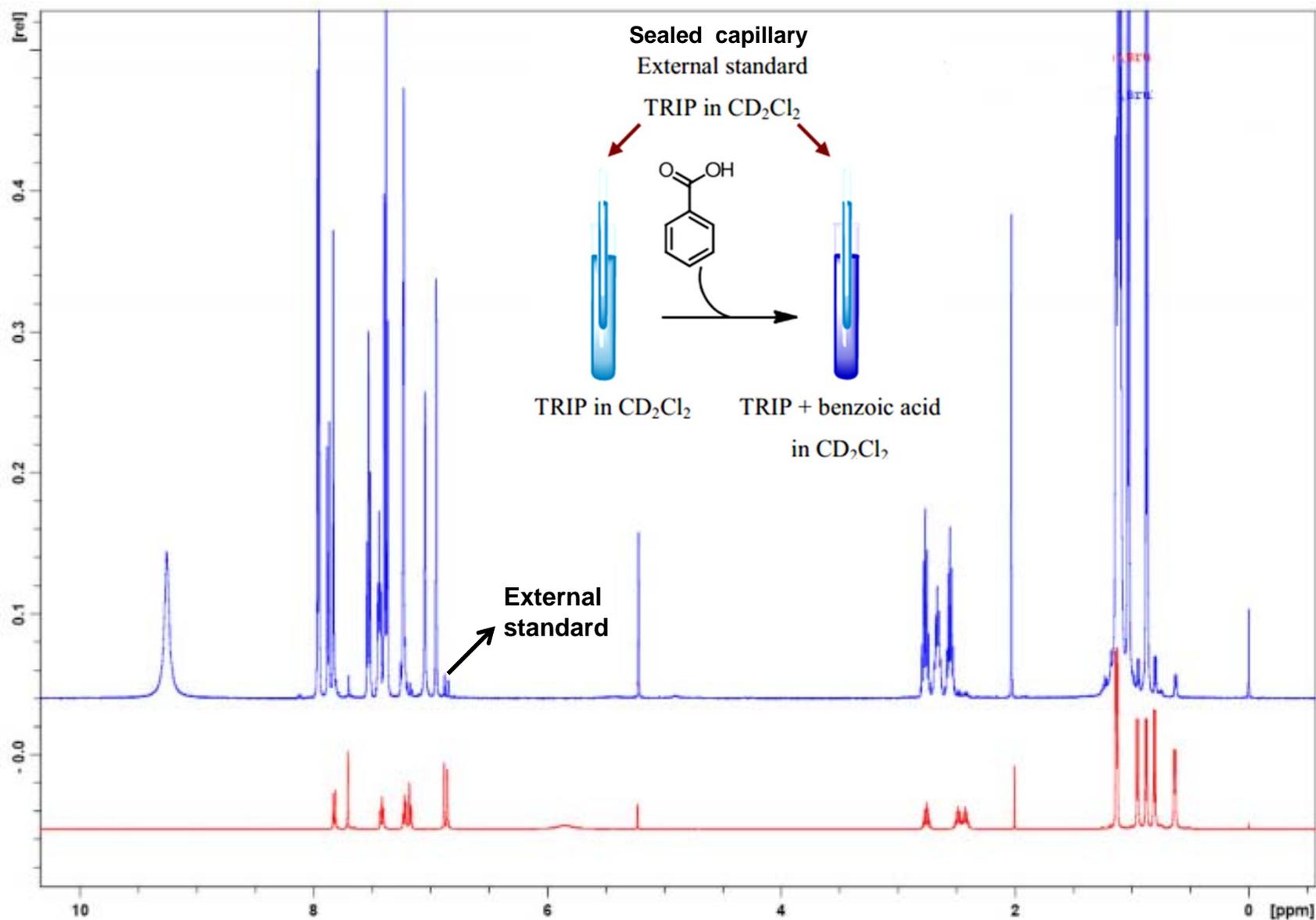
protonation of the RCO_2H

a) 2D-DOSY analysis

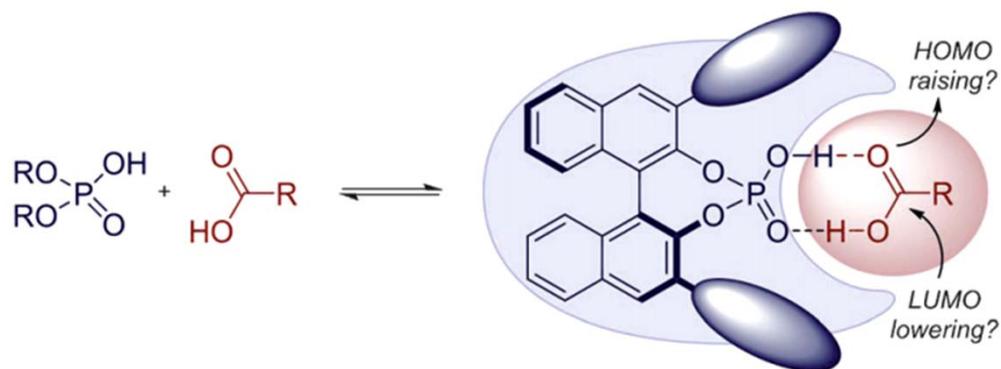


2. Activation of carboxylic acids by heterodimerization with phosphoric acids

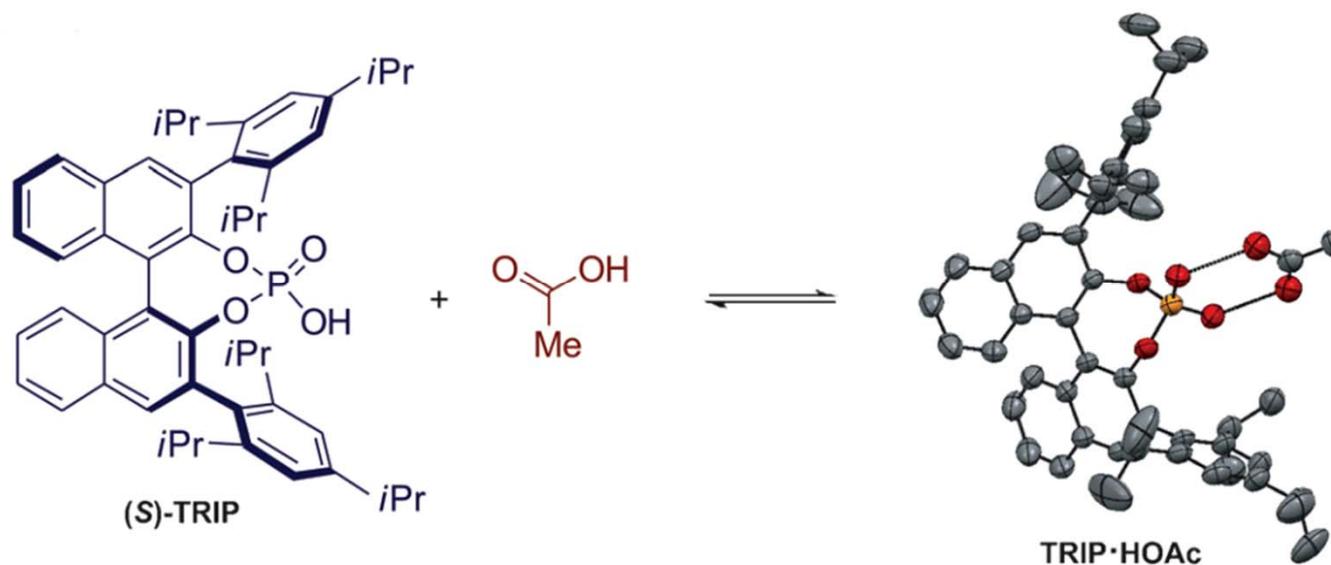
b) 1D-NMR analysis



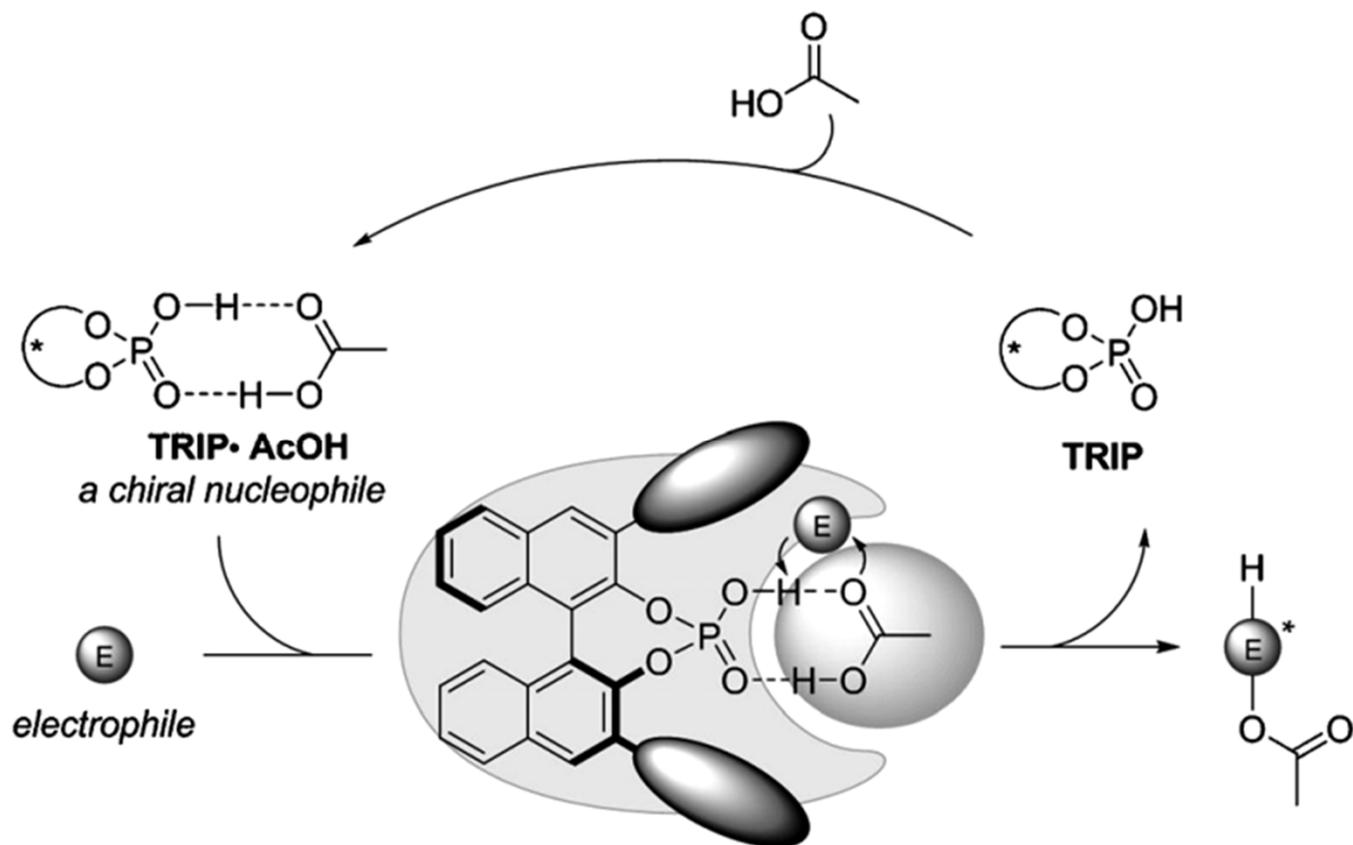
2. Activation of carboxylic acids by heterodimerization with phosphoric acids



c) Crystallization of TRIP·HOAc



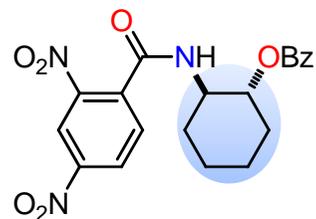
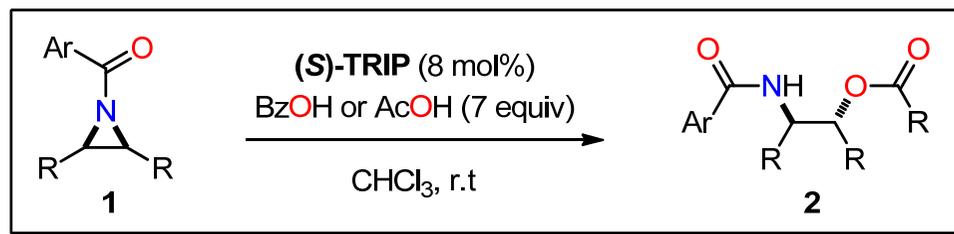
2. Activation of carboxylic acids by heterodimerization with phosphoric acids



Synergistic Activation

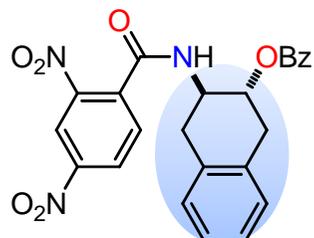
Nucleophilicity of AcOH and acidity of TRIP
INCREASE |||||

3. Desymmetrization of *meso*-aziridines



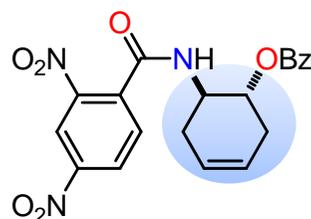
2a

98%, e.r. > 99.5 : 0.5



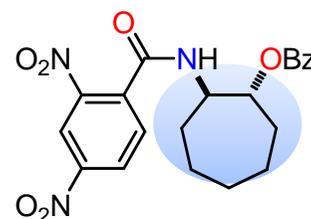
2b

99%, e.r. > 98.5 : 1.5



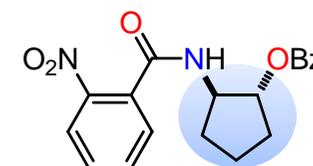
2c

83%, e.r. > 99 : 1



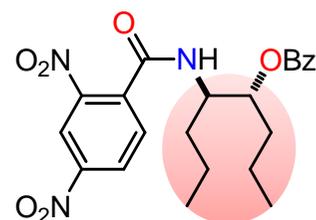
2d

98%, e.r. > 96.5 : 3.5



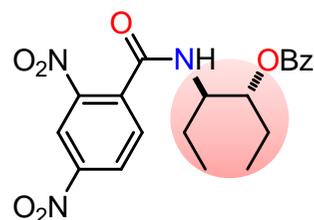
2e

96%, e.r. > 98 : 2



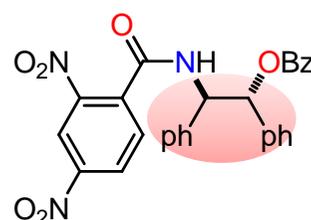
2f

94%, e.r. > 94 : 6



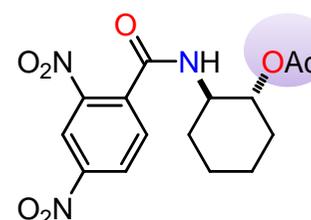
2g

99%, e.r. > 93.5 : 6.5



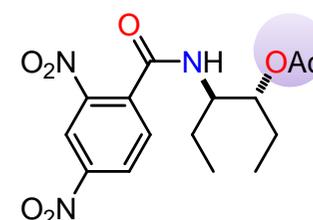
2h

70%, e.r. > 96 : 4



2i

94%, e.r. > 97.5 : 2.5

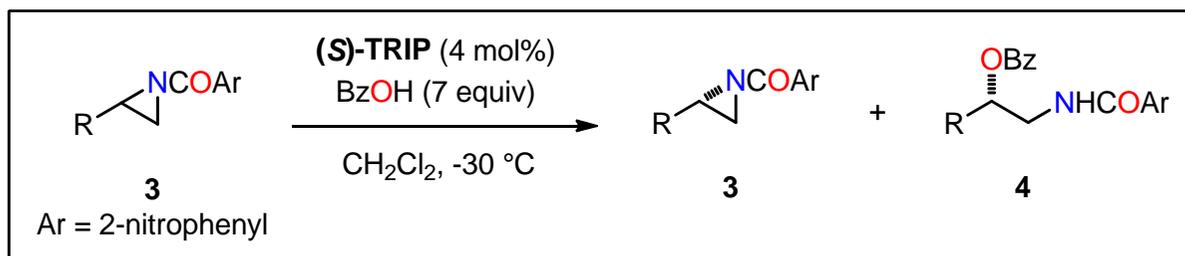


2j

88%, e.r. > 92.5 : 7.5

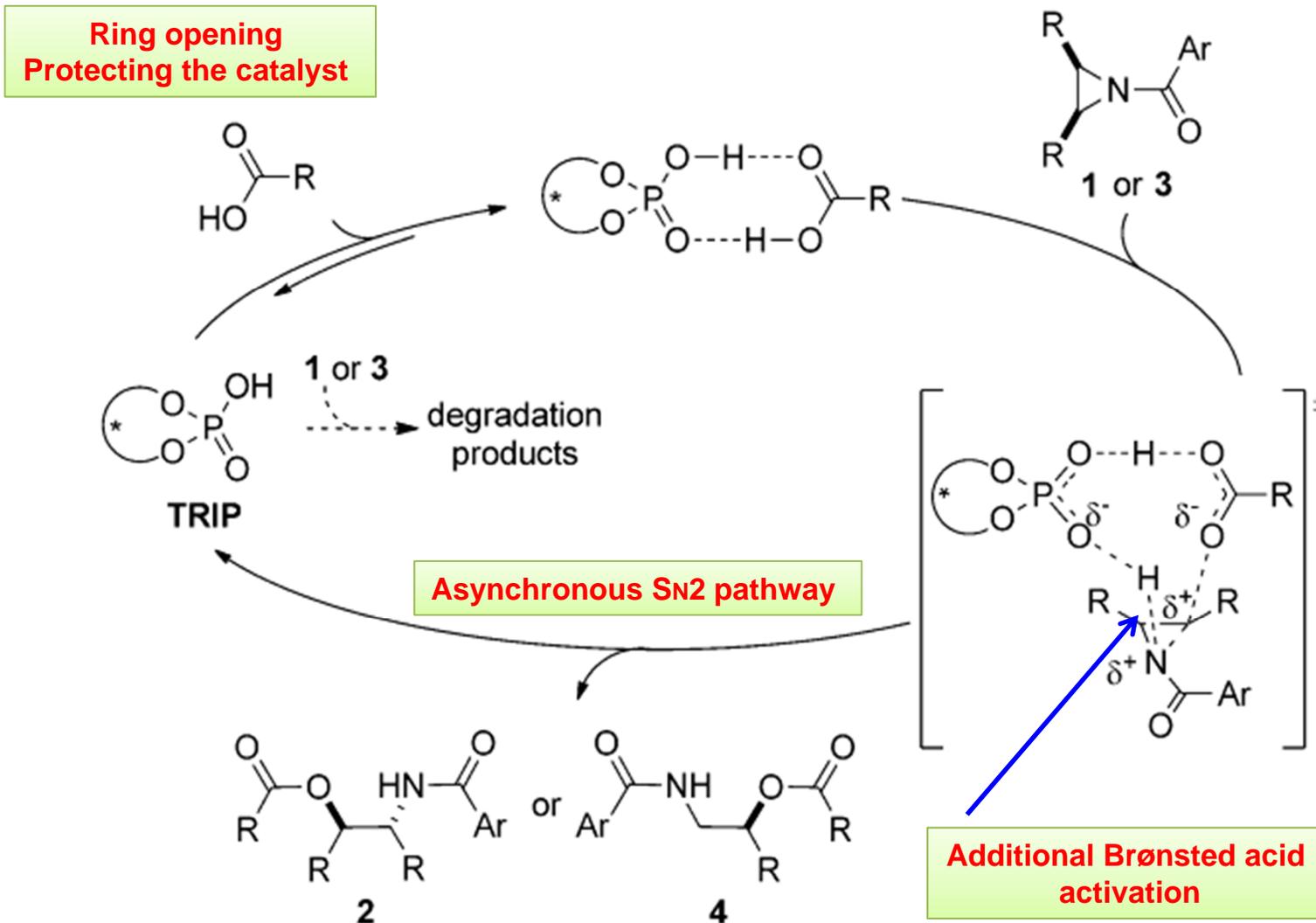
Reactions were performed on a 0.2 mmol scale. The loading of AcOH was increased to 10 equivalents in the reactions to products **2i,j**.

4. Kinetic resolution of racemic terminal aziridines



Entry	Aziridine	Product	Yield [%]	e.r.
1	 <i>rac-3a</i>	 (S)-4a	49	94 : 6
		 <i>rac-3a</i>	46	95.5 : 4.5
2	 <i>rac-3b</i>	 (S)-4b	51	92.5 : 7.5
		 <i>rac-3b</i>	44	98.5 : 1.5
3	 <i>rac-3c</i>	 (S)-4c	28	96 : 4
		 <i>rac-3c</i>	58	72 : 28

5. Proposed catalytic cycle for the TRIP·RCO₂H-mediated ring opening of aziridines



6. Conclusions

- **NEW CONCEPT FOR THE ACTIVATION OF CARBOXYLIC ACIDS** by heterodimerization with chiral phosphoric acids.

