

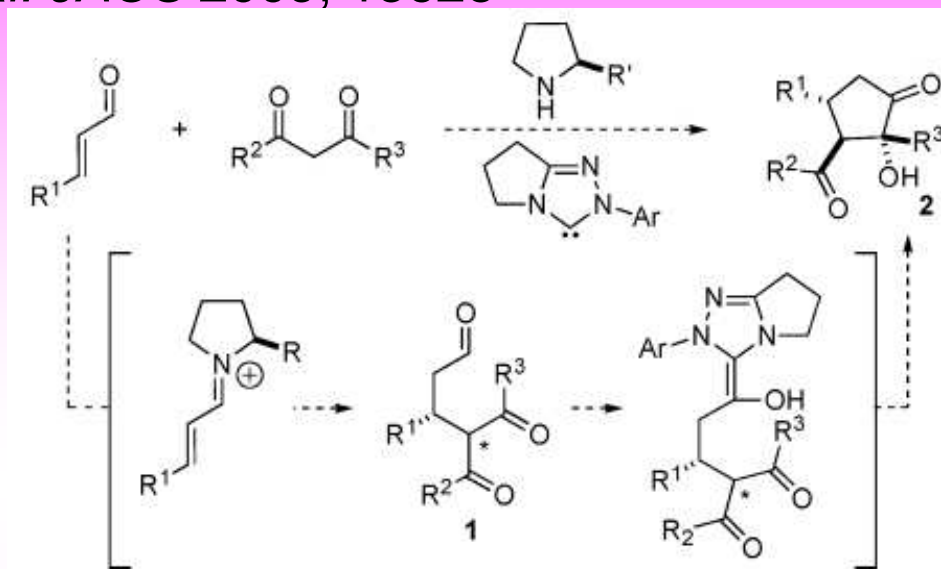
# Asymmetric Organocatalytic Relay Cascades: Catalyst-Controlled **StéRéO** isomer Selection in the Synthesis of Functionalized Cyclohexanes

Wang, Y.; Han, R.-G.; Zhao, Y.-L.; Yang, S.; Xu, P.-F.; Dixon, D. J.  
*ACIE 2009 Early View*

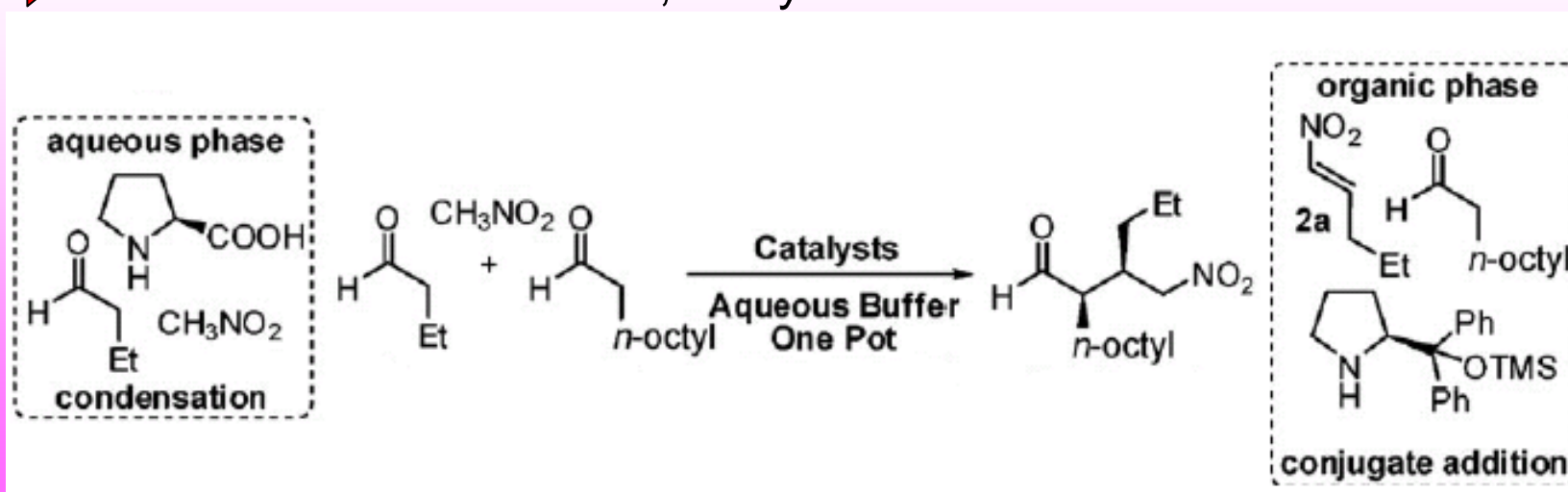
Marc PRESSET  
StéRéO's famous RCC, 10/12/09

## Similar Concepts...

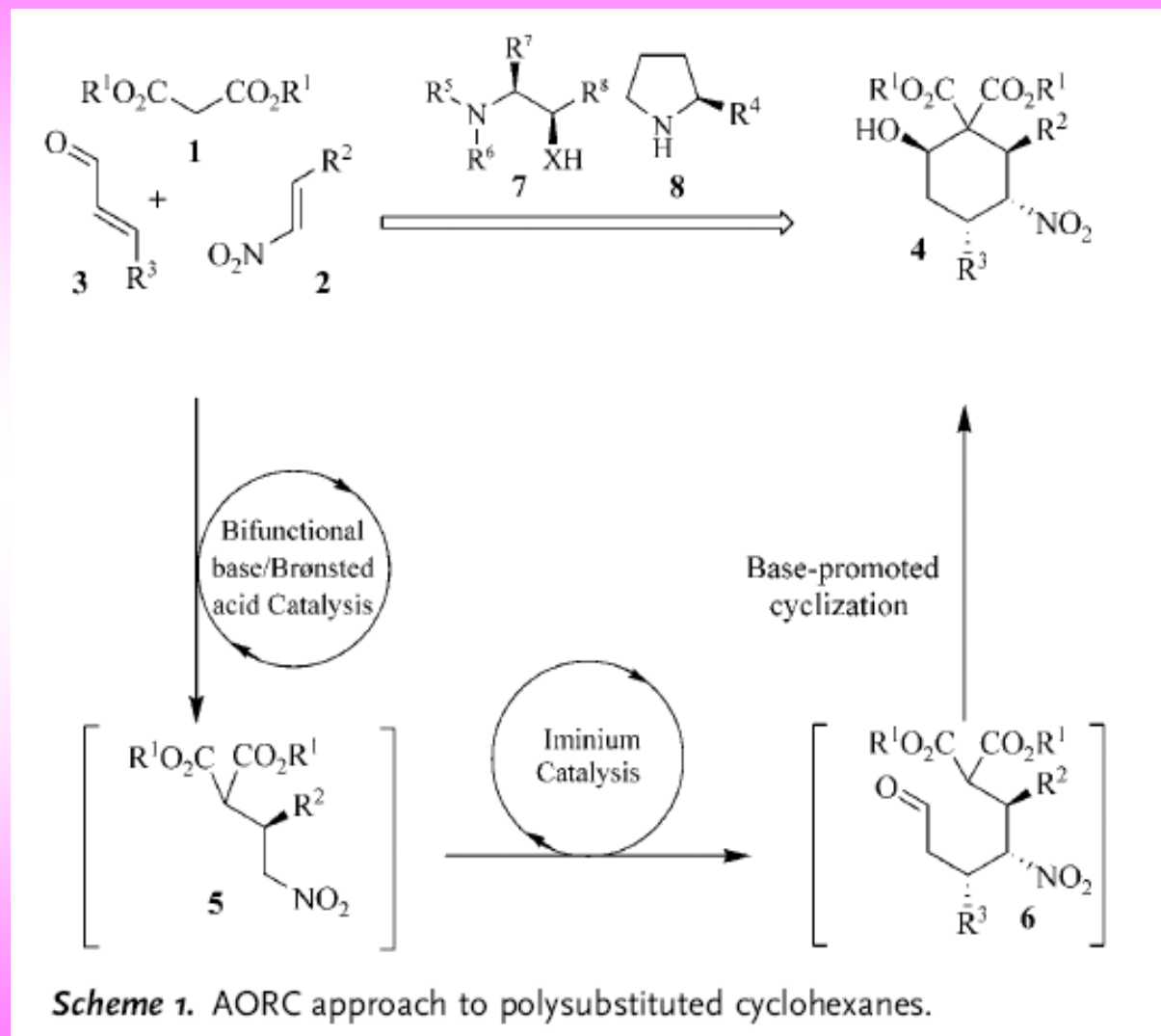
➔ Rovis *et al.* *JACS* **2009**, 13628



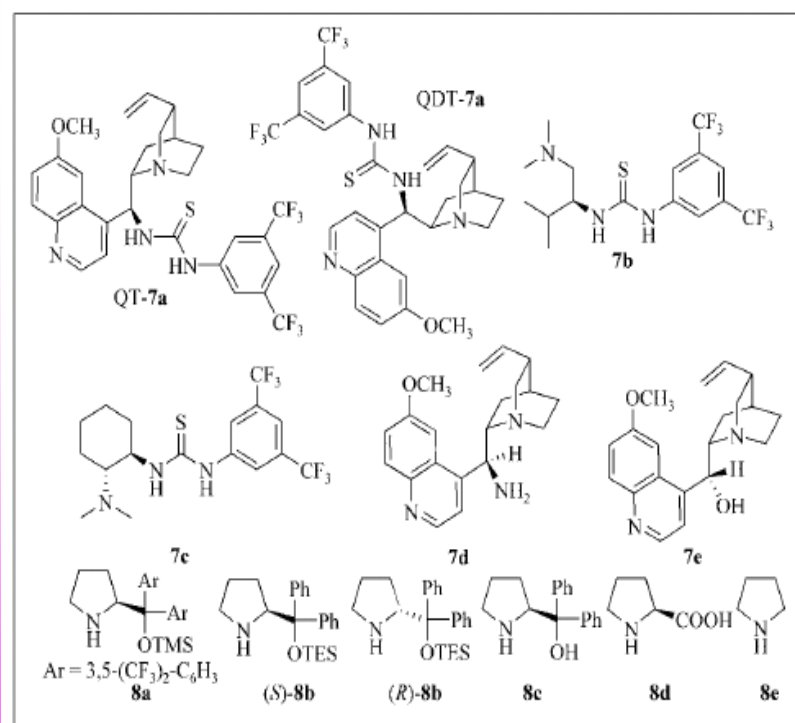
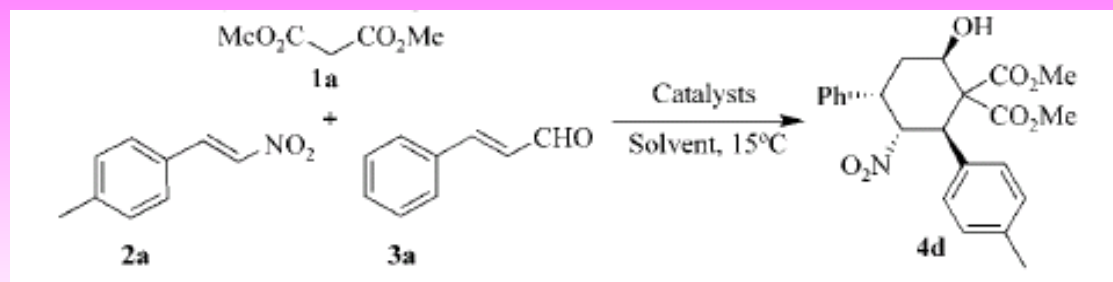
➔ Frechet *et al.* *ACIE* **2009**, Early View



# The idea...



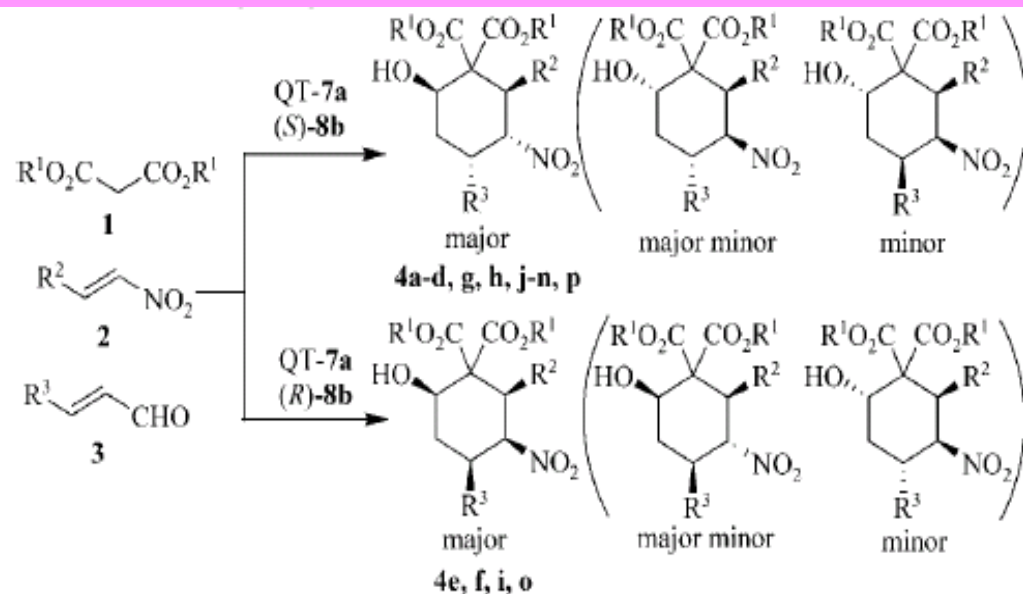
# Optimization



Entry	Catalysts	Solvent	Yield [%] <sup>[b]</sup>	d.r. <sup>[c]</sup>	ee [%] <sup>[d]</sup>
1	QT-7a + 8a	toluene	38	4.5:2.5:1	> 99
2	QT-7a + (S)-8b	toluene	54	3.1:1:1	> 99
3	QT-7a + 8c	toluene	< 10	n.d.	n.d.
4 <sup>[e]</sup>	QT-7a + 8d	toluene	< 10	n.d.	n.d.
5	QT-7a + 8e	toluene	19	1.7:1:1	92
6	7b + (S)-8b	toluene	46	3.5:1.3:1	> 99
7	7c + (S)-8b	toluene	39	2.2:1.6:1	> 99
8	7d + (S)-8b	toluene	< 10	n.d.	n.d.
9	7e + (S)-8b	toluene	42	3.3:2:1	> 99
10 <sup>[f]</sup>	QT-7a + (S)-8b	toluene	61	4.2:1:1	> 99
11	QT-7a + (S)-8b	CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>	49	3.8:1.3:1	> 99
12	QT-7a + (S)-8b	THF	54	2.5:2:1	> 99

[a] Unless otherwise noted, all the reactions were performed with malonate **1a** (0.2 mmol), nitroalkene **2a** (0.4 mmol), *trans*-cinnamaldehyde **3a** (0.3 mmol), and a pair of organocatalysts (0.03 mmol of each) in solvent (1.0 mL) at 15 °C. [b] Combined yield of the three isolated stereoisomers. [c] Determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis of the crude reaction mixture. [d] Determined by HPLC on a chiral stationary phase (Chiralpak AD-H). [e] 20 mol% of QT-7a, and 10 mol% of **8d** were employed. [f] 2.0 equivalents of NaOAc was used as an additive.

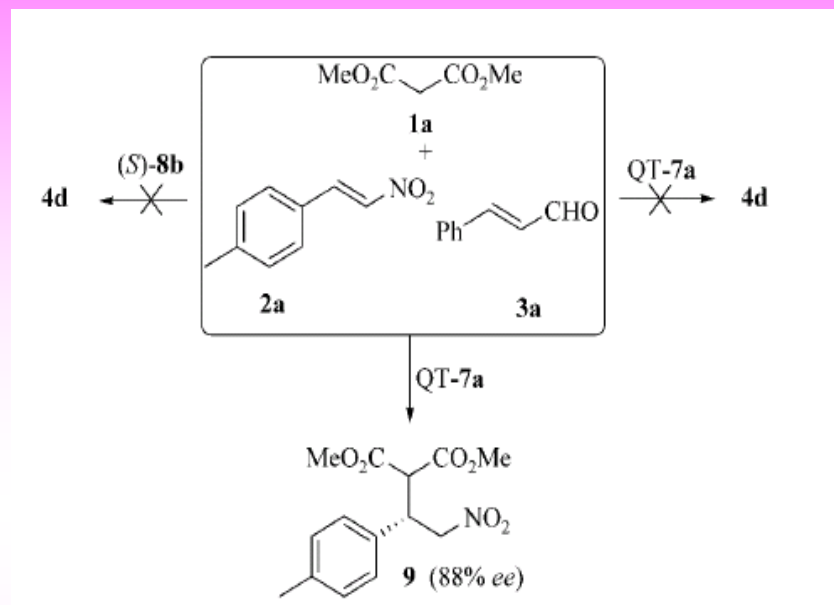
# Screening



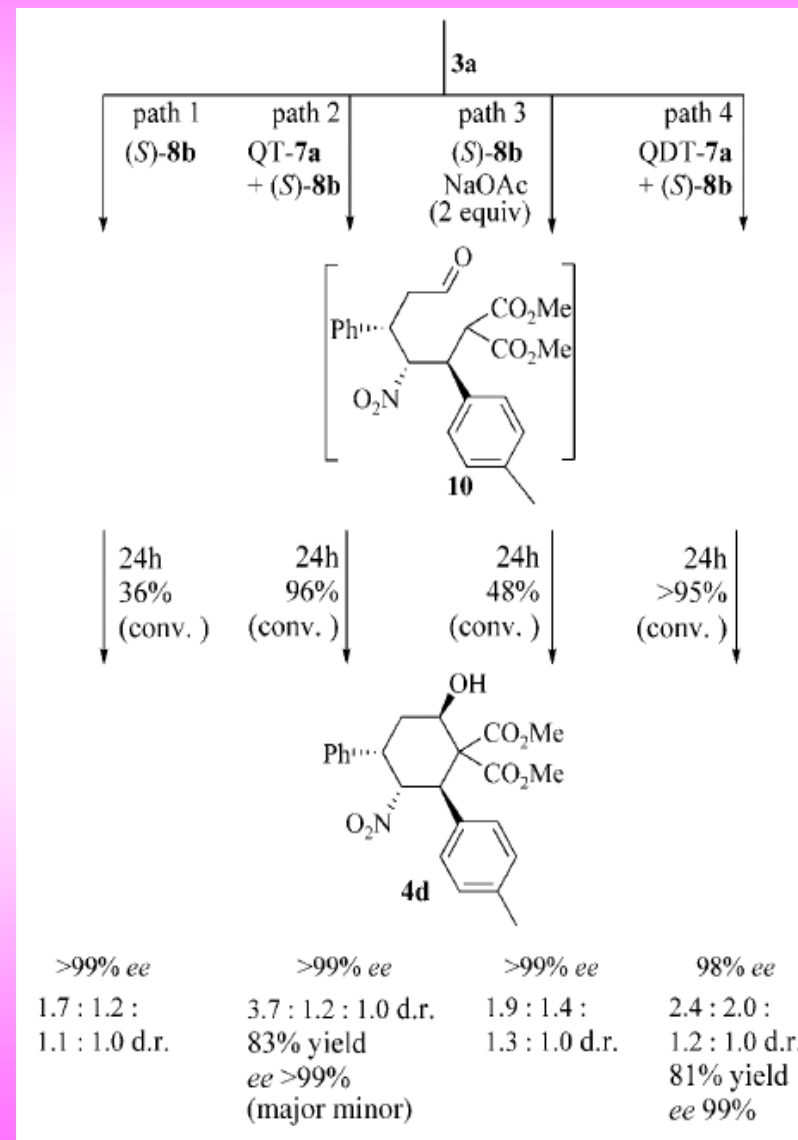
[a] Unless otherwise noted, the reactions were performed with malonate **1** (0.2 mmol), nitroalkene **2** (0.4 mmol),  $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated aldehyde **3** (0.3 mmol), QT-7a (0.03 mmol, 15 mol%), (S)-**8b** (0.03 mmol, 15 mol%) and NaOAc (0.4 mmol) in toluene (1.0 mL) at 15 °C. [b] Combined yield of the three isolated stereoisomers. [c] Determined by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR analysis of the crude reaction mixture. [d] Determined by chiral HPLC analysis (Chiralpak AD-H and OD-H); where measurable, the *ee* value of the most abundant minor diastereomer is given in parentheses (for details, see Supporting Information). [e] QT-7a (0.03 mmol) and (R)-**8b** (0.03 mmol) were used as the catalyst pair. [f] **7c** (20 mol%) and (S)-**8b** (15 mol%) were used as the catalyst pair. [g] Products could not be separated by chiral HPLC.

Entry	R <sup>1</sup>	R <sup>2</sup>	R <sup>3</sup>	4	Yield [%] <sup>[b]</sup>	d.r. <sup>[c]</sup>	<i>ee</i> [%] <sup>[d]</sup>
1	Me	2-Br C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	Ph	4a	63	4.1:1.3:1	98
2	Me	2-furyl	Ph	4b	87	3.1:2.9:1	>99 (>99)
3	Me	3-NO <sub>2</sub> C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	Ph	4c	58	2.1:1.5:1	96
4	Me	4-CH <sub>3</sub> C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	Ph	4d	61	4.2:1:1	>99
5 <sup>[e]</sup>	Me	4-CH <sub>3</sub> C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	Ph	4e	52	6.7:2.5:1	n.d. <sup>[g]</sup>
6 <sup>[e]</sup>	Me	4-CN C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	Ph	4f	47	3.4:1.7:1	>99
7	Me	4-Cl C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	Ph	4g	52	5.1:1.9:1	>99
8 <sup>[f]</sup>	Me	<i>n</i> -C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>13</sub>	Ph	4h	26	6.7:1:0	n.d. <sup>[g]</sup>
9 <sup>[e]</sup>	Me	Ph	Ph	4i	52	7.1:1.8:1	96
10	Me	Ph	Ph	4j	63	3.7:1.4:1	n.d. <sup>[g]</sup>
11	Me	Ph	2-CH <sub>3</sub> C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	4k	45	3.9:1.3:1	>99
12	Me	Ph	4-CH <sub>3</sub> C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	4l	54	4:1.3:1	>99
13	Me	Ph	4-CN C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	4m	67	2.8:2:1	>99 (>99)
14	Me	2-furyl	4-CN C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	4n	74	9.3:1.8:1	>99
15 <sup>[e]</sup>	Me	2-furyl	CH <sub>3</sub>	4o	69	3.2:1:0	88
16	Et	2-Br C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	Ph	4p	56	3.1:1:1	>99

# Study of the mechanism



- Only the bifunctional catalyst catalyses the Michael addition
- Cooperation of the catalysts
- NaOAc improves the conversion







**Happy Holidays**