



Recent Trends in Photocatalytic Enantioselective Reactions

Renu Verma¹ · Palvi Jindal¹ · Jagdish Prasad¹ · S. L. Kothari² ·
Narendra Pal Lamba¹ · Anshu Dandia⁴ · Rama Kanwar Khangarot³ ·
Manmohan Singh Chauhan¹

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Abstract

Enantioselective synthesis through photocatalysis is one of the highly preferred approaches towards preparation of optically active compounds. This review elaborates and critically analyzes the different strategies of photocatalytic enantioselective reactions through H-bonding, transition metal catalysis, phase-transfer catalysis (PTC), chiral Lewis acid catalysis, *N*-heterocyclic carbene catalysis, and amine catalysis, and also explores ion pairs. In addition, it explains the different catalysis modes with multifunctional approaches for enantioselective photocatalytic reactions.

Keywords Enantioselective reaction · Photocatalyst · Dual catalysis · Types of catalytic mode

1 Introduction

Enantioselective synthesis is the most interesting and widely studied area in modern synthetic organic chemistry, and it is also known as chiral synthesis and asymmetric synthesis. Asymmetric synthesis is preparation of an optically active product from an optically inactive substrate with or without the use of an enantiomer. Enantioselective synthesis became the main focus for organic synthetic chemistry after Sharpless, Knowles, and Noyori were honored with the Nobel Prize in chemistry for their innovative work in the field of asymmetric synthesis in 2001 [1–3]. Numerous methods have been reported for the synthesis of chiral compounds by enantioselective catalytic transformations. Enantioselective reaction is mostly attained using a chiral

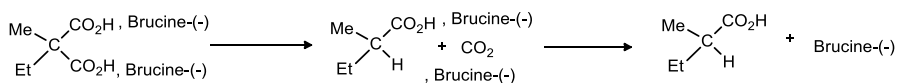
✉ Manmohan Singh Chauhan
mschauhan@jpr.amity.edu

¹ ASAS, Amity University Rajasthan, Jaipur 303002, India

² Amity University Rajasthan, Jaipur 303002, India

³ Department of Chemistry, Mohal Lal Sukhadia University, Udaipur 313001, India

⁴ Department of Chemistry, University of Rajasthan, Jaipur 302004, India



Scheme 1 Modification of the mechanism of Marckwald asymmetric synthesis

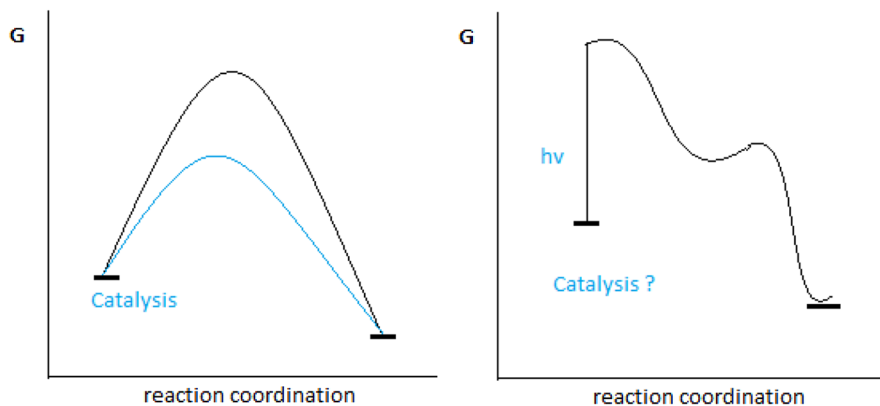


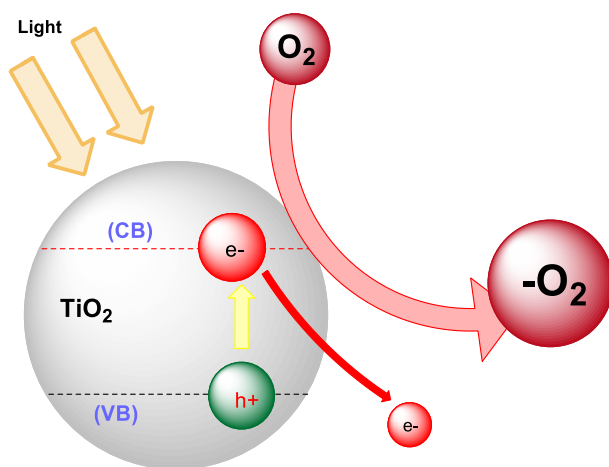
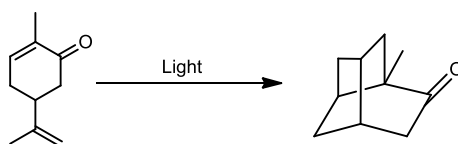
Fig. 1 Enthalpy diagrams of a thermal (left) and a photochemical reaction (right)

substrate, reagent, catalyst, and solvent. Synthesis of new chiral ligands has become important for researchers in synthetic organic chemistry [4, 5] due to similarity in their chemical and physical properties, except when they interact with chiral systems [6]. Van 't Hoff and Joseph Le Bel defined chirality by considering the chemical bonds in the tetrahedral asymmetric carbon atom, which has become known as the Le Bel–van 't Hoff rule [7]. In 1952, Kenyon and Ross (Scheme 1) reported a new reaction mechanism for Marckwald asymmetric synthesis. Brucine (an alkaloid natural product)-based catalysis was reported for enantioselective decarboxylation of 2-ethyl-2-methylmalonic acid, and it was observed that a dialkaloidal salt of a disubstituted malonic acid produces an optically active product during decarboxylation. These kinds of partial asymmetric synthesis, when an asymmetric transition during crystallization is not possible, have been carried out [8].

In 1951, Johannes Bijvoet reported a physical method to define the configuration of organic compounds using X-ray crystallography. Dalglish subsequently introduced chiral chromatography, in which paper chromatography is used to separate the chiral amino acids [9]. In the early years, enantioselective synthesis was very slow due to limited sources for analysis, but nowadays it is commonly reported with a catalytic route due to the less stringent reaction conditions required and is also widely used in the chemical and pharmaceutical industries [10]. On the other hand, photocatalysis plays an important role in modern catalysis due to its low energy requirement, sustainability, broad applications, and environmentally friendly nature. Any photocatalytic reaction is able to decrease the barrier of activation energy in conventional fashion compared to thermal reaction (Fig. 1).

The use of photocatalysis in organic synthesis was first described in 1978 [11], but promising concepts have been more recently reported by Yoon [12],

Scheme 2 First example of photochemical reactions developed by Giacomo Ciamician



Scheme 3 The process of photocatalysis

MacMillan [13], and Stephenson [14]. Both MacMillan [13] and Bach [15] reported innovative methods for enantioselective reaction using a photocatalytic pathway. Ciamician and his colleagues reported many kinds of photochemical reactions including photoreduction, photo-isomerization, photo-pinacolization, photo-cleavage, and photo-cycloaddition (Scheme 1) [16]. In 1908 he reported an example of intramolecular [2+2] photo-cycloaddition (Scheme 2), after which he reported many reactions which occurred in the presence of light [17]. Photocatalysts have also been reported for organic transformations such as C–C coupling reaction with splitting of alcohol into hydrogen [18] and oxidation of aromatic alcohols over hydrogen evolution [19, 20]. Comparative compilations have been reported to explain the wide role of photocatalysis in organic transformations as well [21–24].

Photocatalysis is defined as when energetic photons have a role in the activation of catalysts [25]; it is a term that describes the use of light energy to generate chemical reactions. Metal surfaces such as TiO_2 , Fe_2O_3 , CdS , and ZnO absorb radiation from sunlight, and electrons of the valence band migrate to the conduction band, which creates negative (e^-) and positive (h^+) hole pairs in the valence band (Scheme 3). The photo-generated hole pairs take part in oxidation and reduction reactions. Excitation of electrons completely depends on the wavelength of the light source [26].

2 Chiral photocatalyst

A reaction does not accelerate by itself with a photocatalyst, but in an excitation step, it binds with a substrate and produces intermediates. Due to the high activation energy and reactivity of intermediates in photocatalytic enantioselective reaction, it becomes difficult to achieve enantioenriched products. In chiral photocatalytic reaction, stereo-control is a challenging task [27, 28] compared to traditional asymmetric catalysis such as metal-based catalysis [29, 30], organocatalysis [31–33], and enzyme catalysis [34, 35]. Currently, two strategies are available to explain the photocatalytic pathway for enantioselective reaction. The first is dual catalysis involving two catalyst systems, and the second utilizes a bifunctional catalyst. In dual catalysis, a chiral photocatalyst introduces a chiral catalyst with ground-state activation for enantioselective bond formation and non-excited activation of substrates. Many catalysts are reported as dual catalysts for enantioselective photocatalytic reaction, such as enamine catalysis [13, 36], Brønsted acids [37, 38], transition metals [39], Lewis acids [40], *N*-heterocyclic carbenes [41], enzymes [42], and the activation of α,β -unsaturated carbonyl compound [43]. On the other hand, a single catalyst is used for excitation and stereoselective control in bifunctional catalysis. Figure 2 shows the historical timeline of photocatalytic enantioselective reaction from 2008 to 2017.

3 Enantioselective Photocatalysis

3.1 Hydrogen Bonding

H-bonding catalysis provides an excellent platform for asymmetric synthesis. In H-bond-based enantioselective transformations, the orientation of a substrate with chiral moiety is stereochemically controlled by H-bonds [56]. Cao et al. reported dual asymmetric catalysis by nickel metal and organocatalyst with insertion of sulfur dioxide, which provides three-component asymmetric sulfonylation by C–H functionalization of cycloalkanes, alkanes, toluene derivatives, and ether for preparation of enantioenriched products under mild condition with 95%

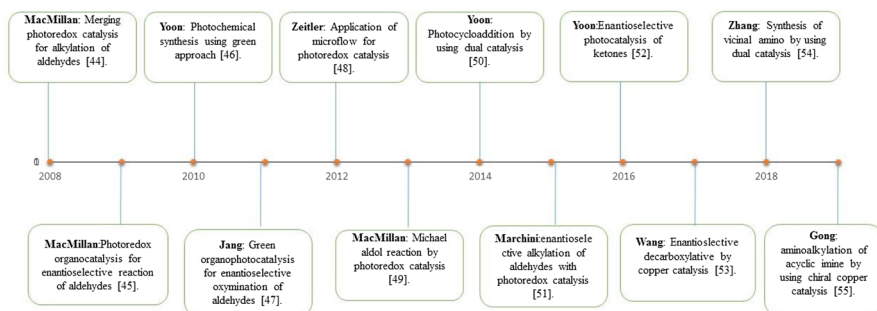
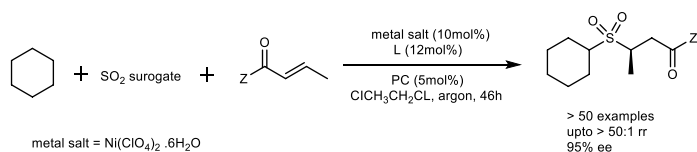
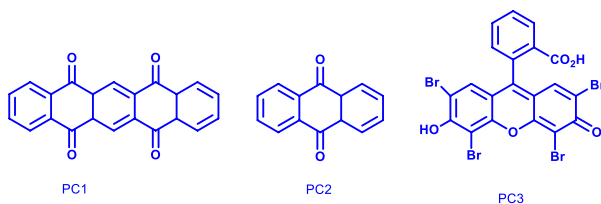


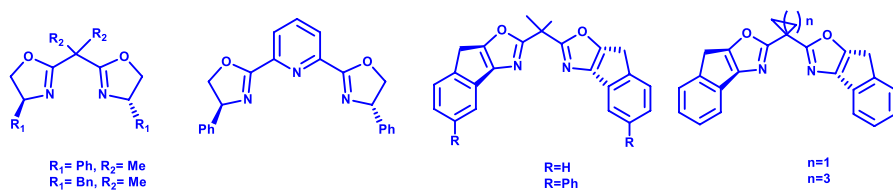
Fig. 2 Timeline of photocatalytic enantioselective reaction from 2008 to 2017



Pentacetetrone photocatalysts



Chiral bis(oxazoline) ligands



Scheme 4 Asymmetric synthesis by H-bonding catalyst

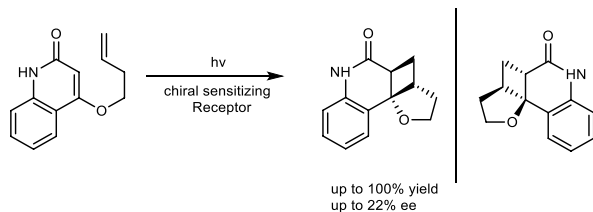
enantioselectivity. This technique has high advantage in organic synthesis since it uses low-cost materials and is cost-effective (Scheme 4). It is a multicomponent reaction which is followed by α,β -unsaturated carbonyl molecules that act as Michael acceptors [57].

H-bond-based enantioselective catalyst was also reported as a sensitizing receptor for photochemical transformations, in which a bifunctional photocatalyst is used in an intramolecular enone–olefin photo[2+2]-cycloaddition of quinolone. The reactant was completely converted into related product without any loss of material with enantioselectivity up to 22% (Scheme 5) [58].

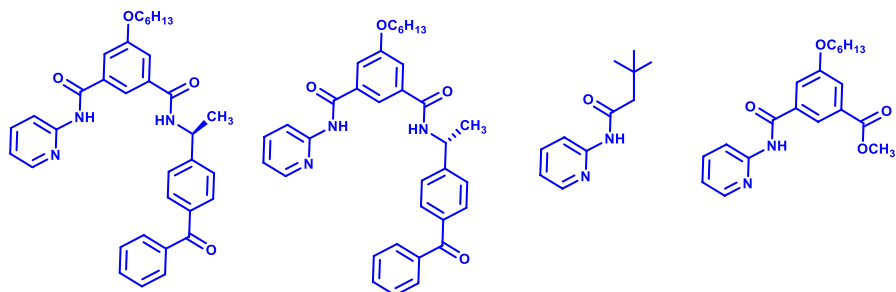
Alonso et al. synthesized thioxanthone from methyl thiosalicylate, which was used as sensitizer for enantioselective photo[2+2]-cycloaddition reaction by quinolone. The compound was readily converted into related product after 1 h at -25°C with 95% yields and 94% enantiomeric excess (ee) (Scheme 6) [59].

Chiral triplet sensitizer was also reported for the intermolecular reaction of pyridines and acetylene dicarboxylate derivatives followed by [2+2] cycloaddition reaction, which provided 88% yield of related compounds with 92% ee [60]. This transformation occurred via non-covalent interactions (H-bonding) between the substrate and chiral catalyst under photochemical conditions (Scheme 7).

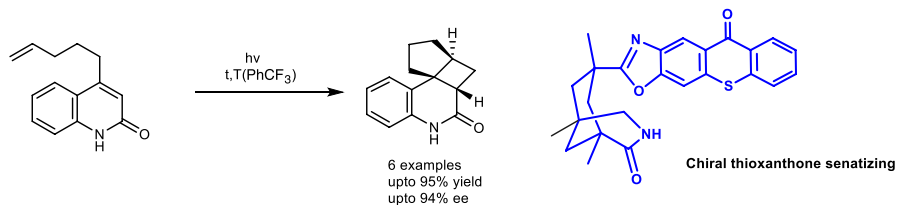
Furthermore, photo [2+2] cycloaddition of quinolones involving H-bonding at $\lambda = 419\text{ nm}$ was also reported in which chiral thioxanthone catalyst (10 mol%) was required with electron-deficient olefins. High enantiomeric excess of related



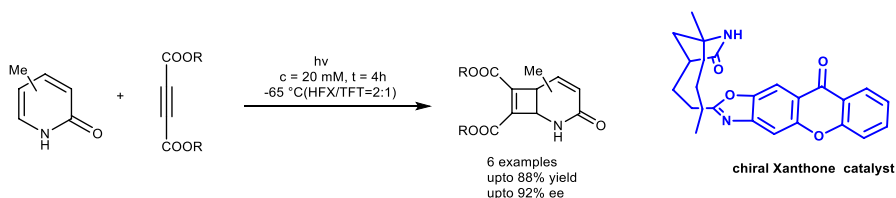
Mandelamide receptors:



Scheme 5 Asymmetric photo-cycloaddition of quinolone in the presence of receptor



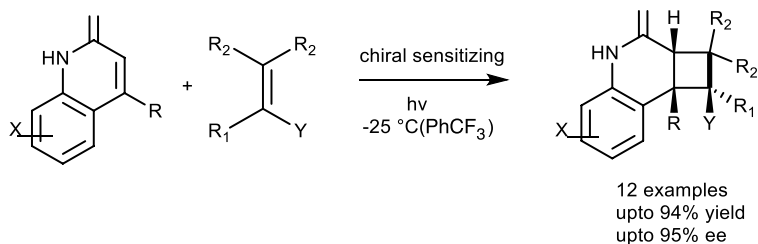
Scheme 6 Enantioselective intramolecular [2+2] photo-cycloaddition by chiral catalyst



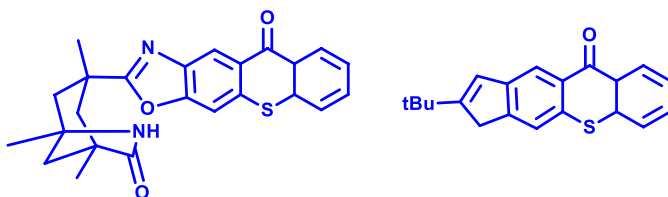
Scheme 7 Intermolecular [2+2] photo-cycloaddition of pyridine with alkyne via chiral xanthone

compounds with region- and diastereoselectivity (94% yield and 95% ee) was observed (Scheme 8) [61].

Furthermore, H-bonding-based enantioselective application was reported by Hölzl-Hobmeier et al. for catalytic deracemization of chiral allenes. Recently, Bach revealed an extraordinary photochemical transformation by an enantioselective



Chiral thioxanthone sensitizing:

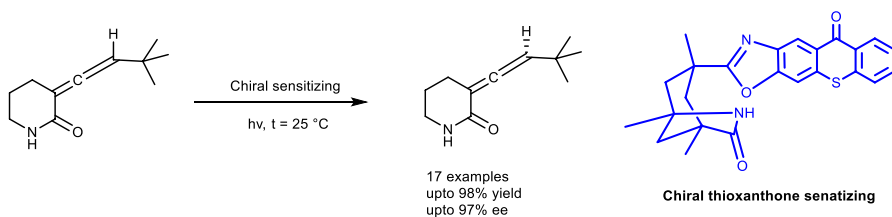


Scheme 8 Photo-cycloaddition reactions between quinolones and olefins

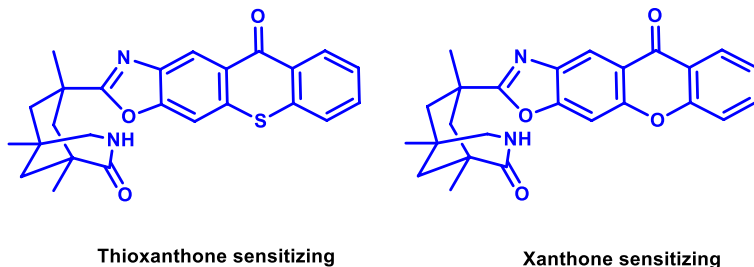
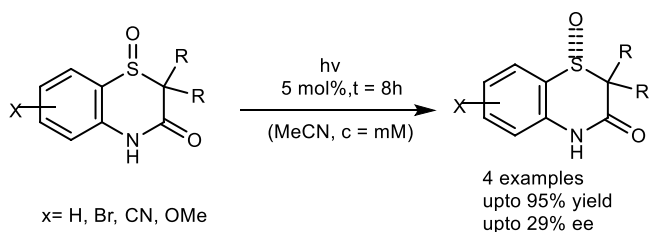
catalyst with visible light which showed photochemical deracemization of chiral compounds, providing good enantioselectivity (98–97% ee) of the related compound using a chiral sensitizer at room temperature (Scheme 9) [62].

Wimberger et al. reported the photochemical deracemization of chiral sulfoxides by xanthone sensitizer using H-bonding. The racemic mixture of chiral benzothiazinone-1-oxides was completely converted into single enantiomer without loss of material. Reactant was fully deracemized with excellent yield and 29% enantioselectivity (Scheme 10) [63].

H-bonding was also introduced in [2+2] intramolecular photo-cycloaddition of 4-alkenyl-substituted coumarins, which was catalyzed by atropisomeric thiourea-based organo-photocatalyst, and it required lower energies than the substrate to be excited and converted into the related enantioenriched product. Binaphthyl-based thiourea compounds are good absorbers of light, and due to this, they can promote photochemical reactions with high enantiomer excess of related compound.



Scheme 9 Photochemical transformation of a racemic mixture into a major enantiomer at room temperature

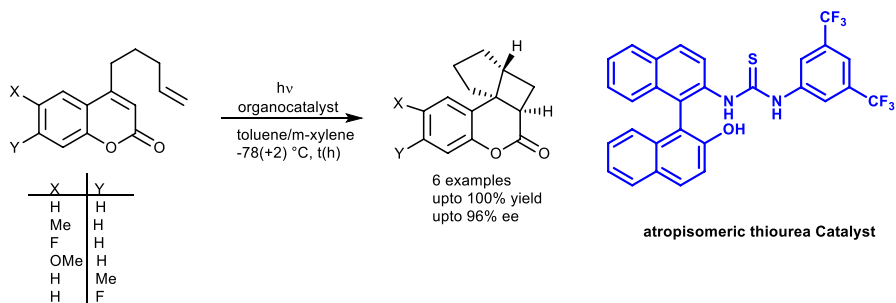


Scheme 10 Deracemization of sulfoxides and catalyzed by chiral xanthone

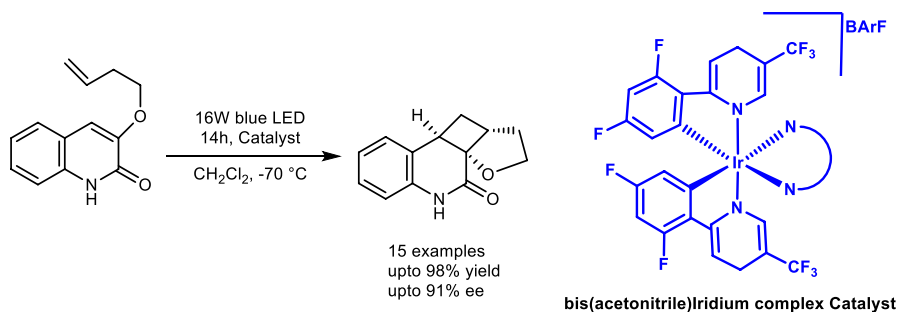
2-Amino-2'-hydroxy-1-1'-bi-naphthalene has been used as organocatalyst in the asymmetric photo-cycloaddition of substituted coumarins to obtain the desired product with high enantioselectivity (Scheme 11) [64].

Skubi et al. reported a highly efficient photocatalyst that attracts prochiral quinolones via hydrogen bonding and π - π interactions, and also described a photocatalyst iridium sensitizer with bifunctional chiral H-bonding. The intramolecular photo-cycloaddition of 3-alkoxyquinolone was optimized to demonstrate the efficiency of this photocatalytic system at -70°C , providing 91% ee of the desired product (Scheme 12) [65].

Liu et al. carried out an asymmetric organocatalytic reaction using benzofuran-2(3H)-ones and naphthoquinones. L-Leucine-derived tertiary amine-thiourea and squared amide-based catalyst was reported for the arylation of benzofuranones with



Scheme 11 Photo[2+2]cycloaddition of 4-alkenyl-substituted coumarins by thioureas



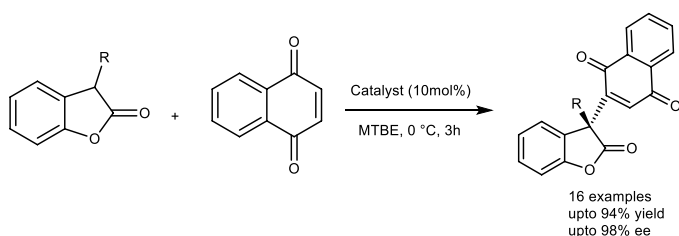
Scheme 12 Photo-cycloaddition of quinolone using iridium sensitizer

high yield and enantioselectivity by asymmetric H-bond-based photocatalysis and provided the desired product in 94% yield with 98% ee (Scheme 13) [66].

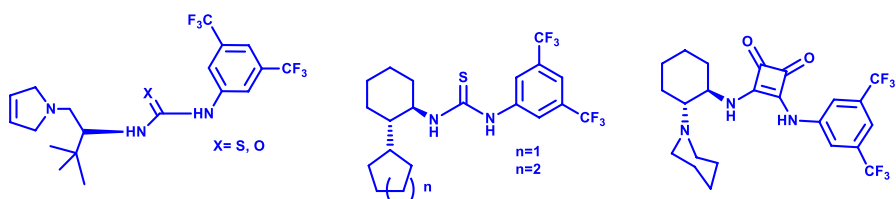
Shin et al. demonstrated the deracemization approach in which amine derivatives undergo spontaneous reaction in the presence of visible light via the tri-catalytic method based on phosphate using a redox process and producing an equilibrium product distribution across substrate enantiomers. Desired products were obtained with 99% yield and 95% ee (Scheme 14) [67].

3.1.1 Transition Metal Catalysis

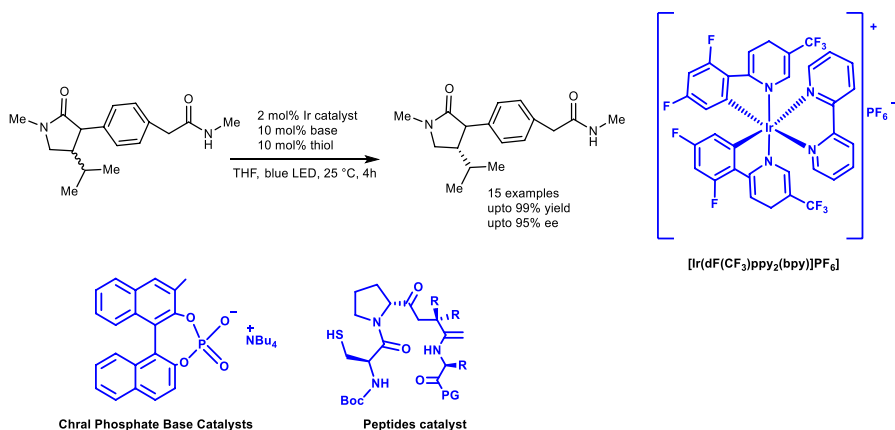
Transition metal catalysts have become an important part of fundamental research in organic synthesis. Knowles et al. were awarded the Nobel Prize in 2001 for stereoselective catalysis [68]. The combination of photocatalyst with transition metal complexes has gained attention due to its novelty in organic synthetic chemistry.



Amide catalysts:



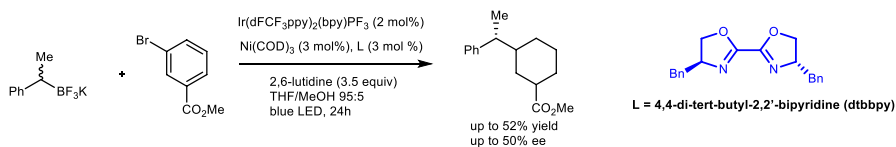
Scheme 13 Asymmetric reaction of benzofuranones using squaramide as catalyst



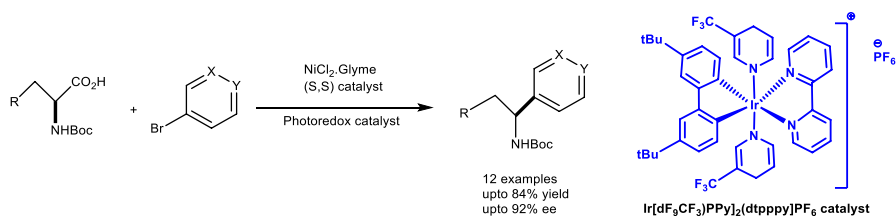
Scheme 14 Deracemization of amine derivatives using iridium-based catalyst

Nickel is the most important and widely used metal in asymmetric and cross-coupling reactions because it has single-electron redox potentials and easily undergoes β -hydride elimination. Molander et al. reported a photoredox catalyst with nickel metal which was used for organocarbon cross-coupling reaction between benzyl potassium trifluoroborate salt as radical precursor and methyl 3-bromobenzoate under mild reaction conditions in the presence of 4,4-di-tert-butyl-2,2'-bipyridine (dtbbpy), and observed 52% yield with 50% ee of desired product (Scheme 15) [69]. In this reaction, lutidine was used as base, while in other nickel-based photocatalytic reactions, Cs_2CO_3 was used as base and chiral catalyst prepared by the combination of nickel and photoredox catalyst for enantioselective decarboxylative arylation of α -amino acids in mild reaction conditions (Scheme 16) [70]. In this reaction, N-Boc-leucine was used to obtain benzylic amines with 84% yield and 92% ee.

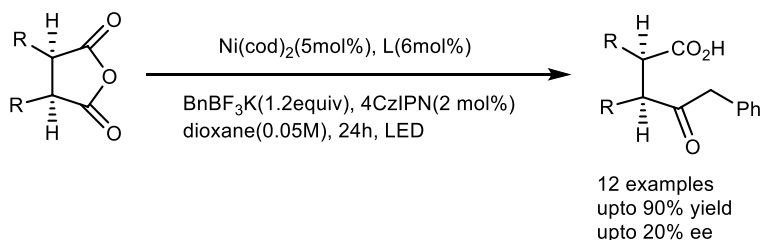
The combination of nickel and photoredox catalyst was also reported for the enantioselective desymmetrization of cyclic meso-anhydrides with high enantioselectivity. Benzyl trifluoroborate salts as a radical source, carboxylic anhydride as a substrate, (S,S)-PhBox as chiral ligand, and $\text{Ni}(\text{COD})_2$ and the organophotocatalyst 4-CzIPN were used in reaction and provided the final product with 85% yield (Scheme 17) [71] with the involved mechanism of decarboxylation and Ni–C bond hemolysis of a Ni (II) adduct. This is a smooth production of desymmetrized anhydride on a large scale.



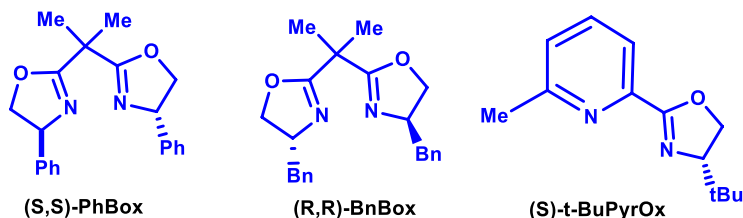
Scheme 15 Cross-coupling reaction by photoredox catalysis of benzylic trifluoroborates with aryl bromides



Scheme 16 Enantioselective reaction of amino acid using Ir catalyst with nickel



Ligands:

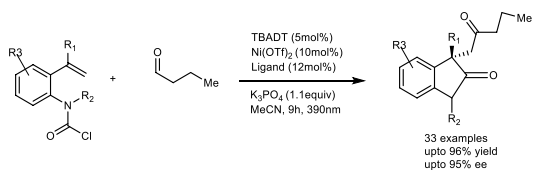
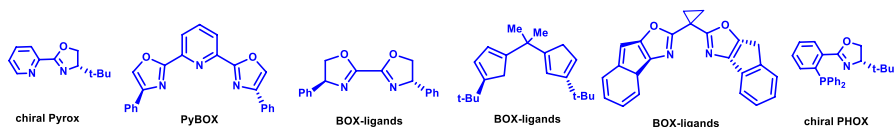
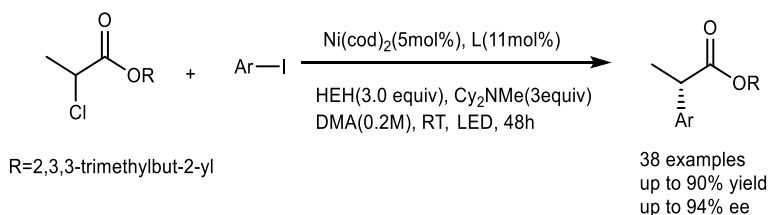
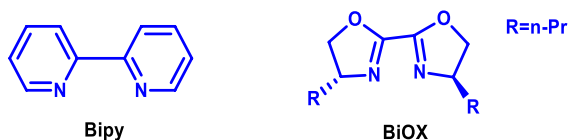
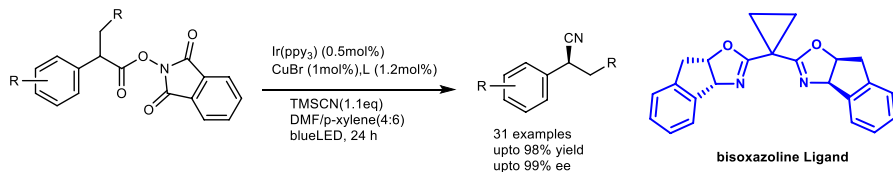


Scheme 17 Enantioselective desymmetrization of cyclic *meso*-anhydrides

Fan et al. expanded the previously reported system by using TBADT chiral nickel-PHOX complex to synthesize oxindoles and their derivatives. The reaction between aryl carbamoyl and aldehydes proceeded under mild conditions for 9 h to obtain the desired product (Scheme 18) [72].

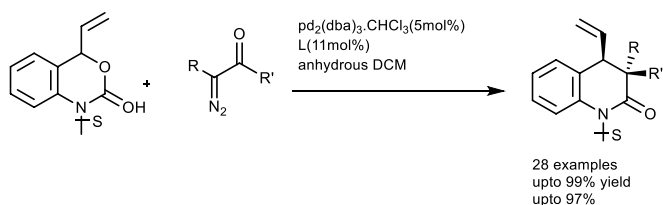
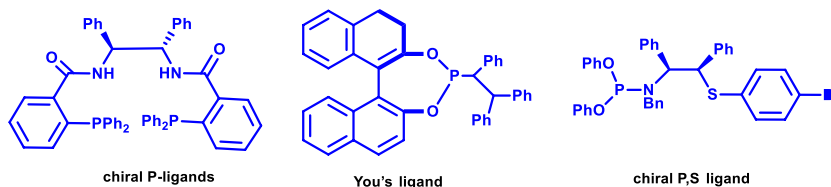
Recently, Qandil and Guan used a similar type of combination of photoredox and nickel for an asymmetric cross-coupling reaction to obtain α -aryl ester with 90% enantioselectivity and 94% yield with the racemic α -chloro ester and aryl iodides. Aryl esters are mostly used in anti-inflammatory drugs [73] (Scheme 19) [74].

In 2017, Lin and Liu reported a hybridized photocatalyst with copper catalysts to convert carboxylic acid into enantioenriched alkyl nitriles. Enantioselective decarboxylative cyanation reaction was reported with the combination of *N*-hydroxyphthalimide (NHP) esters and trimethylsilyl cyanide (TMSCN) to give chiral alkyl nitriles with 88% yield under irradiation of a 12 W blue light-emitting diode (LED), 10% CuBr, and 12 mol% relative ligand in DFM at room

**Chiral ligands:****Scheme 18** Asymmetric reaction for Ni/photo-catalyzed asymmetric acyl-carbamoylation using chiral ligands**Ligands:****Scheme 19** Enantioselective reaction of aryl and aryl iodides by chiral ligands and Ni/photoredox catalyst**Scheme 20** Enantioselective decarboxylative cyanation reaction using copper and iridium catalyst

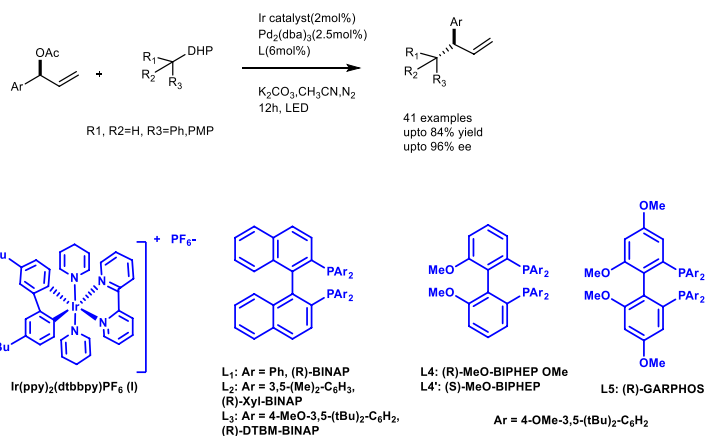
temperature using 2 mol% Ir(ppy)₃ as photocatalyst (Scheme 20) [75]. Bioactive compounds are also synthesized with this protocol.

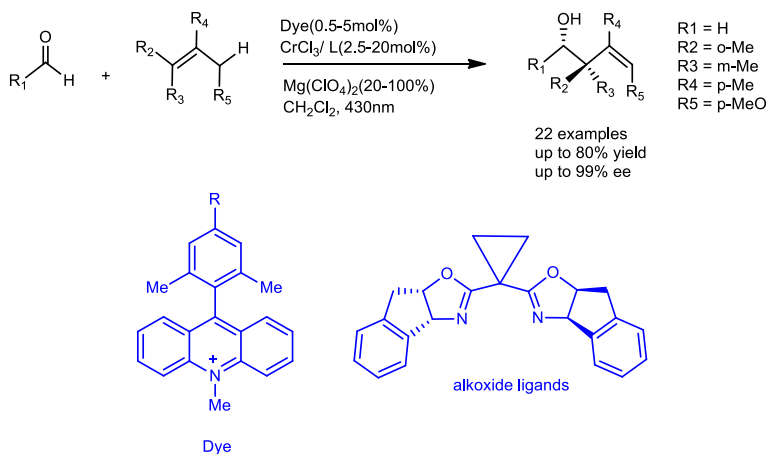
Lu and Xiao reported a palladium catalyst for enantioselective asymmetric [4+2] cycloaddition of diazoketones by reactive ketenes intermediate with vinyl

**Ligands:****Scheme 21** Asymmetric [4+2] cycloaddition of ketenes using Pd catalyst

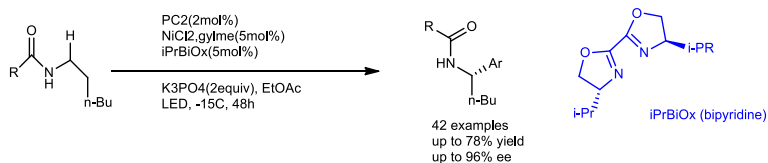
benzoxazinanes to give heterocyclic compounds under mild reaction conditions in the presence of visible light, with high product yield and selectivity (Scheme 21) [76].

Inspired by the work of Hong-Hao et al. introduced chiral ligands which enhanced the enantioselectivity and yields of the related product. Palladium was used as co-catalyst with photoredox for the enantioselective monosubstituted allylic alkylation reaction with 4-alkyl-1,4-dihydropyridine in the presence of visible light with high enantioselectivity. By this reaction, photo-generated free radicals can be converted into a symmetric allyl alkylation (AAA) that directly uses hard nucleophiles as substitutes (Scheme 22) [77].

**Scheme 22** Asymmetric monosubstituted allyl acetates and 4-alkyl-1,4-dihydropyridine reaction



Scheme 23 Catalytic asymmetric nucleophilic allylation of aldehydes using simple alkenes



Scheme 24 Enantioselective reaction of Sp^3 α -arylation of benzamides

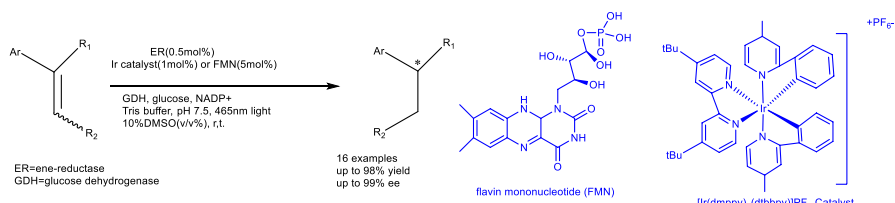
Harunobu et al. combined organo-photoredox with chiral chromium to form a hybrid catalyst for asymmetric allylation reaction of carbonyl compounds with an inactivated hydrocarbon alkene to produce homoallylic alcohols with a diastereomeric ratio of > 20:1 in the presence of visible light at room temperature. $Mg(ClO_4)_2$ was also added to enhance both reactivity and enantioselectivity (Scheme 23) [78].

Similarly, Montgomery and Martin reported the reaction of carbon/hydrogen arylation and alkylation of benzamides using a dual catalytic system under mild reaction conditions (Scheme 24) [79]. *iPrBiOx* was used as ligand in the reaction to obtain the product at high levels of enantioselectivity.

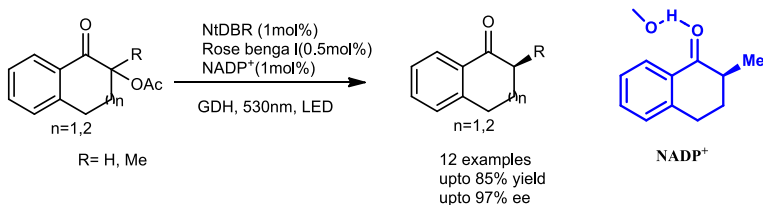
3.1.2 Enzyme Catalysis

In previous years, biocatalysis has attracted attention in synthetic chemistry due to nonhazardous to the environment. Litman et al. combined photocatalysis and enzymatic catalysis to develop a method for asymmetric reaction of alkenes under photocatalytic conditions to form amino ester in 90% yield with 98% ee (Scheme 25) [42].

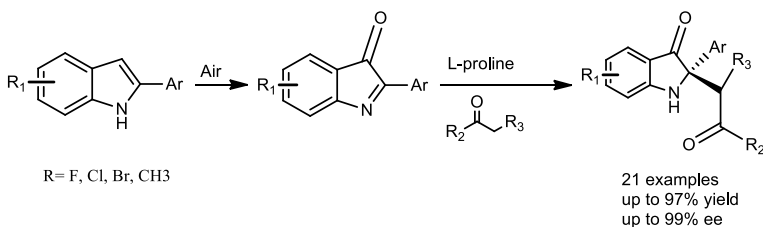
Subsequently, Hyster and Cooper's group reported photoredox catalysis with enzyme catalysis. It was observed that when acetoxyaldehyde was added to a solution of *Nicotiana tabacum* (NtDBR) as a model enzyme, nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide phosphate (NADPH) $NADP^+$ and rose bengal under the given conditions,



Scheme 25 Combination of photocatalytic isomerization and enzymatic reduction of alkenes



Scheme 26 Photoredox catalysis of α -acetoxytetralone using enzyme catalysis



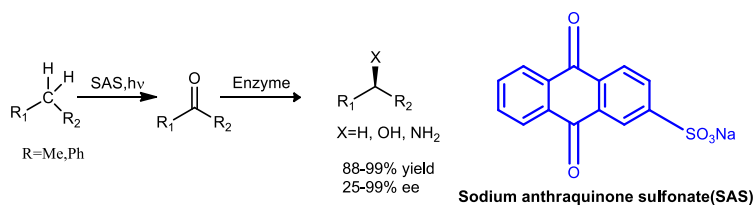
Scheme 27 Asymmetric electrosynthesis by combining anodic oxidation and L-proline catalysis

the desired product was obtained m-methoxy-substituted ketone in low yield (Scheme 26) [80].

In 2020, Guan's group combined electrochemistry and organocatalysis to synthesize indolin-3-ones from substituted arindoles with high enantioselectivity (up to 90% ee) (Scheme 27) [81]. It is also observed that without L-proline and electrical current, the reaction was completed successfully.

Schmidt and Betori reported the catalysis of C–H benzylic hydroxylation with a combination of photo-redox and enzyme catalyst (ketoreductases, KREDs) with excellent yield and good enantioselectivity (Scheme 28) [82].

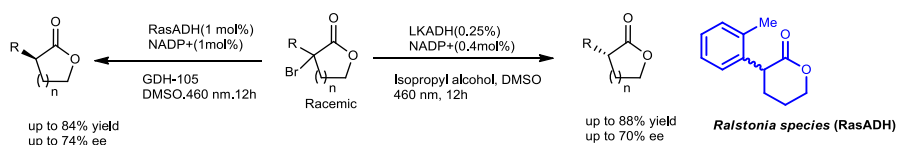
Emmanuel et al. demonstrated enantioselective radical dehalogenation of lactones using nicotinamide-based enzyme keto-reductase (has a large active site) under irradiation with visible light with excellent enantioselectivity. NADH and NADPH were used as a source of hydrogen atoms. Reaction with *Ralstonia* species (RasADH) and reaction with *Lactobacillus kefir* (LKADH) were reported (Scheme 29) [83].



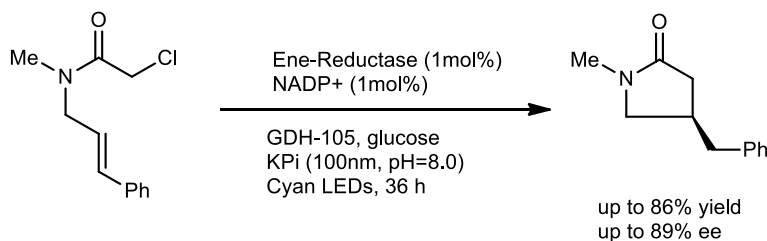
Scheme 28 Combined photoredox/enzymatic C–H benzylic hydroxylation

Similarly, Cooper's group illustrated the photoexcitation of flavoenzymes for cyclization of α -chloroamides using nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide phosphate (NADP⁺) and glucose dehydrogenase (GDH-105) for good reactivity with a cyan LED. Ene-reductase (flavin-dependent) shows good catalytic activity (Scheme 30) [84].

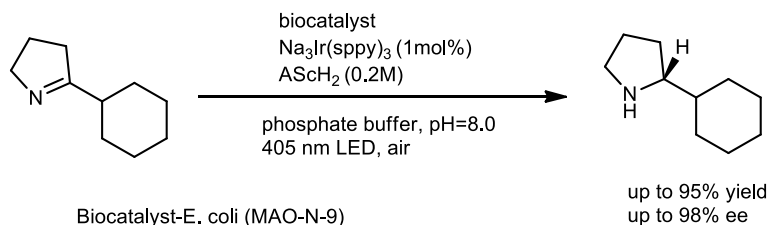
In 2018, Wenger and Ward reported an enantioselective synthesis of amines from reduction of cyclic imines by photocatalyst enzyme in excellent yield. Na₃[Ir(ppy)₃] as a water-soluble iridium photocatalyst and ascorbic acid were used in the synthesis (Scheme 31) [85].



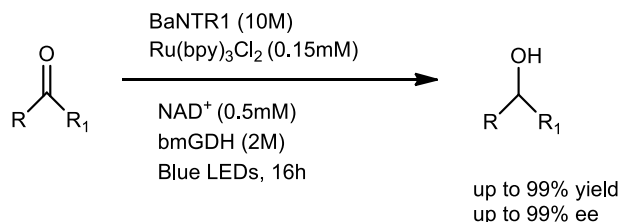
Scheme 29 The basic reactions, starting with a racemic halolactone (center) and using RasADH (left) or LKADH (right) to catalyze the reactions



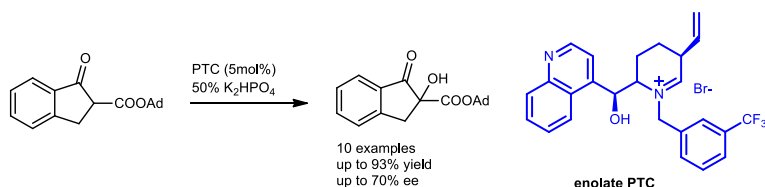
Scheme 30 Bio-catalytic radical-mediated C–C bond formation



Scheme 31 Enantioselective reduction of cyclic imines using biocatalyst



Scheme 32 Photoenzymatic synthesis of chiral alcohols using rubidium metal-based photoredox catalyst



Scheme 33 Photocatalysis reaction using phase transfer catalyst

In 2022, reduction of ketones using chemo- and enantioselective photoenzymatic processes via BaNTR1 as a flavin-dependent nitroreductase, an oxidoreductase, was reported by Poelarends et al. BaNTR1 was composed of an enzyme from *Bacillus amyloliquefaciens*. Reduction of ketone was successful with high yield and excellent enantioselectivity using $[\text{Ru}(\text{bpy})_3]\text{Cl}_2$ and bmGDH with blue LEDs under aerobic conditions (Scheme 32) [86].

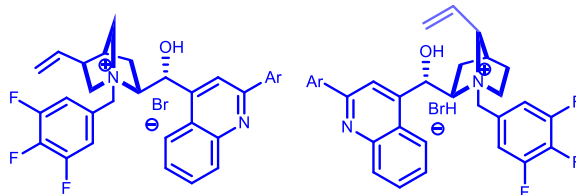
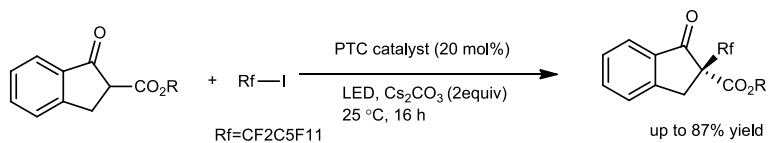
3.1.3 Phase-Transfer Catalysis (PTC)

PTC is widely used in asymmetric reactions, where PTC is combined with photocatalysis to obtain chiral molecules. In 2012, Gao and Meng's group reported the first example of PTC combined with photocatalysis to synthesize the β -keto ester by PTC using molecular oxygen, achieving high yield with good enantioselectivity. Between the reaction, K_2HPO_4 is also added to maximize the yield of the obtained product (Scheme 33) [87].

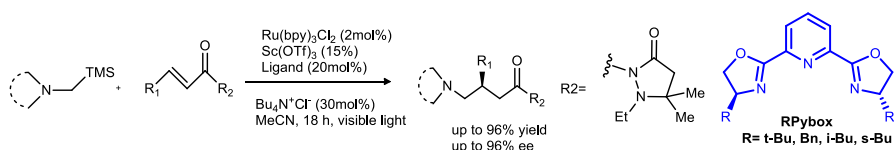
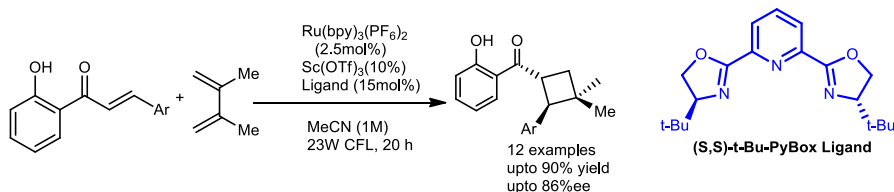
Similarly, another phase transfer catalyst was reported for perfluoroalkylation of β -ketoesters by Melchiorre et al. (Scheme 34) [88].

3.1.4 Lewis Acid Catalysis

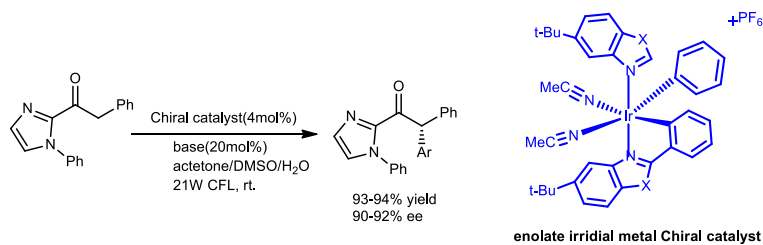
This type of catalysis helps in controlling the stereochemistry in organic reactions. Yoon's group combined transition metal photoredox catalysis with Lewis acid catalysis for the reaction between α -silylmethyl aniline and crotonyl oxazolidinone under visible light with mild conditions (Scheme 35) [89].



PTC Cinchonidine Derivatives

Scheme 34 Photocatalyst reaction of trifluoromethylation of cyclic β -ketoestersScheme 35 Lewis acid photoredox catalysis of α -amino radical additions

Scheme 36 Lewis acid-catalyzed enantioselective cycloadditions of 2'-hydroxychalcone



Scheme 37 Alkylation of ethyl diazoacetate using chiral-at-metal iridium photocatalyst

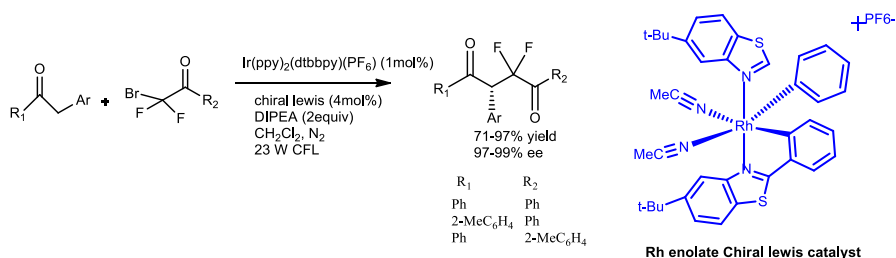
Blum et al. in 2016 described two catalysts, Sc-PyBox complex and tris(bipyridyl) ruthenium photosensitizer, for an asymmetric [2+2] photocycloaddition reaction of 2-hydroxy chalcones with 90% yields (Scheme 36) [90].

In 2016, Huang et al. [91] combined a series of chiral-at-metal rhodium-based complexes for asymmetric reaction of azides and ethyl diazo compounds to obtain an alkylation product with high yield under photoredox conditions (Scheme 37) [92].

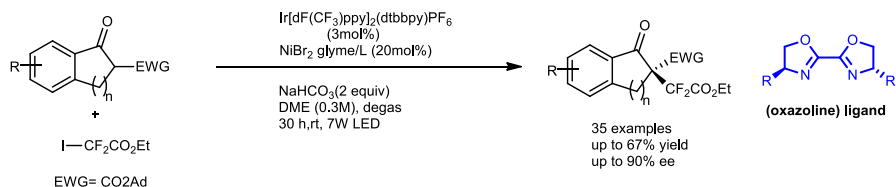
Later in 2019, Sheng Wang's group used the combination of a rhodium metal photocatalyst with chiral Lewis acid to catalyze the coupling reaction between substituted acyl imidazoles and γ -ketoamides (fluorine-substituted) and obtained γ -keto derivatives in high yield and 97% ee (Scheme 38) [93].

Lu and Xiao's group reported enantioselective asymmetric fluoro-alkylation reactions of β -ketoesters by a dual-based catalyst with 67% yield. NiBr₂ glyme was used to improve the yield of desired product. During the reaction, it was observed that when ethyl di-fluoroacetate was added, the yield and enantioselectivity were increased (Scheme 39) [94].

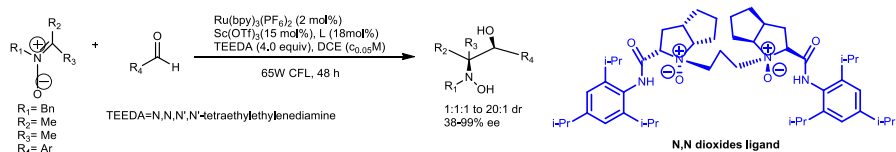
Chen et al. in 2018 reported the enantioselective reaction of vicinal amino alcohol via catalysis of rhodium metal photocatalyst in the presence of *N,N*-dioxide ligands



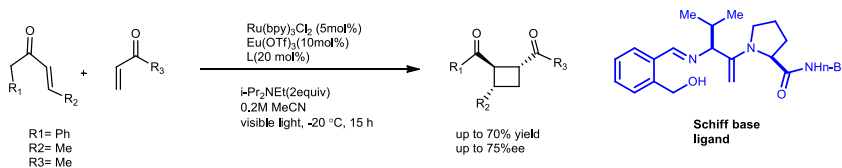
Scheme 38 Stereoselective coupling reaction using Rh enolate catalyst



Scheme 39 Asymmetric enantioselective reaction of β -ketoesters by nickel catalyst



Scheme 40 Asymmetric photocatalytic reaction of nitrones



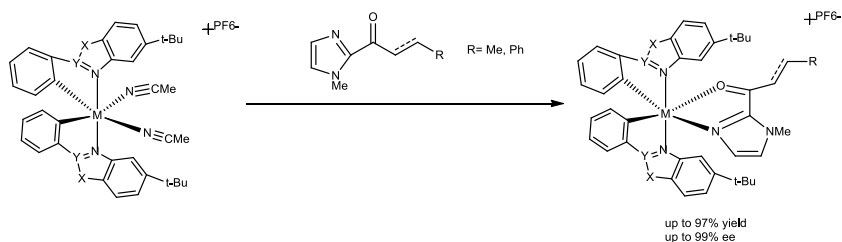
Scheme 41 Stereoselective access to 1,2-cis cycloadducts through reduction of chiral Schiff base ligand to amine

under mild reaction conditions and simple procedure with high yield (Scheme 40) [40].

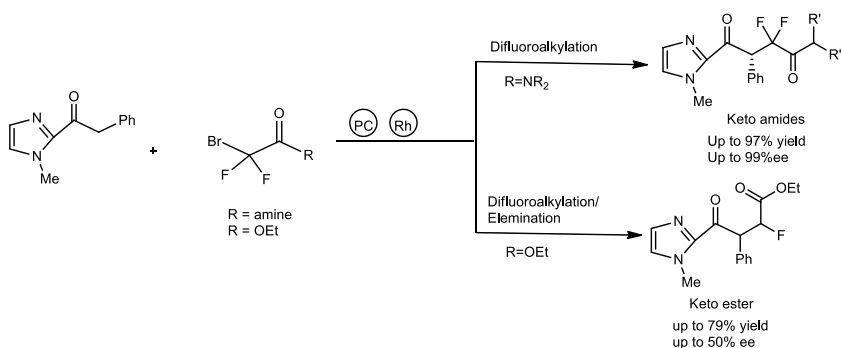
Yoon's group combined the two catalysts $\text{Ru}(\text{bpy})_3^{2+}$ for enantioselective synthesis of 1,2-cis and 1,2-trans isomers using chiral ligand L and $\text{Eu}(\text{OTf})_3$ complex in good yield with high ee under visible light. The reaction was conducted for 24 h (Scheme 41) [95].

Meggers and Huo also catalyzed alkyl radicals by enantioselective addition reaction using bis-cyclometalated rhodium under mild reaction conditions (Scheme 42) [96].

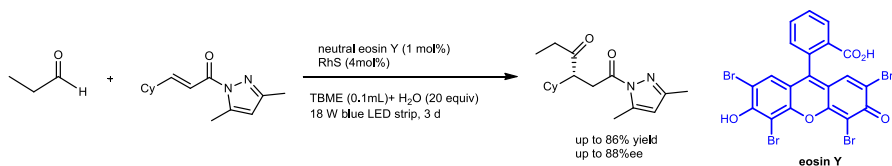
Similarly, Hui et al. gave an example of this type of asymmetric photocatalytic reaction method for fluorine containing keto acids using a dual catalytic strategy with excellent stereoselectivity. Organic compounds containing fluorine are widely used in the pharmaceutical industry (Scheme 43) [97].



Scheme 42 Enantioselective photocatalysis reaction of alkyl radicals



Scheme 43 Difluoroalkylation reaction of amides



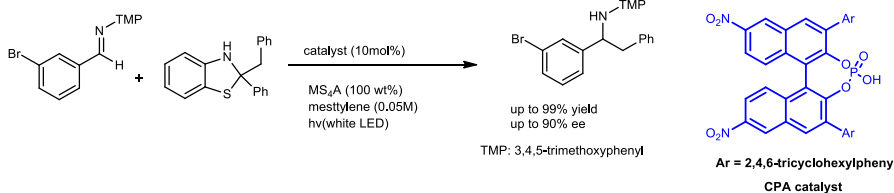
Scheme 44 Asymmetric enantioselective reaction of substituted dimethylpyrazoles

Wu and his group also used a dual catalysis system by combining the neutral eosin Y with rhodium metal complex to synthesize substituted dimethylpyrazoles with high yield from aldehydes used as acyl radicals under photocatalytic conditions (Scheme 44) [98].

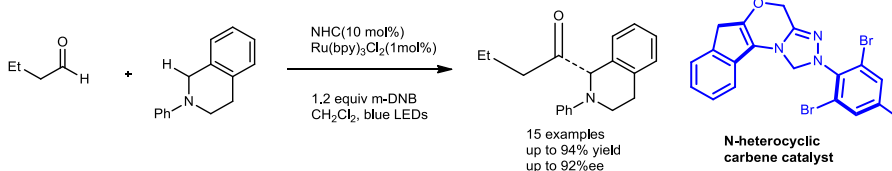
Recently, Uchikura et al. reported an asymmetric radical addition using chiral phosphoric acid-imine complex as photoredox catalyst. Reaction occurred between *N*-3,4,5-trimethoxyphenyl (TMP) and benzothiazolines (radical precursors) in the presence of photoredox catalysis and mesitylene solvent under photo-irradiation conditions. MS₄A is also used to increase the enantioselectivity to up to 90% ee of the desired product (Scheme 45) [99].

3.1.5 *N*-Heterocyclic Carbene Catalysis (NHC)

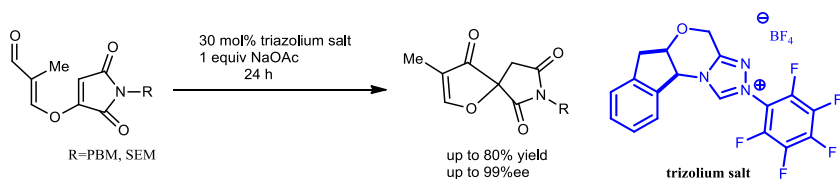
In 2012, Rovis and DiRocoo reported the first NHC catalysis with photoredox catalysts to α -acylation asymmetric catalysis of tertiary amines. To obtain α -amino ketone, butanal was added to *N*-phenyl tetrahydroisoquinoline, and to improve the yield of the obtained product, *m*-dinitrobenzene (*m*-DNB) was added using rhodium catalyst and chiral NHC under mild reaction conditions with good yield (Scheme 46) [41].



Scheme 45 Asymmetric radical addition by chiral phosphoric acid catalyst



Scheme 46 Asymmetric reaction of tertiary amines using NHC catalyst



Scheme 47 Enantioselective synthesis of furanone by using triazolium salts

NHC was also introduced in an asymmetric Stetter reaction. The Stetter reaction is an efficient method for asymmetric formation of C–C bonds. Spiro-cyclic furanone-containing natural product was synthesized under UV irradiation in the presence of triazolium salt and sodium acetate with 80% yield and 99% ee (Scheme 47) [100]. In this reaction, amino-indanol and pyrrolidine-derived triazolium NHC was used.

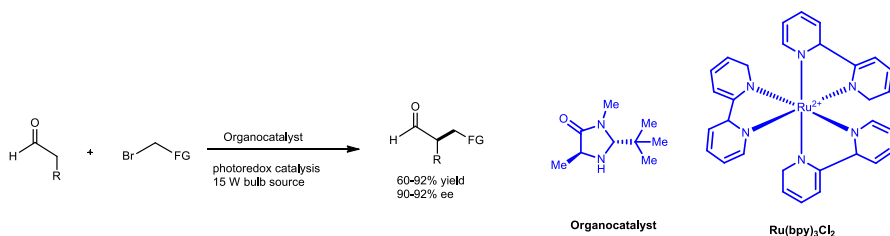
3.1.6 Amine Catalysis

In recent years, the success in using chiral amines in organocatalysis has grown rapidly. Enamine and iminium catalysis are two types of amine catalysis. Enamine catalysis has the advantage of great enantiocontrol, which is obtained using chiral amines as catalysts.

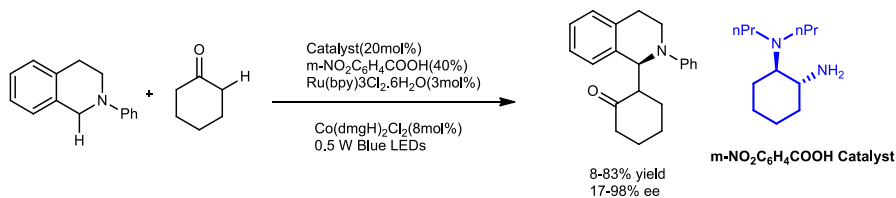
In 2008, Nicewicz and MacMillan demonstrated the enamine catalytic reaction of organocatalysis and photoredox catalysis to catalyze the enantioselective asymmetric alkylation reaction of aldehyde [13] using ruthenium metal complex as the photocatalyst and chiral imidazolidinone as the organocatalyst, where several aldehydes reacted with an alkyl bromide (Scheme 48).

Tung and his group used the triple catalytic method for enantioselective cross-dehydrogenative coupling (CDC) of tertiary amines to obtain ketones (Scheme 49) [101]. It was observed that when $m\text{-NO}_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_4\text{COOH}$ was added to the reaction, the yield of aniline was also increased.

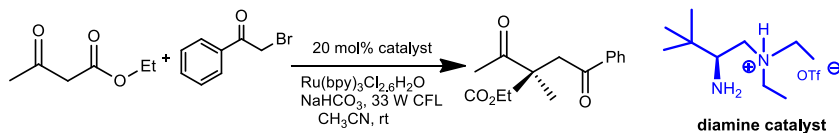
Yunbo et al. catalyzed the asymmetric α -photoalkylation reaction of β -ketocarbonyl compounds using amine catalyst. By combining photoredox catalysis and primary amine catalysis, they reported the production of all carbon quaternary stereo-centers under thermal conditions [102] (Scheme 50).



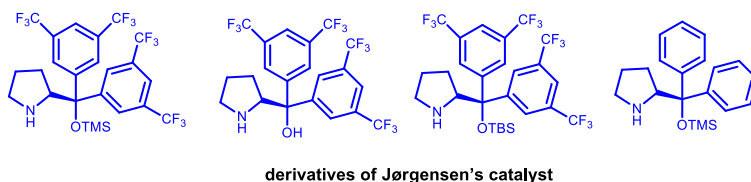
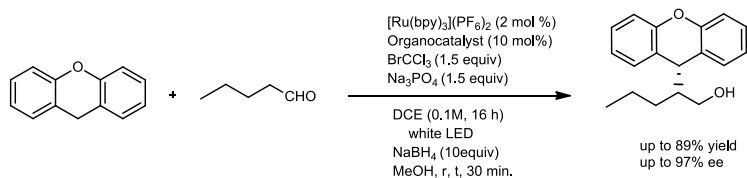
Scheme 48 Asymmetric alkylation reaction of aldehyde using organocatalyst



Scheme 49 Asymmetric CDC reaction between *N*-phenyl tetrahydroisoquinoline and cyclohexanone



Scheme 50 Enantioselective α -alkylation strategies using diamine catalyst

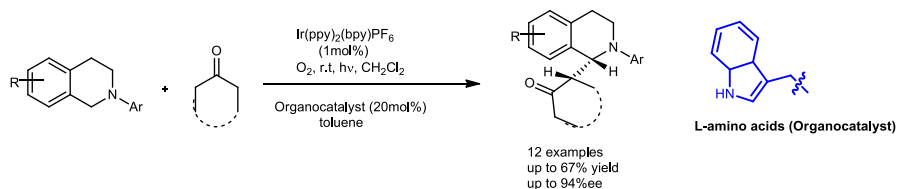


Scheme 51 Cross-dehydrogenative coupling reaction using organocatalyst

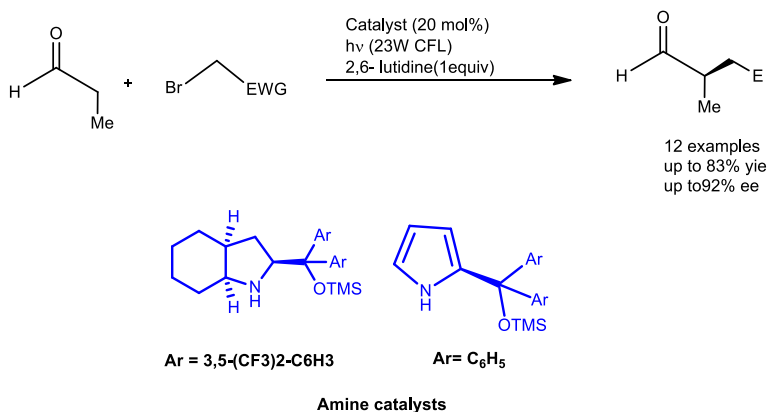
Similarly, Miquel and his group reported another example of CDC reaction between aldehyde and xanthenes using organocatalyst and [Ru(bpy)₃]PF₃ in the presence of visible light under mild reaction conditions, resulting in high yield with high enantioselectivity [103] (Scheme 51).

In addition, Hou et al. catalyzed the asymmetric reaction of tetrahydroisoquinolines with cyclic ketones by combining the chiral amine and iridium photocatalyst, resulting in good yield and diastereoselectivity [104] (Scheme 52).

Another methodology was also introduced by Elena et al. to achieve similar transformation under photolytic conditions [105] (Scheme 53). Enamine intermediate forms an electron donor–acceptor (EDA) complex by using an alkylating agent.



Scheme 52 Catalyzed asymmetric alkylation of tetrahydroisoquinolines using organocatalyst



Scheme 53 Enantioselective photocatalyst reaction using an alkylating agent

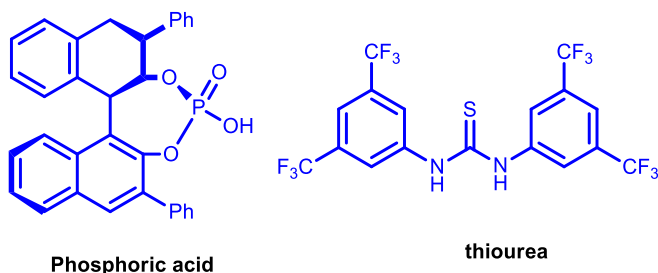
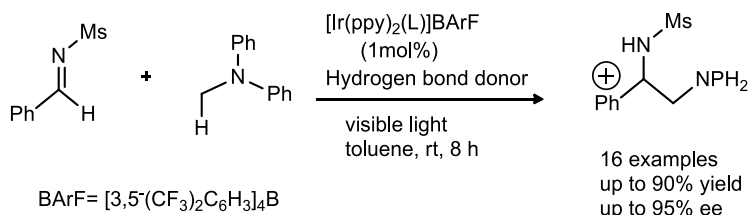
3.1.7 Ion Pair

Daisuke et al. catalyzed the asymmetric coupling reaction of *N*-arylaminoethanes with *N*-sulfonyl aldimines using [Ir(ppy)₂(L)]BARF in toluene under visible light in an argon atmosphere. Desired product was obtained with 90% yield and 95% enantioselectivity (Scheme 54) [37]. This protocol may be control the bond forming process of reactive radical intermediates.

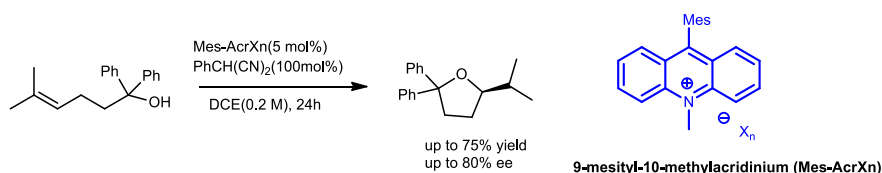
Yang et al. reported the dual catalysis strategy for anti-Markovnikov hydroetherification of alkenols (Scheme 55) [106]. They also reported a comparative study with parental Fukuzumi catalyst, but satisfactory results were not obtained. Hence, the ion pair approach was found to be more reasonable to achieve enantioselective control of cation transformations of simple alkenes under photochemical conditions.

Gentry et al. synthesized alkoxyamine-substituted pyrroloindolines with high enantioselectivity. TEMPO was used to speed up the reaction procedure (Scheme 56) [107]. Iridium metal based photoredox and TRIP phosphate ions were used for synthesis of pyrroloindolines.

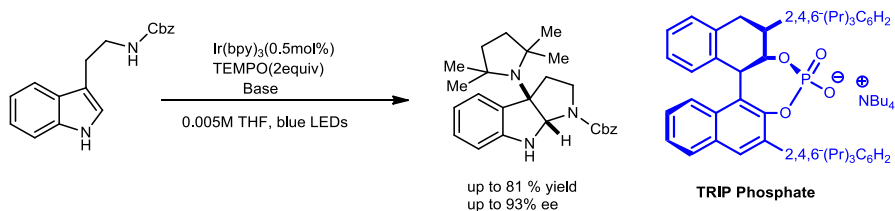
Morse et al. described the development of a photoredox catalyst system containing an oxidizing pyrylium salt with a chiral *N*-triflyl phosphor amide anion and enantioselective radical cation is created. Diels–Alder reaction performed intramolecular with alkenes, cyclopentadiene and desired product was obtained with yield 72% yield and good enantioselectivity (Scheme 57) [108].



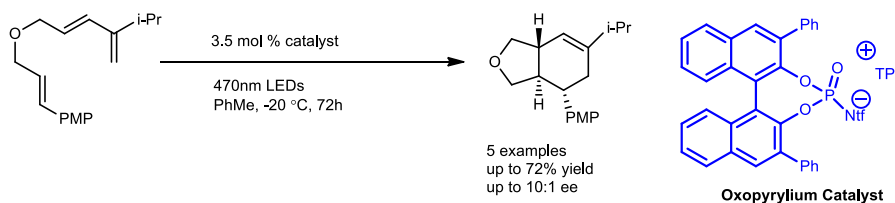
Scheme 54 Asymmetric coupling reaction using iridium metal-based photoredox catalyst



Scheme 55 Enantioselective anti-Markovnikov hydroetherification



Scheme 56 Synthesis of enantioenriched pyrroloindolines using iridium-based organocatalyst



Scheme 57 Diels-Alder reaction performed intramolecularly with alkenes and cyclopentadiene

4 Conclusion

Over the last 15 years, enantioselective photocatalysis has seen rapid growth in organic synthetic chemistry and its applications. We have reviewed the recent research papers reporting various catalytic methods and the use of different sources of visible light in enantioselective symmetric reactions. Different catalysts including hydrogen bonding, ion pairs, chiral transition metals, chiral amines, NHC, and enzymes were reviewed. These types of catalysts provide an excellent environment for visible light processes.

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