

Enantioselective Intramolecular C-H Insertion Reactions Catalyzed by Dirhodium(II) Carboxylates. Catalytic Asymmetric Synthesis of Carbocycles and Heterocycles.

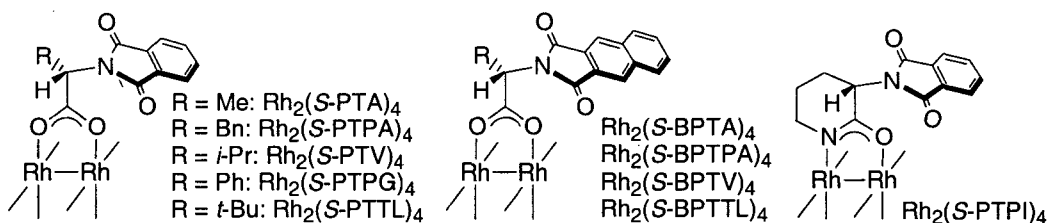
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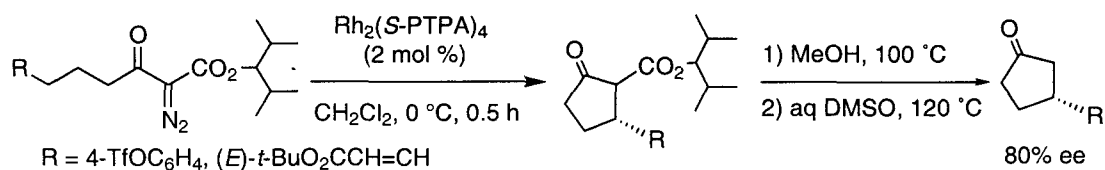
The development of an enantioselective version of rhodium(II) carbene transformations including C-H insertion, cyclopropanation, and rearrangement or cycloaddition via ylide generation has recently been the subject of intensive investigations in the field of asymmetric synthesis.¹ Consequently, a great deal of effort has been focused on the design, synthesis and evaluation of chiral dirhodium(II) catalysts.² Our efforts in this area have led to the development of dirhodium(II) carboxylates, particularly dirhodium(II) tetrakis[*N*-phthaloyl-(*S*)-phenylalaninate], $\text{Rh}_2(\text{S-PTPA})_4$, and dirhodium(II) tetrakis[*N*-phthaloyl-(*S*)-*tert*-leucinate], $\text{Rh}_2(\text{S-PTTL})_4$, and dirhodium(II) carboxamidates exemplified by dirhodium(II) tetrakis[3(*S*)-phthalimido-2-piperidinonate], $\text{Rh}_2(\text{S-PTPI})_4$. In highly enantioselective reactions mediated by these catalysts,³⁻⁵ two phthalimidogroups in a pair of adjoining ligands orienting to an axial coordination site of each octahedral rhodium have been considered to play a pivotal role as enantiocontrollers.⁶

It has been well documented that dirhodium(II) complexes distinguish themselves by their superiority in C-H insertion reactions. This lecture will focus on enantioselective intramolecular C-H insertion reactions catalyzed by our dirhodium(II) carboxylates and their applications.



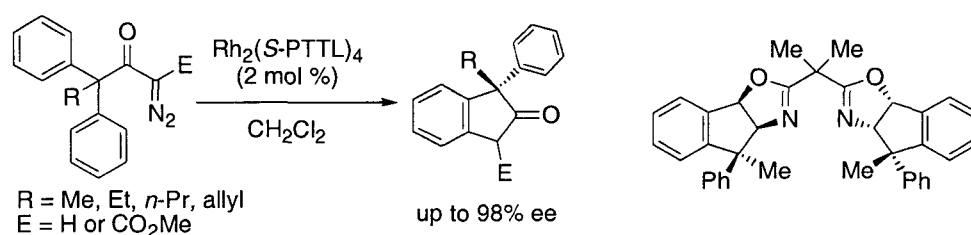
1. Enantioselective Synthesis of 3-Substituted Cyclopentanones

Intramolecular C-H insertion reactions of α -diazo β -keto esters are mediated by $\text{Rh}_2(\text{S-PTPA})_4$ to afford, after a removal of the ester group, optically active 3-substituted cyclopentanones of up to 80% ee, in which the combinational use of a bulky 2,4-dimethyl-3-pentyl ester and electron-withdrawing substituents at the insertion site has proven to be crucial for high levels of enantioselectivity.⁷



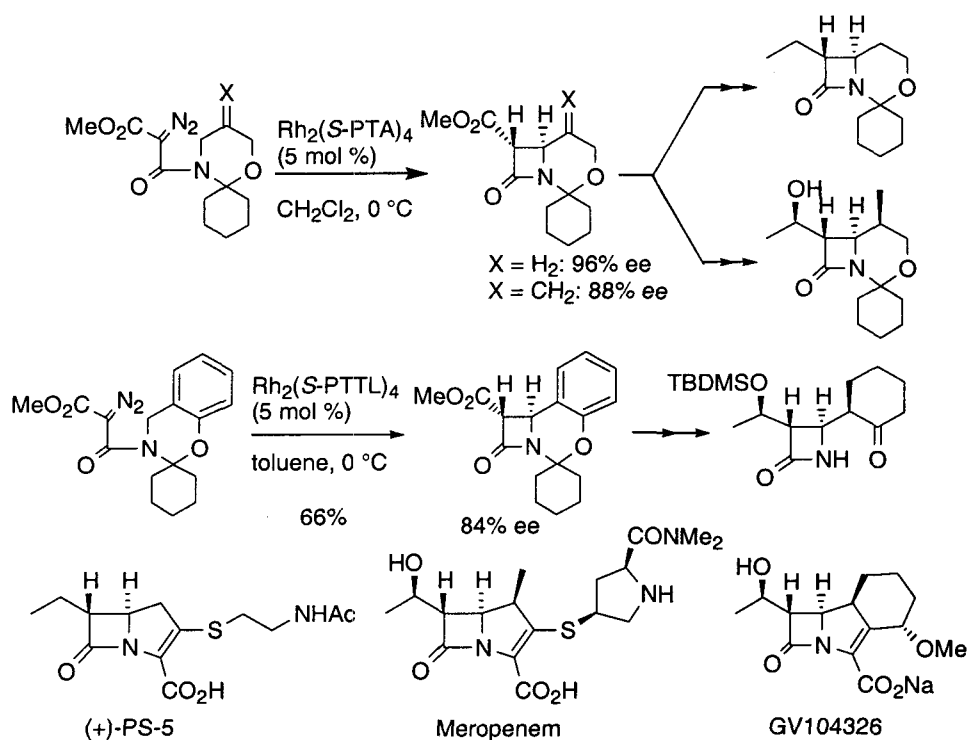
2. Asymmetric Creation of Quaternary Carbon Centers by Enantiotopically Selective Aromatic C-H Insertion Reactions

$\text{Rh}_2(\text{S-PTTL})_4$ catalyzes aromatic C-H insertion reactions of 3-alkyl-substituted 1-diazo-3,3-diphenyl-2-propanones to give (*S*)-1-alkyl-1-phenyl-2-indanones containing a chiral quaternary carbon atom in up to 98% ee.⁸ The present protocol has been successfully exploited for the synthesis of new chiral bis(oxazoline) ligand containing a rigid indan backbone, the potential of which has been demonstrated in copper-catalyzed enantioselective Diels-Alder reactions.⁹



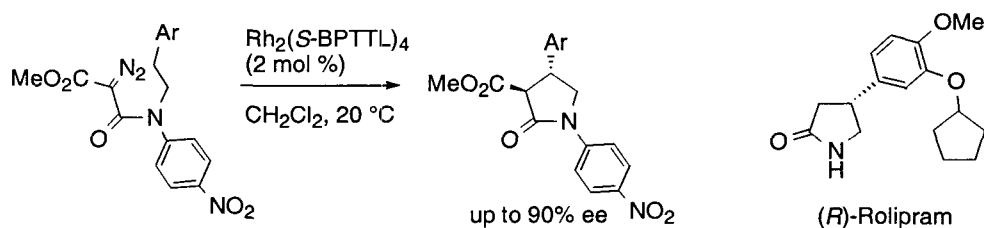
3. Enantioselective Construction of the Key Intermediates for the Synthesis of Carbapenem Antibiotics

$\text{Rh}_2(\text{S-PTA})_4$ has been demonstrated to be useful for the decomposition of α -methoxycarbonyl- α -diazoacetamide derivatives bearing a tetrahydro-1,3-oxazine system, producing the key synthetic intermediates for 1-unsubstituted and 1- β -methyl carbapenem antibiotics in up to 96% ee.¹⁰ Further extension of the present protocol to the diazoacetamide derivative bearing a benzene ring enabled the synthesis of the pivotal intermediate for trinem antibiotics, in which $\text{Rh}_2(\text{S-PTTL})_4$ displayed the highest enantioselectivity (84% ee) of our catalysts.¹¹ It is worthy of note that all the 2-azetidinone derivatives obtained here, upon a single recrystallization, produced the optically pure samples.



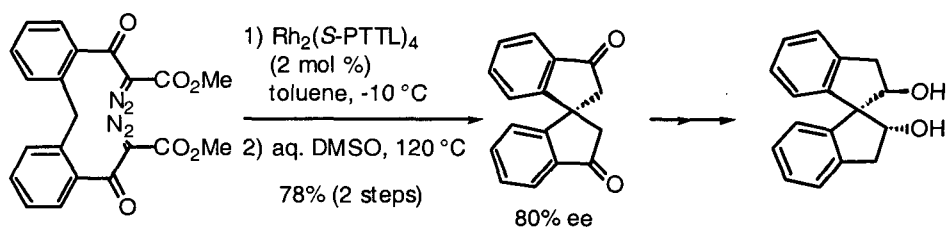
4. Site- and Enantioselective Construction of 2-Pyrrolidinones

Apart from enantiocontrol, site-control has remained a major challenge in the enantioselective construction of heterocycles *via* an intramolecular C-H insertion process in an acyclic system. Site- and enantioselective intramolecular C-H insertion of α -methoxycarbonyl- α -diazoacetamides has been achieved by exploiting *p*-nitrophenyl group as *N*-substituent and $\text{Rh}_2(\text{S-BPTTL})_4$ as catalyst, leading to the formation of 4-substituted 2-pyrrolidinone derivatives of up to 90% ee.¹² The effectiveness of the present protocol has been verified well by the first catalytic asymmetric synthesis of (*R*)-(-)-rolipram.¹³



5. Enantioselective Double Intramolecular C-H Insertion Process

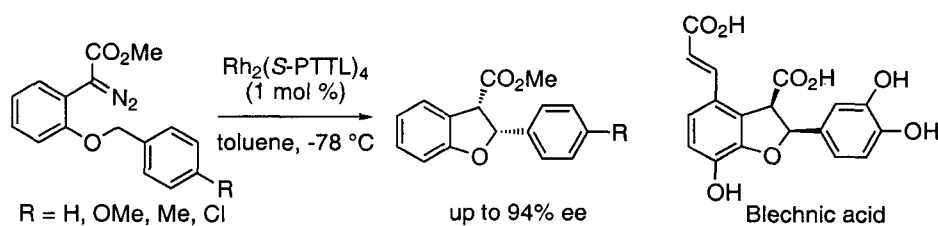
A highly efficient synthesis of optically active 1,1'-spirobiindan-3,3'-dione (up to 80% ee) has been achieved by exploiting double intramolecular C-H insertion reaction of dimethyl



2,2'-methylenebis(α -diazo- β -oxobenzenepropanoate) under the influence of $\text{Rh}_2(\text{S-PTTL})_4$.¹⁴ The potentiality of the optically pure *cis,cis*-1,1'-spirobiindane-2,2'-diol as a precursor to useful chiral ligands for metal catalyzed enantioselective reactions is being investigated.

6. Enantioselective Construction of Dihydrobenzofurans

We have recently found that intramolecular C-H insertion of phenyldiazoacetates bearing a benzyloxy group at the ortho position in the presence of $\text{Rh}_2(\text{S-PTTL})_4$ proceeds quite smoothly even at -78°C to give thermodynamically less stable *cis*-dihydrobenzofurans as the sole product in up to 94% ee.¹⁵ The applicability of the present protocol to the synthesis of natural dihydrobenzofuran neolignans is currently in progress.



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