

Organocatalytic Acylative Kinetic Resolution of Acyclic Tertiary Alcohols

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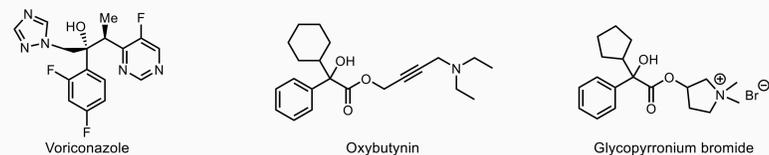


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Introduction

Chiral acyclic tertiary alcohols are commonly present in bioactive compounds. Although the synthesis and isolation of enantiopure chiral acyclic tertiary alcohols has attracted much attention in the past decade, it still remains challenging.

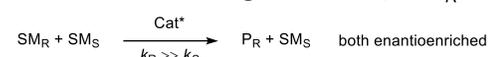


Asymmetric direct 1,2-addition of nucleophiles into carbonyls is the most popular synthetic route for obtaining highly enantioenriched acyclic tertiary alcohols.^[1] While kinetic resolution (KR) serves as a powerful tool when a racemate can be easily obtained but asymmetric synthesis proves challenging, only limited cases of organocatalytic kinetic resolution of acyclic tertiary alcohol have been reported to date.^[2] This poster describes an operationally simple, highly enantioselective isothiouronium-catalysed acylative KR of acyclic tertiary alcohols, allowing access to highly enantioenriched compounds (*ee* up to > 99:1) with *s* factor up to > 500.^[3]



Kinetic Resolution (KR)

KR allows separation of enantiomers in a racemate, and can only happen when the rate constant (*k*) for each enantiomer is different in a given reaction, i.e. $k_R \neq k_S$.



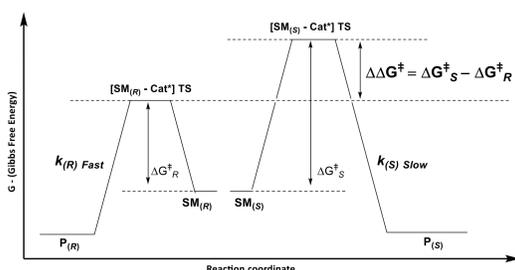
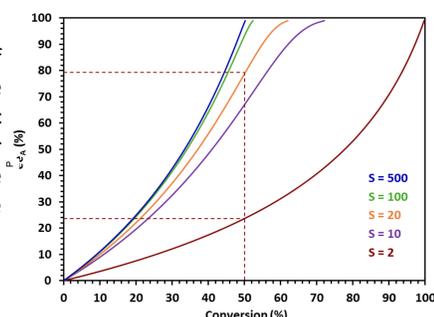
Selectivity factor, *s*, is defined as the relative rate constants of a pair of enantiomers in a KR, and is determined using Kagan's equations. Selectivity factor (*s*) is used to compare the effectiveness of a KR.

$$ee = \frac{[R] - [S]}{[R] + [S]}$$

$$c = \frac{ee_{SM}}{ee_{SM} + ee_P}$$

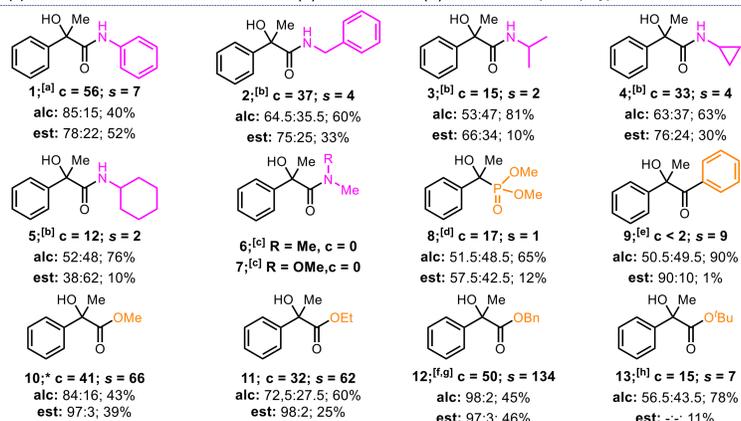
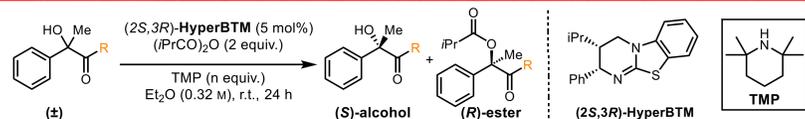
$$s = k_{rel} = \frac{k_{fast}}{k_{slow}} = e^{\frac{\Delta\Delta G^\ddagger}{RT}}$$

Starting from a racemate, two enantiomers of the starting material (SM) react with the same chiral species, generating two diastereoisomeric TS with an energy difference of $\Delta\Delta G^\ddagger$. A larger $\Delta\Delta G^\ddagger$ indicates a larger difference in the *k* of the two enantiomers, hence a bigger *s*, a more efficient KR.



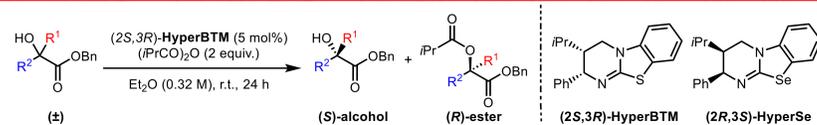
ee_{SM} increases while ee_P decreases over the course of the reaction. In order to have a good compromise between the yield and the enantiopurity of the isolated products, the conversion of the reaction is normally adjusted to ~50% in this project

Optimisation – Carbonyl Group Screening

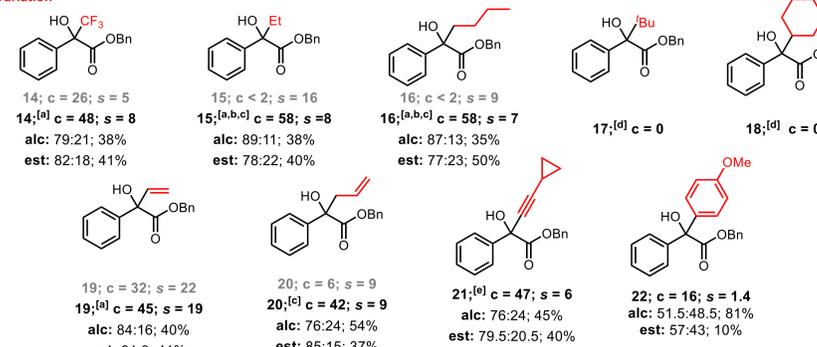


s and *c* determined by HPLC analysis; * absolute configuration determined by comparison of optical rotation to literature; [a] 2 equiv. of TMP; [b] 10 equiv. of TMP; [c] 10 mol% (2S,3R)-HyperBTM at 50 °C; [d] 20 mol% (2S,3R)-HyperBTM, 4 equiv. (MeCO)₂O, 6 equiv. NEt₃, in CH₂Cl₂ (0.16 M) at r.t. over 72h; [e] *er* of ester determined by chiral HPLC analysis of reaction crude; [f] 1.02 g (4 mmol) scale gave *s* = 115 at *c* = 50%; [g] 2 mol% (2R,3S)-HyperSe with 1 equiv. (iPrCO)₂O, opposite enantioselectivity, *s* = 107 at *c* = 49%; [h] *s* calculated using *c* from ¹H NMR spectrum of reaction crude

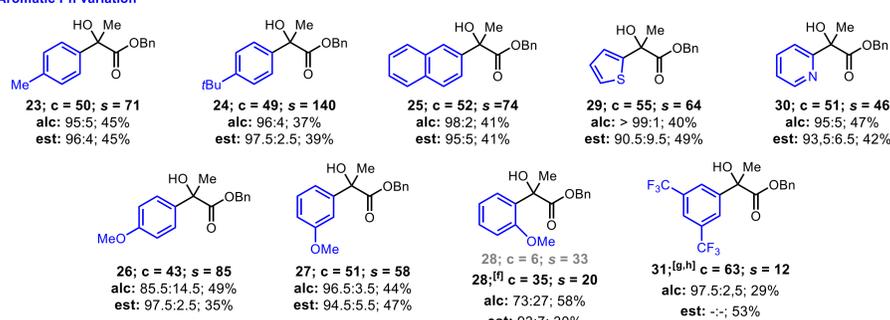
Substrate Scope



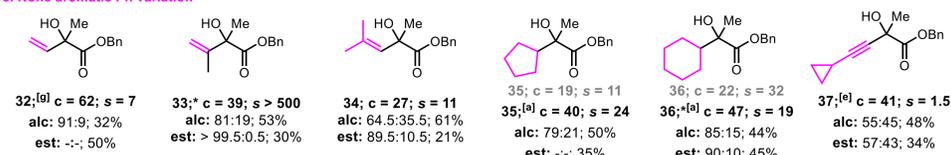
1. Me variation



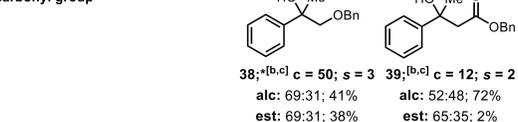
2. Aromatic Ph variation



3. None aromatic Ph variation



4. Effect of the carbonyl group

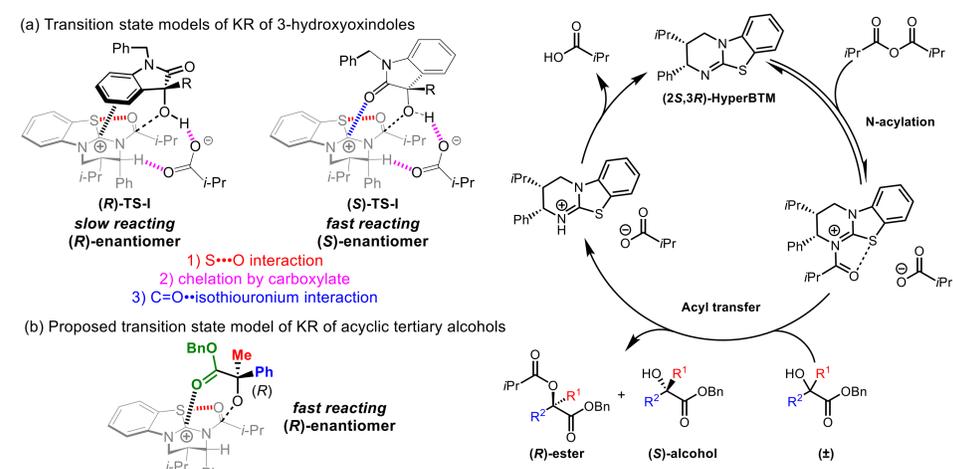


s and *c* determined by HPLC analysis; * absolute configuration determined by comparison of optical rotation to literature; [a] 2 mol% (2R,3S)-HyperSe, opposite enantioselectivity; [b] 2 equiv. of NEt₃; [c] 2 equiv. of (MeCO)₂O; [d] no acylation observed with DMAP; [e] 0.55 equiv. of (iPrCO)₂O; [f] 5 mol% (2R,3S)-HyperSe, opposite enantioselectivity; [g] *ee* of ester couldn't be determined by means of HPLC or GC analysis, *s* calculated using *c* from ¹H NMR spectrum of reaction crude; [h] 1 equiv. of (iPrCO)₂

Proposed Mechanism and TS Model

Computational studies of the KR of 3-hydroxyoxindoles suggested three key interactions in the TS model: 1) the S...O interaction, which holds the acyl group *syn*-coplanar to the isothiuronium core; 2) chelation by carboxylate generated in-situ, through a non-classical C-H...O hydrogen bond; 3) C=O...isothiuronium interaction, primarily electrostatic in nature, is favoured over commonly proposed π -isothiuronium interaction.^[4]

As substrate **38** and **39** has further confirmed the vital role played by the C=O...isothiuronium interaction in the enantiodiscrimination, a transition state model of this newly developed acylative KR of acyclic tertiary alcohols can be proposed. A proposed catalytic cycles is also shown below.



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Acknowledgments

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