

Enantioselective α-Alkylation of Carboxylic Acid

4.0 ea. n-BuLi.

1.03 eq. chiral amine,

THF, -78°C



- Asymmetric environment generated by preorganized enediolates
- C2-symmetric chiral tetraamine
- Spectroscopic and computational support the asymmetric environment of anion-lithio aggregate
- Recyclable ligand no further operation after alkylation
- Stoichiometric amount ligand/BuLi

Zakarian et al. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2011, 133, 31, 11936–11939. https://doi.org/10.1021/ja205107x

First Reported of Enantioselective α-Alkylation of Carboxylic acid

Shioiri et al. Chem. Commun 1987, 656– 658. . https://doi.org/10.1039/C39870000656

Reaction Optimization

| n-BuLi (4 eq.), 1 (0.9 eq.) 67 n-BuLi (4 eq.), 1 (1.03 eq.) 93 | conversion (% 88 91 | ,) |
|---|---------------------------|----|
| n-BuLi (4 eq.), 1 (2.05 eq.) 75 n-BuLi (2 eq.), 1 (1.05 eq.) 0 n-BuLi (4 eq.), 1 (1.03 eq.), <i>n</i> -BuOLi(1 eq.) 52 n-BuLi (4 eq.), 1 (1.03 eq.), LiBr(1 eq.) 9 | 89 88 48 23 | |

Ligand Screening

Aged bottle of BuLi didn't erode the ee and yield

enediolates intermediate

- Equivalent should be control carefully
- The spacer between two secondary is very important
- The ring size of the tertiary amine is also important
- The morpholine ring also give good ee

Zakarian et al. J. Am. Chem. Soc. **2011**, *1*33, 31, 11936–11939. https://doi.org/10.1021/ja205107x



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85%

92% ee

Scope of Carboxylic acid

96% ee

0% ee

Zakarian et al. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2011, 133, 31, 11936-11939. https://doi.org/10.1021/ja205107x

Tetrasubstituted α-Stereocenter- Alkylation

67%

99% d.r.

97% ee

Scope of R₂-X



Scope of Carboxylic acid



1 84%, 88% ee

2 80%, 94% ee

1 69%, 84% ee

1 68%, 75% ee 2 70%, 94% ee

1 66%, 85% ee

2 89%, 84% ee 2 72%, 89% ee Zakarian et al. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2017, 139, 1, 527-533. https://doi.org/10.1021/jacs.6b11673



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Tetrasubstituted α-Stereocenter- Conjugated Addition

Scope of unsaturated ester

Scope of unsaturated ester

1 67%, 98% ee dr = 10:1

174%, 98% ee dr > 30:1

Zakarian et al. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2011, 133, 31, 11936-11939. https://doi.org/10.1021/ja205107x

1 66%, 95% ee

dr > 30:1

Tetrasubstituted α-Stereocenter- Aldol Reaction

Zakarian et al. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2011, 133, 31, 11936-11939. https://doi.org/10.1021/ja205107x

α -Alkylation of β , γ – Unsaturated Acid

Scope

Scope

F

COOH

PS:5 er,
$$\alpha:\gamma > 20:1$$

83 %

Chiral amine, n-BuLi, 0°C
then R-X -78 °C

R

COOH

COOH

COOH

COOH

73:27 er, $\alpha:\gamma > 20:1$

90 %

63 %

Zakarian et al. Org. Lett. 2019, 21, 6, 1930-1934. https://doi.org/10.1021/acs.orglett.9b00587