Category

Metal-Catalyzed Asymmetric Synthesis and Stereoselective Reactions

Key words

rhodium

diazo compounds

sulfur

thiiranes

ylides

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N-(Diazoacetyl)oxazolidin-2-thiones as Sulfur-Donor Reagents: Asymmetric Synthesis of Thiiranes from Aldehydes *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2012**, *51*, 10856–10860.

Asymmetric Synthesis of α , β -Thioepoxy Carbonyls by Rhodium Catalysis

Significance: Stereoselective formation of C–S bonds is a difficult yet important challenge. This report describes the use of diazo thiianes as intramolecular sulfur-donor reagents. Under rhodium catalysis, reaction with aldehydes forms thiiranes with high selectivity.

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Comment: Computational studies indicate formation of thiocarbonyl ylide intermediate **A**. Reaction with an aldehyde yields a tricyclic adduct, with preferential formation of anti,exo-product **B** by 0.8–1.2 kcal/mol, which collapses to the cis product by an S_N2 reaction. However, when the aryl substituent is anisyl, the trans product forms by an S_N1 mechanism.