Category

Organo- and Biocatalysis

Key words

thioureas

cyanation

ketimines

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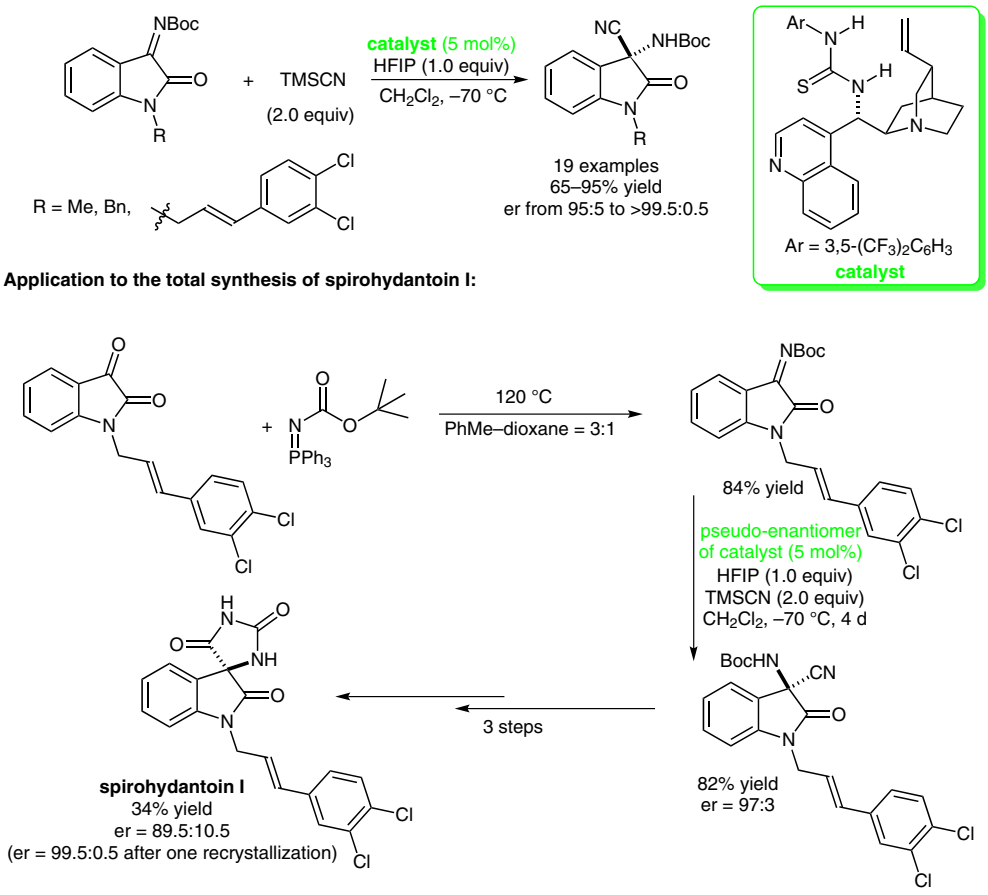
Organocatalytic Asymmetric Cyanation of Isatin Derived *N*-Boc Ketoimines

Chem. Commun. **2013**, DOI: 10.1039/c2cc36665g.

Thiourea-Catalyzed Asymmetric Cyanation of *N*-Boc Ketimines



Significance: The first catalytic asymmetric cyanation of isatin-derived *N*-Boc ketimines has been reported by Zhou and co-worker. Wide substrate scope and excellent enantioselectivities were obtained. A tandem aza-Wittig–Strecker reaction has also been reported, which was applied to the total synthesis of spirohydantoin I.

Comment: An aza-Wittig–Strecker reaction sequence has been reported, which offers a good methodology to develop a catalytic asymmetric reaction of *N*-Boc ketimines, generated in situ from the achiral ketones. The strategy has potential applications in other types of reactions, in which *N*-Boc imines are involved.

SYNFACTS Contributors: Benjamin List, Qinggang Wang
Synfacts 2013, 9(1), 0096 Published online: 17.12.2012
DOI: 10.1055/s-0032-1317897; **Reg-No.:** B11012SF