Enantioselective Allene Addition to Aryl and Alkyl Imines

**Significance:** Hoveyda and co-workers report a highly efficient method for the enantioselective preparation of aryl-, heteroaryl-, and alkyl-substituted homoallenylamides. The addition of an allenyl unit to various Boc-protected imines proceeds with high yield and very good enantioselectivity.

**Comment:** The application of this new protocol shows its relevance in the total syntheses of the natural products anisomycin and epi-cytotoxazone. Furthermore, it is shown that the allenyl addition performed on gram scale proceeds with high efficiency and selectivity, providing the corresponding product in excellent yield.

**Selected examples:**

- \( \text{NHBOc} \)
  - Yield: 86%
  - Enantiomeric ratio: 98:2
- \( \text{NHBOc} \)
  - Yield: 74%
  - Enantiomeric ratio: 97:3
- \( \text{NHBOc} \)
  - Yield: 88%
  - Enantiomeric ratio: 97:3
- \( \text{NHBOc} \)
  - Yield: 89%
  - Enantiomeric ratio: >99:1

**Transition state:**

\[
\text{L}_3\text{BOR} \quad ^\ddagger
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\( ^\ddagger \)