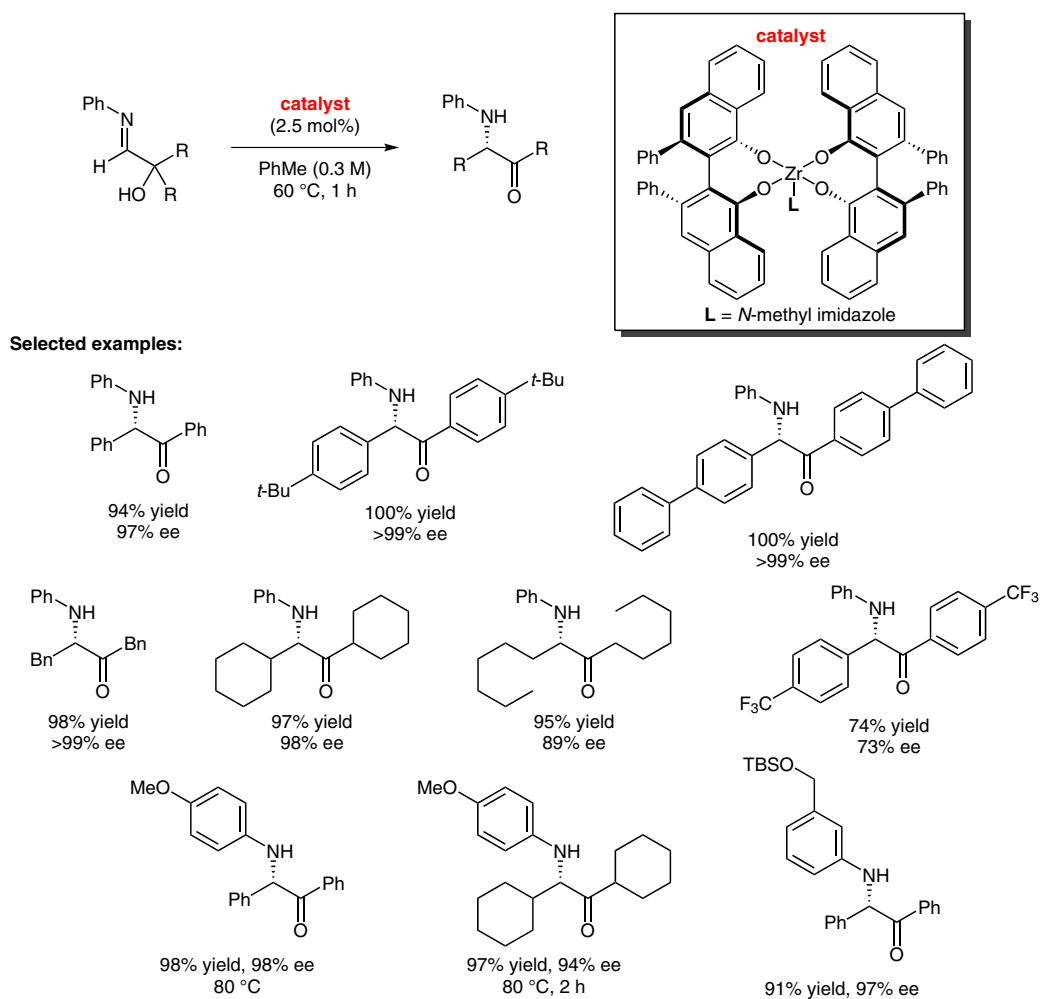


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Catalytic Asymmetric  $\alpha$ -Iminol Rearrangement: New Chiral Platforms  
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## Zirconium/VANOL-Catalyzed Asymmetric $\alpha$ -Iminol Rearrangement



**Significance:** There has been no example of asymmetric  $\alpha$ -iminol rearrangement so far. Herein, the authors developed an effective catalyst system, a zirconium/VANOL complex, which works well not only with  $\alpha$ -iminols as starting material, but also with in situ generated  $\alpha$ -iminols from an aldehyde and an aniline.

**Comment:** The zirconium/VANOL catalyst affords excellent yields and enantioselectivities for a broad range of substrates. Interestingly, *N*-methyl imidazole coordinated to zirconium dramatically influences the reaction. When there is a *para*-CF<sub>3</sub> substituent on the phenyl ring, more careful manipulations are required such as inert atmosphere and deoxygenation.

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