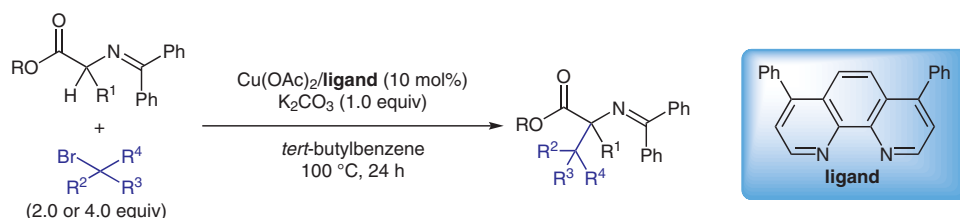
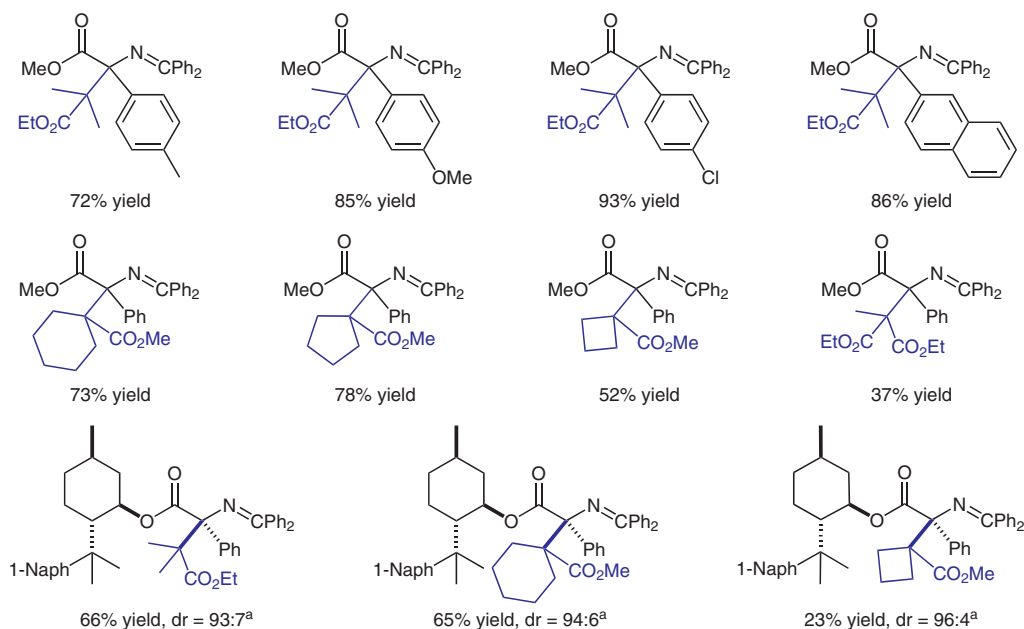


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Amino Acid Schiff Base Bearing Benzophenone Imine as a Platform for Highly Congested Unnatural α -Amino Acid Synthesis
J. Am. Chem. Soc. **2020**, *142*, 8498–8505.

Copper-Catalyzed Synthesis of Nonnatural α -Amino Acids



Selected examples:



^aConditions: $\text{Cu}(\text{OAc})_2$ (10 mol%), **ligand** (10 mol%), $\text{KO}^t\text{-Bu}$ (4.0 equiv), THF, r.t., 6 h.

Significance: Nonnatural amino acids are invaluable building blocks in synthetic organic chemistry. The authors have developed a copper-catalyzed approach for the synthesis of nonnatural α -amino acids.

Comment: This copper-catalyzed α -alkylation reaction provides the desired α -tetrasubstituted α -amino acids in moderate to high yields. The approach can be applied to a diastereoselective synthesis of α -tetrasubstituted α -amino acids by using a chiral auxiliary.

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