Category

Metal-Catalyzed Asymmetric Synthesis and Stereoselective Reactions

Key words

nitroalkenes

1,3-dipolar cycloaddition

pyrrolidines

nickel



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Stereoselective [3+2] Cycloaddition of Imino Esters with Nitroalkenes

Significance: A library of solid-phase imidazo-line–aminophenol/metal catalysts was prepared and a high-throughput screening method employing analysis by circular dichroism spectroscopy was used to find the most selective catalyst. This is the first method to generate *exo'* products in high diastereoselectivity and with excellent ee values.

Comment: The *exo'* stereochemistry suggests that the mechanism is not a concerted [3+2] cycloaddition. The authors propose a stepwise mechanism that involves 1,4-addition followed by a Mannich-type reaction as shown above.

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