Enantioselective Arylation of Enecarbamates with Quinone Imine Ketals

**Significance:** The asymmetric enantioselective arylation of enecarbamates catalyzed by a chiral Brønsted acid is reported. An axially chiral dicarboxylic acid (1) catalyzes the reaction of quinone imine ketals 2 with enecarbamates 3 to give \( \alpha \)-amino-\( \beta \)-aryl ethers 4 in good yields and enantioselectivities. The products could be transformed into various useful chiral building blocks.

**Comment:** It is notable that opposite enantiomers of the products are obtained by changing from \( Z \)- to \( E \)-enecarbamates. The authors propose that the isomeric enecarbamates approach the quinone imine ketals 2 from the same prochiral face, and that diastereomeric intermediates are generated that lead to the opposite enantiomers after aromatization.