

SYNTHESIS ALERTS

Synthesis Alerts is a new monthly feature to help readers of Synthesis keep abreast of new reagents, catalysts, ligands, chiral auxiliaries, and protecting groups which have appeared in the recent literature. Emphasis is placed on new developments but established reagents, catalysts etc are also covered if they are used in novel and useful reactions. In each abstract, a specific example of a transformation is given in a concise format designed to aid visual retrieval of information.

Synthesis Alerts is a personal selection by Paul Blakemore, Brian Dymock, Philip Hall, Philip Kocienski, J.-Y. Le Brazidec and Alessandro Pontiroli of the University of Glasgow. The journals regularly covered by the abstractors are: *Angewandte Chemie International Edition*, *Bulletin de la Societe Chimie de France*, *Bulletin of the Chemical Society of Japan*, *Chemische Berichte*, *Chemistry Letters*, *Helvetica Chimica Acta*, *Journal of Organic Chemistry*, *Journal of Organometallic Chemistry*, *Journal of the American Chemical Society*, *Liebigs Annalen*, *Tetrahedron Letters*.

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(Salen)manganese(III) Complex		Catalyst
High enantioselectivity (up to 94%) was achieved in the catalytic asymmetric oxidation of sulfides to sulfoxides using the title Mn-Salen complex.	<p style="text-align: center;">A</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">8 examples, 24-98% yield; ee 39-94%.</p>
C. Kokubo, T. Katsuki <i>Tetrahedron</i> 1996 , <i>52</i> , 13895.		
(Pyridine-2,6-dicarboxylate)(HMPA)Mo(O)O₂		Catalyst
The title molybdenum peroxy complex catalyses the regioselective allylic amination of alkenes by aryl amines with <i>tert</i> -butyl hydroperoxide as oxidant.	<p style="text-align: center;">A</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">7 examples, yields from 51-91%.</p>
R. S. Sricastava, K. M. Nicholas <i>Chem. Commun.</i> 1996 , 2335.		
Homochiral Cobalt Catalyst		Catalyst
The title catalyst together with sodium borohydride and a tetrahydrofurfuryl alcohol enantioselectively reduces aromatic ketones.	<p style="text-align: center;">A</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">98%; er = 96:4</p> <p style="text-align: center;">7 examples: yields >98%; ee 90-97%. Alcohol additives such as tetrahydrofurfuryl alcohol (THFA) have a profound effect on the outcome of these reactions.</p>
K. D. Sugi, T. Nagata, T. Yamada, T. Mukaiyama <i>Chem. Lett.</i> 1996 , 737.		









