# **TETRAHEDRON: ASYMMETRY REPORT NUMBER 6**

## Enantioselective Synthesis Using Chiral Heterogeneous Catalysts.

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Abstract: The application of solid chiral catalysts for the enantioselective synthesis of chiral molecules is reviewed. An attempt has been made to discuss critically the scope and limitations of these catalytic systems and their value for the synthetic organic chemist. The different catalytic systems described in the literature are tabulated and the enantioselectivities observed for different reactions are summarized according to the functional group which is transformed. Conclusions concerning synthetic and commercial-scale applications and some ideas on the mode of action of chiral solid catalysts are presented.

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6. Conclusions

## **1. Introduction**

Enantioselective synthesis is a topic of undisputable importance in current chemical research and there is a steady flow of articles, reviews and books on almost every aspect involved. The present overview is an updated and revised version of a recent survey<sup>1</sup> and will concentrate mainly on the *synthetic application* of heterogeneous catalysts for the enantioselective preparation of a variety of chiral molecules. From a technical point of view, enantioselective heterogeneous catalysts are often preferable to homogeneous catalysts because of their handling and separation properties. From a synthetic point of view, there are interesting reactions that are efficiently catalyzed by chiral heterogeneous catalysts. Finally, from a theoretical or conceptional point of view, enantioselective catalysis with chiral solids is a fascinating and challenging area of chemistry because, compared to soluble catalysts, there is an additional structural dimension involved. Also included are enantioselective electrochemical reactions and reactions in a chiral crystalline environment. On the other hand, immobilized homogeneous complexes or bio-catalysts are not discussed since the problems that arise differ in many respects and require different strategies and methods to solve them.<sup>2</sup> In the course of the preparation of this manuscript several reviews covering various aspects of heterogeneous enantioselective catalysis have been found to be very informative and are recommended for further information.<sup>3-15</sup>

An enantioselective catalyst has two functions: First, it has to perform what one could call the chemical catalysis, here named *activating function*. Second, it has to control the stereochemical outcome of the reaction and we term this the *controlling function*. The two functions can be performed by the same or by two different agents. Table 1 shows a classification of different types of enantioselective systems described in the literature where an inherently chiral or a chirally modified solid catalyst is involved (see also Tables 2-5). Two extreme cases can be distinguished: the reaction is either catalyzed at the surface of a "hard" solid (e.g. a metal) or it can occur inside a "soft" material (e.g. an organic polymer). In the first case, the modifier or support probably controls the adsorption of the substrate and thus the stereochemistry. In the second case, the activation and the stereocontrol occur inside a three dimensional network comparable to an enzyme.

Activation	Control	Reaction type
metallic surface	modifier or support	hydrogenation hydrogenolysis isomerization dehydrogenation electrochemistry
metal salt or oxide	modifier	polymerization isomerization epoxidation
chiral metal salt	chiral metal salt	polymerization carbene addition SN <sub>2</sub> reaction
metallic surface	polymer	hydrogenation electrochemistry
chiral polymer	chiral polymer	nucleophilic addition epoxidation
hv or none	crystal	addition reactions dimerization reduction Wittig reaction

TABLE 1. Classification of chiral heterogeneous catalytic systems.

## 2. Historical background

In the last 60 years a great number of different chiral heterogeneous catalysts have been described. This paragraph gives some historical background and an overview on the catalytic systems that have evolved. The catalysts are numbered according to their function: <u>H</u>, hydrogenation catalysts, Table 2; <u>E</u>, electrochemical systems, Table 3; <u>B</u>, base catalysts, Table 4; <u>M</u>, miscellaneous catalysts, Table 5.

Early attempts of what was then called "absolute or total asymmetric synthesis" with chiral heterogeneous catalysts used nature (naturally!) both as a model and as a challenge. Hypotheses on the origin of chirality on earth and early ideas of the nature of enzymes strongly influenced this period.<sup>16</sup> The following approaches were tried: First, existing heterogeneous catalysts were modified by the addition of naturally occuring chiral molecules (the structures of important modifiers are depicted in Fig. 1). Second, chiral solids such as quartz or natural fibres were used as supports for metallic catalysts. Both approaches proved to be successful and even if the optical yields were, with few exceptions, very low or not even determined quantitatively the basic feasibility of heterogeneous enantioselective catalysis was established.

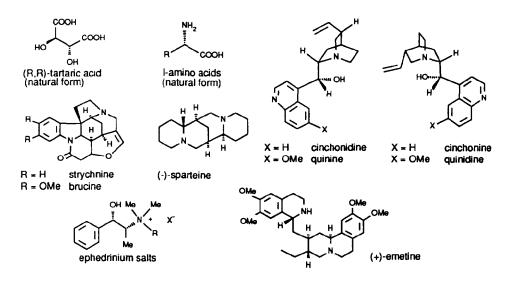


Fig. 1. Structures of the most important chiral modifiers. Not shown are the sugars and biopolymers used. In some cases the naturally occuring compound was derivatized for best effects.

It is not clear whether the ZnO/fructose catalyst <u>B1</u> described by Erlenmeyer<sup>17</sup> in 1922 was really heterogeneous but it is the earliest reported example of the combination of a modifier and a catalyst. Much later, Lipkin<sup>18</sup> described in 1939 a Pt catalyst modified with hydrocinchonine <u>H2</u> (as salt of the substrate  $\beta$ -methyl-cinnamic acid). Nakamura<sup>19</sup> in 1940 and later Isoda<sup>20</sup> and Izumi<sup>6</sup> chose chiral acids to modify Pt- and Ni-catalysts <u>H4, H7</u> eventually leading to the best known enantioselective heterogeneous catalytic systems: Ni/tartrate/NaBr catalysts <u>H9</u> which are able to hydrogenate  $\beta$ -ketoesters with optical yields as high as 92%.<sup>3,6,26,79</sup> Other modifiers were not very effective and were not further investigated. A notable exception are the cinchona alkaloid modified Pt catalysts <u>H14</u> first described by Orito<sup>21</sup> for the asymmetric hydrogenation of  $\alpha$ -ketoesters with optical yields reaching 95%.<sup>22</sup> Alkaloid modified electrochemical systems <u>E1</u><sup>23</sup> as well as Pd/cinchona catalysts <u>H15</u><sup>24,25</sup> have also been reported to give moderate enantioselectivities.

The use of chiral supports was first reported by Schwab<sup>27</sup> in 1932: Cu, Ni, Pd and Pt on quartz <u>H1</u> were used to dehydrogenate racemic 2-butanol. At low conversions, a measurable optical rotation of the reaction solution indicated that one enantiomer of the substrate had reacted preferentially ( $ee\approx10\%$ ). Because left- and right-handed quartz gave the opposite optical rotations it was deduced that the chiral arrangement of the crystal was indeed responsible for this kinetic resolution (for a review see Klabunovskii<sup>10</sup>).

Later, biopolymers such as natural fibres like silk fibroin <u>H5</u> (1956, Akabori<sup>28</sup>) and cellulose <u>H12</u> (1970, Harada<sup>29</sup>), or polysaccharides <u>H8</u> (1959, Balandin<sup>30</sup>) were employed as chiral carriers or as protective polymer for several metals. With the exception of Pd/silk fibroin <u>H5</u>, where ee's up to 66% were reported,<sup>20</sup> the optical yields observed for hydrogenation catalysts from natural or synthetic chiral supports were very low and it was later found that the results observed with silk fibroin were not reproducible.<sup>6</sup> The use of synthetic polyamines <u>B5</u> was first reported by Tsuboyama<sup>31</sup> in 1962. This led to the development of polypeptides <u>M5<sup>32</sup></u> and <u>M10<sup>110</sup></u> as catalysts for the epoxidation of chalcones (ee's up to 99%) and of polymer coated electrodes <u>E5</u> for the oxidation of phenyl sulfides (ee's up to 93%).<sup>23</sup>

In recent years several new types of enantioselective solid catalysts were developed and described to be effective for the stereocontrol of various reaction types: Chiral crystals <u>M2</u> (1969, Schmidt<sup>33</sup>), metal tartrates <u>M4</u> (1979, Marchetti<sup>34</sup>), <u>M7<sup>50</sup></u> and <u>M8<sup>86</sup></u>, chiral crystalline hosts <u>M6</u> (1983, Tanaka<sup>35</sup>) and <u>M9<sup>71</sup></u>, and finally a heterogeneous modification of the Sharpless epoxidation using titanium-pillared montmorillonite <u>M10</u> (1990, Choudary<sup>36</sup>).

## 3. Heterogeneous enantioselective catalytic systems

In this chapter we summarize what is known about chiral heterogeneous catalytic systems (somewhat arbitrarily divided into four different classes) in terms of characterization, influence of structural and preparation parameters and related aspects. Because the preparative application of these catalysts is the main topic of the present review (see next chapter), the description of the catalysts is very condensed and we refer to pertinent references for more detailed information.

Before discussing the various chiral catalysts the problem of *substrate specificity* should be mentioned: It is quite common that very selective catalysts are highly substrate specific, i.e. are only effective with certain substrates. A case in point are the enzymes which often accept only one single substrate (the "natural" substrate) whereas even slightly modified molecules react with lower rates and/or lower selectivities. More often the specificity of a given catalyst is connected with certain substrate classes or types. Naturally, a catalyst is much more useful and convenient if the substrate specificity is low i.e. when as many transformations as possible are catalyzed with high selectivity. Enantioselective heterogeneous catalysts are usually selective for a given class of compounds e.g. Ni/tartrate H9 for the hydrogenation of  $\beta$ -functionalised ketones<sup>3,6</sup> or polypeptide coated electrodes E5 for the oxidation of aryl sulfides.<sup>23</sup> But specificity for one single substrate has also been reported.<sup>37</sup> When the activating and controlling function are separate, these have to be optimally matched in order to give an effective enantioselective catalyst, e.g. tartrate is only a good modifier with Ni or Ru.<sup>25,37,38</sup>

#### 3.1 Hydrogenation catalysts

Hydrogenation is arguably the most important synthetic application of enantioselective catalysts because of its potential to produce a large variety of chiral functional groups. It is therefore not surprising that the largest number of catalytic systems has been described for this reaction type. Even though Table 2 shows an impressive number of entries, a closer inspection reveals that there are really only two families of synthetically useful catalytic systems: Ni catalyst modified with tartate/NaBr <u>H9</u> and Pt (Pd) catalysts modified with cinchona alkaloids <u>H14, H15</u>. These are also the only ones that have been investigated systematically. In the next few paragraphs we will summarize important results concerning these catalysts. All the other catalytic systems listed are either not very selective or not easily reproducible or both; as mentioned above, they are interesting from a historical and some also from a conceptual perspective.

		ADLE 2. Enantiosciccuve	neterogeneous nyurogenauon catarysis	
Year <sup>1)</sup>	Cat.2)	Activation / Control	Reduced function (best ee)	Ref.
1932	<u>H1</u>	Cu, Ni, Pd, Pt / quartz	CH-OH dehydrog. (~10)	9,10,27
1939	<u>H2</u>	PtO <sub>2</sub> / cinchonine	C=C (8)	18
1939	H3	Raney Ni / glucose	C=C (≈10)	94,95
1940	<u>H3</u> H4	Pt black / chiral acids	C=N (18)	18
1956	<u>H5</u>	Pd / silk fibroin	C=N (30), C=C (66)	20,28
1958	<u>H6</u>	Raney Ni / camphor	C=O (24)	20
1958	<u>H7</u>	(Raney) Ni / amino acid	C=O (10), C=N (5), C=C (50)	3,20
1959	<u>H8</u>	Pd, Pt-colloid / polysaccharide	C=O (1), C=N (n.d.)	9,30
1964	<u>H8</u> H9	(Raney) Ni / tartrate/(NaBr)	C=O (92), C=C (17)	3,26,79,112
1966	<u>H10</u>	Pd/C / amine or amino acid	C=O (8), C=N (10), C=C (4)	97-9 <del>9</del>
1967	<u>H11</u>	Pd, Ni, Ru / polypeptide	C=C (6)	100,101
1970	<u>H12</u>	Pd / cellulose	C=C, C=O (<1)	29a
1970	<u>H13</u>	Pd/ion exch.resin / amino acid	C=C, C=O (<1)	29b
1979	<u>H14</u>	Pt / cinchona alkaloid	C=O (95), C=N (15), C=C (11), C-CI (25)	21,22,25,37
1985	<u>H15</u>	Pd / cinchona alkaloid	C=C (30), C-CI (50)	24,37
1985	<u>H16</u>	Pt / zeolite/chiral amine	C=C (n.d.)	102
1987	H17	Pd/C / cyclodextrine	C=O (1)	103

TABLE 2. Enantioselective heterogeneous hydrogenation catalysts

1) First description 2) number of catalyst system

<u>Tartaric acid (tartrate) modified (Ni) catalysts H9</u>. This is by far the best studied family of heterogeneous enantioselective catalysts. Good reviews are available and cover almost every aspect of these catalytic systems.<sup>3,6,8,13,15,39</sup> Since most investigations have been carried out only with methyl acetoacetate as substrate, most of the following statements can only be generalized with caution.

Substrates:  $\beta$ -functionalised ketones 2-4,  $\beta$ -diketones 5 and methylketones 6 are preferred substrates.<sup>3,6</sup> (For substrate numbers see Tables 6 - 14).

Modifier: Tartaric acid is clearly superior to  $\alpha$ -amino acids or other  $\alpha$ -hydroxy acids.<sup>3,6</sup>

*Catalyst*: Freshly prepared Raney nickel is the preferred catalyst for preparative purposes. Supported Ni catalysts are suitable.<sup>3,6,8</sup> Bimetallic and noble metal catalysts have been studied.<sup>8,15</sup>

*Modifying conditions*: Modifier concentration, pH, temperature, time and sometimes modification procedures are crucial for a good catalyst performance.<sup>3,6</sup> Treating the modified catalyst with ultra sound has recently been reported to lead to enhanced activity and enantioselectivity.<sup>26</sup>

Co-modifiers: NaBr enhances the optical yields by 10-30%, other modifiers have been studied.<sup>3,6</sup>

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Solvent and additives: Aprotic semipolar solvents, especially methyl propionate, give the highest ee's. But other trends have been reported.<sup>6,13</sup> The addition of weak acids increases the ee's, especially pivalic acid in the hydrogenation of methyl ketones,<sup>69</sup> while water is detrimental.<sup>3,6</sup> The reaction can also be carried out in the gas phase but optical yields are lower.<sup>39</sup>

*Reaction conditions*: Temperatures between 60-100 °C and H<sub>2</sub> pressures between 80-120 bar usually give good enantioselectivities. No simple correlation has been found between optical yield and p or  $T^{3,6}$ .

<u>Cinchona modified (Pt) catalysts H14, H15</u>. A more extended summary can be found elsewhere<sup>1</sup>. With few exceptions all the following statements are strictly valid only for the hydrogenation of  $\alpha$ -ketoesters *lc* and *lh*.

Substrates: Preferred substrates are  $\alpha$ -ketoesters 1.<sup>38</sup>

*Modifier:* Naturally occuring cinchona alkaloids with only slight modifications give the best results.<sup>21,40</sup> The modifier concentration has a large influence on the enantioselectivity and activity.<sup>38,45</sup>

*Catalyst*: Both commercially available and experimental Pt catalysts on various supports are suitable.<sup>21,38,41</sup> Catalyst preparation and catalyst structure have been shown to be important.<sup>40,42,43</sup> Rh catalysts give moderate ee values, Pd, Ru and Ni are not effective.<sup>38</sup> Pd is effective for the dehalogenation of the dichlorobenz-azepinone 28.<sup>22</sup>

Catalyst pretreatment: Treatment in hydrogen at 300-400 °C and/or soaking in a solution of the modifier often leads to a marked improvement of catalyst activity and enantioselectivity.<sup>21,38,41,44</sup>

Solvent and additives: Generally, good optical yields are obtained in solvents with dielectric constants between 2 and  $10.^{25,38,46}$  The best results have been reported in acetic acid (95% ee for ethyl pyruvate).<sup>22</sup> The addition of amines and weak acids can affect both activity and enantioselectivity.<sup>21,22</sup>

*Reaction conditions*: Temperatures between 20-50 °C and pressures >10 bar give good enantioselectivities. Usually higher pressures lead to slightly higher ee's and an increase in rate, while an increase of the temperature also leads to higher rates but to a lower selectivity.<sup>25,38,44</sup>

## 3.2 Electrochemical systems

There are two reasons for including electrochemical reactions here: First, electrochemical and catalytic reductions have many common features.<sup>47</sup> Second, electrochemical methods have been used to determine the amount of adsorbed tartrate on Ni<sup>13</sup> and it might be possible to study the adsorption behavior of certain modifiers on metallic electrodes as model for metallic surfaces using methods recently described.<sup>48</sup> The different types of chirally modified electrodes are listed in Table 3. We can keep our comments short because an excellent review by Tallec<sup>23</sup> gives a thorough discussion of scope and limitations of enantioselective electrochemistry. Three types of systems have given acceptable results: metal electrodes with strongly adsorbing chiral modifiers E1, chiral electrolytes E2 and electrodes coated with polypeptides E5. There are not many systematic investigations on the influence on the various system parameters. But the following factors can be expected to affect the enantioselectivity of a given reaction: substrate structure, electrode material, electrode pretreatments (especially for polymer coated electrodes), modifier structure, modifier concentration, solvent, electrolyte, pH and buffer system, voltage and temperature. Tallec concludes in his review that, with few exceptions, enantioselective electrochemistry is at the moment not a competitive method for the preparation of chiral molecules.

Year	Cat.	Electrode / Control	Reduced function ( best ee)	Ref.
1970	<u>E1</u>	Hg / alkaloid	C=C (48), C=N (19), C-Br (45), C=C (20)	23
1973	<u>E2</u>	Hg / chiral electrolyte	C=O (26)	
1982	<u>E3</u>	Ni / tartrate	C=O (6)	
1983	<u>E4</u>	graphite / polypeptide	C-Br (17), C=C (43), S oxidation (20)	
1983	<u>E5</u>	Pt / polypeptide	S oxidation (93)	-

TABLE 3. Enantioselective electrochemical systems.

## 3.3 Basic catalysts; miscellaneous catalyst types

Reactions catalyzed by solid bases were obvious candidates for testing hypotheses on the nature and the mode of action of enzymes. Bredig used aminated cellulose <u>B2</u> as a model because an enzyme was thought to consist of "a specific active function and a colloidal carrier".<sup>49</sup> With few exceptions, none of these enantio-selective catalysts has been investigated systematically up to now or has been shown to be useful for the synthetic chemist. This is probably the main reason why not much is known on the structure of the tested catalysts or how the catalyst structure affects its catalytic performance. In the case of the synthetic polypeptides <u>M5</u> it was shown that the following factors had an effect on the catalytic performance for the epoxidation of chalcones: the type of amino acid, the substitiuent at the terminal amine, the degree of polymerization and the organic solvent. From these and other observations it was proposed that the "helical content" of the polymeric catalyst might be of importance.<sup>11,12</sup> For several metal tartrates the crystal structure has been determined (Zn tartrate <u>M7</u> is amorphous<sup>50</sup>) but little is known about the surface of the particles where the activation of the substrates and the stereocontrol is thought to occur. A fascinating development is the use of chirally modified clays or zeolites as illustrated by the titanium-pillared montmorillonite <u>M10</u> as heterogeneous catalysts for the Sharpless epoxidation.<sup>36</sup>

Year	Cat.	Activation / Control	Reaction type (best ee)	Ref.
1922	B1	ZnO / d-fructose	C=C Br <sub>2</sub> addition (~50)	17
1932	<b>B2</b>	amino cellulose	C=O HCN addition (22)	49
1955	B3	LiO / quartz	alkylation (n.d.)	9,104
1957	<u>B4</u>	Al <sub>2</sub> O3 / alkaloid	isomerization (n.d.)	105
1962	<b>B5</b>	polyamine	C=O HCN addition (21), polymerization (n.d.)	31,108
1984	86	Ca(OH) <sub>2</sub> / chitosan	sugar formation (n.d.)	106

TABLE 4. Solid enantioselective base catalysts.

Enantioselection by a chiral crystalline environment is not really catalysis by solids. Reactions in the solid state will have drawbacks like heat and mass transport problems which will limit their applications. But some of the reactions described give quite good optical yields and are also very interesting from a theoretical point of view. This is especially the case when *achiral* molecules crystallize in a *chiral* structure (like the well known quartz) which then can undergo stereocontrolled reactions.<sup>51</sup> If the right- and left-handed crystals are separated "à la Pasteur" or can be produced preferentially by seeding,<sup>52</sup> products with an enantiomeric excess can be obtained. This fact has also been used as a mechanistic tool in order to demonstrate that hydrogenation reactions can occur in the solid phase via a spillover mechanism.<sup>53</sup> Different effects are probably

operative when a transformation in the presence of an optically active host like M6, M9 leads to high optical induction only if the reaction is carried out in the solid state but not in solution. Chiral micelles<sup>54</sup> or liquid crystals<sup>55</sup> as controlling medium for asymmetric synthesis have also been described but enantioselectivities are much lower. This indicates that an efficient transfer of chirality in the product determining step requires a highly ordered environment which is more likely to be found in the crystalline state. At the moment there is really no way to predict which reaction can be carried out in this fashion.

Year	Cat.	Activation / Control	Reaction type (best ee)	Ref.
1932	<u>M1</u>	Ag, Cu, Ni / quartz	isomer. (n.d.), dehydr. (<1)	10,27,104
1969	M2	(hv) / crystalline environment	various reactions (93)	33,52,107
1977	<u>M3</u>	TiCl <sub>3</sub> /AIR <sub>3</sub> / chiral polymer	polymerization (37)	119
1979	M4	Cd-tartrate	polymerization (30)	34
1980	M5	polypeptide	epoxidation (97)	12,32
1983	M6	crystalline cyclodextrin	C=C red. (91), C=C XY addition (100)	35,70,72,109,113-115
1984	M7	Zn-tartrate, Cu-tartrate	epoxide ring opening (85)	50
1985	M8	Cu-tartrate	cyclopropanation (46)	86
1989	M9	none / crystalline host	Wittig reaction (57), C=O red. (59)	71,81
1990	<u>M10</u>	Ti-pillared clay / diethyltartrate	epoxidation (98)	36
1990	M11	polymer supported polypeptide	epoxidation (99)	110

TABLE 5. Miscellaneous sol	lid catalytic systems.
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#### 4. Enantioselective transformations of functional groups.

This part is devoted to applications of enantioselective heterogeneous catalysts in order to solve synthetic problems both on a laboratory and on a commercial scale. An attempt is made to discuss the state of the art of the application of these catalytic systems. Before describing the various asymmetric reactions (organized according to the functional group that is transformed) we will mention a few points which are of general importance to chemists involved in the development of new or improved catalysts and also to their colleagues who will use them for practical applications.

Substrate specificity. This has already been discussed above.

Synthetic applications. As a rule, synthetic chemists will consider only those new reactions and catalysts for preparative purposes where the enantioselectivity reaches a certain degree (e.g. >80%) and where the catalyst is readily available or easy to prepare. For heterogeneous catalysts this is often a problem because many of the reported catalysts are not commercially available or their preparation requires experience and knowhow which is lacking in most organic laboratories. In addition, important catalyst preparation variables and structural features are frequently either not known or not well described. It is therefore of interest that two types of modified Nickel catalysts are now commercially available: a Raney nickel/tartrate/NaBr from Degussa<sup>56</sup> and a nickel powder/tartrate/NaBr from Heraeus<sup>57,58</sup>. As already pointed out, commercial Pt catalysts are suitable for the enantioselective hydrogenation of  $\alpha$ -ketoesters.<sup>21,38</sup> With some catalytic experience, both systems are relatively easy to handle and give reproducible results if care is taken to work with purified substrates. The general applicability for most of the other catalytic systems has not yet been demonstrated.

Process development. We have found that the process development for an enantioselective hydrogenation

reaction using modified catalysts is more demanding than for a classical heterogeneous hydrogenation because additional reaction parameters are involved. This statement can probably be extended to other catalytic enantioselective syntheses. Some approaches which have been found useful (screening concepts, the use of statistical optimization methods etc.) have been described.<sup>1</sup> In addition, we have found that rigorous quality control (substrate, catalyst, solvent etc.) is necessary to guarantee reproducibility.<sup>25</sup>

Production scale applications. In addition to good enantioselectivity and availability, a viable production catalyst has to meet further requirements e.g. activity, productivity, price, handling and separation.<sup>59</sup> Heterogeneous catalysts have an inherent advantage concerning handling and separation whereas the other criteria can only be judged case by case. For the nickel/tartrate system in the hydrogenation of  $\beta$ -ketoesters, productivity and price of the modified catalyst can be a problem. Successful attempts to re-use the catalyst either by coating with a polymer<sup>60</sup> or by adding certain amines<sup>61</sup> have been reported.

## 4.1 Enantioselective transformations of the C=O group

Reduction of  $\alpha$ -ketoacid derivatives. Cinchona modified Pt catalysts are the only heterogeneous catalysts that are of preparative value for the reduction of  $\alpha$ -ketoacid derivatives 1. The corresponding hydroxy derivatives are formed with good to very good optical yields (see Table 6). One reason for this success is probably the extensive investigation and optimization of the effects of the catalyst, the solvent, the modifier and the reaction conditions.<sup>1,21,22,25</sup> The other entries in Table 6 have been included to illustrate a few points: Ni/ tartrate catalysts which show high enantioselectivity for  $\beta$ -ketoesters and or electrochemical reduction in presence of cinchona alkaloids lead to almost racemic products (*Ia/e*) whereas the strychnine modified electroreduction gives mandelic acid in moderate optical yield. The Ni/camphor system for the hydrogenation of *II* is of interest because camphor is an unusual type of modifier.

Substrate	R <sub>1</sub>	R <sub>2</sub>	Cat.1)	Activation	Control	ee (%)	Ref.
1a	Ph	н	<u>E1</u>	Hg electrode	strychnine	19	23
	H		H	• -	quinidine	2	
1b	Ph	Et	H14	Pt/Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	cinchonidine	89	21
1c	Me	Et		* - *	dihydrocinchonidine	89(95) <sup>2)</sup>	22,38
1d	nPr	Et				57	25
10	Me	Me	-		-	90	
	•	•	<u>H9</u>	RaneyNi	tartrate	2	3
1f	PhCH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub>	Me	H14	Pt/Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	dihydrocinchonidine	85	25
1g	*	Et			н	83(91) <sup>2)</sup>	22,25
1ĥ		nBu			-	82	25
11	*	iBu			•	80	*
1k	CH <sub>2</sub> COOEt	Et	•	Pt/C	cinchonidine	43	
11	(CH2)2COOE		<u>H6</u>	RaneyNi	camphor	24	20
1n		=0 `0	<u>H14</u>	Pt/Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	dihydrocinchonidine	47	25
1m	0	0	<u>H14</u>	PVC	cinchonidine	52	118

TABLE 6. Optical yields obtained for the reduction of  $\alpha$ -ketoacid derivatives  $R_1COCOOR_2$  using modified hydrogenation catalysts and electrochemical systems.

1) catalytic system, see Tables 2-5; 2) solvent: toluene (acetic acid)

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As already mentioned in the preceding section the type and structure of the Pt catalysts strongly affect the catalytic performance but certain commercially available catalysts are well suited for the hydrogenation of  $\alpha$ -ketoesters even in larger scale reactions. This was demonstrated for the synthesis of an important intermediate for the angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitor BENAZEPRIL (see Fig. 2) where the hydrogenation of the  $\alpha$ -ketoester *Ig* has been developed and scaled-up into a production process (10-200 kg scale, chemical yield >98%, ee 79-82%).<sup>25</sup> Compared to a classical heterogeneous hydrogenation process there are only two differences: the catalyst has to be pretreated in hydrogen at 300-400 °C before the reaction and the modifier 10,11-dihydrocinchonidine has to be added to the reaction solution. Some  $\alpha$ -ketoesters are not very stable and there are observations that the substrate quality can be of importance.<sup>25</sup>

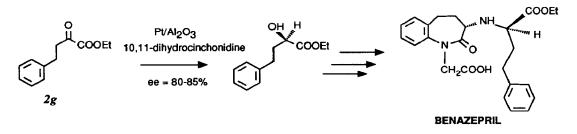


Fig. 2. Synthesis of the angiotensin-converting enzyme inhibitor BENAZEPRIL.<sup>88</sup>

The cinchona modified platinum catalysts are at the moment among the most selective catalytic systems known for the synthesis of  $\alpha$ -hydroxy acid derivatives. Other alternatives are homogeneous Rh and Ru diphosphine complexes where the best optical yields are between 76 and 96 %,<sup>62,80a</sup> stoichiometric reductions with chiral borohydrides<sup>63</sup> and biocatalytic transformations<sup>64</sup>. These last two methods give even higher optical yields (up to 100%) but generally only one enantiomer of the  $\alpha$ -hydroxy ester is easily accessible.

Hydrogenation of  $\beta$ -functionalized ketones and various methyl ketones. Historically, the hydrogenation of  $\beta$ -ketoesters has been the first reaction catalyzed by a chirally modified heterogeneous catalyst with high and reproducible optical yields. The development of the tartrate/NaBr modified Raney Nickel catalyst and its application for several types of ketones has been described extensively.<sup>3,6</sup> Tables 7 and 8 demonstrate that aliphatic ketones with an oxygen function such as an ester (2a-h), a sulfoxide (3a-c), a hydroxy (4a), or an ether (4b) group in  $\beta$ -position can be reduced to the corresponding secondary alcohol in good to high optical yields using this modified Ni catalyst. Cyclic  $\beta$ -ketoester derivatives are hydrogenated less selectively with optical yields between 9 and 15 %.<sup>65</sup> The hydrogenation of  $\beta$ -diketones 5a-e is more complex because when the second keto group is also reduced several types of selectivity problems are involved. The resulting diols can be obtained in fair chemical and acceptable to very high optical yields.<sup>26,66-68</sup> Few other heterogeneous catalytic systems have been described for the enantioselective reduction of these substrates.

Several types of methyl ketones  $\delta$  can be reduced with moderate to good optical yields using a variety of solid catalytic or control systems (Table 9). From a practical point of view, the Ni/tartrate catalyzed hydrogenation of aliphatic methyl ketones  $\delta a/c-g$  in presence of pivalic acid or its sodium salt with ee's up to 80% is probably synthetically useful.<sup>3,69</sup> At the moment, all other transformations are interesting only from a theoretical and conceptual point of view. Aromatic methyl ketones  $\delta b/i/k/o$  are reduced with enantioselectivi-

ties up to 90% as inclusion complexes in cyclodextrines or other chiral hosts. In these cases, the optical induction is only high if the reaction is carried out in the solid state whereas it is small or zero in solution.<sup>70-72</sup> Good results are obtained for acetyl pyridines 6l-n (note the effect of the acetyl position!) with a Hg electrode modified by the addition of strychnine or brucine, on the other hand, a tartrate modified Ni-electrode reduced 2-heptanone 6e with only 6% ee.<sup>23</sup>

TABLE 7. The highest optical yields obtained for the hydrogenation of different  $\beta$ -functionalised ketones using modifed hydrogenation catalysts.

Substrate		R	R <sub>1</sub>	Cat.	Activation	Control	ee(%)	Ref.
0	2a	CHa	CH3	<u>H9</u>	RaneyNi	tartrate	85	3
L, COOR	2b	•	C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>5</sub>			•	88	•
R Voora				<u>H14</u>	Pt/C	cinchonidine	5	38
2	2c	-	n-C <sub>3</sub> H7	H9	RaneyNi	tartrate	88	3
-	2d		i-C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>7</sub>	•			88	•
	2 <b>e</b>	-	n-C8H17	-		-	88	•
	2f	C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>5</sub>	СН3		-	•	86	
	2g	n-C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>17</sub>			-1)	N	91	26
	2ħ	nC <sub>11</sub> H <sub>23</sub>		*	•	-	92	79
0 	3a	C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>5</sub>		<u>H9</u>	RaneyNi	tartrate	71	3
R SO <sub>2</sub> Me	3b	n-C <sub>5</sub> H <sub>11</sub>		-	-	-	68	
3	3C	n-C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>11</sub>		•	-	-	67	-
O OR,	48	н		<u>H9</u>	RaneyNi	tartrate	70	3
	4b	СНз		10			68	

1) modified catalyst treated with ultrasound

TABLE 8. Hydrogenation of $\beta$ -diketones to $\beta$ -hydroxyketones and $\beta$ -diols by tartrate modified Raney Nickel	
<u>H9</u> .	

R	s s	R	R	, −			R chira	
	R Cor	nversion (%)	Yield (%)	ee (%)	meso/chiral	chiral (%)	<sup>1)</sup> ee (%)	Ref.
5a	CH3	100	90	73				67
		70	-	-	8/92	-	98	•
	•	100	-	-	13/87	65	86	67,68
	•	100	7	-	8/92	86	91 <sup>2)</sup>	26
5b	CH <sub>3</sub> CH <sub>2</sub>			-	20/80	30 <sup>3)</sup>	100 <sup>3)</sup>	68
5c	CH3(CH2)2	•	-	-	15/85	11 <sup>3)</sup>	100 <sup>3)</sup>	-
5d	C6H5	-		-	23/77	20 <sup>3)</sup>	100 <sup>3)</sup>	
<b>5e</b>	(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> CH	100	17	59	20/80	66	85 <sup>4)</sup>	66
		100	6	-	25/75	72	90	26

1) chemical yield 2) modified catalyst treated with ultra sound 3) after recrystallization

4) after recrystallization: yield 29%, ee 100%

<u>R</u>	Cat.	Activation/Red. agent	Control	ee (%)	Ref
CH3CH2	H9	RaneyNi	tartrate	49	3
	M6	BH <sub>3</sub> .pyridine	crystalline $\beta$ -cyclodextrine	47	70
C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> (CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>		*	•	89	
CH <sub>3</sub> (CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	<u>H9</u>	RaneyNi	tartrate	66	3
CH <sub>3</sub> (CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>3</sub>		-	•	80	69
CH <sub>3</sub> (CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>4</sub>	<u>E3</u>	RaneyNi electrode	-	6	23
CH <sub>3</sub> (CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>5</sub>			-	80	69
(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> CH		•	-	63	3
	-	•	•	74	-
	E2	Hg electrode	N-Me2ephedrinium chloride	20	23
*		BH <sub>3</sub> .pyridine	β-cyclodextrine	91	70
o(CH <sub>3</sub> )C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	<u>M9</u>	BH <sub>3</sub> .(CH <sub>2</sub> NH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	crystalline host <sup>1)</sup>	59	71
•	<u>E1</u>	Hg electrode	strychnine	48	23
ᇑ [ ᆂ			-	0	•
p `N'	H	•	•	40	
Fc <sup>2)</sup>	M6	NaBH₄	crystalline β-cyclodextrine	52	72
Fc <sup>3)</sup>		•	-	84	
	CH <sub>3</sub> (CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> CH <sub>3</sub> (CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>4</sub> CH <sub>3</sub> (CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>4</sub> CH <sub>3</sub> (CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>5</sub> (CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> CH (CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> C C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> * o (CH <sub>3</sub> )C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> o m p	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	M6 C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> (CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> M6 *       BH <sub>3</sub> .pyridine *         CH <sub>3</sub> (CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> H9 H9       RaneyNi         CH <sub>3</sub> (CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> *       *         CH <sub>3</sub> (CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>4</sub> E3       RaneyNi electrode         CH <sub>3</sub> (CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>5</sub> H9       RaneyNi         (CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> CH       *       *         (CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> C       *       *         C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> E2       Hg electrode         *       M6       BH <sub>3</sub> .pyridine         o(CH <sub>3</sub> )C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> M9       BH <sub>3</sub> .(CH <sub>2</sub> NH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> °       Fc <sup>2</sup> M6       NaBH <sub>4</sub>	M6 C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> (CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> M6 ····································	M6 C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> (CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> H6 *BH <sub>3</sub> .pyridine *crystalline β-cyclodextrine *47C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> (CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> H9 *RaneyNitartrate66CH <sub>3</sub> (CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> **80CH <sub>3</sub> (CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>4</sub> E3 *RaneyNi electrode*6CH <sub>3</sub> (CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>5</sub> H9 *RaneyNi*80(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> CH**63(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> C**63(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> C**74C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> E2 *Hg electrodeN-Me <sub>2</sub> ephedrinium chloride *20*M6 *BH <sub>3</sub> .pyridine *β-cyclodextrine91o(CH <sub>3</sub> )C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> M9 *BH <sub>3</sub> .(CH <sub>2</sub> NH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> crystalline host <sup>1</sup> )59°E1 *Hg electrodestrychnine48°**0°**40

**TABLE 9.** Optical yields for the reduction of methyl ketones  $RCOCH_3$  using hydrogenation catalysts, modified electrodes and inclusion complexes.

The preparative application of Raney Nickel modified with tartrate/NaBr has been described to be easy and reproducible.<sup>3,6</sup> Our own experience has shown that the modification step is somewhat delicate and requires careful control of the modification conditions. As already mentioned, modified Ni catalysts are now commercially available. Several examples have been described where the enantioselective hydrogenation is a key step in the preparation of chiral target molecules.

The first example, a multistep synthesis of several isomers of the sex pheromone of the pine sawfly (Fig. 3), starts with the nickel catalyzed hydrogenation of methyl 2-methyl-3-oxobutyrate 2i with fair stereoselectivity.<sup>73</sup> Recently a new synthesis was published starting with the enantioselective hydrogenation of methyl acetoacetate with the same catalytic system.<sup>74</sup> In the same publication interesting results on the biological activity of the different diastereomers and mixtures thereof were described.

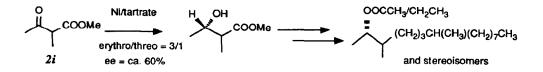


Fig. 3. Synthesis of the sex pheromone of the pine sawfly.

The same catalyst system was also reported to lead to biologically active  $C_{10}$ - $C_{16}$  3-hydroxyacids starting from the corresponding ketoesters with optical yields of 83-87%. The optical purity could be increased to >99% with a simple recrystallization.<sup>75</sup>

A convenient and efficient ligand synthesis for homogeneous enantioselective hydrogenation catalysts was described starting with the stereoselective hydrogenation of acetylacetone  $5a^{76}$  (Fig. 4). The hydrogenation was developed by Izumi's group and commercialized by Wako Pure Chemicals Ind..<sup>3,77</sup> Kawaken Fine Chemicals Co. has also indicated that similar catalytic reactions are under development and that certain optically pure intermediates will be produced.<sup>78</sup>

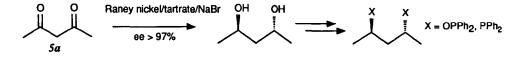


Fig. 4. Synthesis of diphosphine ligands

Finally, Raney nickel modified by (R,R)-tartaric acid/NaBr has been shown to be an efficient catalyst for the asymmetric hydrogenation of an intermediate 2k in the synthesis of tetrahydrolipstatin, a pancreatic lipase inhibitor (Fig. 5) developed by Hoffmann-LaRoche (100% chemical yield, ee 90-92%, 6-100 kg scale).<sup>79</sup>

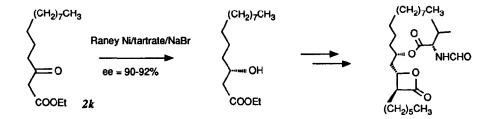


Fig. 5. Synthesis of tetrahydrolipstatin.

For some time, the tartrate modified Ni catalysts have been the most selective catalysts for the asymmetric hydrogenation of  $\beta$ -functionalized ketones. Recently, homogeneous Ru-BINAP catalysts have been reported to lead to even higher optical yields.<sup>80a</sup> The choice of the preferred catalyst for a desired transformation can only be made on a case by case basis.

<u>Miscellaneous reactions of ketones</u>. A few more enantioselective transformations of carbonyl groups that are of potential preparative interest are mediated by heterogeneous systems (Table 10). Examples are the cyanohydrine formation 8 catalyzed by a synthetic chiral polymer<sup>31</sup> or the electrochemical pinacole formation  $7.^{23}$  The Wittig reaction of the substituted cyclohexanone 9 carried out in a crystalline chiral host is claimed to be the first case using an external source of chirality with good optical yields.<sup>81</sup> At the moment these results may not be useful for the synthetic chemist since the scope and applicability of these catalysts remains to be established. On the other hand, C-C bond forming reactions are central to organic synthesis and these enantioselective examples might lead to new ideas for solving similar problems.

Rea	action	Cat.	Activation	Control	ee (%)	Ref.
7	2 0 0H 0H	<u>E2</u>	Hg electrode	N,N-dimethyl- ephedrinium chloride	26	23
8	CHO + HCN - CN	<u>85</u>	(S)-isobu	tylimine polymer	21	31
9	$\sum_{\substack{+\\ (C_6H_5)_3P=CHCOOEt}} \circ \sum_{H} \circ = COOEt$	<u>M9</u>	none	O $O$ $OHC(Ph)_2OHC(Ph)_2OHC(Ph)_2OH$	57	81

**TABLE 10.** Optical yields for various transformation of ketones using inclusion complexes, modified catalysts and electrodes.

## 4.2 Enantioselective reductions of the C=N group

The enantioselective reduction of various compounds with a C=N function has been of interest for a long time since chiral amines and especially amino acids are very important natural products. Not unexpectedly, oximes where among the first class of compounds that were used as substrates for asymmetric hydrogenation

TABLE 11. Optical yields for the reduction of C=N bonds using hydrogenation catalysts and modified electrodes.

	Substrat	е				Cat.	Activation	Control	ee (%)	Ref
			R	R <sub>1</sub>	R <sub>2</sub>					
	RO.	10a	Ac	PhCH <sub>2</sub>	Et	<u>H5</u>	Pd	silk fibroin	26	28
10	N N	10b	н	Ph(CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	Et	<u>H14</u>	Pt/C	cinchonidine	~15	25
10	R, COOR,	10c	н	H CH <sub>3</sub>	H <u>E4</u>	C electrode	poly-L-valine	6	23	
			м	M		<u>H10</u>	Pd/C	ephedrine	10	97
		10d	н	С <sub>6</sub> Н <sub>5</sub>	н	<u>E1</u>	Hg electrode	strychnine	19	23
11	(		_он   			<u>H4</u>	Pt black	menthoxy acetic acid	18	19
12	Ć	X	N O			<u>E1</u>	Hg electrode	strychnine	~5	23
13		_)~ № `~~~	4		L	<u>E2</u>	Hg electrode	N-methyl-cinchonium iodide	~20	111
	L-folic	acid			2					

catalysts.<sup>19,28</sup> The results summarized in Table 11 are therefore rather disappointing because even the most selective catalysts give optical yields <30%. With the exception of homogeneous catalysts for the hydrogenation of imines<sup>82</sup> there are to our knowledge no recent results with better selectivities for this type of transformation. An alternative strategy that promises more success might be the diastereoselective hydrogenation of chiral oximes or imines.<sup>83</sup>

## 4.3 Enantioselective transformations of the C=C group

Enantioselective Reductions. The asymmetric hydrogenation of C=C bonds by homogeneous noble metal catalysts is one of the catalytic success stories of recent years. Many functionalized olefins can now be hydrogenated with optical yields >90% using soluble or immobilized Rh and Ru diphosphine complexes.<sup>80a</sup> Compared to these catalysts that have been all developed in the last ten years the performance of the older heterogeneous systems listed in Table 12 is not very impressive. There are two exceptions: The hydrogenation of the oxazolinone derivative *17* with optical yields of 66% using the by now historical Pd/silk fibroin catalyst<sup>20</sup> and the electroreduction of the coumarin *16* with a poly-valine coated electrode with 43% ee.<sup>23</sup> As already mentioned, the Pd/silk catalyst is not easily reproducible and also the coating of an electrode is probably not a routine operation. Therefore, at this time there is no heterogeneous system for the enantio-selective reduction of C=C bonds that is preparatively useful.

	Substrate	Cat.	Activation	Control	ee (%)	Ref.
۳ ۲	$\begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{c} \\ \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c} \\ \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c} \\ \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c} \\ \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c} \\ \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c} \\ \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c} \\ \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c} \\ \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c} \\ \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c} \\ \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c} \\ \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c} \\ \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c} \\ \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c} \\ \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c} \\ \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c} \end{array} \\ \end{array} $	<u>H15</u> <u>H9</u> H11	Pd/C RaneyNi Pd	cinchonidine tartrate poly-S-leucine	30 17 5	24 112 101
15	Соон	<u>E4</u>	C electrode	poly-L-valin <del>e</del>	21	23
16	CI.	<u>E4</u>	C electrode	poly-L-valine	43	23
17	Phr N	H5 H7	Pd RaneyNi	silk fibroin tyrosine	66 50	20
18		<u>H5</u>	Pd	silk fibroin	23	28
19		<u>H14</u>	PVC	cinchonidine	11	25
20		<u>H9</u>	RaneyNi	tartrate	5	96

TABLE 12. Optical yields for the reduction of C=C bonds using hydrogenation catalysts and modified electrodes.

Addition reactions to C=C bonds. Three types of reactions have been reported to proceed with fair to

very good optical yields in the presence of a heterogeneous catalyst or in the crystalline state (Table 13).

The first type is the addition of XY across various substituted C=C bonds. With the exception of the early example 21*a* using a ZnO/fructose catalyst reported by Erlenmeyer,<sup>17</sup> all these reactions occur as inclusion complexes in crystalline cyclodextrins which obviously limits their practical application. In the case of the acrylic acids 22 and 23 the optical yields for the addition of HX or  $Cl_2$  are very good and these inclusion complexes might have interesting potential for asymmetric transformations which are otherwise not possible.

TABLE 13. Optical yields for various addition reactions to C=C bonds using crystalline cyclodextrins or modified catalysts.

	Substrate>	Product			·	Cat.	Activation	Control	ee (%)	Ref.
21			R H H Et H	X Br Br Br Cl	Y Br Br H Cl	<u>B1</u> <u>M6</u>	ZnO - - -	D-fructose β-cyclodextrin α-cyclodextrin β-cyclodextrin	46	17 115 114 115
22	Х СООН	Соон			н н	<u>M6</u>	-	α-cyclodextrin "		109
23	Соон	у соон			CI CI	<u>M6</u> -	-	α-cyclodextrin β-cyclodextrin		35 •
24		X CH <sub>2</sub> Y	54	он		<u>M6</u>	-	α-cyclodextrin	14	113
25		O O	R1 a Ph b • c • d • e • f p-MeOP	р-М о-М р-С	MeOPh NO₂Ph MeOPh CIPh	<u>M5</u> <u>M11</u> 	poly-L-leu	-alanine cine supported ystyrene <sup>2)</sup>	96 97 90 99 76 99 87	12 110 
26	Ar Ar Ar		g p-CIPh	-		• <u>M2</u>	-	chiral crystal	99 6	• 33
27			PH nPr HPh	C=C⊦	H(CH <sub>2</sub> )₂	<u>M10</u> - -	Ti-PILC <sup>3)</sup>	diethyl tartrate	95 94 98 98	36 • •
28	→ → N <sub>2</sub> CHCOCH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> Br	CO(CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> Br	— OMe			<u>M8</u>	Cu	tartrate	46	86

1) after several recrystallizations 2) 2% crosslinked 3) Ti-pillared montmorillonite (pillared clay)

The second reaction type is the epoxidation of olefins 25a-g and 27a-d. Chalcone 25a can be oxidized using  $H_2O_2$  with very high optical yields in a two-phase reaction system in the presence of a poly amino acid derivative as chiral catalyst.<sup>12,32</sup> This catalyst has been used to prepare chiral flavonoid 25h intermediates enantioselectively (Fig. 6).<sup>84</sup> Recently, a polymer supported version of the catalyst has been described for several substitued chalcones 25a-g with even better selectivities and a moderate substituent effect.<sup>110</sup> Another recent development is the the use of titanium-pillared montmorillonite as heterogeneous catalyst for the Sharpless epoxidation of various allylic alcohols 27a-d.<sup>36</sup> Interestingly, the original version of Sharpless was stoichiometric in titanium but when 3-4 Å zeolites are added, the reaction can be carried out in a catalytic fashion. The role of the molecular sieve is assumed to be the removal of water that is known to be detrimental for the catalytic activity.<sup>85</sup> At this time it is not clear whether the montmorillonite plays a similar role and, more importantly, whether the preparation of this unusual catalyst can be reproduced without difficulty. Because the Sharpless reaction is widely used in preparative chemistry a heterogeneous version with such good selectivity could be a tremendous advantage.

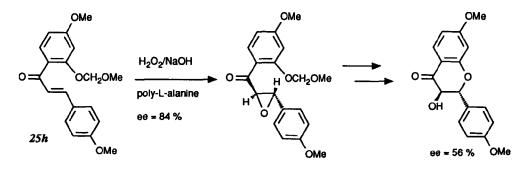


Fig. 6 Synthesis of flavonoids

Finally, Cu-tartrate has been described for the cyclopropanation reaction 28 with moderate optical yield, giving an intermediate in a steroid synthesis.<sup>86</sup> The enantioselective cycloclopropanation reaction is usually carried out in the presence of soluble Cu or Co complexes with very elaborate ligands (for a recent overview see Pfaltz<sup>80b</sup>) so it is rather surprising that a simple tartrate salt is so effective.

#### 4.4 Miscellaneous enantioselective transformations

The catalytic mono-hydrodehalogenation of geminal dihalogen compounds is a well known reaction<sup>87</sup> but very few examples exist where one of the two enantiomeric mono-halogen compounds is produced selectively. The dehalogenation reactions 29-31 either by hydrogenation with cinchona modified Pd or Pt catalysts or by electroreduction in the presence of various alkaloids have been described to give moderate to fair optical yields. The enantioselective hydrodechlorination of the the  $\alpha,\alpha$ -dichlorobenzazepinone-2 29 could be a potential alternative intermediate in the established synthesis for the ACE inhibitor BENAZEPRIL (see Fig. 2) where the racemic  $\alpha$ -bromobenzazepinone-2 is used.<sup>37,88</sup> At the moment the enantioselectivity of both the catalytic and the electrochemical system is too low to be of practical use.

The asymmetric ring opening of symmetric epoxides 32 by several types of nucleophiles catalyzed by metal tartrates is a new reaction. The optical yields are moderate to good and the best catalyst, Zn-tartrate, should be easily prepared.<sup>50</sup>

Good optical yields are reported for the electrochemical oxidation of hindered arylsulfides 33 using an interesting polypeptide coated graphite or Pt electrode.<sup>23</sup> Because the highest enantioselectivities are obtained with bulky substituents R, this could be a complementary method to the Ti/diethyltartrate catalyzed oxidation reported by Kagan.<sup>89</sup> However, the reproducibility of the electrochemical reaction has been questioned.<sup>23</sup>

The last two transformations are photochemical reactions in chiral crystals. Whereas the kinetic resolution of 34 is probably not of preparative value, the  $\beta$ -lactame formation 35 could be of interest because it is possible to control the crystal chirality be seeding the crystallization solution.<sup>52</sup>

	Substrate Product	Cat.	Activation	Control	ee (%)	Ref.
29	$(\mathbf{x}_{\mathbf{N}})_{\mathbf{H}} = \mathbf{x}_{\mathbf{O}}^{Cl} \qquad (\mathbf{x}_{\mathbf{N}})_{\mathbf{H}} = \mathbf{x}_{\mathbf{O}}^{Cl}$	<u>H16</u> H14	Pd/BaSO₄ Pt/BaSO₄	cinchonine cinchonidine	50 25	37 •
30		<u>E1</u>	Hg electrode	strychnine	26	116
31	Ph Ph Br Ph Br Ph Br	<u>E1</u>	Hg electrode	emetine	44	117
32	$\begin{array}{c c} R \\ R \\ H \\ H \\ H \\ H \\ \end{array} \xrightarrow{\begin{subarray}{c} N_{u} \\ H \\ H \\ \end{array} \xrightarrow{\begin{subarray}{c} N_{u} \\ N_{u} \\ H \\ H \\ H \\ \end{array} \xrightarrow{\begin{subarray}{c} R \\ N_{u} \\ H \\ $	- + 	Zn-tar - - - - Cu-ta		85 52 42 72 50 75 40	50 - - -
33	S R S R S R S R S R S R S R S R S R S R	<u>E5</u>	Pt electrode " C Pt "	poly-L-leucine poly-L-valine poly-L-glutamate poly-L-valine "	2 77 20 44 93 54	23
34	dimerisation (kinetic resolution)	<u>M3</u>	hv	chiral crystal	90	107
35	- N H Ph N H O N H OH	<u>M3</u>	hv	chiral crystal	93	52

**TABLE 14.** Optical yields for various reductions, addition and ring formation reactions using chiral crystals, modified catalysts and electrochemical systems.

#### 5. Mechanistic considerations

Even though it is quite obvious that empirical strategies are effective for improving a catalytic system, understanding how a catalyst works is certainly the ultimate challenge. This is difficult for any heterogeneous catalyst and even more so for an enantioselective one. For the tartrate modified catalysts a large series of mechanistic investigations have been reported by several research groups. These are summarized and commented in recent reviews.<sup>3,6,8,13,15,39</sup> The Pt/cinchona system has also been investigated in some depth and has been reviewed<sup>1</sup> whereas no systematic studies have been carried out for all the other catalytic systems described above. In this paragraph we summarize some ideas on the different types of mechanisms or modes of action that have been proposed for enantioselective heterogeneous catalysts. The experimental facts that support these mechanistic models can be found in the references.

In order to get high enantioselectivities the product determining step of the reaction must occur in a "tightly controlled homochiral environment".<sup>90</sup> This environment is provided by the chiral component of an enantioselective catalyst and it is essential that the activating and the controlling function of the catalyst are close to each other and that the activated catalyst-substrate complex is well defined spatially. Many types of interactions (acid-base interactions, hydrogen bonds, hydrophobic binding,  $\pi$ - $\pi$  interaction etc.<sup>91</sup>) have been postulated to be able to control the geometry of this activated complex and have been discussed in terms of asymmetric discrimination<sup>92</sup> and molecular recognition<sup>93</sup>.

Compared to a soluble, molecularly defined catalytic species, a solid catalyst has an additional dimension that on the one hand makes the system more complex but on the other hand opens up new possibilities. This additional dimension can be a surface of a solid or the inside of a polymer (or a crystal) where the activation of the substrates and/or the stereocontrol of the reaction takes place. The catalyst types listed in Table 1 are combinations of different activation and control agents. For mechanistic purposes it is useful to distinguish between two sets of combinations:

- Activation on an achiral surface, stereocontrol by a chiral (low molecular weight) modifier or a chiral support.
  - Activation and stereocontrol by a chiral surface.
- 2. Activation on an achiral surface, control by a chiral polymer covering the surface.
  - Activation (if necessary) and control by a chiral polymeric (or crystalline) environment.

In the first case the stereochemistry is controlled by the orientation of the prochiral substrate relative to the surface, i.e. which enantiotopic face of the molecule is oriented towards the surface of the catalyst. In this category there is always a metal (metal crystallite, metal oxide, metal salt) involved which probably provides the necessary binding energy between substrate and catalyst while secondary interactions with the chiral auxiliary (modifier, support, anion) determine the orientation of the substrate. This explaines why in almost every case high optical yields are only obtained if the substrate and the chiral auxiliary have matching functionalities e.g. tartrate -  $\beta$ -ketoester or cinchona alkaloid -  $\alpha$ -ketoester. Several detailed mechanisms have been proposed for the hydrogenation of ketones with Ni/tartrate<sup>3,6,15,39</sup> and to a lesser degree for the hydrogenation of  $\alpha$ -ketoesters by cinchona modified Pt catalysts.<sup>1,41,45,46</sup> Low molecular modifiers are probably more successful because a chiral support normally can only control those regions of the metal surface that are close to the points of attachment of the metal particle to the support.

If the stereochemistry is controlled by a chiral polymer or a crystal, the situation is much more complex and comparable to enzyme catalysis i.e. activation and orientation of the substrate is thought to occur inside a three-dimensional network. When this is permeable (swellable organic polymer) the transport of the substrates and products is possible and a catalytic reaction can take place. When the network is crystalline, the crystal has to be destroyed in order to obtain the product (as already mentioned this is not a catalytic reaction in the usual sense). If the activation occurs on a metallic surface surrounded by the polymer (e.g. polymer coated electrode) the contact between the two entities is crucial, explaining the importance of the preparation techniques.<sup>23</sup> For obvious reasons, there is no reaction where a detailed picture of the interactions between substrate and polymeric catalyst has been offered. In the case of the polypeptide catalyzed epoxidation of chalcones, the helical content of the polymeric catalyst has been proposed to be of importance.<sup>12</sup>

#### 6. Conclusions

From a synthetic point of view, there are several reaction types catalyzed by chiral heterogeneous catalysts which are useful to preparative chemists. But it is also evident that the scope of most catalytic systems is rather narrow and very high substrate specificity is observed. Compared to homogeneous or biocatalysis, enantioselectivities are usually lower with some notable exceptions.

From a technical or commercial point of view, enantioselective heterogeneous catalysts would be preferable to homogeneous catalysts because of their handling and separation properties, but only if their catalytic performance is satisfactory. It has been demonstrated that in a few cases this is indeed possible.

From a theoretical or conceptional point of view, enantioselective catalysis with chiral solids is a fascinating and challenging area of chemistry. For the case of the modified hydrogenation catalysts we propose that the metal surface must have a suitable structure to allow exactly the right interactions between the metal, the adsorbed modifier and the adsorbed substrate. This would explain the observed requirements for high enantioselectivity: two functional parts for the modifier (for adsorption on the catalytic surface and for interactions with the substrate) as well as for the prochiral substrate (binding function and reaction site). The polymeric heterogeneous catalysts described in this review can be regarded as enzyme models. The catalysis very likely occurs inside the chiral matrix and the reaction is controlled by supramolecular interactions.

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