



Uni Rostock, Gastvorlesung Asymmetrische Katalyse, 7.-8. Dez. 2007

# Grundlagen

Feinchemikalien; industrielle Aspekte  
der Katalyse; Chiralität; katalytische  
Prozesse

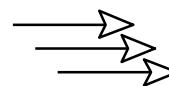
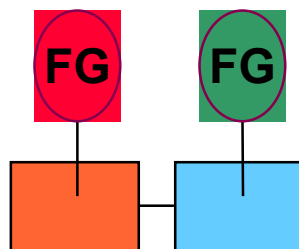
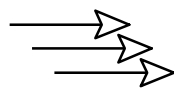
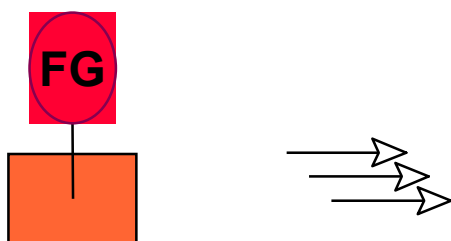
Hans-Ulrich Blaser, SOLVIAS AG, Basel Switzerland

*Amazing where you can go*

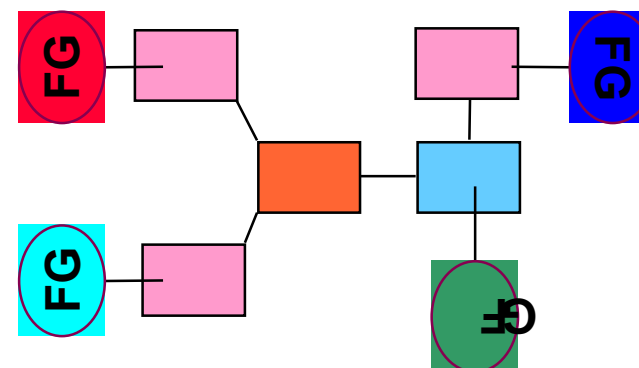
- Feinchemikalien und Katalyse  
(Definition, Eigenheiten)
- Chirale Moleküle (Eigenschaften,  
selektive Synthesemethoden)
- Enantioselektive Prozesse

# Fine Chemicals Definition

## BULK CHEMICALS



## FINE CHEMICALS



Small, mono-functionalized

Large, poly-functionalized

<b>low</b>	number of compounds	<b>high</b>
<b>process / catalyst</b>	patents	<b>compound</b>
<b>high / low</b>	volume / added value	<b>low / high</b>

# Fine Chemicals: Characteristics



## Molecules

- stereoisomers,
- functional groups
  
- limited thermal stability
- low volume (1-10'000 t/y)
  
- limited life time

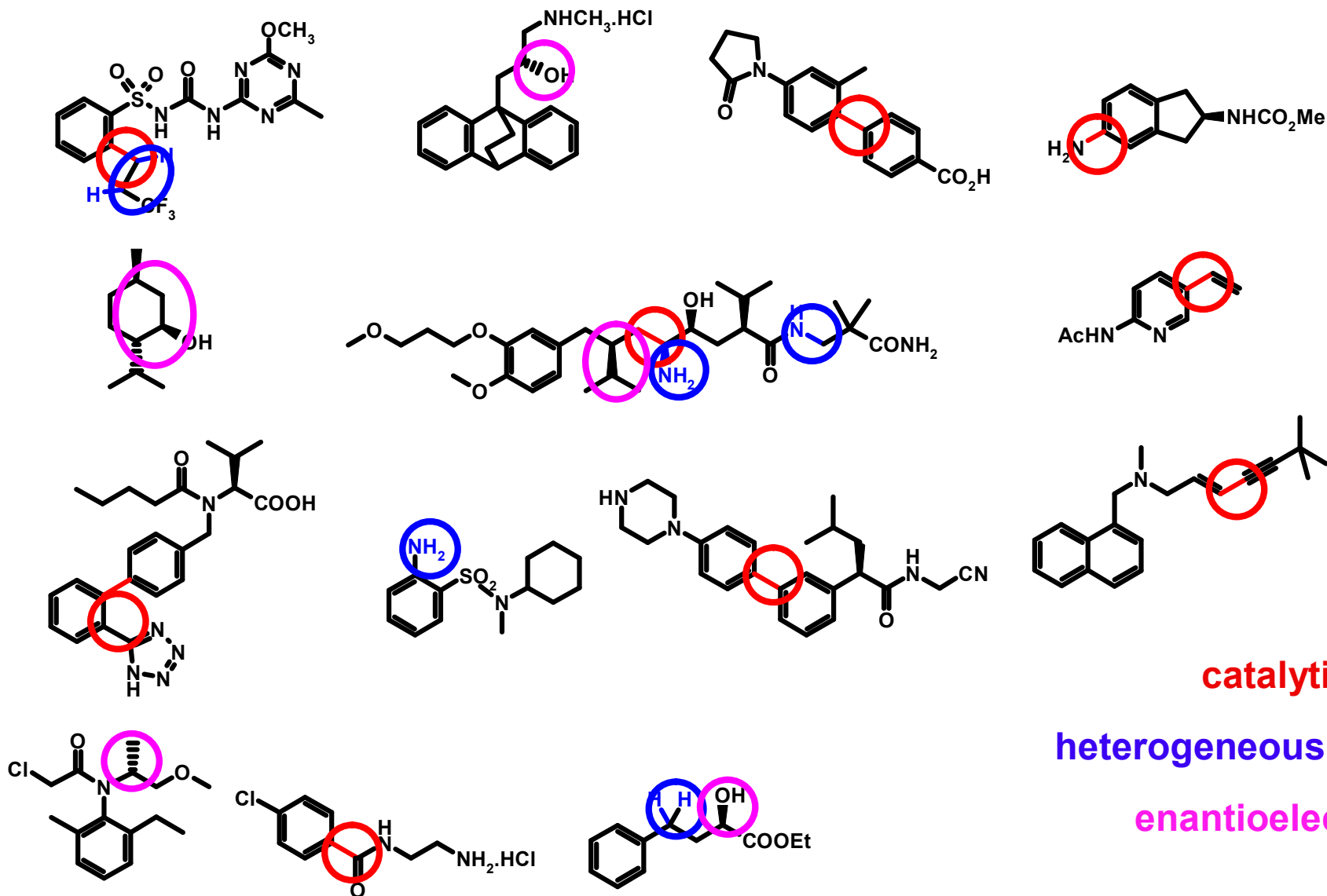
## Synthesis

- multi step procedures
- classical organic reactions, catalysis as exception
  
- batch processes in solution
- multi purpose equipment
  
- short development time, low budget

## Catalysts

- high chemo-, regio- and stereoselectivity
- fit into overall synthesis scheme
  
- good activity at low T
- batch reactors, simple technology
  
- commercial catalysts, limited time for catalyst development

# Catalysis for Fine Chemicals



**catalytic C-C coupling**

**heterogeneous hydrogenation**

**enantioselective catalysis**

# Fine Chemicals vs Bulk Chemicals



	Fine Chemicals	Bulk Chemicals
number of different products	large	small
volume	small / medium	large
patents	product	process
life time	short / medium	long
development time	short	long
consequences for catalysis	- processes must be flexible and competitive - development must be fast	process must be the best

# “Quality” of Synthesis (Catalysis)



## Not important

discovery synthesis  
pharma (agro)

- high fail rate
- multi parallel methods

## important but not critical

new active compounds  
pharma (agro)

- % cost of goods of marketed product low
- low to medium production volume

## decisive

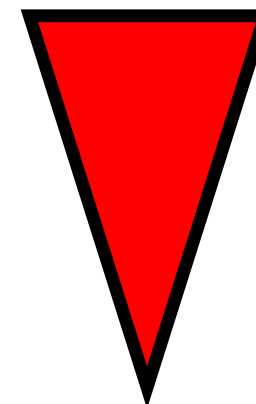
Generics  
Bulk chemicals

- % cost of goods of marketed product high
- medium to very high production volume

# The E-factor (kg by-products / kg product)

Industry	Tonnage	E-factor
Oil refining	$10^6 - 10^8$	ca 0.1
Bulk chemicals	$10^4 - 10^6$	< 1-5
Fine chemicals	$10^2 - 10^4$	5 - >50
Pharmaceuticals	$10 - 10^3$	25 - >100
Bechamp Red.	$10^2 - 10^4$	ca. 15
Catalytic Hydrog.	$10^2 - 10^4$	< 1

Use of  
Catalytic  
methods



# Report Deutsches Umweltamt

## Waste Prevention by Using Catalytic Methods



"Abfallvermeidung bei Produktionen für organische Spezialchemikalien durch den Einsatz hochspezifischer Katalysatoren (Using highly specific catalysis to prevent waste when producing organic fine chemicals)"

Deutsches Umweltbundesamt, 2003

- |                         |   |  |
|-------------------------|---|--|
| Analysis of patents     | → | Possible catalytic systems with industrial potential |
| Interviews with experts | → | potential for waste reduction by using catalysis     |

# Conclusions



## Waste Prevention by Using Catalytic Methods

- ❖ Potential waste reduction within 10 years
  - **Over-all ca. 9-14%**
  - In Germany: 370.000 tons / year!
- ❖ Waste reduction within 10 years **ca. 30 – 60%** for
  - Pesticides
  - Pharmaceuticals
  - Vitamines
  - Organic pigments

# Waste Prevention by Using Catalytic Methods: Conclusions 2



- ❖ Reaction types with high prevention potential
  - Oxidation (diols, epoxides, aromatics, alcohols)
  - Reduction (hydrides, metals)
  - Functionalization of aromatics (Friedel Craft, amination)
  - Aliphatic amination, amino acids
  
  - Chemistry without protecting groups
  - Improved asymmetric reactions

# Catalysis for Fine Chemicals Opportunities



## **New transformations**

- C-C coupling reactions (e.g. Heck, Hydroformylation)
- Benzylic oxidation

## **New selectivities**

- Enantioselective hydrogenation
- (Enantioselective) epoxydation
- Regioselective addition of HCN to C=C

## **New reactants or catalysts**

- H<sub>2</sub> instead of metals or metal hydrides
- Replace toxic oxides or peracids with O<sub>2</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> or ROOH
- Solid acids and basis instead of aqueous chemistry
- Replace AlCl<sub>3</sub> by zeolites or clays

- Feinchemikalien und Katalyse  
(Definition, Eigenheiten)
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- Enantioselektive Prozesse

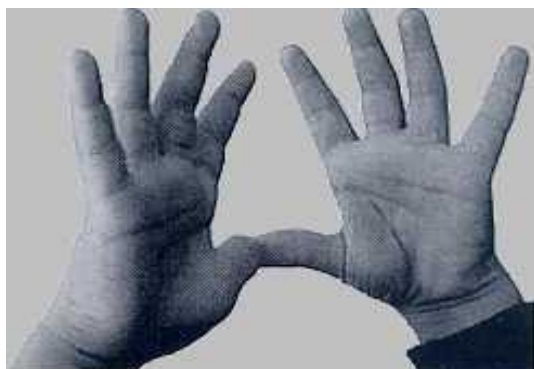
# Chirality in the nature

**Living organisms are chiral!!**

**Normally, only one enantiomer is produced in Nature**



**biological material recognizes enantiomers**



# Biological Effect vs. Absolute Configuration



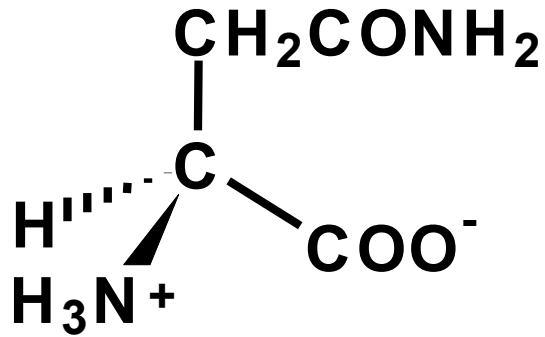
## The most frequent cases

- All stereoisomers possess **nearly identical** qualitative and quantitative biological activity
- The stereoisomers have **qualitatively similar** activities but **quantitatively different** properties
- The stereoisomers have **qualitatively different** biological activities (biological activity in one stereoisomer)

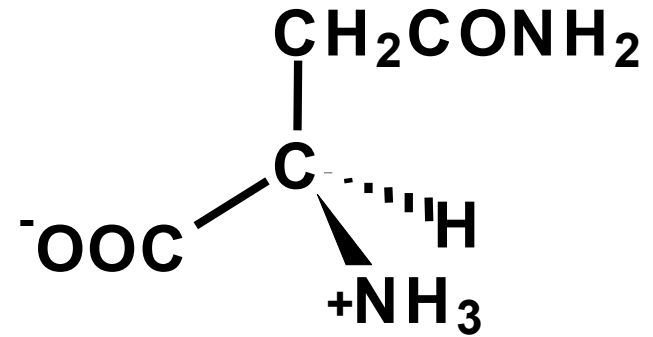
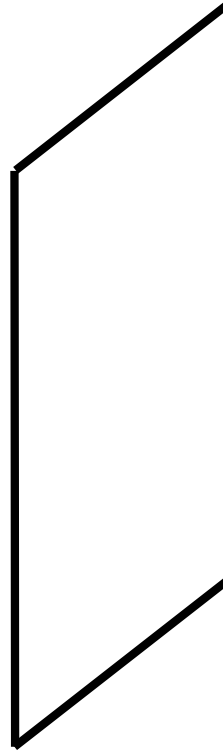
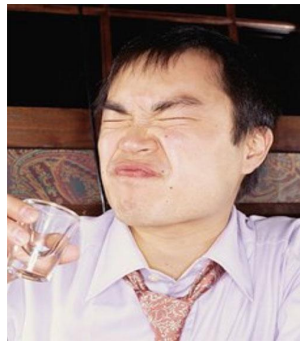
G.M. Ramos, D. Bellus et al. *Angew. Chem* 103 (1991) 219; *Bull. Soc. Chim. Belg.* 103 (1994)

G.M. Ramos Tombo, H. U. Blaser, "Chirality in Agrochemistry: An Established Technology and its Impact on the Development of Industrial Stereoselective Catalysis" in "Pesticide Chemistry and Bioscience" G.T. Brooks, T.R. Roberts (eds.), Royal Society of Chemistry, Cambridge, 1999, p. 33.

# Chiral Aminoacids



**S-asparagine**  
**bitter**

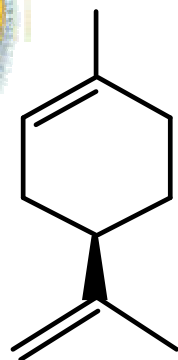
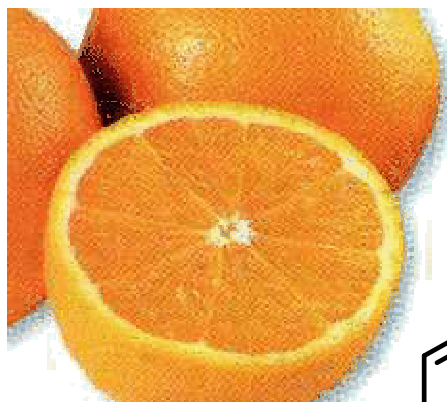


**R-asparagine**  
**sweet**

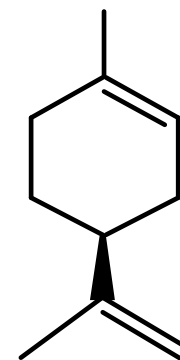
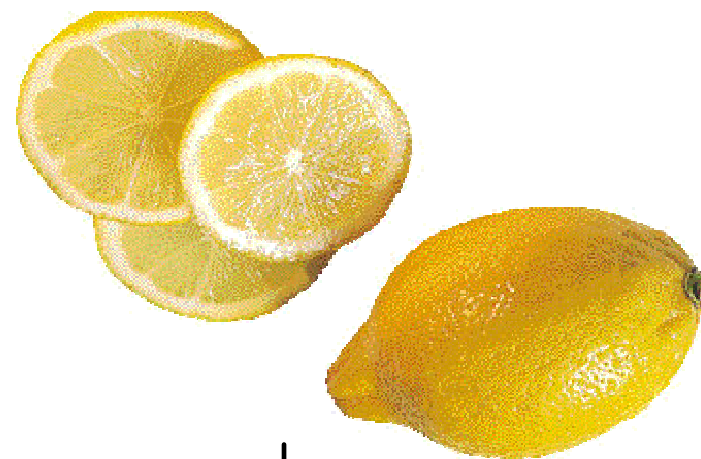
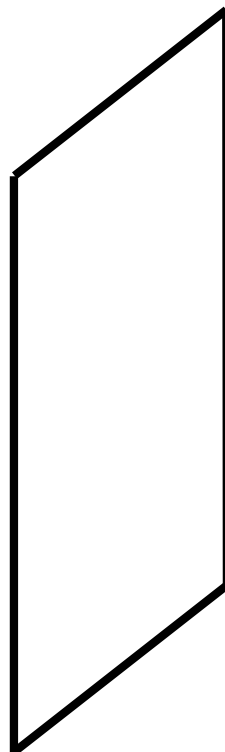


**enantiomers**

It smells....

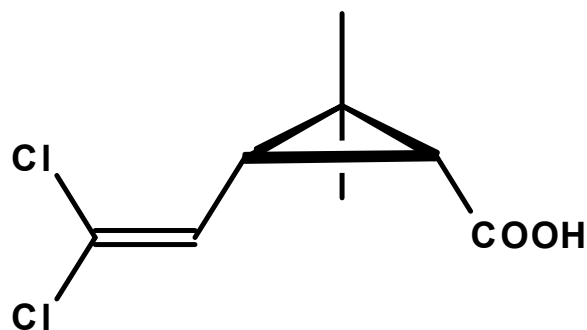


**(R)-limonene**  
**orange**

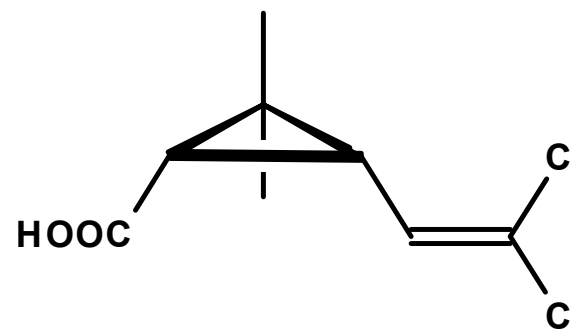


**(S)-limonene**  
**lemon**

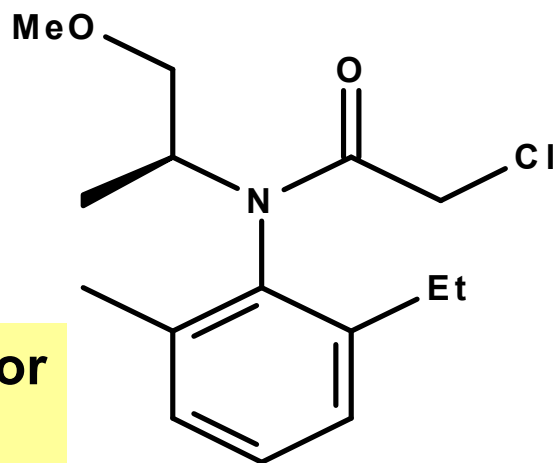
# Chirality: Different properties of enantiomers



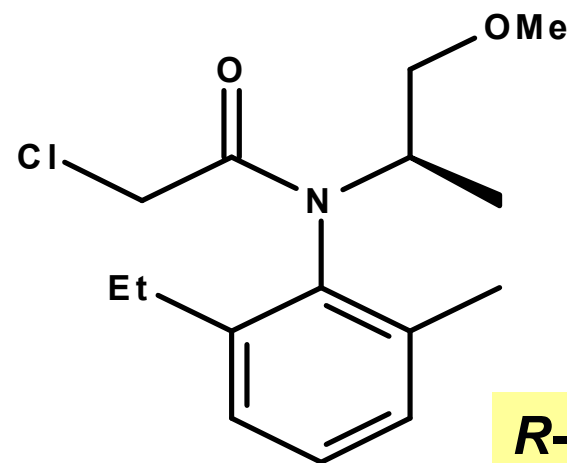
**permethrinic acid  
insecticide**



**inactive**

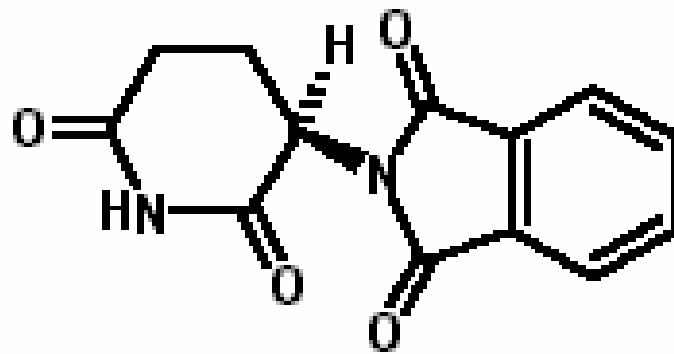


**S-metolachlor  
herbicide  
10<sup>4</sup> tm/year**

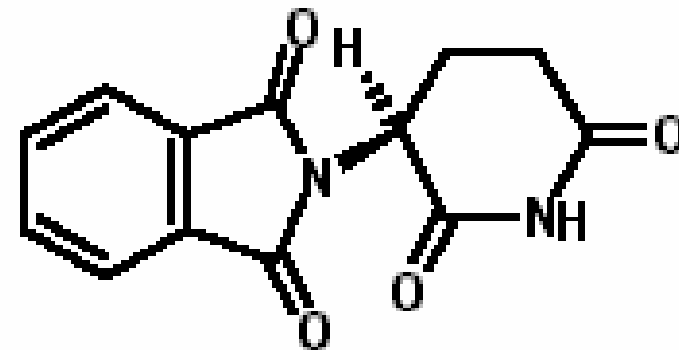


**R-metolachlor  
inactive**

# Thalidomid (Contergan)



R-Thalidomid  
(Schlafmittel)



S-Thalidomid  
(teratogen)

# Thalidomid (Contergan)



**Thalidomid ist der Wirkstoff des Schlaf- und Beruhigungs-mittels Contergan, das Ende der 1950er Jahre zu zahlreichen schweren Schädigungen an ungeborenem Leben führte. Thalidomid wurde in Form des racemischen Gemischs der beiden Enantiomere auf den Markt gebracht.**

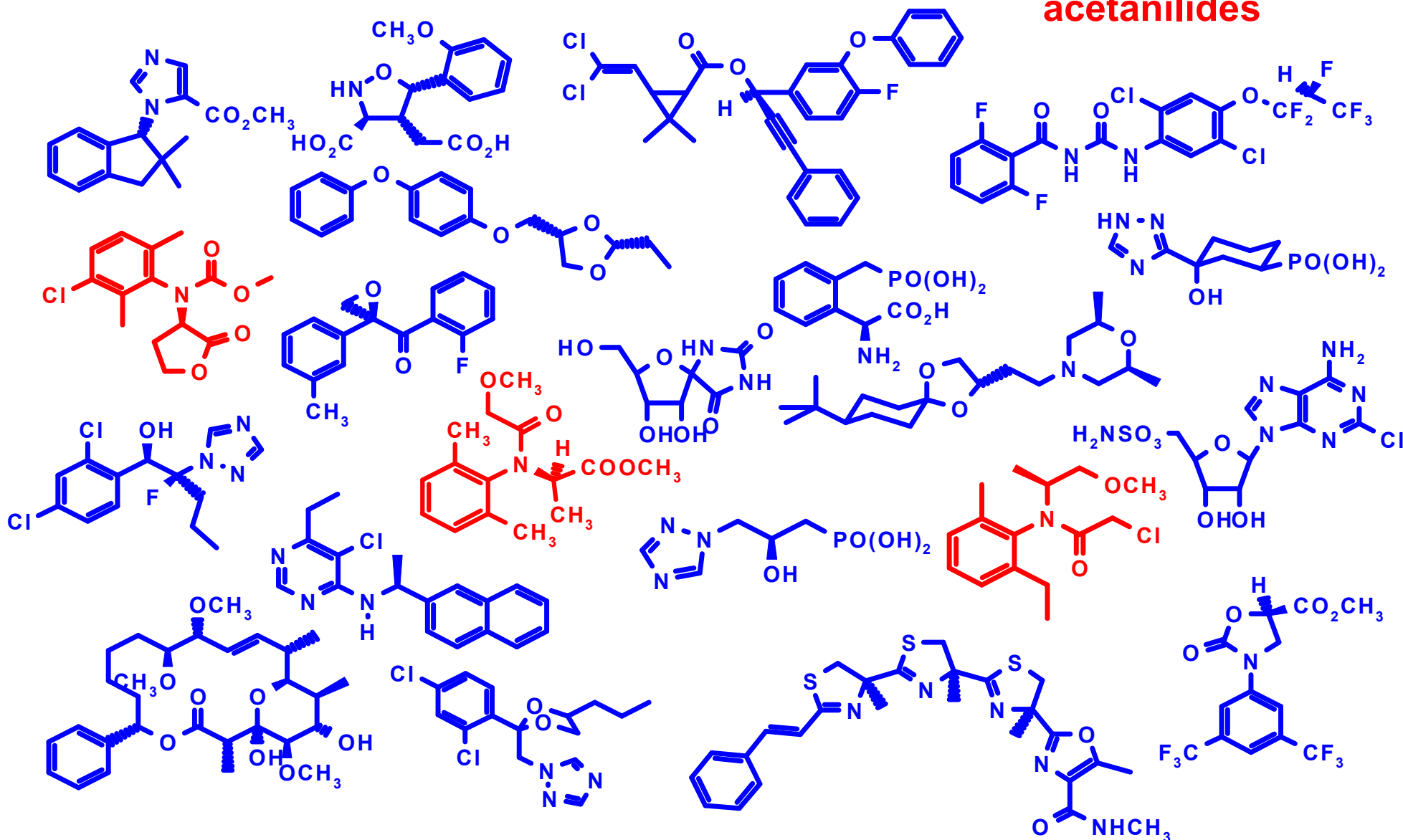
**Zunächst wurde angenommen, dass für die Fehlbildungen (die teratogene Wirkung) allein das (S)-Enantiomer verantwortlich sei und nur das (R)-Enantiomer die gewünschte beruhigende Wirkung hervorrufe.**

**Da die Enantiomere bei Thalidomid im Körper allerdings racemisieren, kann keinem der beiden Enantiomere eine beruhigende bzw. teratogene Wirkung zugesprochen werden. Die Gabe eines reinen Thalidomid-Enantiomers hätte die Contergan-Katastrophe also nicht verhindern können.**

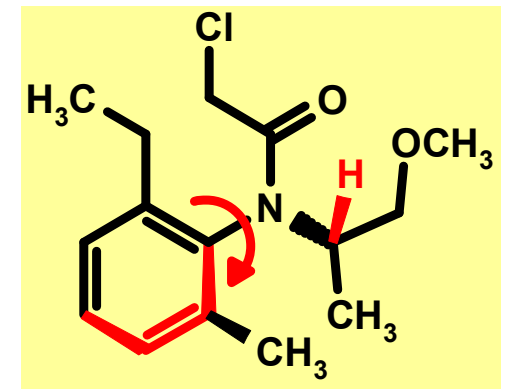
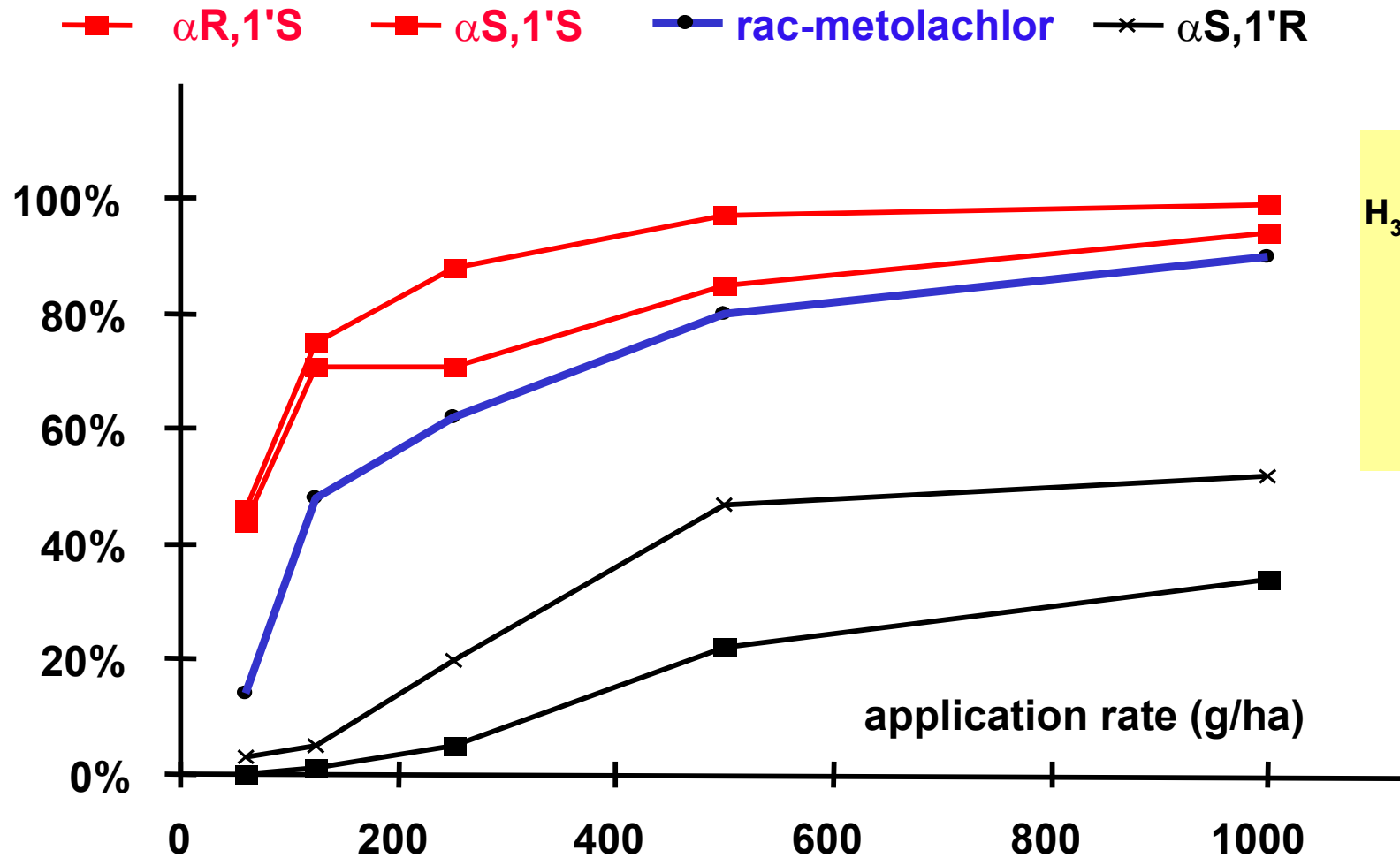
# Optically pure agrochemicals



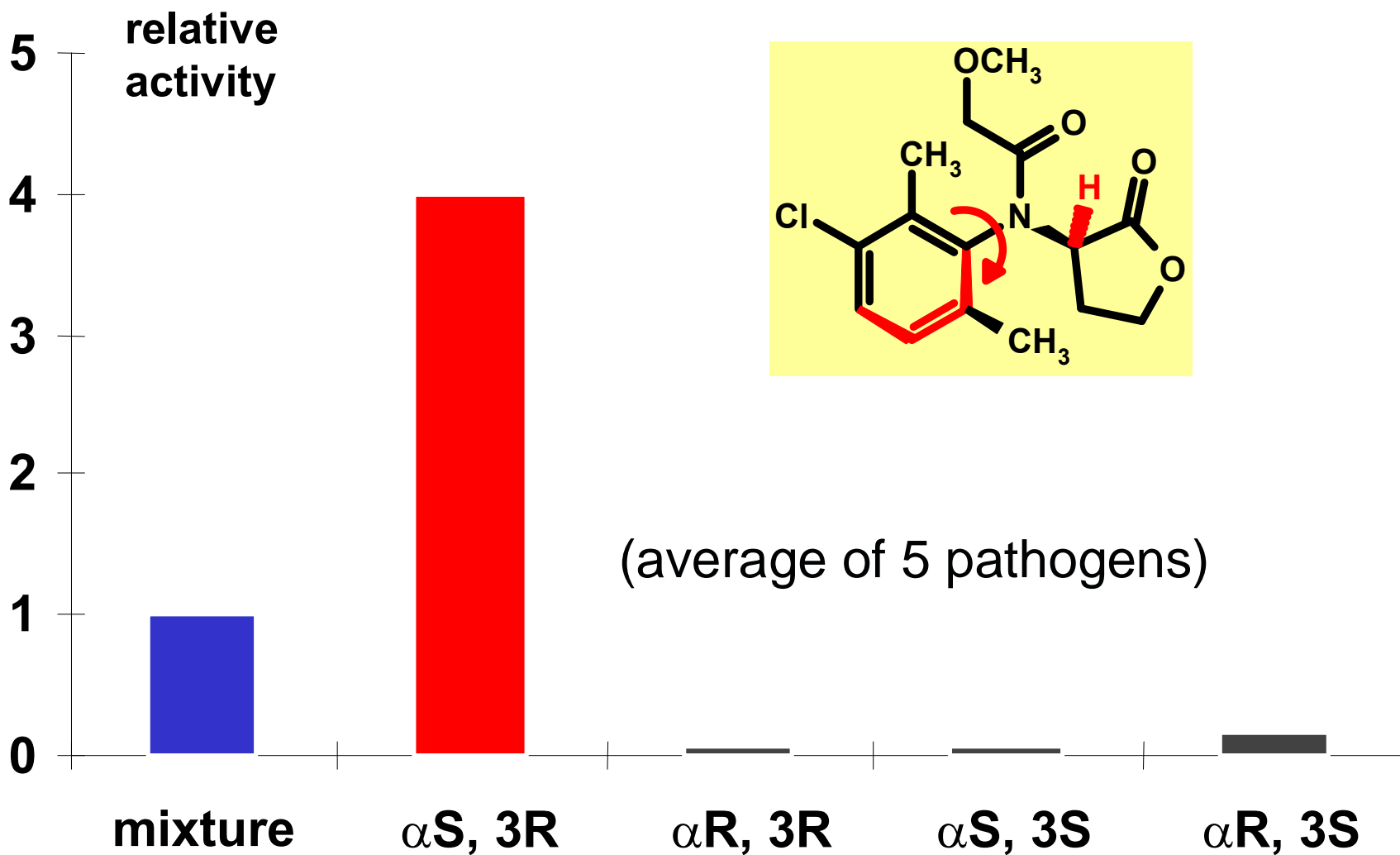
## acetanilides



# Herbicidal Activity of Metolachlor Stereoisomers



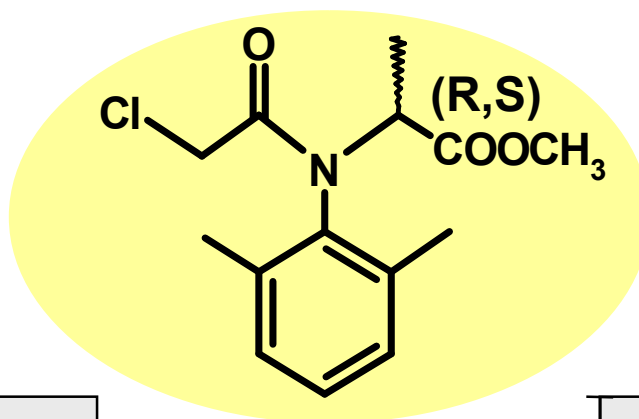
# Clozylacon Stereoisomers In-Vitro Fungicidal Activity



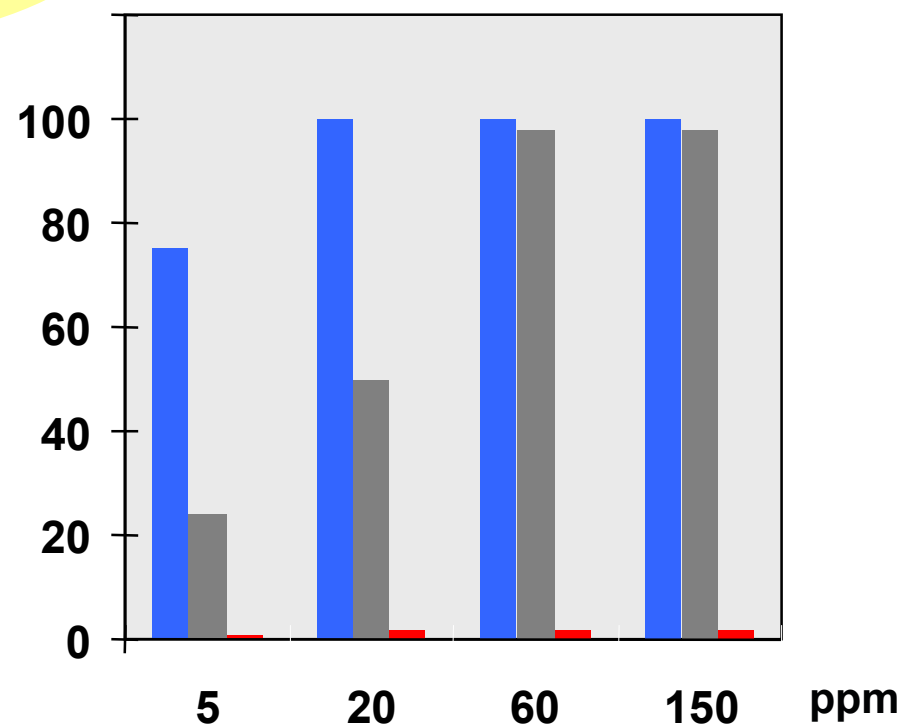
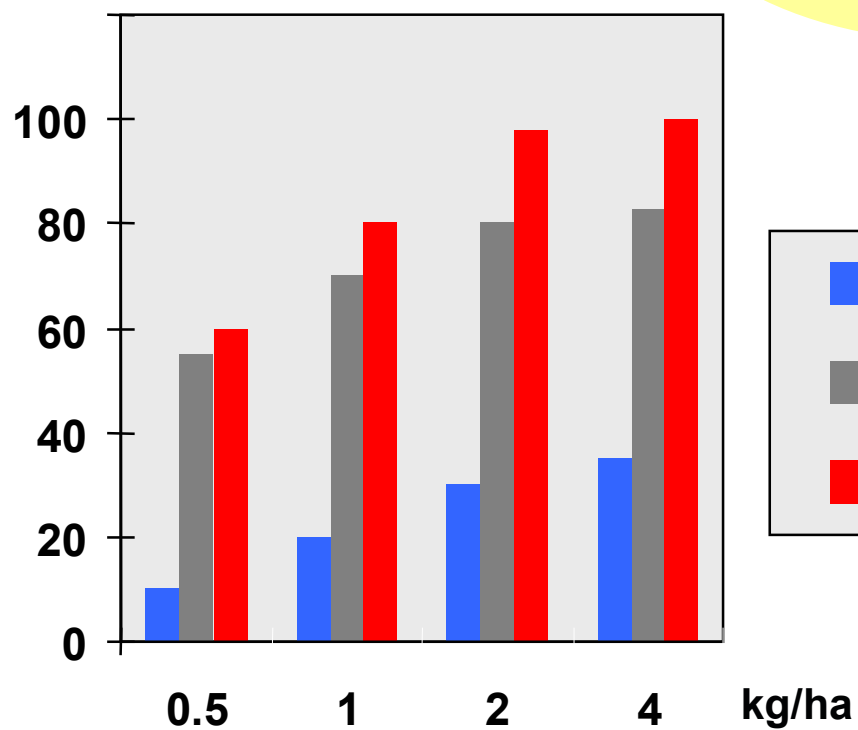
# CGA 29'212: Complimentary Biological Activity



**Herbicidal activity**  
(average 8 grasses)



**Fungicidal activity**  
downy mildew on grapes

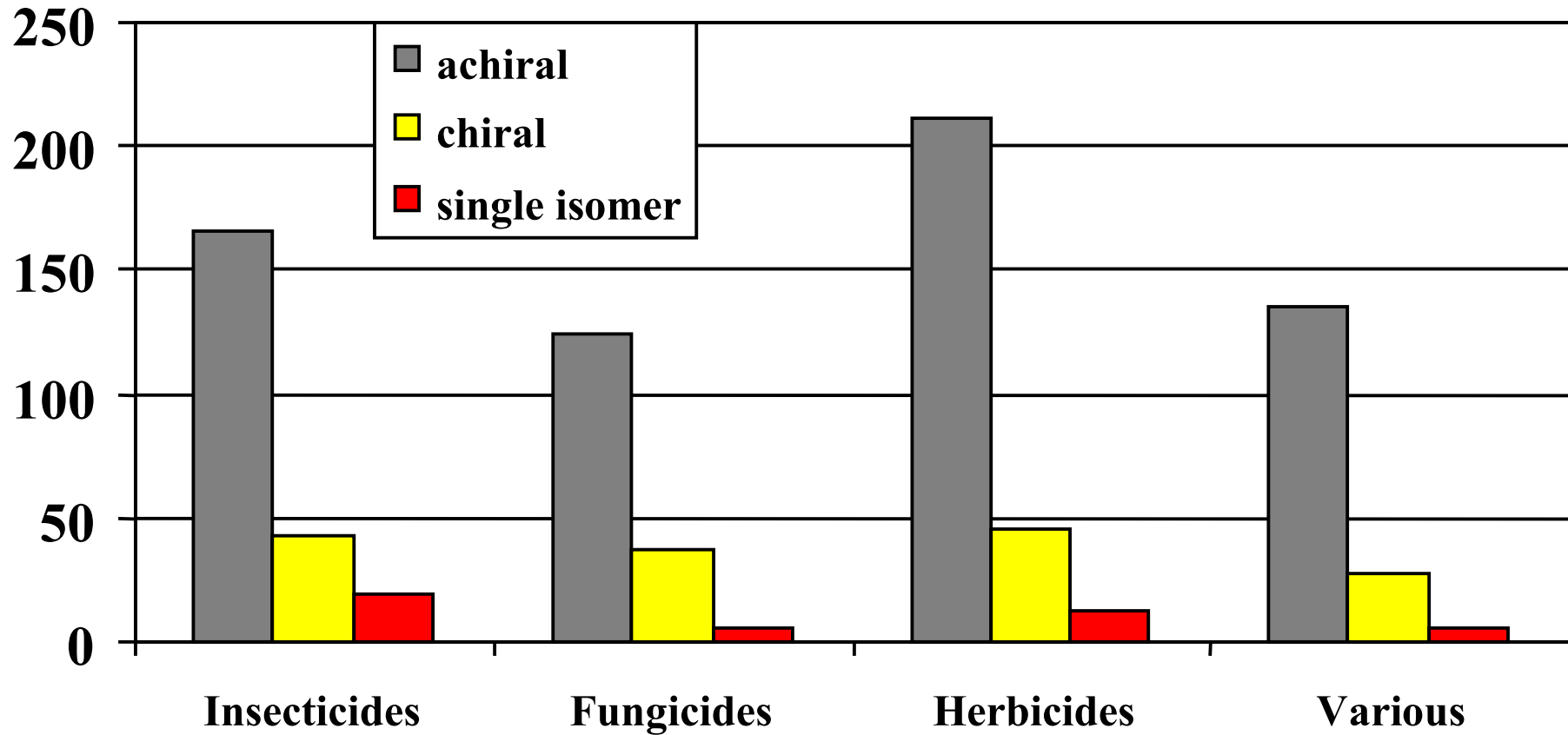


# Chiral Agrochemicals of Novartis (ca. 1999)

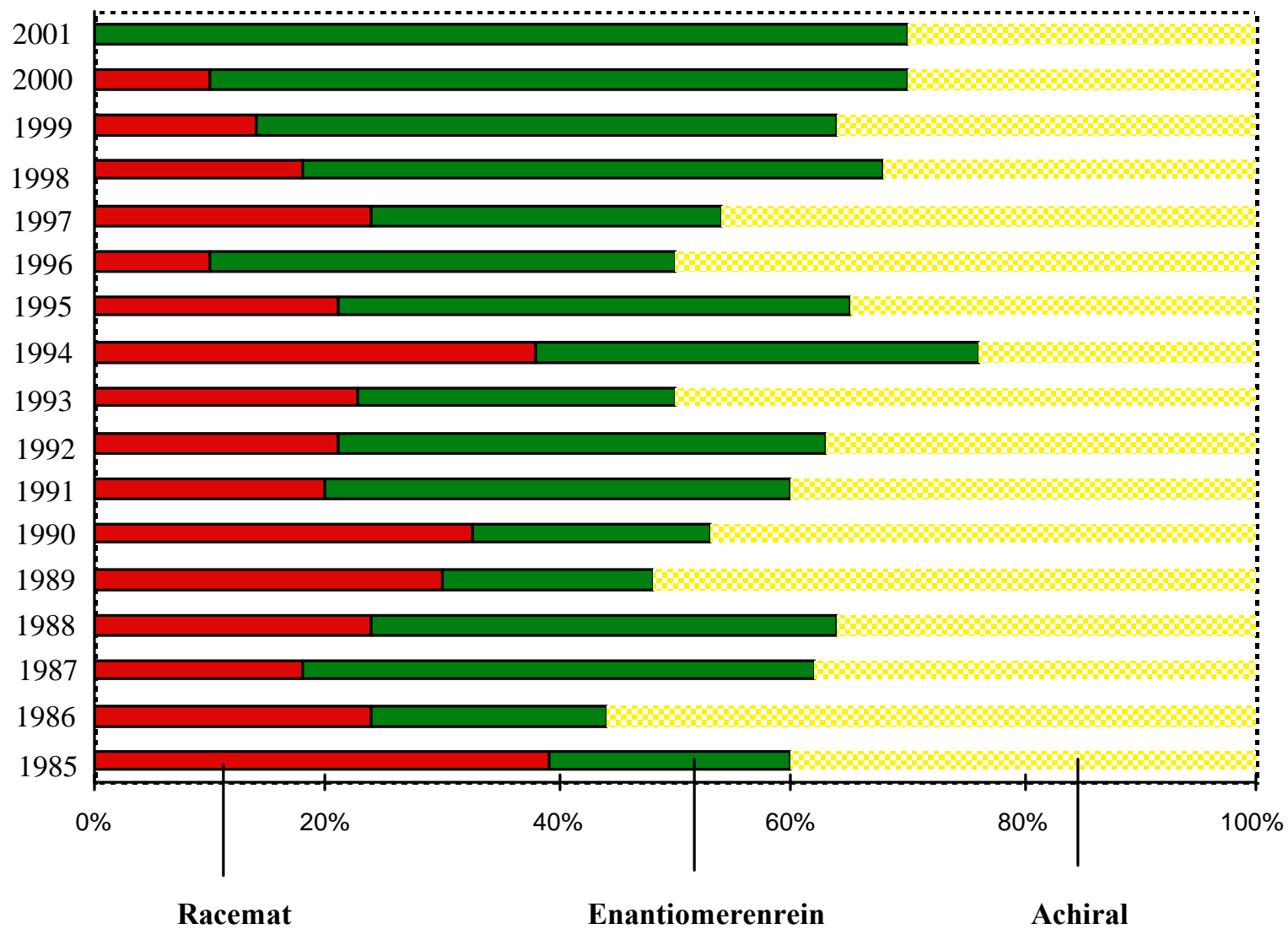


<b>Bioactive ingredients</b>	<b>77</b>
<b>Chiral compounds</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Mixture of isomers</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Pure isomers</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Enriched isomers</b>	<b>2</b>

# Chiral Pesticides 1997



# Chiral Drugs



C&N, May 2003

# Some Numbers



## Market value for chiral fine chemicals (2000)

Total	$6.6 \times 10^9$ \$
Pharmaceutical application	$5.4 \times 10^9$ \$
Other applications (agrochemicals, flavors etc)	$1.2 \times 10^9$ \$

## Strong growth expected

➤ Need for effective production methods

# Motivations for Improved Production Methods



- Regulations, especially in pharma
- Ecological pressure, especially in agro
- Economical pressure, mainly for chiral intermediates but also for agro and generics

- Feinchemikalien und Katalyse  
(Definition, Eigenheiten)
- Chirale Moleküle (Eigenschaften,  
selektive Synthesemethoden)
- Enantioselektive Prozesse

# Syntheses of Enantiomerically Pure Compounds (EPC)



\* **Synthesis ("chiral pool")**

\* **Fermentation**

\* **Enantiomer separation**



**Chiral chromatography**  
**Diastereomer separation**  
**Kinetic resolution**

\* **Stoichiometric**

\* **Asymmetric Synthesis /  
Catalysis**



\* **Biocatalyst**

\* **Chemical catalyst**

# Syntheses of Enantiomerically Pure Compounds (EPC)



- *Separation of enantiomers* via **classical resolution**, ie crystallisation of diastereomeric adducts, still accounts for the production of more than 50% of enantioenriched drugs. An emerging technology is separation by chiral high performance liquid chromatography (**HPLC**) using **moving simulated bed technology**.
- The *chiral pool approach* uses **chiral building blocks originating from natural products**. Depending on the commercial availability of the starting material, it can also be used for large-scale products.
- *Enantioselective syntheses* are performed with the help of **covalently bound chiral auxiliaries** (often from the chiral pool). These are not incorporated in the target molecule but are removed after the stereogenic centres have been established and must be either recycled or discarded.
- In many respects the most elegant approach is *enantioselective catalysis* where prochiral starting materials are transformed to enantiomerically pure products with the help of chiral catalysts. Effective catalysts are either man-made (**chemical catalysis**) or can be of natural origin (**biocatalysis**).

# Syntheses of Enantiomerically Pure Compounds (EPC)



	<b>Chemical catalysis</b>	<b>Biocatalysis</b>	<b>Chiral pool</b>	<b>Crystallisation</b>	<b>HPLC</b>
<b>Enantioselectivity</b>	1-2	1	1	1-2	1-2
<b>Activity and productivity</b>	1-2	2-3	-	-	-
<b>Availability and diversity</b>	1-2	2-3	2	1	1
<b>Substrate specificity</b>	2	3	1	1	2
<b>Work-up and ecology</b>	1-2	2-3	2	2	2
<b>Development time and effort</b>	2	3	1	1-2	1
<b>Application in the lab</b>	2	3	1	1-2	1
<b>Application in development</b>	1-2	2	1	2	2
<b>Small-scale production</b>	1-2	1-2	1	1-2	2
<b>Large-scale production</b>	1	2	2-3	1-2	3

# Catalysis in Pharma Development

## Some Statistics (1999)



K.G. Gadamasetti, Ed. "Approaches to pharmaceutical process development"(Case Histories), Marcel Dekker, 1999

Transformations	total	catal
Hydrolysis, esterifications, acylations, amidations, mesylations	53	
C=O Reduction (NaBH <sub>4</sub> , Dibal, BH <sub>3</sub> , SnH, Ti <sup>3+</sup> , SiH, Na/NH <sub>3</sub> )	32	2
Nucleophilic substitution reactions (incl. ring opening and closing)	27	
Oxidations, epoxidations (allylic/benzylic bromination, KMnO <sub>4</sub> , CrO <sub>3</sub> , SeO <sub>2</sub> , Swern, CuBr <sub>2</sub> , ozonation, N-oxid, peracid) (NaBrO <sub>3</sub> /Ru cat, TEMPO)	22	1
Heterogeneous hydrogenolysis (Debenzylation, C-X cleavage)	14	14
Reactions with C=C (Diels Alder, Michael add, ene rxn, elimination, addition, isomeriz.)	13	
Heterogeneous hydrogenations C=C, arom. NO <sub>2</sub> , N-N, red alkylation	12	12
Grignard, Lithiation, Li-Br exchange	12	
Reactions with C=O, C=N (Wittig, aldol)	10	
Electrophilic arene substitution (nitration, bromination; Friedel Crafts)	8	
Arene C-C coupling (CN, carbonylation, Heck, Suzuki)	4	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>32</b>
Heterogeneous catalysis (reductions)		26
Homogeneous catalysis (reduction, oxidation, C-C)		4
Biocatalysis (reduction)		2

# Chirality in Pharma Development

## AstraZeneca, GlaxoSmithKline, Pfizer (2006)

	AstraZeneca	GlaxoSmithKline	Pfizer	Total
Number of syntheses	45	39	44	128
Total number of chemical transformations	371	310	358	1039
Average number of chemical transformations per synthesis	8.2	7.9	8.1	8.1
Number of chiral compounds	25	23	21	69
Number of chiral centres	46	52	37	135
Number of chiral centres generated	22	19	20	61
Number of substituted aromatic starting materials	64	79	63	206
New aromatic heterocycles formed	14	11	29	54

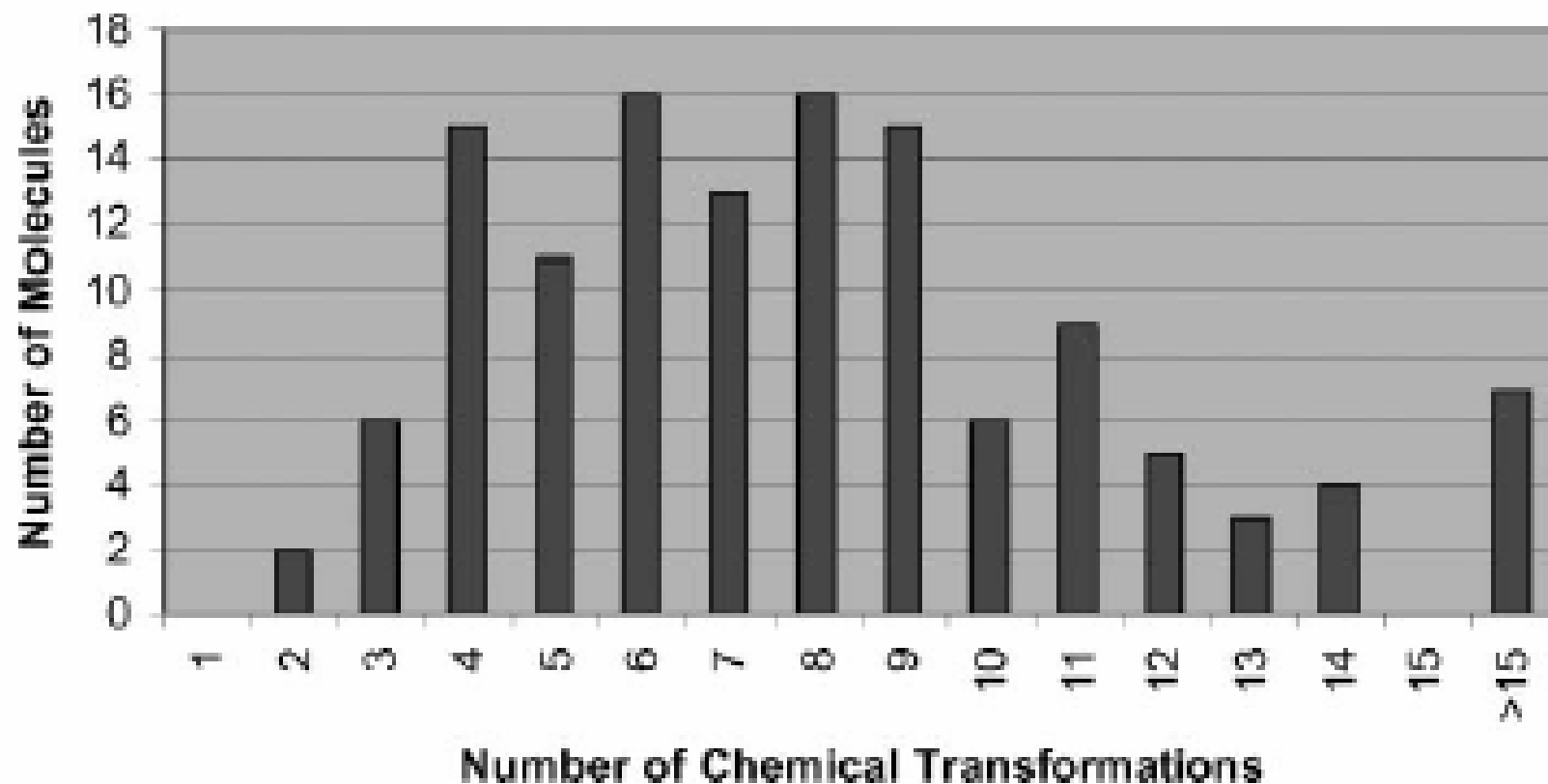
# Chirality in Pharma Development

## AstraZeneca, GlaxoSmithKline, Pfizer (2006)

Reaction category	AstraZeneca	GlaxoSmithKline	Pfizer	Total	Percent
Heteroatom alkylation & arylation <sup>a</sup>	87	57	52	196	19%
Acylation <sup>a</sup>	41	37	50	128	12%
C-C bond forming <sup>a</sup>	31	41	44	116	11%
Aromatic heterocycle formation <sup>a</sup>	16	10	26	52	5%
Deprotection <sup>b</sup>	54	56	49	159	15%
Protection <sup>b</sup>	18	16	27	61	6%
Reduction <sup>b</sup>	27	24	43	94	9%
Oxidation <sup>b</sup>	17	7	16	40	4%
Functional group interconversion <sup>b</sup>	43	34	27	104	10%
Functional group addition <sup>b</sup>	13	8	12	33	3%
Resolution <sup>b</sup>	14	8	8	30	3%
Miscellaneous	10	12	4	26	3%
Totals	371	310	358	1039	

# Chirality in Pharma Development

AstraZeneca, GlaxoSmithKline, Pfizer  
(2006)



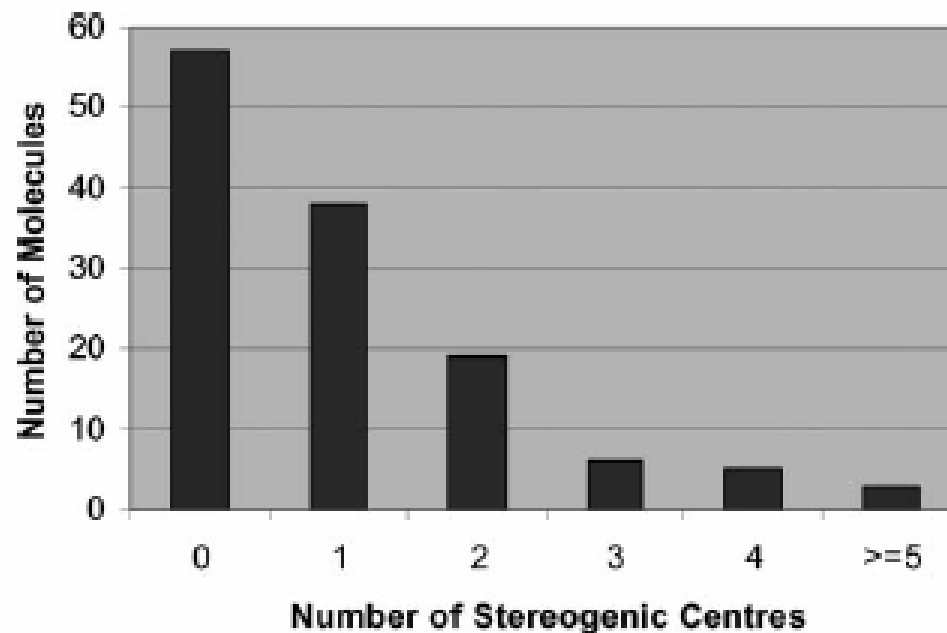
# Chirality in Pharma Development



AstraZeneca, GlaxoSmithKline, Pfizer (2006)

## Chirality

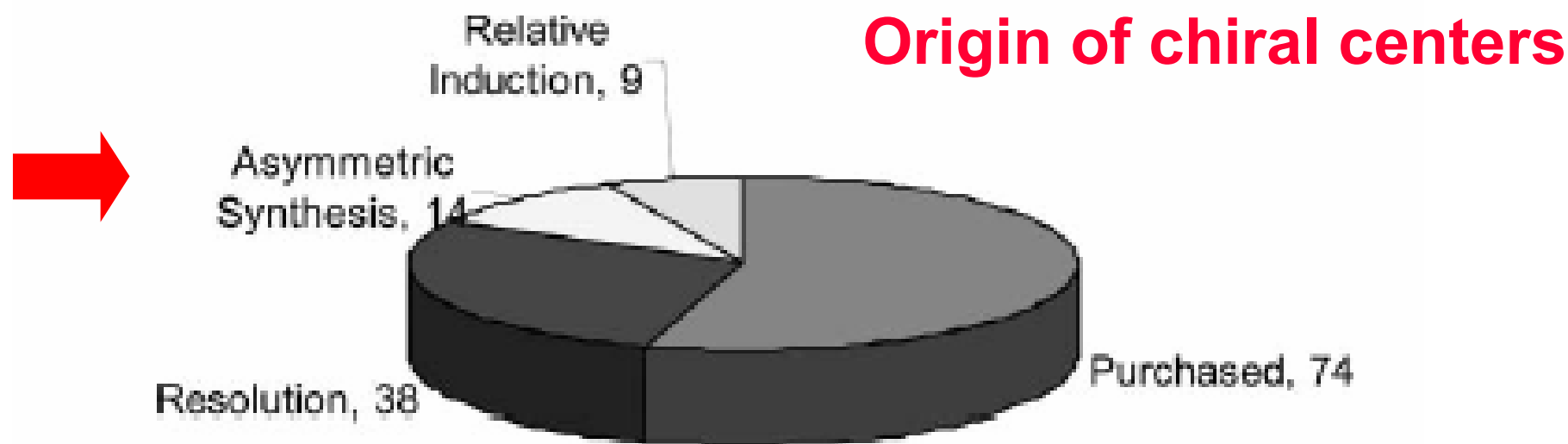
- Of the 128 molecules analysed, 69 (54%) are molecules containing at least one stereogenic centre.
- Of the 69 chiral molecules 67 are being developed as single stereoisomers, with only two as racemates.



# Chirality in Pharma Development



AstraZeneca, GlaxoSmithKline, Pfizer (2006)



- Asymmetric synthesis only accounts for a smaller proportion, approx. 20%, of the chiral centres generated,
- It is noteworthy that the **methods applied are catalytic in nature**.
- Even for a well developed methodology, such as catalytic asymmetric hydrogenation, application to a moderately complex substrate rarely yields the target enantiomeric purity directly.

# Industrial Biotransformations



Total: 134 documented processes

## Product classes

Cabohydrates, nucleotides	20%
Fat derivatives, steroids	10%
Peptides, $\beta$ -lactams	15%
amino acids	15%
sec-Alcohols	15%
Other chiral	15%
Other non-chiral	5%

## Chirality

Chiral precursor (pool)	40%
Kinetic resolution	27%
Asymmetric synthesis	20%
Not chiral	7-8%

# Milestones for Enantioselective Catalysis



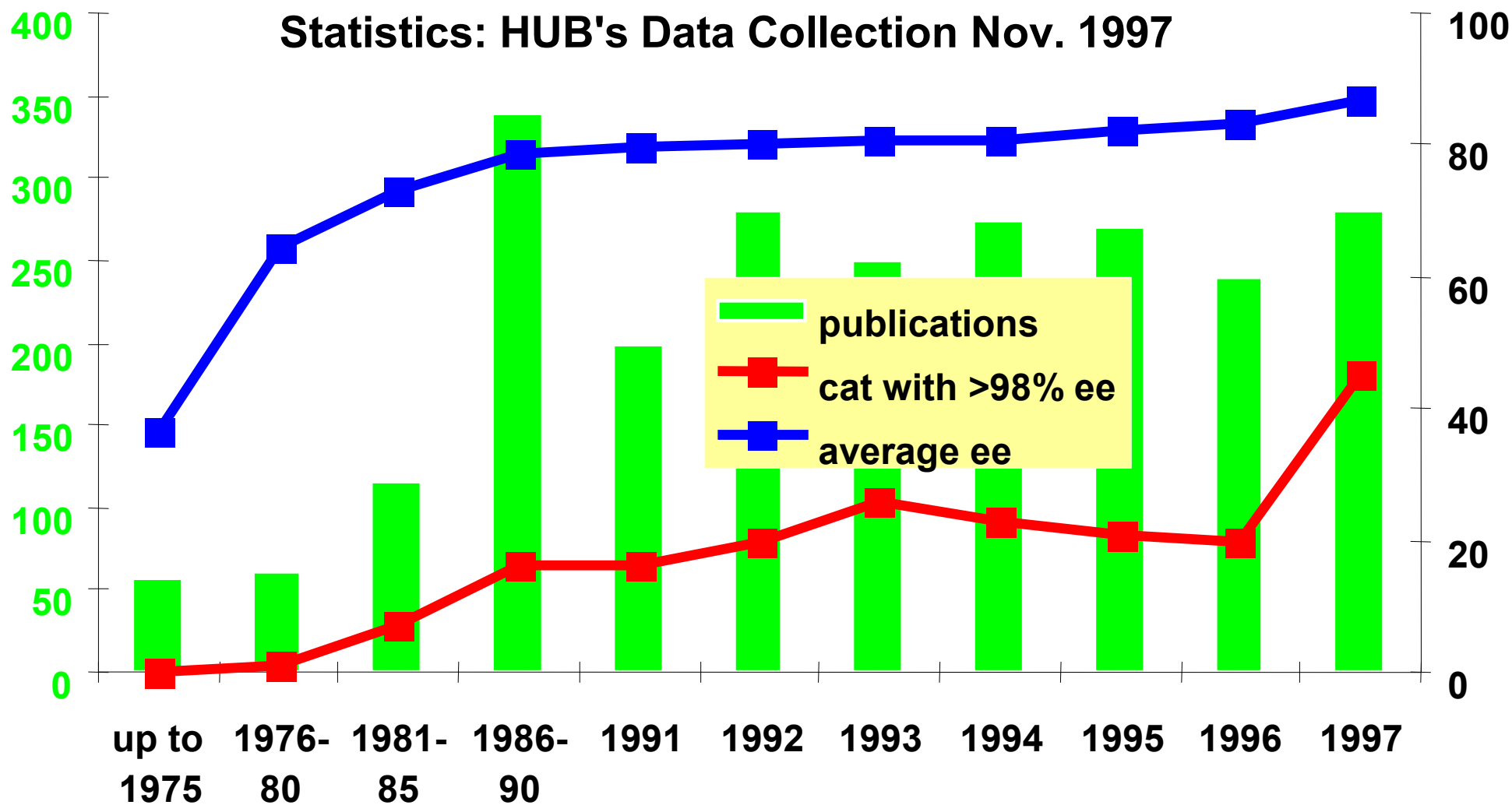
<b>year</b>	<b>milestone</b>	<b>chiral catalyst</b>	<b>ee (%)</b>
1912	HCN addition to PhCHO	quinine	<10
1940	hydrogenation of C=N	chiral acid on Pt black	18
1956	hydrogenation of C=C	Pd on silk fibroin	(66)
1966	cyclopropanation	Cu - Schiff' base	10
1968	hydrogenation of enamides	Rh - chiral phosphine	15
1978	hydrogenation of $\beta$ -keto esters	Ni-tartrate-NaBr	89
1979	hydrogenation of $\alpha$ -keto esters	cinchona on Pt	80
1980	epoxidation of allylic alcohols	Ti-tartrate complex	>90
1980	binap ligand	Rh, Ru complexes	high
1988	dihydroxylation	Os-cinchona complex	>95
1991	epoxidation of C=C	Mn salen complex	>95
1995	epoxide ring opening	Cr salen complex	>95

# Milestones for Enantioselective Catalysis



<b>year</b>	<b>milestone</b>	<b>chiral catalyst</b>	<b>ee (%)</b>
1912	organic catalyst	quinine	<10
1940	modified heterogeneous catalyst	chiral acid on Pt black	18
1956	chiral support	Pd on silk fibroin	(66)
1966	homogeneous catalyst	Cu - Schiff' base	10
1968	homogeneous catalyst	Rh - chiral phosphine	15
1978	modified heterogeneous catalyst	Ni-tartrate-NaBr	89
1979	modified heterogeneous catalyst	cinchona on Pt	80
1980	homogeneous catalyst	Ti-tartrate complex	>90
1980	homogeneous catalyst	Rh, Ru complexes	high
1988	homogeneous catalyst	Os-cinchona complex	>95
1991	homogeneous catalyst	Mn salen complex	>95
1995	homogeneous catalyst	Cr salen complex	>95

# Some Numbers Catalysts with High Enantioselectivity



# Reactions with Very High Enantioselectivity (ee>98%)



Hydrogenation C=C	20
R-Me addition to RCH=O, RCH=NR	17
Reduction C=O, C=N (>10% cat)	16
Aminohydroxylation, Dihydroxylation	14
Hydrogenation C=O	13
Allylic alkylation	11
Aldol, ene, Micheal reactions	10
C-C Coupling , Cyclopropanation, Heck	10
Diels-Alder	8
Hydrosilylation C=C, C=O	6
Epoxidation	6

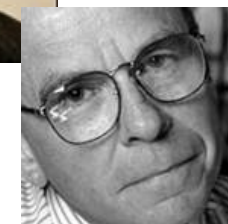
# Milestones for Industrial Enantioselective Catalysis

1970's L-Dopa, enamide hydrogenation (Monsanto)

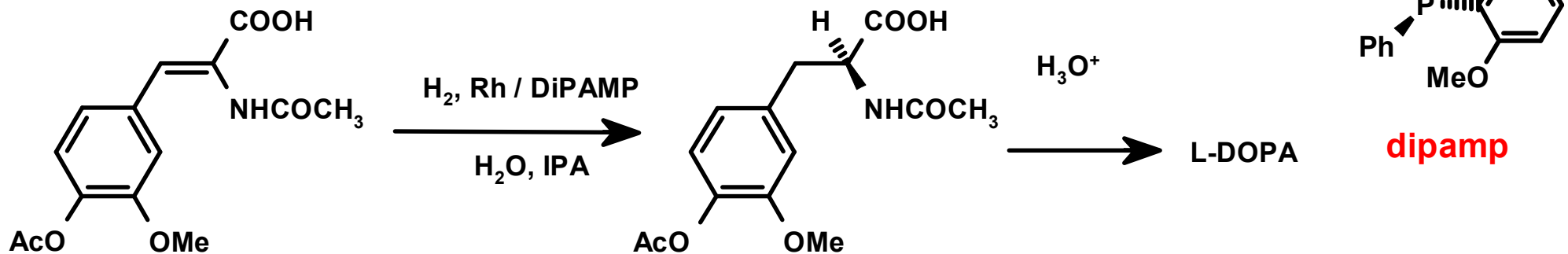
1980's L-Menthol, C=C isomerization (Takasago)

1990's Glycidol, Sharpless epoxidation (Arco)  
S-Metolachlor (Ciba-Geigy/Novartis/Solvias)

2000's Epoxide ring opening (Rhodia/Chirex)  
"Routine" application of enantioselective hydrogenation



# L-DOPA (Monsanto)



Catalyst performance

Important features

95% ee, ton 10-20'000, tof 1000/h

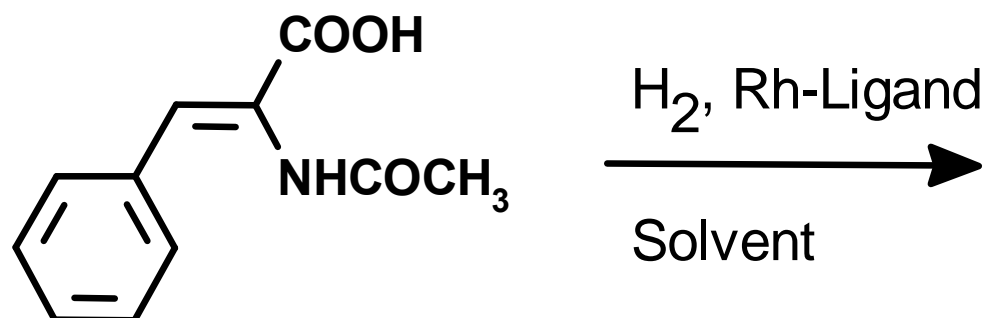
Pure product (100% ee) crystallizes

➤ separation from catalyst and undesired racemate

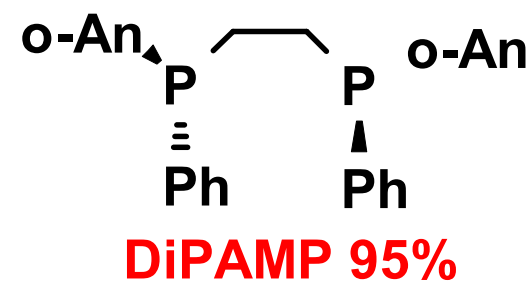
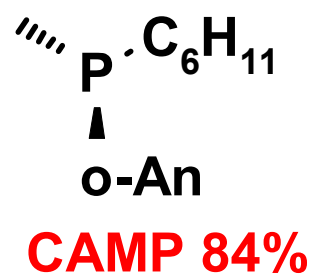
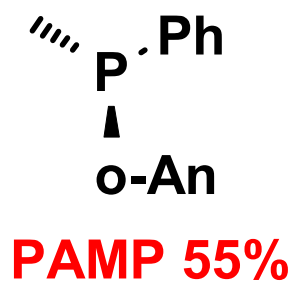
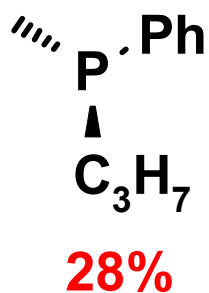
Knowles et al.

# L-DOPA: Impact on Science

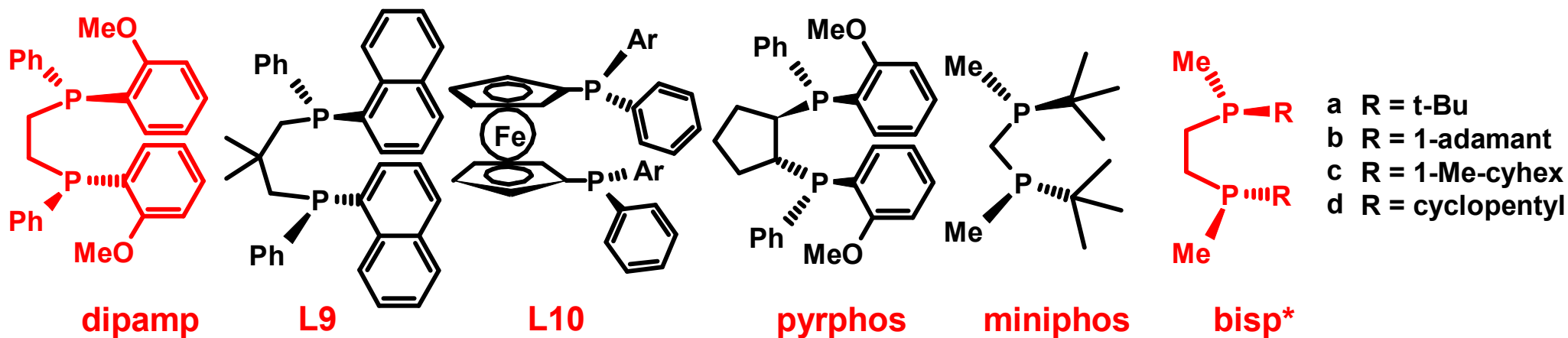
For many years enamides most important test substrate



P chiral / bidentate /  $C_2$  symmetric (Kagan)

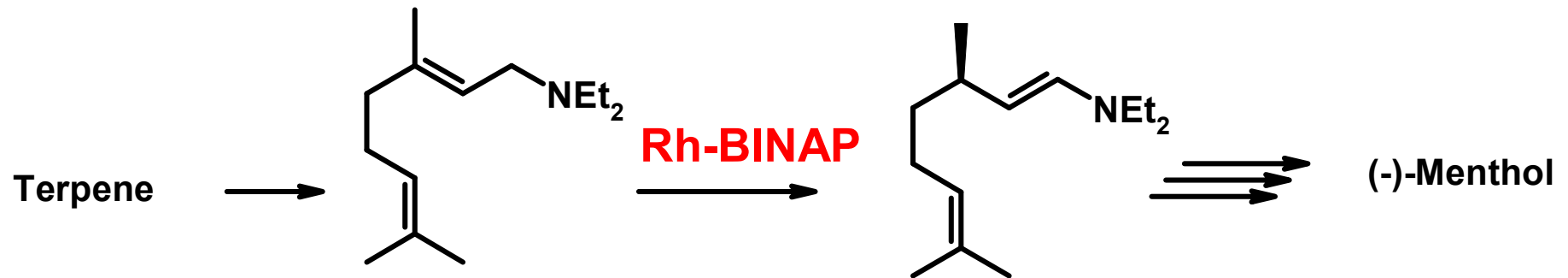


# P-Chiral Ligands (2003)



- Most ligands very air sensitive (Rh-complex more stable)
- Generally high ee's for Rh catalyzed hydrogenation of enamides and itaconates

# L-Menthol (Takasago)



Catalyst  
performance

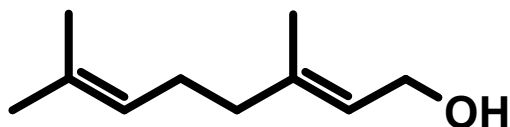
97.6% ee, ton 400'000, tof 1300/h

Important  
features

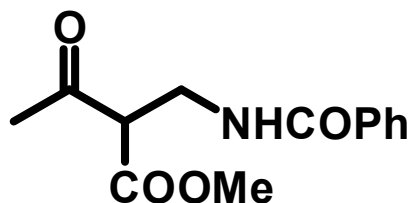
Active catalyst can be recovered and re-used  
after distillation

Ton increase from 8'000  $\rightarrow$  80'000 - 400'000  
(optimal work-up).

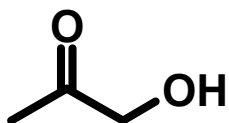
# Industrial Applications of Ru – Binap Catalysts



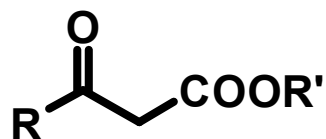
Ru/binap; ee 97%  
ton 50'000; tof 500h<sup>-1</sup>  
production process 300 t/y  
Takasago



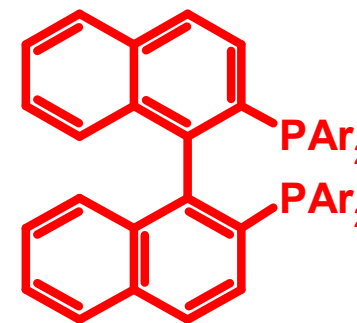
Ru/dmbinap; ee 98%, de >94%  
ton 1'000.; tof 200h<sup>-1</sup>  
production process 100 t/y  
Takasago



Ru/tolbinap; ee 94%  
ton 2'000.; tof 300h<sup>-1</sup>  
medium scale production  
Takasago

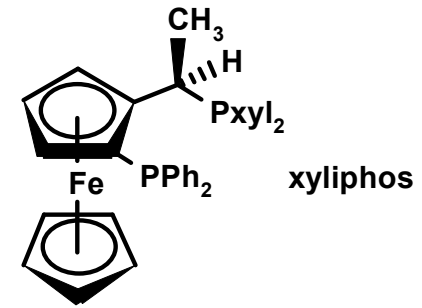
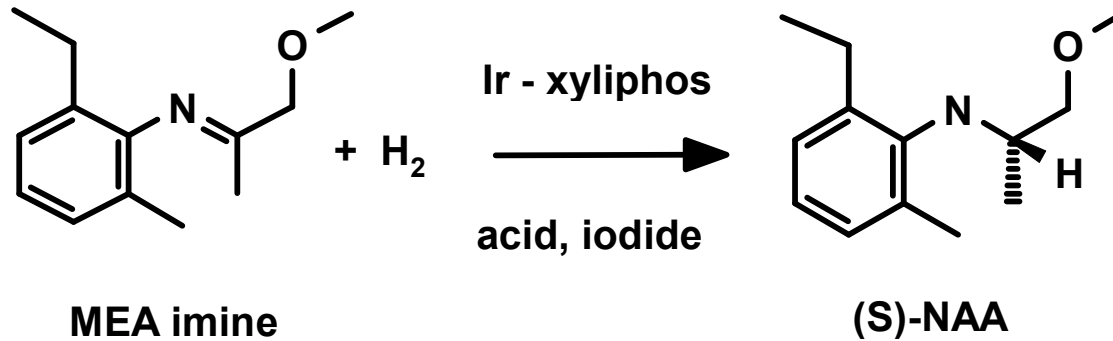


Ru/binap, ee 98-99%  
ton 10-20'000; tof 12'000h<sup>-1</sup>  
small scale production  
NSC Technologies



binap Ar: Ph  
tolbinap Ar: p-Tol  
dmbinap Ar: 2,6-Xyl

# S-Metolachlor (Ciba-Geigy/Syngenta)



Catalyst  
performance

80% ee, ton >1'000'000, initial tof >180'000/h

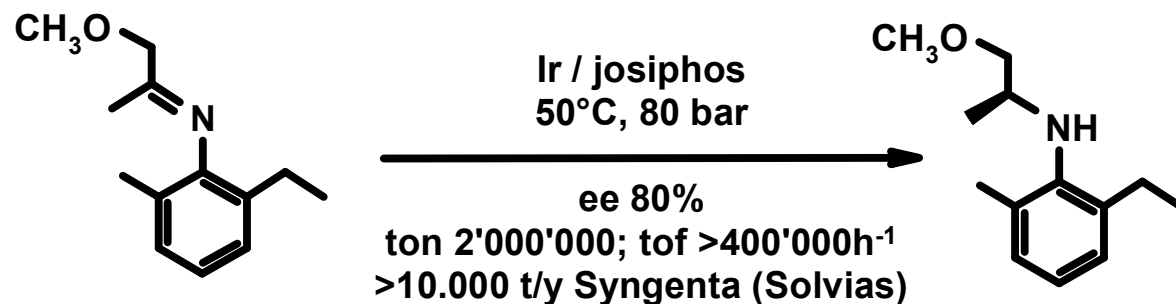
Important  
features

Extremely active and productive Ir – ferrocenyl  
diphosphine catalyst.

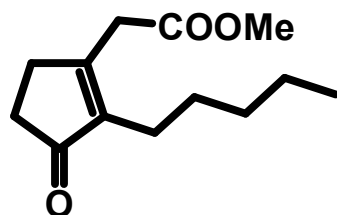
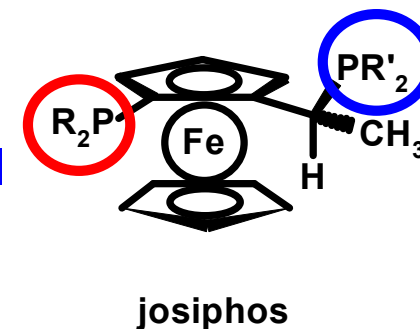
Catalyst separation via distillation

Largest enantioselective process (>10'000 t/y)

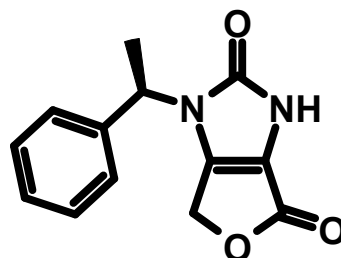
# Industrial Applications of Josiphos Ligands



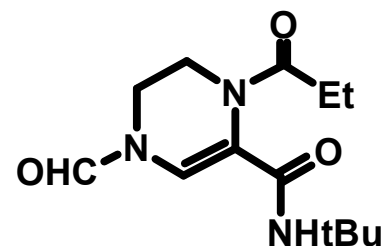
**R = Ph**  
**R' = 2,6-Xyl**



**Ru/Josiphos or Duphos; ee 90%**  
**ton 2'000; tof 200h<sup>-1</sup>**  
**medium scale production**  
**Firmenich**



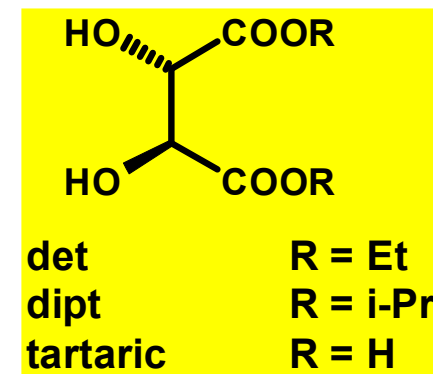
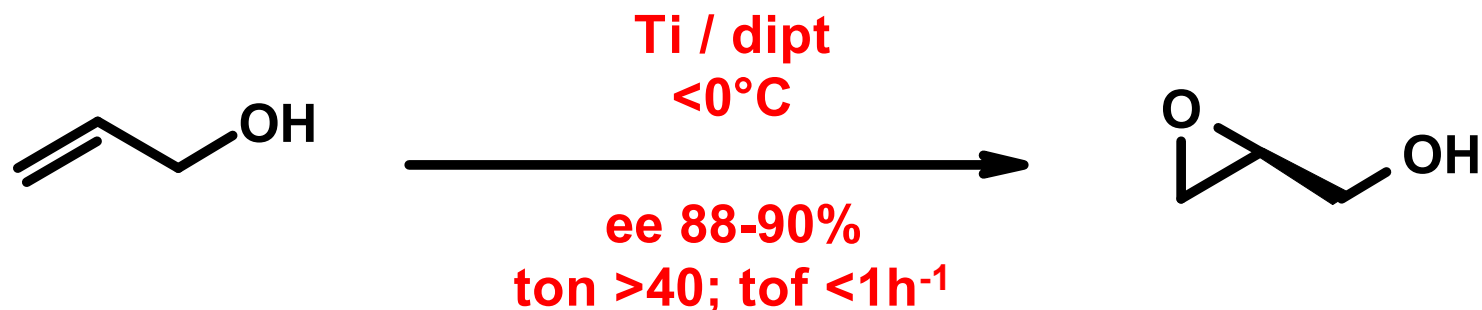
**Rh/Josiphos; de 99%**  
**ton 2'000; tof n.a.**  
**medium scale production**  
**Lonza**



**Rh/Josiphos; ee 97%**  
**ton 1'000; tof 450h<sup>-1</sup>**  
**pilot process, >200 kg**  
**Lonza**

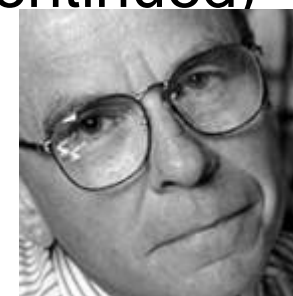
**R = Ph**  
**R' = Cyhex**

# Sharpless Epoxidation

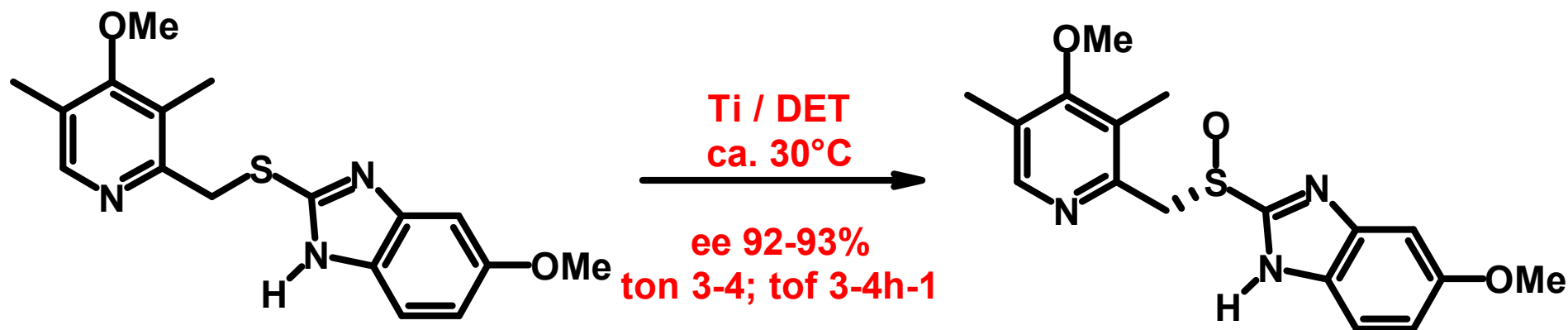


Arco/GGP-Sipsy, chiral building block, multi ton scale (discontinued)

- Based on Sharpless technology
- Good enantioselectivity
- Very low ton and tof (addition of molecular sieve necessary)
- Product isolation very difficult (water solubility)

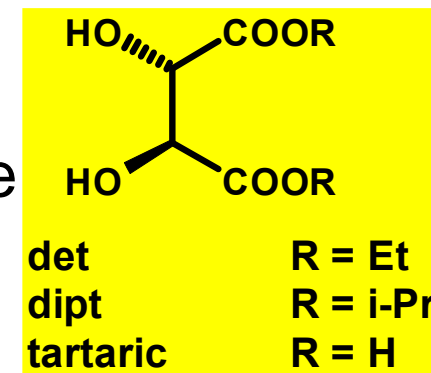


# Sulfide Oxidation



AstraZeneca, Esomeprazole (Anti-Ulcer) multi ton scale

- Based on Kagan technology
- Good ee (addition of Hünig base necessary)
- Very low ton and tof



# Industrial Asymmetric Processes



Large Scale Asymmetric Catalysis", H.U. Blaser, E. Schmidt (Eds.), Wiley-VCH, 2003

Reaction type	substrates / comment	<b>E</b>	<b>WC</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>Het</b>	
C-C Coupling	cyanohydrin, cyclopropanation	1	-	1	-	2
Hydrogenation C=C	dehydroacylaminoacid, allylic alcohol, tetrasubstituted C=C, enamine	-	-	8	-	8
Hydrogenation / reduction C=O, C=N	$\alpha$ -keto acid derivatives, var. ketones and imines	2	3	3	2	10
Oxidation	alcohol, sulfide	-	1	1	-	2
Hydrolysis, acetylation	amide, hydantoin, ester, thioester, nitrile, carbamate, epoxide	8	4	1	-	13
Various	assimilation, carnitine synth.	-	3	-	-	3
Total		11	11	14	2	38

**E** enzyme, **WC** whole cell, **H** homogeneous metal complex, **Het** heterogeneous catalyst

# Industrial Catalytic Asymmetric Processes



## Study: Enantioselective catalysis in fine chemicals production

H.U. Blaser, F. Spindler, M. Studer, Applied Catalysis: A General 221 (2001) 119.

Transformation	production	pilot	bench scale
Hydrogenation reactions	10	29	20
Oxidation reactions	3	3	6
Various	2	3	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>27</b>

Production processes:	Pharma (generics, NCE)	7
	Agro	2
	Flavors & fragrances	2
	Intermediates (PH, other)	2
	Chiral building blocks	2

# Are these Numbers Real?

	<b>production</b>	<b>pilot</b>	<b>bench scale</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>27</b>

## Some considerations

- Lack of information (how many did we miss??)
- Some pilot and bench scale processes will (soon?) be applied in production (young technology)

**BUT:** Not all production processes are still in operation

**AND:** Many published processes will never be operative

# Are these Numbers Real?

	production	pilot	scale
<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>27</b>

## Some considerations

- Lack of information (What did we miss??)
- Some pilot scale processes will (soon?) be an production (young technology)

all production processes are still in operation

**Why are there so few processes?**

# Five Hurdles to Success

1. Choice of synthetic route: With or without catalysis?
2. Find effective catalytic system (ee; ton; tof)
3. Beat alternative processes
4. Scale up, technical process, accepted technology
5. Decision to market product

# 1. Hurdle

## Choice of Synthetic Route

Always multi-step synthesis (PH 10-15; AG 4-7)

- Discovery: Often “quick and dirty” preparation;  
classical organic chemistry is the norm
- Development: Little time for trying “risky” chemistry
- Development chemists often do not know the potential of catalytic methods
- Scale up of catalytic processes and chiral ligands doubtful

⇒ Problem: Recognizing opportunity for catalysis

## 2. Hurdle



### Find Catalytic System (ee, ton, tof)

- Choice of catalyst difficult due to high substrate specificity (analogies are often weak)
- Requirements for catalyst performance for economical processes can be very demanding
- Time constraints especially for new chemical entities in the pharma sector (less in agro)

⇒ Low success rates

# Toolbox for Fast Catalyst Screening



- Library of chiral ligands / metal precursors
- Experimental setup for parallel testing
- Reaction data bases (internal and literature)
- Suitable analytical procedures
- Experienced chemists

## 2. Hurdle

### Find Catalytic System (ee, ton, tof)

#### Issues

- Choice of catalyst difficult due to high substrate specificity (analogies are often weak)
- Requirements for catalyst performance for economical processes can be very demanding
- Time constraints especially for new chemical entities in the pharma sector (less in agro)

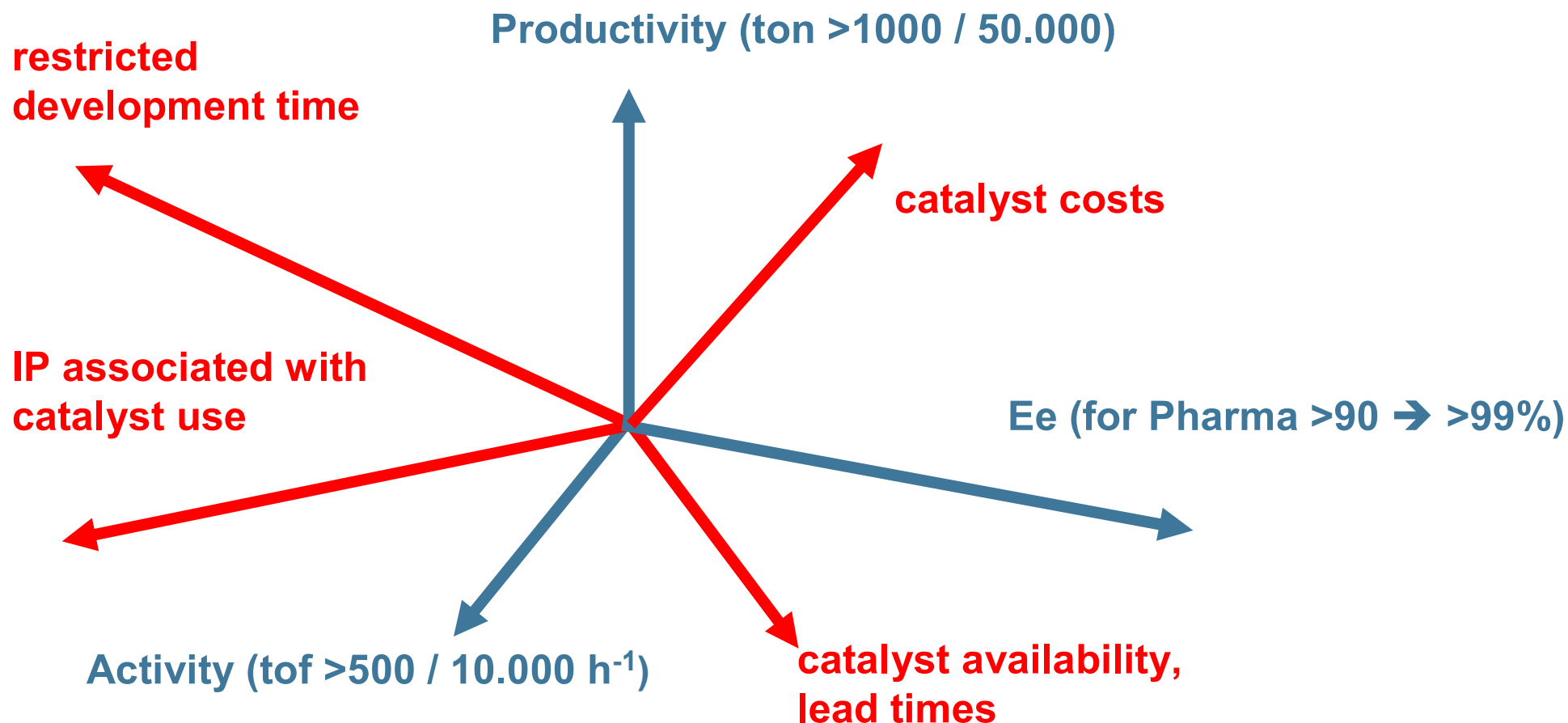
⇒ Low success rates

# Industrial (Asymmetric) Catalysis

## A Multi-Dimensional Task



### Chemical factors & Economic factors



## 2. Hurdle

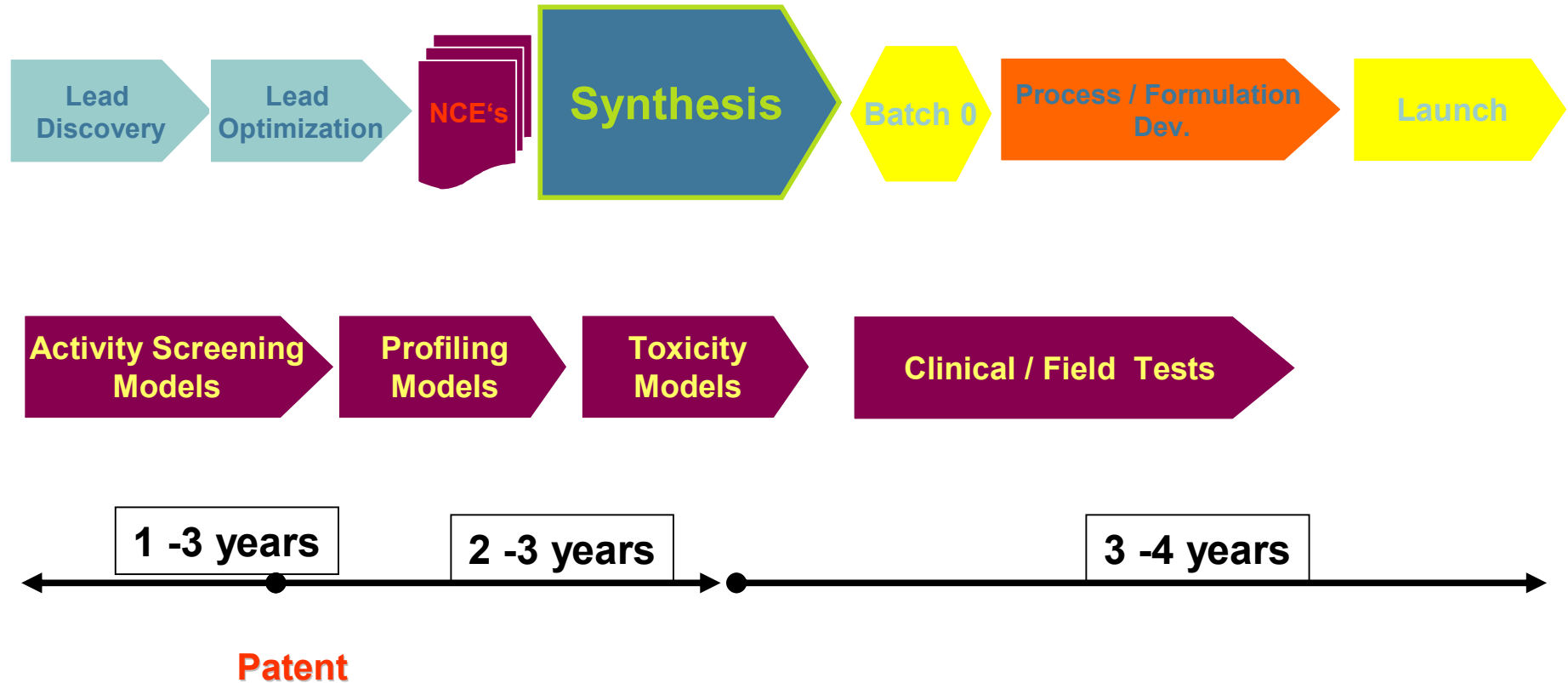
### Find Catalytic System (ee, ton, tof)

#### Issues

- Choice of catalyst difficult due to high substrate specificity (analogies are often weak)
- Requirements for catalyst performance for economical processes can be very demanding
- Time constraints especially for new chemical entities in the pharma sector (less in agro)

⇒ Low success rates

# From Discovery to Launch: Product Development Process



# 3. Hurdle

## Beat Alternative Processes



### Issues

- **Total costs** of final product are decisive
- Adaptation of overall-synthesis to catalytic step
- Preparation and purification of starting material

### Alternatives

- Different catalytic methods (enzymes)
- Different new processes / approaches
- Existing processes

## 4. Hurdle

### Scale up, Technical Process, Acceptance

#### Issues

- Feasibility of technology (high p, low T, O<sub>2</sub>, handling)
- Commercial availability of chiral ligands, complexes
- IP rights, licenses, royalties
- Catalyst separation (metal residue; recycling?)
- Production equipment available
- Acceptance of technology by production manager

# Commercial Availability



Screening phase

100 mg – 1g samples days - weeks

Pilot phase of process development

Up to 100g within a few weeks – months

First production campaign

Up to kg amounts as soon as 6 months after successful piloting

Regular production

According to production plan; on time; quality assured

➤ Often short lead time for kg amounts of chiral ligands

## 5. Hurdle

### Decision to Market Product

#### Issue

- Many new pharma products are abandoned at a relatively late stage

#### What can be done

- NOTHING

# Conclusions



## Hurdles are of different nature

### Psychological

Prejudice, lack of know how and self confidence

### Technical

Catalyst performance, equipment, availability of catalysts

### Commercial

Product costs, IP rights, time to market, product dies