## WITTIG [2,3]-REARRANGEMENT AS A FORMAL ASYMMETRIC ALKYLATION OF $\alpha$ -BRANCHED CYCLOPENTANONES

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Asymmetric catalytic  $\alpha$ -alkylation of  $\alpha$ -branched ketones is highly challenging task due to the steric hindrance of substrates. We previously described an efficient organocatalytic methods for the Wittig [2,3]-rearrangement (Fig. 1) [1], [2].

$$\begin{array}{c|c} \mathsf{EWG} & \mathsf{O} & \mathsf{R} & \underline{\mathsf{base}} & \begin{bmatrix} \mathsf{EWG} & \underline{\ominus} & \mathsf{R} \\ & & & & \end{bmatrix} \\ & & & \mathsf{EWG} \\ & & & \mathsf{OH} \\ \end{array}$$

Fig. 1 Wittig [2,3]-rearrangement.

In this approach, we examine the asymmetric Wittig [2,3]-rearrangement of cyclic ketones as a formal  $\alpha$ -alkylation of  $\alpha$ -branched ketones. Enamine catalysis was applied for the  $\alpha$ -alkylation of cyclopentanone derivatives and  $\alpha$ -alkylated products were obtained in excellent enantiomeric purities and in good diastereoselectivities and yields (Fig. 2).

*Fig. 2 Asymmetric Wittig [2,3]-rearrangement of cyclopentanone.* 

## References

- 1. Ošeka, M.; Kimm, M.; Kaabel, S.; Järving, I.; Rissanen, K.; Kanger, T. Org. Lett. 2016, 18, 1358-1361
- 2. Ošeka, M.; Kimm, M.; Järving, I.; Lippur, K.; Kanger, T. J. Org. Chem. 2017, 82, 2889-2897

