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Asymmetric Synthesis of 1,4-Oxachalcogenanes and 1,4-Azochalcogenanes

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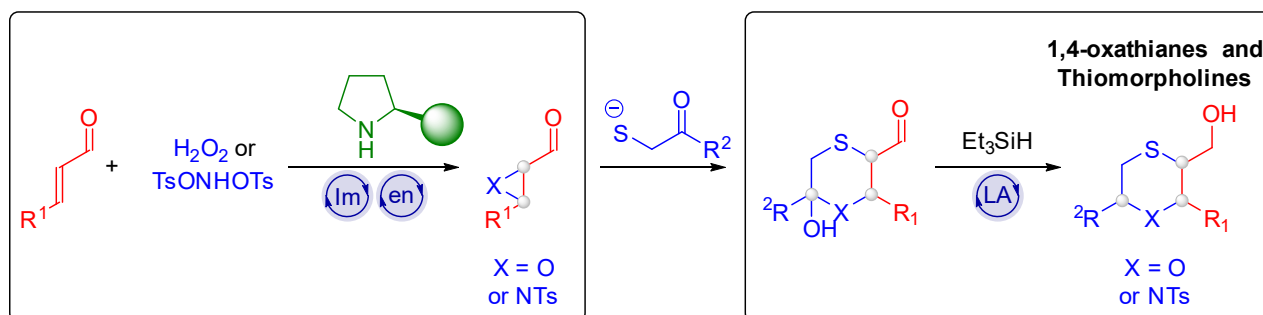
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ABSTRACT

Morpholine is a heterocyclic compound present in a wide range of commercial drugs as well as drug candidates. Its prominent in medicinal chemistry due to its great pharmacological potential, as well synthetic feasibility.¹ 1,4-Oxathianes and thiomorpholines have the potential to serve as bioisosteres for 1,4-dioxanes and morpholines,² allowing them to imitate their pharmacological effects while potentially presenting improved or altered biological activity. This attribute renders them advantageous in drug discovery programs, facilitating the generation of analogs of current medications with potential enhancements of effectiveness and bioavailability. We were able to synthesize 1,4-oxathianes and thiomorpholines enantioselectively via organocatalysis. By reacting chiral α,β -epoxy **1**³ or α,β -*N*-Tosyl-aziridine aldehydes **2**⁴ with *in situ* generated α -keto thiolates **3**,⁵ a ring opening driven by ring-strain followed by a hemiacetalization/hemiamination afforded the key heterocyclic aldehyde **4**. Reduction with a mild reducing agent in the presence of Lewis acids afforded the desired 1,4-Oxathianes and thiomorpholines.



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