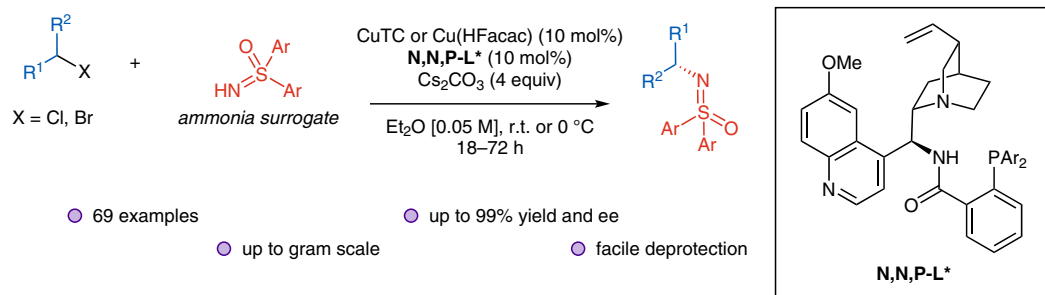


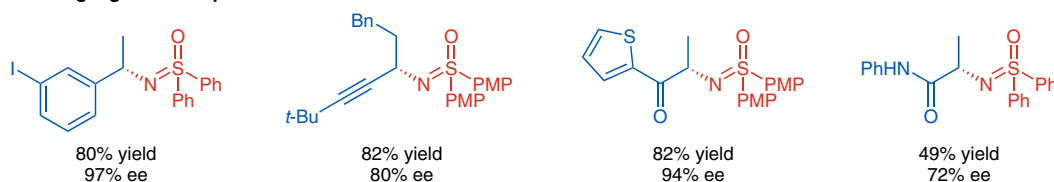
Y.-F. ZHANG, X.-Y. DONG, J.-T. CHENG, N.-Y. YANG, L.-L. WANG, F.-L. WANG, C. LUAN, J. LIU, Z.-L. LI, Q.-S. GU, X.-Y. LIU\* (SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, SHENZHEN, P. R. OF CHINA)

Enantioconvergent Cu-Catalyzed Radical C–N Coupling of Racemic Secondary Alkyl Halides to Access  $\alpha$ -Chiral Primary Amines  
*J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2021**, *143*, 15413–15419, DOI: 10.1021/jacs.1c07726.

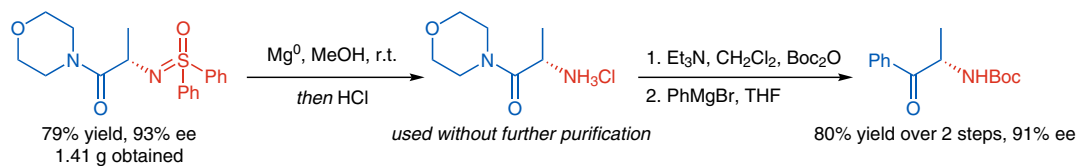
## Accessing $\alpha$ -Chiral Primary Amines via Copper-Catalyzed C–N Coupling using Ammonia Surrogates



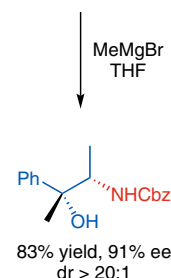
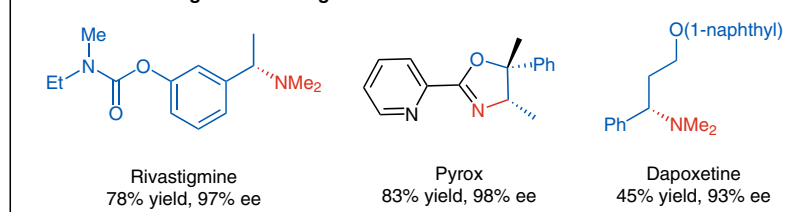
### Highlighted examples:



### Product elaborations:



### Access to chiral ligands and drugs:



**Significance:** Liu and co-workers report an enantioconvergent C–N coupling reaction between racemic secondary alkyl halides and ammonia surrogates to access  $\alpha$ -chiral primary amines, following deprotection. Enantioenriched building blocks, ligands, and drugs could be synthesized using this methodology as a key step.

**Comment:** Radical clock and TEMPO trapping experiments support the formation of the secondary alkyl radical via a single-electron transfer process. No enrichment or loss in enantioselectivity of the starting material was observed when using a racemic or scalemic alkyl halide, suggesting that a kinetic resolution was unlikely.