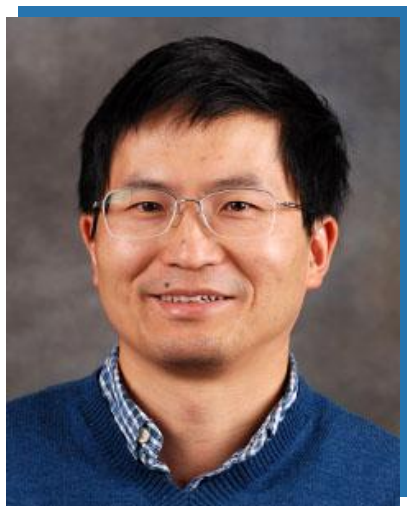




# Houk-Jung Organic Colloquium



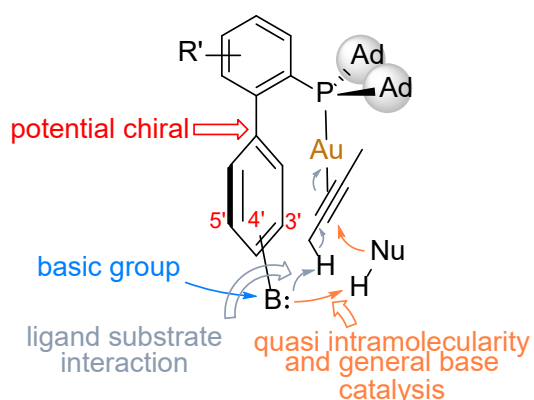
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Biochemistry  
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Barbara

## “Stereoselective Gold Catalysis: From Metal-Ligand Cooperation to $S_N2$ Glycosylation”

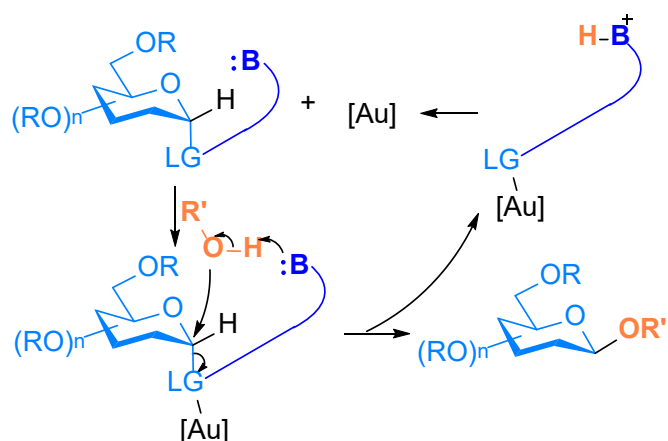
**Abstract:** Metal-ligand cooperation is a versatile strategy for achieving efficient and/or stereoselective catalysis. Since 2014, we have developed a range of enabling remotely basic group-functionalized biaryl-2-ylphosphine ligands (see Scheme A) for cooperative gold catalysis. With chiral elements built into these ligands, asymmetric transformations are developed in mechanistically rational manners. DFT calculations confirm the critical participation of the ligand remote basic group in catalysis. Several recent developments will be discussed. This type of bifunctional ligands also enables cooperative catalysis by other metals including Cu and Ag.

A different yet related approach to achieving stereoselective gold catalysis is developed specifically to address the long-standing challenge in carbohydrate synthesis, i.e., the lack of stereoselective synthesis of glycosidic bonds applicable to every sugar type. In this approach, as shown in Scheme B, a basic group is installed onto the anomeric leaving group of the carbohydrate donor and serves to direct the backend attack by a carbohydrate acceptor upon the leaving group activation by gold. The  $S_N2$  nature of the glycosylation and the general tolerance of many sugar types make this approach appealing. The progress made in this area will be discussed.

### A. Designed bifunctional ligands for cooperative gold catalysis



### B. The Directing-Group-on-Leaving-Group strategy toward $S_N2$ glycosylation



Thursday, January 13, 2022 | 4:00 PM | Via Zoom