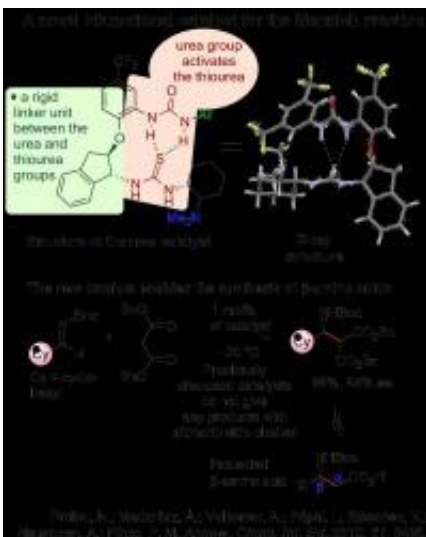


Two problems in chemical catalysis solved

December 20 2012



This image shows a novel bifunctional catalyst for the Mannich reaction. Credit: Professor Petri Pihko

The research group of Professor Petri Pihko at the Department of Chemistry and the NanoScience Center of the University of Jyväskylä has solved two acute problems in chemical catalysis. The research has been funded by the Academy of Finland.

In the first project, the researchers designed a novel intramolecularly assisted catalyst for the synthesis of beta [amino acids](#). Previously published catalysts work only with aromatic [side chains](#) in the imines, but the new catalyst designed at Jyväskylä does not have this limitation. The new method might find uses in the synthesis of beta amino acids,

computational and experimental studies that complement each other in understanding the mechanism and demonstrate how difficult mechanistic puzzles can be solved by joining the forces of both approaches.

The research results have been published in *Angewandte Chemie*.

More information: [dx.doi.org/10.1002/anie.201204833](https://doi.org/10.1002/anie.201204833) and [dx.doi.org/ 10.1002/anie.201203852](https://doi.org/10.1002/anie.201203852)

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