Bismuth-Mediated Switchable Regioselective Carbometalation

Significance: Baba and co-workers report a novel carbobismuthination reaction of alkenes using bismuth trihalides and ketene silyl acetics. Furthermore, in this protocol, the first switch in regioselectivity of the carbometalation using BiCl₃ instead of BiBr₃ is reported.

Comment: The resultant alkylbismuth compounds react with a range of reagents in order to give functionalized aliphatics. Therefore, reaction with N-bromosuccinimide furnishes the bromide, reaction with AIBN and PhSSPh introduces a thiophenyl group, and Ph(OAc)₂ in combination with TMSOAc gives the acetate.