Q.-H. LI, T.-L. LIU, L. WEI, X. ZHOU, H.-Y. TAO, C.-J. WANG\* (WUHAN UNIVERSITY AND SHANGHAI INSTITUTE OF ORGANIC CHEMISTRY, P. R. OF CHINA)

exo-Selective Construction of Spiro-[Butyrolactone-Pyrrolidine] via 1,3-Dipolar Cycloaddition of Azomethine Ylides with α-Methylene-γ-butyrolactone Catalyzed by Cu(I)/DTBM-BIPHEP Chem. Commun. 2013, 49, 9642-9644.

## Synthesis of Spiro-[Butyrolactone-Pyrrolidine]

## Selected examples:

Significance: The authors developed an asymmetric synthesis of spiro-[butyrolactone-pyrrolidine] catalyzed by Cu(I)-DTBM-BIPHEP delivering exo-selective 1,3-dipolar cycloadducts of azomethine ylides and  $\alpha\text{-methylene-}\gamma\text{-butyrolactone}.$ In all cases excellent chemical yields and stereoselectivities were achieved.

Comment: Several natural alkaloids and important biological compounds contain spiro-[butyrolactone-pyrrolidine] as core structure making them very attractive targets in the synthetic community. Thus, this finding for the syntheses of bicyclic and tricyclic skeletons with multiple quaternary stereogenic centers is very attractive.

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Category

**Metal-Catalyzed Asymmetric** Synthesis and Stereoselective Reactions

## **Key words**

azomethine ylides copper spirocycles