Enantioselective Coupling of Diazoalkanes with Terminal Alkynes

Significance: An enantioselective coupling reaction of aryldiazoalkanes with terminal alkynes is described. A copper complex promotes this transformation to afford trisubstituted allenes with high enantioselectivities. A rational stereocontrol model is proposed.

Comment: This reaction involves copper(I) carbene formation, alkynyl migratory insertion, and protonation. The authors suggest that migratory insertion of the copper(I) carbene species is the enantiodetermining step.