Significance: The authors report a very general and high yielding palladium-catalyzed synthesis of carboxylic acids, starting from alkenes. The method is performed in aqueous environment and uses only 0.25 mol% of Pd(acac)$_2$. High pressured carbon monoxide is used as 'CO' source, ensuring a good atom economy.

Comment: Various substituted alkenes (over 40 examples) have been successfully transformed into their corresponding carboxylic acids. The method provides the product in high n/iso ratio and can tolerate highly reactive functional groups, such as ketones or phosphates.