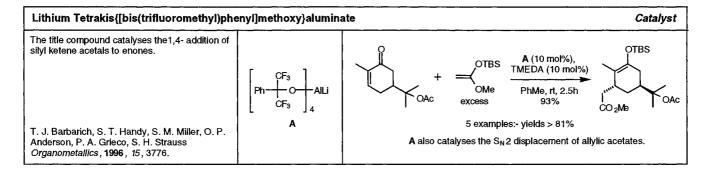
SYNTHESIS ALERTS

Synthesis Alerts is a new monthly feature to help readers of Synthesis keep abreast of new reagents, catalysts, ligands, chiral auxiliaries, and protecting groups which have appeared in the recent literature. Emphasis is placed on new developments but established reagents, catalysts etc are also covered if they are used in novel and useful reactions. In each abstract, a specific example of a transformation is given in a concise format designed to aid visual retrieval of information.

Synthesis Alerts is a personal selection by Paul Blakemore, Brian Dymock, Philip Hall, Philip Kocienski, J.-Y. Le Brazidec and Alessandro Pontiroli of the University of Southampton. The journals regularly covered by the abstractors are: Angewandte Chemie International Edition, Bulletin de la Societe Chimie de France, Bulletin of the Chemical Society of Japan, Chemische Berichte, Chemistry Letters, Helvetica Chimica Acta, Journal of Organic Chemistry, Journal of Organometallic Chemistry, Journal of the American Chemical Society, Liebigs Annalen, Tetrahedron Letters.

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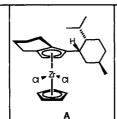
18-Crown-6	Catalyst
The title compound was used to synthesise vinyl ethers under phase transfer conditions. G. Bellucci, C. Chiappe, G. L. Moro <i>Synlett</i> , 1996, 880.	Ph \longrightarrow (5 eq) A (10 mol%) heptan-1-ol (2 eq) KOH (2 eq), 4Å MS THF, 35°C, 1h 82% E:Z = 3:97 10 examples; yields typically >75%

Scandium Trifluoromethanesulfonate		Catalyst
The title compound is a highly active acetalisation catalyst. For its use as a Friedel-Crafts catalyst see <i>Synlett</i> , 1996 , 871. K. Ishihara, Y. Karumi, M. Kubota, H. Yamamoto <i>Synlett</i> , 1996 , 839.	Sc(OTf) ₃	A (1 mol%) diethyl tartrate (1.2 eq) HC(OMe) ₃ (1.2 eq) MeCN, rt, 3 h 95% 4 examples:- yields >87% The title compound was also useful for the preparation of 1,3-dioxolanones and -dioxanones with α- and β-hydroxy acids.

Catalyst

(1-Neomenthyl-4,5,6,7-tetrahydroindenyl)(cyclopentadienyl)zirconium Dichloride

Catalyst for the asymmetric carbomagnesiation of unactivated alkenes. The catalyst is easily recoverable.



L. Bell, R. J. Whitby, R. V. H. Jones, M. C. H. Standen *Tetrahedron Lett.*, **1996**, *37*, 7139.

Standen Tetrahedron Lett., 1996, 37, 7139.

Bis(tri*iso* propylphosphine)rhodium(I) Chloride

Catalyst

The title complex catalyses the cycloaromatisation of various enediynes via a proposed vinylidene-rhodium intermediate.

RhCl('Pr₃P)₂

A (5 mol%)

Et₃N, PhH
50°C, 20 h 68%, E/Z = 100/0

K. Ohe, M. Kojima, K. Yonehara, S. Uemura

Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. Engl., 1996, 35, 1823.

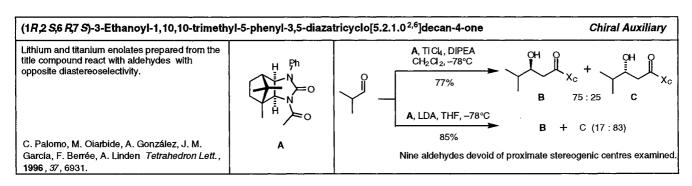
Benzylidenebis(tricyclohexylphosphine)ruthenium(IV) Dichloride Catalyst The title compound A, and its analogue B, = tritylpolystyrol respectively catalyse cross metathesis and B (15 mol%) ring-closing reactions of polymer bound Cl₂(PCy₃)₂Ru=CHPh 13 examples nitrogeneous alkene. PhH, 30°C, 5 d (yields 46-95%). 83% Cl₂(PCy₃)₂Ru=CH-CH=CPh₂ 77%, E:Z = 2:1В Boo M. Schuster, J. Pemerstorfer, S. Blechert Angew. A (6 mol%), 48 h Chem. Int. Ed. Engl., 1996, 35, 1979.

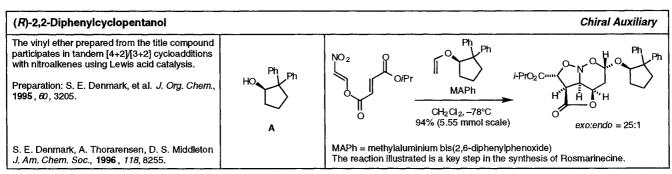
(Salen)-Manganese(III) Complex Catalyst (a) A (7 mol%) The title complex catalyses the asymmetric PPNO (0.3 eq) TBDMSC α -hydroxylation of silyl enol ethers and silyl ketene acetals. NaOCI (7.5 eq) CH₂Cl₂, 5°C, 20 h 54%, er = 74:26 (b) HCI/MeOH Four different substrates oxidised under a variety of conditions (yields 8-99%, %ee 9-81%). Nature of additive, oxidant and pH have a profound effect on outcome of reaction. A(R = t-Bu)W. Adam, R. T. Fell, C. Mock-Knoblauch, C. R. PPNO = 4-phenylpyridine N-oxide Saha-Möller Tetrahedron Lett., 1996, 37, 6531.

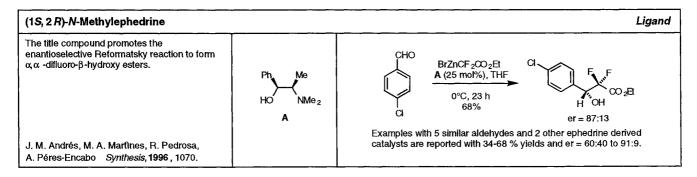
Catalyst Tetrakis(triphenylphosphine)palladium(0) The title compound catalyses the hydrogenolysis of 1,1-dibromoalk-1-enes by tributyltin hydride to yield the corresponding ($\it Z$)-1-bromoalk-1-enes Br A (4 mol%) stereoselectively. Bu 3SnH (1.1 eq) TRDPSO TBDPSO Br Pd(PPh₃)₄ PhH, rt 56% 13 examples (yields 56-90%); in all cases >98% (Z). J. Uenishi, R. Kawahama, Y. Shiga, O. Yonemitsu Tetrahedron Lett., 1996, 37, 6759.

Ruthenium(II) Acetate (R)-BINAP Comp	ex	Catalyst
The title complex catalyses the asymmetric hydrogenation of tosyl imines. A. B. Charette, A. Giroux <i>Tetrahedron Lett.</i> , 1996, 37, 6669.	(<i>R</i>)-Ru(OAc) ₂BINAP A	Ts A (5 mol%) H ₂ (1050 psi) THF, 40°C, 96 h 48%, er = 74:26 Seven examples including acetophenone (yields 48-82%, %ee 17-84%). Lower yields with bulkier substrates.

Cinchonine			Chiral Auxilliary
The isobutyl ester A of the title compound undergoes diastereoselective Michael reactions. M. Shimizu, Y. Onogawa, T. Fujisawa <i>Synlett</i> ,		(a) A (0.7 eq), KHMDS (0.7 eq Znl ₂ (0.7 eq), DME, -45°C, (b) KOH / MeOH 65% examples. Using LDA as the bas	MeO Property of the er = $96:4$ re and Me ₄ Sn as the







The title compound is a histidine protecting group. The 1-adamantyloxymethyl group is cleaved with trifluoroacetic acid. Y. Okada, J. Wang, T. Yamamoto, Y. Mu, T. Yokoi J. Chem. Soc., Perkin Trans. 1, 1996, 2139.

$[(3\hbox{-}Dimethylamino)propyl] dimethylaluminium$	Reagent	
The title complex effects methylation and ethynylation of carbonyl compounds in high yields. W. Baidossi, A. Rosenfeld, B. C. Wassermann, S. Schutte, H. Schumann, J. Blum Synthesis, 1996, 1127.	NMe ₂ Al Me ₂ A	A + Ph Toluene, 80°C 1 h, 96% A (a) PhC=CH, toluene 50°C, 15 min (b) (Ph) 2C=O, 70°C 15 min, 93% α, β-Unsaturated carbonyl compounds undergo 1,4 addition of methyl or ethynyl groups.

(Triethylgermyl)tributylstannane		
The title compound gives allylic germanes on reaction with allylic bromides in the presence of Pd(0). T. Nakano, K. Ono, T. Migita <i>Chem. Lett.</i> 1996, 697.	Et₃GeSnBu₃ A	Pd(dba) ₃ •CHCl ₃ (1.5 mol%) A (1 eq), PhH 80°C, 11 h 76% Fight examples; yields 20-92%

2-Pyridyl Cyanate		
The title compound reacts with Grignard reagents to give nitriles.	\Diamond	— MgBr — — — — — — — CN
	N O-CN	THF, 0°C, 10 min 80%
	A	Ten examples; yields 72-97%.
J. S. Koo, J. I. Lee <i>Synth. Commun.</i> 1996 , <i>26</i> , 3709.		

883.

Reagent

Reagent

Reagent

Reagent

Reagent

$(S,S)\text{-}4,5\text{-}Di(isopropoxycarbonyl)\text{-}2\text{-}[(E)\text{-}3\text{-}methylhept\text{-}2\text{-}enyl]\text{-}2\text{-}bora\text{-}1,3\text{-}dioxolane}$

The title compound undergoes enantioselective addition to aldehydes with the generation of a quaternary centre.

Y. Yamamoto, S. Hara, A. Suzuki Synlett, 1996,

Yields are generally >75% when the aldehyde contains unfunctionalised side chains.

2,4-Dimethoxybenzylthio Methylphenylsulfonate

The title compound is an electrophilic sulfenylating agent for the preparation of thiols bearing the acid-labile 2,4-dimethoxybenzyl protecting group.

The 2,4-dimethoxybenzyl (DMOB) protecting group can be removed using mercury(II) trifluoroacetate, the free thiol being liberated by treatment of the resulting mercury(II) salt with hydrogen sulfide

N. Shibata, J. E. Baldwin, A. Jacobs, M. E. Wood Tetrahedron, 1996, 52, 12839.

(1R,2S)-1-Lithio-1-phenylsulfonyl-2-({[(tert-butyldiphenyl)silyl]oxy}methyl)oxirane

The presence of the sulfone moiety in the title compound ensures a 6- endo cyclisation which has been applied to the synthesis of polycyclic trans-fused tetrahydropyrans.

Y. Mori, K. Yaegashi, H. Furukawa J. Am. Chem Soc., 1996, 118, 8158.

Bis(π-crotyl)nickel Bromide

The title compound undergoes coupling with alkenyl iodides to give 1,4-dienes. Unlike most crotyl metal reagents, it reacts preponderantly at the less hindered terminus.

T. E. Kedar, M. W. Miller, L. S. Hegedus J. Org. Chem., 1996, 61, 6121.

Single example taken from a synthesis of (+)-Cerulenin

1-[(tert-Butyldimethyl)silyl]-1-[N-(2-methoxy-1-methylethyl)imino]ethane

The azaenolate derived from treating the title compound with LDA undergoes alkylation to give products which hydrolyse to acyl tert-butyldimethylsilanes

E. J. Corey, S. Lin J. Am. Chem. Soc., 1996,

118,8765

The example illustrated is a key step in the synthesis of Dammarenediol II

Iodosobenzene Diacetate		
The title compound together with trimethylsilyl halides haloacetoxylates 1,4-dimethoxynaph-thalenes.	QAc I QAc	OMe (a) A (1.1 eq) TMSBr (2.2 eq) CH ₂ Cl ₂ , 0°C (b) A (2 eq), 50 min OMe OMe OMe OMe
P. A. Evans, T. A. Brandt <i>Tetrahedron Lett.</i> , 1996 , <i>37</i> , 6443.		By control of stoichiometry and subtle changes in reaction conditions mono- and dibromo derivatives can also be procured. Nine examples (yields 71-75%).

2,3-Dichloro-5,6-dicyano-1,4-benzoquinone		
The title compound selectively deprotects primary allyl ethers. J. S. Yadav, S. Chandrasekhar, G. Sumithra, R. Kache <i>Tetrahedron Lett.</i> , 1996 , <i>37</i> , 6603.	CI CN CN	A (1.2 eq) CH ₂ Cl ₂ :H ₂ O (9:1), rt 70% Total of 11 well-chosen examples (yields 70-92%).

(S)-4-tert-Butyl-3-pivaloyl-1,3-thiazolidine-2-thione		
Kinetic resolution of <i>sec</i> -alcohols is achieved via pivaloylation with the thiazolidinethione A . S. Yamada, T. Ohe <i>Tetrahedron Lett.</i> , 1996 , 37, 6777.	S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S	Twenty examples of kinetic resolution of benzylic sec-alcohols. Includes the use of some slightly different thiazolidines and oxazolidines (yields 49-99%, %ee 19-84%).

Silver Tetrafluoroborate				Reagent
Silver induced ring expansion of cyclopropyl <i>N</i> -chloroaminal derivatives gives β-lactams.	AgBF₄ A	Bu ^t HN OMe PhCH ₂ Me	(a) t-BuOCl (1.05 eq), CH ₂ Cl ₂ , 0°C, 30 min (b) A (1.05 eq), CH ₂ Cl ₂ , rt, 3 h (c) H ₂ O	PhCH ₂ Me 95%
N. De Kimpe, K. A. Tehrani, G. Fonck <i>J. Org. Chem.</i> , 1996 , <i>61</i> , 6500.			Six examples (yields 41-9	5%)