SYNTHESIS ALERTS

Synthesis Alerts is a 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, Stephen Brand, John Christopher, Emma Guthrie, Philip Kocienski, Louise Lea, Graham McAllister, Russell McDonald and Robert Narquizian of Glasgow University. The journals regularly covered by the abstractors are: Angewandte Chemie International Edition, Bulletin of the Chemical Society of Japan, Chemistry A European Journal, Chemistry Letters, European Journal of Organic Chemistry, Helvetica Chimica Acta, Heterocycles, Journal of Organic Chemistry, Journal of the American Chemical Society, Organometallics, Synthesis, Tetrahedron, Tetrahedron Asymmetry and Tetrahedron Letters.

Georg Thieme Verlag does not accept responsibility for the accuracy, content, or selection of the data.

Bis(triphenylphosphine)nickel(II) Chloride			Catalyst	
The title reagent catalyses the cross-coupling of lithium alkenylborates with sterically congested cis-vinyl bromides.	NiC⊵(PPh₃)₂ A	(a) A (10 mol%), MeLi (1 eq) 0°C, THF, 0.5 h (b) OTBS (C ₅ H ₁₁ Br rt, THF, 18 h	OTBS C ₅ H ₁₁ C ₅ H ₁₁ 90%, single isomer	
Y. Kobayashi, Y. Nakayama, R. Mizojiri Tetrahedron 1998, 54, 1053.		9 examples (yields 0, 56-90%).		

Bis(triphenylphosphine)nickel(0)		Catalyst
The title reagent catalyses the cross-coupling reaction between chloromethylated para-quinones and vinylalanes. The protocol described allows for an expeditious route to the vitamins K ₁ and K ₂ .	NiCl₂ + PPh₃ BuLi THF, rt (Ph₃P)₂Ni	A (0.5 mol%) Me ₂ AlR THF, -78 → 0°C, 15 min 88%
B. H. Lipshutz, S. Kim, P. Mollard, K. L. Stevens <i>Tetrahedron</i> 1998 , <i>54</i> , 1241.	A	R = 기다 9 examples (yields 67-86%).

Bis(cyclooctadiene)nickel(0) Catalys		
Nickel catalysed [4+2] cycloadditions proceed in cases in which the corresponding Diels-Alder cycloaddition either fails or requires forcing conditions. A study on the stereochemistry and electronic effects using nickel was also conducted.	Ni(COD)₂ A P[OCH(CF ₃)₂]₃ B	OTMS A (10 mol%) B (20 mol%) C-C ₆ H ₁₂ , 80°C, 18 h MeO OMOM
P. A. Wender, T. E. Smith <i>Tetrahedron</i> 1998 , <i>54</i> , 1255.		90%, single isomer

Mercury(II) Acetate		Catalyst
Metathesis of trimethylsilyl enol ethers to trichlorosilyl enolates with catalyst A is reported. S. E. Denmark, R. A. Stavenger, KT. Wong <i>J. Org. Chem.</i> 1998 , <i>6</i> 3, 918.	Hg(OAc)₂ A	SiCl ₄ (2 eq) Hg(OAc) ₂ (1 mol%) CH ₂ Cl ₂ , rt, 1 h 69% 6 examples (yields 65-83%). Use of the trichlorosityl enolates in aldol additions to a variety of aldehydes is reported.

10% Palladium on Carbon / Triphenylphos	phine / Co	pper(I) le	odide Catalyst
Cross-coupling of aryl or heterocyclic halides with terminal alkynes is catalysed by the title reagents. L. S. Bleicher, N. D. P. Cosford, A. Herbaut, J. S. McCallum, I. A. McDonald <i>J. Org. Chem.</i> 1998, 63, 1109.	Pd / C PPh _s Cul	A B C	NMe A (2.5 mol%), B (10 mol%) C (10 mol%), K ₂ CO ₃ (2.5 eq) HC≡CC(CH ₃) ₂ OH (2.5 eq) DME-H ₂ O (1:1), Δ, 16 h 92% HO 12 examples (yields 50-98%).

Bis(acetonitrile)dichloropalladium(II) Tetraphenyl Phosphonium Chloride Complex			Catalyst
A new catalyst system for the Heck reaction of normally unreactive aryl halides is reported. M. T. Reetz, G. Lohmer, R. Schwickardi Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. Engl. 1998, 37, 481.	[Pd(CH₃CN)₂Cl₂]•6Ph₄PCI A	A (2 mol%) NaOAc (2 eq) styrene (1 eq) DMG (12 mol%) NMP, 150°C, 12 h 6 examples (conversion 66-97%).	Ph Ph 3%

Chiral Rhodium Hydrogenation Catalyst Catalyst The title complex catalyses the highly regio- and • enantioselective hydrogenation of α, γ-dienamide A (0.2 mol%) H₂ (60 psi) CO₂Me MeOH, rt, 2 h ŇHAc NHAC >95%, er = 99:1 Θ_{OTf} 12 examples (all yields >95%, %ee 86-99%). Less than 2% over reduction M. J. Burk, J. G. Allen, W. F. Kiesman J. Am. at 100% conversion was observed in all cases. Chem. Soc. 1998, 120, 657.

Catalyst (Salen)manganese(III) Complexes The title reagents catalyse the enantioselective (S,S)-A (7 mol%), PPNO (30 mol%) QSiMe₃ oxidation of siloxyvinyl compounds to afford the corresponding α -hydroxy ketones and esters. QSiM**e**₃ NaOCI (7.5 eq), phosphate buffer (pH 11.3) CH₂Cl₂-H₂O, rt, 1 d 11 examples (yields 59-96%, %ee 22-87%). Substrate structure as well as absolute configuration of catalyst affects the sense of asymmetric induction. Catalyst electronic effects were investigated by comparing t-Bu. A catalysts A, B and C. MeO.B W. Adam, R. T. Fell, V. R. Stegmann, C. R. (i-Pr) SiO, C PPNO = 4-phenylpyridine-N-oxide Saha-Möller J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1998, 120, 708.

Europium Tris(6,6,7,7,8,8,8-heptafluoro-2,2-dimethyloctane-3,5-dionate) (Eu(fod)3)

Catalyst

The title reagent catalyses the aromatic Claisen rearrangement of allylic phenols with excellent chirality transfer. Synthesis of the requisite aryl ethers is also described by the palladium catalysed asymmetric *O*-alkylation of phenols by allylic carbonates.

B. M. Trost, F. D. Toste *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1998, 120, 815.

12 examples (yields 79-97%, Δ (%ee) \approx -1%).

Palladium(Ii) Acetate Catalyst The title reagent is a pre-catalyst for the *N*-arylation of azoles and imines. A(0.5 mol%) dppf (0.75 mol%) t-BuONa (1.2 eq) PhMe, 65°C, 3 h MeC Pd(OAc)₂ 93% (1.2 eq) (1 eq) 15 examples (yields 76-97%). More sluggish reaction rates were found with G. Mann, J. F. Hartwig, M. S. Driver, C. pyrrole derivatives. Fernández-Rivas J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1998, 120, dppf = 1,1'-bis(diphenylphospino)ferrocene

(S)-Tol-BINAP Copper(II) Fluoride Complex The in situ generated title reagent catalyses the enantioselective addition of a silyl dienolate to aldehydes. The protocol described represents a relatively new paradigm for asymmetric carbonyl addition chemistry whereby chiral enolates are catalytically regenerated. (S)-Tol-BINAP (S)-Tol-BINAP (S)-Tol-BINAP•CuF₂ (S)-Tol-BINAP•CuF₂ (S)-Tol-BINAP•CuF₂ A (S)-Tol-BINAP•CuF₂ (S)-Tol-BINAP•CuF₂ (S)-Tol-BINAP•CuF₂ (S)-Tol-BINAP•CuF₂ (S)-Tol-BINAP•CuF₂ (S)-Tol-BINAP•CuF₂ (S)-Tol-BINAP•CuF₂ (S)-Tol-BINAP•CuF₂ (S)-Tol-BINAP•CuF₂ (S)-Tol-BINAP•CuF₂

Bis(triphenylphosphine)nickel(II) Chlori	de	Catalyst
The title catalyst mediates the coupling of arylborates with an allylic acetate. Y. Kobayashi, E. Takahisha, S.B. Usmani Tetrahedron Lett. 1998, 39, 597.	Ni(PPh _b)₂Cbౖ A	HOOAc A (10 mol%), Nal (1 eq) BuLi (1.5 eq), t-BuCN (2 eq) THF, 0°C → rt, 16 h 8 examples (yields 63-98%). The use of Nal and t-BuCN as additives significantly enhances 1,3-selectivity.

Bis(triphenylphosphine)ruthenium(II) Ch			Catalyst	
The title reagent catalyses the olefination of aldehydes with ethyl diazoacetate. O. Fujimura, T. Honma Tetrahedron Lett. 1998, 39, 625.	Ru(PPh₃)₂Cl₂ A	Ph CHO	A (2.5 mol%) N ₂ CHCQEt (1.4 eq) PPh ₈ (1.1 eq) CICH ₂ CH ₂ CI, 50°C, 4 h 92% examples (yields 82-92%, <i>E:2</i>	Ph CO ₂ Et $E:Z = 90:10$ Z≥ 90:10).

Catalyst

CO₂Me

(R)-Methylaluminum- β -binaphthoxide

The title reagent catalyses the enantioselective alkylation of aldehydes with 5-alkoxy oxazoles.

92%, er (cis) = 94:6 cis:trans = 83:7

Chiral Auxiliary

Ligand

Ligand

Ligand

H. Suga, K. Ikai, T. Ibata Tetrahedron Lett. 1998, *39*, 869,

20 examples (yields 51-92%, %ee (cis) 64-90%, cis:trans 43:57 to 97:3). Ar = o-anisvl

trans-4,5-Diphenylimidazoline

Dianions derived from C2 symmetric chiral imidazolines provide excellent stereocontrol in alkylation reactions affording quaternary benzylic centres.

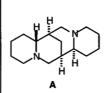


5 examples (yields 75-86%, %de 80->95%). Alkylation of monoanions derived from N-substituted imidazolines is also described and gives complementary diastereoselectivity.

P. I. Dalko, Y. Langlois Chem. Commun. 1998, 331.

(-)-Sparteine

Metallation of N-methylisoindoline-borane complexes with s-BuLi in the presence of the title ligand allows for subsequent diastereo- and enantioselective alkylation.

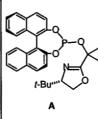


A. J. Blake, M. R. Ebden, D. N. A. Fox, W. Li, N. S. Simpkins Synlett, 1998, 189.

5 examples (yields 66-79%, %de 33-96%, %ee(major) = 64-89%).

Chiral P,N Ligand

A new chiral P,N ligand is described which gives practically useful enantio- and regioselectivities in palladium catalysed allylic alkylations.



(a) A (2.4 mol%) [Pd(C₃H₅)Cl₂ (1 mol%) CH₂Cl₂, 50°C, 2 h

MeO₂C .CO₂Me (b) CH₂(CO₂Me)₂ (2 eq) BSA, KOAc (4 mol%) rt, 18 h 91%, er = 98:2 (+4% regioisomer)

R. Prétot, A. Pfaltz Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. Engl. 1998, 37, 323.

Ar = 1-naphthyl BSA = N, O-bis(trimethylsilyl)acetamide

(S,S)-1,2-Diphenylethylenediamine [(S,S)-DPEN]

Addition of the title chiral ligand to a racemic ruthenium(II) complex selectively activates one enantiomer to catalyse the asymmetric hydrogenation of simple ketones.

RuCl₂[(±)-tol-binap](dmf)_n (0.2 mol%) A (0.2 mol%), KOH (0.4 mol%), H2 (8 atm)

i-PrOH-PhMe (7:1), 0°C, 6 h

100%, er = 98:2

2 examples (yields quantitative, %ee 90, 95%).

T. Ohkuma, H. Doucet, T. Pham, K. Mikami, T. Korenaga, M. Terada, R. Noyori J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1998, 120, 1086.

(R,R)-1,2-Di(pyridine-2-carboxamido)cyclohexane

A molybdenum complex derived from the title ligand effects the asymmetric substitution of allylic acetates and carbonates. Products resulting from attack at the most substituted terminus predominate.

B. M. Trost, I. Hachiya *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1998**, *120*, 1104.

Tris[3-(*N,N*-dimethylguanidino)phenyl]phosphine Ligand The title ligand mediates the palladium catalysed (Sonogashira) coupling of iodoarenes and terminal alkynes in water. H. Dibowski, F.P. Schmidtchen *Tetrahedron Lett.*H. Dibowski, F.P. Schmidtchen *Tetrahedron Lett.*1998, 39, 525.

Diethyl Zinc		Reagent
Treatment of various 5-iodoketones with the title reagent (A) in the presence of nickel catalyst B produces cyclopentanols. T. Stüdemann, M. Ibrahim-Ouali, G. Cahiez, P. Knochel <i>Synlett</i> , 1998, 143.	Et₂Zn A Ni(acac)₂ B	A (2 eq), B (5 mol%) -78°C → rt, THF, 12 h 64%, dr = 95:5 11 examples (64-82%, %de 90-98%). The method only allows for the preparation of 5 membered rings. Ester functionality is tolerated by the reaction conditions.

(3-Carboethoxy-1-propyl)(trimethylsilylmethyl)zinc		
Functionalised mixed alkyl(trimethylsilylmethyl)- zinc reagents add efficiently to a variety of Michael acceptors with exclusive 1,4-regioselectivity with no need for transition metal catalysis. The trimethylsilylmethyl group acts as a perfect dummy ligand. P. Jones, C. K. Reddy, P. Knochel <i>Tetrahedron</i> , 1998, 54, 1471.	Eto Me ₃ Si Zq	

Dilithium tetrachlorocuprate		Reagent
The title reagent catalyses the carbonylative cyclization of iodoarenes bearing a proximal enolate precursor to provide cyclic ketones or lactones.	Li _E CuCl₄ A	CO ₂ El CO ₂ E
E. Negishi, H. Makabe, I. Shimoyama, G. Wu, Y. Z. Zhang <i>Tetrahedron</i> , 1998 , <i>54</i> , 1095.		2 examples employing A (yields 20, 98%).

1998, 63, 860.

Di-isopropoxytitanium TADDOLate

Reagent

The title reagent effects the highly enantioselective ring opening of cyclic *meso*-anhydrides to afford the corresponding *iso*propyl hemiesters.

Ar Ar Ar

Ar $Ar = \beta$ -naphthyl

A (1.2 eq)

THF, -15°C, 5 d

T4%, er = 94:6

14 examples (yields 59-99%, %ee 0, 50-98%). The use of sub-stoichiometric $\bf A$ in the presence of stoichiometric amounts of Al(O/Pr)₃ is also reported.

G. Jaeschke, D. Seebach *J. Org. Chem.* 1998, 63, 1190.

The title reagent (prepared in situ from germanium(II) lodide and potassium metal) is an effective promoter of the Reformatsky reaction. Good syn diastereoselectivity is observed.

Ge

A

13 examples of the reaction of α-bromo carbonyl compounds or enantiomerically pure oxazolidinone derivatives with aldehydes (yields 0, 32-98%, syn:anti 78:22 to 99:1).

Tetraethylammonium Hydrogen Carbona	ite	Reagent
The preparation of carbamates from amines, alkyl halides and A is described. A. Inesi, V. Mucciante, L. Rossi <i>J. Org. Chem.</i> 1998, <i>63</i> , 1337.	Et₄NHCO₃ A	MeO NH₂ (a) A (1.5 eq) MeCN, rt, 1 h (b) Etl (5 eq) MeCN, rt, 18 h 76% 14 examples (yields 0, 53-98%).

5-Hydroperoxycarbonylphthalimide

Reagent

The cheap title reagent effects the epoxidation of alkenes. The by-product carboxylic acid is highly insoluble in the reaction media and acid catalysed side-reactions of the product epoxides are minimal.

individual yields not specified

A. P. James, R. A. W. Johnstone, M. McCarron, J. P. Sankey, B. Trenbirth *Chem. Commun.* **1998**, 429.

16 examples (all yields 98-100%). The preparation of A is described.

Reagent

Reagent

Reagent

Reagent

Reagent

S-Methyl N-Phenyl Methaneimidothioate 2-Nitroenamines are prepared by condensation of substituted nitromethanes with S-methyl

methaneimidothioates in the absence of solvent.

10 examples (yields 38, 75-100%).

K. A. Turner Synthesis, 1998, 139.

Aluminum Tris(2,6-diphenylphenoxide)

Precomplexation of a conjugated aldehyde with the title reagent promotes subsequent deprotonation at the most distal enolisable site. This allows for the controlled mixed aidol reaction between conjugated and non-conjugated (or non-enolisable) aldehydes.

S. Saito, M. Shiozawa, M. Ito, H. Yamamoto J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1998, 120, 813.

18 examples of mixed aldols between aldehyde pairs (yields 26, 55-99%). Also 8 examples between conjugated ketones and aldehydes (yields 38, 68-99%). In all cases the conjugated carbonyl component acts as the nucleophile, reacting at the extremity of its unsaturation.

(--)-Chlorobis(isopinocampheyl)borane (DIP-chloride) / (--)-Sparteine

The title pair of reagents effect the enantioselective enolborination of meso ketones

5 examples (yields 15-85%, %de 90-92%). The method is also effective for the kinetic resolution of racemic non-symmetric ketones.

Sodium N-Chloro- O-benzylcarbamate

D. E. Ward, W.-L. Lu J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1998,

120, 1098.

The title reagent A (or the closely related Boc derivative B) acts as a nitrogen source and stoichiometric oxidant in the asymmetric aminohydroxylation of olefins. Using this system the aminohydroxylation of styrenes with excellent enantioselectivity is possible for the first time.

R = Bn, A t-Bu, B

K₂OsO₂(OH)₄ (4 mol%) (DHQ)₂PHAL (5 mol%) A (3.1 eq) n-PrOH-H₂O (3:2), rt, 1 h

NHCbz

67%, er = 96:4 (+14% regioisomer)

23 examples of styrenes employing A and B (yields 35-98%, regioselectivity 50:50 to 91:9 in favour of the benzylamine, %ee 74-99%). In general slightly higher enantioselectivities are achieved using B.

K. L. Reddy, K. B. Sharpless J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1998, 120, 1207.

1-[N-(Benzyloxycarbonyl)aminomethyl]benzotriazole

The title reagent is used as an electrophilic aminomethyl equivalent in asymmetric Mannich reactions with Evans oxazolidinones. The Cbz-group survives the conditions necessary for auxiliary removal and is itself cleaved by catalytic hydrogenolysis under mild conditions.

E. Arvanitis, H. Ernst, A. A. Ludwig, A. J. Robinson, P. B. Wyatt *J. Chem. Soc., Perkin* Trans. 1 1998, 521.

3 examples (yields 58-65%, %de 86-92%).

Hydridotris(triphenylphosphine)rhodium(I) Carbonyl / Diphenylsilane Reage			
The title reagent pair mediates the reduction of tertiary amides to tertiary amines. The reaction can be performed in the presence of hydride sensitive functionalities.	RhH(CO)(PPh₃)₃ A Ph₂SiH₂	Phr NMe₂ A (1 eq), B (20 mol%) CH₂Ck, 0°C → rt, 7 h Phr NMe₂ NMe₂	
R. Kuwano, M. Takahashi, Y. Ito <i>Tetrahedron</i> Lett. 1998 , <i>39</i> , 1017.	В	12 examples (yields 65-94%). Epoxides and esters are not reduced under the reaction conditions.	

Perrhenic acid / Bis(trimethylsilyl)peroxide (BTSP)		
The title reagent pair mediates the <i>N</i> -oxidation of pyridines. Both electron deficient and electron rich pyridines can be successfully employed as substrates.	HReO4 A Me3 SiOOSiMe3	CI CI A (0.5 mol%), B (1 eq) CI
C. Coperet, H. Adolfsson, J. P. Chiang, A.K. Yudin, K.B. Sharpless <i>Tetrahedron Lett.</i> 1998 , <i>39</i> , 761.	В	16 examples (yields 11-98%). The tumover frequency is sensitive to water content, thus A was used as a 65-70% aqueous solution.

Tetrabutylammonium Trifluoroacetate (TBATFA)		
The title reagent mediates the conversion of α,β unsaturated carboxylic acids to the corresponding halides by N -halosuccinimides, thus constituting a metal-free Hunsdiecker reaction.	<i>n</i> -Bu ₄ N [⊕] ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ CF ₃	CICH ₂ CH ₂ CI, rt, 6 h
D. Naskar, S. Chowdhury, S. Roy <i>Tetrahedron Lett.</i> 1998 , <i>39</i> , 699.		18 examples (yields18-97%), including chloro- and bromo-decarboxylation reactions.

Samarium(II) lodide		
The title reagent mediates the intramolecular reductive cyclisation of allyl chlorides with aldehydes. H. Arimoto, I. Hayakawa, M. Kuramoto, D. Uemura <i>Tetrahedron Lett.</i> 1998 , <i>39</i> , 863.	Sm½ A	OHC H A (2.5 eq), HMPA (2.5 eq) THF, rt, 92% HO H 6 examples of the formation of 8 and 9-membered rings (yields 80-97%).