

How to take advantage of polarized C≡C bonds reactivity?

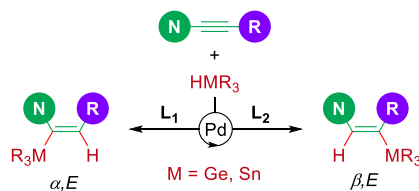
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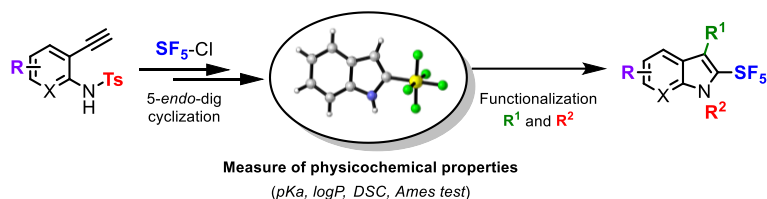
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Our group develops synthetic methods oriented towards the construction of functionalized nitrogen heterocycles,¹ and with a special interest for the reactivity of polarized alkynes. Indeed, depending on the substitution of alkynes, by electron-donating or electron-withdrawing groups, regio-, chemo- and stereoselective transformations can be performed. With the help of organometallic catalysis, the innate selectivity of polarized alkynes can be enhanced or inverted by a wise tuning of the catalytic conditions. Recently, we used this strategy to develop regiodivergent palladium-catalyzed hydrometallation of ynamides. The reaction mechanism has been rationalized by experimental evidences and theoretical computations.²



Our group is also highly interested by “emerging fluorinated” groups such as the pentafluorosulfanyl group (SF₅), a highly polar, lipophilic and strong electron-withdrawing group. To date, synthetic strategies to construct nitrogen heterocycles bearing a SF₅ are limited and physicochemical properties of SF₅-containing products are scarce in the literature. We recently achieved the synthesis of 2-SF₅-(aza)indoles following a telescoped sequence making this strategy very appealing and reproducible on gram scale. In collaboration, we also performed Ames test, pKa, log P, and differential scanning calorimetry measurements of several fluorinated 2-R_f-indoles to rationalize the impact of the introduction of SF₅-moiety into heteroaromatics.³



¹ V. Le Fouler, Y. Chen, V. Gandon, V. Bizet, C. Salome, T. Fessard, F. Liu, K. N. Houk, N. Blanchard *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2019**, *141*, 15901

² V. Debrauwer, A. Turlik, L. Rummeler, A. Prescimone, N. Blanchard, K. N. Houk, V. Bizet *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2020**, *142*, 11153.

³ V. Debrauwer, I. Leito, M. Lõkov, S. Tshepelevitsh, M. Parmentier, N. Blanchard, V. Bizet *ACS Org. Inorg. Au* **2021**, *1*, 43-50.