

CONVERSION OF AZIDOTRIAZOLINES TO TETRAZOLES VIA  
DIAZO TRANSFER REACTION

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Reaction of  $\alpha$ -styrylazide with  $\text{NH}_4\text{N}_3$  or  $\text{HN}_3$  yields exclusively 5-phenyltetrazole. The  $\text{HN}_3$  adds to the olefinic double bond of styrylazide to give the 5-azidotriazoline cycloadduct. The latter undergoes transformation to a tetrazole via elimination of  $\text{CH}_2\text{N}_2$  followed by an intramolecular cyclization of the imidoyl azide moiety. The reactions with other organic azides as well as the mechanism of this novel transformation are discussed.

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