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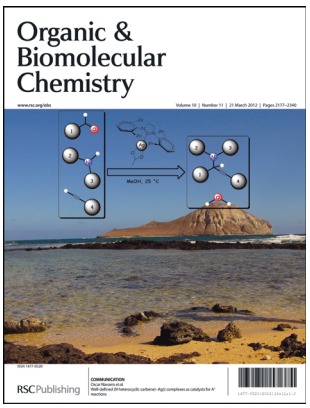

Cover
See Chen *et al.*, pp. 2206–2208.

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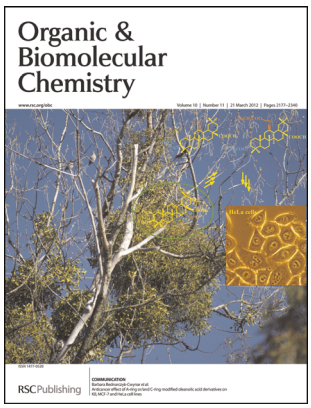

Inside cover
See Bednarczyk-Cwynar *et al.*, pp. 2201–2205.

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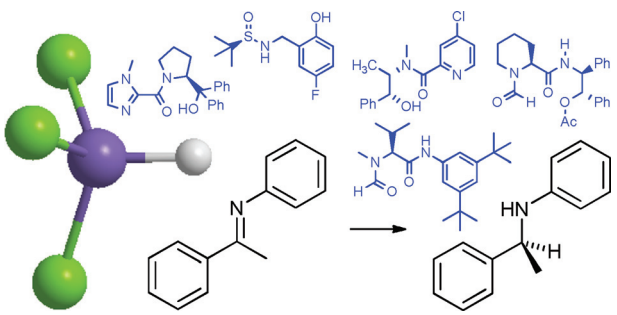
Mistletoe is a source of valuable natural anticancer compounds.

PERSPECTIVE



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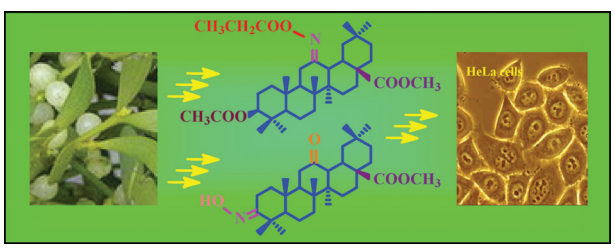

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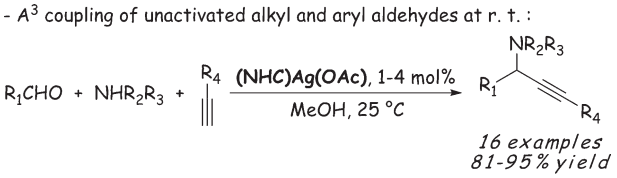
2206

Well-defined (*N*-heterocyclic carbene)–Ag(I) complexes as catalysts for A^3 reactions

Ming-Tsz Chen, Brant Landers and Oscar Navarro*

The use of well-defined (*N*-heterocyclic carbene)–Ag(I) complexes for the A^3 reaction allows for the coupling of unactivated aldehydes at room temperature and very short reaction times.

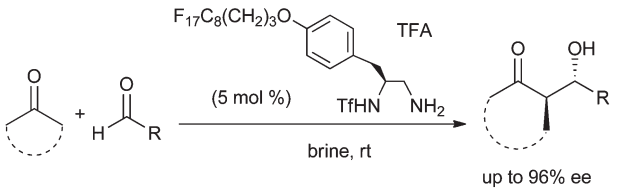


2209

Highly efficient asymmetric aldol reaction in brine using a fluorous sulfonamide organocatalyst

Tsuyoshi Miura,* Hikaru Kasuga, Kie Imai, Mariko Ina, Norihiro Tada, Nobuyuki Imai and Akichika Itoh

A fluorous organocatalyst promotes direct asymmetric aldol reactions of aromatic aldehydes with ketones in brine to afford the corresponding *anti*-aldol products in high yield with up to 96% ee.

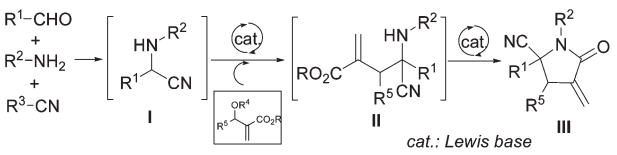


2214

Construction of highly functional α-amino nitriles *via* a novel multicomponent tandem organocatalytic reaction: a facile access to α-methylene γ-lactams

Feng Pan, Jian-Ming Chen, Zhe Zhuang, Yin-Zhi Fang, Sean Xiao-An Zhang and Wei-Wei Liao*

The first tertiary amine-catalyzed multicomponent tandem Strecker–allylic-alkylation (SAA) reaction has been developed, which provides a facile access to functionalized α-amino nitriles, which could be readily converted into α-methylene-γ-butyrolactams.

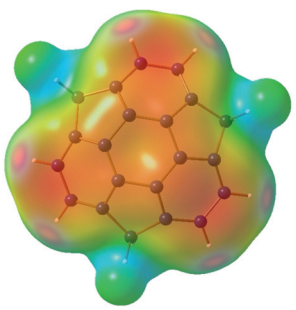


2218

Experimental electron density of sumanene, a bowl-shaped fullerene fragment; comparison with the related corannulene hydrocarbon

Stefan Mebs,* Manuela Weber, Peter Luger, Bernd M. Schmidt, Hidehiro Sakurai, Shuhei Higashibayashi, Satoru Onogi and Dieter Lentz*

The π-stacking in the solid state of the bowl-shaped hydrocarbon sumanene finds its explanation in the ESP (electrostatic potential).



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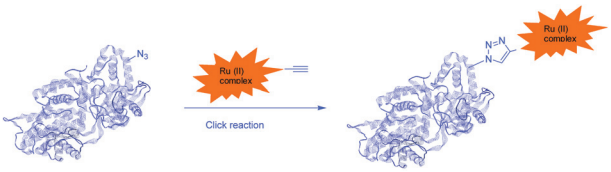

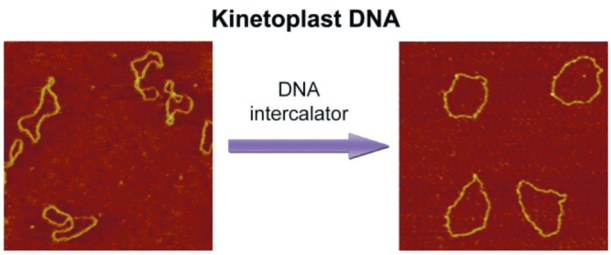

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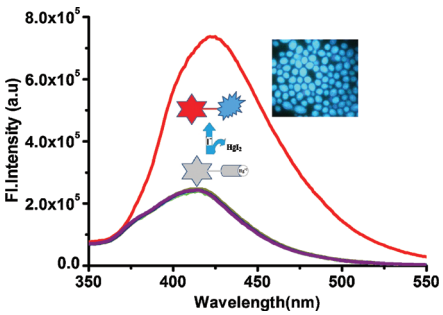

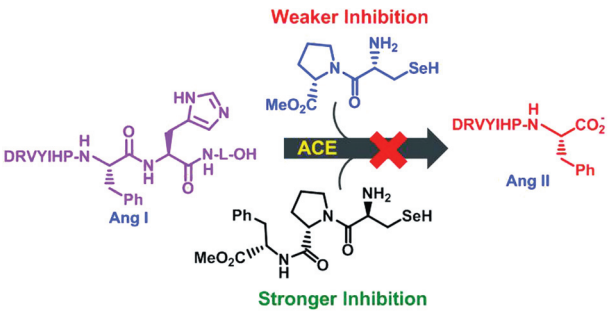

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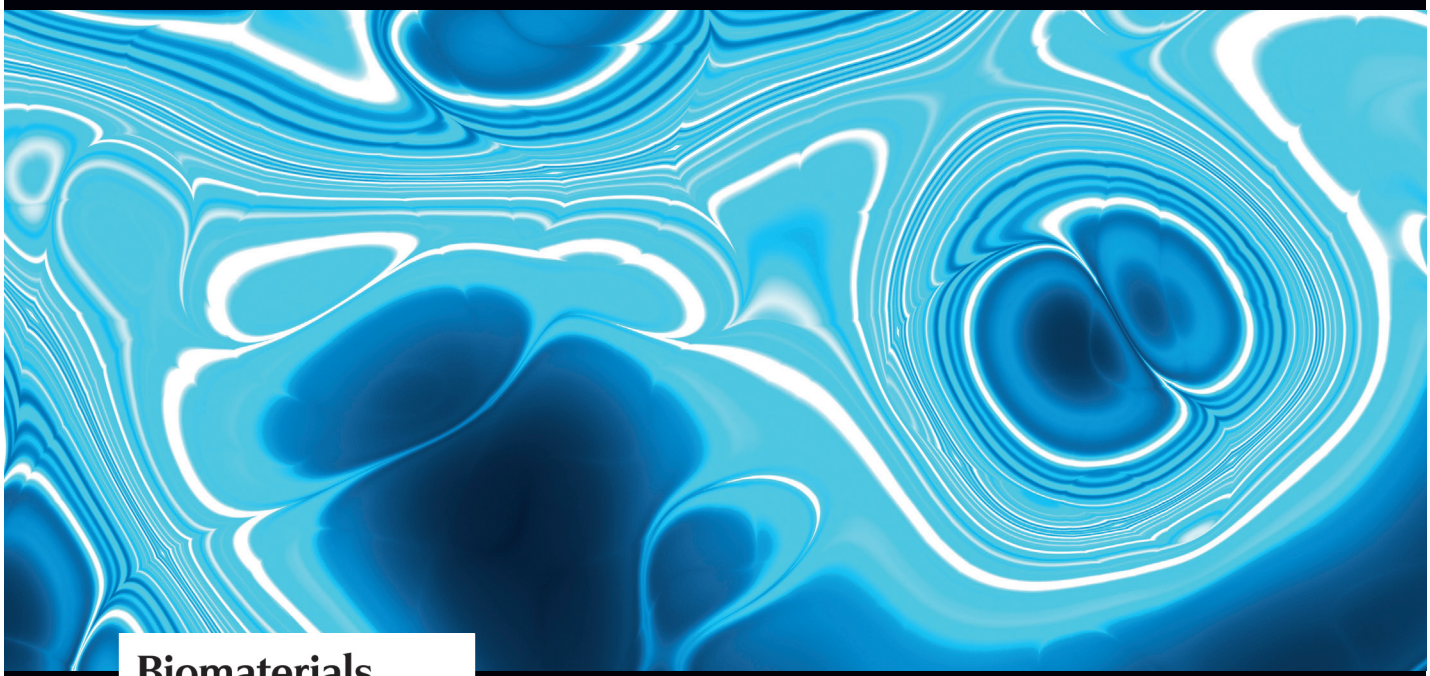

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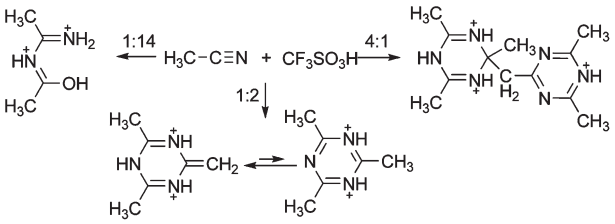
2282

Interaction of acetonitrile with trifluoromethanesulfonic acid: unexpected formation of a wide variety of structures

George E. Salnikov, Alexander M. Genaev,* Vladimir G. Vasiliev and Vyacheslav G. Shubin

Interaction of the two simple compounds, CH_3CN and TfOH, results in formation of a variety of complicated structures, the composition of the reaction products being a function of the ratio of CH_3CN to TfOH.

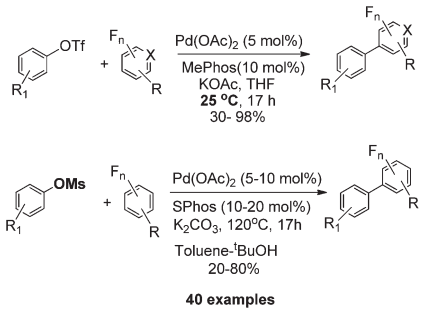


2289

Scope of direct arylation of fluorinated aromatics with aryl sulfonates

Joyce Wei Wei Chang, Eugene Yurong Chia, Christina Li Lin Chai and Jayasree Seayad*

A general Pd catalyzed methodology for the direct arylation of electron deficient arenes with aryl triflates and mesylates is demonstrated.

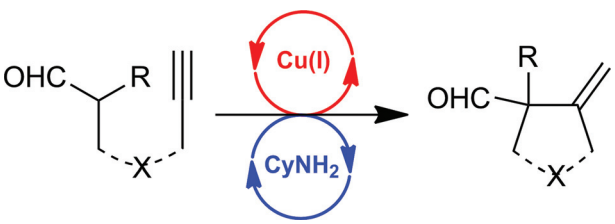


2300

Copper(I)–amine metallo-organocatalyzed synthesis of carbo- and heterocyclic systems

Benjamin Montaignac, Victor Östlund, Maxime R. Vitale, Virgnie Ratovelomanana-Vidal* and Véronique Michelet*

The efficient and atom economical synthesis of 5-membered cyclic structures is achieved through the combination of aminocatalysis and metal catalysis (30 examples 51–96% yield including cyclopentanes, indanes, pyrrolidines and tetrahydrofuran).



2307

Expedient synthesis of pseudo-Pro-containing peptides: towards constrained peptidomimetics and foldamers

Rossella De Marco, Alessandra Tolomelli, Marilena Campitiello, Pasqualina Rubini and Luca Gentilucci*

The reaction of sulfonyl peptides containing L- or D-configured Ser or Thr with bis(succinimidyl) carbonate in the presence of a catalytic amount of a base affords, in solution or in the solid phase, the corresponding peptides with one or two, consecutive or alternate oxazolidin-2-ones (Oxd).