# Organic & Biomolecular Chemistry

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# IN THIS ISSUE

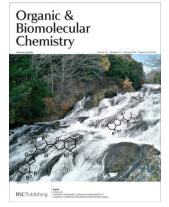
ISSN 1477-0520 CODEN OBCRAK 10(16) 3133-3344 (2012)



# Cover

See B. Zajc et al., pp. 3164-3167.

A facile building block approach allows synthesis of 1-substituted-1-fluoroethenes under mild conditions. The authors thank Satish Lakshman (Pixiedust Design) for the cover art design. Image reproduced by permission of Barbara Zajc from Organic & Biomolecular Chemistry, 2012, 10, 3164.



#### Inside cover

See K. Kato et al., pp. 3192-3194.

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#### **PERSPECTIVE**

# 3147

# Recent advances and applications of iridium-catalysed asymmetric allylic substitution

Paolo Tosatti,\* Adam Nelson and Stephen P. Marsden

The development of chiral iridium catalysts for asymmetric allylic substitution reactions and their application to the synthesis of natural products and other biologically relevant compounds is reviewed.

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{Nu} \\ + \\ \text{OCO}_2\text{Me} \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{c} \text{Ir* cat.} \\ \text{R}_1 \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{c} \text{Nu} \\ \text{HO}_2\text{C} \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{c} \text{NH} \\ \text{NN} \\ \text{NN} \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{c} \text{NH} \\ \text{NN} \\ \text{NN} \end{array}$$

#### COMMUNICATIONS

# 3164

# Expedient synthesis of $\alpha$ -substituted fluoroethenes

Samir K. Mandal, Arun K. Ghosh, Rakesh Kumar and Barbara Zajc\*

Reactions of paraformaldehyde with fluorinated Julia-Kocienski reagents yield 1-substituted 1-fluoroethenes under mild conditions.

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#### COMMUNICATIONS

# 3168

# Electrophilicity of $\alpha$ -oxo gold carbene intermediates: halogen abstractions from halogenated solvents leading to the formation of chloro/bromomethyl ketones

Weimin He, Longyong Xie, Yingying Xu, Jiannan Xiang\* and Liming Zhang\*

α-Oxo gold carbenes generated via intermolecular oxidation of terminal alkynes can effectively abstract halogen from halogenated

# 3172

# Selective deuteration of (hetero)aromatic compounds via deutero-decarboxylation of carboxylic acids

Rachel Grainger, Arif Nikmal, Josep Cornella and Igor Larrosa\*

A practical, mild and highly selective protocol for the monodeuteration of a variety of arenes and heteroarenes is presented. Catalytic amounts of Ag(1) salts in DMSO/D<sub>2</sub>O are shown to facilitate the deutero-decarboxylation of orthosubstituted benzoic and heteroaromatic α-carboxylic acids in high yields with excellent levels of deuterium incorporation.

# 3175

# Rhodium-catalysed intramolecular trans-bis-silvlation of alkynes to synthesise 3-silyl-1-benzosiloles

Takanori Matsuda\* and Yoichiro Ichioka

Intramolecular addition of a Si-Si bond across a C-C triple bond occurs in a trans fashion in the presence of rhodium(1) catalysts. The trans-bis-silylation reaction of (2-alkynylphenyl)disilanes affords 3-silyl-1-benzosiloles.

# 3178

# A catalytic metal-free Ritter reaction to 3-substituted 3-aminooxindoles

Feng Zhou, Miao Ding and Jian Zhou\*

The first Ritter reaction of 3-substituted-3-hydroxyoxindoles with nitriles, catalyzed by HClO<sub>4</sub>, is developed, enabling the synthesis of 3-aminooxindoles in rich diversity.

$$R^2$$
 OH  $R^3$ -CN  $R^3$ -CN  $R^2$  HCIO<sub>4</sub>, 80 °C  $R^1$   $R^2$  Me, allyl or aryl groups  $R^3$  = alkyl, vinyl or aryl groups  $R^3$  = alkyl, vinyl or aryl groups

# BOSS XIII

# 13<sup>th</sup> Belgian Organic Synthesis Symposium

July 15>20, 2012, KU Leuven, Belgium

#### **Symposium Programme:**

One-day course by the recipient of the Tetrahedron Chair in Organic Synthesis Prof. Ben FERINGA (University of Groningen, The Netherlands)

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# Janssen Pharmaceutica Prize for Creativity in Organic Synthesis

Prof. Ilan Marek (Technion - Israel Institute of Technology, Israel) has been designated by the Jury as the winner of the 2012 Janssen Pharmaceutica Prize for Creativity in Organic Synthesis, established in order to honour Dr Paul Janssen, founder of Janssen Pharmaceutica. The award will be delivered after the lecture of Prof. Marek on Thursday July 19, 2012.

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#### COMMUNICATIONS

# 3182

# An efficient synthetic method for allyl-epoxides via allylation of α-haloketones or esters with allylmagnesium bromide

Liyuan Fan, Min Zhang and Songlin Zhang\*

The manuscript describes the synthesis of allyl-epoxides and diallyl-epoxides by allylation of α-haloketones and esters with allylmagnesium bromide in mild conditions.

 $R^1$  = Ph, 4-MeC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>, 4-FC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>, 4-ClC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>, 4-BrC<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>, 2-Naphthyl, t-Butyl, etc R<sup>2</sup> =CH<sub>3</sub>,Ph X=Br,Cl R<sup>3</sup>=OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>,Cl

# 3185

# Design of switchable wettability sensor for paraquat based on clicking calix[4] arene

Guifen Zhang, Xiaolei Zhu, Fajun Miao, Demei Tian and Haibing Li\*

A calix[4]arene acetylene-modified gold surface is constructed in situ via click chemistry and used for selective recognition of paraquat by a wettability switch. Impedance measurements show that it can also recognise paraquat with high sensitivity. The hostguest inclusion-based recognition is studied computationally and a possible mechanism analyzed.

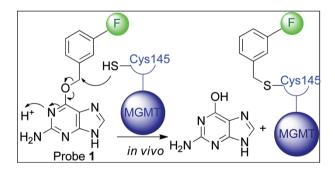


# 3189

# A mechanism-based fluorescent probe for labeling $O^6$ -methylguanine-DNA methyltransferase in live cells

Xin Li, Shijing Qian, Lin Zheng, Bo Yang, Qiaojun He and Yongzhou Hu\*

A mechanism-based fluorescent probe for detecting active  $O^6$ -methylguanine-DNA methyltransferase in live cells has been developed.



# **PAPERS**

#### 3192

# Cyclization-carbonylation-cyclization coupling reaction of $\gamma$ -propynyl-1,3-diketones with palladium(II)bisoxazoline catalyst

Taichi Kusakabe, Yasuko Kawai, Rong Shen, Tomoyuki Mochida and Keisuke Kato\*

Cyclization-carbonylation-cyclization coupling reactions (CCC-coupling reaction) of γ-propynyl-1,3-diketones catalyzed by (box)Pd<sup>II</sup> complexes afforded symmetrical ketones possessing two oxabicyclic groups in moderate to excellent yields.

# 3195

# Highly enantioselective [4 + 2] cycloadditions of allenoates and dual activated olefins catalyzed by N-acyl aminophosphines

Hua Xiao, Zhuo Chai, Dongdong Cao, Hongyu Wang, Jinghao Chen and Gang Zhao\*

An asymmetric organocatalytic [4 + 2] cycloaddition between α-substituted allenoates and 2-cyano acrylates using bifunctional *N*-acyl aminophosphine catalysts is described.

# 3202

# Enantioselective synthesis of fluorene derivatives by chiral N-triflyl phosphoramide catalyzed double Friedel-Crafts alkylation reaction

Shou-Guo Wang, Long Han, Mi Zeng, Feng-Lai Sun, Wei Zhang and Shu-Li You\*

Tandem double Friedel-Crafts reaction between indoles and 2-formylbiphenyls by chiral N-triflyl phosphoramide was realized, affording (3-indolyl) fluorenes with excellent enantioselectivity.

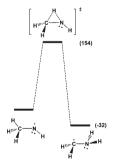
# 3210

# The aza-Morita-Baylis-Hillman reaction of electronically and sterically deactivated substrates

Christoph Lindner, Raman Tandon, Yinghao Liu, Boris Maryasin and Hendrik Zipse\*

Kinetic measurements and theoretical studies have been combined to develop highly active catalysts for the aza-Morita-Baylis-Hillman reaction of electronically or sterically deactivated substrates.

# 3219



# Hydrogen tunnelling influences the isomerisation of some small radicals of interstellar importance. A theoretical investigation

Tianfang Wang and John H. Bowie\*

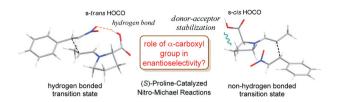
Hydrogen atom isomerisations within five radical systems (i.e., CH<sub>3</sub>'NH/'CH<sub>2</sub>NH; CH<sub>3</sub>O'/'CH<sub>2</sub>OH; 'CH<sub>2</sub>SH/CH<sub>3</sub>S'; CH<sub>3</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>'/'CH<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>H; and HOCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>O'/HO'CHCH<sub>2</sub>OH) have been studied via quantum-mechanical hydrogen tunnelling through reaction barriers; e.g.  $CH_3$   $NH \rightarrow CH_2NH_2$ .

# 3229

# (S)-Proline-catalyzed nitro-Michael reactions: towards a better understanding of the catalytic mechanism and enantioselectivity

Hui Yang and Ming Wah Wong\*

A non-hydrogen bonded type of transition state is essential to understand the observed enantioselectivities of the prolinecatalyzed nitro-Michael reactions of aldehyde and ketone.

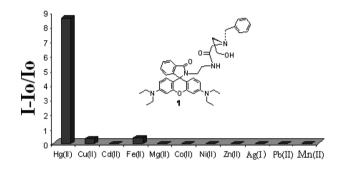


# 3236

# A rhodamine appended tripodal receptor as a ratiometric probe for Hg<sup>2+</sup> ions

Kumaresh Ghosh,\* Tanmay Sarkar and Asmita Samadder

A new rhodamine appended tripodal receptor 1 has been designed and synthesized.



# 3244

# The acid-mediated ring opening reactions of α-aryl-lactams

Frank D. King\* and Stephen Caddick

α-Arylazetidin-2-ones undergo TfOH- or AlCl<sub>3</sub>-mediated ring opening in benzene to give 3-aryl-3-phenyl-propionamides via the dication. Neutralisation of the dication gives cinnamamides. Further reaction with benzene gives 3,3-diphenyl-propionamide.

$$\begin{array}{c} O \\ NH \end{array} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} Ar \\ Ar \\ NH_2 \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} Ph \\ NH_2 \\ NH_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

# 3253

# Intramolecular reductive ketone-alkynoate coupling reaction promoted by $(\eta^2$ -propene)titanium

Christian Schäfer, Michel Miesch\* and Laurence Miesch\*

Intramolecular reductive coupling of cycloalkanones tethered to alkynoates in the presence of  $(\eta^2$ -propene)titanium diastereoselectively provided hydroxy-esters which led to angularly fused unsaturated tricyclic lactones.

Ti(OiPr)<sub>2</sub>

$$0 \text{ M} = 1 - 3$$

$$0 \text{ M} = 1 - 3$$

$$0 \text{ M} = 1 - 3$$

$$0 \text{ MaOEt}$$

$$0 \text{$$

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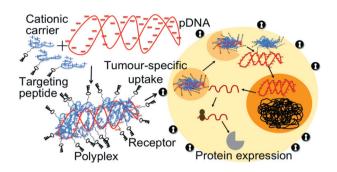


# 3258

# Solid-phase-assisted synthesis of targeting peptide— PEG-oligo(ethane amino)amides for receptor-mediated gene delivery

Irene Martin, Christian Dohmen, Carlos Mas-Moruno, Christina Troiber, Petra Kos, David Schaffert, Ulrich Lächelt, Meritxell Teixidó, Michael Günther, Horst Kessler, Ernest Giralt\* and Ernst Wagner\*

Oligoaminoamides containing polyethylene glycol and integrin or transferrin receptor ligands are precise carriers for DNA transfer into tumor cells.



# 3269

# Glycoside and peptide clustering around the octasilsesquioxane scaffold via photoinduced free-radical thiol-ene coupling. The observation of a striking glycoside cluster effect

Mauro Lo Conte, Samuele Staderini, Angela Chambery, Nathalie Berthet, Pascal Dumy, Olivier Renaudet, Alberto Marra\* and Alessandro Dondoni\*

Structure of multivalent conjugates prepared by thiol-ene coupling of sugar and peptide thiols with a PEGylated octasilsesquioxane functionalized with terminal allyl groups.

RS 
$$(0)_3$$
 Si  $(0)_3$  SR RS  $(0)_3$  SR  $(0)_3$  SR  $(0)_3$  SR  $(0)_3$  SI  $(0)_3$  SI  $(0)_3$  SI  $(0)_3$  SI  $(0)_3$  SI  $(0)_3$  SR  $(0)_3$  SR  $(0)_3$  SR  $(0)_3$  SR  $(0)_3$  SR

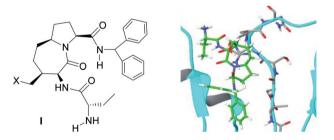
R = sugar or peptide

#### 3278

# A NMR and computational study of Smac mimics targeting both the BIR2 and BIR3 domains in XIAP protein

Donatella Potenza,\* Laura Belvisi,\* Francesca Vasile, Elisabetta Moroni, Federica Cossu and Pierfausto Seneci

In this paper we report an extensive computational and NMR analysis of small ligands (Smac mimics) complexed with different constructs of XIAP.

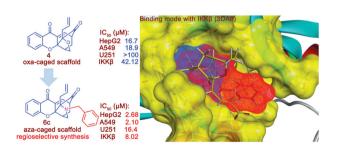


# 3288

# Synthesis and evaluation of novel aza-caged Garcinia **xanthones**

Xiaojin Zhang, Xiang Li, Haopeng Sun,\* Zhengyu Jiang, Lei Tao, Yuan Gao, Qinglong Guo\* and Qidong You\*

The novel aza-caged Garcinia xanthone analogues have been synthesized regioselectively and further evaluated as anti-tumor agents and IKKβ inhibitors.



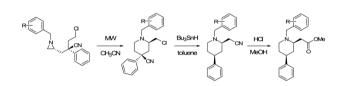
3300 pyrimidines Y = purinesAP site 600 500 700 I = Target base (Y)Wavelength / nm

# Simultaneous fluorescence light-up and selective multicolor nucleobase recognition based on sequencedependent strong binding of berberine to DNA abasic

Fei Wu, Yong Shao,\* Kun Ma, Qinghua Cui, Guiying Liu and Shujuan Xu

Sequence-dependent binding of berberine at the DNA abasic site can be used for fluorescence light-up and multicolor nucleobase recognition.

3308

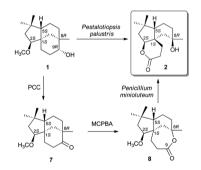


# Radical-mediated nitrile translocation as the key step in the stereoselective transformation of 2-(4-chloro-2cyanobutyl) aziridines to methyl cis-(1-arylmethyl-4phenylpiperidin-2-yl)acetates

Karel Vervisch, Matthias D'hooghe,\* Karl W. Törnroos and Norbert De Kimpe\*

2-(4-Chloro-2-cyano-2-phenylbutyl)aziridines were transformed stereoselectively into cis-2-chloromethyl-4-phenylpiperidine-4carbonitriles via a microwave-assisted aziridine to piperidine ring expansion, followed by a radical-induced nitrile translocation to afford *cis*-2-cyanomethyl-4-phenylpiperidines.

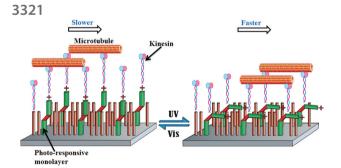
3315



# Biotransformation of clovane derivatives. Whole cell fungi mediated domino synthesis of rumphellclovane A

Giovanni Gontijo de Souza, Thays Silva Oliveira, Jacqueline Aparecida Takahashi, Isidro González Collado, Antonio José Macías-Sánchez\* and Rosario Hernández-Galán\*

Methoxyclovanol (1), is metabolised by Pestalotiopsis palustris to yield the natural product rumphellclovane A (2) together with two new clovane derivatives, 5 and 6. Penicillium minioluteum is able to selectively transform lactone 8, into compound 2 via a domino process.



# Dynamic photo-control of kinesin on a photoisomerizable monolayer - hydrolysis rate of ATP and motility of microtubules depending on the terminal group

M. K. Abdul Rahim, Takashi Kamei and Nobuyuki Tamaoki\*

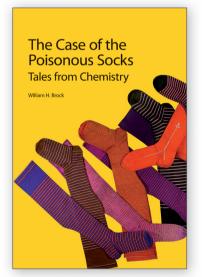
The reversibly and repeatedly altered gliding motility of microtubules driven by kinesin on the photoresponsive monolayer surface is studied.

# 3332

# Enantioselective Reformatsky reaction of ethyl iododifluoroacetate with ketones

Michal Fornalczyk, Kuldip Singh and Alison M. Stuart\*

Two approaches have been developed for the enantioselective Reformatsky reaction of ethyl iododifluoroacetate with alkyl aryl ketones to form a quaternary carbon centre.



# The Case of the Poisonous Socks

# Tales from Chemistry

William H. Brock

Written by a respected science historian and established author, this collection of essays touches on all aspects of chemistry. It contains 42 tales about chemists and their discoveries from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The title is taken from the lead chapter which describes how respected chemist, William Crookes, solved a mystery from the 1860s of how brilliantly coloured socks were causing the feet of unfortunate wearers to swell. Other topics covered include: the quirky beliefs of American philanthropist, George Hodgkins; the development of the chemical laboratory since the 1830s, and the career of C.P. Snow before he became a novelist.

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