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Organic Preparations and Procedures International

Publication details, including instructions for authors and subscription information:

<http://www.informaworld.com/smpp/title~content=t902189982>

SELECTIVE TRANSITION METAL-PROMOTED CARBON-CARBON AND CARBON-HETEROATOM BOND FORMATION. A REVIEW

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To cite this Article Rossi, Renzo and Bellina, Fabio(1997) 'SELECTIVE TRANSITION METAL-PROMOTED CARBON-CARBON AND CARBON-HETEROATOM BOND FORMATION. A REVIEW', *Organic Preparations and Procedures International*, 29: 2, 137 – 176

To link to this Article: DOI: 10.1080/00304949709355180

URL: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/00304949709355180>

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Renzo Rossi* and Fabio Bellina

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**SELECTIVE TRANSITION METAL-PROMOTED CARBON-CARBON AND
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Renzo Rossi* and Fabio Bellina

*Dipartimento di Chimica e Chimica Industriale, Università di Pisa
Via Risorgimento 35, I-56126 Pisa, ITALY***INTRODUCTION**

Transition metal-promoted carbon-carbon bond forming reactions, involving (hetero)aryl or alkenyl halides, are essential tools in the arsenal of organic chemist. The great synthetic importance of these reactions is attested to by several recent reviews and monographs on this subject.¹⁻⁹ Some chapters of Volume 12 of *Comprehensive Organometallic Chemistry II (COMC-II)* also provide useful and precise information on this subject, with particular reference to processes of use in the synthesis of complex molecules. However, as regards to transition metal-promoted cross-coupling reactions, these surveys generally emphasized the characteristics of the different types of organometallic derivatives employed instead of the electrophiles involved in these reactions. Moreover, aspects concerning the regio-, chemo- and stereoselectivity of the carbon-carbon bond forming reactions which involve di- or polyhalo(hetero)arenes and di- or polyhaloethene derivatives, have been almost completely neglected. Only in a chapter of *COMC-II*, which deals with processes based on oxidative addition and transmetalation reactions,¹⁰ are examples of selective reactions involving polychlorinated alkenes and polyhalo(hetero)arenes discussed.

The aim of this review, which covers relevant literature up to April 1996 is to fill in these gaps. Thus, the main synthetic aspects of selective transition metal-promoted carbon-carbon polyhalo(hetero)arenes and di and polyhaloethene derivatives, have been summarized and discussed. Such aspects include the preparation of key intermediates of some relevant naturally-occurring bioactive compounds and their analogues. The discussion will focus on the synthetic aspects of the transition metal-promoted cross-coupling reactions and on the processes wherein organopalladium(II) complexes, which derive from oxidative addition of palladium(0) species to aryl or alkenyl polyhalides, undergo insertion of carbon monoxide or alkenes; it will also deal with the few reported examples involving transition metal-promoted carbon-heteroatom bond forming reactions with dihaloarenes and dihaloethene derivatives. Other transition metal-promoted reaction, such as the cascade reactions, will be only mentioned occasionally. Reports from the patent literature have not been included since the experimental procedures in patents are seldom sufficiently detailed to allow reproduction of the results.

I. CARBON-CARBON BOND FORMATION *via* POLYHALO(HETERO)ARENES

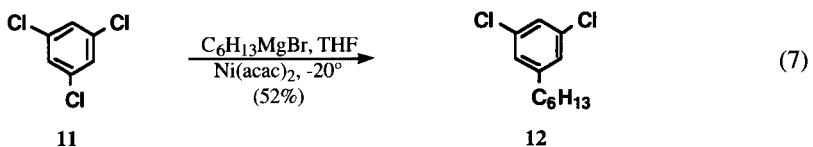
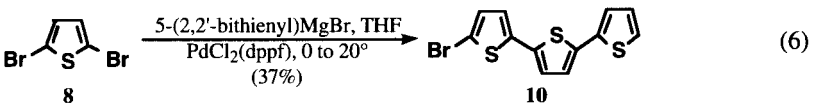
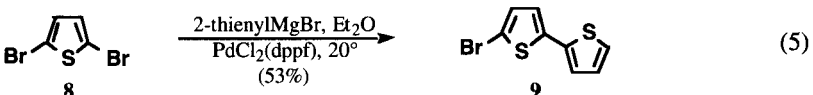
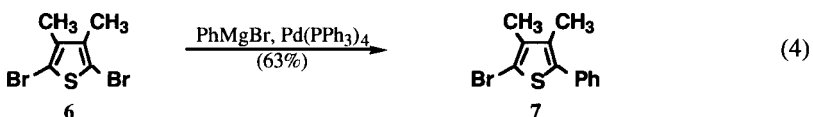
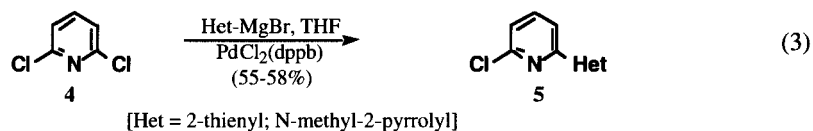
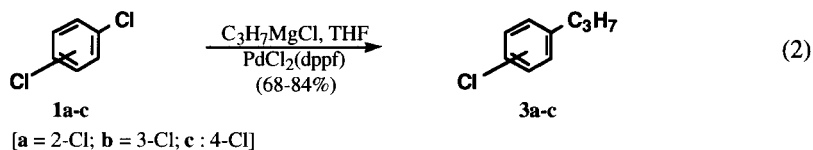
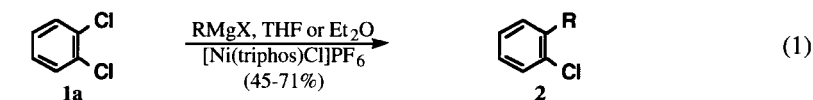
1. Reactions Involving Dichloro-, Trichloro-, Dibromo-, Tribromo- or Diiodo(hetero)arenes

The transition metal-promoted cross-coupling reactions between aryl halides and organometallic compounds such as Grignard reagents, organoaluminum, organozinc, organozirconium, organoboron, organotin and organosilicon compounds have been extensively used to prepare a large variety of synthetically useful and, in some cases, biologically active compounds.¹⁰ Mechanistically, these reactions involve three main steps: oxidative addition, transmetalation and reductive elimination. In particular, the low valent transition metal compound, which is most frequently a palladium(0) or a nickel(0) species stabilized by ligands such as triarylphosphines or triphenylarsine, undergoes oxidative addition with an aryl halide. Then, a transmetalation reaction involving the oxidative addition complex and the organometallic reagent, followed by reductive elimination affords the desired cross-coupled product and regenerates the low valent transition metal catalyst.¹¹⁻¹³ It must be noted that in these reactions the reactivity of aryl halides for the initial oxidative addition of palladium(0) or nickel(0) species is $I > Br > Cl$.¹¹⁻¹³

Particularly interesting from a synthetic point of view are the transition metal-promoted cross-coupling reactions involving polyhalo(hetero)arenes and among these, those in which a symmetrically substituted polyhalo(hetero)arene undergoes a selective monoalkylation, mono(hetero)arylation or monobenylation reaction. For instance, symmetrically substituted dichloro- and dibromo(hetero)arenes such as compounds **1a-c**, **4**, **6**, **8** as well as 1,3,5-trichlorobenzene (**11**) undergo selective coupling reactions at a single position with Grignard reagents.¹⁴⁻²⁰ The catalyst precursors used for these monoalkylations, mono(hetero)arylations and monobenylation include Ni(acac)₂,²⁰ [Ni(triphos)Cl]PF₆,^{14a} PdCl₂(dppf),^{15,18,19} PdCl₂(dppb)¹⁶ and Pd(PPh₃)₄.¹⁷ As expected, the selectivity of these reactions is dependent on the proper choice of the experimental conditions and in particular, on the organometallic reagent/organic polyhalide molar ratio. On the other hand, so far no detailed investigation has been carried out on dependence of the selectivity and yields of these monocoupling reactions on the nature of the catalyst precursor. However, palladium compounds have been extensively used for reactions involving (hetero)aryl polyhalides and, among these catalyst precursors, PdCl₂(dppf) in general gave satisfactory results both in terms of selectivity and yields.

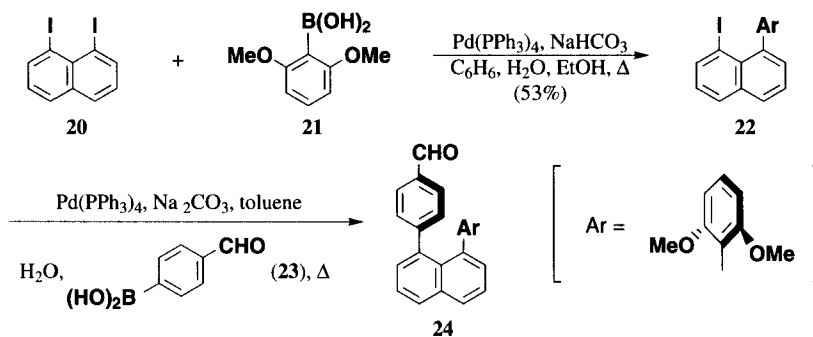
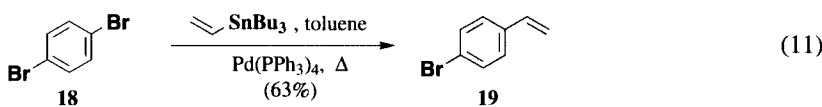
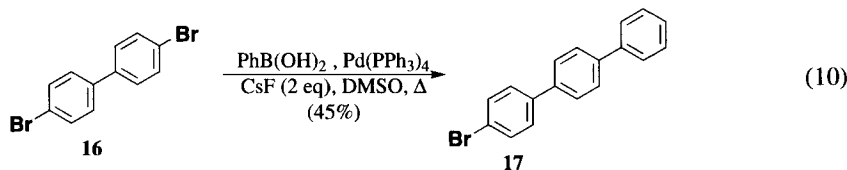
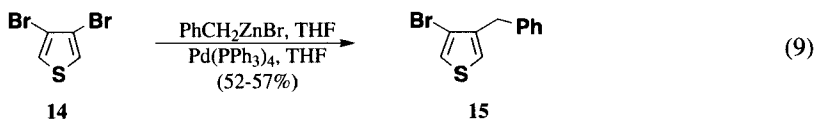
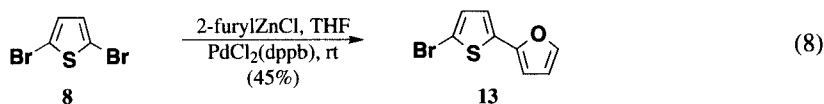
Examples of these monocoupling reactions, in which different types of catalyst precursors and organometallic species have been used to give the desired monocross-coupled products in modest to satisfactory yields, are given in Eqs. 1-7.¹⁴⁻²⁰

Modest selectivity and yields have also been obtained in the palladium-promoted reactions of **8**, 3,4-dibromothiophene (**14**), 4,4'-dibromobiphenyl (**16**) and 1,4-dibromobenzene (**18**) with benzylzinc bromide, 2-furylzinc chloride, phenylboronic acid and vinyltributylstannane, respectively (Eqs. 8-11).^{16,17,21,22}



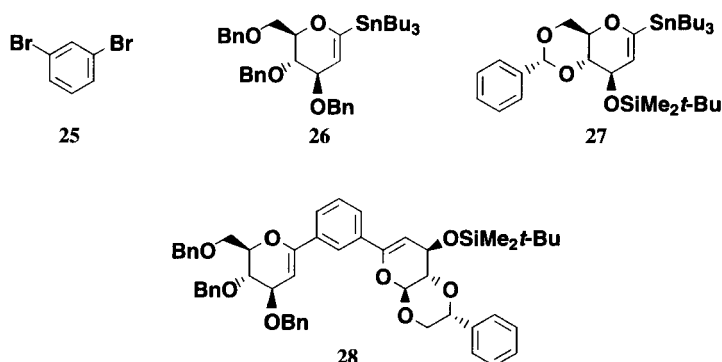
1,8-Diiodonaphthalene (**20**) has also been selectively transformed in 53% yield into the corresponding 8-aryl-1-iodonaphthalene **22** by a palladium-promoted coupling reaction with 2,6-dimethoxyphenylboronic acid (**21**) (Scheme 1).²³ Interestingly, in spite of considerable steric hindrance, this diiodo derivative underwent smooth reaction with 4-phenylboronic acid (**23**) to form **24** (Scheme 1).²³

This novel NLC-phore, in which an aryl substituent is rendered electron-rich by an electron donor, while the other has reduced electron density as a result of an electron-withdrawing group, represents an alternative to conventional extended conjugated systems for the development of blue-transparent frequency-doubling devices.²³

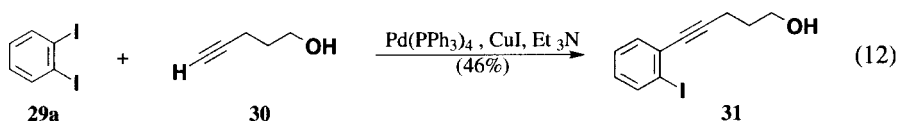


Scheme 1

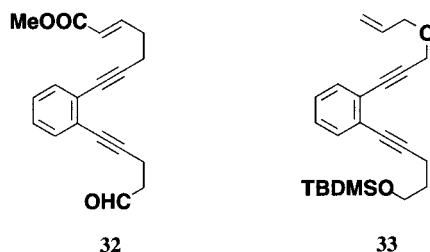
Another interesting example demonstrating the synthetic utility of the transition metal-promoted monoarylation reactions of symmetrically substituted dibromoarenes involves the synthesis of the aryl-bridged C-disaccharide **28** by two sequential cross-coupling reactions of 1,3-dibromobenzene (**25**) with 1-stannylglycols **26** and **27**, respectively, in the presence of a catalytic amount of Pd(PPh₃)₄ in toluene.²⁴ Compound **28**, which was synthesized in 65% overall yield,²⁴ can be viewed as a trisaccharide mimic.



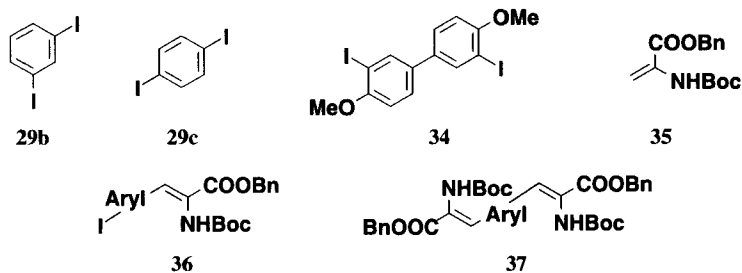
Very selective and high yielding mono-alkynylations also occur when symmetrically substituted dibromo- or diiodo(heteroarenes) are reacted with 1-alkynes under Sonogashira conditions⁹, *i. e.* in the presence of an alkylamine as base and catalytic amounts of a palladium complex and copper(I)



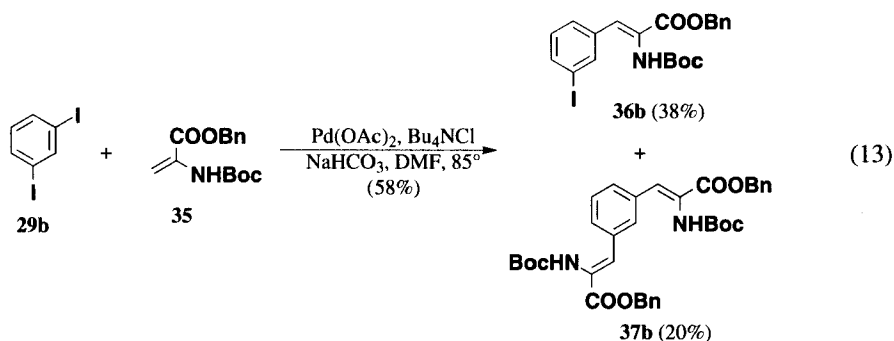
iodide.²⁵⁻²⁷ Equation 12 illustrates a palladium- and copper-mediated synthesis of 5-(2-iodophenyl)-4-pentyn-1-ol (**31**) from 1,2-diiodobenzene (**29a**) and 4-pentyn-1-ol (**30**).²⁶ Compound **31** has been subsequently used as a starting material for the selective synthesis of the mixed enediynes **32** and **33**.²⁸



On the other hand, very few data have been reported in the literature on the palladium-promoted mono-alkenylations of symmetrically disubstituted dihalo(hetero)arenes. In fact, only quite recently it has been reported²⁹ that 1,3-diiodobenzene (**29b**), 1,4-diiodobenzene (**29c**) and 3,3'-diiodo-4,4'-dimethoxybiphenyl (**34**) react with 1 equiv of the protected 2-aminoacrylate derivative **35**, under the modified Heck conditions to provide mixtures of the mono- and the *bis*-coupling products of general formula **36** and **37** in a 1:0.52, 0.95:1 and 1:0.37 molar ratio, respectively.³⁰



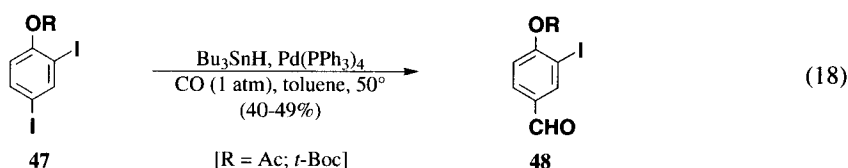
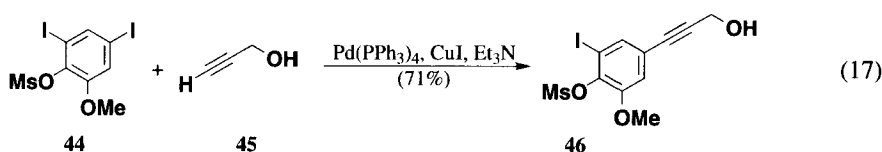
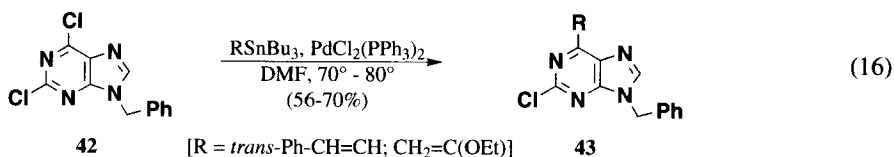
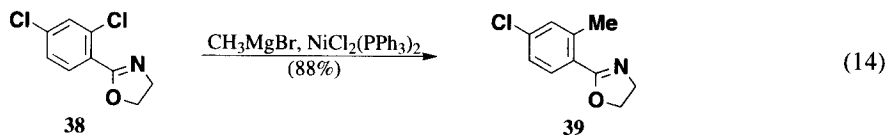
Equation 13 exemplifies the reaction between **29b** and **35**.³⁰ Interestingly, no reaction occurred between **29a** and **35** under these experimental conditions.³⁰



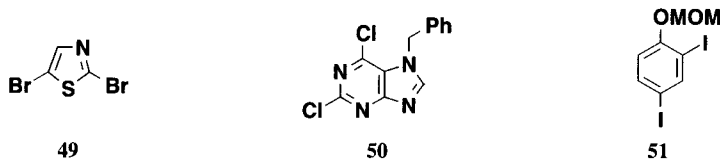
On the contrary, good results both in terms of yield and selectivity have generally been obtained in palladium-mediated monoalkylation³¹⁻³⁴, mono(hetero)arylation,^{16,18,33-36} monoalkenylation³³, monoalkynylation^{33,37-41} and monoformylation reactions³⁹ of unsymmetrically substituted di- or trihalo(hetero)arenes by a wide range of organometallic reagents, some of which were formed *in situ* as in the case of the alkynylations carried out using the Sonogashira procedure or its modifications.⁹ Interestingly, π -deficient azines chlorinated in the electrophilic 2- and 4-positions are also suitable for similar selective carbosubstitution reactions under the influence of palladium catalysis.³² In fact, by treatment of these compounds with trialkylalanes, in the presence of catalytic amounts of $\text{Pd}(\text{PPh}_3)_4$, chemo- and regioselective alkylations in the more electrophilic 4-position occur.³²

Some typical examples of highly regioselective reactions involving unsymmetrically substituted di- and trihalo(hetero)arenes are given in Eqs. 14-18.^{31,16,33,40,39} The results reveal the following noteworthy features. Firstly, the complete regioselectivity observed in the nickel-mediated methylation of **38**³¹ could be ascribed to the presence of an activating substituent in the *ortho*-position to the carbon-chlorine bond involved in the reaction (Eq. 14). Secondly, in compounds **40**, **8** and 2,5-dibromothiazole (**49**) the 2-position was the most reactive.^{16,38,18,35} Thirdly, N-benzylated 2,6-dichloropurine **42** and its isomers of general formula **50** underwent palladium-mediated couplings with organotin and organozinc compounds in the 6-position.³³ However, the selectivity observed for the couplings involving **50** was higher than that of similar reactions involving **42** even though the 6-posi-

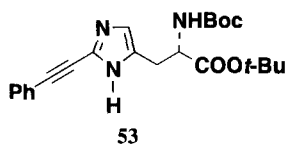
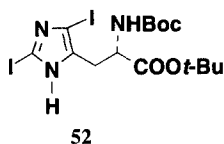
tion in **50** is more sterically hindered than in **42**.³³ Fourthly, the alkylation reaction of **44** (Eq. 17)⁴⁰ involved the carbon-iodine bond in the 4-position to the mesyloxy group. Thus, in this reaction this



last group exhibited a reactivity much lower than that of the iodo substituent. Fifthly, the protected iodophenols **47** were able to undergo formylation (Eq. 18)³⁹ as well as alkylation reactions in the 4-position. However, the high regioselectivity observed in these last reactions was not general for all protected 2,4-diiodophenols. In fact, the MOM derivative **51** underwent coupling with 1-hexyne with little selectivity.³⁹

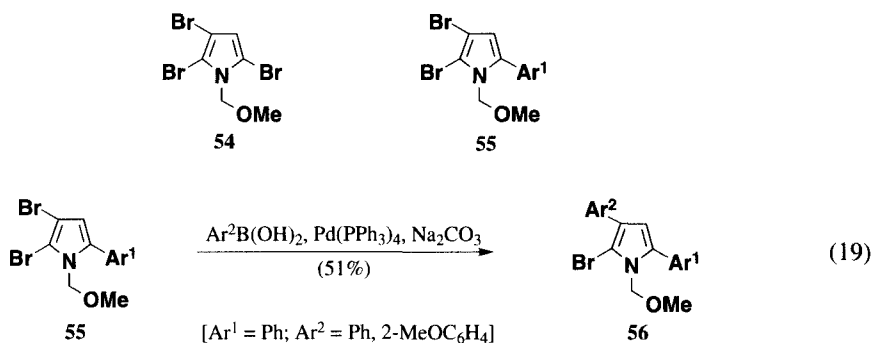


Sixthly, the diiodohistidine derivative **52** underwent reaction with 3 equiv of phenylacetylene in the presence of Et₃N and catalytic amounts of PdCl₂(PPh₃)₂ and CuI to afford compound **53** in 52% yield, which derives from deiodination and coupling reaction of **52**.³⁷

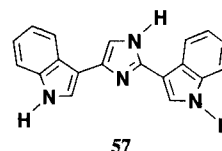


The presence of an acidic NH proton in the substrate could be responsible for this unexpected reaction path. Indeed, simple 5-alkyl substituted diiodoimidazoles underwent sluggish, poorly selective dehalogenations under similar conditions.³⁷

Finally, the products which were obtained from the palladium-mediated reactions of the N-protected 2,4,5-tribromoimidazole derivative **54** with arylzinc chlorides, arylmagnesium chlorides or (hetero)arylboronic acids derived from highly selective arylations in the 2-position of the heteroaryl tribromide.³⁶ Interestingly, the yields of these products having general formula **55** were higher when (hetero)arylboronic acids were used as organometallic partners.³⁶ Compounds **55** so obtained underwent regioselective palladium-mediated cross-couplings with arylboronic acids to give the 4-bromo derivatives **56** in high yield (Eq. 19).³⁶

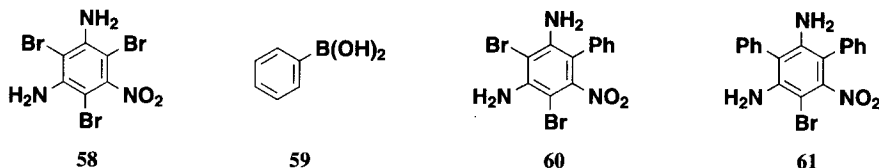


It is also worthwhile mentioning that successive and regioselective arylation reactions, similar to those used to prepare compounds **56** have been employed in a total synthesis of nortopsentin D (**57**), an anti-fungal marine alkaloid.³⁶



Recently, in the course of a study aimed to the development of a new convenient and efficient protocol for the synthesis of polyphenyl mono- and diaminobenzenes, an unexpected selective palladium-promoted diarylation reaction involving an unsymmetrically substituted tribromoarene has been observed.⁴² Treatment of 3,5-diamino-2,4,6-tribromonitrobenzene (**58**) with 4 equiv of phenylboronic acid (**59**) in a benzene-ethanol-water mixture containing Na₂CO₃, in the presence of Pd(PPh₃)₄ at reflux temperature for 24 hrs under a nitrogen atmosphere, gave 3,5-diamino-4-bromo-2,6-diphenyl-1-nitrobenzene (**60**) in 73% yield.⁴² This reaction was also carried out in dimethoxyethane-water using Ba(OH)₂ as base. However, a lower yield (21%) of **60** and no formation of the desired 3,5-diamino-2,4,6-triphenyl-1-nitrobenzene (**61**) were obtained.⁴² The isolated compound **60** was again subjected to a cross-coupling reaction with an excess amount (2 equiv) of **59**.

However, the reaction mixture did not contain compound **61**, although compound **60** used was almost completely consumed. This result could be explained by taking into account the fact that the electron-donating amino groups may deactivate the bromo atom *ortho* to the nitro group for the oxidative addition to Pd(PPh₃)₄.

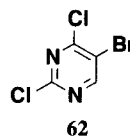


2. Di- and Trihalo(hetero)arenes which Contain Different Halogen Substituents

Several investigations have been carried out on highly selective transition metal-promoted carbon-carbon bond forming reactions, which involve di- and trihalo(hetero)arenes having different halogen substituents. These reactions, which have been used to prepare some heavily functionalized molecules, include nickel- or palladium-mediated cross-couplings with a wide range of organometallic reagents, palladium- and copper-mediated cross-couplings with 1-alkynes as well as Heck type reactions.

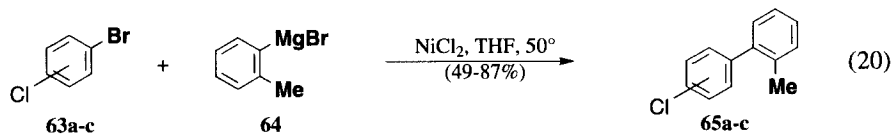
These reactions are very selective owing to the different reactivity of the halogen substituents present in the substrates which are used as electrophiles. In fact, iodinated positions undergo transition metal-promoted carbon-carbon bond forming reactions more readily than brominated positions and these were much more reactive than chlorinated sites.⁴³⁻⁴⁵ The chemoselectivity of the cross-coupling reactions involving bromochloroarenes was also dependent on the nature of the transition metal catalyst precursor. In fact, the increased chemoselectivity of the palladium-mediated reactions in comparison to the analogous nickel-promoted reactions permitted the monoarylation of 4-bromochlorobenzene.⁴⁶

On the other hand, the replacement of a chlorine substituent generally required the presence of a strongly electron-withdrawing group in an activating position or a very electron poor heteroaromatic system linked to this substituent. Thus, the chlorines in activated pyrimidine positions could be replaced by carbon substituents using organotin reagents and palladium catalysis.⁴⁷ In particular, the 4(6)-position in pyrimidine was more reactive than the 2-position and regioselective coupling could be achieved. On the other hand, a bromine substituent was required for coupling to take place in the benzenoid 5-position.⁴⁷ In 5-bromo-2,4-dichloropyrimidine (**62**), the 4-chlorine was replaced before the 5-bromine and the latter before the 2-chlorine substituent, all in a regioselective manner.⁴⁷ Thus, functionalized carbon substituents could be selectively introduced in both activated and non-activated positions in halopyrimidines.

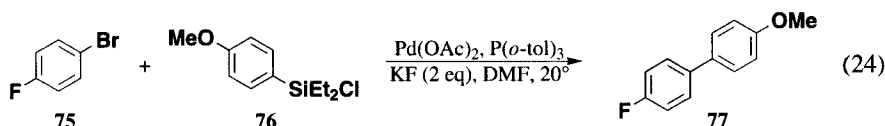
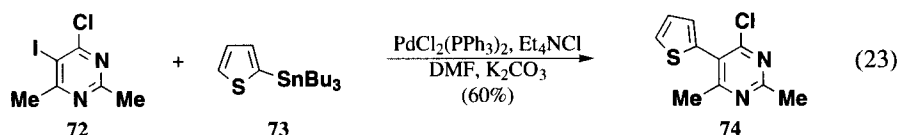
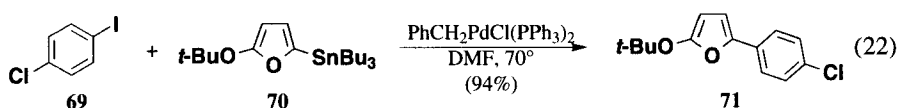
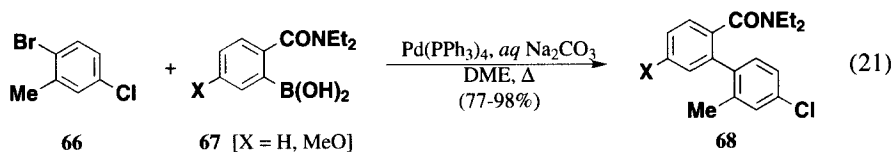


Transition metal-mediated couplings involving di- or trihalo(hetero)arenes have also been employed to prepare in satisfactory yields halogen substituted bi(hetero)aryls. The organometallics used in these reactions include arylmagnesium,^{48,49} (hetero)arylboron,⁵⁰⁻⁵⁵ (hetero)aryltin⁶⁵⁻⁶⁰ as well as arylsilicon

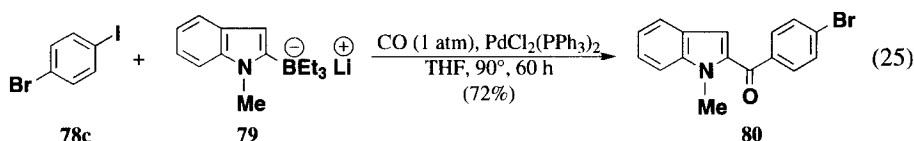
derivatives.⁶¹ Typical examples of these selective (hetero)aryl-(hetero)aryl couplings are shown in Eqs. 20-24^{49,53,57,59,61}



[a = 2-Cl; b = 3-Cl; c = 4-Cl]

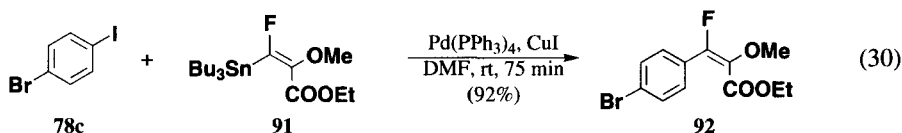
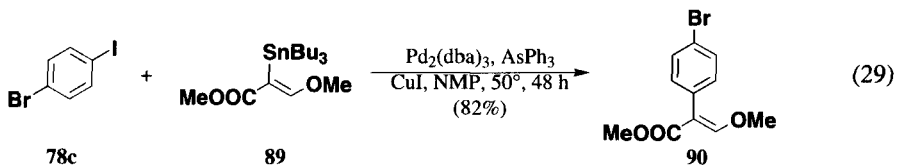
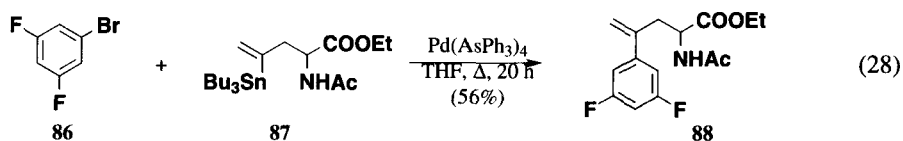
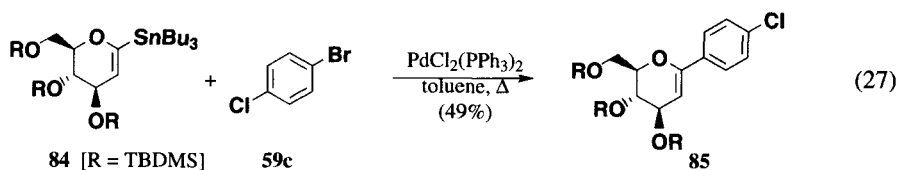
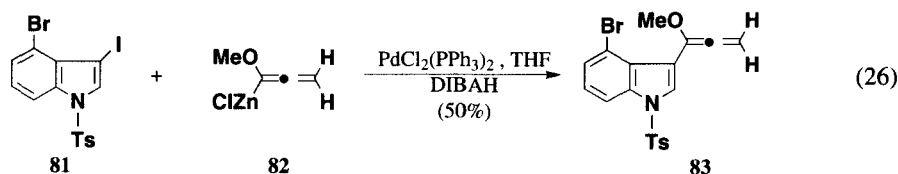


On the other hand, a palladium-mediated carbonylative cross-coupling reaction between the lithium heteroaryltriethylborate **79** and 4-bromoiodobenzene (**78c**) has been used to prepare 4-bromophenyl-1-methylindol-2-yl ketone (**80**) in good yield (Eq. 25).⁶²



Synthetic utility has also been demonstrated for transition metal-promoted monocouplings of di- or trihalo(hetero)arenes, which are characterized by different halogen substituents, with alkenylzirconium,⁶³ alkenyl and propadienylzinc^{64,65} as well as alkenyltin derivatives.^{57,65-72} Significant examples of unsaturated, highly functionalized compounds, which have been prepared by these reactions, are given in Eqs. 26-30.^{65,67,70-72}

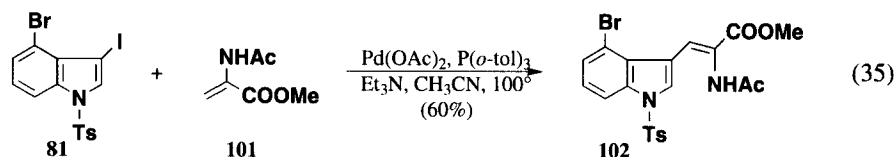
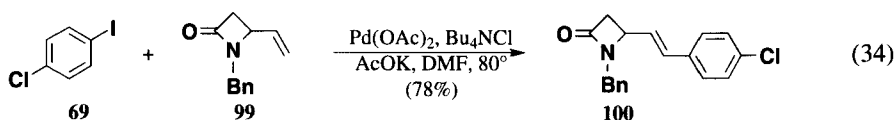
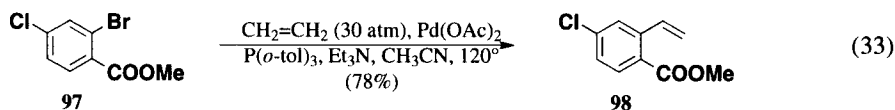
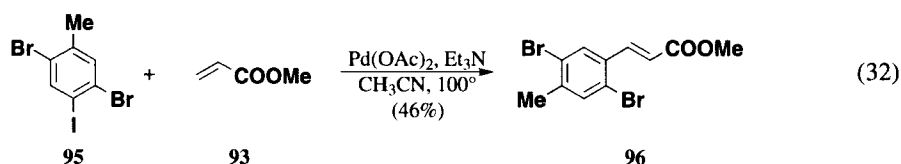
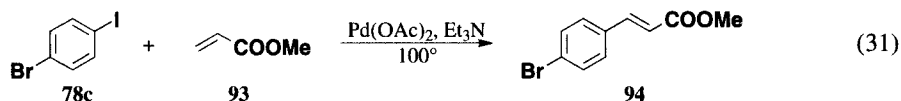
TRANSITION METAL-PROMOTED C-C AND CARBON-HETEROATOM BOND FORMATION



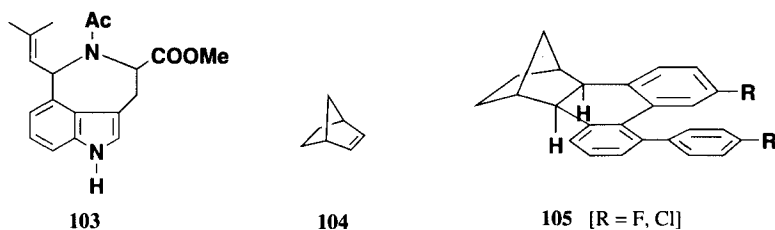
Compound **81**⁶⁵ is the N-tosyl derivative of a 3-substituted 4-bromoindole in which the functional group, which is present in the 3-position, represents a precursor to a propenyl group. Compound **85**⁶⁷ is a C-aryl glucal and its preparation (Eq. 28) was carried out using a strategy which proved to be suitable for the synthesis of analogues of many C-aryl glycoside antibiotics. Compound **88**⁷⁰ is an allylglycine derivative, which is structurally related to some non-proteinogenic α -aminoacids, some of which have been reported to act as irreversible inhibitors of pyridoxal phosphate dependent enzymes.^{73,74} Compound **90**⁷¹ is a 2-aryl substituted (*E*)-3-methoxypropenoate, which is structurally related to some highly promising synthetic fungicides characterized by the agrochemically important 3-methoxypropenoate toxophore.⁷⁵ Finally, compound **92**⁷² is a β -fluoro- α -keto acid derivative, which is valuable precursors to the corresponding β -fluoro- α -aminoacid. It must be noted that β -fluoro- α -aminoacids are currently of great interest in the design of potential therapeutic agents and enzyme inhibitors.⁷⁶

The di- and trihalo(hetero)arenes, which are the subject-matter of this section, also undergo alkenylation reaction at a single position by the Heck procedure⁷⁷ or its modifications.^{29,78-81} The first example of selective palladium-mediated monoalkenylation of a dihaloarene by treatment with an

alkene derivative was reported in 1979 by Heck and coworkers.⁸² They found that, on treatment of 2-bromoiodobenzene (**74a**) or **74c** with methyl propenoate (**93**) in Et₃N at 100° in the presence of Pd(OAc)₂, only the iodo substituent of these arene dihalides was involved in the reaction. On the contrary, both bromo and iodo substituents were involved if a triarylphosphine was present in addition to Pd(OAc)₂.⁸³ Subsequently, several other Heck type monoalkenylations of poly-halo(hetero)arenes have been reported.^{30,84-91} Some typical examples are illustrated in Eqs. 31-35.^{84,85,87,90}



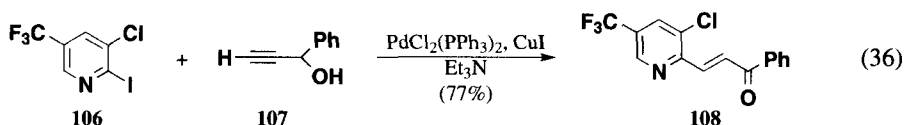
Compound **102**, which was prepared in satisfactory yield by monoalkenylation of **81** (Eq. 36), was used as a precursor to N-acetyl methyl ester of clavicipitic acid (**103**).⁹⁰



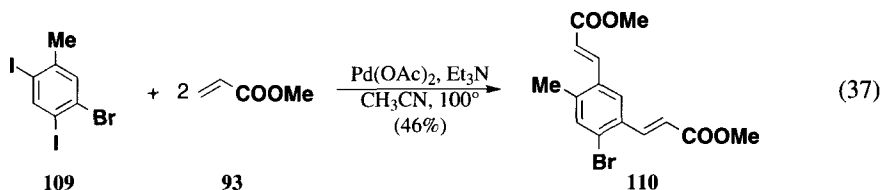
Nevertheless, when norbornene (**104**) was used as the olefinic partner in the reaction with **71** or **65**⁹² and such reaction was performed using the protocol developed by Jeffery⁹³ with Pd(OAc)₂ as the catalyst precursor, K₂CO₃ as the base in DMF or NMP at 60-100° and in the presence of Bu₄NBr, *exo*-[4-(*p*-halophenyl)-3,6-dihalo-9,10-dihydro-phenanthreno]-2':3',9:10-norbornanes **105** were

obtained in modest yields.

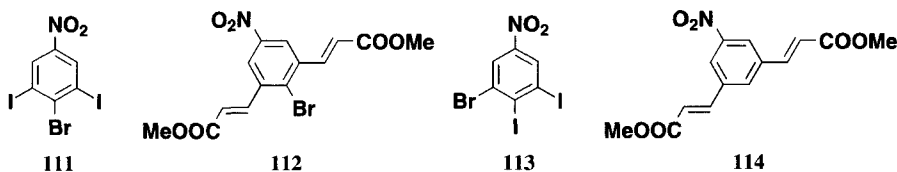
Interestingly, a one-pot procedure, which complements the Heck reaction, was developed for the synthesis of (*E*)-chalcone **108**. This procedure consisted of a palladium- and copper-mediated cross-coupling between 3-chloro-5-trifluoromethyl-2-iodopyridine (**106**) and **107** and a subsequent base-catalyzed rearrangement (Eq. 36).⁹⁴



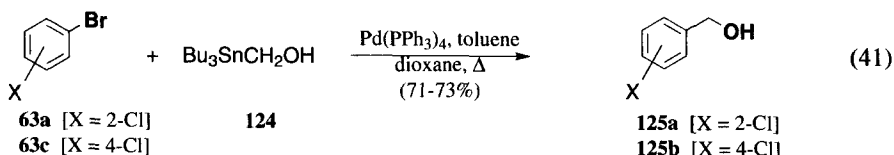
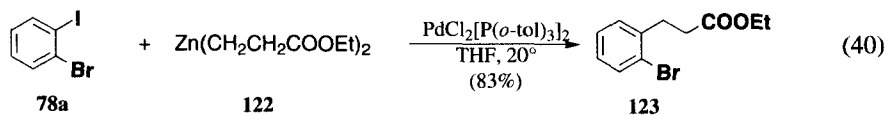
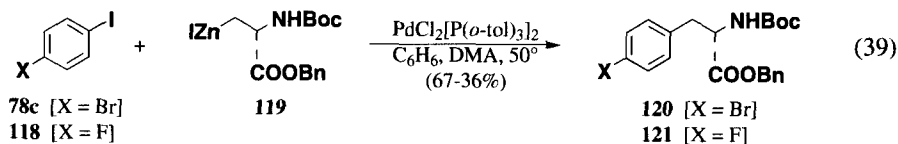
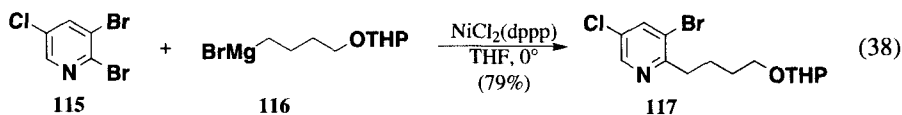
An investigation has also been carried out on the dialkenylation reaction of bromodi-iodoarenes by the Heck protocol.⁸⁴ Thus, bromodiiodotoluenes could be selectively reacted at the iodo groups. In fact, when compound **109** was treated with **93** in acetonitrile at 100° in the presence of Et₃N and a catalytic amount of Pd(OAc)₂, bromodiester **110** was obtained, although in a modest yield (Eq. 37).⁸⁴



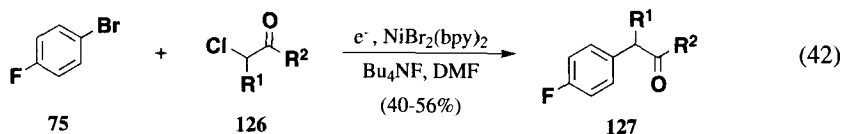
Similarly, 3,5-diiodo-4-nitrobenzene (**111**), when treated with **93** under similar reaction conditions, gave the desired bromonitrodiester **112** in 34% yield.⁸⁴ Nevertheless, the reaction between **113** and **93** gave compound **114** in 10% yield, which derived from the loss of the 4-iodo group and a bis-alkenylation reaction involving an iodo and a bromo group.⁸⁴



Several selective syntheses of halo(hetero)arenes, which contain functionalized C_{sp3} substituents, starting from di- and trihalo(hetero)arenes have also been reported in the literature.⁹⁵⁻¹⁰⁴ These syntheses involve transition metal-promoted reactions of organometallic derivatives, such as Grignard reagents,⁹⁵ organozinc⁹⁶⁻¹⁰⁰ and organotin derivatives,¹⁰¹⁻¹⁰⁴ with (hetero)aryl di- or trihalides such as compounds **59a**, **59c**, **71**, **74c**, 2,3-dibromo-5-chloropyridine (**115**), 4-fluoroiodobenzene (**118**) and 2-bromoiodobenzene (**78a**). Examples of these selective reactions are reported in Eqs. 38-41.^{95,96,99,103}

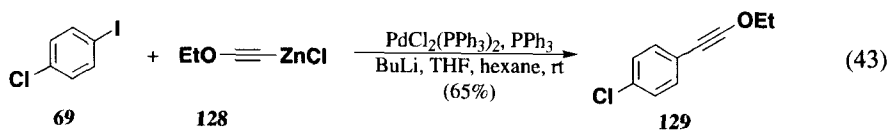


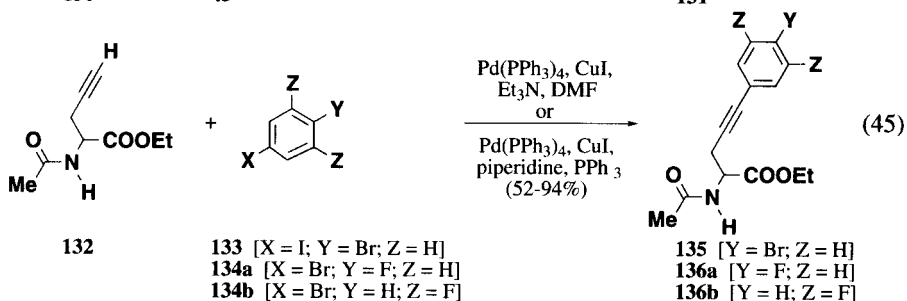
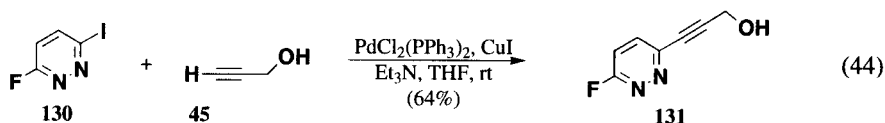
Quite recently, 4-fluorobenzyl ketones of general formula **127** have been prepared by electroreductive coupling of **71** with α -chloroketones of general formula **126** in DMF solution, in the presence of a Zn or Al-sacrificial anode and catalytic quantities of a nickel(II) complex (Eq. 42).¹⁰⁵



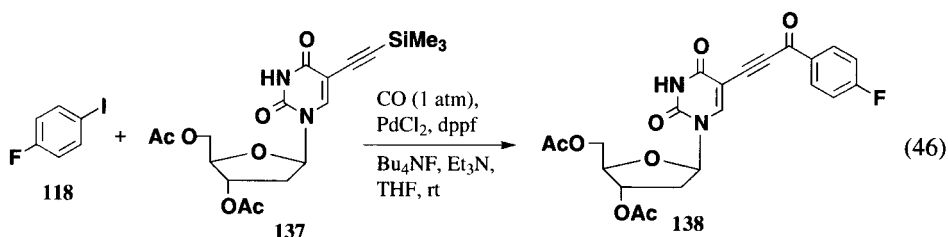
It is worth adding to the end of this section that some examples concerning the selective alkynylation reaction of di and trihalo(hetero)arenes have also been reported in the literature.^{68,84,106-110} Again, the order of reactivity of the halogen groups in these transition metal-promoted reactions was I > Br >> Cl >> F.

A selective monoalkynylation of **65** by an alkynylzinc chloride is illustrated in Eq. 43.¹⁰⁶ On the other hand, selective monoalkynylations of dihalo(hetero)arenes, which involve treatment of these substrates with 1-alkynes in the presence of an alkylamine and catalytic quantities of a palladium complex and CuI, are shown in Eqs. 44 and 45.^{107,108}



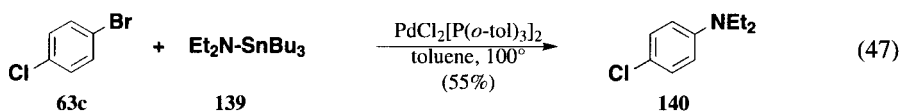


Finally, a selective synthesis of α,β -enone **138** by carbonylative cross-coupling of compound **118** with 5-(trimethylsilylethynyl)-3,5'-di-O-acetyl-2'-deoxyuridine (**137**), in the presence of Bu_4NF and Et_3N and catalytic quantities of PdCl_2 and *dppf*, is reported in Eq. 46.¹⁰⁹

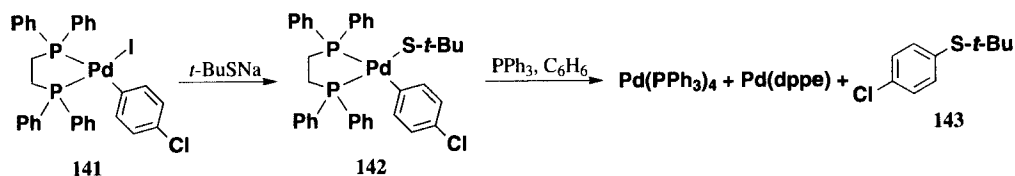


II. CARBON-HETEROATOM BOND FORMATION

Palladium catalysis has been shown to be efficient for the amination of aryl bromides with organotin amines.¹¹¹ Aryl chlorides or iodides seem to be unreactive in this type of substitution reaction. In fact, by treatment of compound **59c** with tributylstannyldiethylamine (**139**) in the presence of a catalytic amount of $\text{PdCl}_2[\text{P}(o\text{-tol})_3]_2$, 4-chlorophenyl-diethylamine (**140**) was selectively obtained (Eq. 47).¹¹¹



To the best of our knowledge, this synthesis represents the only example described so far in the literature of a catalytic transition metal-promoted carbon-heteroatom bond forming reaction involving a polyhalo(hetero)arene. However, very recently, it has been reported that addition of sodium *tert*-butyl thiolate to the palladium aryl complex **141** provides the aryl *tert*-butyl thiolate complex **142**, which, when warmed in a benzene solution at 50° in the presence of triphenylphosphine, forms the corresponding *tert*-butyl *p*-chlorophenyl sulfide (**143**) in quantitative yield (Scheme 2).¹¹²

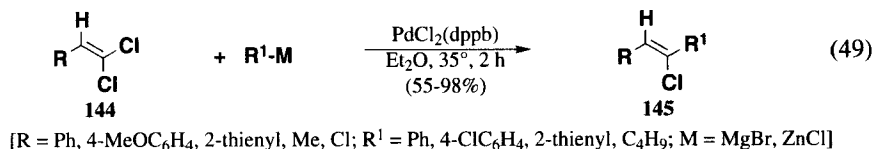


Scheme 2

III. CARBON-CARBON BOND FORMATION *via* POLYHALOGENATED ETHENE DERIVATIVES

1. 1,1-Dichloro-, 1,1-Dibromo- and 1-Chloro-1-iodoethenes and 1,1,2-Trichloroethenes

The first success in the regio- and stereoselective monoarylation and monoalkylation of 1,1-dichloro-1-alkenes **144** by Grignard reagents or organozinc reagents in the presence of catalytic amounts of PdCl₂(dppb) was reported in 1987.¹¹³ As shown in Eq. 49, 1-substituted (*Z*)-1-chloro-1-ethenes **145** were obtained in 55-98% yield.¹¹³



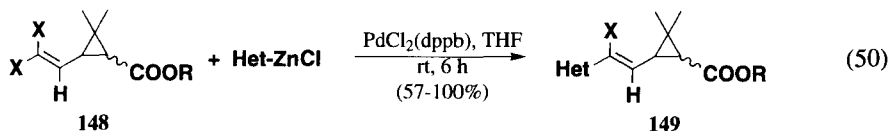
The presence of the substituent R in compounds **144** was essential for the regio- and stereoselective monocoupling. In fact, parent 1,1-dichloroethene (**146**) produced a comparable amount of diarylation products. Moreover, no reaction took place with 1,1-dichloro-2,2-diphenylethene (**147**).¹¹³



The stereoselectivity of the reactions reported in Eq. 49, which could be anticipated on the basis of the known rate difference for the palladium-mediated cross-coupling reactions of (*E*)- vs (*Z*)-1-bromo-1-alkenes,¹¹⁴⁻¹²¹ was ascribed to the steric effect exerted by the vicinal substituent R in (*Z*)-position to a chlorine atom. In fact, electronically different groups such as alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl and chlorine were equally effective. Interestingly, the success of these reactions also depended upon choice of PdCl₂(dppb) as a catalyst. In fact, when PdCl₂(PPh₃)₂ was used as a catalyst, diarylation products were mainly obtained.¹¹² Interestingly, compounds **145** reacted with Grignard reagents or organozinc halides in the presence of catalytic amounts of PdCl₂(PPh₃)₂ to give stereospecifically trisubstituted ethene derivatives.¹¹³

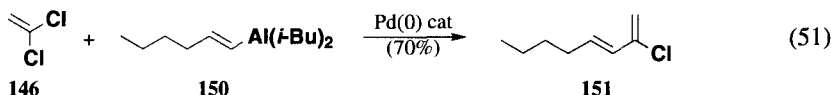
A versatile method for the modification of commercial synthetic pyrethroids was also based on the fact that the *E* halogen atom in 1,1-dichloro-1-alkenes exhibits higher reactivity than the *Z*

halogen.¹²² This method consisted of a highly regio- and stereoselective reaction between *cis*- or *trans*-(2,2-dihaloethenyl)dimethylcyclopropane carboxylates **148** and (hetero)arylzinc chlorides in the presence of catalytic quantities of PdCl₂(dppb) (Eq. 50).¹²² A variety of structurally modified pyrethroids of general formula **149** were so obtained in 57-100% yield.¹²²

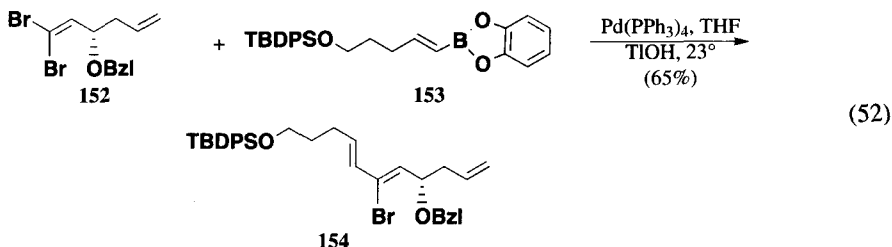


[X = Cl, Br; Het = Ph, 4-ClC₆H₄, 3-ClC₆H₄, 4-FC₆H₄, 2-thienyl, 2-furyl]

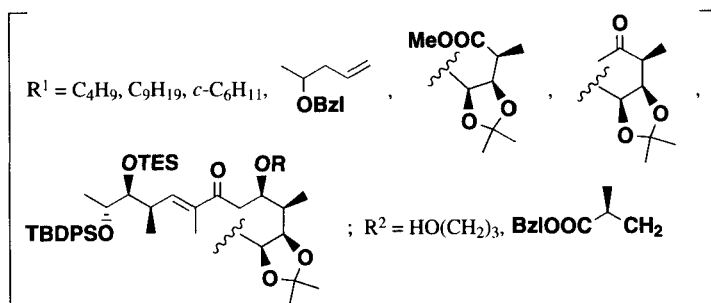
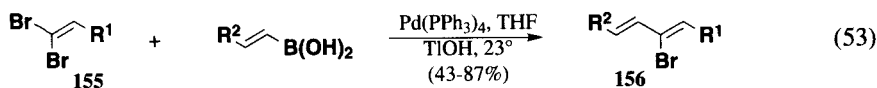
Linstrumelle and coworkers¹²³ found that compound **146** underwent selective monoalkenylation by treatment with (*E*)-1-hexenyldiisobutylalane (**150**) in the presence of a palladium(0) catalyst (Eq. 51).



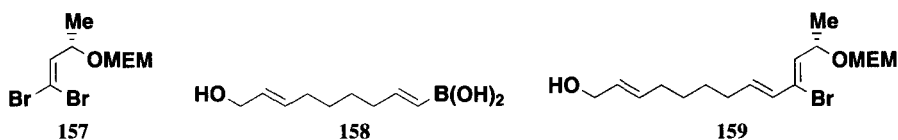
A key step of an enantioselective synthesis of the bottom half of chlorotricholide was also based on a highly regio- and stereoselective alkenylation of a chiral and stereodefined 1,1-dibromo-1-alkene.¹²⁴ Thus, reaction of **152** with **153**, using the modification of the Suzuki reaction¹²⁵ which was developed by Kishi,¹²⁶ afforded compound **154** in 65% yield (Eq. 52).¹²⁴ Interestingly, the yields of the selective monoalkenylations of 1,1-dibromo-1-alkenes, in general, could be improved when vinylboronic acids were employed rather than catechoborane derivatives.¹²⁷



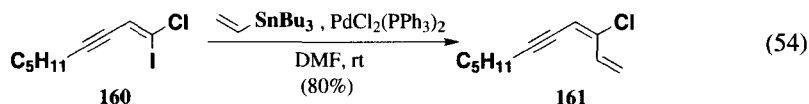
As shown in Eq. 53, a large variety of (*Z,E*)-2-bromo-1,3-dienes of general formula **156** have been synthesized according to this improved procedure.¹²⁷



More recently, a similar selective monoalkenylation has been employed to prepare compound **159** from **157** and **158**.¹²⁸

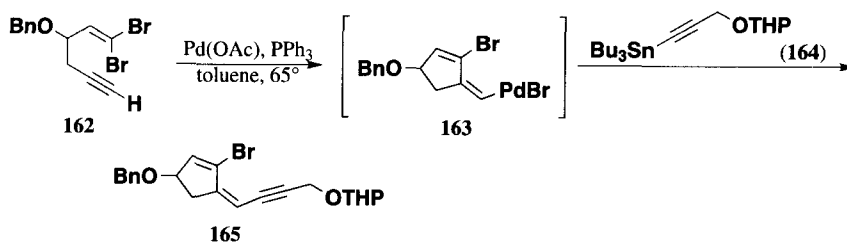


Very recently, it has also been reported that (*Z*)-1-chloro-1-iodo-1-en-3-yne **160** undergoes a highly selective and stereospecific monoalkenylation by treatment with vinyltributylstannane, in the presence of a palladium(II) catalyst precursor, to give (*E*)-3-chloro-1,3-dien-5-yne **161** in good yield (Eq. 54).¹²⁹ The fact that in this case the *Z* halogen substituent was more reactive than that in the *E*-position can be explained taking into account that an alkenyl iodide is much more reactive than an alkenyl chloride in this type of reaction.⁴²



A more striking exception to the rule that in a 1,1-dihalo-1-alkene the *E* halogen atom is more reactive than that in the *Z*-position was reported by Torii and coworkers.¹³⁰ They found that dienyne **165** could be synthesized by a palladium-mediated process which involved intramolecular insertion of dibromide **162** followed by a cross-coupling of **163** with **164** (Scheme 3).¹³⁰

TRANSITION METAL-PROMOTED C-C AND CARBON-HETEROATOM BOND FORMATION

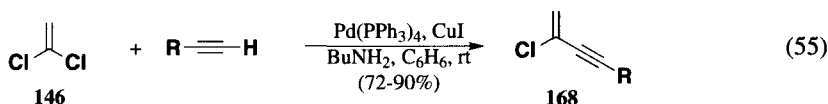


Scheme 3

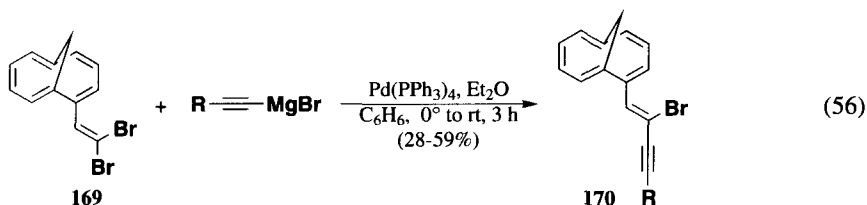
The formation of **165** indicated that this process proceeds through oxidative-addition of the bromine present in the *Z*-position of **162**. As illustrated in **166** and **167**, such a predominant oxidative-addition, which affords **163**, is probably assisted by the initial coordination of the triple bond or the oxygen atom of the benzyloxy group of compound **162**.



Finally, it must be mentioned that success was also obtained in the selective monoalkynylation of 1,1-dichloro- and 1,1-dibromo-1-alkenes.^{123,131} Thus, by treatment of a very large molar excess (5 equiv) of **146** with 1-alkynes, in the presence of a benzene solution of butylamine and catalytic amounts of Pd(PPh₃)₄ and CuI, 2-chloro-1-en-3-yne **168** were obtained in good yield (Eq. 55).¹²³

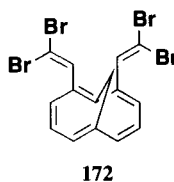
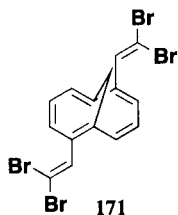


More recently, some 2-(2-bromo-1-alken-3-ynyl)bicyclo[4.4.1]undeca-1,3,5,7,9-pentaenes of general formula **170** have been synthesized by palladium-mediated coupling between 2-(2,2-dibromovinyl)bicyclo[4.4.1]undeca-1,3,4,7,9-pentaenes (**169**) and 1-alkynylmagnesium bromides (Eq. 56).¹³¹



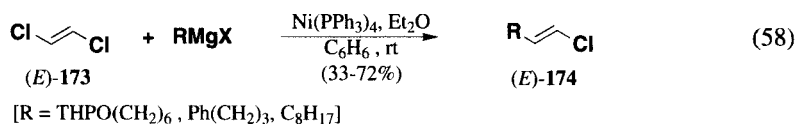
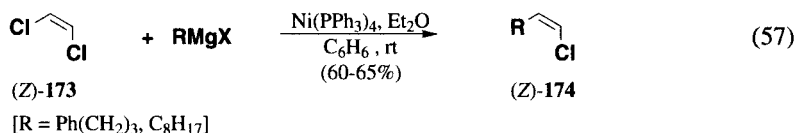
Interestingly, compounds **170** could not be obtained by palladium- and copper-mediated reaction between **169** and 1-alkynes in the presence of butylamine. Under these conditions only prod-

ucts which resulted from the homocoupling of the starting 1-alkynes were isolated.¹³¹ On the other hand, mixtures of cross-coupled products were produced when either compound **171** or **172** were reacted with 1.66 - 2 equiv of phenylethyne magnesium bromide in the presence of a catalytic amount of $\text{Pd}(\text{PPh}_3)_4$.¹³¹

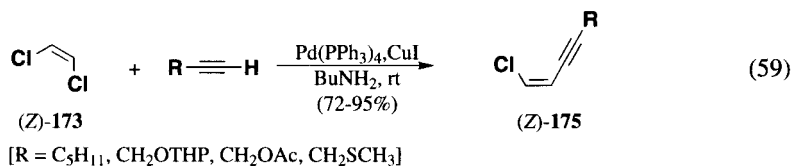


2. Symmetrically and Unsymmetrically Substituted 1,2-Dihaloethenes and 1,1,2-Trihalo-1-alkenes

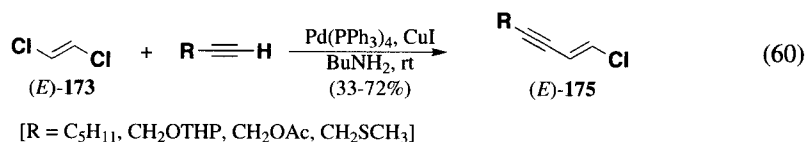
(*Z*) and (*E*)-1,2-Dichloroethene, (*Z*)- and (*E*)-**(173)**, undergo selective and stereospecific monocoupling reactions with alkylmagnesium chlorides in the presence of catalytic amounts of $\text{Ni}(\text{PPh}_3)_4$.¹³² When 5 equiv of (*Z*)- and (*E*)-**173** were employed, these reactions provided the desired (*Z*)- and (*E*)-1-chloro-1-alkenes, (*Z*) and (*E*)-**174**, respectively, in good yield (Eqs. 57 and 58).¹³²



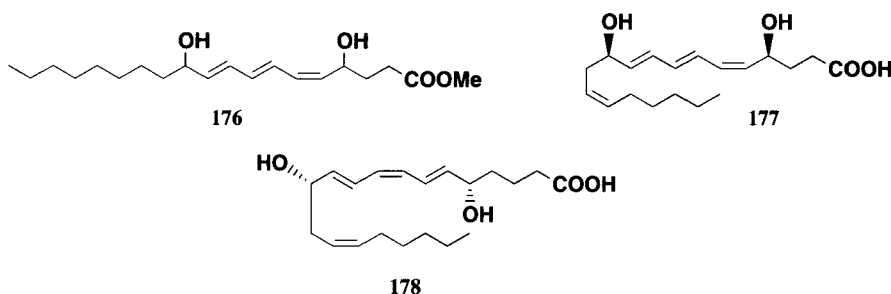
Compounds (*Z*) and (*E*)-**173** proved also to be efficient precursors to 1-chloro-1-en-3-yne **175**.¹³² In fact, when treated with 1-alkynes, in the presence of butylamine and catalytic quantities of $\text{Pd}(\text{PPh}_3)_4$ and CuI , these dihalides (5 equiv) afforded compounds (*Z*)- and (*E*)-**175** in high yield (Eqs. 59 and 60).¹³²



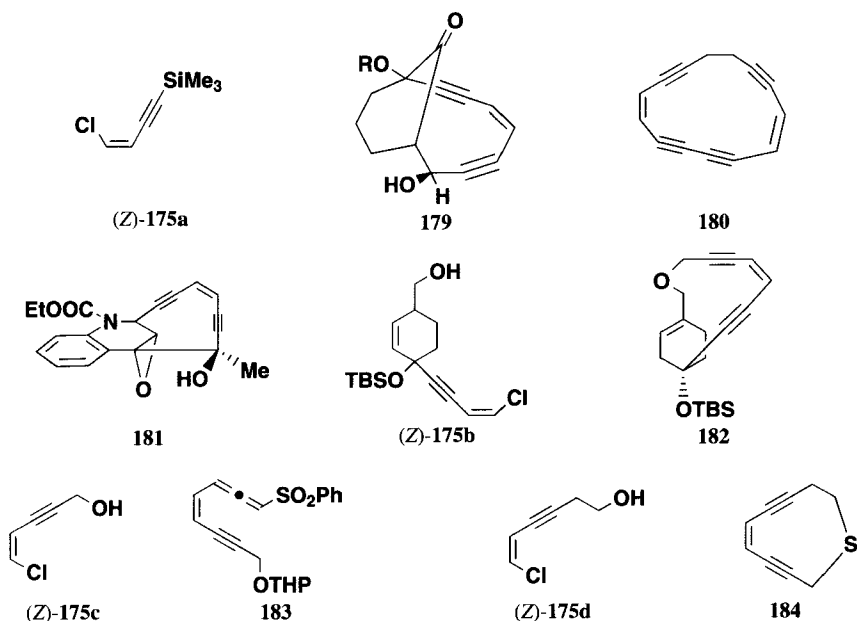
TRANSITION METAL-PROMOTED C-C AND CARBON-HETEROATOM BOND FORMATION



Similar monoalkynylation reactions have been employed to prepare a large variety of stereoisomerically pure, functionalized 1-chloro-1-en-3-yne **175**,¹³³⁻¹⁴³ some of which have been used as precursors to naturally-occurring bioactive compounds such as methyl (6*Z*,8*E*,10*E*)-5,15-dihydroxyeicosa-6,8,10-trienoate (**176**),¹³⁴ which is a compound of the LTB family, leukotriene B₄ (**177**)¹³⁷ and (5*S*,12*S*)-diHETE (**178**).¹³⁸

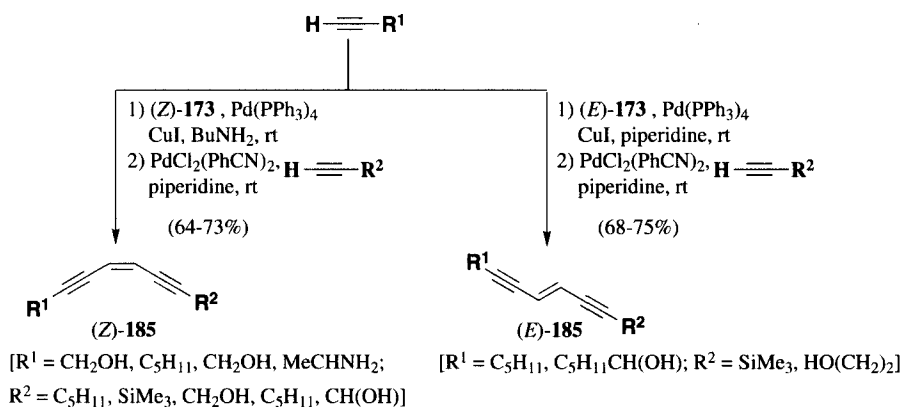


Other stereodefined 1-chloro-1-en-3-yne so prepared have found remarkable synthetic applications. Thus, compound (*Z*)-**175a** was used as a precursor in the stereospecific synthesis of 12-β-hydroxybicyclo[7.3.1]-enediynes **179**,¹³⁵ cyclodeca-3,9-diene-1,5,7,11-tetraene (**180**),¹⁴⁴ and the cyclic enediynes **181**, which represents a model compound of dynemicin A.¹⁴⁵ On the other hand, compound



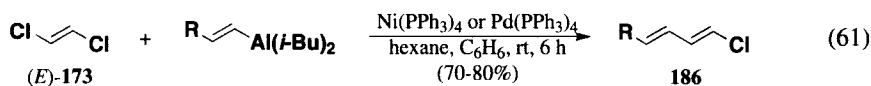
(*Z*)-**175b** was an intermediate in the synthesis of **182**, which possesses the bicyclo[7.3.1]tridecaenediyne system characteristic of the enediyne antibiotics calicheamicin and esperamicin,¹³⁹ and compound (*Z*)-**175c** was employed in the synthesis of enyne-allene-sulfone **183**, which serves as an excellent Michael acceptor and probably possesses DNA-cleaving properties.¹⁴⁰ Finally, compound (*Z*)-**175d** was used as a precursor to the 10-membered heterocyclic enediyne **184**.¹⁴³

It is important to note that both the nature of the amine and the catalyst are critical for the success of the monoalkynylation of (*Z*)- or (*E*)-**173**. In fact, when these compounds were reacted with 1-alkynes in the presence of diethylamine and catalytic amounts of PdCl₂(PPh₃)₂ and CuI, low yields of compounds (*Z*)- and (*E*)-**175** were obtained.¹⁴⁶ On the contrary, reaction of (*E*)-**173** with 1-alkynes in benzene containing piperidine and catalytic amounts of Pd(PPh₃)₄ and CuI gave high yields of compounds (*E*)-**175**.¹⁴⁶ In the case of (*Z*)-**173**, the use of butylamine, instead of piperidine, was preferable and gave compounds (*Z*)-**175** in 76-98% yield.¹⁴⁶ However, a large molar excess of (*Z*)- or (*E*)-**173** was always necessary in order to avoid the formation of the undesired symmetrically disubstituted cross-coupled products. It is also worth noting that the high yield and selectivity of the monoalkynylation reactions carried out under these experimental conditions allowed a simple straightforward one-pot synthesis of functionalized unsymmetrical (*Z*)- and (*E*)-enediynes of general formula **185** by the procedure illustrated in Scheme 4.¹⁴⁷



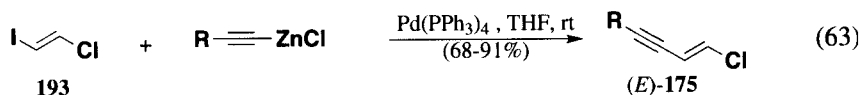
Scheme 4

(*E*)-1,2-Dichloroethene, (*E*)-**(173)**, underwent selective and stereospecific monocoupling reaction with (*E*)-1-alkenyldiisobutylalanes, in the presence of catalytic amounts of Ni(PPh₃)₄ or Pd(PPh₃)₄, to give (*E*)-1-chloro-1,3-dienes **186** (Eq. 61).¹⁴⁸ Also in this case, the yields and the selectivity of the reactions were high when a large molar excess (5 equiv) of (*E*)-**173** was used.¹⁴⁸



(1*E*,3*E*)-1-Chloro-1,3-octadiene (**186a**) so prepared was used as a precursor to methyl α -eleostearate **B** (**187**), a feeding deterrent for the boll weevil on cotton.¹⁴⁸

and 6 N HCl, in the presence of catalytic quantities of Pd(PPh₃)₄ (Eq. 63).¹⁵⁰

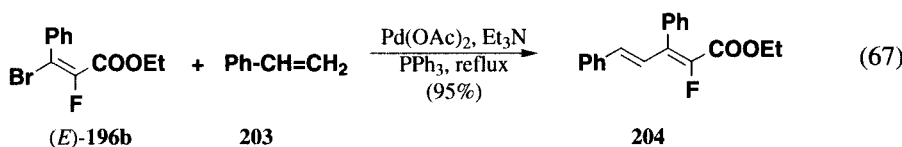
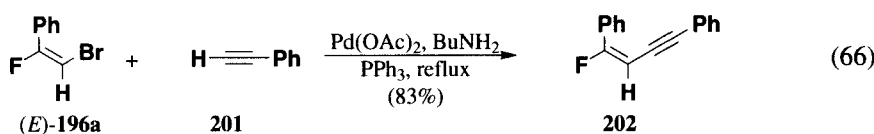
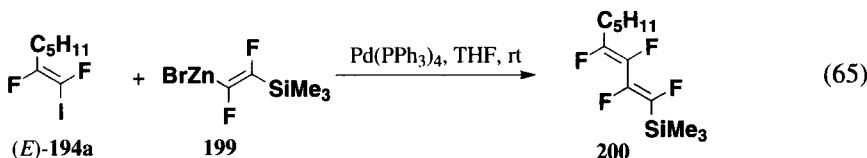
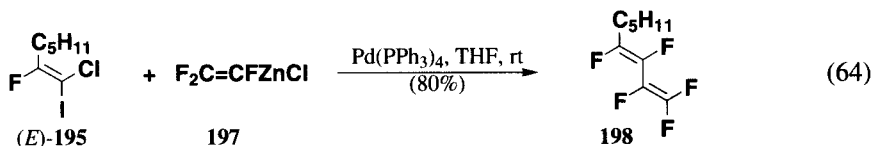


[R = C₅H₁₁, C₆H₁₃, Ph, CH₂=C(CH₃), C₆H₁₃-C≡C]

Selectivities similar to those registered for this reaction have been recorded for palladium-mediated monocoupling reactions involving trihaloethenes and unsymmetrically substituted dihaloethene such as (*Z*)-1,2-difluoro-1-iodo-1-alkenes (*Z*)-**194**,¹⁵¹⁻¹⁵³, their stereoisomers, (*E*)-**194**,¹⁵³⁻¹⁵⁵ (*E*)-1-chloro-2-fluoro-1-iodo-1-alkenes (*E*)-**195**¹⁵² and 2-substituted or 1,2-disubstituted (*Z*)- and (*E*)-1-bromo-2-fluoroethenes of general formula **196**.¹⁵⁶

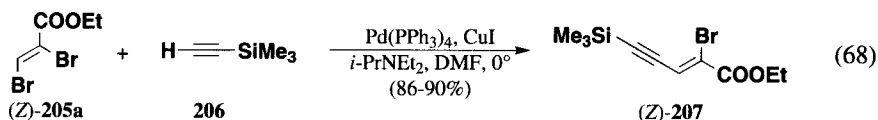


Examples of these selective and stereospecific reactions are given in Eqs. 64-67.^{151,154,156}

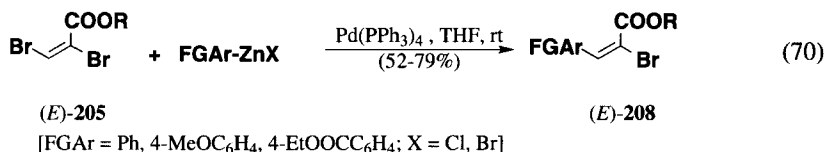
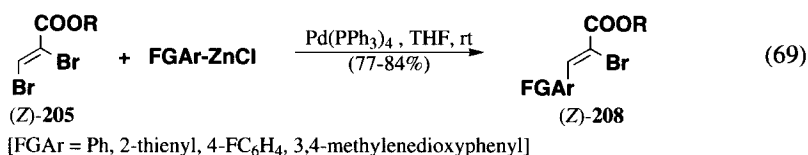


On the contrary, until few years ago not much attention had been paid to the study of regioselective and stereospecific transition metal-promoted carbon-carbon bond forming reactions which involve stereodefined, 1,2-dichloro, 1,2-dibromo- or 1,2-diiodoethene derivatives characterized by a functional group in the α-position to their carbon-carbon double bond. In 1989 Myers and coworkers¹⁵⁷ reported the first example of this type of reactions. In particular, it was found that, when

ethyl (*Z*)-2,3-dibromopropenoate, (*Z*)-**205a**, was reacted at 0° with a DMF solution of trimethylsilylacetylene (**206**) in the presence of *i*-Pr₂NEt and catalytic amounts of Pd(PPh₃)₄ and CuI, (*Z*)-bromoynyne **207** was obtained in 86-90% yield (Eq. 68).¹⁵⁷



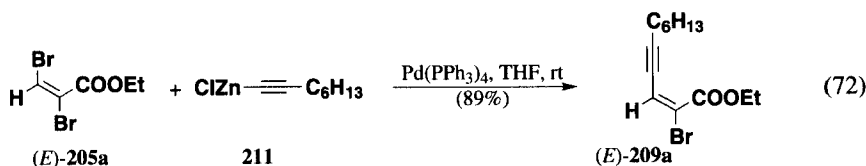
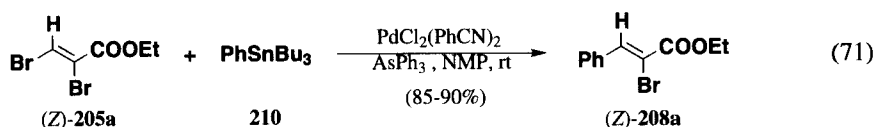
Subsequently, in the context of an in-depth investigation on the selectivity and the synthetic usefulness of palladium-mediated reactions which involve easily available alkyl (*Z*)- and (*E*)-2,3-dibromopropenoates, (*Z*)- and (*E*)-**205**, the regioselective and stereospecific high yielding synthesis of multigram quantities of (*Z*)- and (*E*)-2-bromo-3-(hetero)arylpropenoates, (*Z*) and (*E*)-**208** was reported.¹⁵⁸ The procedure consisted of a reaction between (hetero)arylzinc halides and (*Z*)- and (*E*)-**205**, respectively, in THF at 20° in the presence of catalytic amounts of Pd(PPh₃)₄ (Eqs. 69 and 70).¹⁵⁸



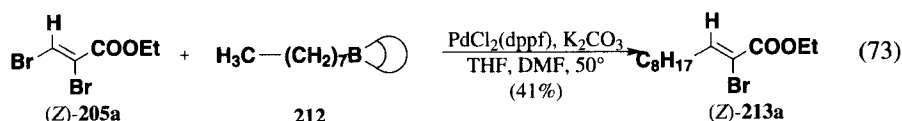
It was demonstrated that a new catalyst precursor consisting of a mixture of 10% palladium on carbon and 3.9 equiv of AsPh₃ as well as that obtained by treatment of Pd(OAc)₂ with 4 equiv of AsPh₃ in THF at 60° can conveniently replace the more expensive and air unstable Pd(PPh₃)₄ in efficiently promoting either the above mentioned coupling reactions or those involving organozinc derivatives and organic electrophiles different from compounds **205**, which contain an electron-withdrawing substituent linked to their carbon-carbon double bond.¹⁵⁹ Compounds (*Z*)- and (*E*)-**208** can be stereospecifically and regioselectively prepared by palladium-promoted reaction of aryltributylstannanes with (*Z*)- and (*E*)-**205**.¹⁶⁰ Moreover, 3-(1-alkynyl) substituted alkyl (*Z*)- and (*E*)-2-bromopropenoates, (*Z*)- and (*E*)-**209**, can be selectively prepared in satisfactory yields by palladium-promoted reactions of these dibromides with 1-alkynylzinc chlorides.¹⁶⁰



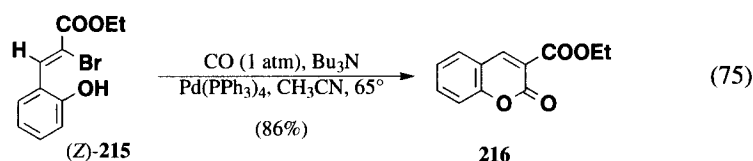
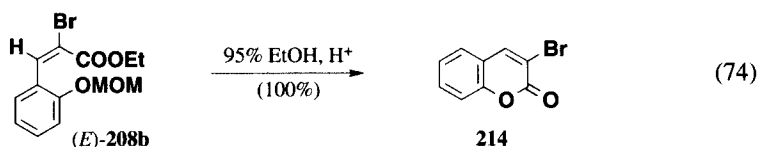
Examples of these reactions are shown in Eqs. 71 and 72.¹⁶⁰



On the other hand, a representative alkyl (*Z*)-3-alkyl-2-bromopropenoate, *i.e.* **213a**, was prepared by reaction of a 9-alkyl-9-BBN derivative with (*Z*)-**205a**, in the presence of K_2CO_3 and a catalytic quantity of $\text{PdCl}_2(\text{dppf})$ (Eq. 73).¹⁶⁰



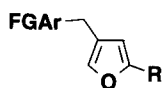
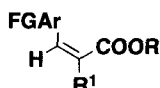
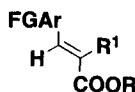
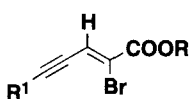
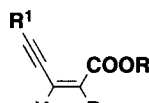
Some applications demonstrated the synthetic utility of the compounds prepared according to these protocols. Thus, (*E*)-**208b** was easily converted to 3-bromocoumarin (**214**) (Eq. 74)¹⁶⁰ and (*Z*)-**211**, which was obtained by acidic hydrolysis of the corresponding MOM derivative, underwent a palladium-mediated intramolecular carbonylative reaction to give **216** in high yield (Eq. 75).¹⁶⁰



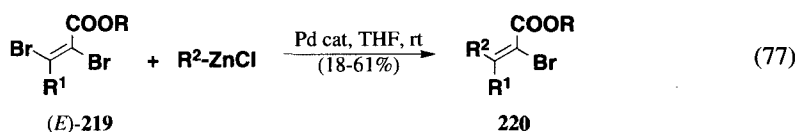
Moreover, compounds (*Z*)- and (*E*)-**208** proved to be suitable precursors to 2,4-disubstituted furans of general formula **217**¹⁶¹ as well as to trisubstituted α,β -unsaturated esters of general formula (*Z*) and (*E*)-**218**.¹⁶⁰

The high yield and selectivity of the palladium-mediated monoarylations of compounds (*Z*)-**205** also allowed a direct access to trisubstituted α,β -unsaturated esters (*Z*)-**218** by a one-pot procedure, which involved two sequential palladium-mediated arylations (Eq. 76).¹⁶⁰

TRANSITION METAL-PROMOTED C-C AND CARBON-HETEROATOM BOND FORMATION

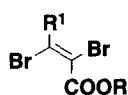

217 [R = alkyl]

(Z)-218 [R¹ = Ph, Me, CH=CH₂]

(E)-218 [R¹ = 3,4-methylenedioxyphenyl, 2-MOMOC₆H₄, CH₂=CH, Ph-C≡C]

(Z)-209

(E)-209

To conclude this section it must also be mentioned that 3-alkyl, 3-aryl and 3-alkoxycarbonyl substituted (*E*)-2,3-dibromopropenoates **219** underwent highly regioselective palladium-mediated cross-coupling reactions with aryl- and 1-alkynylzinc chlorides (Eq. 77).¹⁶²



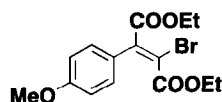
[R¹ = CH₃, C₅H₁₁, Ph, COOEt; R = Me, Et; R² = 4-MeOC₆H₄, 2-MOMOC₆H₄, 4-FC₆H₄, C₆H₁₃-C≡C]

Interestingly, the stereospecificity of these reactions was dependent on the type of dibromide used. In fact, when 3-alkyl substituted (*E*)-2,3-dibromopropenoates were employed, the desired cross-coupled products were stereoisomerically pure. On the other hand, crude compounds **220**, which were prepared by palladium-mediated arylation of **219c** were contaminated by *ca.* 7% of the corresponding stereoisomers. Moreover, a still higher percentage of undesired stereoisomer (20%) contaminated the cross-coupled product **220d**, which was obtained by reaction between diethyl 2,3-dibromofumarate (**219d**) and 4-methoxyphenylzinc chloride.¹⁶²

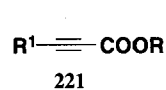

(E)-219a [R¹ = C₅H₁₁; R = Me]

(E)-219b [R¹ = Me; R = Et]

(E)-219c [R¹ = Ph; R = Et]

(E)-219d [R¹ = EtOOC; R = Et]

220d

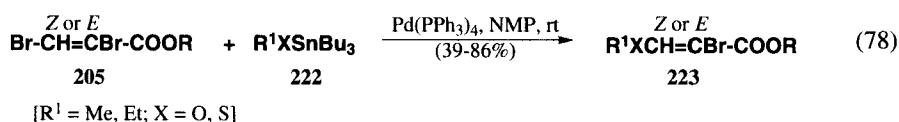
The modest yields of cross-coupled products which were obtained in these couplings were at least in part due to a side reaction which produced α,β -acetylenic esters **221** corresponding to the dibromides used.¹⁶² As confirmed by stoichiometric reactions involving $\text{Pd}(\text{PPh}_3)_4$ and compounds (*E*)-**219**, these acetylenic esters derived from a *trans*-elimination reaction involving the oxidative-addition complexes which regioselectively resulted from **219** and the palladium(0) species present in the reaction mixtures.¹⁶²



Finally, it is worth mentioning that the very high regioselectivity observed in the monocoupling reactions involving (*Z*)- and (*E*)-**205** as well as (*E*)-**219**, has been explained by supposing that the mesomeric effect of the alkoxy-carbonyl group present in these dibromides overcomes its inductive effect.¹⁶³ Thus, this group might be able to render the carbon-bromine bond in the 3-position more electron poor than that in their 2-position and, therefore, more suitable for the oxidative-addition reaction with the palladium(0) species present in the reaction mixtures.¹⁶³ On the other hand, the results obtained in the reactions involving (*E*)-**219** show that the presence of an aryl or an alkyl group in the 3-position of alkyl 2,3-dibromopropenoates does not affect the regiochemistry of the couplings.¹⁶² Nevertheless, these groups render the palladium-promoted cross-coupling reactions slower than the corresponding reactions involving (*E*)-**205**.¹⁶³

IV. CARBON-HETEROATOM BOND FORMATION *via* POLYHALOGENATED ETHENE DERIVATIVES

Transition metal-promoted reactions to construct carbon-heteroatom bonds starting from alkenyl halides are limited. Several years ago, it was noted that alkenyl sulfides could be prepared by reaction of alkenyl bromides with lithium aryl- or alkylthiolates in the presence of a palladium(0)¹⁶⁴ or a nickel(II) catalyst precursor.¹⁶⁵ Subsequently, it was found that trialkyltin sulfides could be conveniently used as valuable sulfur-centered nucleophiles in palladium^{166,167} hetero-cross-coupling reactions. It was also reported that in the palladium-mediated reactions (*E*)-1-bromo-1-alkenes were more reactive than the corresponding (*Z*)-stereoisomers.¹²⁰ However, only very recently, similar palladium-mediated reactions involving stereodefined, functionalized 1,2-dihaloethene derivatives have been investigated.^{168,169} In particular, it has been found that alkyl (*Z*)- and (*E*)-2,3-dibromopropenoates (**205**) react stereospecifically, regio- and chemoselectively with 1.15 equiv of alkoxy-, alkylthio- and arylthiotributylstannanes of general formula **222** in NMP at 20°, in the presence of 5 mol % $\text{Pd}(\text{PPh}_3)_4$ to give 3-alkoxy, 3-alkylthio and 3-arylthio substituted alkyl (*Z*)- and (*E*)-2-bromopropenoates **223**, respectively, in satisfactory to high yields (Eq. 78).^{168,169}



TRANSITION METAL-PROMOTED C-C AND CARBON-HETEROATOM BOND FORMATION

Some typical results are summarized in Table 1. Interestingly, the reaction between (*Z*)-**223a** so prepared and (hetero)arylboronic acids in dioxane at 80°, in the presence of K₃PO₄ and catalytic amounts of Pd(PPh₃)₄, produced some 2-(hetero)aryl substituted (*E*)-3-methoxypropenoates **224** in satisfactory yields, which represent structural analogues of broad-spectrum systemic fungicides (Eq. 79).^{168,169}

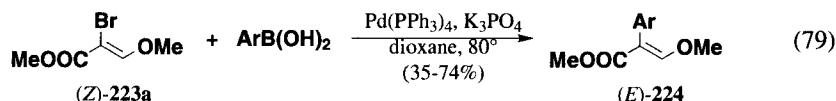


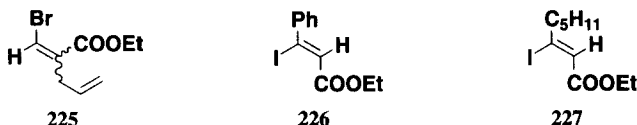
TABLE 1. Palladium-mediated Carbon-Oxygen and Carbon-Sulfur Bond-forming Reactions^a

Entry	Substrate	Tin derivative	Reaction time (hrs)	Products	Yield (%)
1	$ \begin{array}{c} \text{Br} \\ \\ \text{H} \\ \\ \text{COOMe} \\ \\ (\text{Z})\text{-205b} \end{array} $	Bu ₃ SnOMe 222a	96	$ \begin{array}{c} \text{MeO} \\ \\ \text{H} \\ \\ \text{COOMe} \\ \\ (\text{Z})\text{-224a} \end{array} $	63
2	$ \begin{array}{c} \text{H} \\ \\ \text{Br} \\ \\ \text{COOMe} \\ \\ (\text{Z})\text{-205b} \end{array} $	Bu ₃ SnOMe 222a	71	$ \begin{array}{c} \text{H} \\ \\ \text{OMe} \\ \\ \text{COOMe} \\ \\ (\text{Z})\text{-224a} \end{array} $	46
3	$ \begin{array}{c} \text{Br} \\ \\ \text{H} \\ \\ \text{COOEt} \\ \\ (\text{Z})\text{-205a} \end{array} $	Bu ₃ SnOEt 222b	172	$ \begin{array}{c} \text{EtO} \\ \\ \text{H} \\ \\ \text{COOEt} \\ \\ (\text{Z})\text{-224b} \end{array} $	45
4	$ \begin{array}{c} \text{Br} \\ \\ \text{H} \\ \\ \text{COOMe} \\ \\ (\text{Z})\text{-205b} \end{array} $	Bu ₃ SnSPh ^b 222c	24	$ \begin{array}{c} \text{PhS} \\ \\ \text{H} \\ \\ \text{COOMe} \\ \\ (\text{Z})\text{-224c} \end{array} $	84
5	$ \begin{array}{c} \text{Br} \\ \\ \text{H} \\ \\ \text{COOMe} \\ \\ (\text{Z})\text{-205b} \end{array} $	Bu ₃ SnSMe 222d	5	$ \begin{array}{c} \text{MeS} \\ \\ \text{H} \\ \\ \text{COOMe} \\ \\ (\text{Z})\text{-224d} \end{array} $	86
6	$ \begin{array}{c} \text{H} \\ \\ \text{Br} \\ \\ \text{COOMe} \\ \\ (\text{E})\text{-205b} \end{array} $	Bu ₃ SnOEt 222b	168	$ \begin{array}{c} \text{H} \\ \\ \text{OEt} \\ \\ \text{COOMe} \\ \\ (\text{Z})\text{-224e} \end{array} $	39

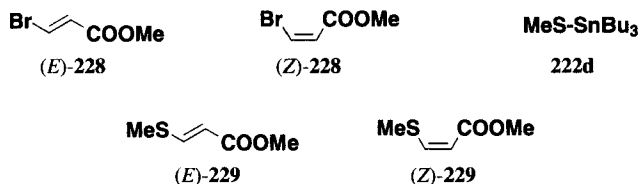
a) Reactions performed in NMP at room temperature using 1.15 equiv of the organotin reagent and 5 mol% Pd(PPh₃)₄. b) Reaction performed using 2.5 equiv of Bu₃SnSPh.

Finally, it must be noted that the palladium-mediated carbon-oxygen bond forming reaction, which worked well with alkoxytributylstannanes and compounds **205**, did not afford the desired 3-alkoxy derivatives starting from a stereoisomeric mixture of 3-bromo-2-allylpropenoate (**225**) or 3-bromocoumarin (**214**). In fact, these bromides did not react under the experimental conditions used to prepare compounds **223a,b**.¹⁷⁰

On the other hand, under these conditions, ethyl (*Z*)-3-iodo-3-phenylpropenoate (**226**) and methyl (*Z*)-3-iodo-2-octenoate (**227**) were converted to the corresponding α,β -acetylenic esters.¹⁷⁰



On the contrary, when stereoisomerically pure methyl (*E*)- and (*Z*)-3-bromopropenoate, (*E*)- and (*Z*)(**228**), were reacted with 1.15 equiv of (methylthio)tributylstannane (**222d**) in NMP solution at 20° for 5 hrs, methyl (*E*)- and (*Z*)-3-(methylthio)propenoate, (*E*)- and (*Z*)(**229**), were stereospecifically obtained in 85 and 90% yield, respectively.¹⁶⁹ Very recently, these new stereoisomerically pure electrophiles have been used as direct precursors to a variety of unusual sulfur-containing naturally-occurring carboxyamides, which are characterized by a methylthio substituent linked to their stereodefined carbon-carbon double bond.¹⁶⁹



Similarly, the palladium-mediated reaction between compound **227** and phenylthiotributylstannane (**222c**) afforded stereospecifically the desired 3-phenylthio substituted product in good yield.¹⁷⁰

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(Received June 3, 1996; in revised form September 23, 1996)