

Azidation The Next Generation: New Methods for C-H to C-N₃ Bond Formation

James Johnson

Frontiers in Chemistry

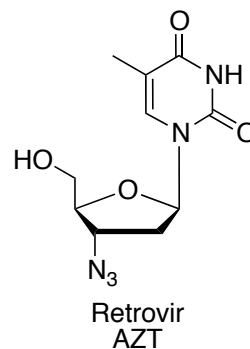
3-14-15

Azidation

- Background
- Enzymes
- Aryl C-H azidation
- Allyl C-H azidation
- Alkyl C-H azidation
- Future directions

Azides

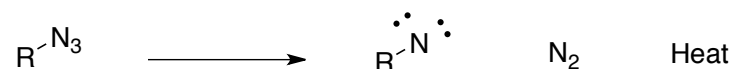
- First azide discovered as phenyl azide by Greiss (1866)
- HN_3 discovered by Curtius in 1890 and NaN_3 in 1892
- Useful synthetic intermediates for the formation of amines, imines, diazo compounds, nitrenes, aziridines, azirines, triazoles, triazolines, tetrazoles etc...
- Bioorthogonal uses “click” chemistry, photocrosslinking and affinity tagging.
- Pseudohalide character
- Azide containing anti HIV drug



Greiss, Ann., **1866**, 39
Curtius, Ber., **1890**, 2023

Azides

- Highly energetic functional group
 - Introduction of N_3 group into an organic compound increases its energy content by approx. 290-355 kJ/mol
 - Used in explosives and airbags
- N_3 π -bond is highly polarizable and can result in strong exothermic reactions.

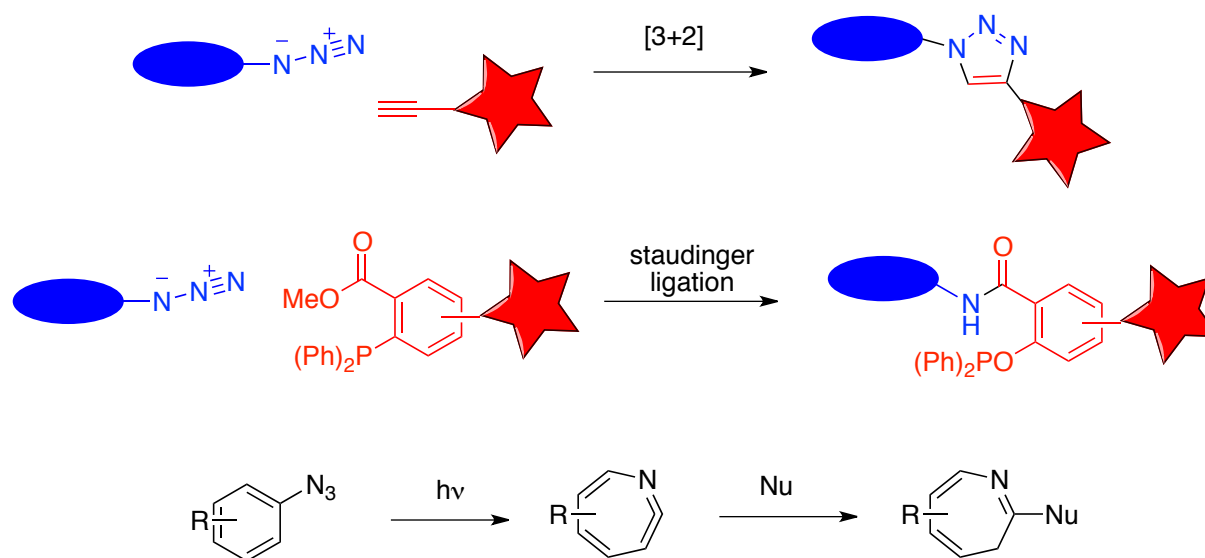


- Sensitivity of metal azides
 - Impact: $Cu > Pb, Hg > Ni > Co > Mn > Ba > St > Ca > Ag > Tl > Zn > Na, Li$
 - Thermal: $Ca > Sr > Ba > Tl > Ag > K > Pb > Na$
- Toxicity HN_3
 - High vapor pressure b.p. 36 °C
 - Metabolized to NO, causing neurotoxicity and tachycardia
 - COX inhibitors
 - NaN_3 oral mouse $LD_{50} = 27$ mg/kg ($NaCN$ 6 mg/kg)
 - NaN_3 dermal rabbit $LD_{50} = 20$ mg/kg ($NaCN$ 8 mg/kg)

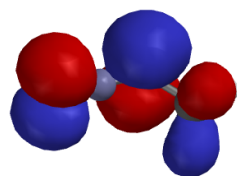
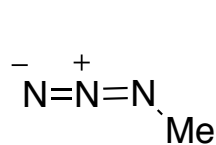
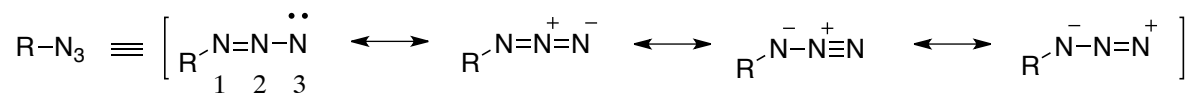
Organic Azides: Synthesis and Applications. 2010 John Wiley and Sons, Ltd
Int. J. Toxicol., **2003**, 175
Thermochemica Acta, **1997**, 179

Azides: bioorthogonal labeling

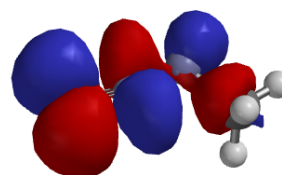
- Used to probe biomolecules in living systems
- Azides are absent in biological systems
- Orthogonal reactivity in biological systems
- Small



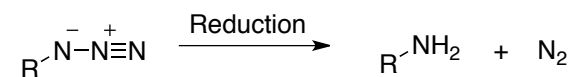
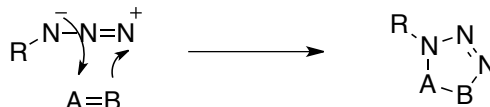
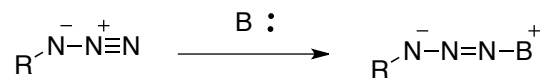
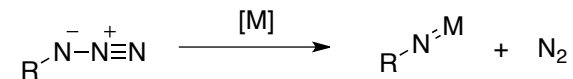
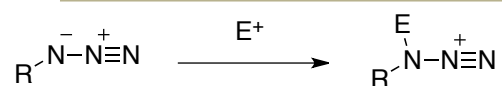
Structure and general reactivity



HOMO



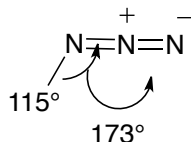
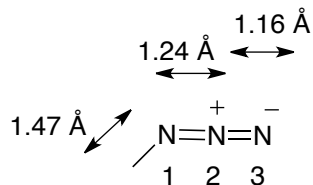
LUMO



BO

N¹-N² 1.5

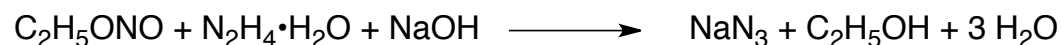
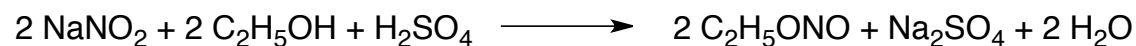
N²-N³ 2.5



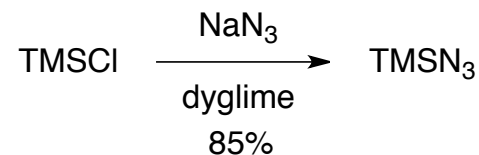
Strong IR absorption around 2100 cm⁻¹
UV absorption 287 and 216 nm (alkyl azides)

Precursor azides

- Annual consumption 1000 t/yr (\$70/ kg NaN₃)

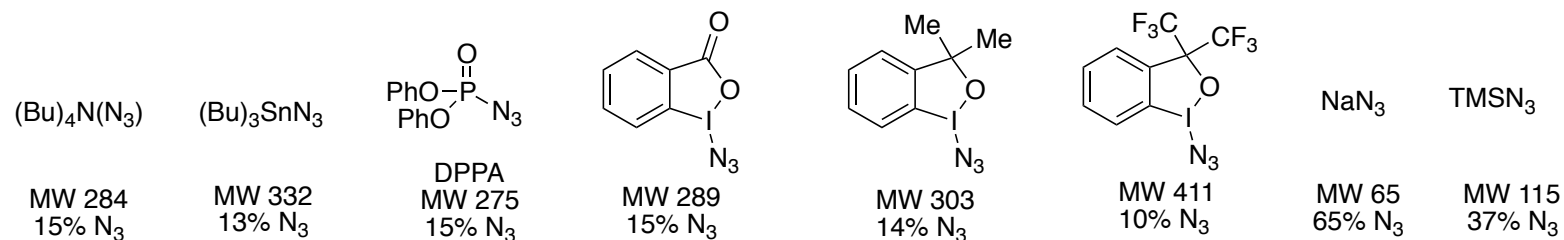


Curtius synthesis of NaN₃

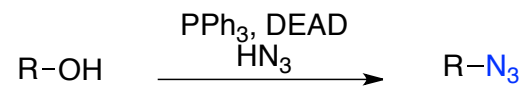
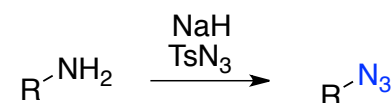
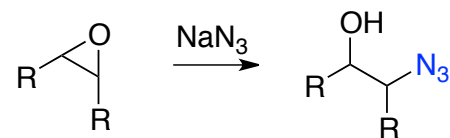
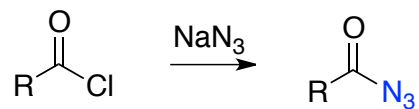
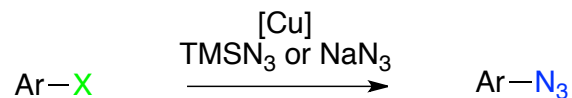
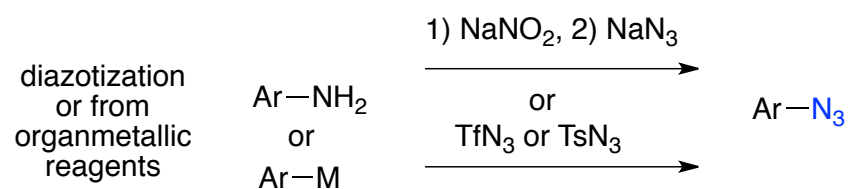
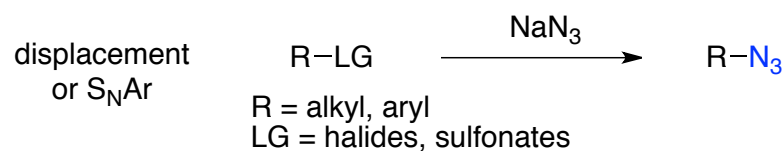


Org. Synth. **1970**, *50*, 107

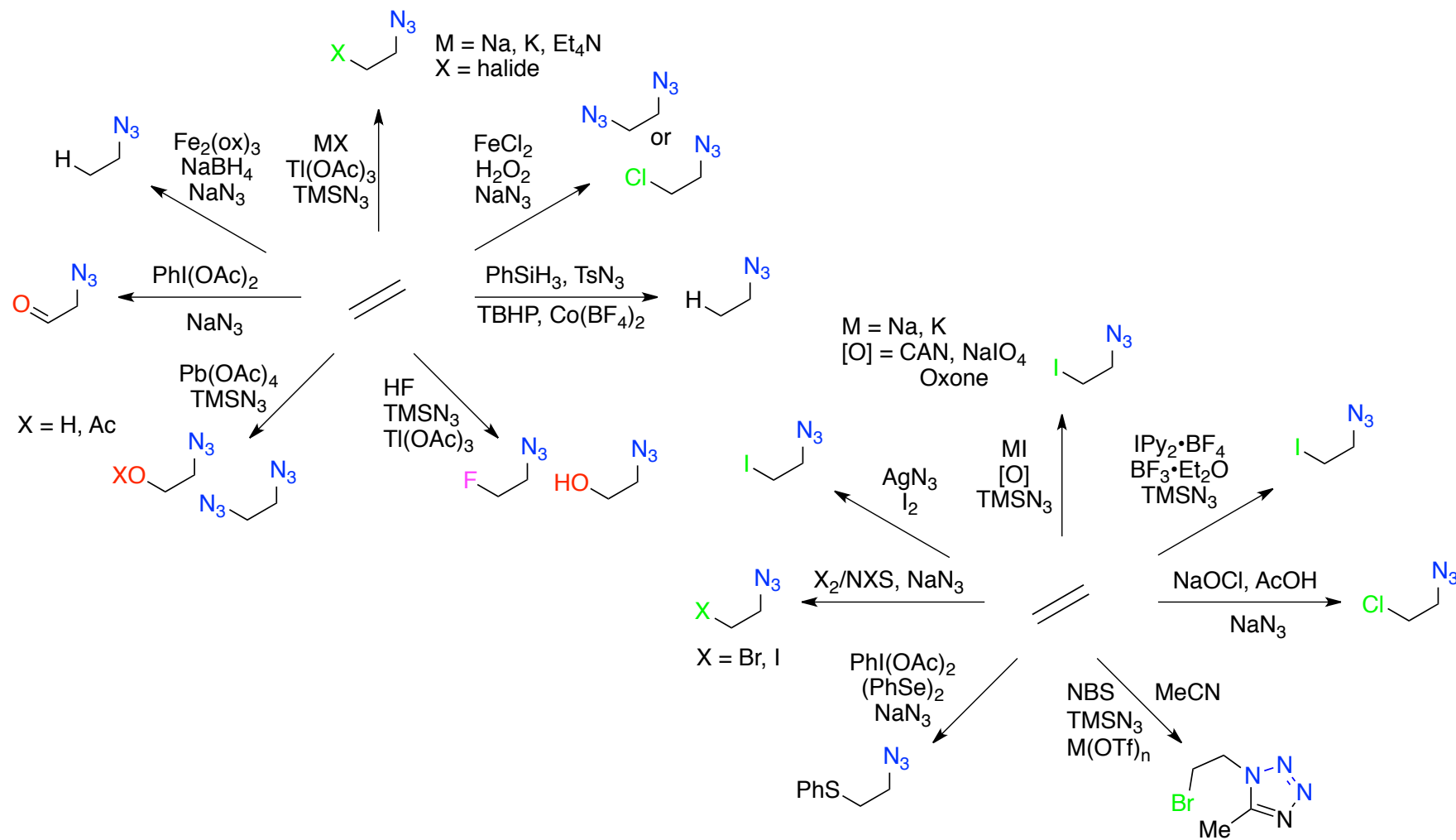
- Other N₃ containing compounds



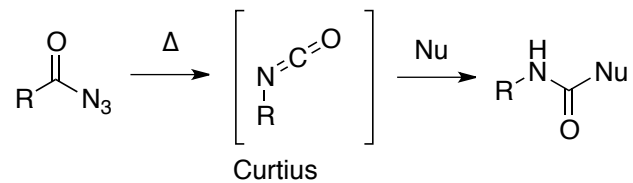
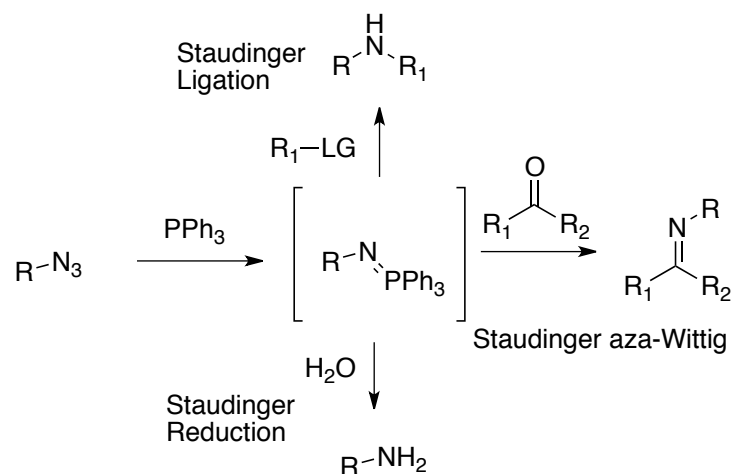
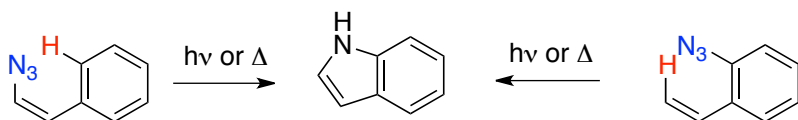
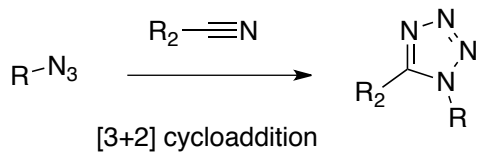
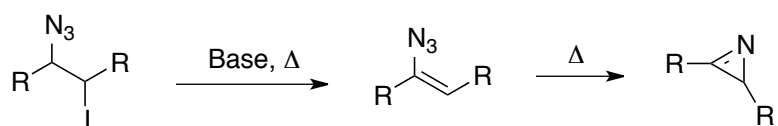
Azide formation



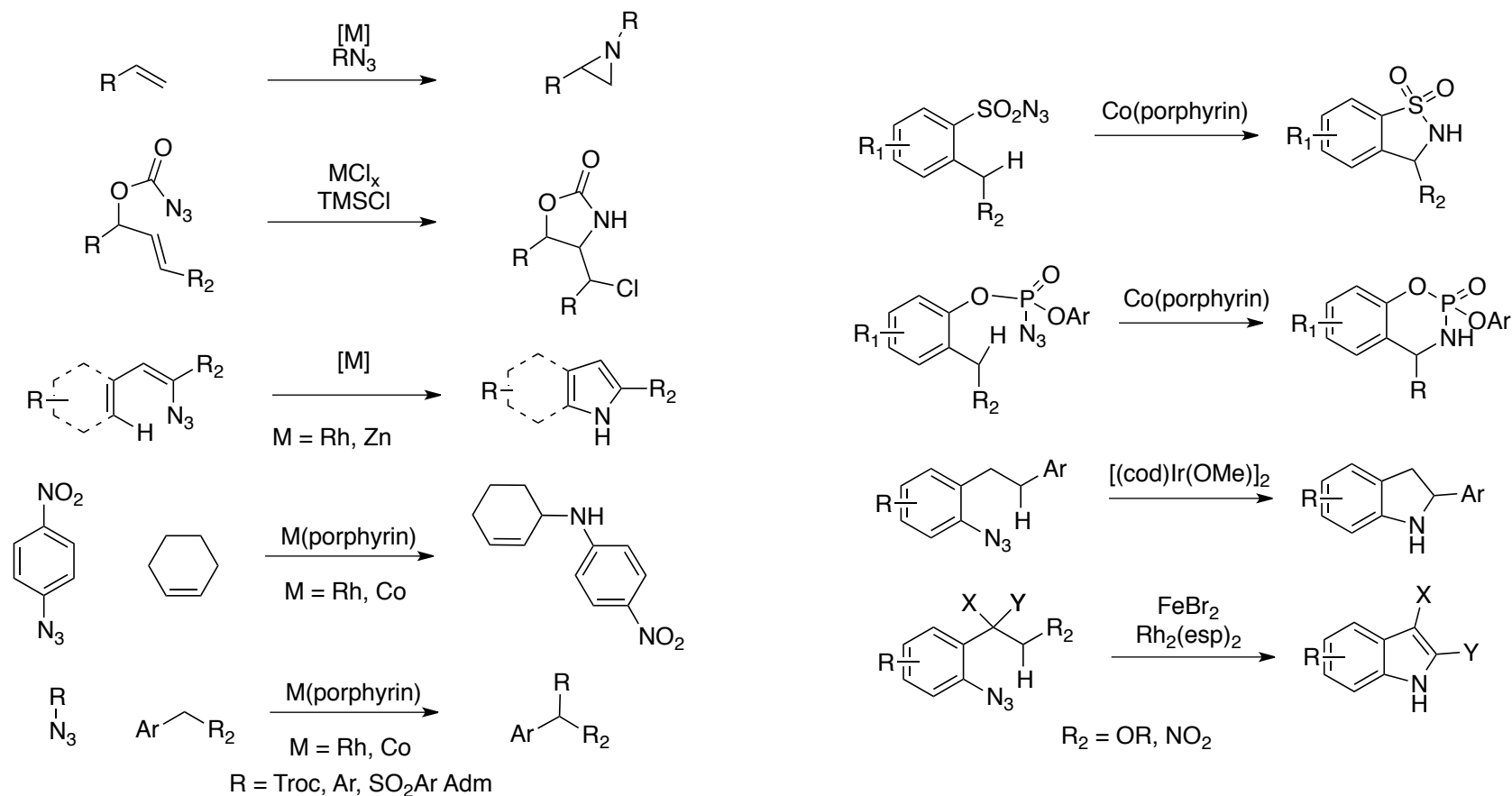
Direct introduction of azides onto olefins



Synthetic uses of azides

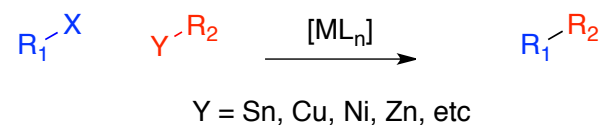


Azides as N sources nitrene chemistry



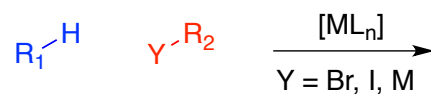
C-H bond transformations

Traditional cross-coupling

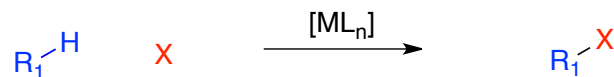


C-H activation

Direct cross-coupling



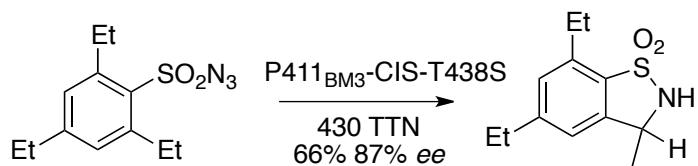
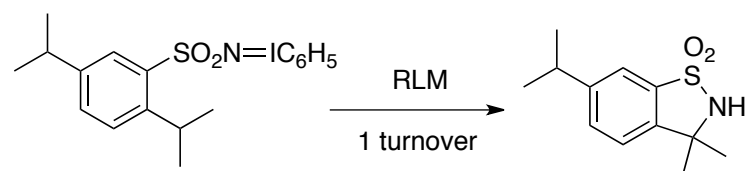
Dehydrogenative cross-coupling



Enzymatic azidation

Enzymatic C-H activation

- Inert C-H bonds converted to C-X (X = C, O, P, S, halogen)
- Late stage functionalization of complex molecules
- Enantiospecific
- Involve free radical or high-valent metal-oxo intermediate
- Few examples of enzymatic C-N bond formation
- N₃ inhibits the activity of many enzymes through binding to metal porphyrin complexes



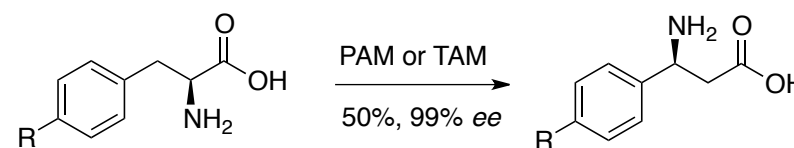
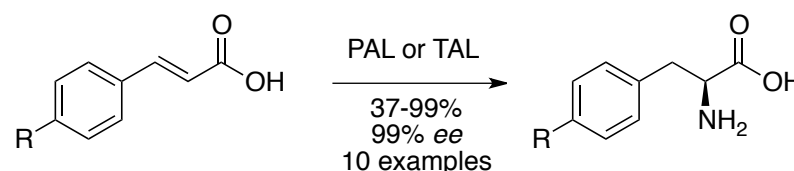
wt 4TTN

Cytochrome P450

Angew. Chem. Int. Ed., **2013**, 9309

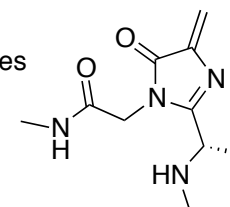
Curr. Opin. Chem. Biol. **2011**, 234

J. Am. Chem. Soc. **1985**, 6427



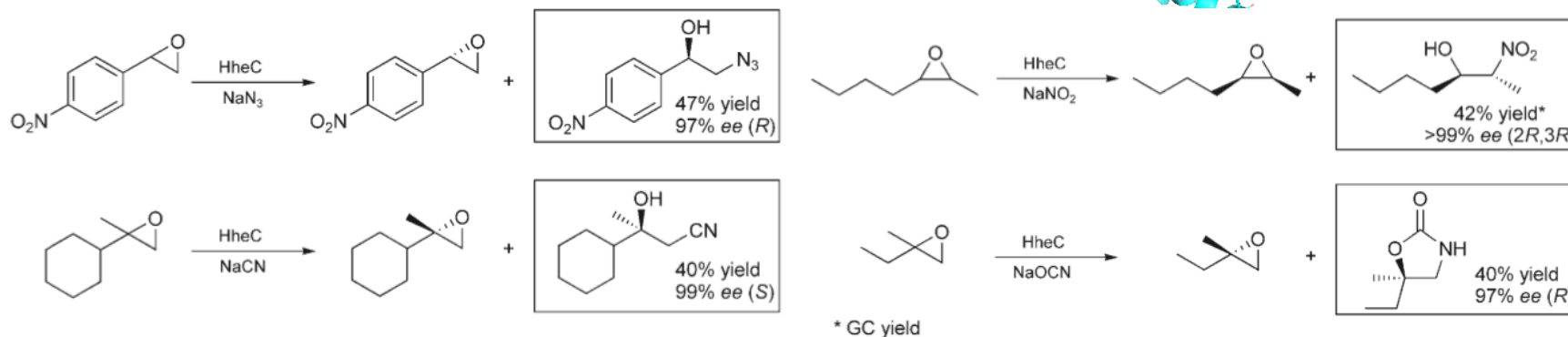
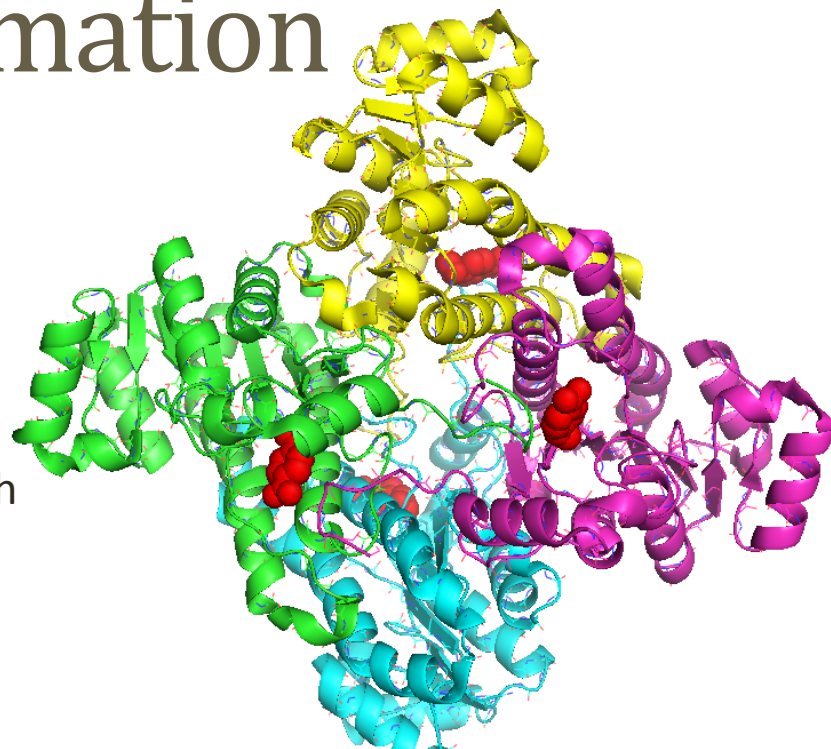
Ammonia Lyases and Mutatases

MIO (cofactor)
4-methylideneimidazole-5-one



Harnessing non-specific catalysis for C-N₃ bond formation

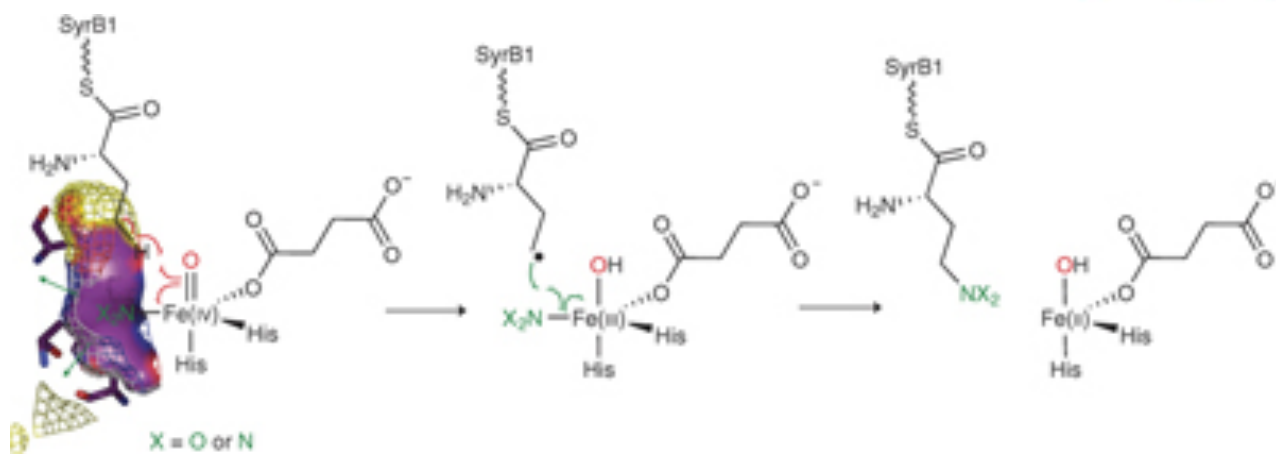
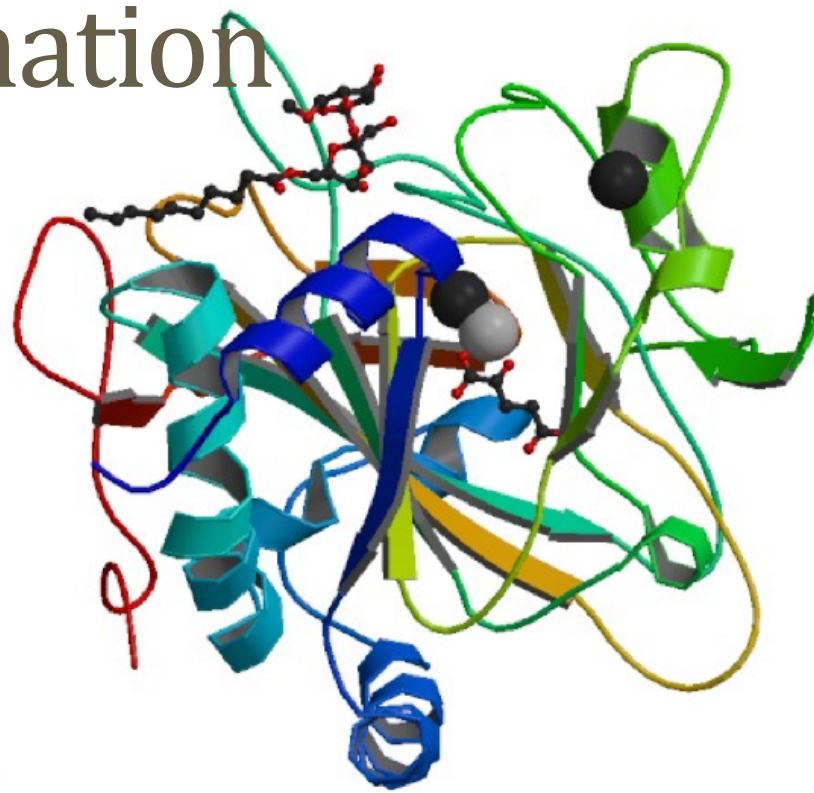
- Halohydrin Dehalogenase from *Agrobacterium radiobacter* AD1
- Originally used for the dehalogenation of 1-chloropropan-2,3-diol to form the epoxide
- Homotetramer
- Enantioselective opening of epoxides with CN, NO₂, OCN, N₃
- Scalable cultures



Org. Lett. 2001, 3, 41-3

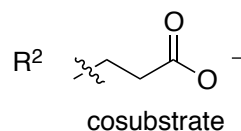
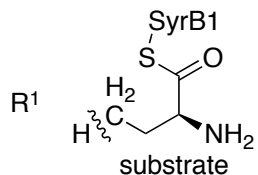
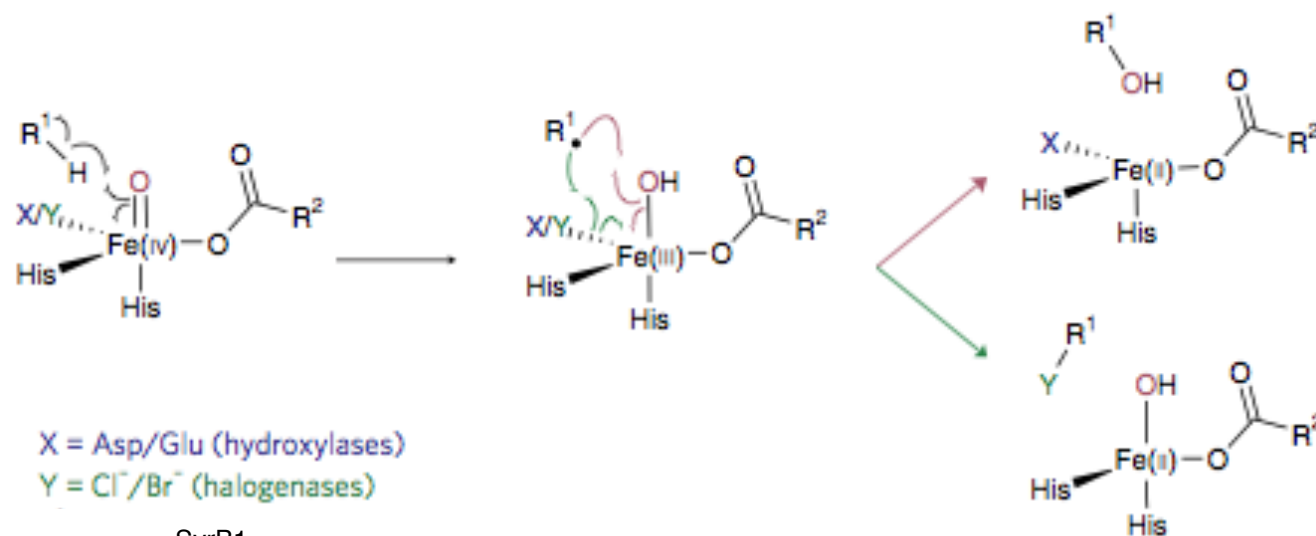
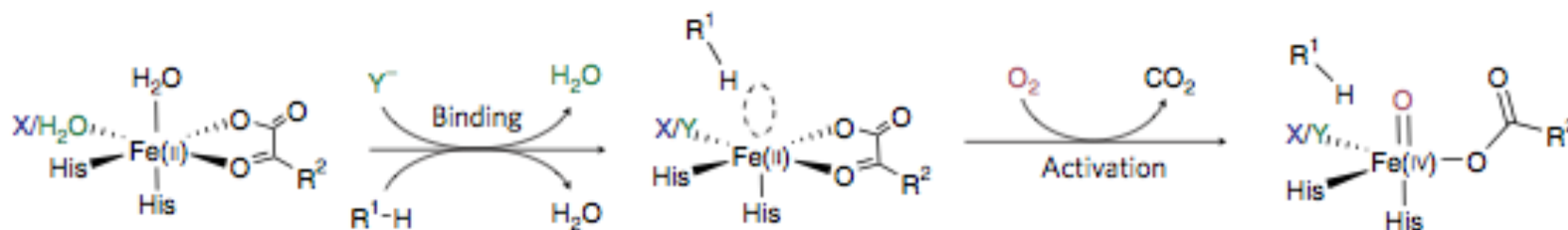
Harnessing non-specific catalysis for C-N₃ bond formation

- Halogenase SyrB2 from *Pseudomonas syringae* B301D
- Haloferryl complex facilitates H[•] abstraction
- Activation of inert aliphatic C-H bonds NO₂ and N₃
- Yields of 20% for azidation and 52% for nitration



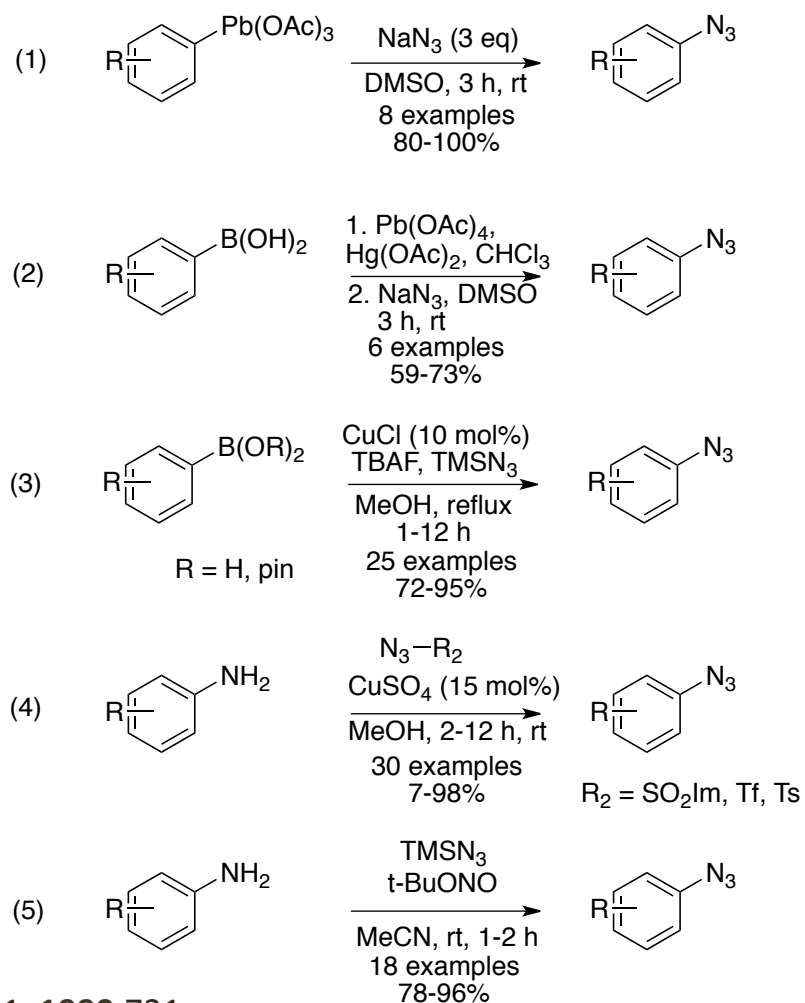
Nature Chem. Biol., 2014, 209

Mechanism



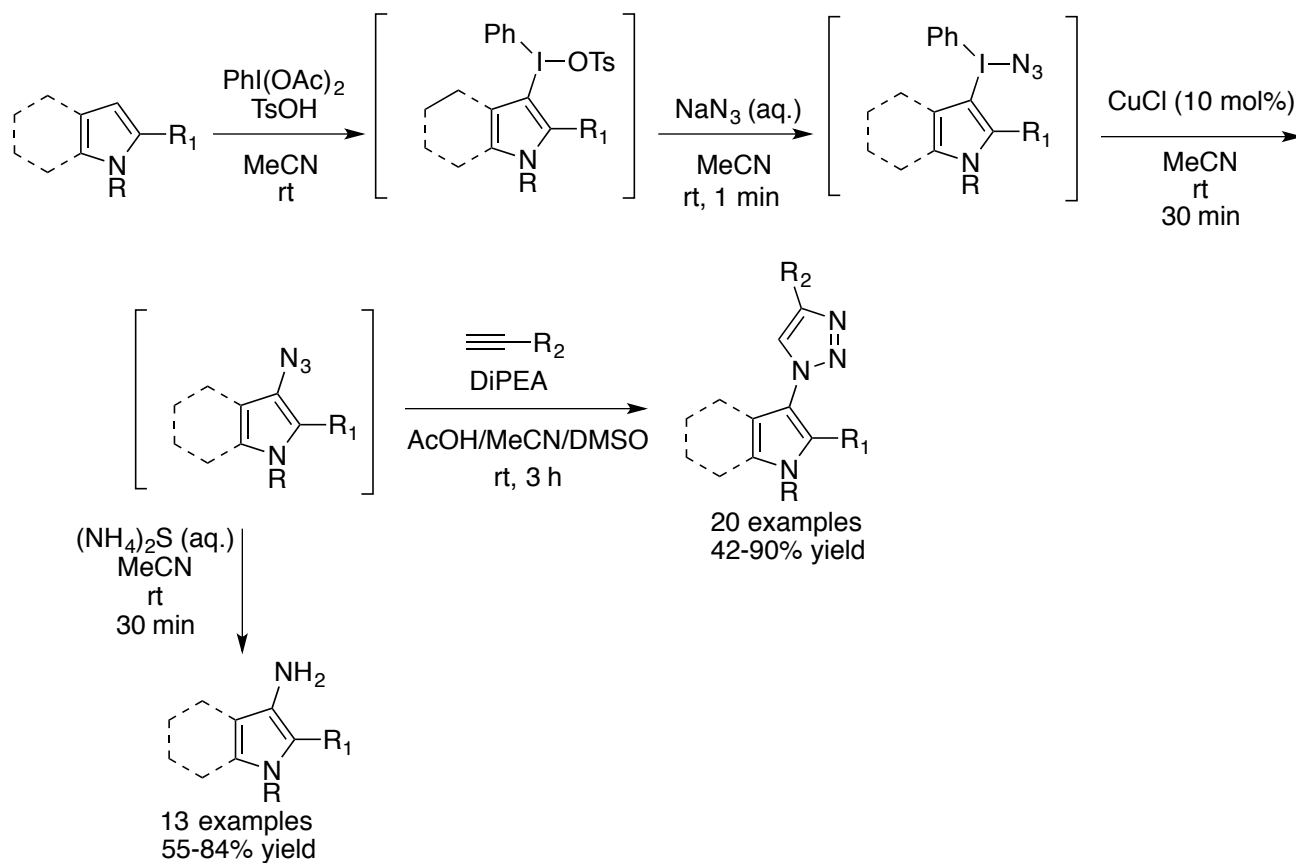
Aryl C-H azidation

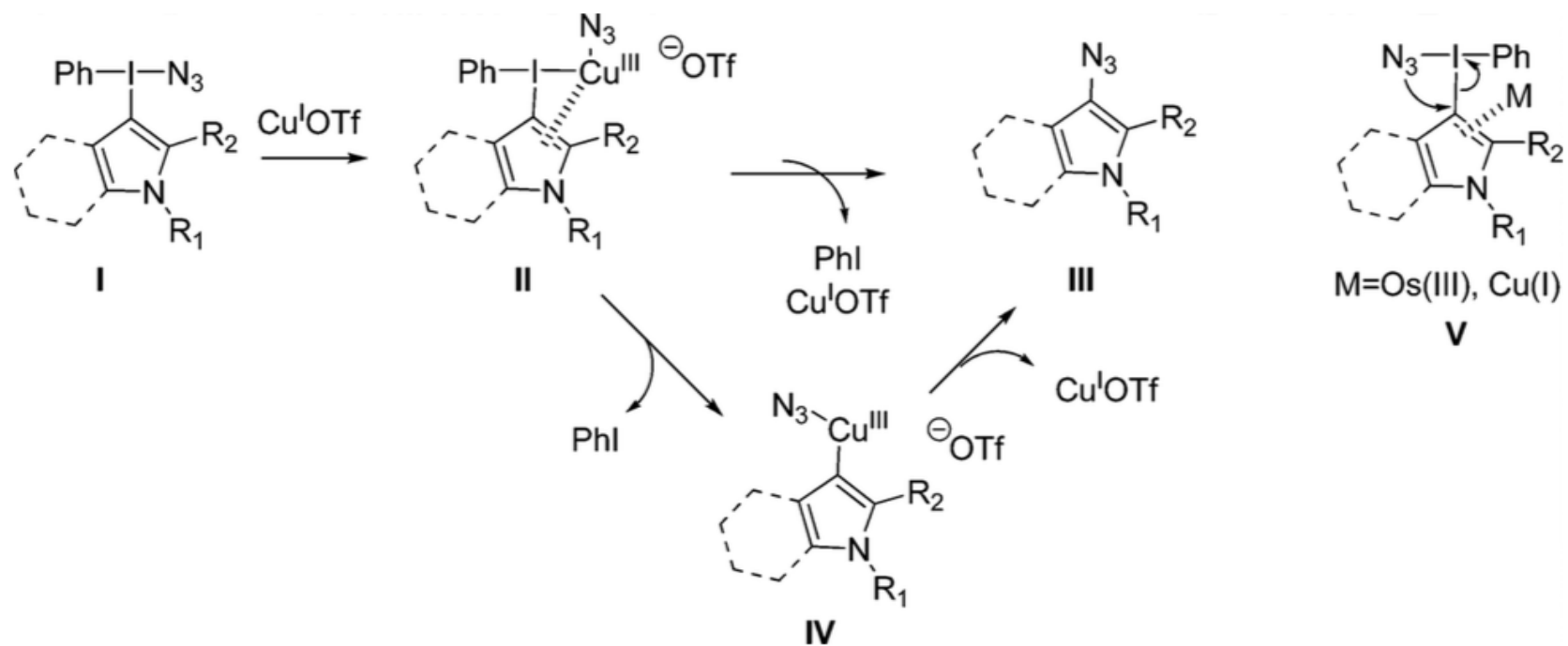
Indirect C-H azidation



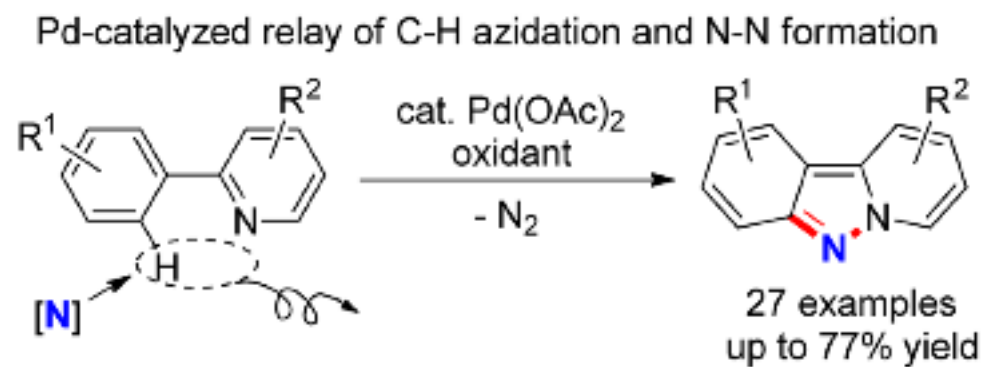
J. Chem. Soc., Perkin Trans 1. **1990**:721
Org. Lett., **2007**, 3797
Chem. Eur. J. **2010**, 7969

C-H to C-N bond formation via C-N₃

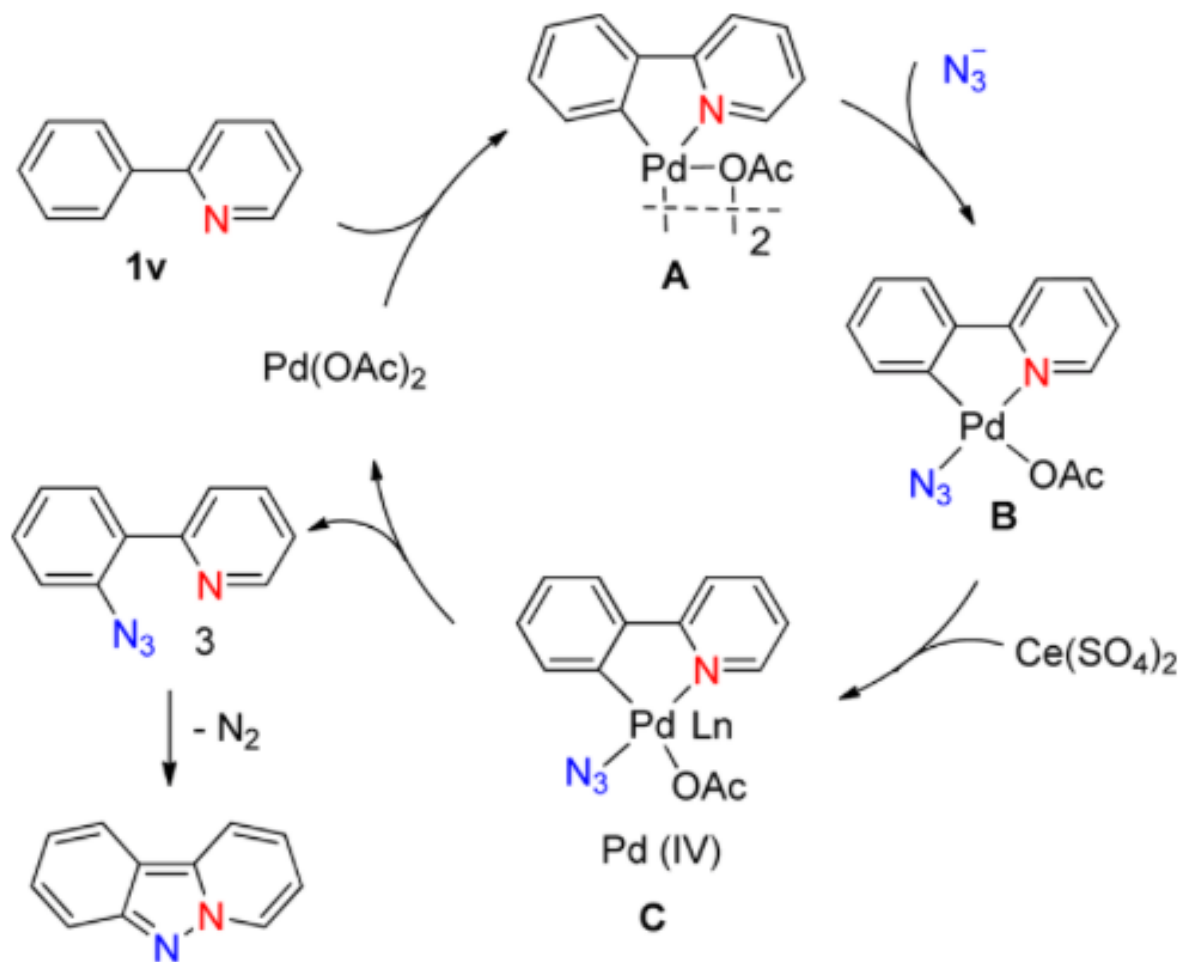




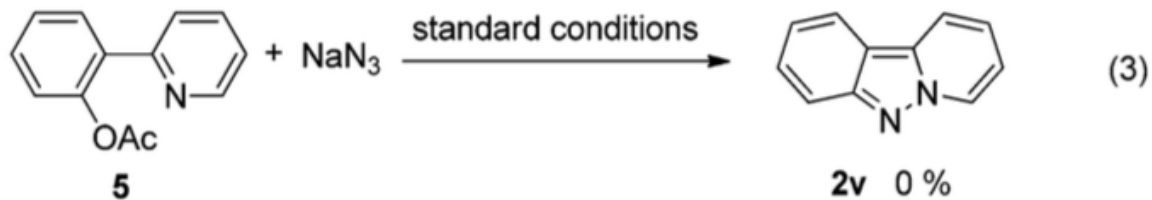
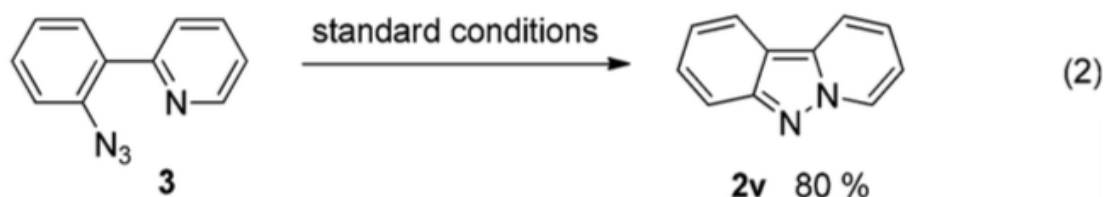
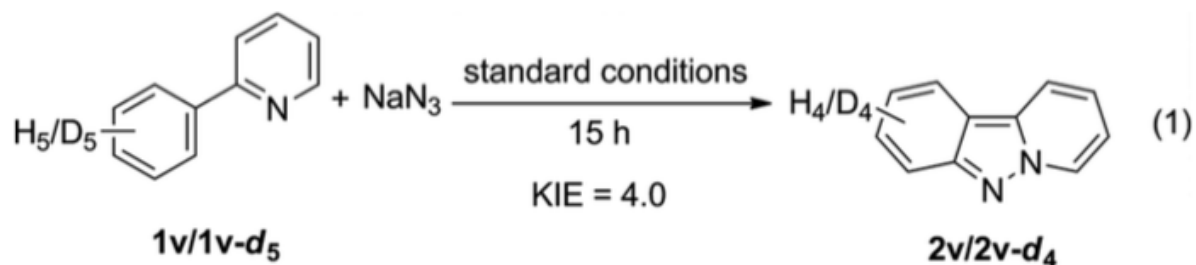
C-H to C-N bond formation via C-N₃



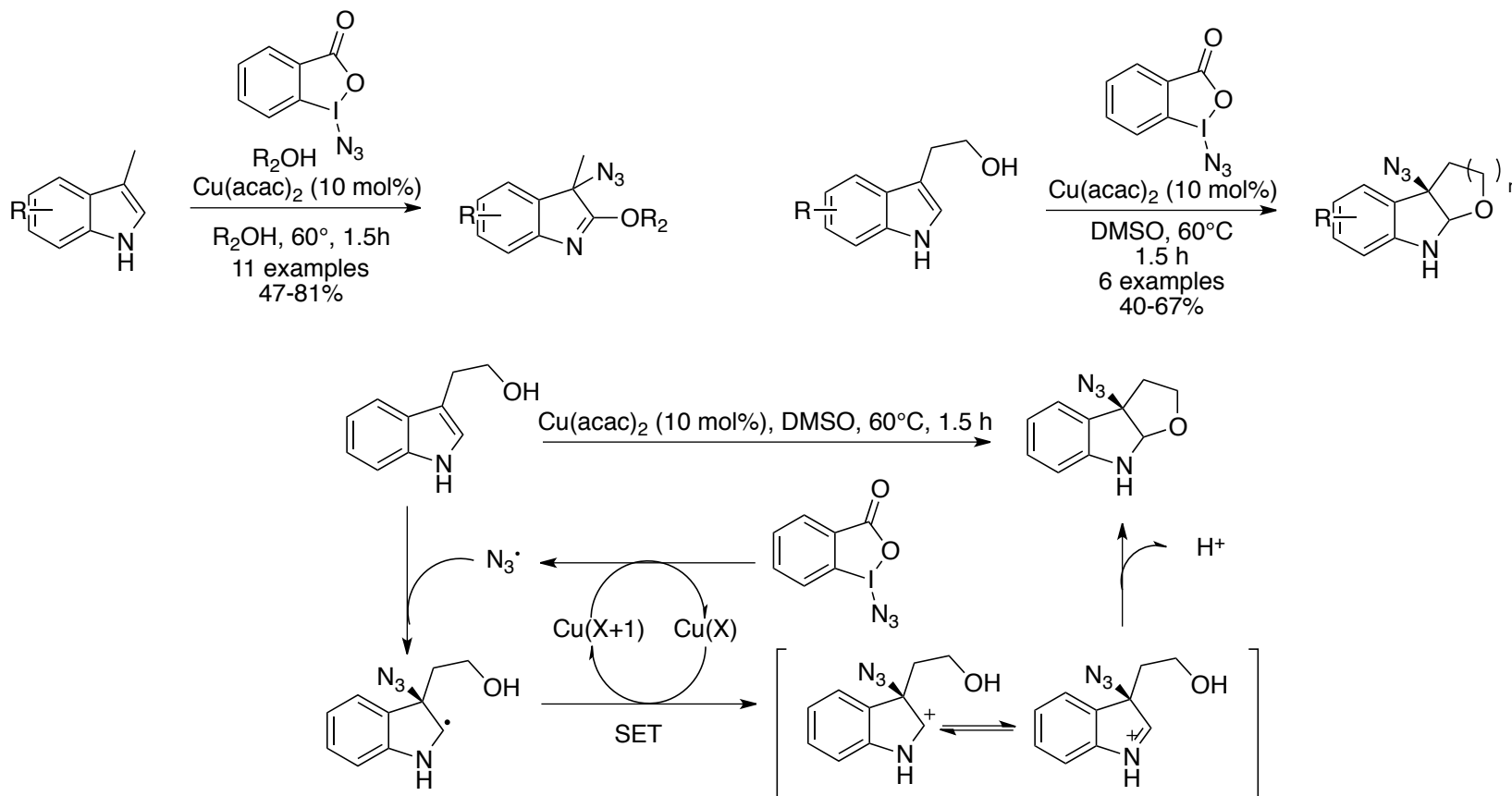
Aromatic C-H Azidation



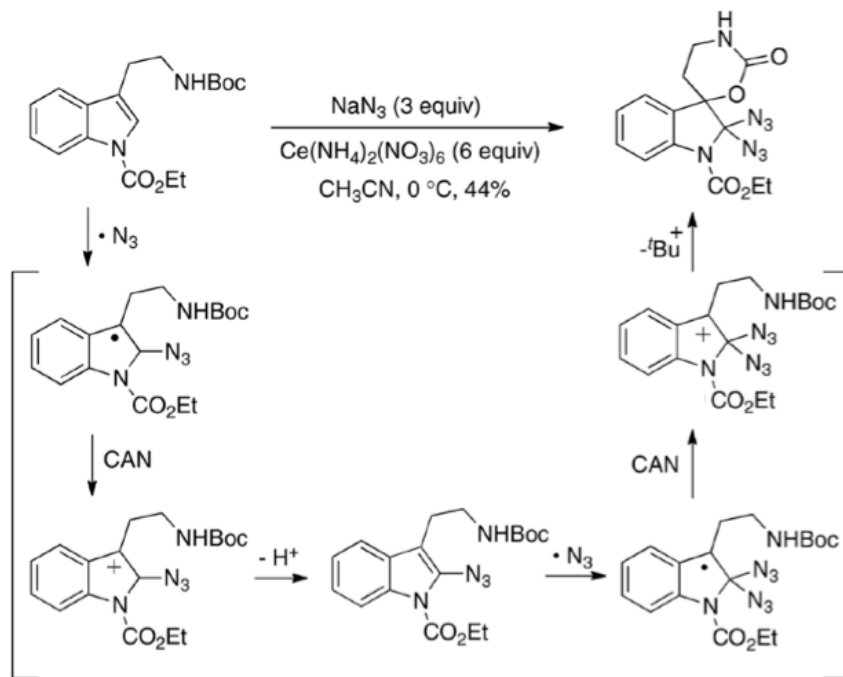
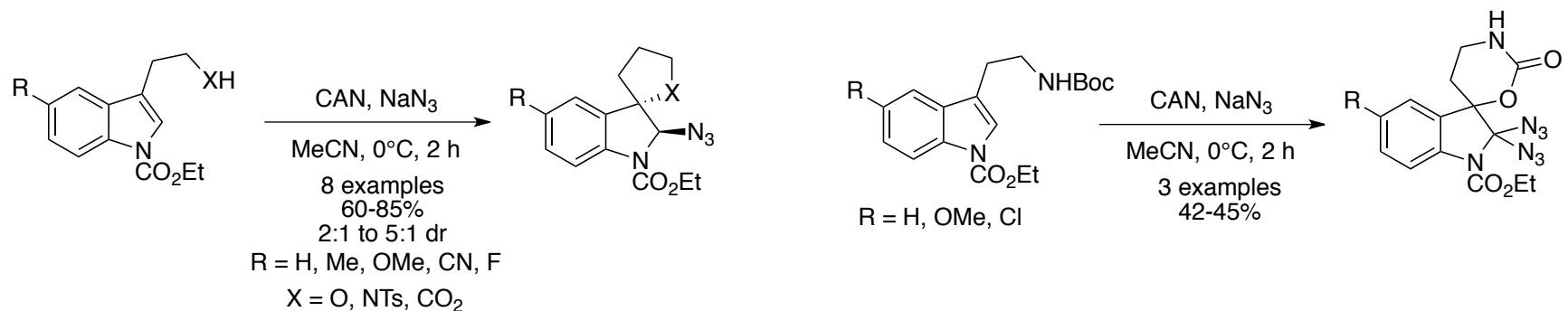
Aromatic C-H Azidation



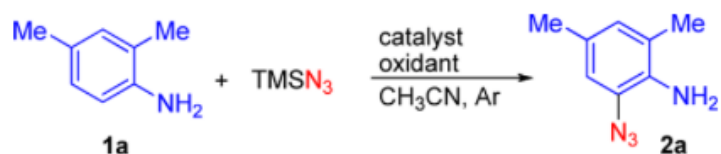
Indole oxoazidation



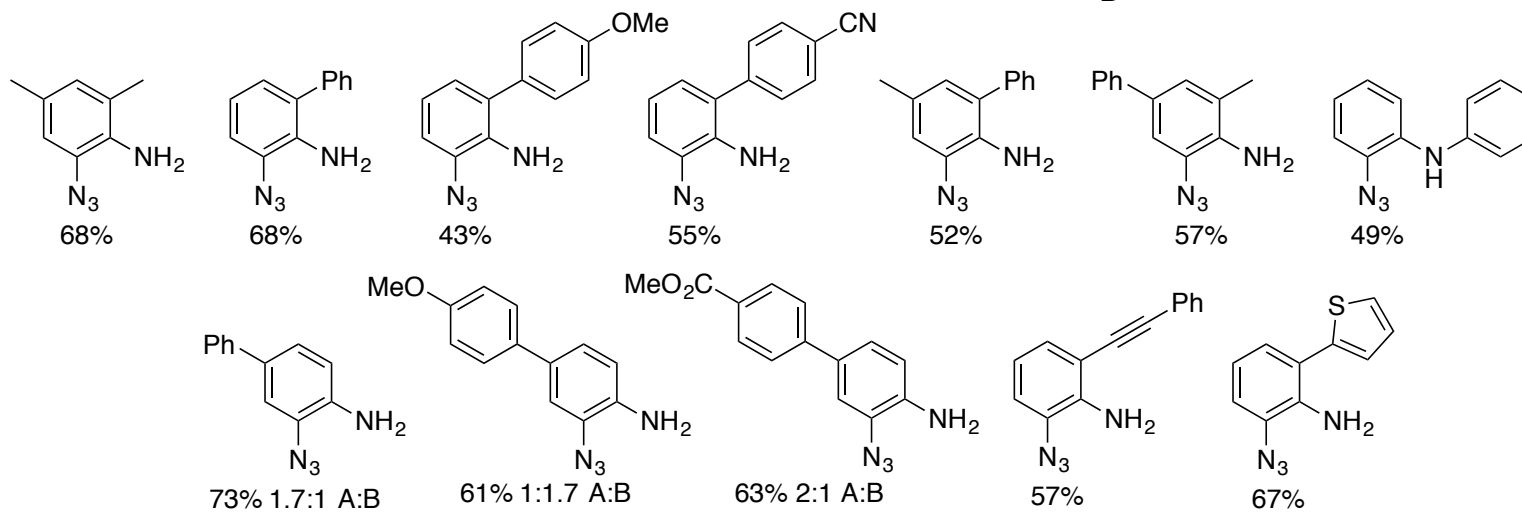
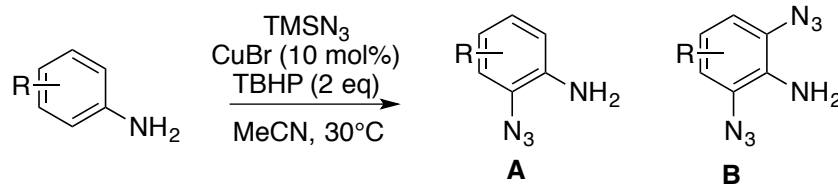
Indole oxoazidation



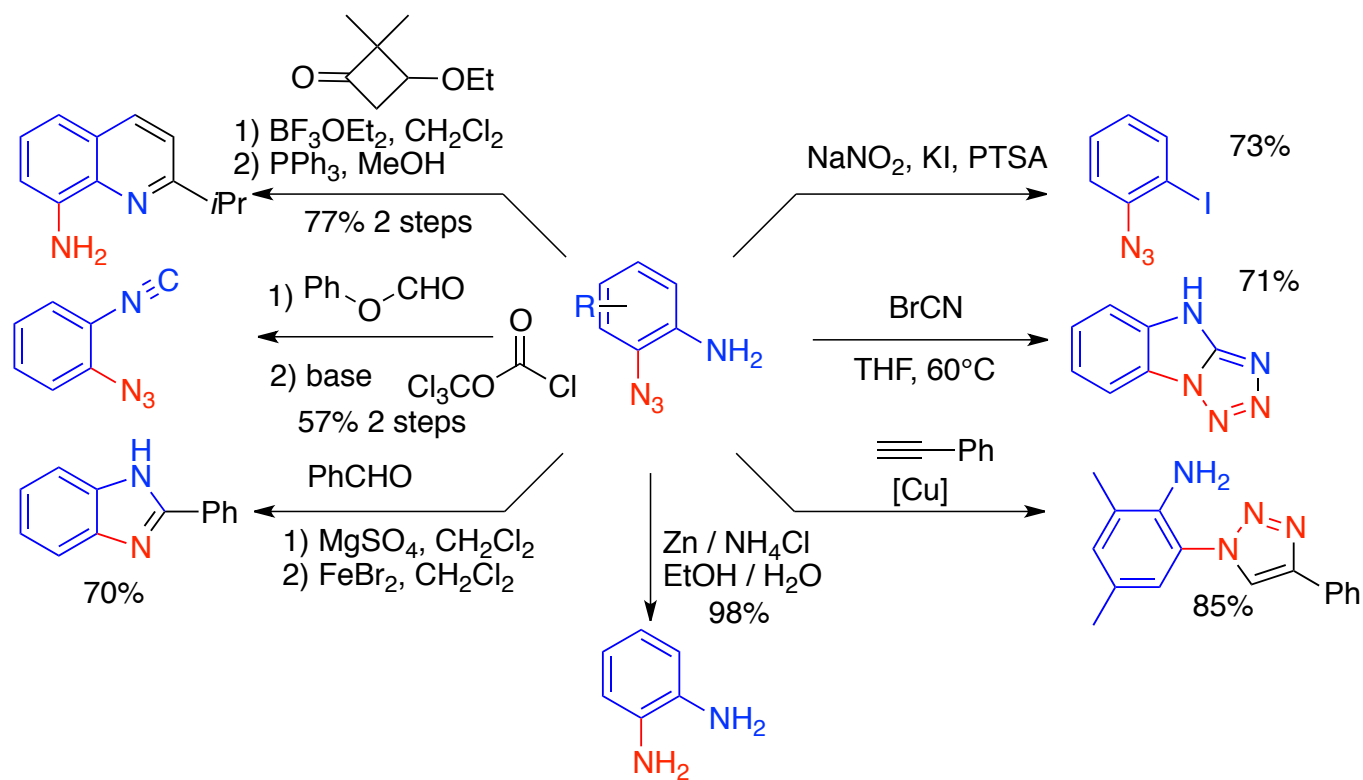
C-H azidation of anilines



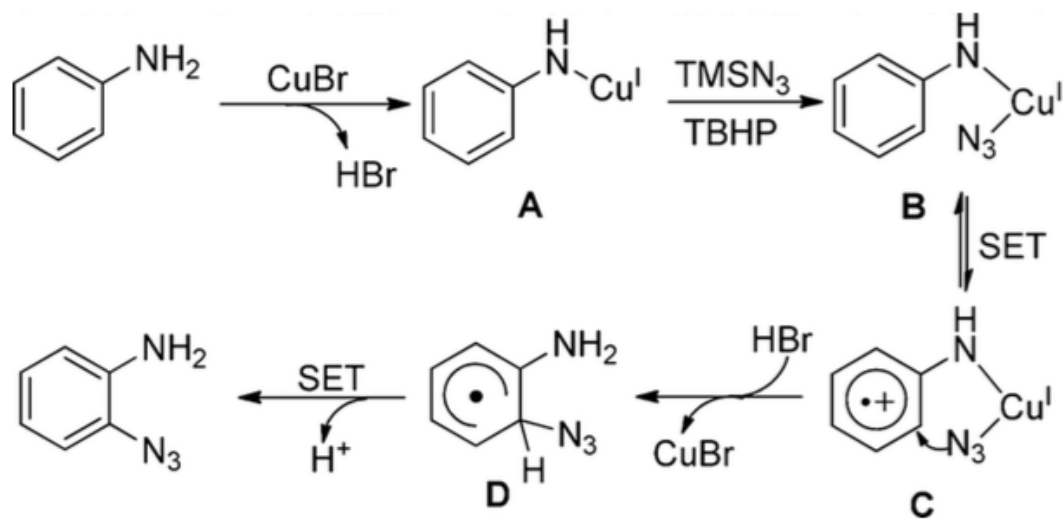
entry	catalyst (mol %)	oxidant (equiv)	T (°C)	time (h)	yield (%) ^b
1	CuBr (10)	TBHP (2.0)	60	12	28
2	CuBr (10)	TBHP (2.0)	30	12	27
3	CuBr (10)	TBHP (2.0)	30	1	56
4	CuBr (10)	TBHP (2.0)	30	2	68
5	CuBr (10)	TBHP (1.2)	30	2	54
6	CuBr (5)	TBHP (2.0)	30	2	40
7	CuCl (10)	TBHP (2.0)	30	2	48
8	CuBr ₂ (10)	TBHP (2.0)	30	2	34
9	–	TBHP (2.0)	30	2	0
10	FeCl ₂ (10)	TBHP (2.0)	30	2	0



Further modifications

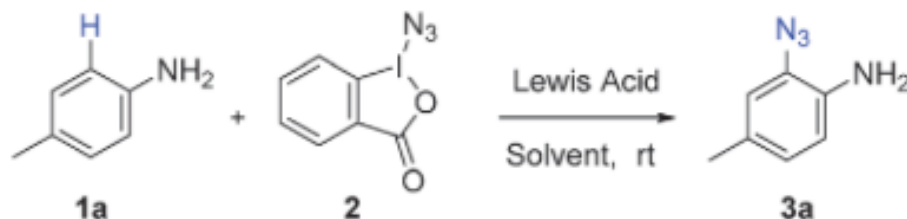


Proposed mechanism



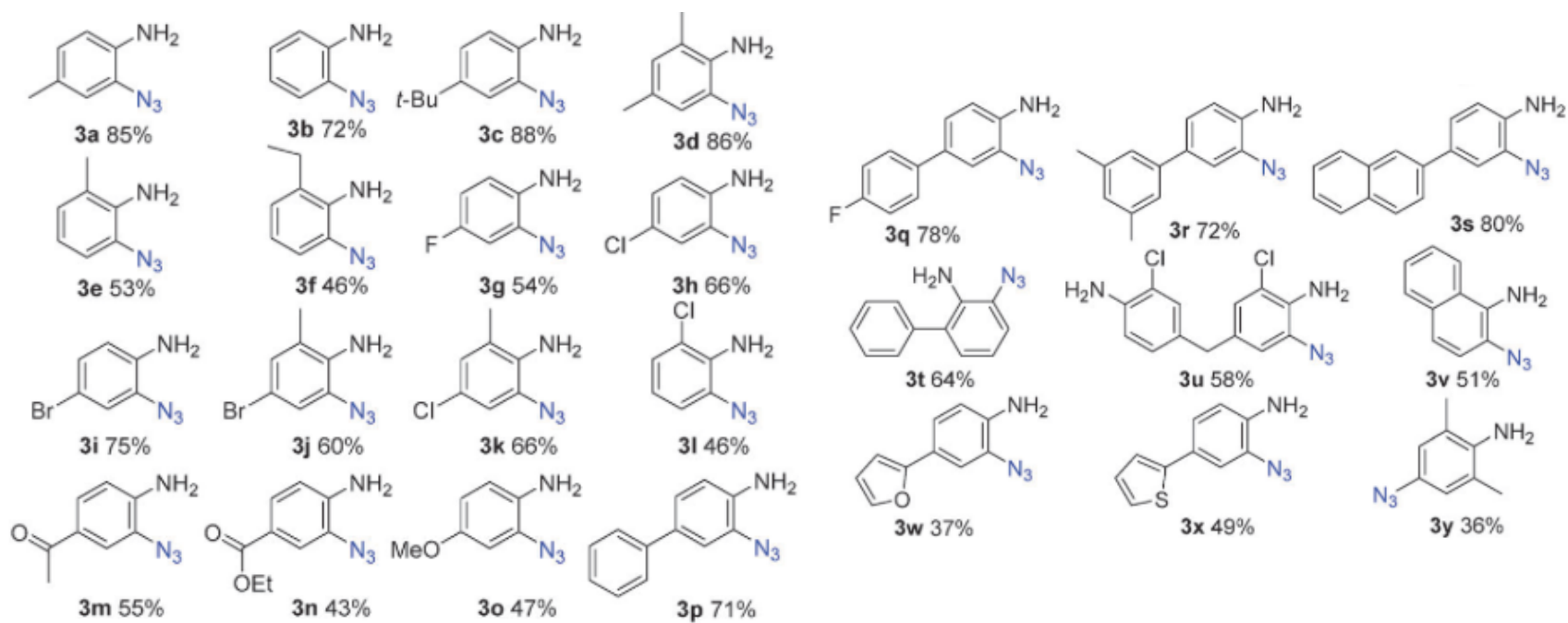
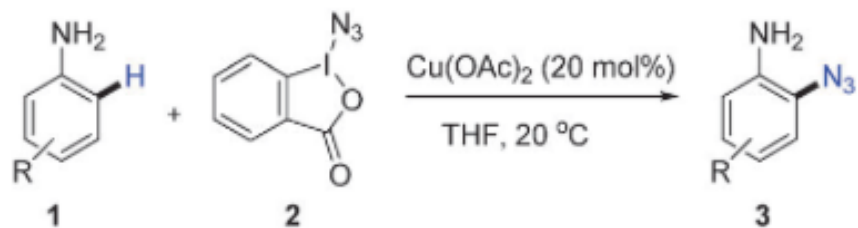
Mild C-H azidation of anilines

2:1 ratio **1a**:**2**

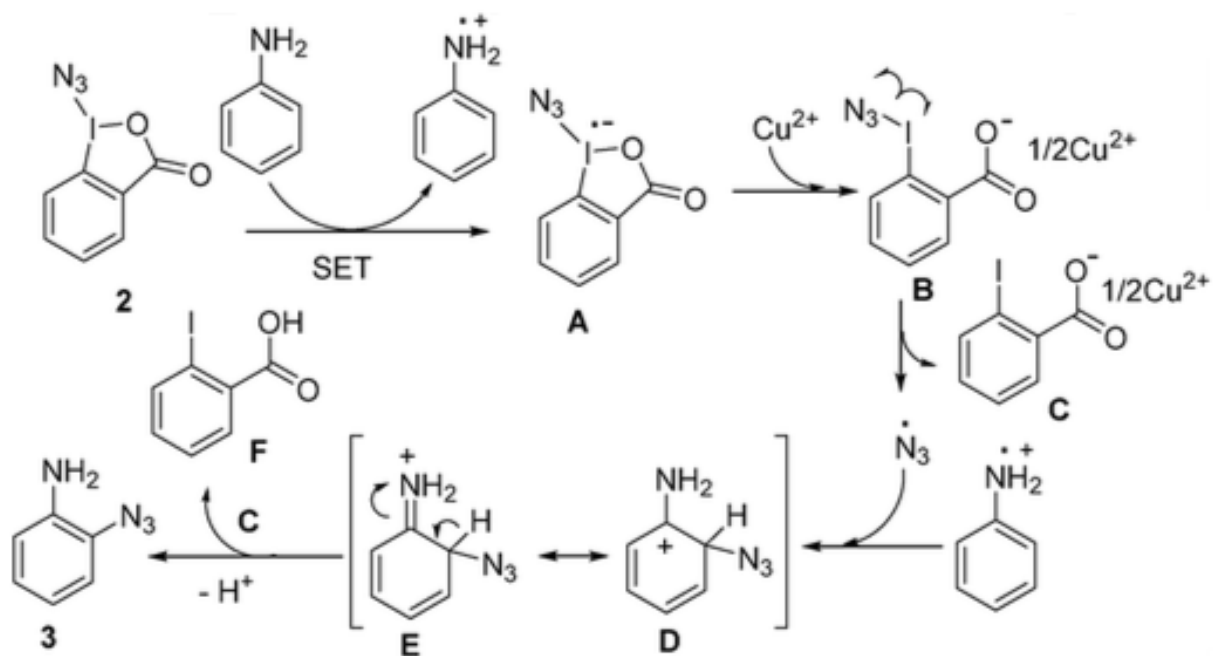


Entry	1a (equiv.)	Lewis acid (mol%)	Solvent	<i>T</i> (°C)	Yield ^b
1	1.0	None	CH ₃ CN	20	0
2	2	CuI (10)	CH ₃ CN	20	67
3	2	CuBr (10)	CH ₃ CN	20	59
4	2	CuCl (10)	CH ₃ CN	20	57
5	2	CuOAc (10)	CH ₃ CN	20	52
6	2	Fe(ClO ₄) ₃ (10)	CH ₃ CN	20	0
7	2	Zn(ClO ₄) ₂ ·6H ₂ O (10)	CH ₃ CN	20	0
8	2	ZnI ₂ (10)	CH ₃ CN	20	63
9	2	ZnCl ₂ (10)	CH ₃ CN	20	57
10	2	CuCl ₂ (10)	CH ₃ CN	20	45
11	2	CuSO ₄ (10)	CH ₃ CN	20	57
12	2	Cu(OAc) ₂ (10)	CH ₃ CN	20	72
13	2	Cu(OAc) ₂ (10)	CH ₂ Cl ₂	20	69
14	2	Cu(OAc) ₂ (10)	THF	20	79
15	2	Cu(OAc) ₂ (10)	MeOH	20	0
16	2	Cu(OAc) ₂ (20)	THF	20	85
17	2	Cu(OAc) ₂ (20)	THF	30	86
18	1.0	Cu(OAc) ₂ (20)	THF	20	57

^a Reagent **2** (0.3 mmol), 4-methyl aniline, catalyst, solvent, temperature and indicated solvents under N₂. ^b Isolated yield.

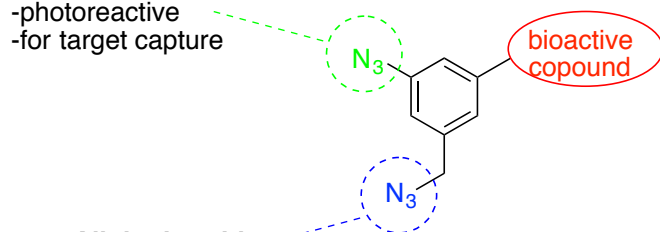


Proposed mechanism

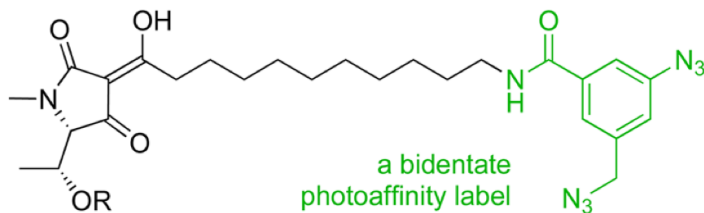


Azides for photoaffinity labeling

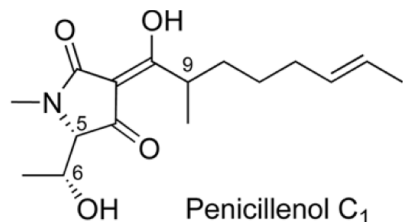
Aromatic azide
-photoreactive
-for target capture



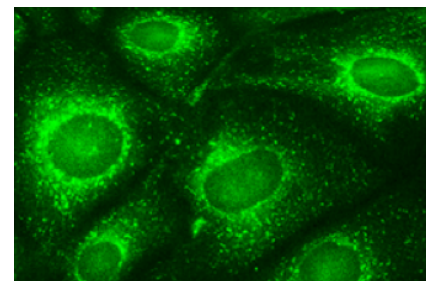
Aliphatic azide
-relatively photostable
-latent detectable tag



Penicillanol C₁ bis-azide analog



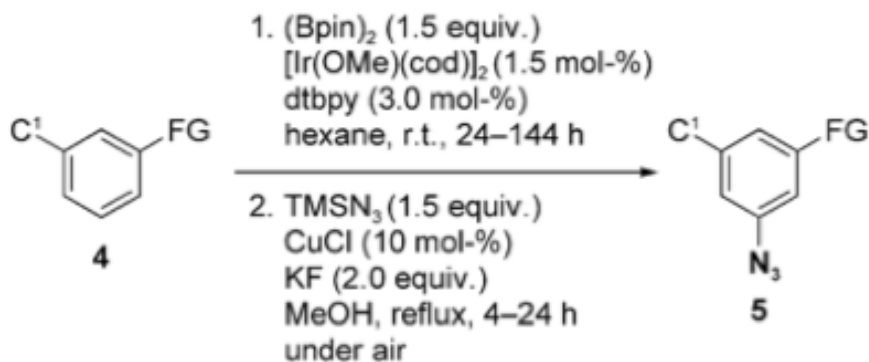
Penicillanol C₁



DyLight488- phosphine

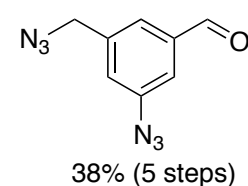
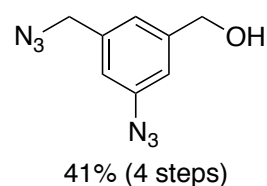
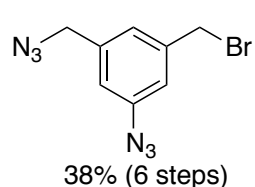
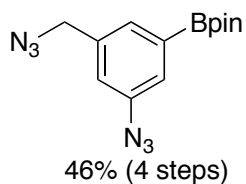
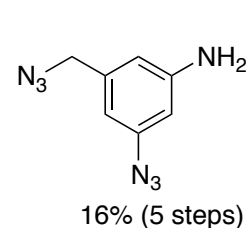
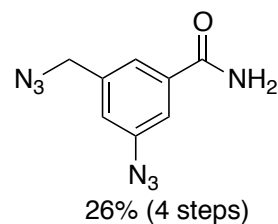
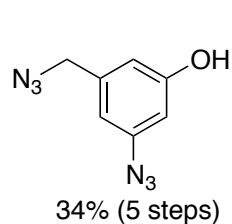
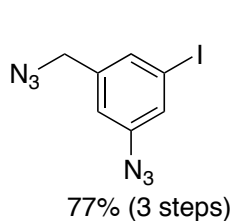
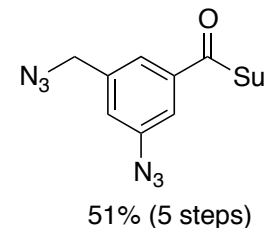
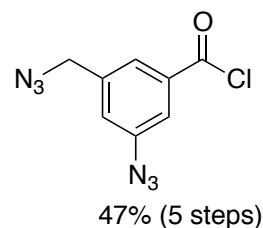
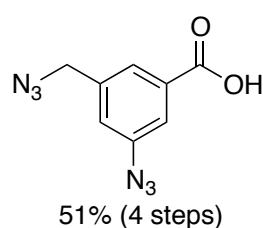
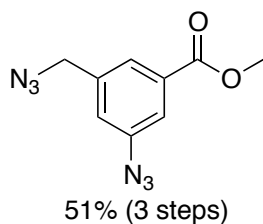
Eur. J. Org. Chem. **2014**, 3991
J. Org. Chem. **2013**, 2455

PAL diazide synthesis

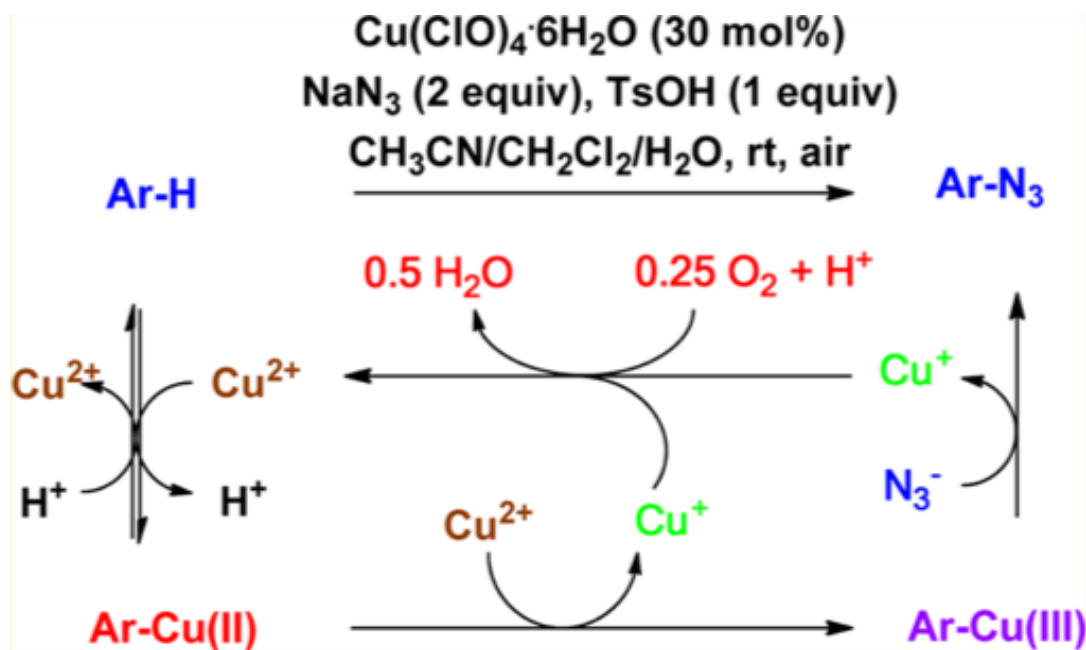


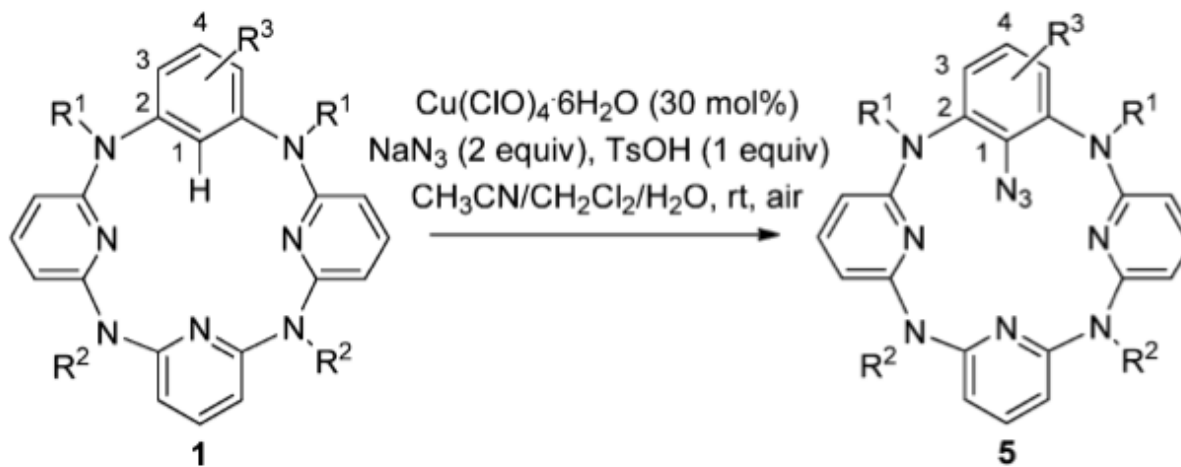
Entry	4	C ¹	FG	5	Yield [%] ^[a]
1	4a	CO ₂ Et	I	5a	91
2	4b	CO ₂ Me	Br	5b	96
3	4c	CH ₃	CO ₂ Me	5c	95
4	4d	CH ₃	CN	5d	70
5	4e	CO ₂ Et	SCPh ₃	5e	0 ^[b]
6	4f	CH ₃	CH ₂ OH	5f	0 ^[b]

[a] Yield of isolated product. [b] The borylation did not proceed and the starting material was not consumed.



Cu(III)-catalyzed C-H azidation

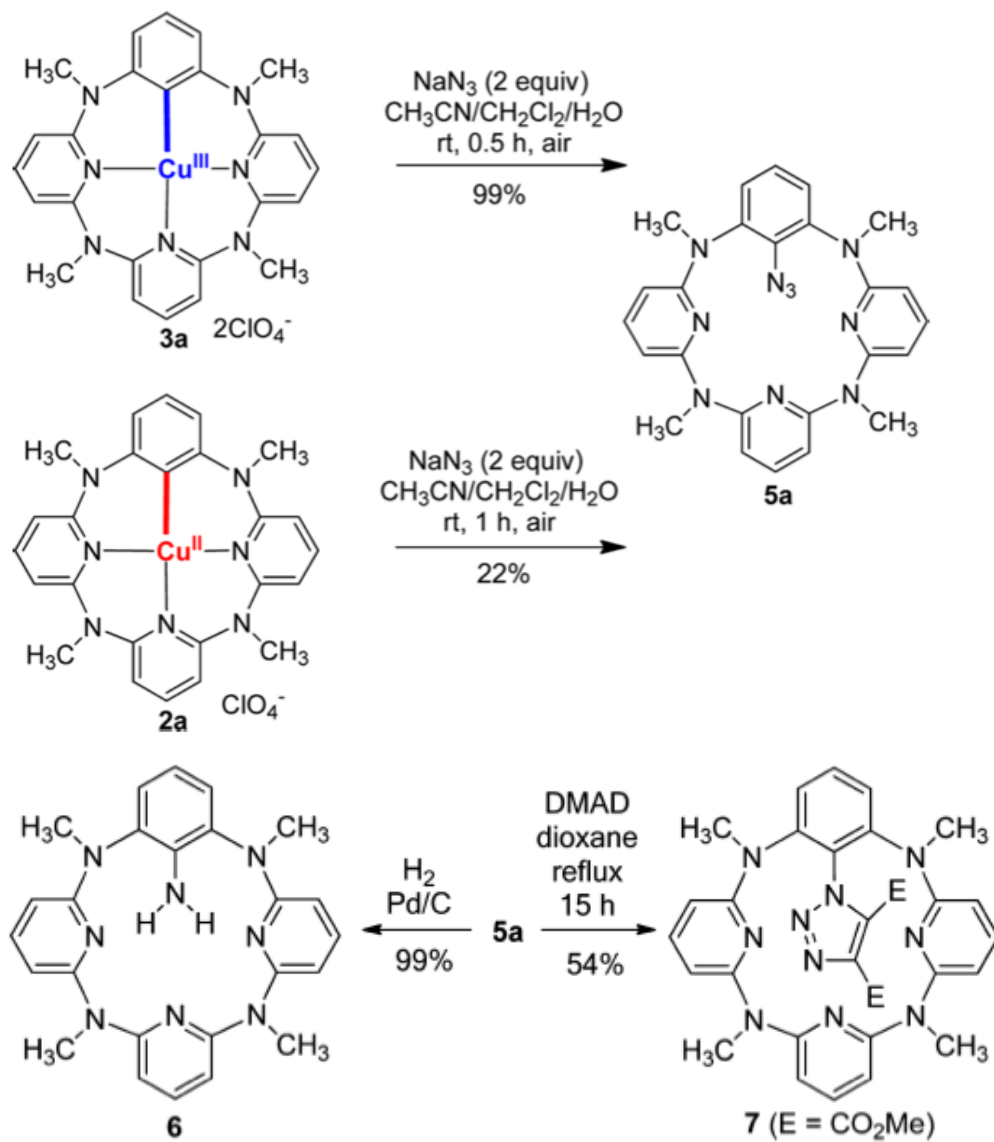


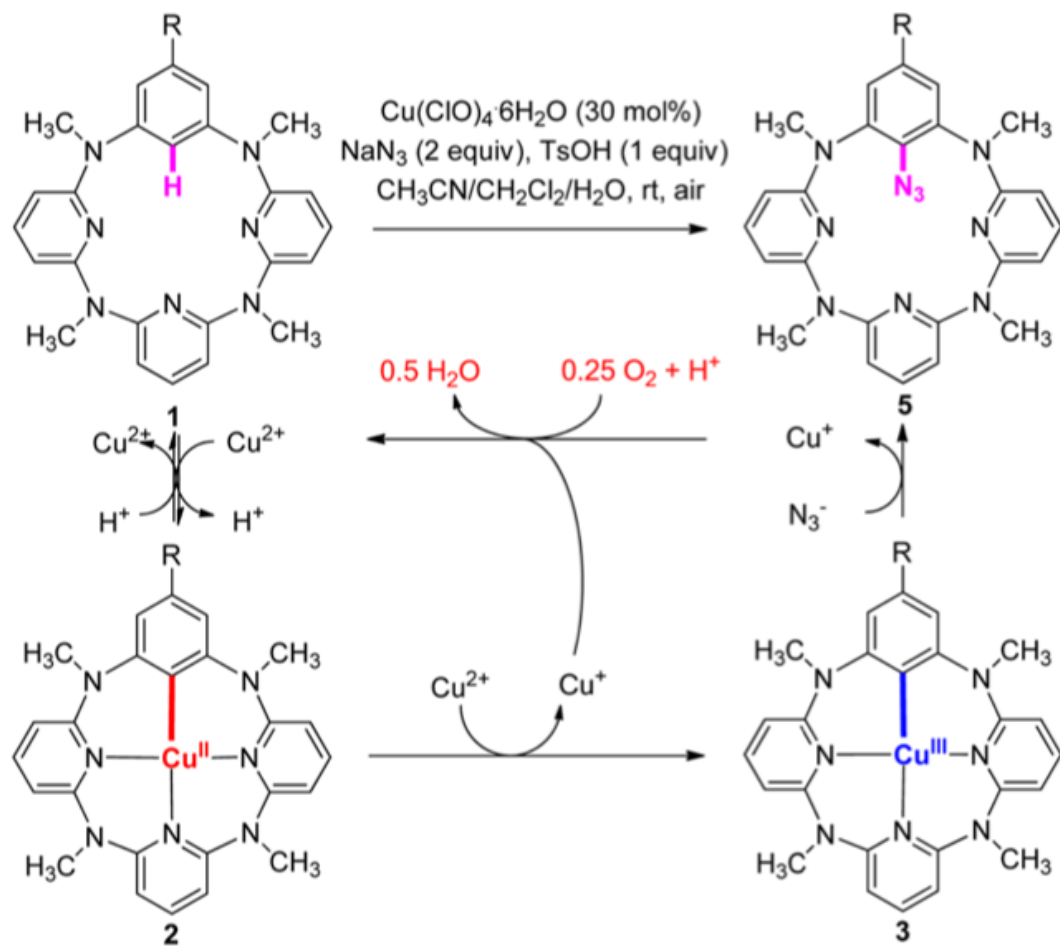


entry	1	substituents	<i>t</i> (h)	yield of 5 (%)
1 ^a	1a	R ¹ = R ² = CH ₃ , R ³ = H	16	5a (94)
2	1a	R ¹ = R ² = CH ₃ , R ³ = H	24	5a (98)
3	1b	R ¹ = R ² = CH ₃ , R ³ = 4-Me	24	5b (99)
4	1c	R ¹ = R ² = CH ₃ , R ³ = 3-Me	24	5c (94)
5	1d	R ¹ = R ² = CH ₃ , R ³ = 4-Cl	24	5d (90)
6	1e	R ¹ = R ² = CH ₃ , R ³ = 3-Cl	48	5e (93)
7 ^b	1f	R ¹ = CH ₃ , R ² = CH ₂ Ph, R ³ = H	20	5f (87)
8	1f	R ¹ = CH ₃ , R ² = CH ₂ Ph, R ³ = H	20	5f (83)
9	1g	R ¹ = CH ₂ Ph, R ² = CH ₃ , R ³ = H	24	5g (96)
10	1h	R ¹ = H, R ² = Boc, R ³ = H	20	5h (80)
11	1i	R ¹ = H, R ² = Boc, R ³ = 3-Br	20	5i (88)

^aAqueous perchloric acid (1 M, 0.1 mL) was used as an additive.

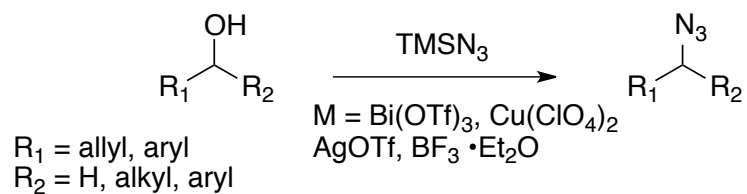
^bAqueous perchloric acid (1 M, 0.1 mL) and 0.1 mL water were used.



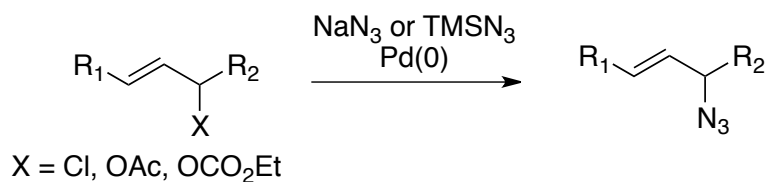


Allylic C-H Azidation

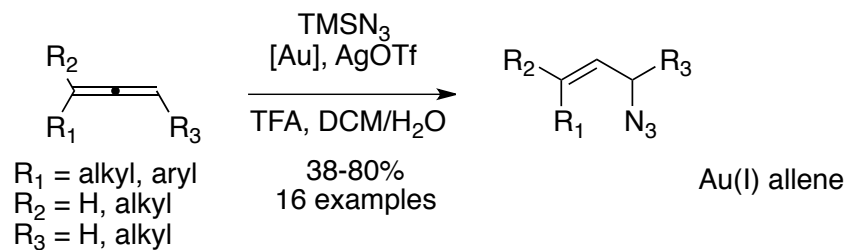
Allylic azidations



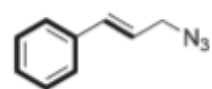
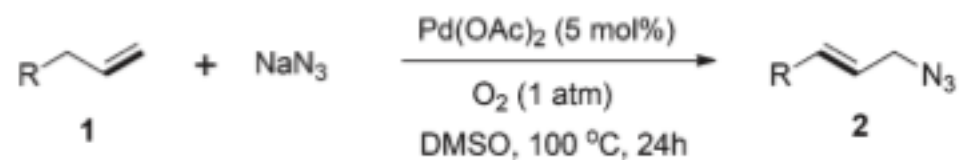
Carbocation mechanism



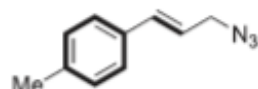
π -allyl mechanism



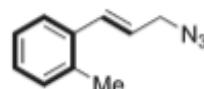
Pd-catalyzed allylic C-H azidation



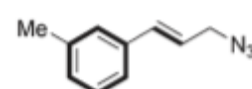
2a, 92 %



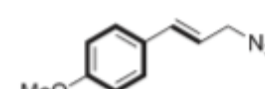
2b, 90 %



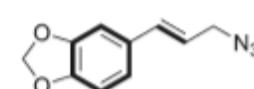
2c, 82 %



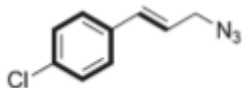
2d, 81 %



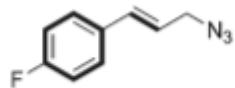
2e, 67 %



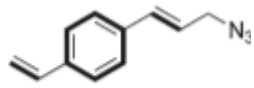
2f, 84 %



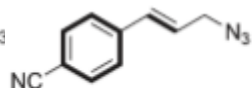
2g, 88 %



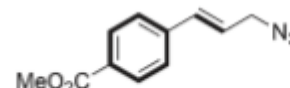
2h, 89 %



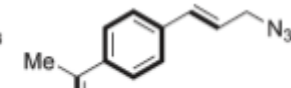
2i, 83 %



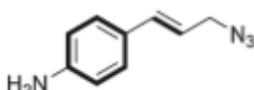
2j, 57 %



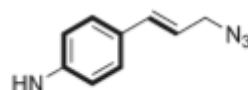
2k, 65 %



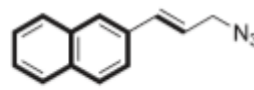
2l, 69 %



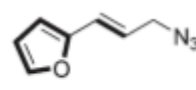
2m, 53 %



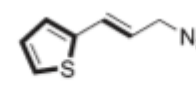
2n, 52 %



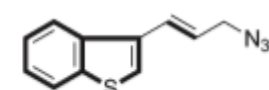
2o, 81 %



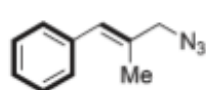
2p, 74 %



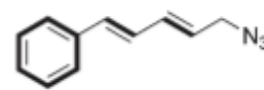
2q, 89 %



2r, 52 %

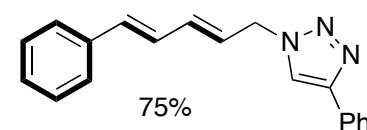
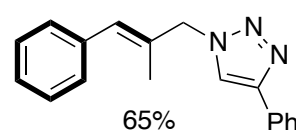
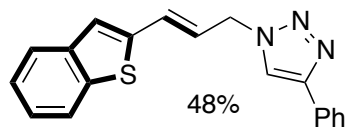
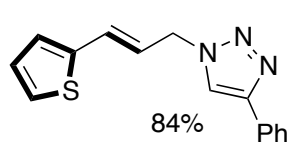
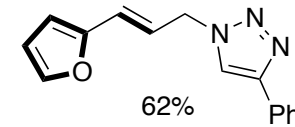
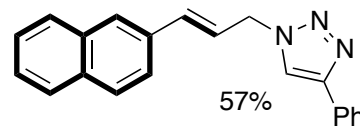
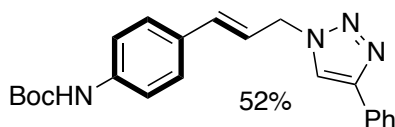
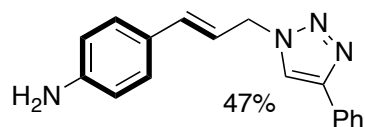
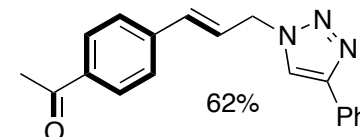
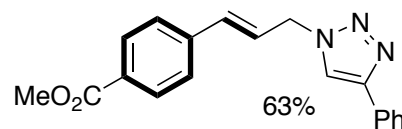
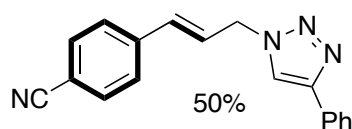
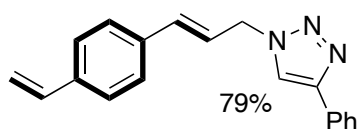
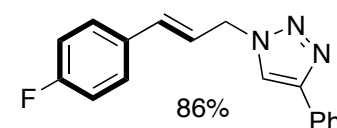
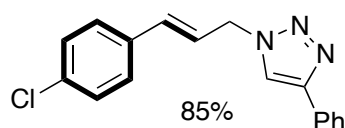
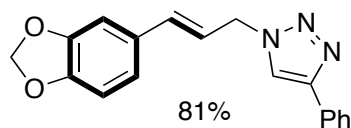
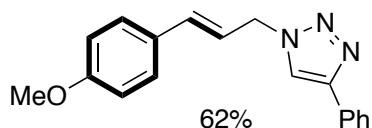
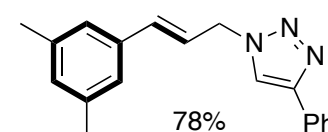
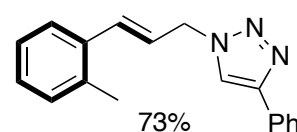
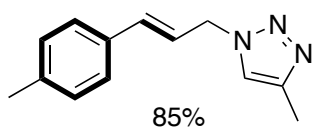
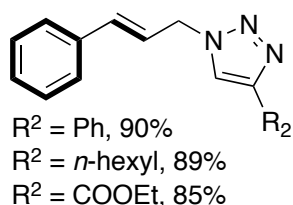
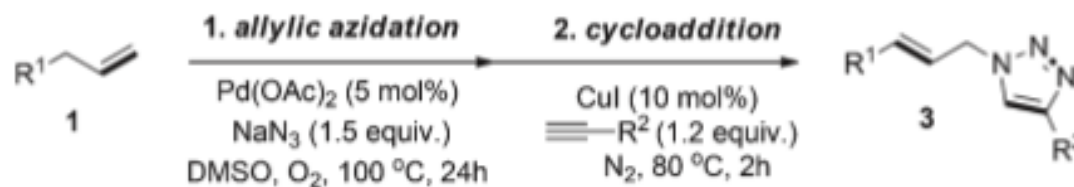


2s, 71 %



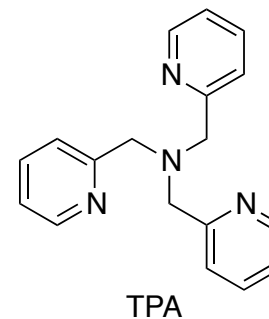
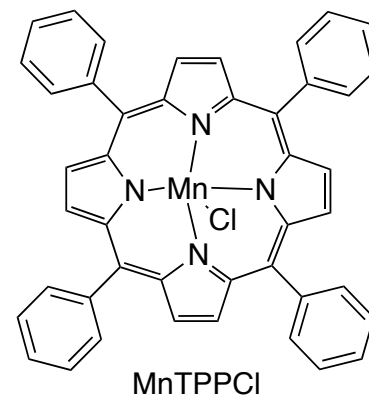
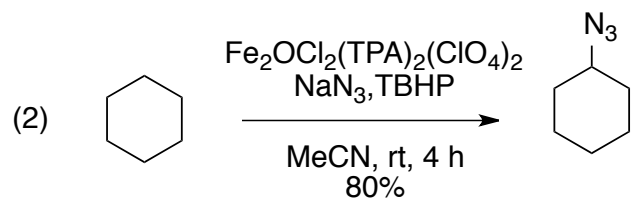
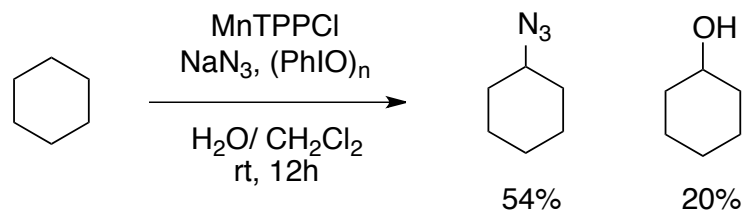
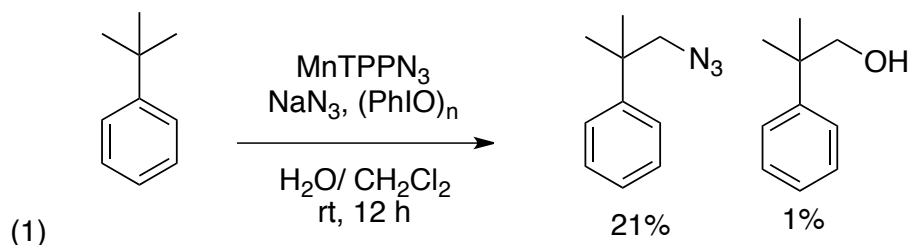
2t, 77 %

Pd-catalyzed allylic C-H azidation



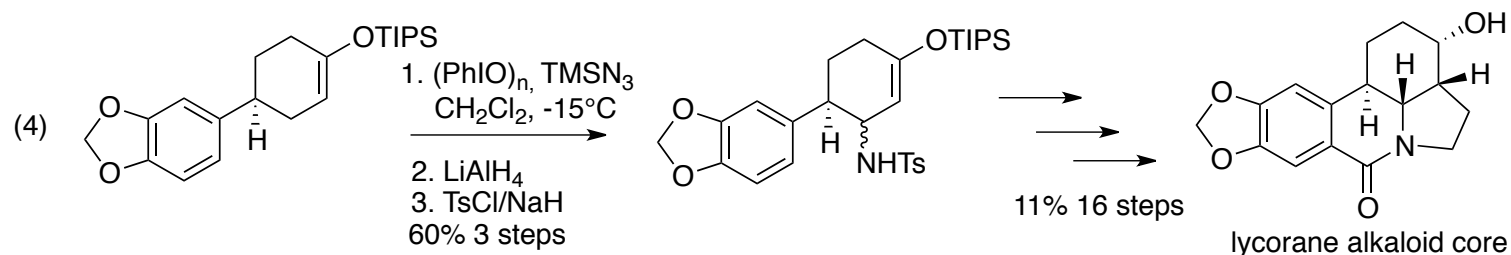
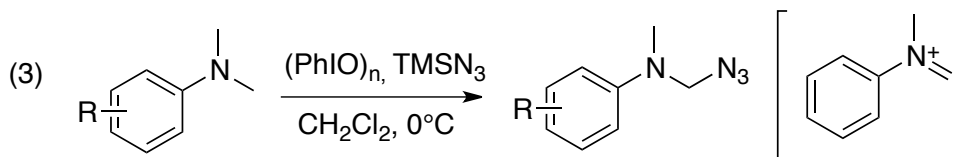
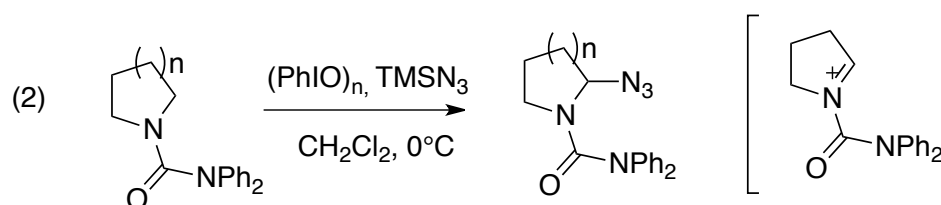
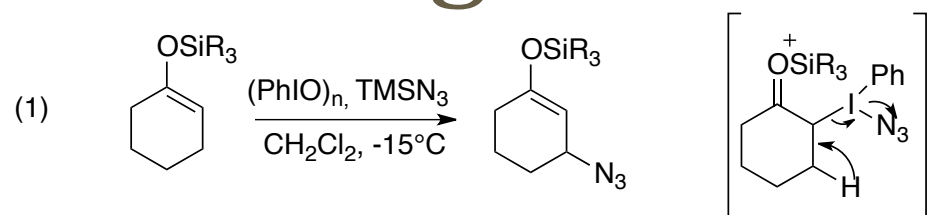
C_{sp^3} -H azidation

Transition metal C-H azidation



1. J. Org. Chem., **1983**, 48, 3277-3281
2. J. Am. Chem. Soc., **1993**, 115, 11328-11335

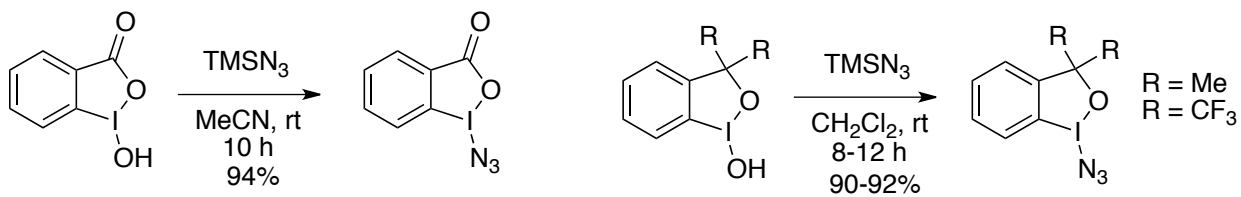
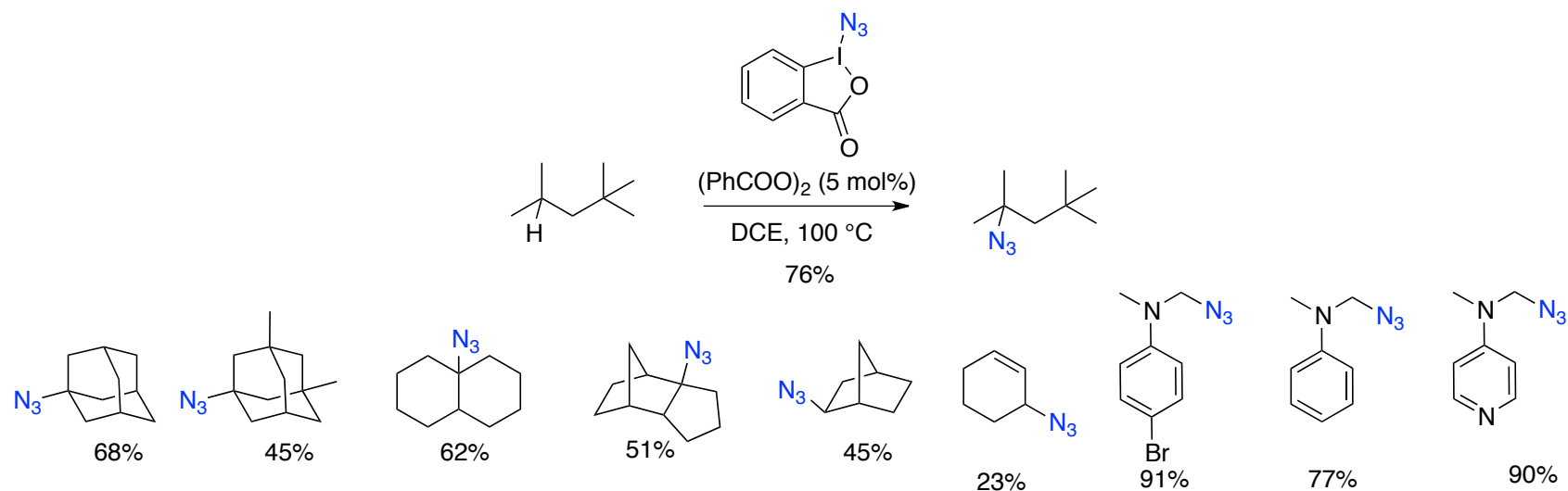
Early work: Magnus



1. J. Am. Chem. Soc. **1992**, 767
2. J. Am. Chem. Soc. **1994**, 4301
3. Synthesis **1998**, 547
4. Tetrahedron **1999**, 13927
J. Am. Chem. Soc., **1998**, 12486

instability of $\text{PhI}(\text{N}_3)_2$ above 0°C

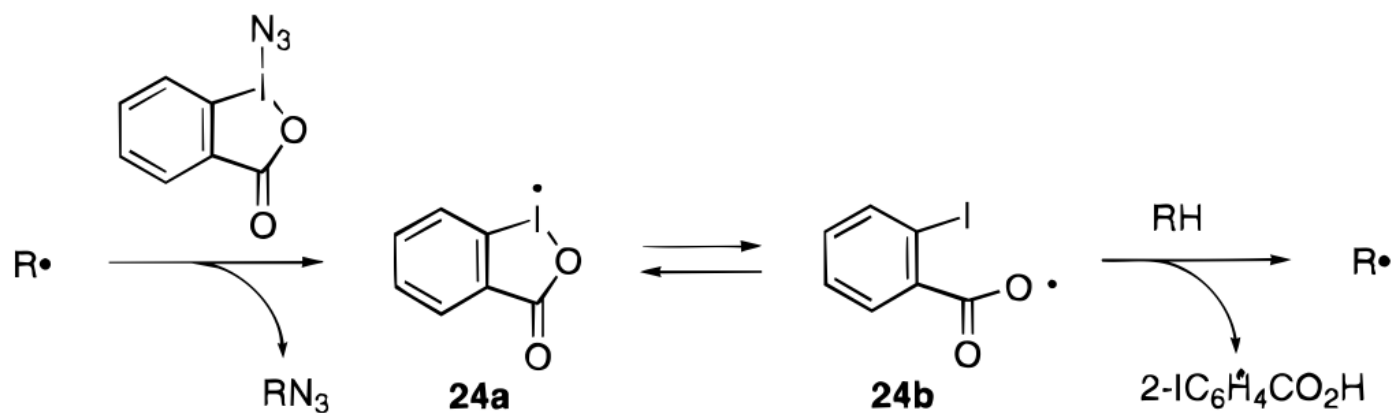
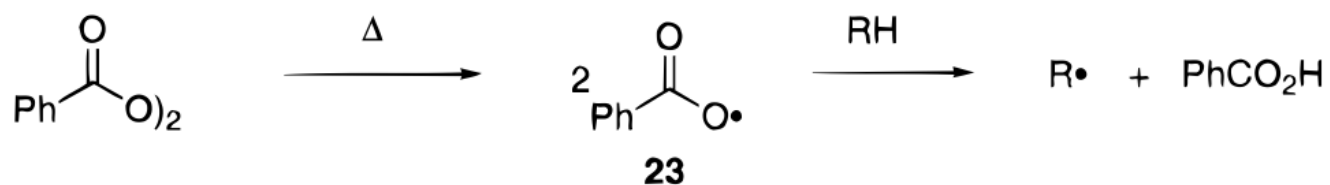
Zhdankin's Iodinanes



Tet. Lett. **1994**, 9677
 Synlett, **1995**, 1081
 J. Am. Chem. Soc. **1996**, 5192

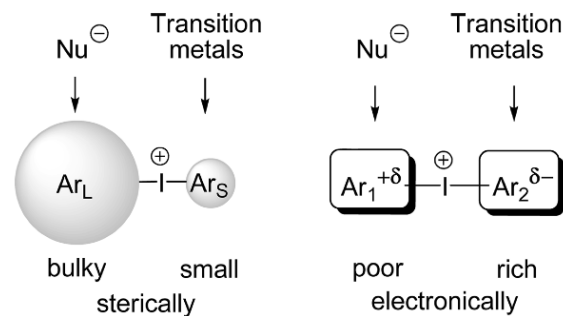
- thermally stable up to 130°C
- readily prepared
- crystalline solids

Mechanism



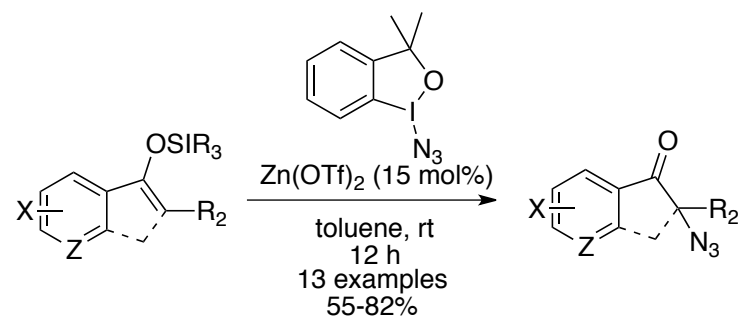
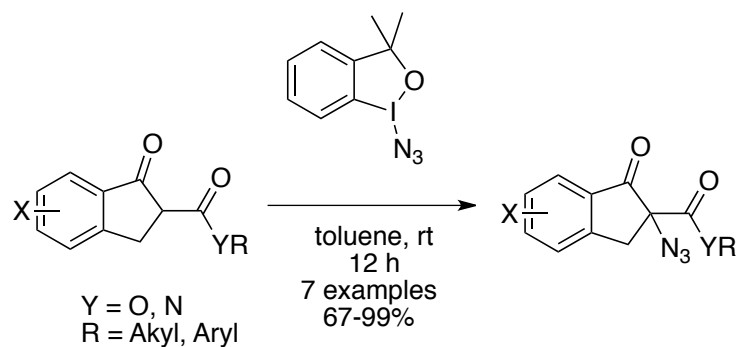
Hypervalent Iodine reagents

- Used in general oxidations of alcohols (IBX, DMP)
- Oxidative cleavage of diols (NaIO_4 , DMP, $\text{PhI}(\text{OAc})_2$)
- Halogenation/trifluoromethylation (Togni's Reagent, PhIF_2 , PhICl_2)
- Equivalent to organohalide in transition metal-catalyzed coupling of aryl and alkynyl iodonium salts

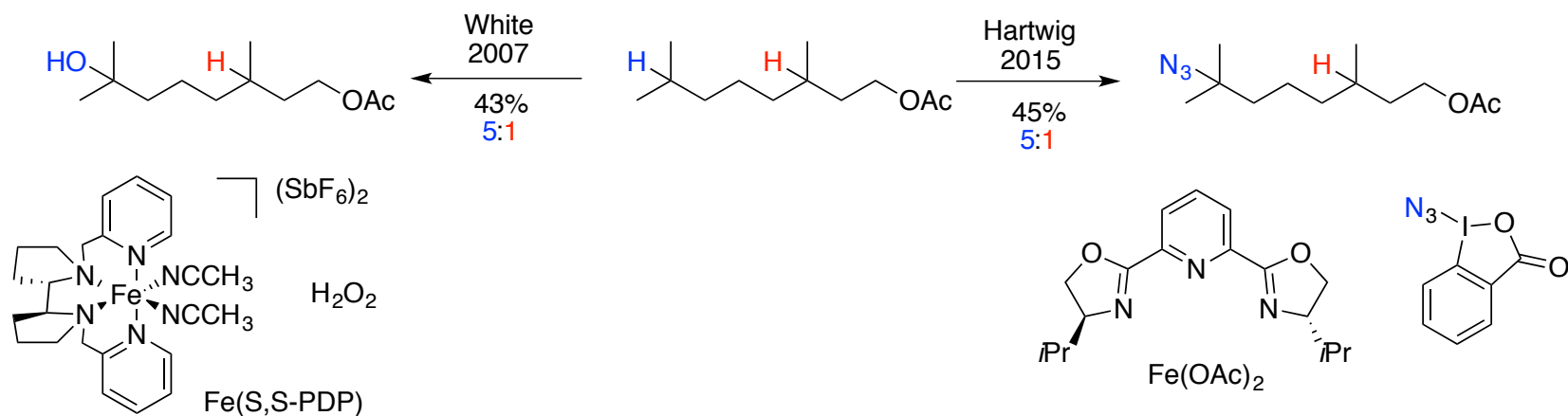


$\text{Nu} = \text{N}_3$ w/ TM catalysis

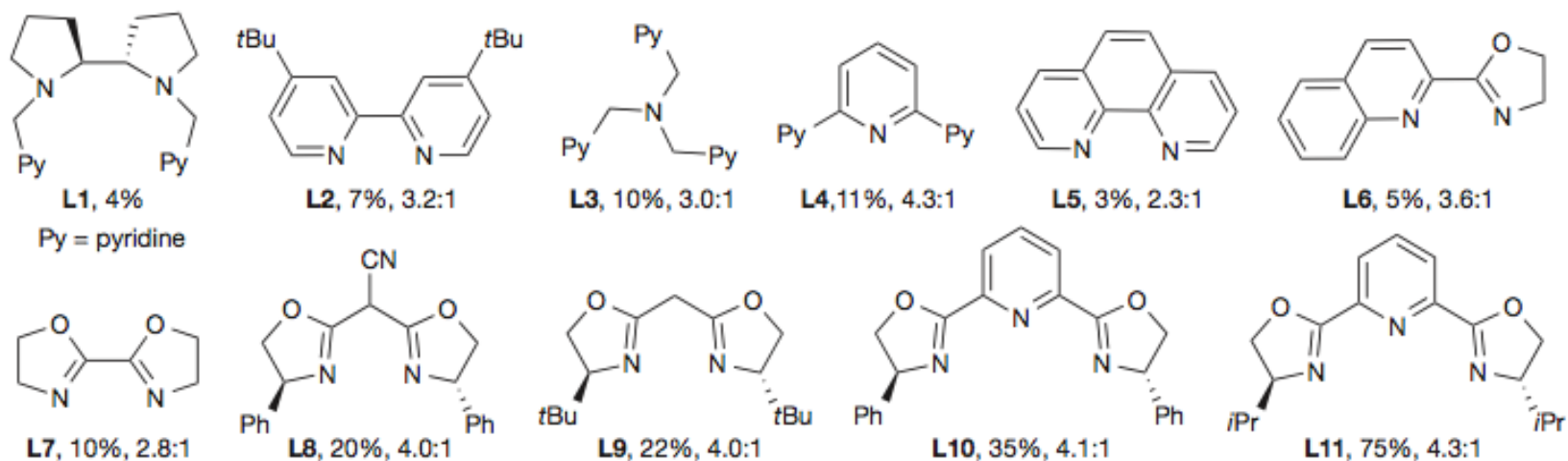
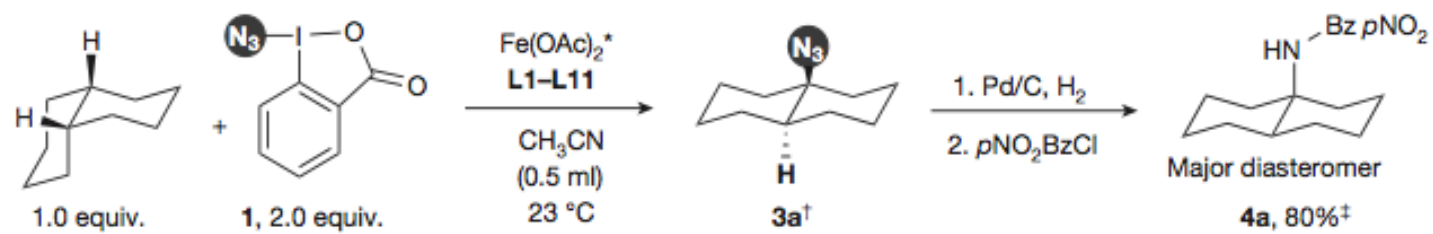
Azidation of activated C-H bonds



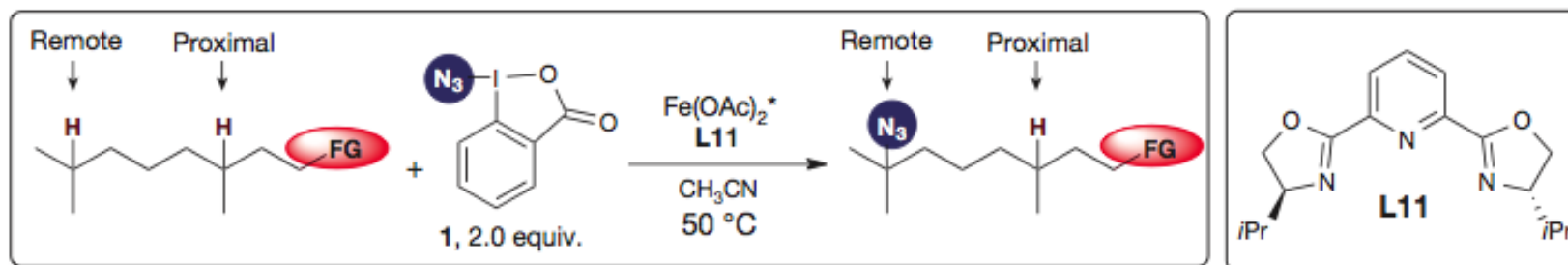
Late stage C_{sp3}-H azidation



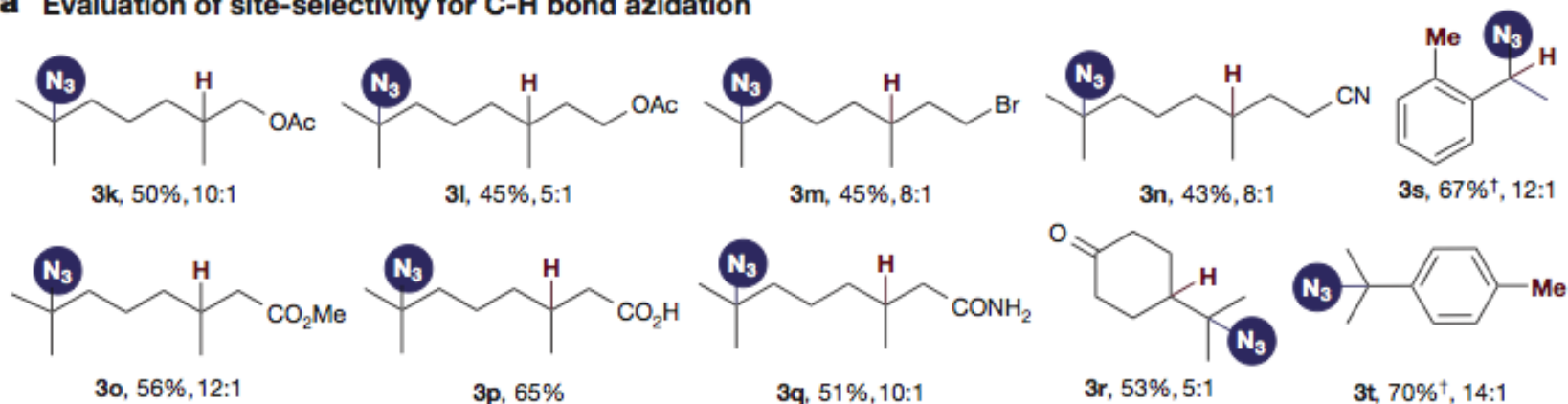
Azidation of C_{sp^3} via C-H activation

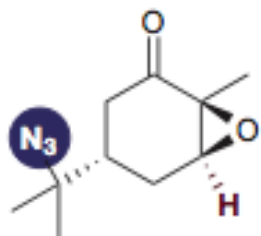


Site-selectivity

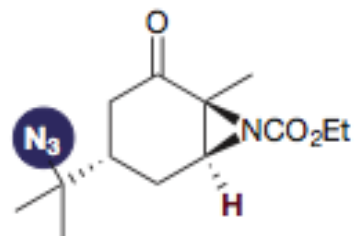


a Evaluation of site-selectivity for C-H bond azidation

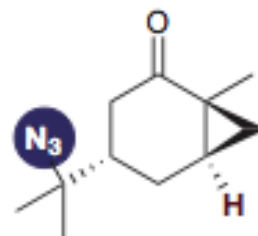




3u, 50%, 11:1:1
20%, 2:1:1[‡]



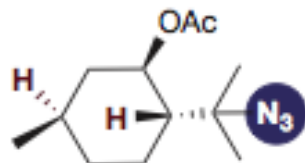
3v, 52%, 10:1:1
15%, 3:1:1[‡]



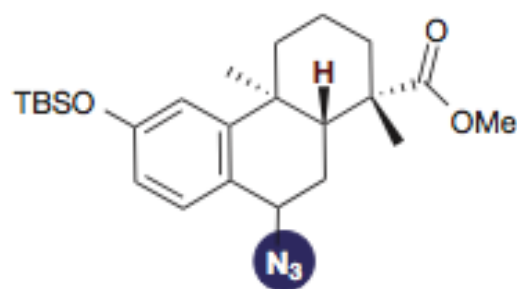
3w, 53%, 10:1:1
10%, 3:1[‡]



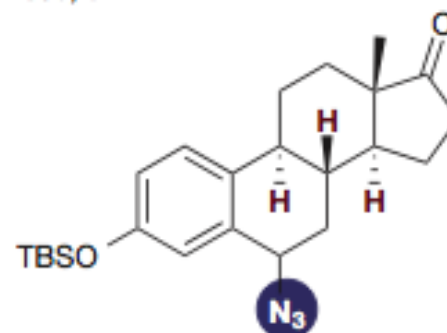
3b, 80%
10%, 1:1[‡]



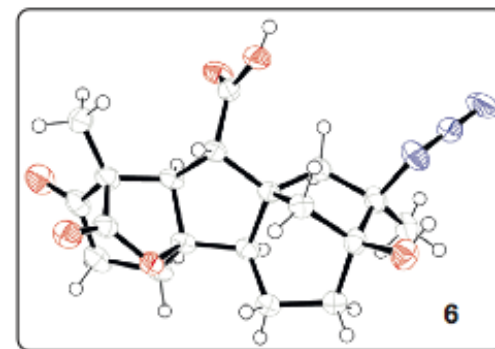
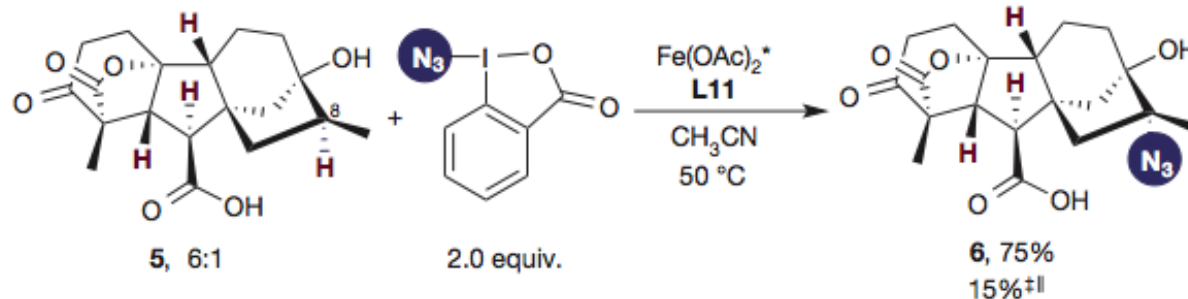
3x, 35%, 8:2:1
25%, 2:1:1[‡]



3y, 75%, 6:1^{†§}
7%, 2:1[‡]

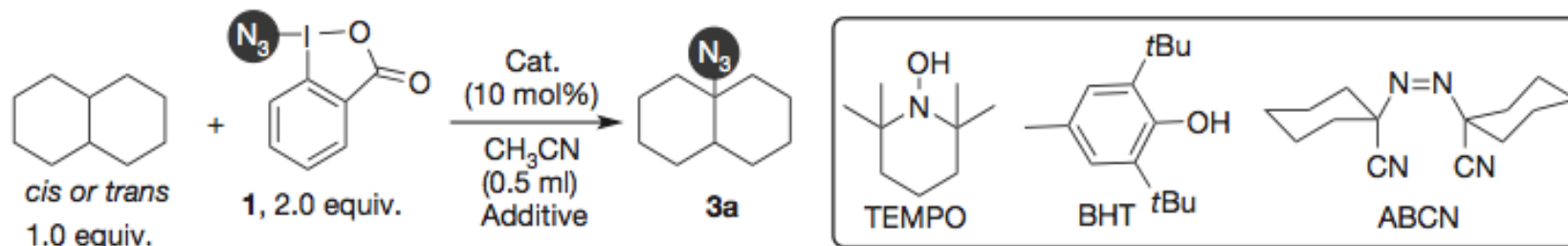


3z, 24%, 5:1^{†§}
5%, 1:1[‡]



Yields compared to benzoyl peroxide initiated reaction

Some mechanistic insights



Entry	Substrate	Catalyst	Temperature (°C)	Additive	Yield (%)	Selectivity
1	<i>cis</i>	$\text{Fe}(\text{OAc})_2/\mathbf{L11}$	23	TEMPO*	3	NA
2	<i>cis</i>	$\text{Fe}(\text{OAc})_2/\mathbf{L11}$	23	BHT*	3	NA
3†	<i>cis</i>	$\text{Fe}(\text{OAc})_2/\mathbf{L11}$	80	NA	55	3.2
4†	<i>trans</i>	$\text{Fe}(\text{OAc})_2/\mathbf{L11}$	80	NA	43	3.2
5†	<i>cis</i>	BzOOBz	80	ABCN‡	40	1.7
6†	<i>trans</i>	BzOOBz	80	ABCN‡	33	1.7

Conditions: 10.0 mol% catalyst, *cis*- or *trans*-decalin (0.2 mmol, 1.0 equiv.) and **1** (0.4 mmol, 2.0 equiv.), 2 h. The yield and ratios of isomers were determined by gas chromatography analysis with dodecane as internal standard and not corrected for response factors of minor isomers. NA, not applicable.

* 1.0 equiv. was added.

† EtOAc was used as solvent.

‡ 1.0 mol% was added.

KIE = 5 cleavage of C-H bond is the turnover limiting step

Summary

- Applications of enzymatic C-H azidation
- New methods for the formation of C-N₃ bonds through direct C-H activation
 - Aryl
 - Allylic
 - C_{sp3}-H bond azidation
- Further development of chemistry to access photoaffinity labels in high yields

Future Directions

- Relatively new field open to expansion of scope
- Insights into catalytic mechanisms
- Applications in total synthesis
- The next chapter in “oxidase” chemistry

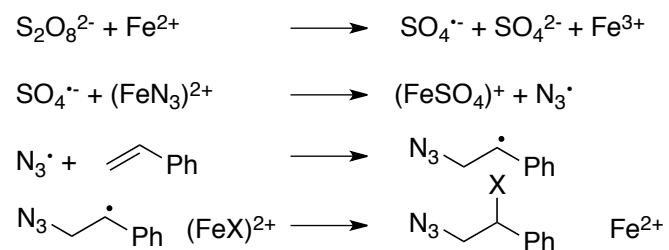
Thanks

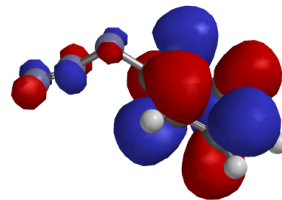
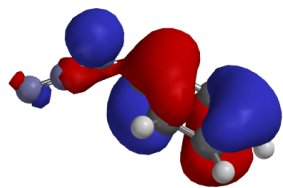
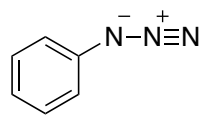
- Dr. Peter Wipf
- Wipf group past and present

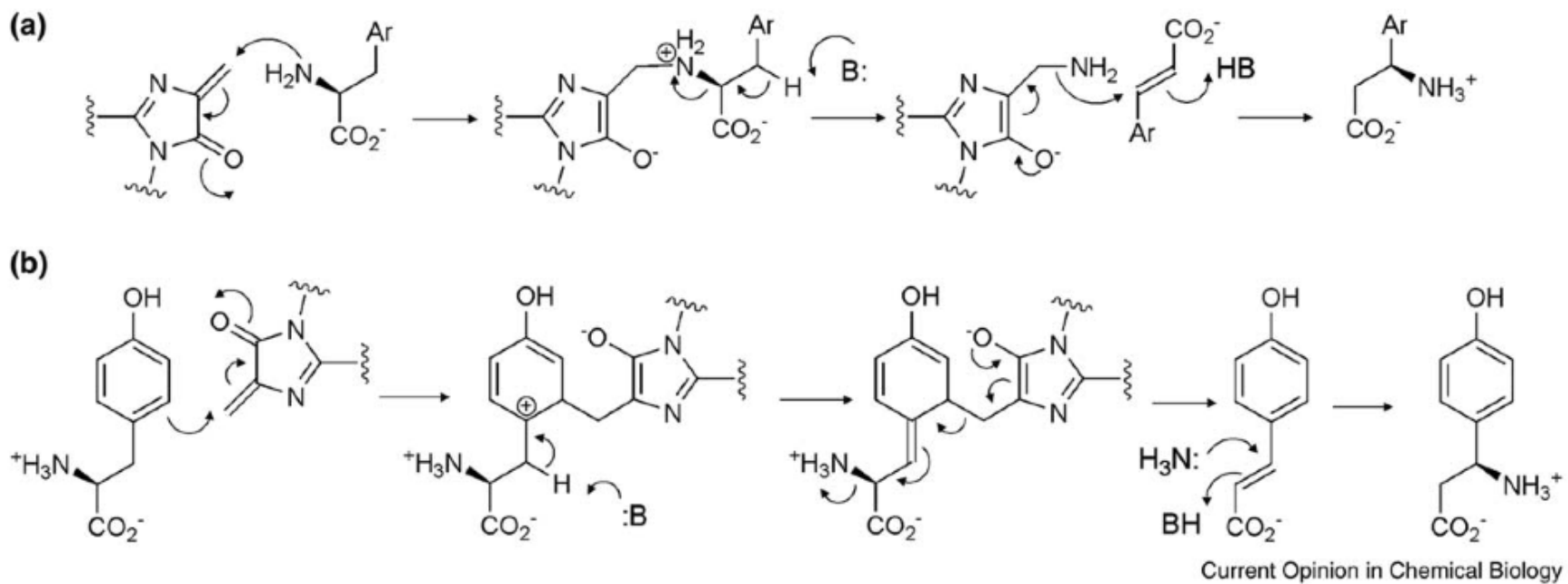


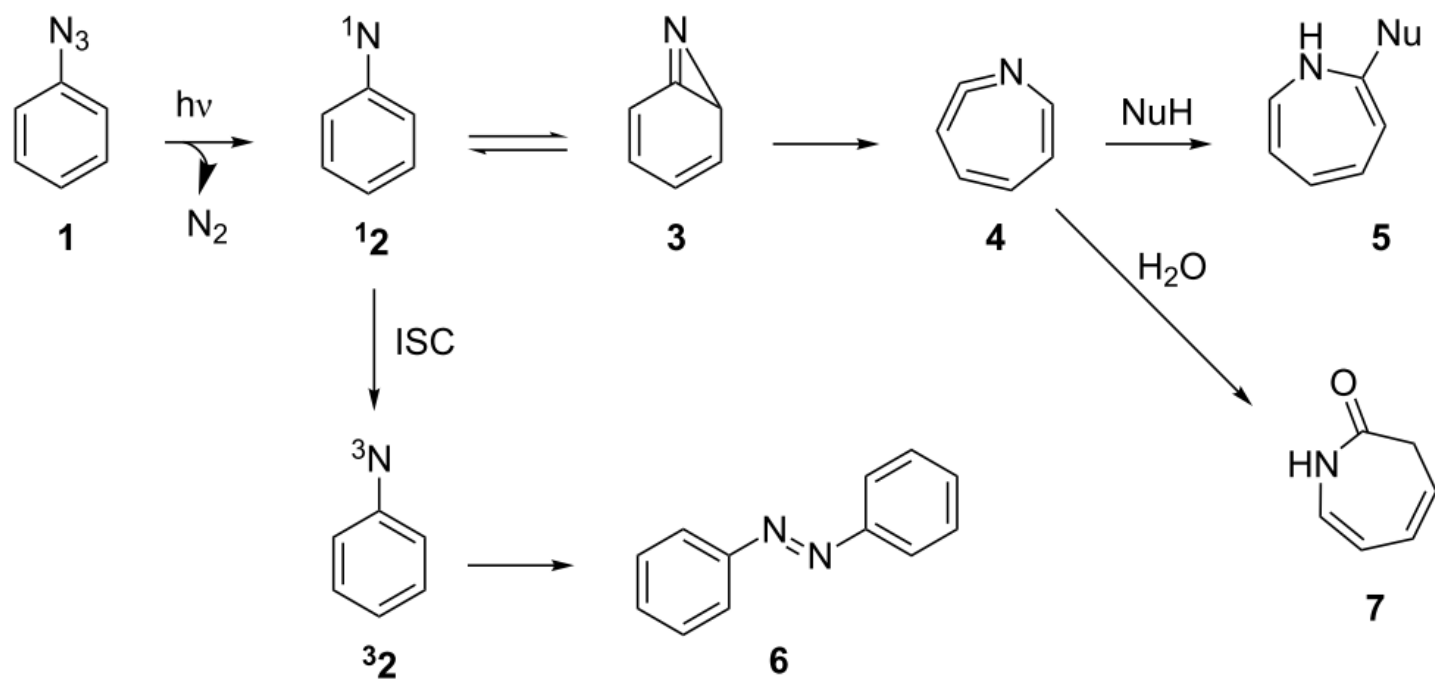
Questions

Azides and transition metals

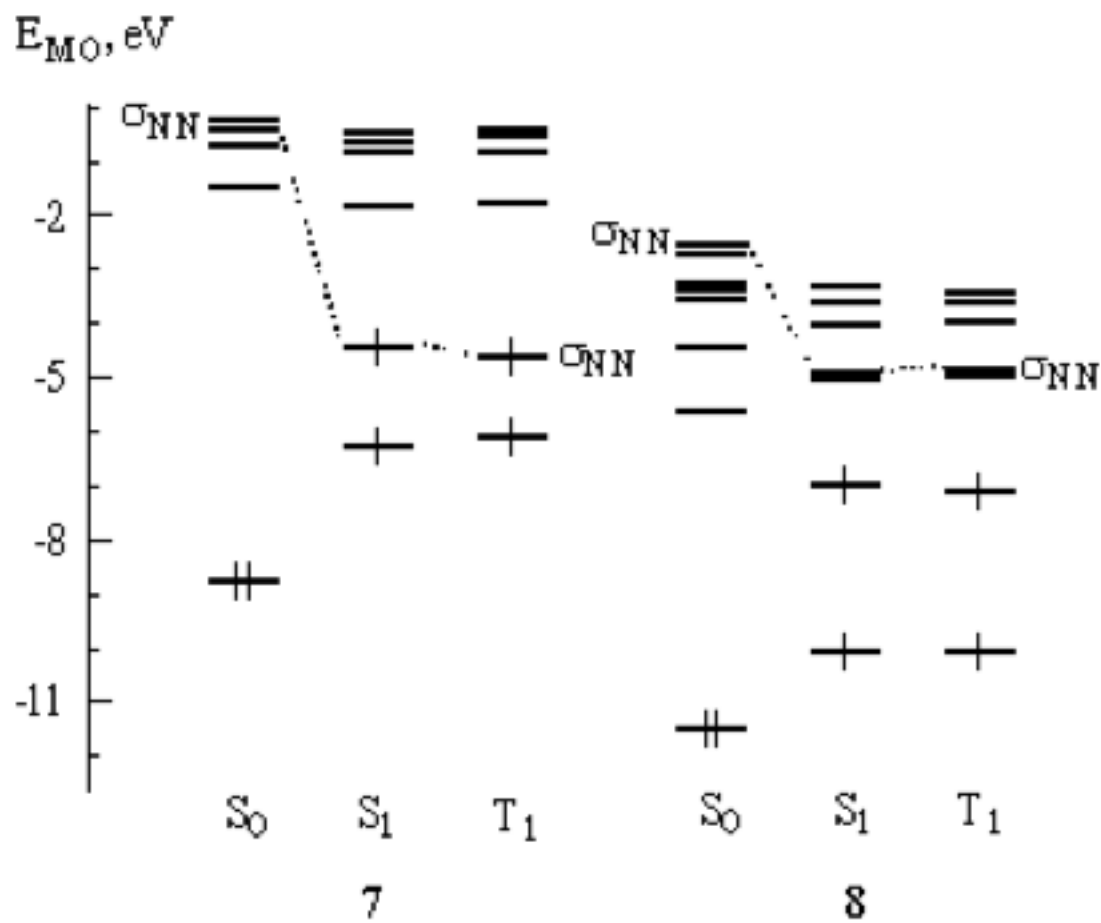








Photoactive azides



Photoactive

Nonphotoactive

