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Formation of Vinyl-, Vinylhalide- or Acyl-Substituted Quaternary Carbon Stereogenic Centers through NHC–Cu-Catalyzed Enantioselective Conjugate Additions of Si-Containing Vinylaluminums to β -Substituted Cyclic Enones
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Enantioselective Conjugated Addition of Vinylaluminums to Cyclic Enones

Ar = 2,6-Et₃C₆H₃

C–Si bond functionalization:

Significance: The development of transition-metal-catalyzed enantioselective reactions allowing the formation of quaternary stereogenic centers is a challenging task. Herein, the authors report a highly enantioselective conjugated addition of Si-substituted vinylaluminum reagents to five- and six-membered cyclic β -substituted enones of type **1**. A chiral bidentate NHC–copper complex has been identified to facilitate the desired transformation of **1** into **2** with good to excellent yields and enantioselectivities.

Comment: The active catalyst for the enantioselective addition is easily formed in situ starting from air-stable $\text{CuCl}_2 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$ and complex **4**. The reaction (**1** $\rightarrow$ **2**) is typically finished within 15–20 minutes and the required Si-containing vinylaluminum reagents are readily available from silylacetylenes though a stereoselective hydroalumination using DIBAL-H. Furthermore, it has been shown that the enantiomerically enriched vinylsilane products can be easily protodesilylated (**7** $\rightarrow$ **8**), oxidized (**9** $\rightarrow$ **10**) or transformed into the corresponding vinyl iodides (**5** $\rightarrow$ **6**) with good to excellent yields.

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