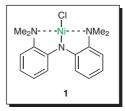
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Nickel-Catalyzed Cross-Coupling of Non-Activated and Functionalized Alkyl Halides with Alkyl Grignard Reagents *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2009**, *48*, 2937-2940.

Nickel-Catalyzed Coupling of Alkyl Halides and Alkyl Grignard Reagents



Examples (with 3 mol% of 1):

Significance: Grignard reagents are desirable nucleophiles in coupling reactions, since they are inexpensive and easy to prepare. The use of a pincer nickel complex (1) enables their highly efficient sp³-sp³ cross-coupling with alkyl bromides and iodides. The reaction proceeds at low temperatures, so that even highly reactive functionalities like ketones are tolerated.

Comment: Alkyl bromides and alkyl iodides react at similar rates, while alkyl chlorides are inert. Interestingly, aryl bromides do not participate in the coupling under these conditions. *N*,*N*-Dimethylacetamide (its mixture with THF) is the solvent of choice, NMP and other solvents give lower yields. Nickel(IV)-bis(alkyl) intermediates are tentative intermediates in this reaction.

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