J. ZENG, K. M. LIU, X. F. DUAN\* (BEIJING NORMAL UNIVERSITY, P. R. OF CHINA) Selective Co/Ti Cooperatively Catalyzed Biaryl Couplings of Aryl Halides with Aryl Metal Reagents *Org. Lett.* **2013**, *15*, 5342–5345.

## Co/Ti Cooperative C(sp<sup>2</sup>)–C(sp<sup>2</sup>) Cross-Coupling Reactions

 $\label{eq:continuous} \begin{tabular}{ll} (Het)Ar^{1/2} = various substituted (hetero)aromatics $X = F, CI, Br $$M = MgBr, MgCI, Li$ \end{tabular}$ 

## Selected examples:

$$CF_3$$
  $Me_2N$   $HO_2C$   $HO_2C$ 

**Significance:** A novel method for cobalt-catalyzed cross-coupling reactions between aryl chlorides or bromides and aromatic magnesium or lithium reagents is reported by Duan and co-workers. The presence of 40 mol% of Ti(OEt)<sub>4</sub> suppresses undesired homocoupling side-products resulting from the organometallic reagent.

**Comment:** Interestingly, the reaction can also take place in the presence of a free carboxylic acid, a hydroxyl, or an amide residue. Therefore, this protocol allows an efficient arylation of highly functionalized aryl halides without protection—deprotection sequences.

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