Photoredox-Enabled Deoxygenative Cross-Coupling of Alcohols Activated by NHCs

Significance: The authors report a nickel-catalyzed photo-enabled deoxygenative cross-coupling between C(sp³)-hybridized alcohols activated through an N-heterocyclic carbene salt with aryl halides. The procedure enables coupling of highly functionalized primary, secondary and tertiary alcohols.

Comment: Late-stage functionalizations of complex molecules such as a taxol variants and multiply protected saccharides are shown. A reaction mechanism is proposed in which the NHC salt plays a key role in providing the thermodynamic driving force for the reaction.

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SYNFACTS 2021, 17(11), 1221 Published online: 19.10.2021
DOI: 10.1055/s-0041-1737057; Reg-No.: P12420SF