SYNTHESIS ALERTS

Synthesis Alerts is a monthly feature to help readers of Synthesis keep abreast of new reagents, catalysts, ligands, chiral auxiliaries, and protecting groups which have appeared in the recent literature. Emphasis is placed on new developments but established reagents, catalysts etc are also covered if they are used in novel and useful reactions. In each abstract, a specific example of a transformation is given in a concise format designed to aid visual retrieval of information.

Synthesis Alerts is a personal selection by Paul Blakemore, Brian Dymock, Philip Hall, Philip Kocienski, J.-Y. Le Brazidec and Alessandro Pontiroli of the University of Glasgow. The journals regularly covered by the abstractors are: Angewandte Chemie International Edition, Bulletin de la Societe Chimie de France, Bulletin of the Chemical Society of Japan, Chemische Berichte, Chemistry Letters, Helvetica Chimica Acta, Journal of Organic Chemistry, Journal of Organometallic Chemistry, Journal of the American Chemical Society, Liebigs Annalen, Tetrahedron Letters.

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Sodium Tungstate / Aminomethyl Phosp	horic Acid / Methyl(tr	ioctylammonium)hydroger	nsulfate	Catalyst
The title catalysts effect the epoxidation of olefins with 30% H ₂ O ₂ under halide free conditions with good yields. This method is operationally simple, environmentally benign, economical and may be conducted on a large scale.	Na ₂ WO ₄ •2H ₂ O H ₂ NCH ₂ PO ₅ H ₂ [CH ₆ (<i>n</i> -C ₆ H ₁₇₎₃ N]HSO ₄ (2:1:1)	OEt Yields are generally >85%.	A (2 mol%) H ₂ O ₂ , PhMe, 90°C, 2 h	OEt 88%
K. Sato, M. Aoki, M. Ogawa, F. Hashimoto, D. Panyella, R. Noyori <i>Bull. Chem. Soc. Jpn.</i> 1997 , <i>70</i> , 905.	^	This full paper contains examp olefins, 1,1-di-, 1,2-di-, tri- and alcohols and esters, α,β -unsat	tetra-substituted	olefins, cyclic olefins, allylic

Titanocene Dicarbonyl				Catalyst
Titanocene-catalyzed cyclocarbonylation of o-allyl aryl ketones to γ-butyrolactones. N. M. Kablaoui, F. A. Hicks, S. L. Buchwald <i>J. Am. Chem. Soc.</i> 1997 , <i>119</i> , 4424.	Cp₂Ti(CO)₂ A	Ċ,	A (0.05 eq) PMe ₃ (0.2 eq) CO (5 psig) PhMe, 100°C, 36 h 84%	(10 examples)

A highly enantioselective ring opening of epoxides with thiols catalyzed by a gallium lithium bis(binaphthoxide) complex. A highly enantioselective ring opening of epoxides with thiols catalyzed by a gallium lithium bis(binaphthoxide) complex. A (0.1 eq), MS 4Å t-BuSH (1.2 eq) PhMe, rt, 36 h 74%, er = 97.5:2.5 T. lida, N. Yamamoto, H. Sasai, M. Shibasaki J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1997, 119, 4783.

Bis(cyclooctadiene)nickel(0)				Catalyst
Nickel-catalyzed organozinc-promoted carbocyclizations of electron deficient alkenes with tethered unsaturation.	Ni(COD)₂ A	PH	A (0.05 eq) MeLi (3.7 eq) ZnCl ₂ (2.5 eq) THF, 0°C, 1 h 82%	PH
J. Montgomery, E. Oblinger, A. V. Savchenko <i>J. Am. Chem. Soc.</i> 1997 , <i>119</i> , 4911.			(17 examples)	

Tris(pentafluorophenyl)borane		Catalyst
Catalyses the hydrostannylation of allenes in a highly regioselective manner to give vinylstannanes, whereby the tin atom becomes attached to the central carbon of the allene system.	B(C ₆ F ₅) ₃ A	7- Bu _b SnH (1.1 eq), A (0.2 eq), PhMe, 0°C → rt, 77%
V. Gevorgyan, JX. Liu, Y. Yamamoto, <i>J. Org. Chem.</i> 1997 , <i>62</i> , 2963.		Catalysis by Pd(PPh ₃) ₄ resulted in attachment of tin to the distal terminus of the allene. 8 examples given.

B-Chloro-9-borobicyclo[3.3.1]nonane		Catalyst
Catalyses the Diels-Alder reaction between cis-2-chlorovinyltributylstannane and simple dienes via temporary covalent activation of the dienophile. D. A. Singleton, SW. Leung, J. P. Martinez,	CI-B	t-Bu + SnBu ₃ A (20 mol%) t-Bu Ro°C, 10 d 73% 3 other examples employing borane catalysts (yields 71-78%). An alternative hydroboration-DA-dehydroboration sequence is also examined.

Manganese(II) Chloride		Catalyst
Treatment of dibromomethyltrialkylsilanes with alkyl Grignard reagents in the presence of A provides E-vinylsilanes in good yield with excellent stereoselectivity. H. Kakiya, R. Inoue, H. Shinokubo, K. Oshima Tetrahedron Lett. 1997, 38, 3275.	MnCb A	Ph ₂ MeSi A (5 mol%), THF, 25°C Ph ₂ MeSi A preformed stoichiometric manganate reagent, R ₃ MnMgBr, can also be utilised. 15 examples (yields 62-96%). In each case no trace of the <i>cis</i> isomer was detected.

Catalyst

Catalyst

Chiral Auxiliary

63%, er = 83.5:16.5

Hexabutylguanidinium Chloride

The title reagent catalyses the decomposition of alkyl chloroformates to afford the corresponding alkyl chlorides. The reaction occurs with clean inversion of configuration.

F. Foulon, B. Fixari, D. Picq, P. Le Perchec *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1997**, *38*, 3387.

Significant racemisation occurs if the above reaction is conducted in a polar solvent. Primary chloroformates react rapidly in PhCl at 100°C (3 examples, yields 100%).

[1,1'-Bis(diphenylphosphino)ferrocene]nickel(II) Chloride

The title reagent is an effective catalyst for the Suzuki cross-coupling of aryl chlorides with aryl boronic acids.

Ni(dppf)Cl₂

15 examples (yields 0, 26-95%)

dppf = 1,1'-bis(diphenylphosphino)ferrocene

A. F. Indolese Tetrahedron Lett. 1997, 38, 3513.

(S)-3-(Cyclohexylamino)-N-benzylpyrrolidine

3-Aminopyrrolidine lithium amide in enantioselective addition of organolithium compounds onto aromatic aldehydes.

The effect of the alkyl group on the 3-amino functional group was studied (8 examples) and several aldehydes were tested (3 examples).

A. Corruble, J.-Y. Valnot, J. Maddaluno, P. Duhamel *Tetrahedron: Asymmetry* **1997**, *8*, 1519.

(1R,5S,8S)-8-Isopropyl-4,4-dimethyl-7-(4-toluenesulfonyl)-3-oxa-1,7-diazabicyclo[3.3.0]octane

The easily prepared isoxazolidine **A** is readily acylated under mild conditions. The derived amides undergo highly diastereoselective alkylation and aldol reactions.

A. Abiko, J.-F. Liu, G. Wang, S. Masamune *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1997**, *38*, 3261.

92%, dr (*syn*) = 99:1

Ligand

Chiral Auxiliary

6 examples of aldol reactions (yields 90-93%, syn:anti > 98:2, %de > 92%) and 7 examples of alkylation (yields 90-97%, %de $\approx 92%$). Products can be easily converted to alcohols, aldehydes or ketones via one-step procedures.

(S)-(+)-4-(2-Methylpropyl)-2-(2-pyridyl)-2-oxazoline

Homoallylic alcohols may be prepared with good anti-diastereoselectivity and moderate enantioselectivity from condensation of aromatic aldehydes with (£)-but-2-enyltrichlorosilane in the presence of the title ligand.

R. M. Angell, A. G. M. Barrett, D. C. Braddock, S Swallow, B. D. Vickery *Chem. Commun.* **1997**, 919.

6 examples; yields 66-91%; %ee = 36-74%.

Ligand

Ligand

Ligand

Ligand

Reagent

100%, er = 98.2:1.8

(S)-5,5',6,6',7,7',8,8'-Octahydro-1,1 '-bi-2-naphthol

Novel asymmetric alkylation of aromatic aldehydes with triethylaluminium catalyzed by BINOL and H₈-BINOL.

A. S. C. Chan, F.-Y. Zhang, C.-W. Yip J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1997, 119, 4080.

Good enantioselectivities were obtained starting from aromatic aldehydes (9 examples) but are lower using AlMe $_3$ as alkylating reagent.

(S, S)-2,2'-Bis[4-(isopropyl)oxazolyl]-1,1'-binaphthyl

Catalytic asymmetric Wacker-type cyclization.

Y. Uozumi, K. Kato, T. Hayashi J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1997,119, 5063.

(2S,5R)-5-Isopropyl-3-phenyl-2-pyridin-2-ylthiazolidin-4-one

Diastereoselective synthesis of pyridyl substituted thiazolidin-4-ones: new ligands for the Cu(I) catalyzed asymmetric conjugate addition of diethylzinc to enones.

A. H. M. de Vries, R. P. Hof, D. Staal, R. M. Kellogg, B. L. Feringa *Tetrahedron: Asymmetry* **1997**, *8*, 1539.

This asymmetric conjugate addition was carried out using ligands with different substitution patterns (4 examples).

(1S,2R)-2-(cis-2,6-dimethyl-1-piperidino)indan-1-ol

Synthesis of new indane-derived amino alcohols as chiral ligands: application to the enantioselective addition of diethylzinc to aldehydes.

L. Solà, A. Vidal-Ferran, A. Moyano, M. A. Pericàs, A. Riera *Tetrahedron: Asymmetry* **1997**, *8*, 1559.

The substitution of the amino functional group was studied and several aldehydes tested (8 examples).

(2R)-N-(Acryloyl)bornane-10,2-sultam

The Asymmetric Baylis-Hillman reaction: application to the synthesis of tulipalin B.

98%, er = 99.5:0.5

93%, er = 90:10

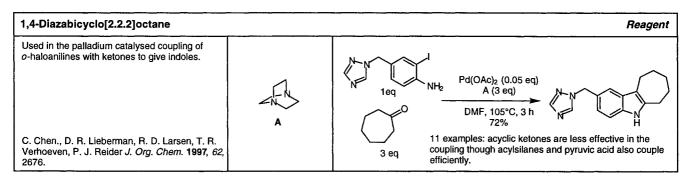
Excellent enantioselectivities were obtained from several aldehydes (7 examples) but this reaction did not work using benzaldehyde.

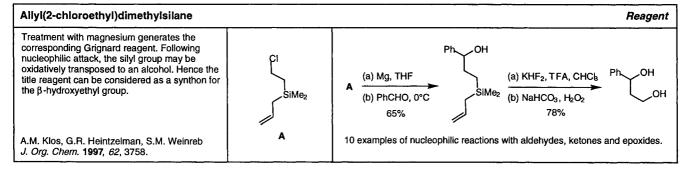
L. J. Brzezinski, S. Rafel, J. W. Leahy J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1997, 119, 4317.

Synthesis and Lewis acid catalyzed nucleophilic substitution of chiral 1-alkoxyalkyl carboxylates. A (Bu)₂CuLi (3 eq) BF₃•OEt₂ (3 eq) Ether/hexane -78°C, 0.5 h 53%, er = 93:7 H. Matsutani, S. Ichikawa, J. Yaruva, T. Kusumoto, T. Hiyama J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1997, 119, 4541.

(1R,2R)-(Dicarbonyl-η ⁵ -cyclopentadieny	diron){ η ² -1-[(<i>p</i> -met	hoxybenzyl)oxy]propene} Tetrafluoroborate	Reagent
Reaction with copper enolates leads to optically active 3-hydroxy-2-methyl-5-oxo esters, after redox-promoted alkoxy carbonylation	BF ₄ - H, H PMBO CH ₈ OG-Fe-CO Cp	OCu A (1eq) THF, -78°C 30 min OPMB CAN (5eq) NaOMe (5eq) CO THF,-78°C THF,-78°C	OPMB CO ₂ Me
W. Zhen, KH. Chu, M. Rosenblum <i>J. Org. Chem.</i> , 1997 , <i>62</i> , 3344.	A	Several examples given illustrating the versatility	•

4-Phenyl-1,3-oxazoladinone			Reagent
Treatment of either <i>R</i> or <i>S</i> forms of the oxazoladinones with strong base generates stabilised nitrogen anions capable of undergoing diastereoselective Michael addition to nitroolefins. D. Lucet, L. Toupet, T. Le Gall, C. Mioskowski, <i>J. Org. Chem.</i> 1997 , <i>62</i> , 2682.	HN Ph	A t-BuOK (1 eq) 18-C-6 (1 eq) THF, 0°C, 1 h THF, -78°C, 15 min	Ph NO ₂ 87%, dr >99:1





Methoxytrimethylsilane		Reagent
Glycosidic spiro- orthoesters are prepared from sugar lactones and diols by treatment with A in the presence of a catalytic amount of trimethylsilyl triflate.	MeOSiMe₃ A	Bno
H. Ohtake, T. limori, S. Ikegami <i>Tetrahedron Lett.</i> 1997, <i>38</i> , 3413.		3 examples (yields 77-87%).

Lithium Aluminium Hydride / Aluminium Chloride		Reagent	
The title reagent pair effect the highly regioselective reductive cleavage of glycosidic spiroorthoesters to yield β-glycosides. Together with the preceding paper this work constitutes a novel glycosylation protocol. T. limori, H. Ohtake, S. Ikegami <i>Tetrahedron Lett.</i> 1997, 38, 3415.	LiAIH₄ A AICl₃ B	OBn BnO OBn BnO OBn OBn OBn OBn OBn OBn	OH BnO OMe

t-Butyl isocyanide / n-Butyl isocyanate		Reagent
Primary nitro compounds are transformed into nitriles by treatment with the title reagents. L. E. Kaim, A. Gacon <i>Tetrahedron Lett.</i> 1997 , <i>38</i> , 3391.	A	Ph Ph B (3 eq), Et ₃ N (1 eq) Ph

Bis(pinacolato)diboron		Reagent
The title reagent participates in cross-coupling reactions with anyl triflates under Pd(0) catalysis to yield useful anyl boronates. T. Ishiyama, Y. Itoh, T. Kitano, N. Miyaura Tetrahedron Lett. 1997, 38, 3447.	LOPE CALL	A (1.1 eq) PdCb (dppf) (3 mol%) dppf (3 mol%) KOAc (3 eq) dioxane, 80°C, 1 d 81% Mes 11 examples (yields 64-93%). As expected electron-deficient aryl triflates show enhanced reactivity. dppf = 1,1'-bis(diphenylphosphino)ferrocene

Dimethylphosgeniminium Chloride		Reagent
Efficiently converts THP-protected alcohols into alkyl chlorides.	Me ⊕ ⊝CI	A (1.05 eq) CH ₂ Cl ₂ , 0°C 95%
T. Schlama, V. Gouvernear, C. Mioskowski Tetrahedron Lett. 1997 , <i>38</i> , 3517.	A	8 examples (yields 30-95%). Addition of tetrabutylammonium bromide to the reaction mixture yields the corresponding alkyl bromides.