

Tropical Seminar: Nickel-Catalyzed Cross-Coupling

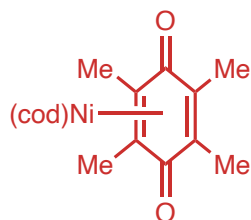


*Reggie Mills
Apr. 12, 2022*

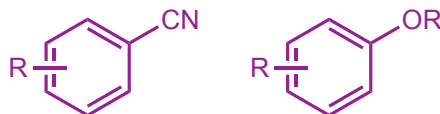
Nickel Catalysis

Today's topics in nickel cross-coupling:

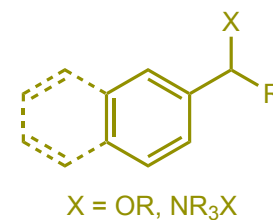
Directions in Precatalyst Synthesis



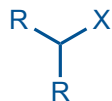
“Inert”/“Nonclassical” C(sp²)-X Electrophiles Ni(0)/Ni(II)



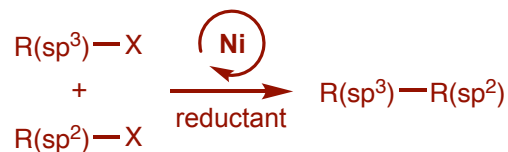
Benzylic C(sp³)-X Electrophiles Ni(0)/Ni(II)



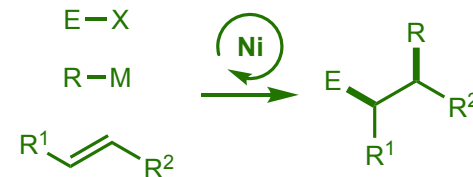
“Unactivated” C(sp³)-X Electrophiles Ni(I)/Ni(III)



Cross-Electrophile Coupling Ni(0)/Ni(I)/Ni(II)/Ni(III)



Conjunctive Cross-Coupling (Short)



Nickel Catalysis

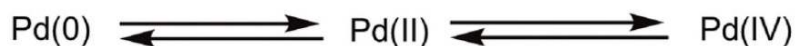
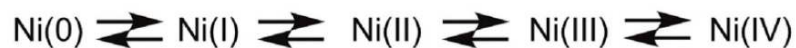
Things not covered:

1. Ancient history (Kochi, etc.)
2. Multimetallic chemistry
3. Metallophotoredox (“lazy nickel”)

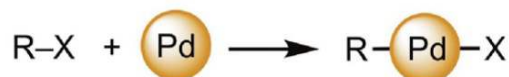
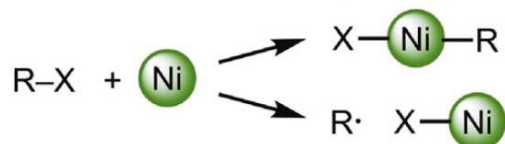
Nickel Catalysis

Properties of nickel vs. palladium (Diao):

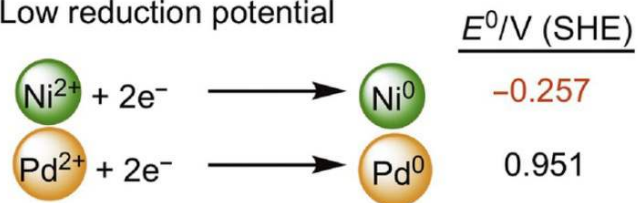
(i) Access to many oxidation states



(ii) One- and two-electron pathways are accessible



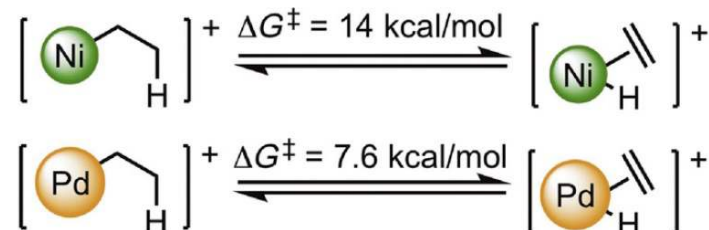
(iii) Low reduction potential



(iv) Smaller and less electronegative

Van der Waals radius:	1.92 Å	2.05 Å
Electronegativity:	1.91	2.20
HSAB:	hard	soft

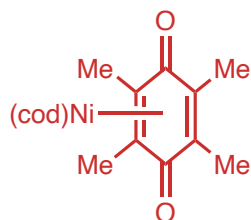
(v) Slow β-hydride elimination



Nickel Catalysis

Topics in nickel cross-coupling:

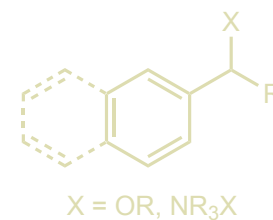
Directions in Precatalyst Synthesis



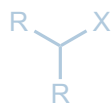
“Inert”/“Nonclassical” C(sp²)-X Electrophiles Ni(0)/Ni(II)



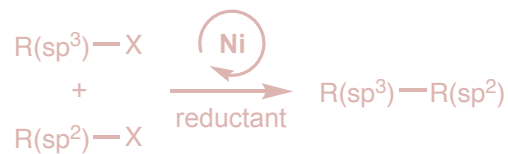
Benzylic C(sp³)-X Electrophiles Ni(0)/Ni(II)



“Unactivated” C(sp³)-X Electrophiles Ni(I)/Ni(III)



Cross-Electrophile Coupling Ni(0)/Ni(I)/Ni(II)/Ni(III)



Conjunctive Cross-Coupling (Short)

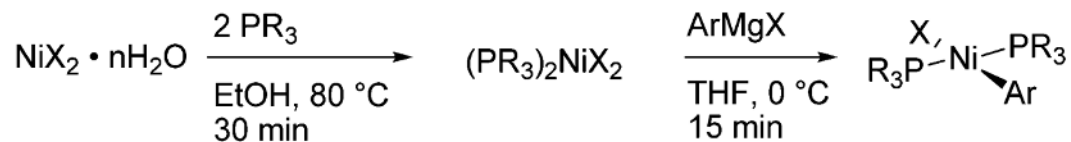


Nickel Catalysis

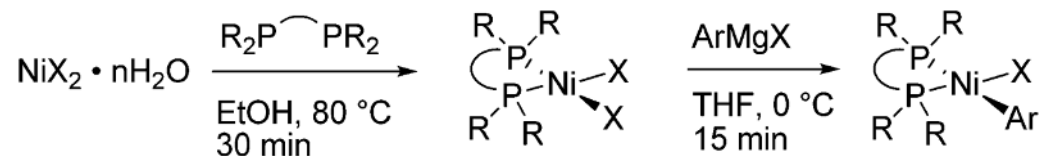
Jamison: Early report of air-stable Ni(II) precatalysts (2014)

Scheme 1. Synthesis of Precatalysts^a

Monodentate Phosphines



Bidentate Phosphines



^aX = Cl, Br. R = alkyl, aryl.

Nickel Catalysis

Jamison: Early report of air-stable Ni(II) precatalysts (2014)

Table 1. Nickel Phosphine Complexes Synthesized^a

compd	ligand	geometry	R	X	isolated yield (%)		
					L _n NiX ₂	L _n Ni(R)X	overall
Monodentate Ligands							
1	PPh ₃	<i>trans</i>	<i>o</i> -tolyl	Cl	91	89	81
2	PCyPh ₂	<i>trans</i>	<i>o</i> -tolyl	Cl	92	81	75
3	PCy ₂ Ph	<i>trans</i>	<i>o</i> -tolyl	Cl	95	88	84
4	PCy ₃	<i>trans</i>	<i>o</i> -tolyl	Cl	97	87	84
5	PCyp ₃	<i>trans</i>	<i>o</i> -tolyl	Cl	99	90	89
6	PBn ₃	<i>trans</i>	<i>o</i> -tolyl	Cl	96	90	86
7	PPh ₂ Me	<i>trans</i>	<i>o</i> -tolyl	Cl	99	81	80
8	PMe ₂ Ph	<i>trans</i>	2,4,6-triisopropylphenyl	Cl	95	83	79
9	PMe ₂ Ph	<i>trans</i>	2,6-dimethoxyphenyl	Br	95	87	83
10	PEt ₃	<i>trans</i>	2-mesityl	Br	95	88	84
11	P(<i>n</i> -Bu) ₃	<i>trans</i>	2-mesityl	Br	89	90	80
Bidentate Ligands							
12	dppe	<i>cis</i>	<i>o</i> -tolyl	Cl	98	84	82
13	dppp	<i>cis</i>	2-mesityl	Br	89	85	76
14	dppb	<i>trans</i>	2-mesityl	Br	96	86	83
15	(<i>S</i>)-BINAP	<i>cis</i>	<i>o</i> -tolyl	Cl	94	97	91
16	dppf	<i>cis</i>	<i>o</i> -tolyl	Cl	97	95	92
17	dcpf	<i>trans</i>	<i>o</i> -tolyl	Cl	98	83	81
18	Xantphos	<i>trans</i>	<i>o</i> -tolyl	Cl	86	92	79
19	pyphos	<i>cis</i>	<i>o</i> -tolyl	Cl	90	82	74

^aAbbreviations: dppe, 1,2-bis(diphenylphosphino)ethane; dppp, 1,3-bis(diphenylphosphino)propane; dppb, 1,4-bis(diphenylphosphino)butane; BINAP, 2,2'-bis(diphenylphosphino)-1,1'-binaphthyl; dppf, 1,1'-bis(diphenylphosphino)ferrocene; dcpf, 1,1'-bis(dicyclohexylphosphino)ferrocene; Xantphos, 9,9-dimethyl-4,5-bis(diphenylphosphino)xanthene; pyphos, 2-[2-(diphenylphosphino)ethyl]pyridine.

(a) Standley, E. A.; Smith, S. J.; Müller, P.; Jamison, T. F. *Organometallics* **2014**, *33*, 2012–2018; (b) Chatt, J.; Shaw, B. L. *J. Chem. Soc.* **1960**, 1718–1729.

Nickel Catalysis

Jamison: Early report of air-stable Ni(II) precatalysts (2014)

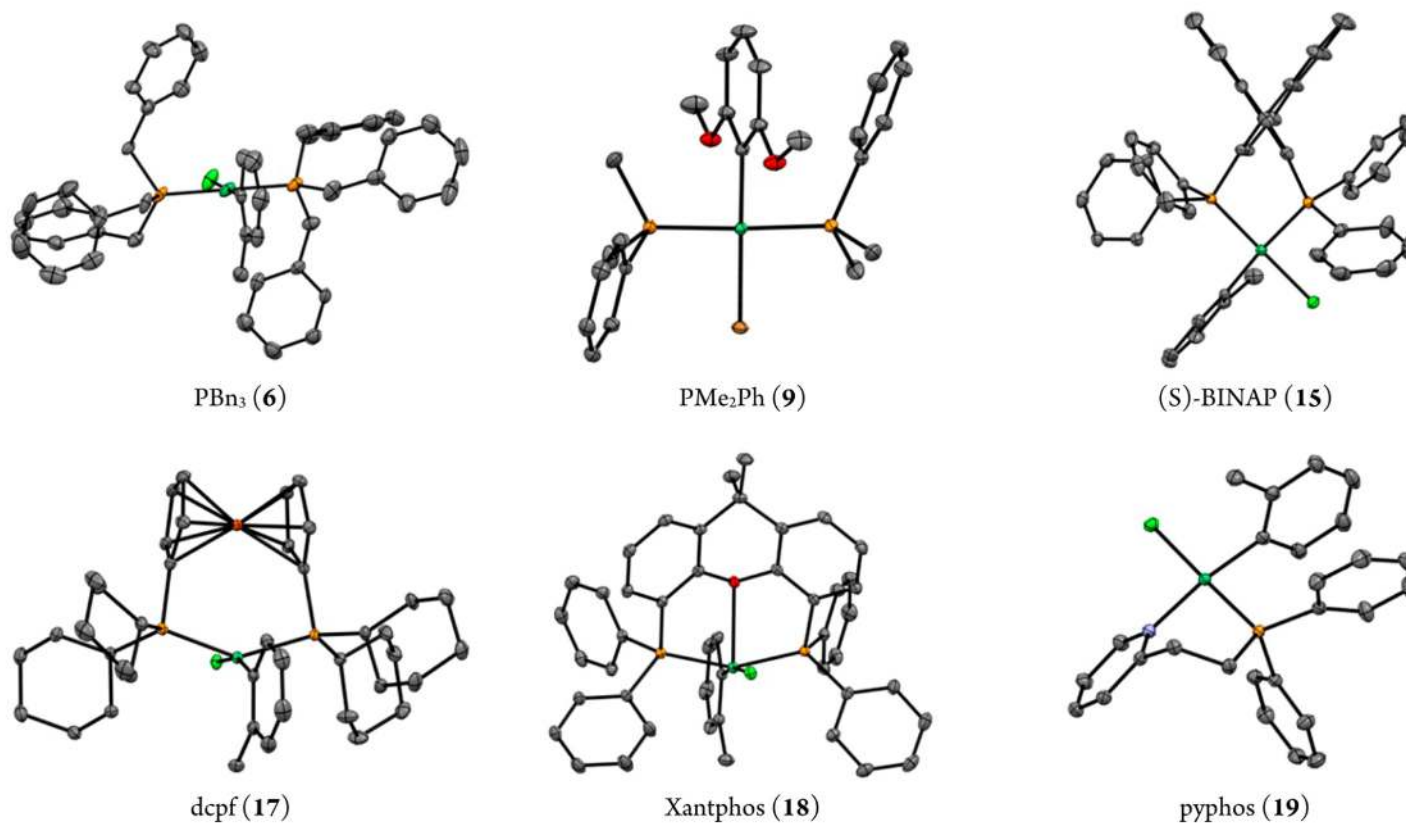


Figure 1. Complexes analyzed by single-crystal X-ray diffraction. Thermal ellipsoids are drawn at the 50% probability level, and hydrogen atoms are not included. Disorder of the *o*-tolyl ligand (6, 15, 18, 19) and solvent molecules of crystallization (6, 15, 17, 18) are not shown.

*Useful for entry into Ni(0)/Ni(II) chemistry
Not modular: Need to know ideal ligand*

(a) Standley, E. A.; Smith, S. J.; Müller, P.; Jamison, T. F. *Organometallics* **2014**, 33, 2012–2018; (b) Chatt, J.; Shaw, B. L. *J. Chem. Soc.* **1960**, 1718–1729.

Nickel Catalysis

Doyle: Air-stable, modular precatalyst (2015)

Scheme 1. Synthesis of Nickel Precatalyst 1

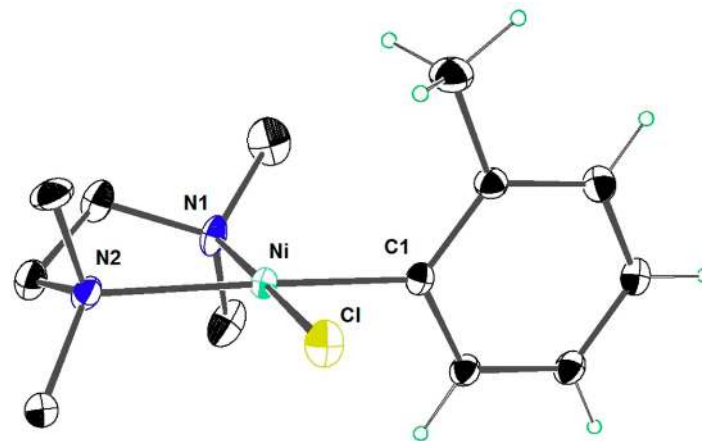
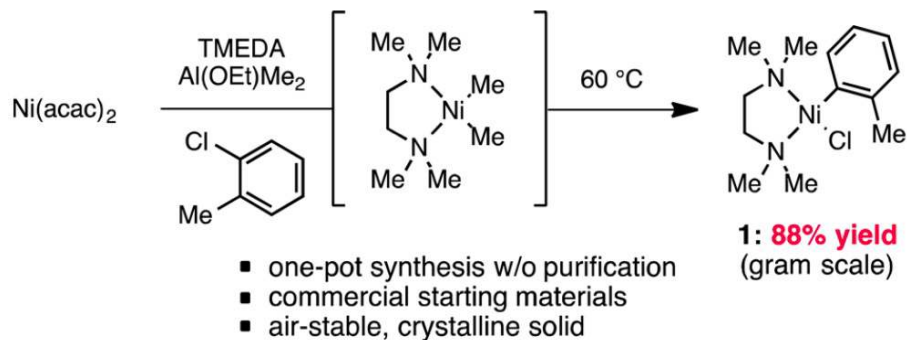
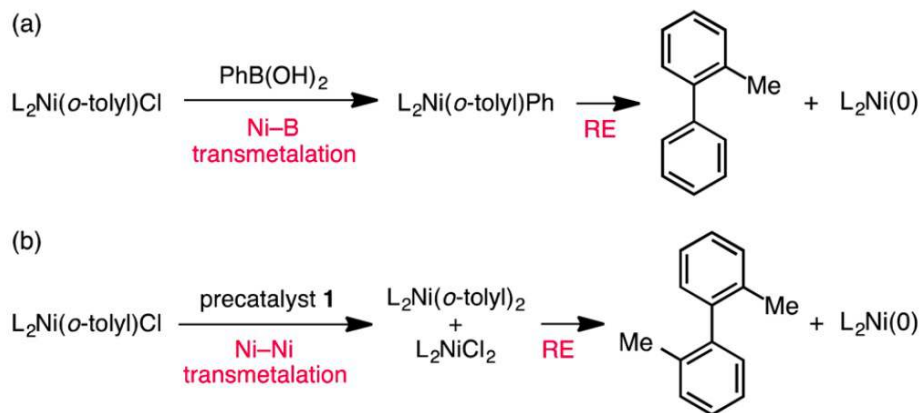


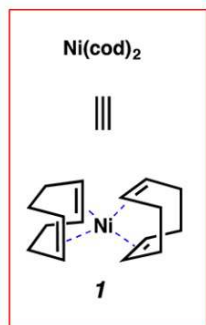
Figure 2. X-ray crystal structure of complex 1. Ellipsoids are set to 30% probability. Hydrogen atoms on the TMEDA ligand have been removed for clarity.

Scheme 2. Mechanisms for Precatalyst Activation



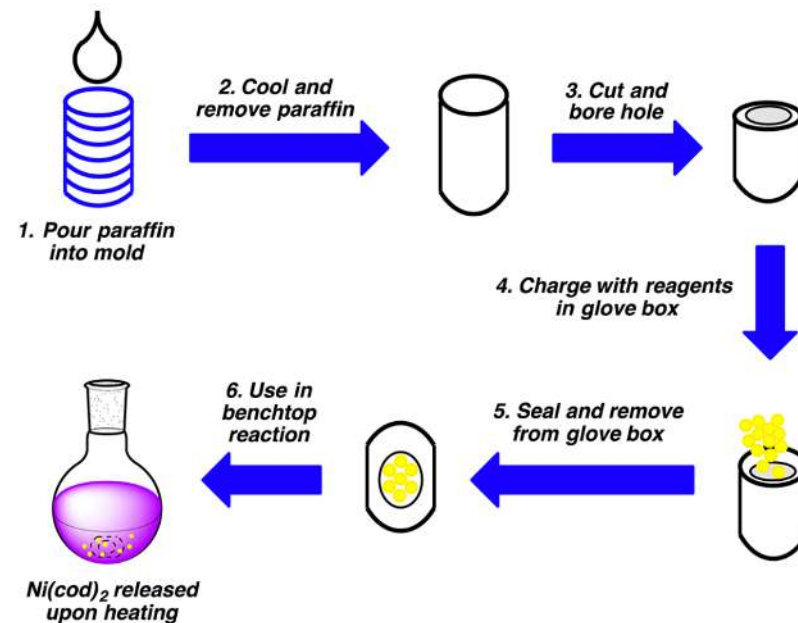
Nickel Catalysis

Garg: Ni(cod)₂ paraffin capsules (2016)

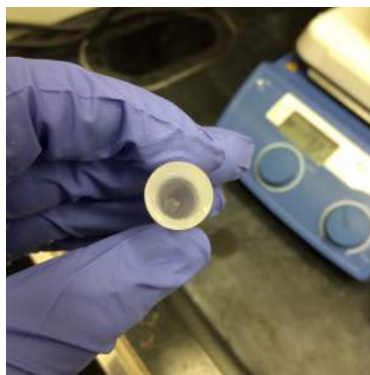


- Most commonly used Ni(0) precatalyst
- Employed in >800 transformations over the last three decades
- Glove box handling limits general usage

Present Study:
First Benchtop
Delivery of Ni(cod)₂



open capsule



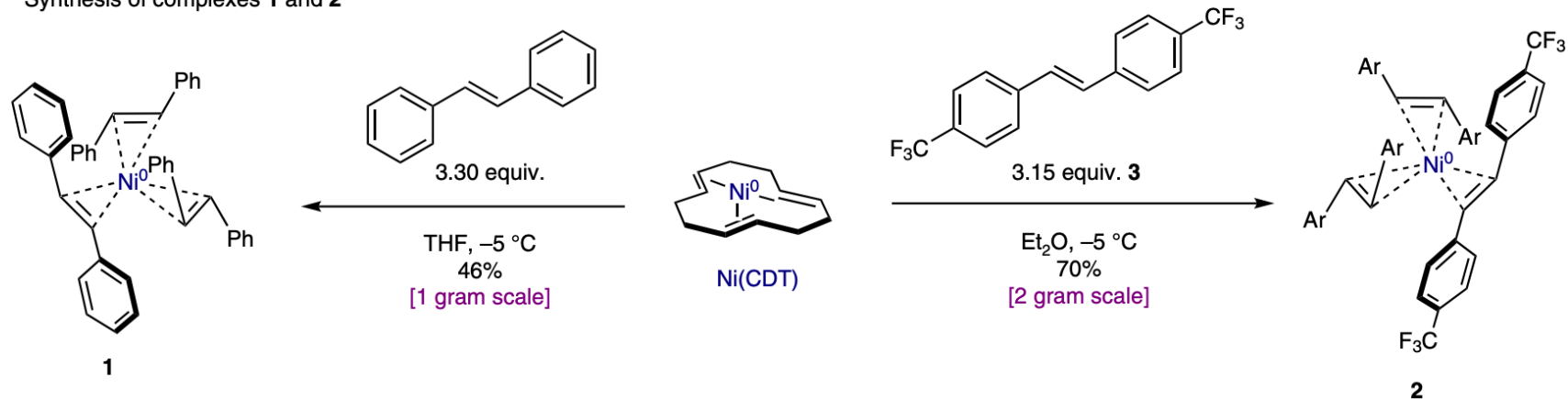
sealed capsule



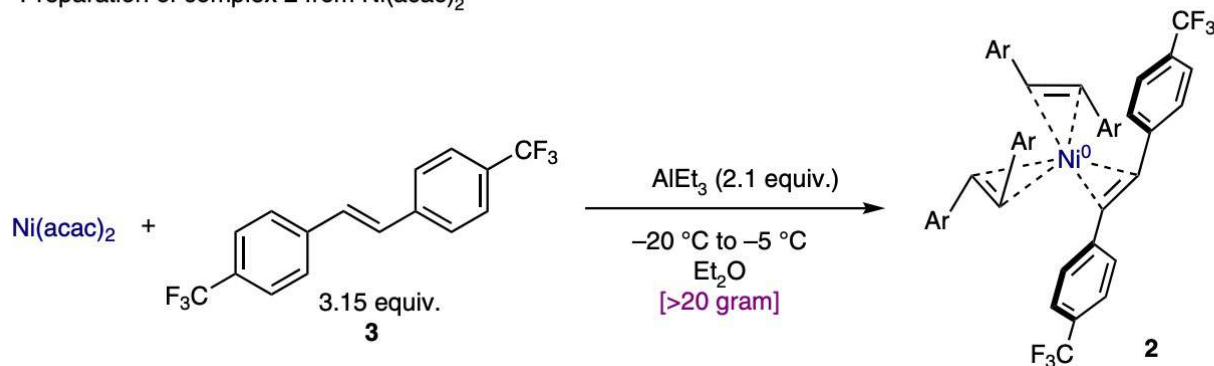
Nickel Catalysis

Cornella: "Kinetic" air stability—Ni(stb)₃ (2020)

a Synthesis of complexes 1 and 2

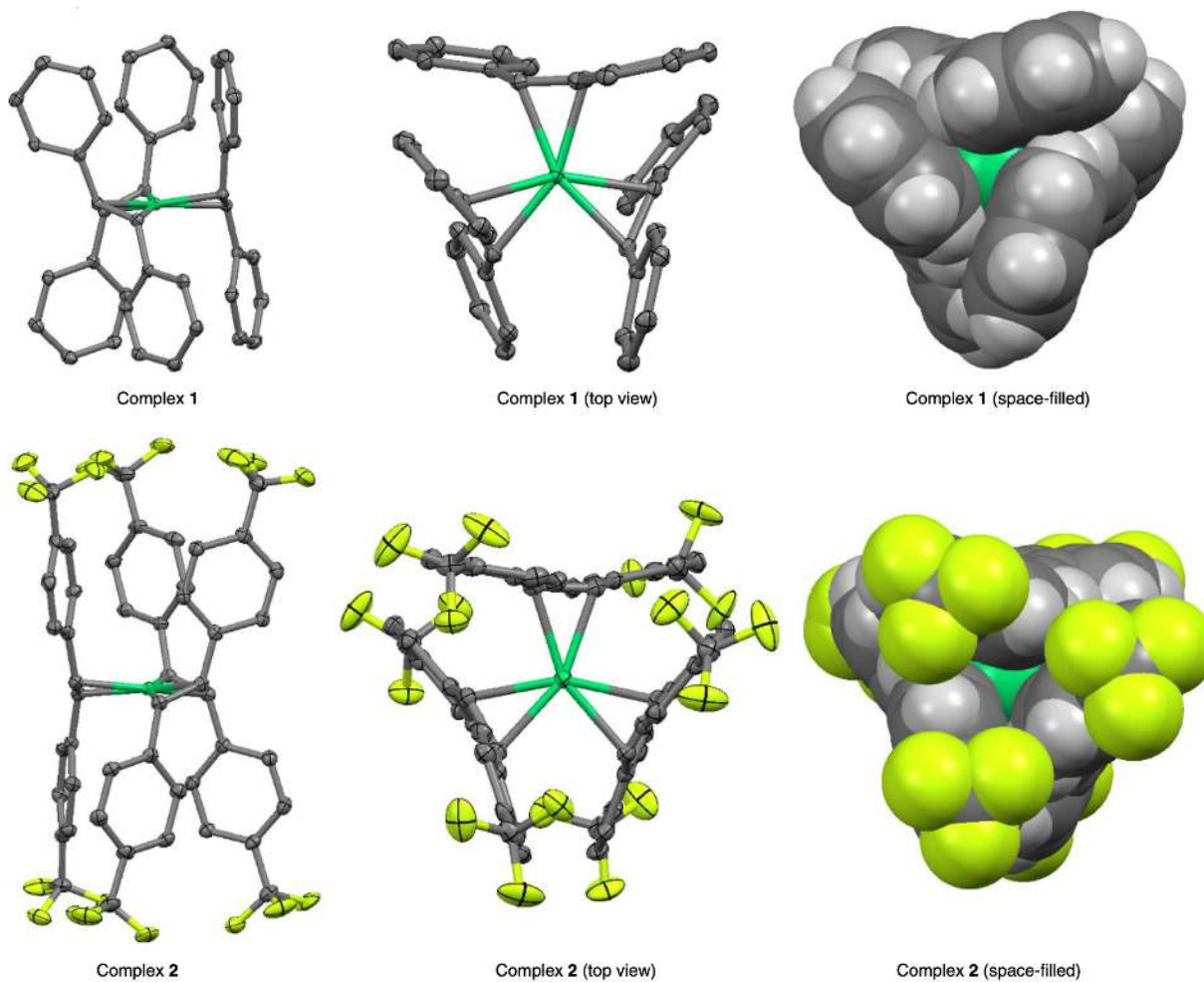


c Preparation of complex 2 from Ni(acac)₂



Nickel Catalysis

Cornella: “Kinetic” air stability—Ni(stb)₃ (2020)



space-filling: Ni(0) atom inaccessible to O₂ in solid-state (kinetic stability)

Nickel Catalysis

Cornella: “Kinetic” air stability—Ni(stb)₃ (2020)

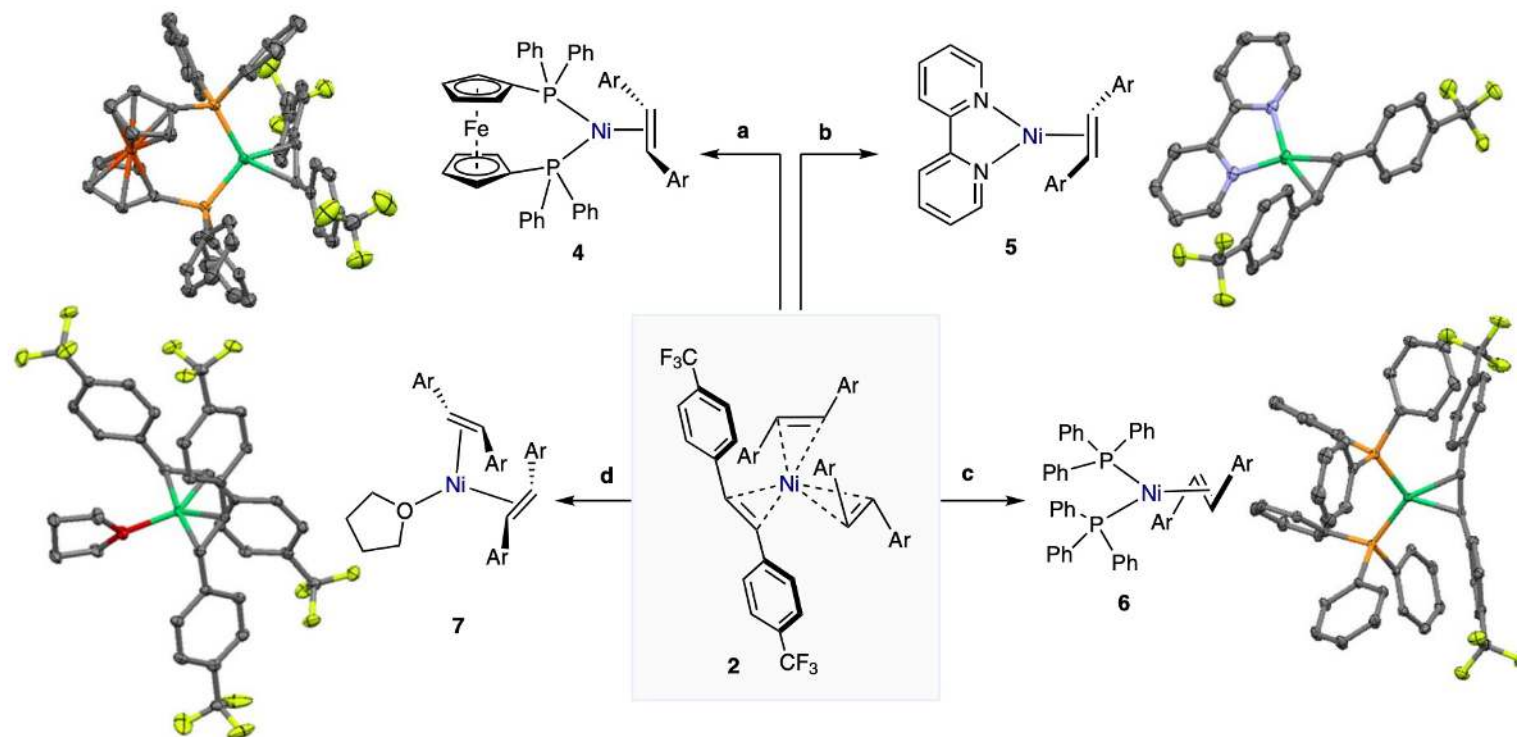
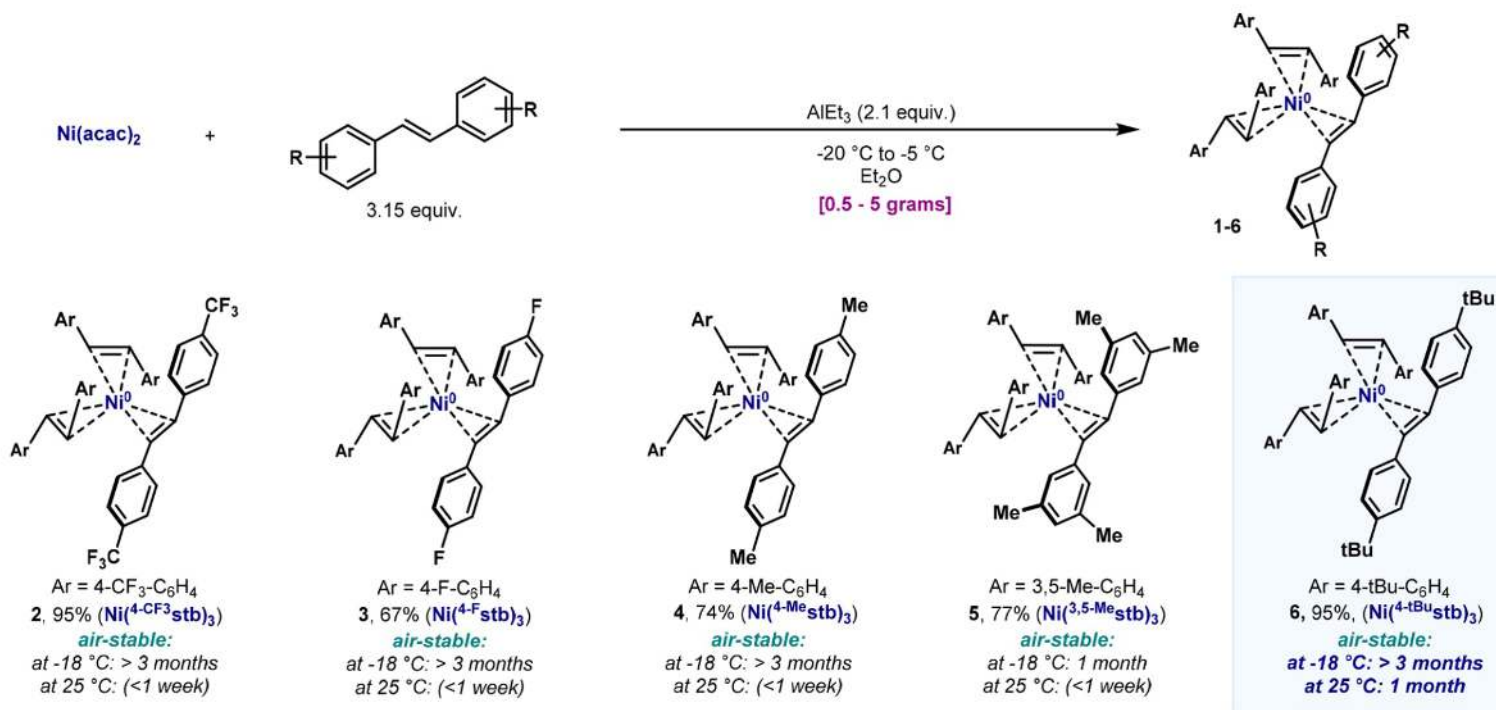


Fig. 3 | Ligand exchange of complex 2 with different ligands. **a**, Complex **2** (1 equiv.) and dppe (1 equiv.) in *d*₈-THF at 25 °C. One molecule of PhMe was present in the solid state and is omitted for clarity. **b**, Complex **2** (1 equiv.) and bipy (1 equiv.) in *d*₈-THF at 25 °C. One molecule of **3** crystallizes in the unit cell and is omitted for clarity. **c**, Complex **2** (1 equiv.) and PPh₃ (2 equiv.) in *d*₈-THF at 25 °C. **d**, Slow crystallization of **2** in THF from –20 °C to –78 °C. Ar, *p*-CF₃-C₆H₄; green, Ni; black, C; yellow, F; orange, P; deep orange, Fe; red, O; hydrogen atoms omitted for clarity (see the Supplementary Information for procedures).

solution-state substitution viable for a number of ligands (even bpy, THF, MeCN!)

Nickel Catalysis

Cornella follow-up: $\text{Ni}(t\text{-Bu}\text{stb})_3$

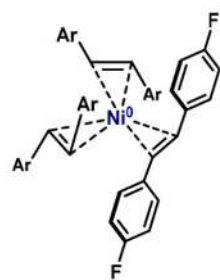


Nickel Catalysis

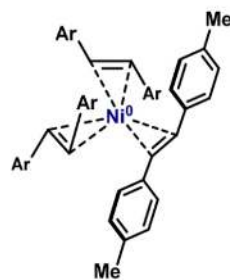
Cornella follow-up: Ni(^tBustb)₃



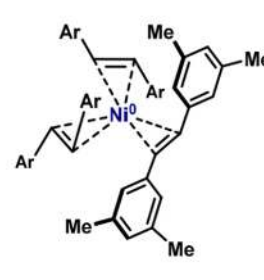
Ar = 4-CF₃-C₆H₄
2, 95% (Ni(^{4-CF₃}stb)₃)
air-stable:
 at -18 °C: > 3 months
 at 25 °C: (<1 week)



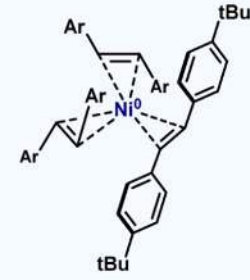
Ar = 4-F-C₆H₄
3, 67% (Ni(^{4-F}stb)₃)
air-stable:
 at -18 °C: > 3 months
 at 25 °C: (<1 week)



Ar = 4-Me-C₆H₄
4, 74% (Ni(^{4-Me}stb)₃)
air-stable:
 at -18 °C: > 3 months
 at 25 °C: (<1 week)

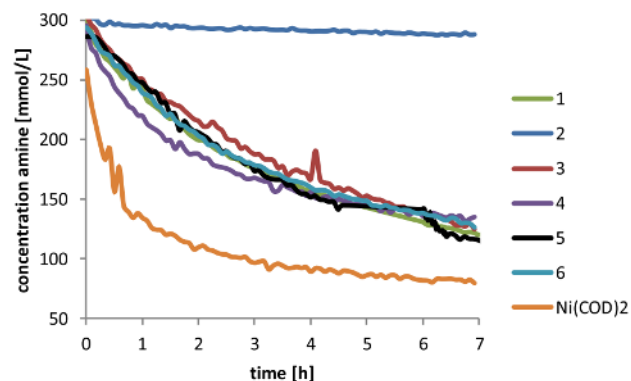
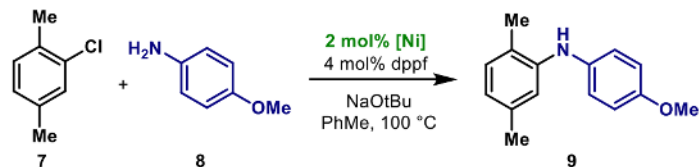


Ar = 3,5-Me-C₆H₄
5, 77% (Ni(^{3,5-Me}stb)₃)
air-stable:
 at -18 °C: 1 month
 at 25 °C: (<1 week)



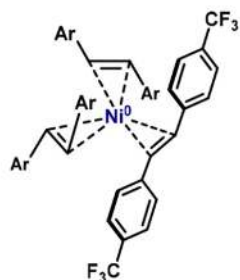
Ar = 4-tBu-C₆H₄
6, 95%, (Ni(^{4-tBu}stb)₃)
air-stable:
 at -18 °C: > 3 months
 at 25 °C: 1 month

A. Ni(0)-catalyzed amination of aryl chlorides: a kinetic analysis

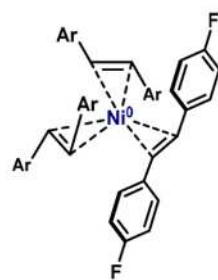


Nickel Catalysis

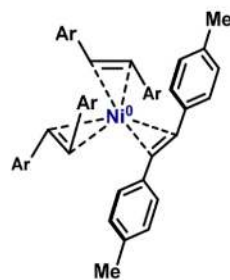
Cornella follow-up: Ni(^tBu₃stb)₃



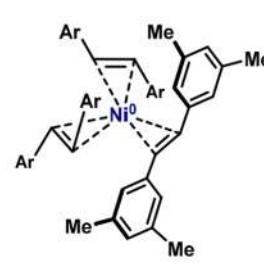
Ar = 4-CF₃-C₆H₄
2, 95% (Ni(⁴-CF₃stb)₃)
air-stable:
 at -18 °C: > 3 months
 at 25 °C: (<1 week)



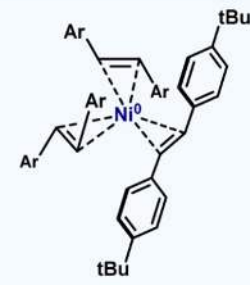
Ar = 4-F-C₆H₄
3, 67% (Ni(⁴-Fstb)₃)
air-stable:
 at -18 °C: > 3 months
 at 25 °C: (<1 week)



Ar = 4-Me-C₆H₄
4, 74% (Ni(⁴-Mestb)₃)
air-stable:
 at -18 °C: > 3 months
 at 25 °C: (<1 week)

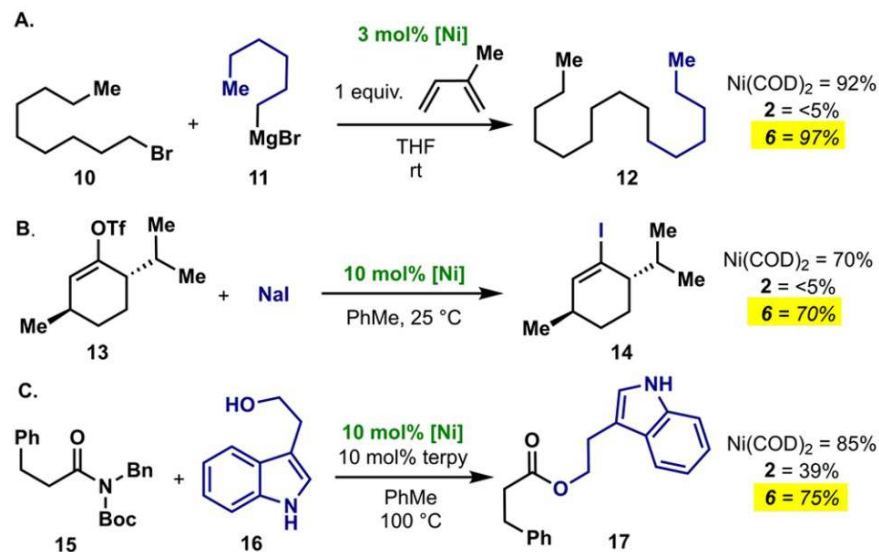


Ar = 3,5-Me-C₆H₄
5, 77% (Ni(^{3,5}-Mestb)₃)
air-stable:
 at -18 °C: 1 month
 at 25 °C: (<1 week)



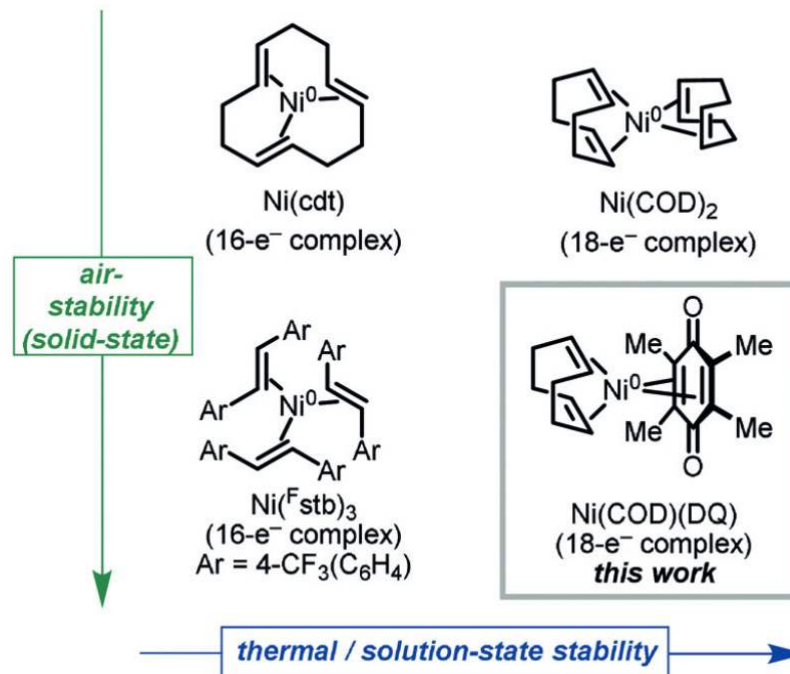
Ar = 4-tBu-C₆H₄
6, 95%, (Ni(⁴-tBu₃stb)₃)
air-stable:
 at -18 °C: > 3 months
 at 25 °C: 1 month

organic transformations



Nickel Catalysis

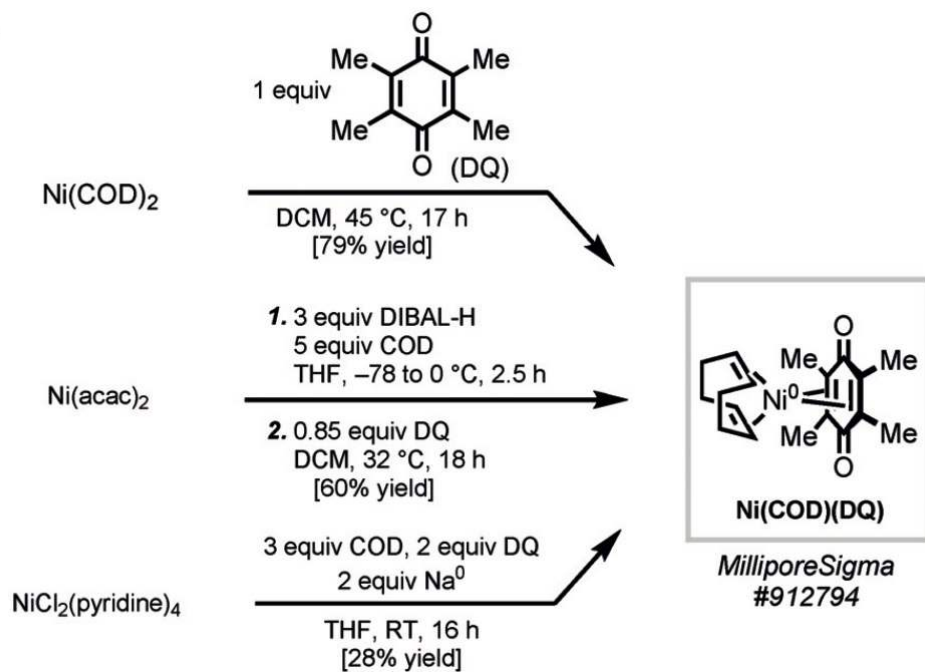
Engle: Ni(cod)(DQ) (2020)—“thermodynamic” stability



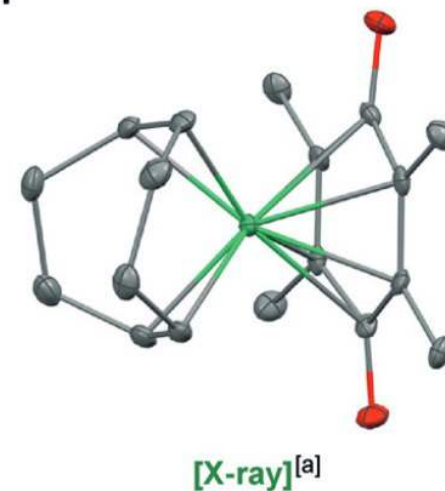
Nickel Catalysis

Engle: Ni(cod)(DQ) (2020)—“thermodynamic” stability

A.



B.



Nickel Catalysis

Engle: Ni(cod)(DQ) (2020)—“thermodynamic” stability

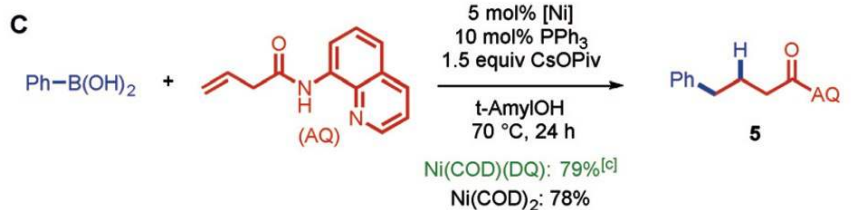
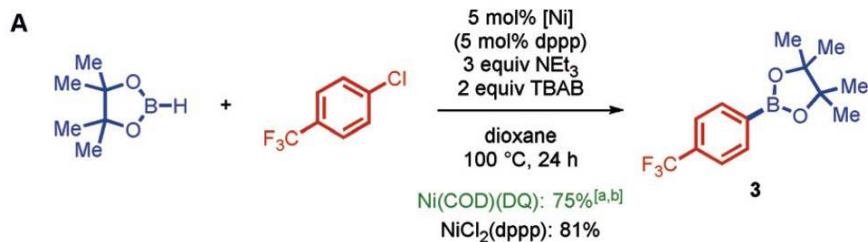
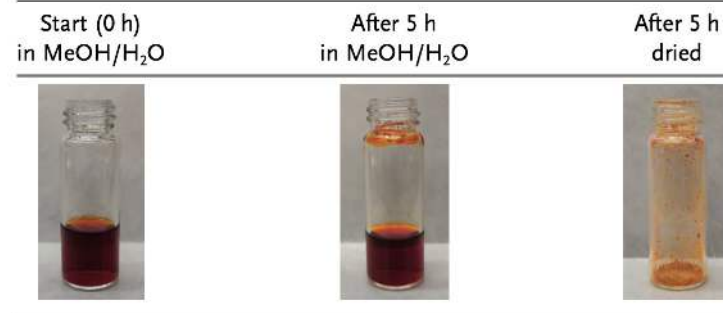


Table 2: Photographs of a representative stress test (Table 1, Entry 4).

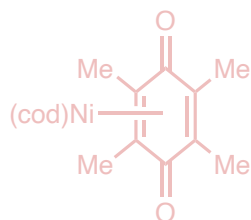


note: viable transformations require in situ catalyst to be more thermodynamically stable

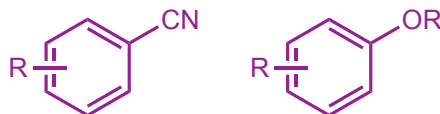
Nickel Catalysis

Topics in nickel cross-coupling:

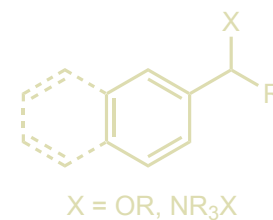
Directions in Precatalyst
Synthesis



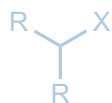
“Inert”/“Nonclassical”
 $C(sp^2)-X$ Electrophiles
 $Ni(0)/Ni(II)$



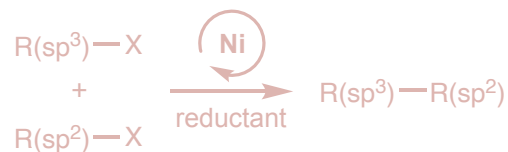
Benzylic $C(sp^3)-X$
Electrophiles
 $Ni(0)/Ni(II)$



“Unactivated” $C(sp^3)-X$
Electrophiles
 $Ni(I)/Ni(III)$



Cross-Electrophile Coupling
 $Ni(0)/Ni(I)/Ni(II)/Ni(III)$

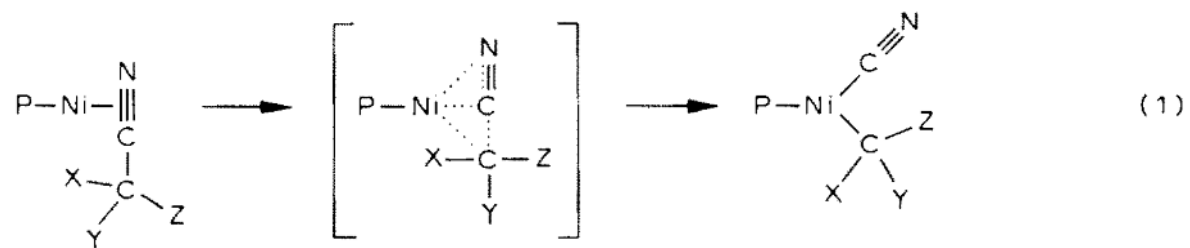


Conjunctive Cross-Coupling
(Short)



Nickel Catalysis

C–CN oxidative addition to nickel(0), 1983:



Compounds confirmed by IR, though slowly decompose

Favero, G.; Morvillo, A.; Turco, A. *J. Organomet. Chem.* **1983**, 241, 251–257.

Tolman, C. A.; Seidel, W. C.; Druliner, J. D.; Domaille, P. J. *Organometallics* **1984**, 3, 33–38.

Miller, J. A. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2001**, 42, 6991–6993.

Miller, J. A.; Dankwardt, J. W.; Penney, J. M. *Synthesis* **2003**, 1643–1648.

Nickel Catalysis

Oxidative addition of benzonitriles (Jones, 2002):

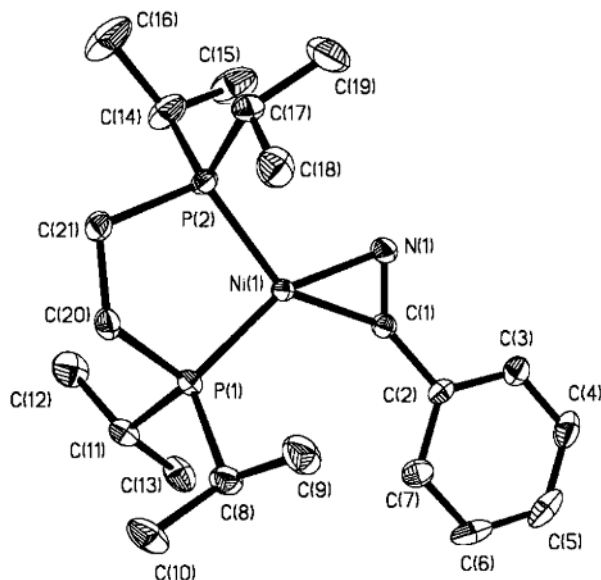
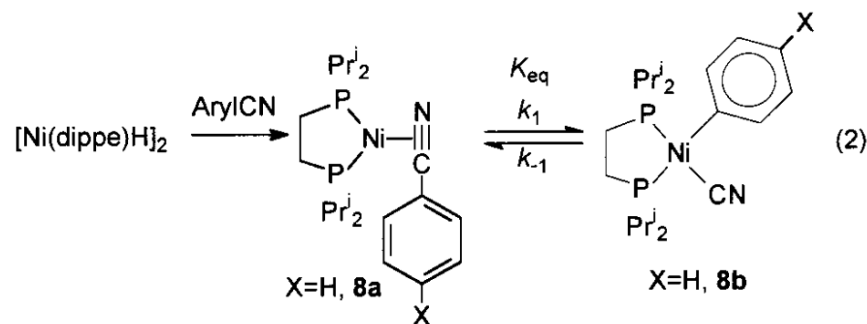


Figure 7. ORTEP drawing of (dippe)Ni(η²-benzonitrile), **8a**. Ellipsoids are shown at the 30% probability level. Selected distances (Å) and angles (deg): Ni(1)–N(1), 1.908(3); Ni(1)–C(1), 1.867(4), C(1)–N(1), 1.225(6); N(1)–C(1)–C(2), 136.1(4); P(1)–Ni(1)–P(2), 91.54(5).

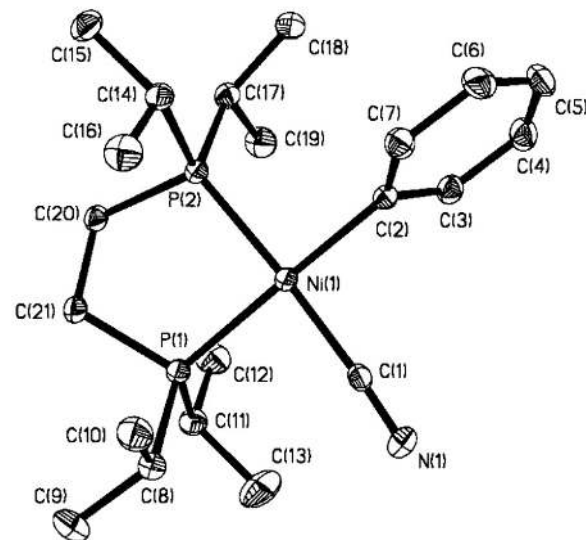


Figure 8. ORTEP drawing of (dippe)Ni(Ph)(CN), **8b**. Ellipsoids are shown at the 30% probability level. Selected distances (Å) and angles (deg): Ni(1)–C(2), 1.935(2); Ni(1)–C(1), 1.877(3); C(1)–N(1), 1.148(3), P(1)–Ni(1)–P(2), 88.56(3).

Nickel Catalysis

Oxidative addition of benzonitriles (Jones, 2002):

Scheme 3

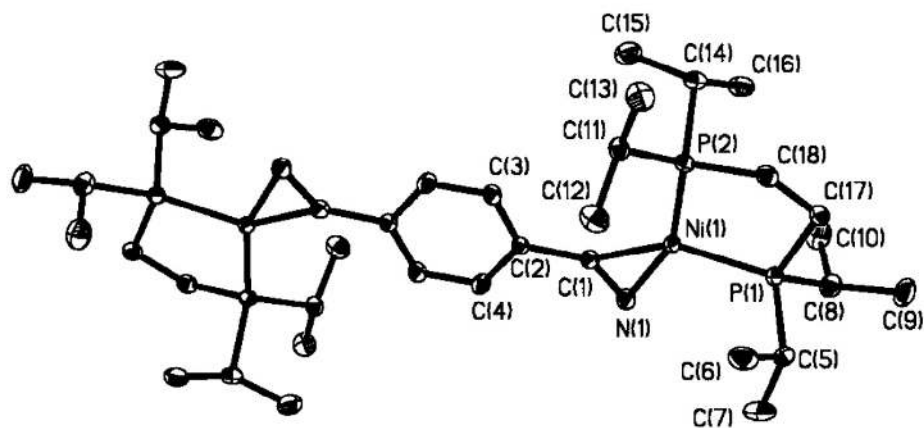
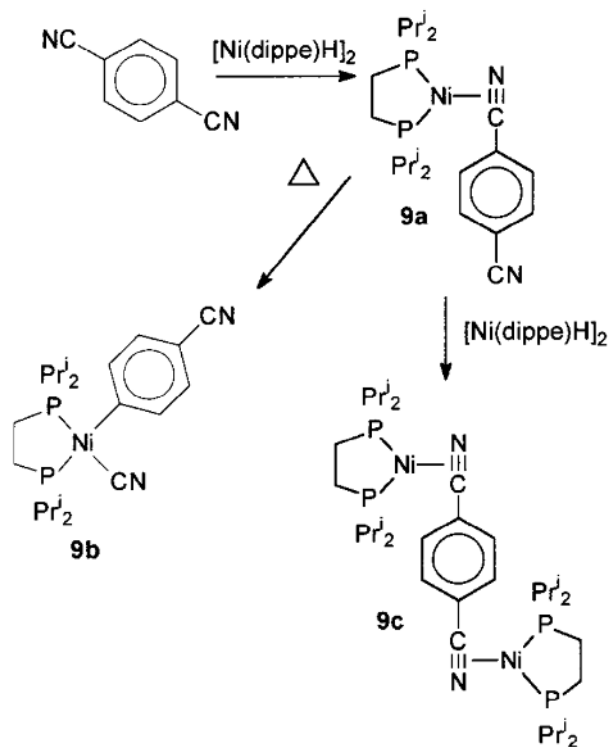
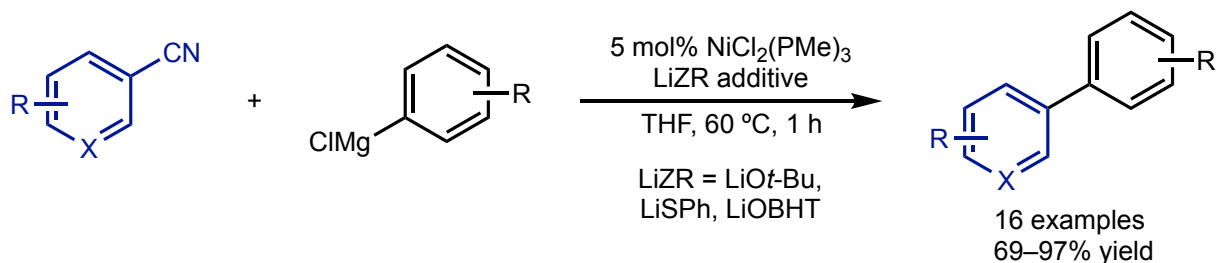


Figure 13. ORTEP drawing of $[(\text{dippe})\text{Ni}]_2(\eta^2, \eta^2\text{-1,4-dicyanobenzene})$, **9c**. Ellipsoids are shown at the 30% probability level. Ni(1)–N(1), 1.918(3); Ni(1)–C(1), 1.853(3), C(1)–N(1), 1.225(4); N(2)–C(8), 1.148(3); N(1)–C(1)–C(2), 136.4(3); P(1)–Ni(1)–P(2), 91.70(4).

Nickel Catalysis

Kumada coupling using nitriles (Miller, 2001):



Role of bulky base additive: form modified ArMgZR (prevents nitrile addition)

For amination, see Miller et al., 2003.

Favero, G.; Morvillo, A.; Turco, A. *J. Organomet. Chem.* **1983**, 241, 251–257.

Tolman, C. A.; Seidel, W. C.; Druliner, J. D.; Domaille, P. J. *Organometallics* **1984**, 3, 33–38.

Miller, J. A. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2001**, 42, 6991–6993.

Miller, J. A.; Dankwardt, J. W.; Penney, J. M. *Synthesis* **2003**, 1643–1648.

Nickel Catalysis

Cross-coupling using aryl ethers (Wenkert and Dankwardt)

Wenkert, 1979:

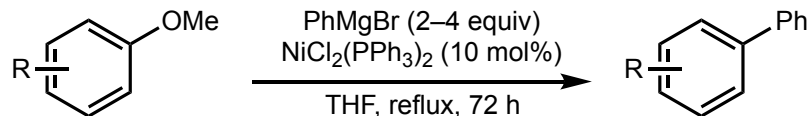


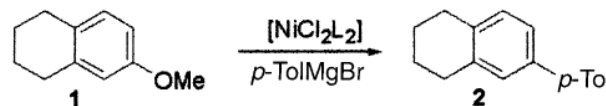
Table II. The Reactions of Aryl Ethers with Phenylmagnesium Bromide^a

ether	products	% yield
1-methoxynaphthalene	1-phenylnaphthalene	70
2-methoxynaphthalene	2-phenylnaphthalene	77 ^b
2,3-dimethoxynaphthalene	2,3-diphenylnaphthalene ^c	45
<i>m</i> -dimethoxybenzene	<i>m</i> -methoxybiphenyl	23 (79)
<i>p</i> -dimethoxybenzene	<i>p</i> -methoxybiphenyl, <i>p</i> -terphenyl	33 (37) 24 (27)
<i>p</i> -methoxybiphenyl	<i>p</i> -terphenyl	30 (55)
<i>m</i> -cresyl methyl ether	<i>m</i> -methylbiphenyl	16 (74)
<i>p</i> -cresyl methyl ether	<i>p</i> -methylbiphenyl	20 (60)

^a A benzene solution of 2–4 mol of Grignard reagent and 0.1 mol of bis(triphenylphosphine)nickel dichloride/mol of aryl ether was refluxed for 72 h. Isolated product yields are based on the initial ether quantity, whereas those listed in parentheses take into account recovered ether. ^b Reaction time 24 h. ^c H. M. Crawford, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **61**, 608 (1939).

Dankwardt, 2004:

Table 3: Ni-catalyzed cross-coupling of **1**: Optimization of the phosphane.^[a]



Entry	L	Recovd. 1 [%]	Conv. 2 [%]
1	PMe ₃	33	33
2	PEt ₃	75	7
3	P <i>i</i> Bu ₃	32	42
4	P <i>i</i> Pr ₃	< 1	82
5	PCy ₃	0	93
6	PhPCy ₂	< 1	92
7	Ph ₂ PCy	7	81
8	Ph ₃ P	74	15

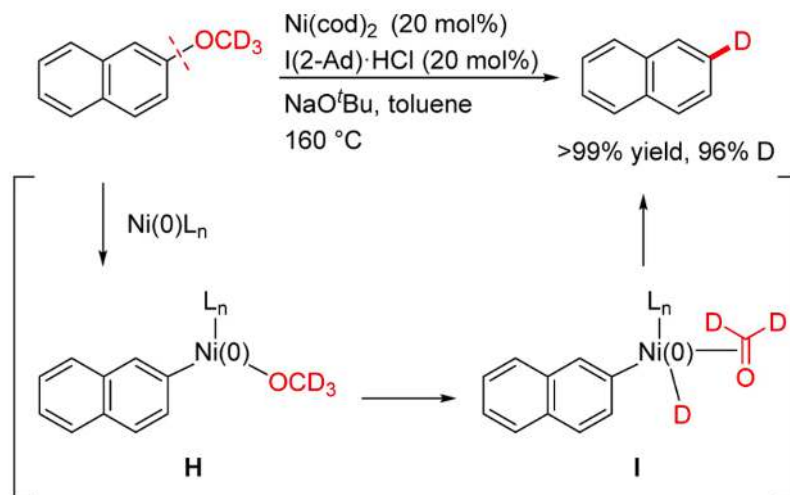
[a] Reactions were carried out at 60 °C in *i*Pr₂O for 15 h with 5 mol% nickel catalyst. Conversions were determined by GC analysis with tridecane as an internal standard.

(a) Wenkert, E.; Michelotti, E. L.; Swindell, C. S. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1979**, *101*, 2246–2247; (b) Dankwardt, J. W. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2004**, *43*, 2428–2432.

Nickel Catalysis

Evidence for C–O oxidative addition: Tobisu and Chatani, 2015

Scheme 20. Experimental Implication of Oxidative Addition of a C(aryl)–OMe Bond to Ni(0)

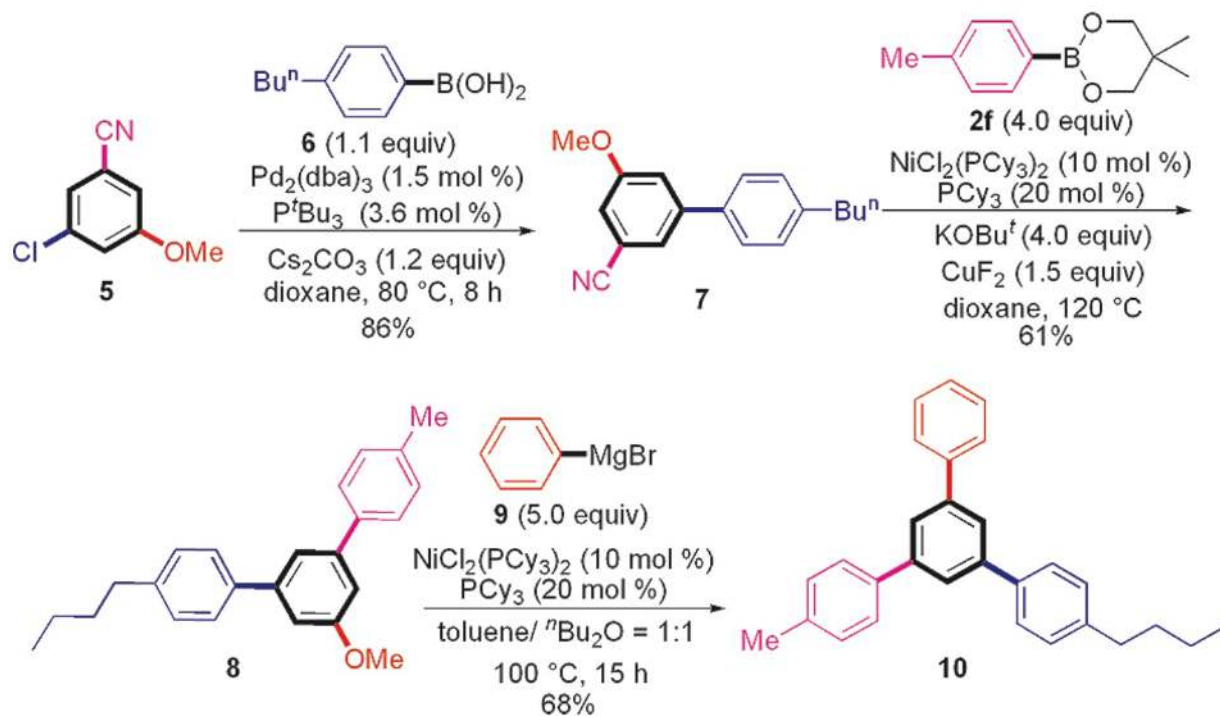


(a) Tobisu, M.; Morioka, T.; Ohtsuki, A.; Chatani, N. *Chem. Sci.* **2015**, 6, 3410–3414; (b) Tobisu, M.; Chatani, N. *Acc. Chem. Res.* **2015**, 48, 1717–1726.

Nickel Catalysis

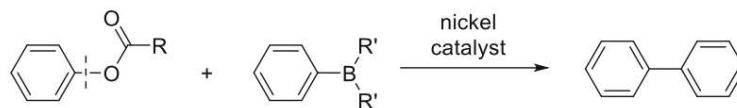
Shi: Iterative cross-coupling of ethers and nitriles (2009)

Scheme 2. Sequential Cross-Coupling to Construct Polysubstituted Benzene



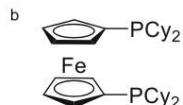
Nickel Catalysis

Table 1 Nickel-catalyzed Suzuki-Miyaura type cross-coupling of aryl esters, carbamates and carbonates



Year	Author	Phenolic substrate	Boron source	Catalyst system	Reference
2008	Garg	Ar-O-CO ^t Bu	Ar'B(OH) ₂	NiCl ₂ (PCy ₃) ₂ K ₃ PO ₄	42
2008	Shi	Ar-OCOR (R = Me, ^t Bu, Ph)	(Ar'BO) ₃ + 0.88 H ₂ O	NiCl ₂ (PCy ₃) ₂ K ₃ PO ₄	43
2009	Garg	Ar-OCONEt ₂ Ar-OCO ^t Bu	Ar'B(OH) ₂	NiCl ₂ (PCy ₃) ₂ K ₃ PO ₄	44
2009	Snieckus	Ar-OCONEt ₂	Ar'B(OH) ₂ + 0.1 (Ar'BO) ₃	NiCl ₂ (PCy ₃) ₂ PCy ₃ ·HBF ₄ K ₃ PO ₄	46
2010	Shi	Ar-OCONMe ₂	(Ar'BO) ₃ + 1.0 H ₂ O	NiCl ₂ (PCy ₃) ₂ PCy ₃ K ₂ CO ₃	45
2010	Molander	Ar-OCO ^t Bu Ar-OCONEt ₂	ArBF ₃ K + H ₂ O	Ni(cod) ₂ ^a PCy ₃ ·HBF ₄ K ₃ PO ₄	49
2011	Kuwano	Ar-OCO ₂ Me	Ar'B(OH) ₂	Ni(cod) ₂ DCyPF ^b K ₂ CO ₃	51

^a
cod = 1,5-cyclooctadiene



Nickel Catalysis

Activation of alternate aryl C–O electrophiles

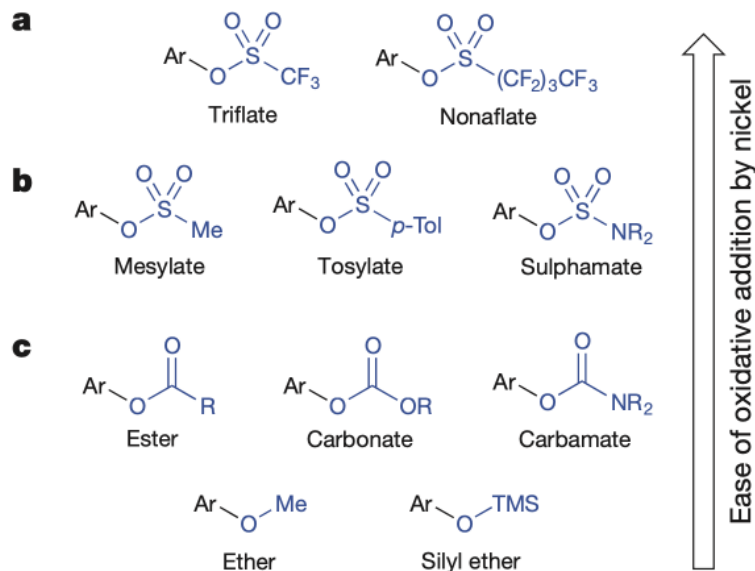
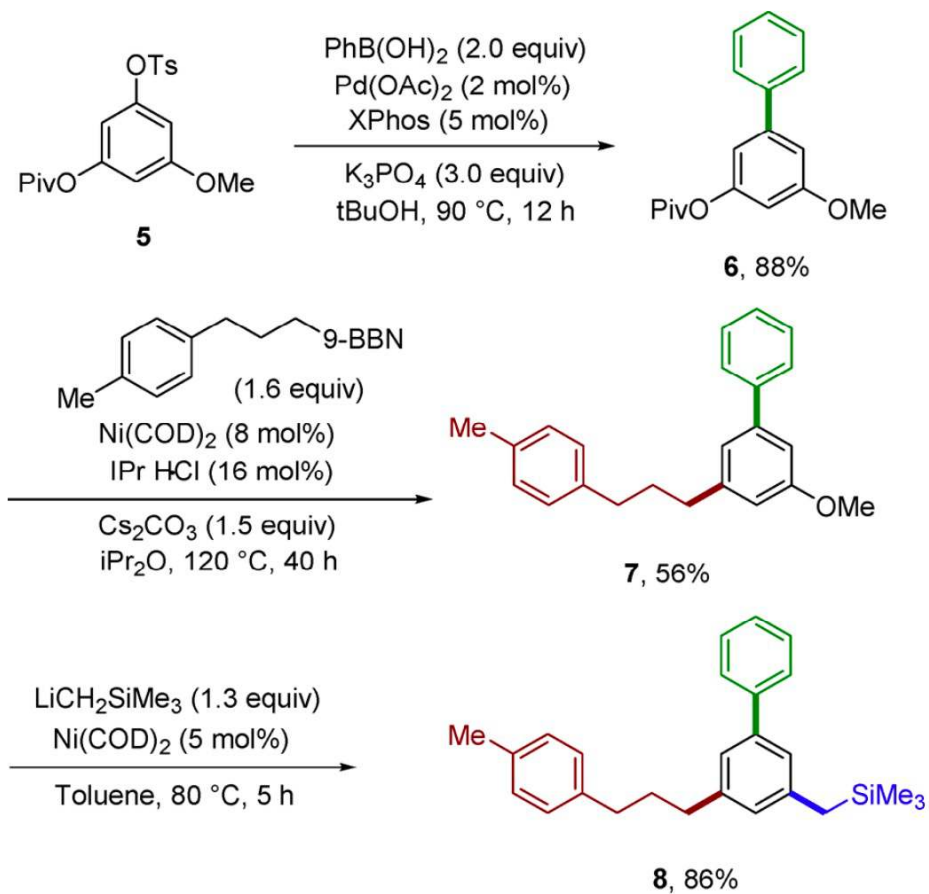


Figure 3 | Halogen alternatives used in cross-coupling reactions. **a**, Aryl triflates have long been used as replacements for halogens in cross-coupling reactions. Aryl nonaflates were developed later to address some of the issues encountered when working with aryl triflates, but their use is less widespread. **b**, The use of aryl mesylates, tosylates and sulphamates presents many advantages over triflates and related fluorinated sulphonates owing to their increased stability. **c**, Like sulphonate derivatives, the use of carboxylic esters, carbonates, carbamates, ethers and silyl ethers can be advantageous in many situations. *p*-Tol, *para*-tolyl (4-methylphenyl); TMS, trimethylsilyl.

Nickel Catalysis

Iterative cross-coupling of "unreactive" electrophiles (Reuping):

Scheme 2. Programmed Selective C–O Bond Activation



Nickel Catalysis

Neufeldt: Cl vs. OTs iterative cross-coupling (2020)

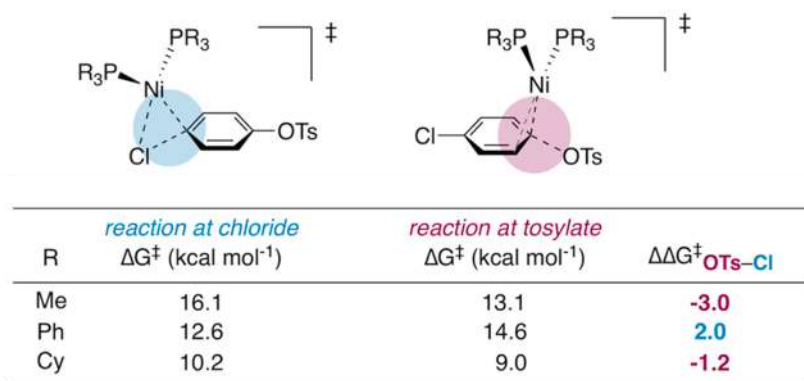


Figure 2. Calculated free energies of activation (in kcal mol⁻¹) for oxidative addition with PMe₃, PPh₃, and PCy₃, measured from the preceding π complex.

Table 1. Ligand Effect on Selectivity of Oxidative Addition

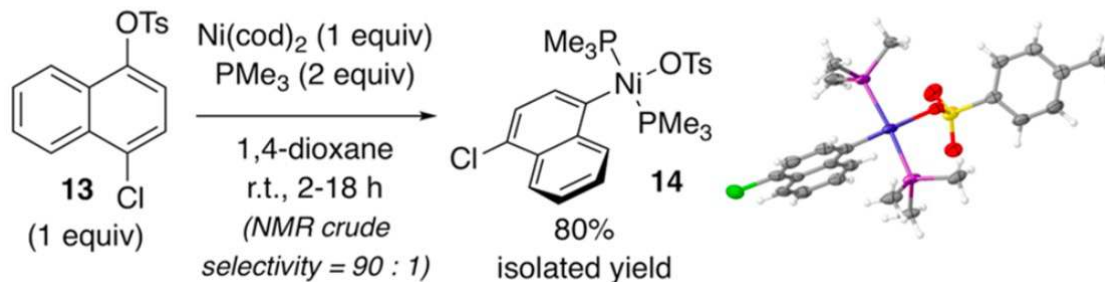
entry	ligand	A : B	entry	ligand	A : B
1	PPh ₃	>99 : 1	7	PCy ₃	1.5 : 1
2	P(-OMe) ₃	>99 : 1	8	P(n-Bu) ₃	1.1 : 1
3	P(-F) ₃	>99 : 1	9	P(i-Bu) ₃	2.9 : 1
4	PPhMe ₂	1 : 5.7	10 ^a	-PCy ₂	>99 : 1
5	PPhEt ₂	2.2 : 1		-PCy ₂	
6	PPh ₂ Me	1 : 1	11	PEt ₃	1.8 : 1
			12	PMe ₃	1 : 6.3

^aWith 1 equiv of bisphosphine relative to nickel.

Nickel Catalysis

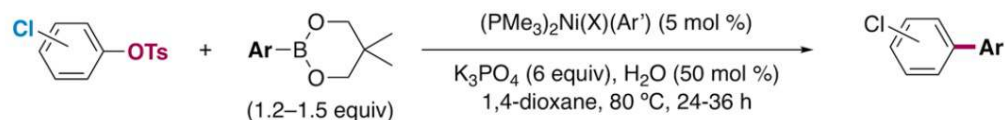
Cl vs. OTs iterative cross-coupling (Neufeldt):

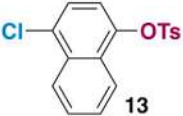
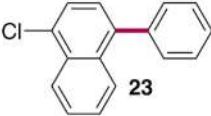
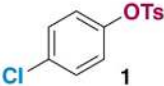
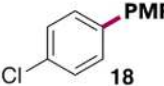
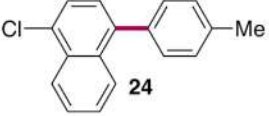
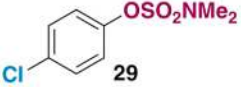
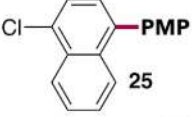
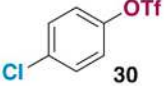
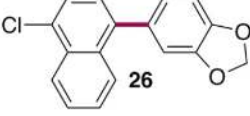
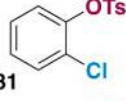
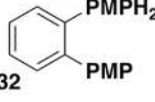
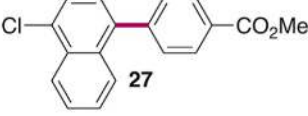
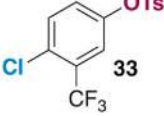
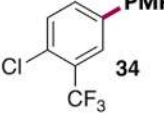
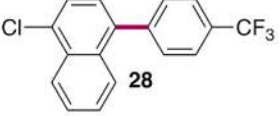
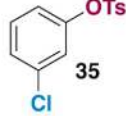
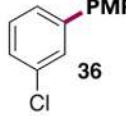
Scheme 2. Chemoselective Oxidative Addition with PMe_3



Nickel Catalysis

Cl vs. OTs iterative cross-coupling (Neufeldt):



entry	substrate	major product	% GC yield (selectivity) ^b	isolated yield (%)	entry	substrate	major product	% GC yield (selectivity) ^b	isolated yield (%)
1 ^c			80 (>50:1)	72	7 ^d			88 (44:1)	72
2	13		80 (>50:1)	61	8 ^d		18	55 (8:1)	39
3	13		95 (>50:1)	78	9 ^d		18	49 (>50:1)	48
4	13		86 (>50:1)	75	10			48	35
5	13		86 (>50:1)	62	11			73 (>50:1)	35
6 ^c	13		87 (>50:1)	64	12			89 (30:1)	67

Nickel Catalysis

Cl vs. OTs iterative cross-coupling (Neufeldt):

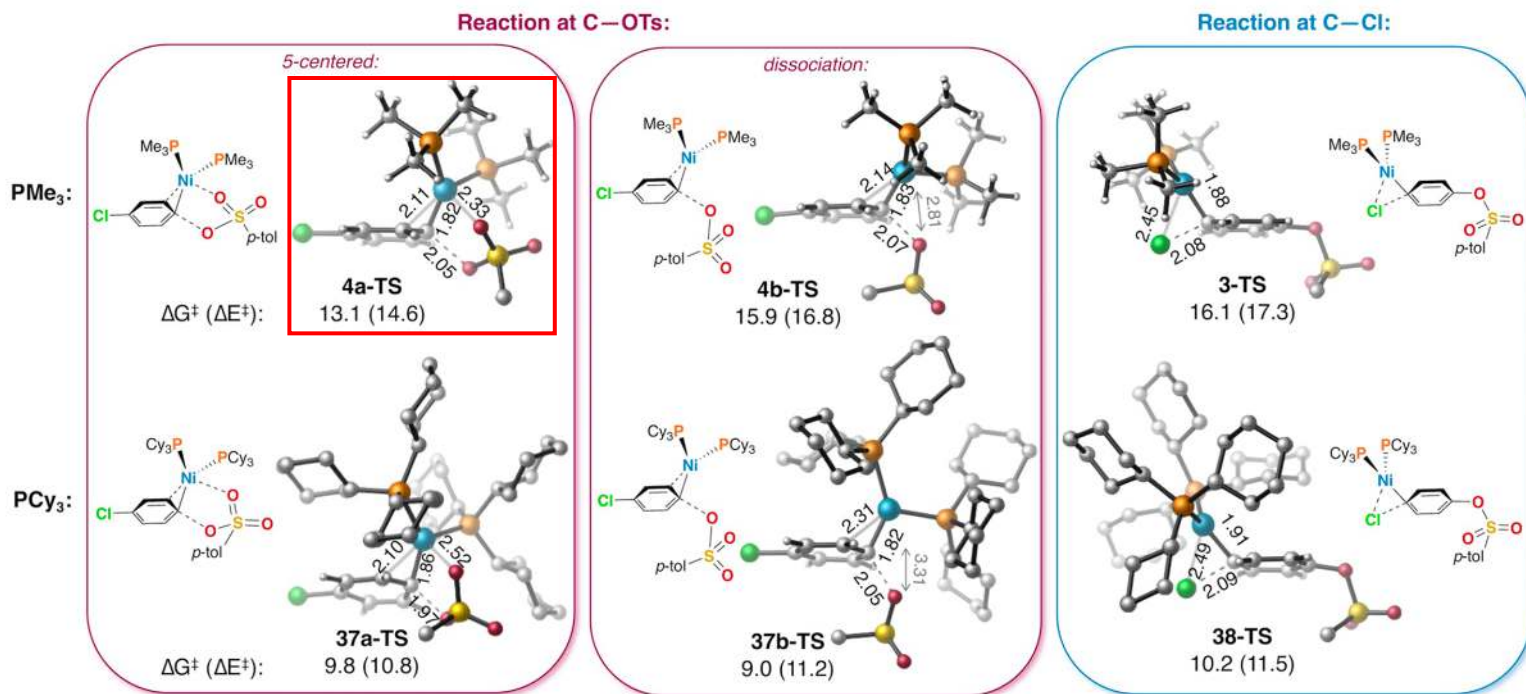


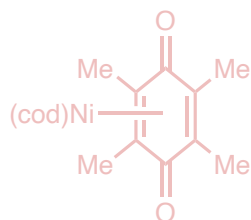
Figure 7. Oxidative addition transition structures using Ni(PMe₃)₃ and Ni(PCy₃)₂. Most of the carbons and hydrogens of tosylate, as well as the hydrogens on PCy₃, are hidden for clarity (see SI for complete structures).

Steric feature: More stabilizing Ni–O=S interaction in TS using PMe₃

Nickel Catalysis

Topics in nickel cross-coupling:

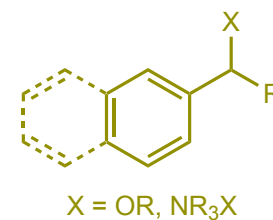
Directions in Precatalyst Synthesis



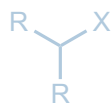
“Inert”/“Nonclassical” C(sp²)-X Electrophiles Ni(0)/Ni(II)



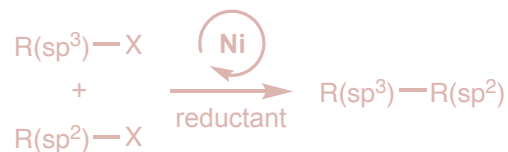
Benzylic C(sp³)-X Electrophiles Ni(0)/Ni(II)



“Unactivated” C(sp³)-X Electrophiles Ni(I)/Ni(III)



Cross-Electrophile Coupling Ni(0)/Ni(I)/Ni(II)/Ni(III)



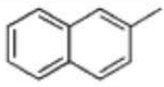
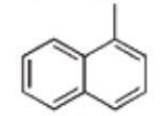
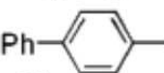
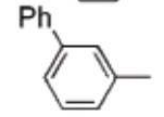
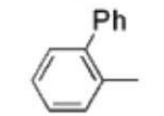

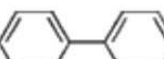

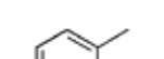

Conjunctive Cross-Coupling (Short)



Nickel Catalysis

Methylation of benzylic C–OMe electrophiles (Shi, 2008)

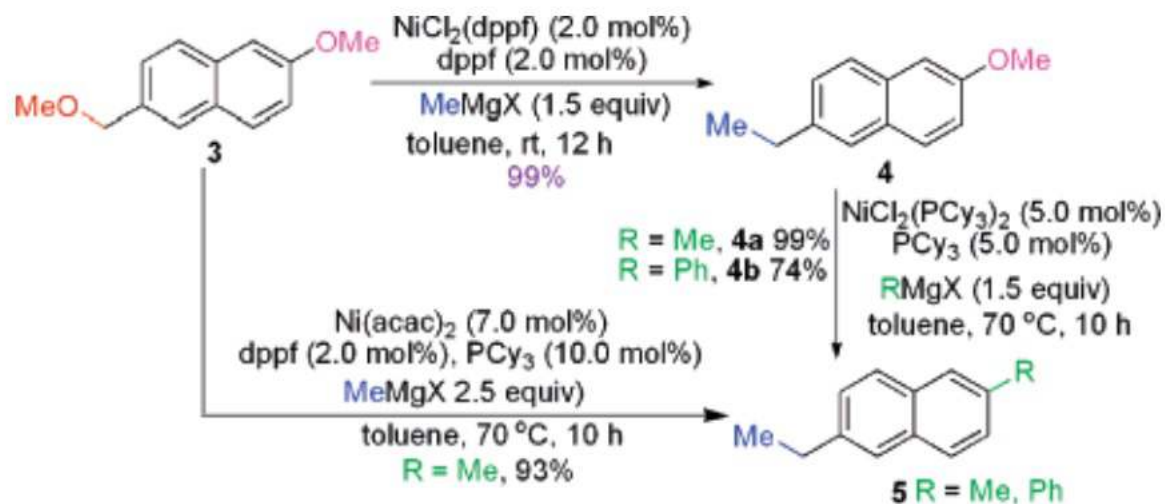
Table 3. Benzylic Methylation with Different Substrates via Ni-Catalyzation^a

$\text{Ar}-\text{CH}_2-\text{OMe} \quad \mathbf{1} + \text{MeMgBr} \xrightarrow[\text{toluene, 80 } ^\circ\text{C, 10 h}]{\text{NiCl}_2(\text{dppf}) (2.0 \text{ mol}\%), \text{dppf} (2.0 \text{ mol}\%)} \text{Ar}-\text{CH}_2-\text{Me} \quad \mathbf{2}$			
entry	Ar	1	2 (%)^b
1 ^c		1a	2a (80)
2 ^c		1k	2g (75)
3		1l	2h (99)
4		1m	2i (91)
5		1n	2j (86)
6 ^d		X = F 1o	2k (92)
7		X = OMe 1p	2l (89)
8		X = Me 1q	2k (95)
9 ^e		X = OH 1r	2m (70)
10 ^f		1s	2n (> 99)

Nickel Catalysis

Methylation of benzylic C–OMe electrophiles (Shi, 2008)

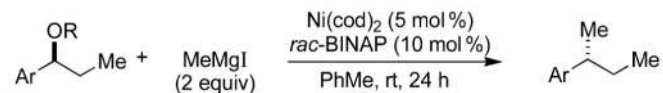
Scheme 1. High Chemoselective C–O Activation of Both sp^3 and sp^2 C–OMe

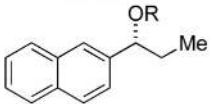
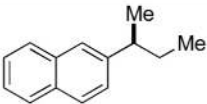
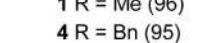

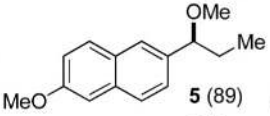
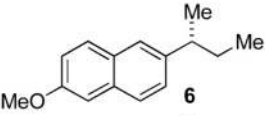
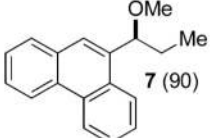
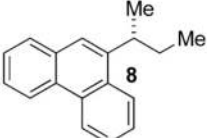
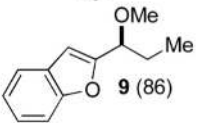
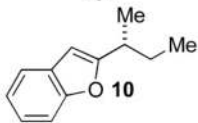
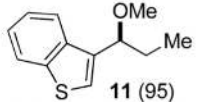
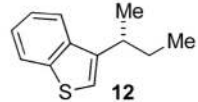


Nickel Catalysis

Jarvo (2011): Enantiospecific methylation of α -aryl ethers

Table 2. Stereospecific Cross-Coupling Reactions



entry	substrate, (ee (%)) ^a	product	yield (%) ^b	ee (%) ^a
1	 1 R = Me (96)	 2	72	94
2 ^c	 4 R = Bn (95)	 2	72	96
3	 5 (89)	 6	70	85
4 ^d	 7 (90)	 8	71	90
5 ^d	 9 (86)	 10	82	87
6 ^d	 11 (95)	 12	87	95

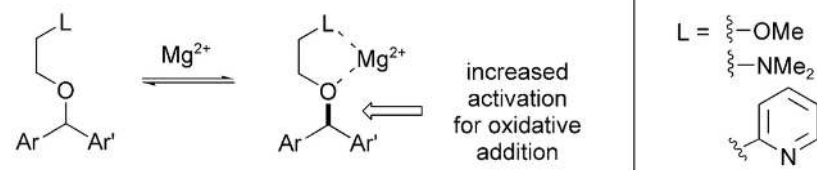
^a %ee determined by SFC. ^b Isolated yield after column chromatography. ^c Reaction run at 35 °C instead of rt. ^d DPEphos used instead of *rac*-BINAP.

Nickel Catalysis

Jarvo (2012): Enantiospecific arylation of α -aryl ethers

Table 1: Effect of chelating leaving groups.

Entry	Ether	R	Ligand	Yield 2 [%] ^[a]	<i>es</i> 2 [%] ^[b]	Yield 3 [%] ^[a]
1 ^[c,d]	(<i>S</i>)- 1 a		DPEphos	56 ^[e]	33	18 ^[e,f]
2 ^[d]	(\pm)- 1 a	Me	<i>rac</i> -BINAP	< 2	–	26
3 ^[d]	(\pm)- 1 a		dppf	3	–	10
4 ^[d]	(<i>S</i>)- 1 a		dppb	14	93	< 2
5	(\pm)- 1 b		DPEphos	< 2	–	< 2
6 ^[g]	(\pm)- 1 c	NMe ₂	DPEphos	67	–	16
7	(<i>S</i>)- 1 d		DPEphos	69 ^[e]	46	17 ^[e,f]
8 ^[d]	(<i>S</i>)- 1 d		dppb	67	93	3
9 ^[h]	(<i>S</i>)- 1 d		dpppent	73	> 99	< 2
10 ^[h]	(<i>S</i>)- 1 d	OMe	dpph	> 95	> 99	< 2
11 ^[h]	(<i>S</i>)- 1 d		dppo	84	> 99	< 2
12 ^[h,i]	(\pm)- 1 d		MePh ₂ P	12	–	< 2
13 ^[h,i]	(<i>S</i>)- 1 d		Ph ₃ P	90	94	5

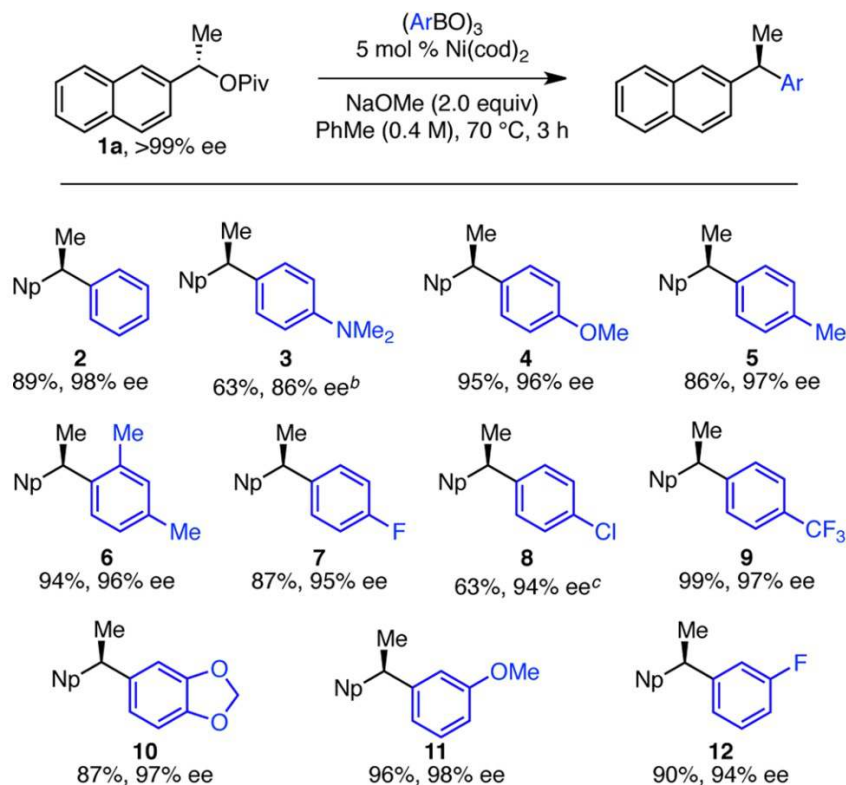


Scheme 2. Design of a chelating leaving group to activate C–O bonds toward oxidative addition

Nickel Catalysis

Watson (2013): Enantiospecific Suzuki–Miyaura arylation of α -aryl pivalates

Scheme 2. Scope of Boroxines^a



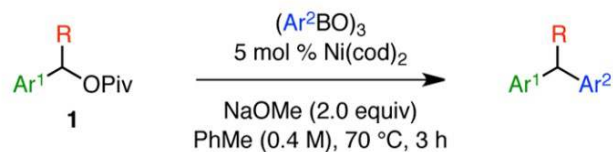
^aConditions: pivalate **1a** (0.20 mmol, 1.0 equiv), boroxine (0.83 equiv), $Ni(cod)_2$ (5 mol %), and NaOMe (2.0 equiv) in PhMe (0.4 M) at 70 °C for 3 h, unless otherwise noted. Average isolated yields of duplicate experiments (± 0 –2%) and average ee's of duplicate experiments (± 0 –1%) as determined by chiral HPLC are reported.

^b10 mol % $Ni(cod)_2$, 90 °C, 12 h. ^c40 °C, 24 h.

Nickel Catalysis

Watson (2013): Enantiospecific Suzuki–Miyaura arylation of α -aryl pivalates

Table 2. Scope of Pivalates^a



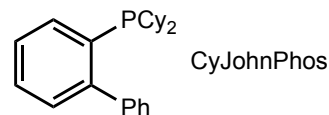
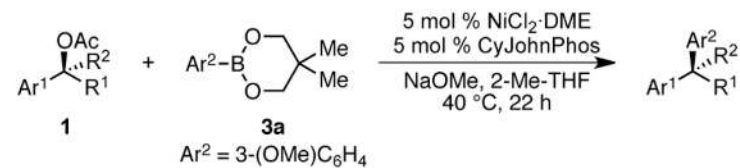
Note: all **electrophiles** are π -extended or conjugated π

entry	1 (% ee) ^b	Product	yield (%) ^c	ee (%) ^d	es (%) ^e
7 ^k	 1e (>99)	 19	87	93	≥93
8	 1f (98)	 20	84	94	96
9	 1g (95)	 21	45	89	94
10	 1h (86)	 22	73	73	85
11	 1i (82)	 23	94	58	71
12 ^{l,m}	 1j (82)	 24	49	72	88
13 ^{f,m,n}	 1k (93)	 25	33	84	90

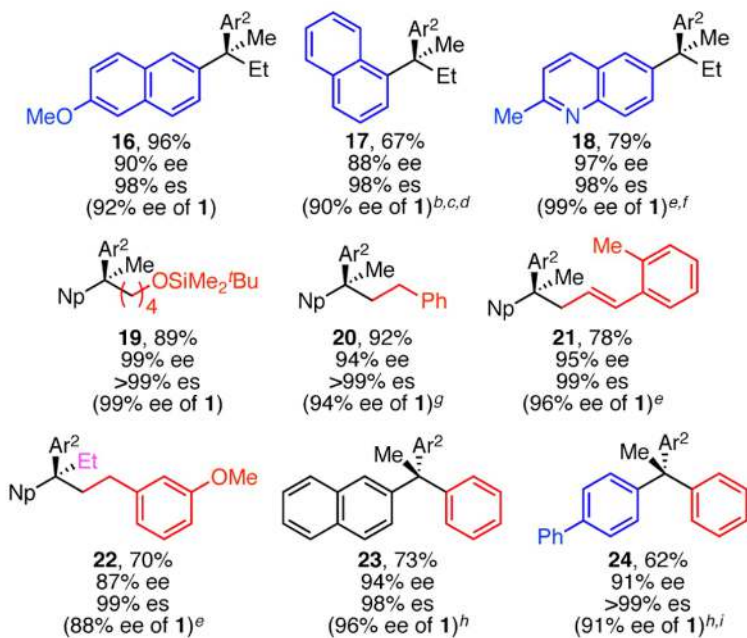
Nickel Catalysis

Watson (2016): Application to quaternary acetates

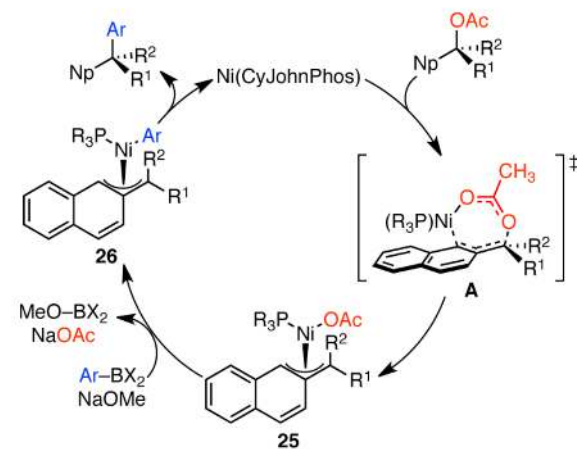
Scheme 3. Scope of Tertiary Acetates^a



Again: all electrophiles are π -extended or conjugated π

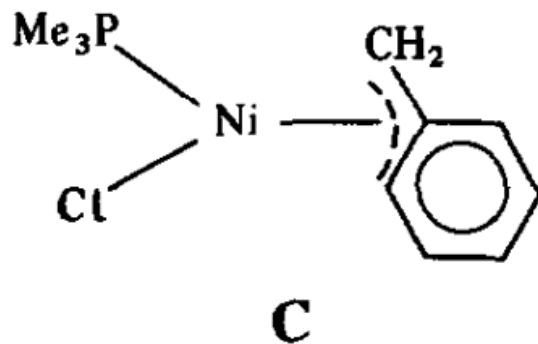
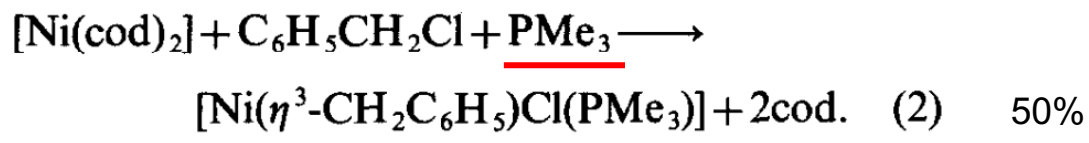
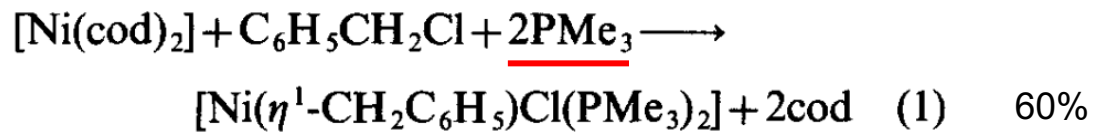


Scheme 4. Putative Catalytic Cycle



Nickel Catalysis

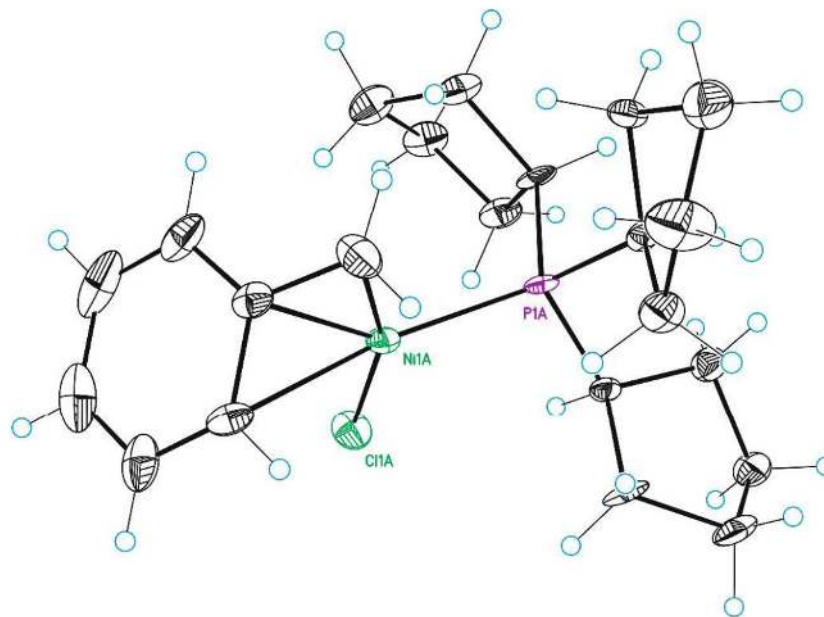
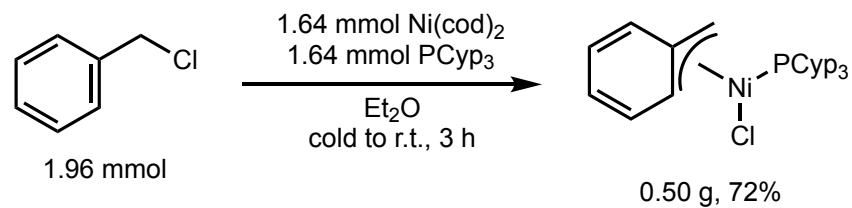
Carmona (1989): Isolation of benzylic Ni(II) compounds



Benzylic CH₂ (¹H NMR):
 η^1 (eq. 1): 1.71 (s, 2H) ppm
 η^3 (eq. 2): 1.00 (br s, 2H) ppm

Nickel Catalysis

Martin (2013): Isolation of benzylic Ni(II) compounds



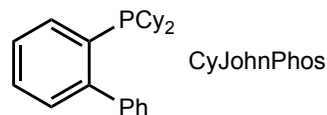
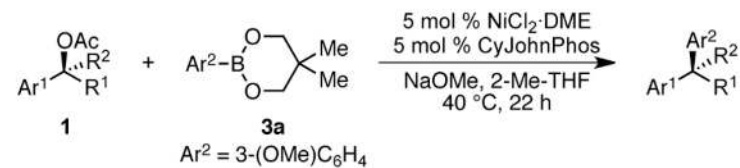
León, T.; Correa, A.; Martin, R. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2013**, *135*, 1221–1224.

See also: Matsubara, R.; Gutierrez, A. C.; Jamison, T. F. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2011**, *133*, 19020–19023.

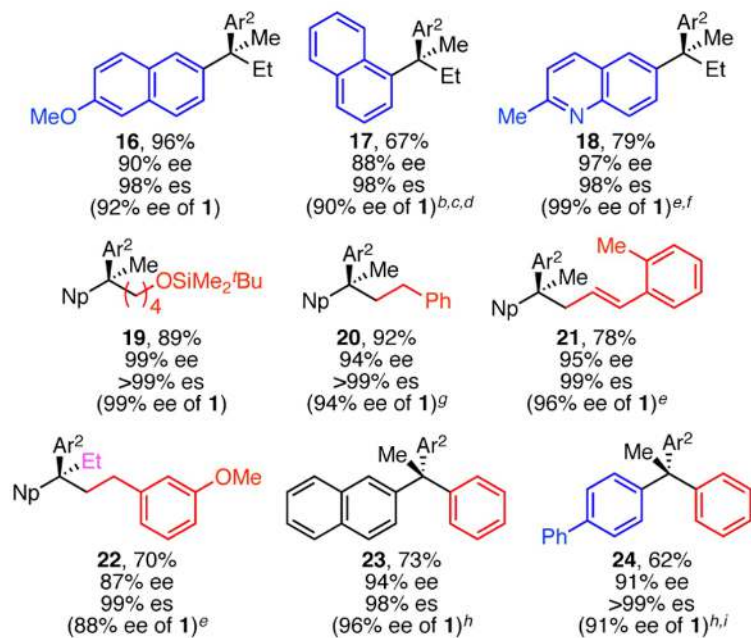
Nickel Catalysis

Watson (2016): Application to quaternary acetates

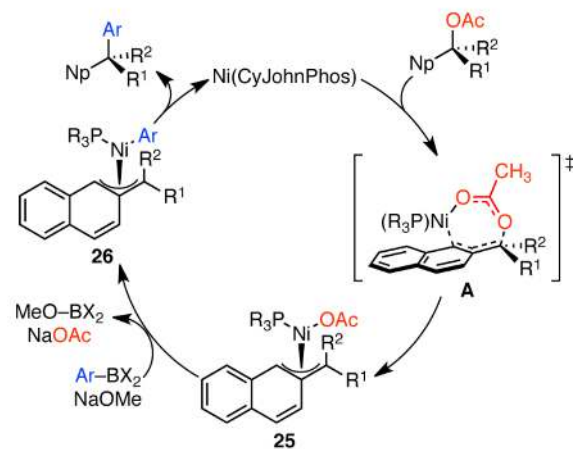
Scheme 3. Scope of Tertiary Acetates^a



Again: all electrophiles are π -extended or conjugated π



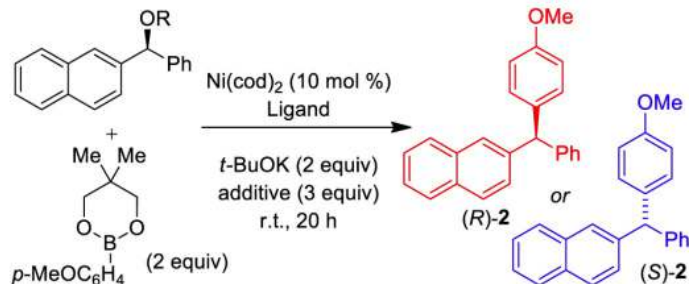
Scheme 4. Putative Catalytic Cycle



Nickel Catalysis

Jarvo (2013): Enantiospecific Suzuki–Miyaura arylation of α -aryl pivalates (retention or inversion)

Table 1. Optimization of the Reaction Conditions

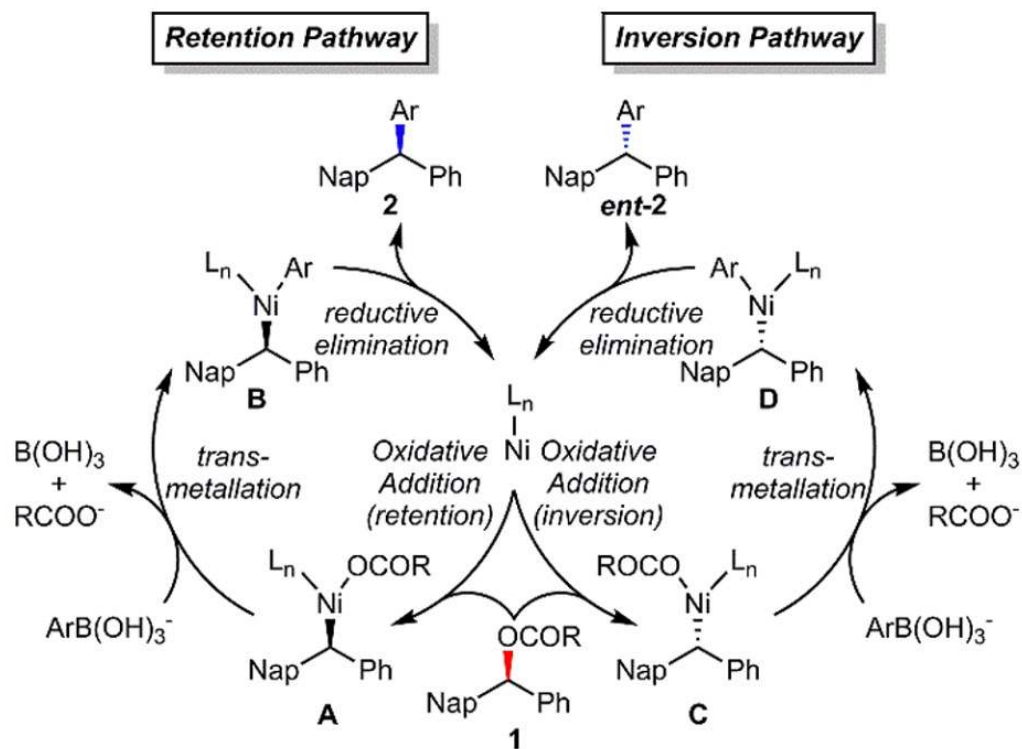


Entry	R	ligand ^a	solvent	additive	% yield ^b	es ^c	retention/ inversion
1		PCy_3	PhMe	none	46	7	retention
2		PCy_3	THF	none	53	43	retention
3	(S)-3	PCy_3	THF	H_2O	74	10	retention
4		PCy_3	THF	$n\text{-BuOH}$	76	87	retention
5		PCy_3	THF	$i\text{-PrOH}$	46	78	retention
6		PCy_3	THF	$t\text{-BuOH}$	55	43	retention
7		PCy_3	THF	$\text{F}_3\text{CCH}_2\text{OH}$	< 5	na	retention
8		PCy_3	THF	$n\text{-BuOH}$	53	76	retention
9	(S)-4	SImes	THF	$n\text{-BuOH}$	60	77	inversion
10		PCy_3	THF	$n\text{-BuOH}$	57	91	retention
11	(S)-5	SImes	THF	$n\text{-BuOH}$	83	>99	inversion
12		PCy_3	THF	$n\text{-BuOH}$	62	95	retention
13		PCy_3	THF/PhMe	none	67	35	retention
14	(S)-1	SImes	THF/PhMe	none	82	92	inversion
15		PCy_3	THF/PhMe	$n\text{-BuOH}$	88	99	retention
16		SImes	THF/PhMe	$n\text{-BuOH}$	84	99	inversion

^a PCy_3 (20 mol %); SImes (11 mol %). ^bIsolated yields after column chromatography. ^cEnantiospecificity (es) = $(\text{ee}_{\text{product}}/\text{ee}_{\text{starting material}}) \times 100\%$.

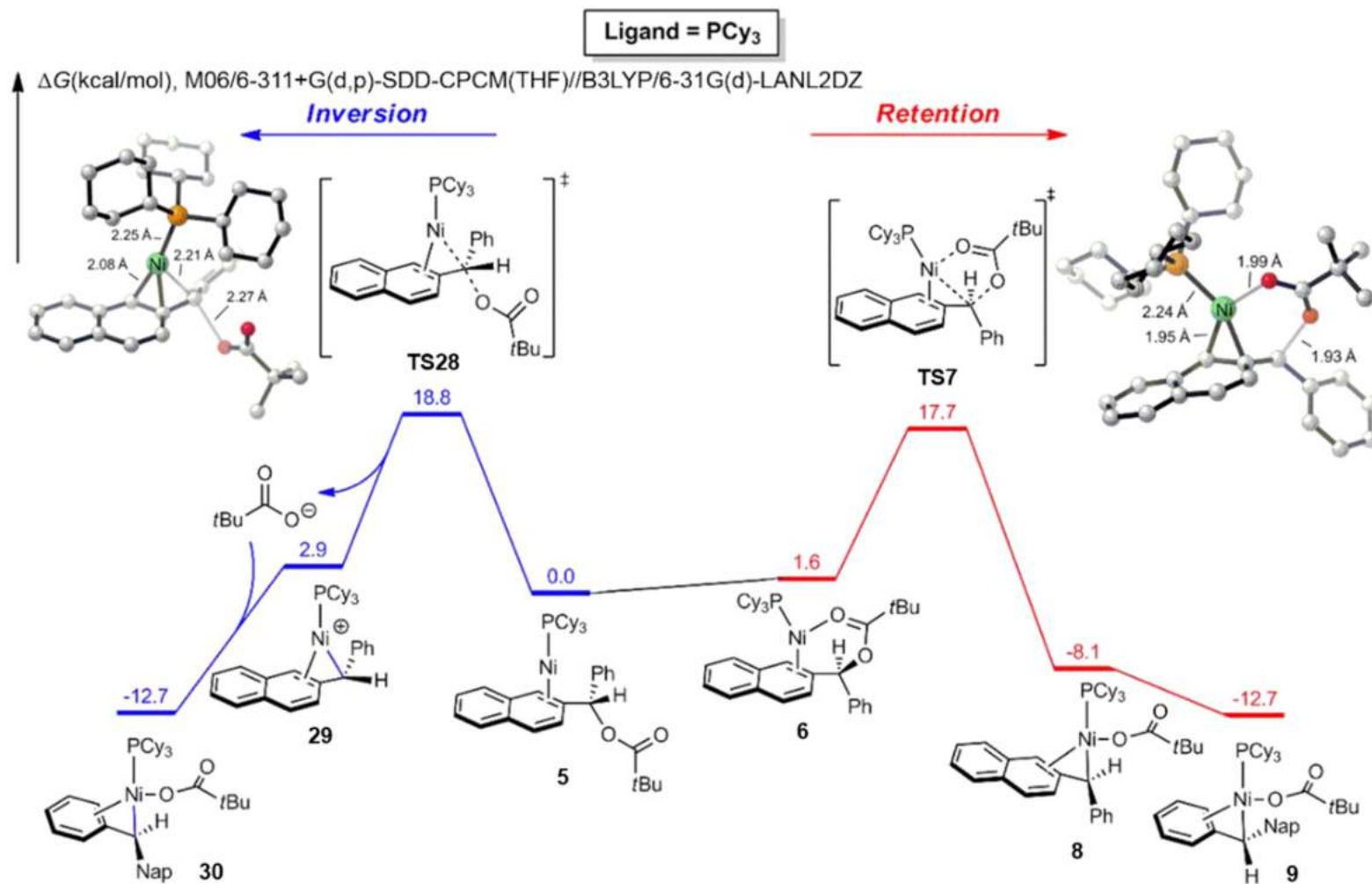
Nickel Catalysis

Jarvo, Houk, Hong (2017): Computational study of retention/inversion mechanism



Nickel Catalysis

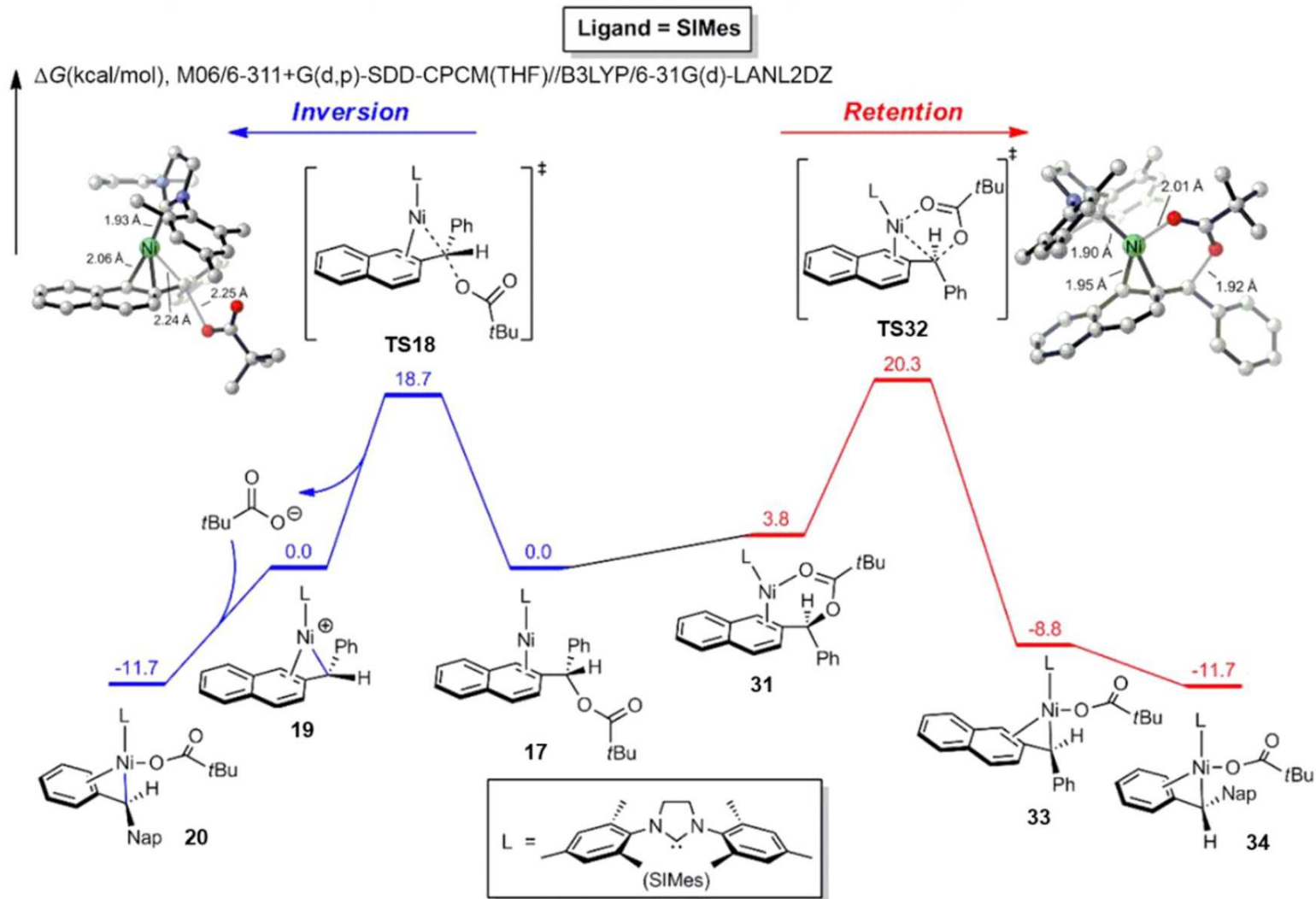
Jarvo, Houk, Hong (2017): Computational study of retention/inversion mechanism



PCy₃: Curtin–Hammett scenario operational

Nickel Catalysis

Jarvo, Houk, Hong (2017): Computational study of retention/inversion mechanism



SIMes: Curtin–Hammett scenario *not* operational

Zhang, S.-Q.; Taylor, B. L. H.; Ji, C.-L.; Gao, Y.; Harris, M. R.; Hanna, L. E.; Jarvo, E. R.; Houk, K. N.; Hong, X. J. *Am. Chem. Soc.* **2017**, *139*, 12994–13005.

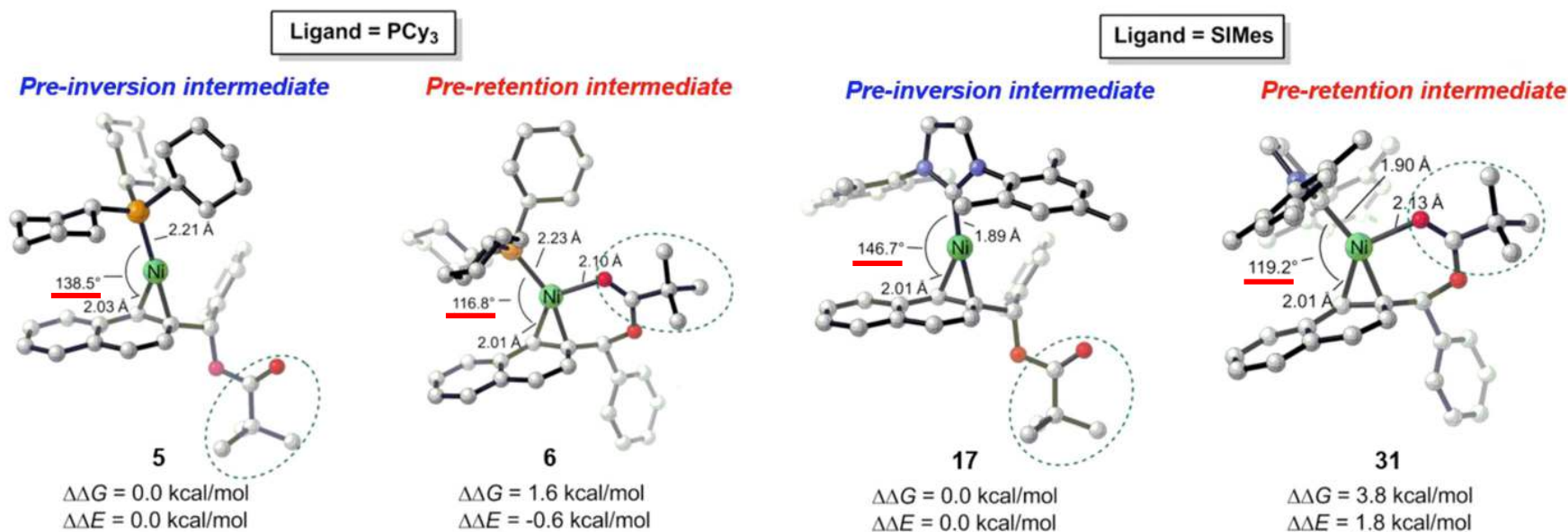
Nickel Catalysis

Jarvo, Houk, Hong (2017): Computational study of retention/inversion mechanism

**Ground-state analysis*—but early TS in both cases*

PCy₃: Retention occurs

SIMes: Inversion occurs



Retention pathway:
Key distortion of (η^2 -Ni-L angle)

Nickel Catalysis

Jarvo, Houk, Hong (2017): Computational study of retention/inversion mechanism

PCy₃: Retention occurs

SIMes: Inversion occurs

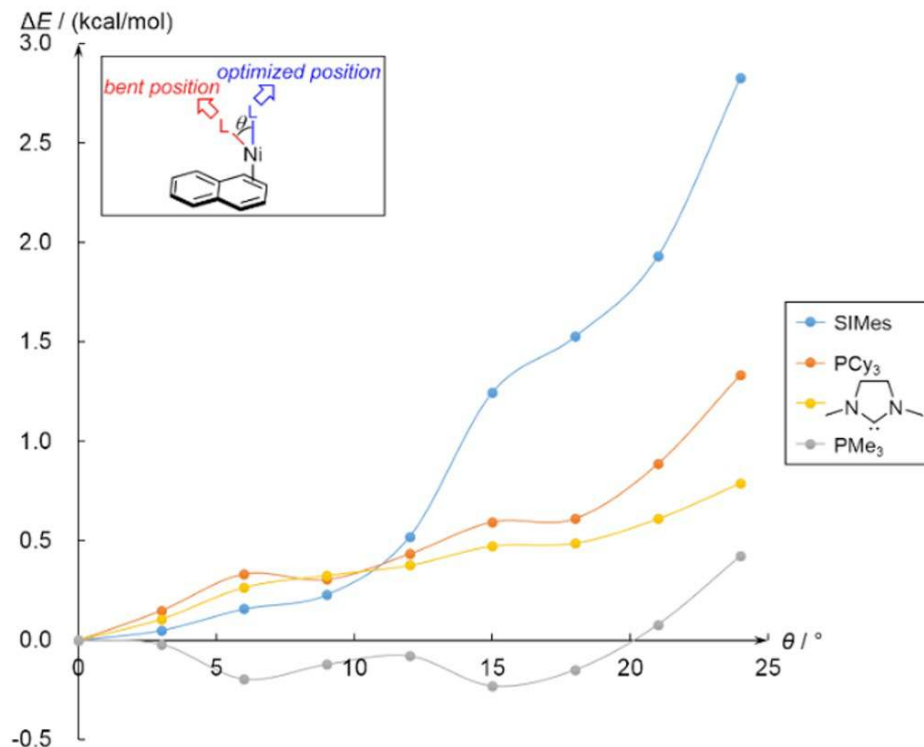
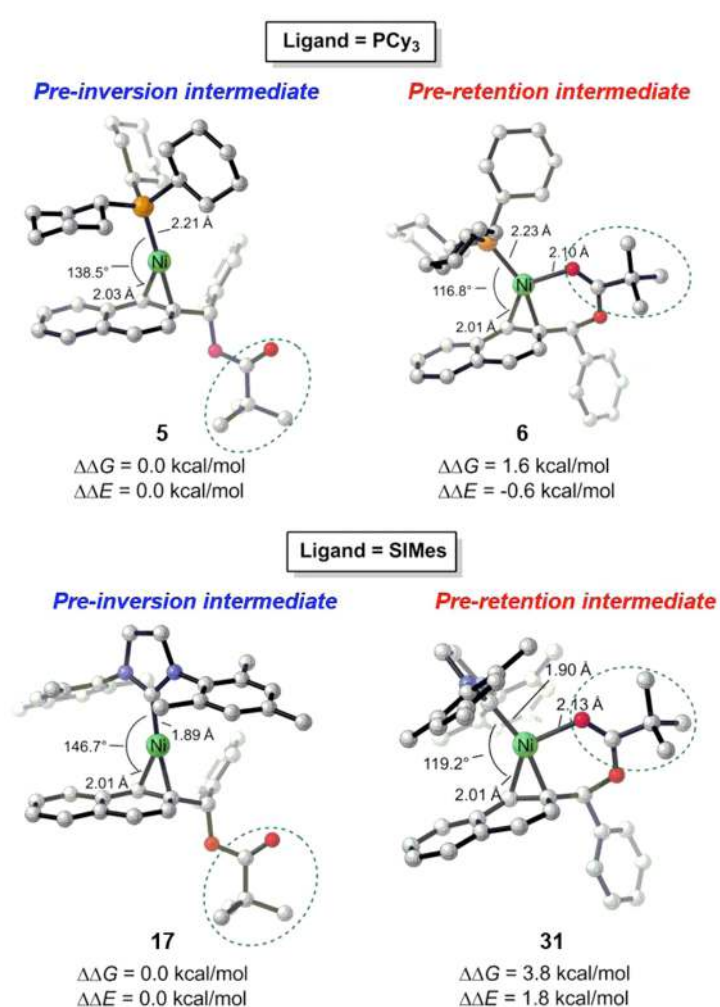


Figure 8. Relative gas phase electronic energies of [LNi(naphthalene)] complexes with different substrate–nickel–ligand angles. θ is the bending angle of ligand from the optimized position to the bent position.

Nickel Catalysis

Jarvo, Houk, Hong (2017): Computational study of retention/inversion mechanism

PCy₃: Retention occurs

SIMes: Inversion occurs

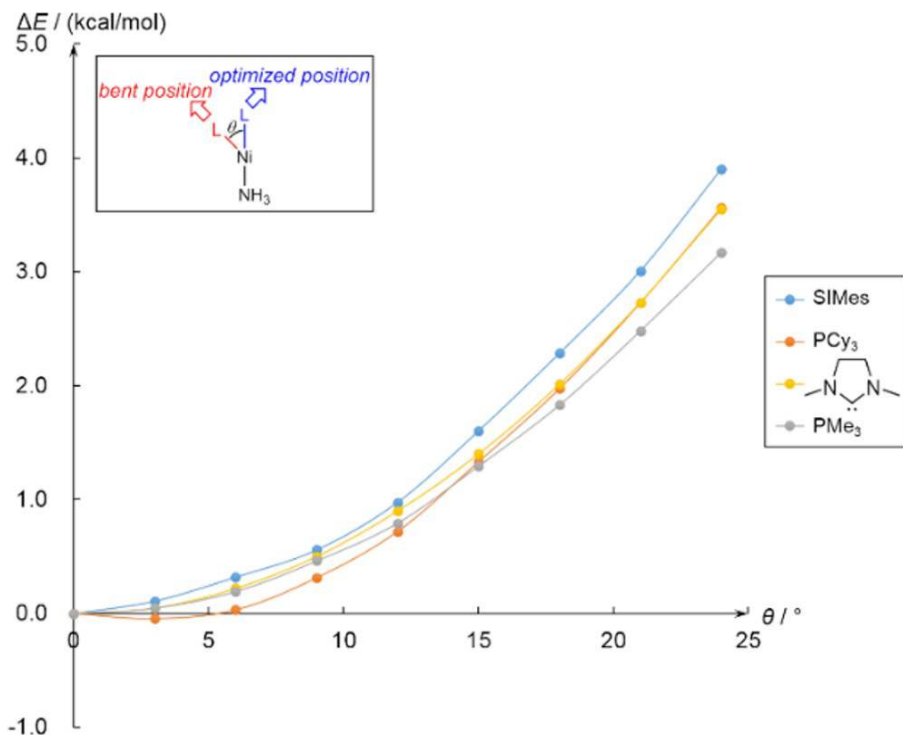
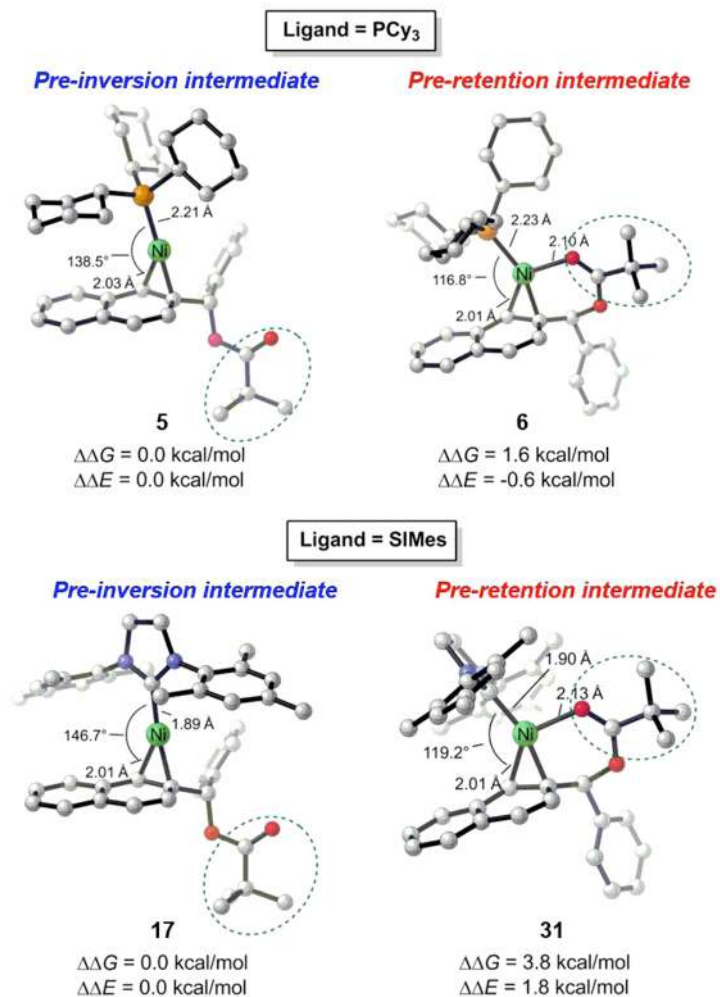


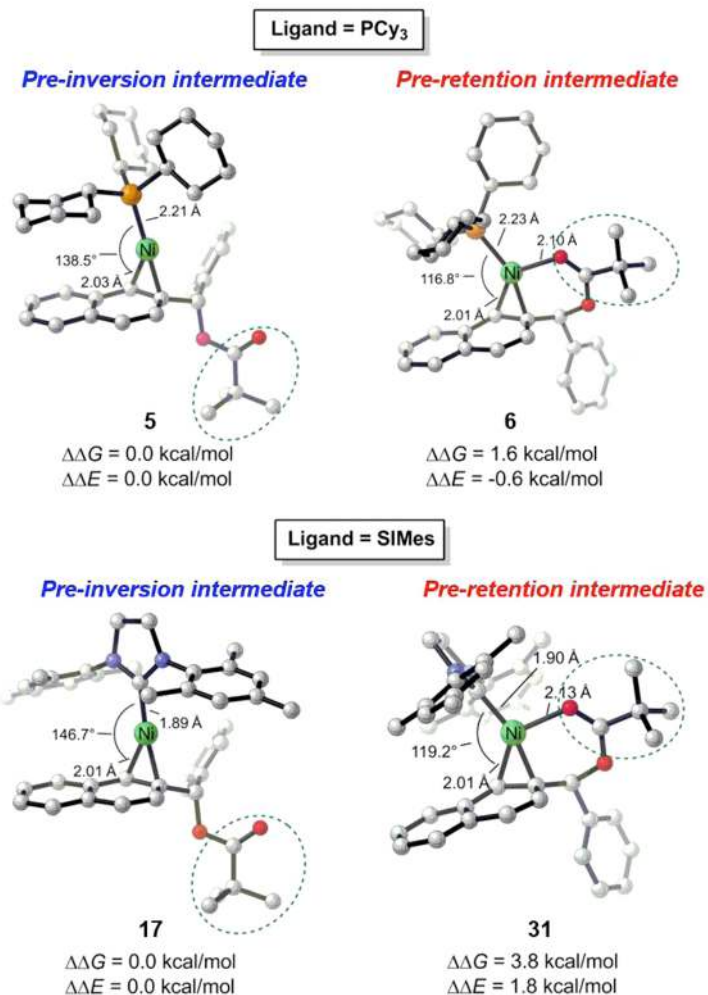
Figure 9. Relative gas phase electronic energies of [LNi(NH₃)] complexes with different substrate–nickel–ligand angles. θ is the bending angle, defined in Figure 8.

Nickel Catalysis

Jarvo, Houk, Hong (2017): Computational study of retention/inversion mechanism

PCy₃: Retention occurs

SIMes: Inversion occurs



B. Steric effects of ligand

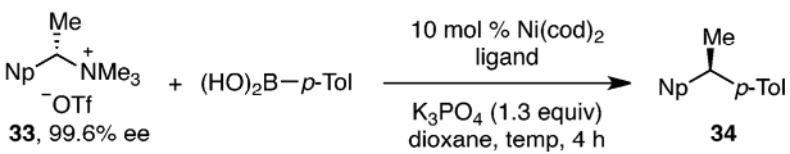
Substrate	$\Delta\Delta G^\ddagger$ (PCy ₃)	$\Delta\Delta G^\ddagger$ (PtBu ₃)	$\Delta\Delta G^\ddagger$ (SIMes)	$\Delta\Delta G^\ddagger$ (SIPr)
3	1.1	-3.8	-1.6	-6.2

^aThe computed stereoselectivities are listed as $\Delta\Delta G^\ddagger = \Delta G^\ddagger(\text{inversion}) - \Delta G^\ddagger(\text{retention})$ in kcal/mol.

Nickel Catalysis

Watson (2013): Coupling of benzylic ammonium compounds

Table 2. Optimization of Branched Ammonium Salt^a




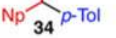

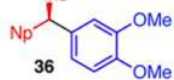
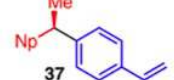
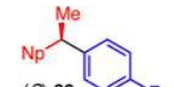
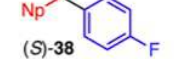
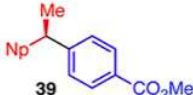

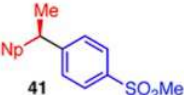

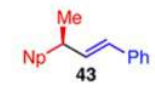
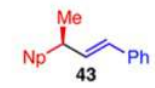
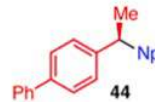



entry	ligand (mol %)	temp (°C)	yield (%) ^b	ee (%) ^c
1	PPh ₂ Cy (22)	100	84	81
2	PPhCy ₂ (22)	100	97	79
3	PPh ₃ (22)	100	83	81
4	<i>t</i> -Bu-XantPhos (12)	100	(91)	98
5	XantPhos (12)	100	15	40
6	P(<i>o</i> -Tol) ₃ (22)	100	71	98
7	P(<i>o</i> -Tol) ₃ (22)	70	94	98
8 ^d	P(<i>o</i> -Tol) ₃ (22)	70	95	98
9 ^e	none	70	0	n.d. ^f
10 ^e	none	100	0	n.d. ^f

^aConditions: ammonium triflate **33** (0.10 mmol, 1.0 equiv), boronic acid (1.2 equiv), Ni(cod)₂ (10 mol %), ligand, K₃PO₄ (1.3 equiv), dioxane (0.4 M), 4 h, unless noted otherwise. ^bDetermined by ¹H NMR analysis using 1,3,5-trimethoxybenzene as internal standard. ^cDetermined by chiral HPLC. ^dPhMe replaced dioxane as solvent. ^eNo Ni(cod)₂ used. ^fn.d. = not determined.

Nickel Catalysis

Watson (2013): Coupling of benzylic ammonium compounds

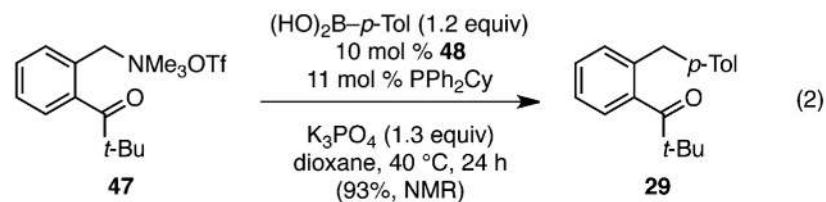
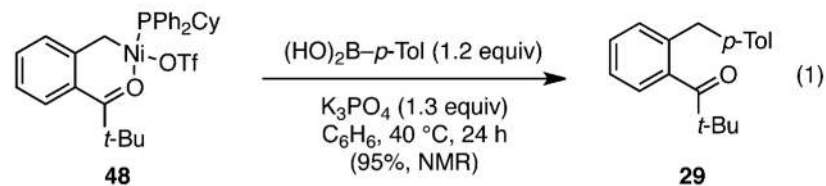
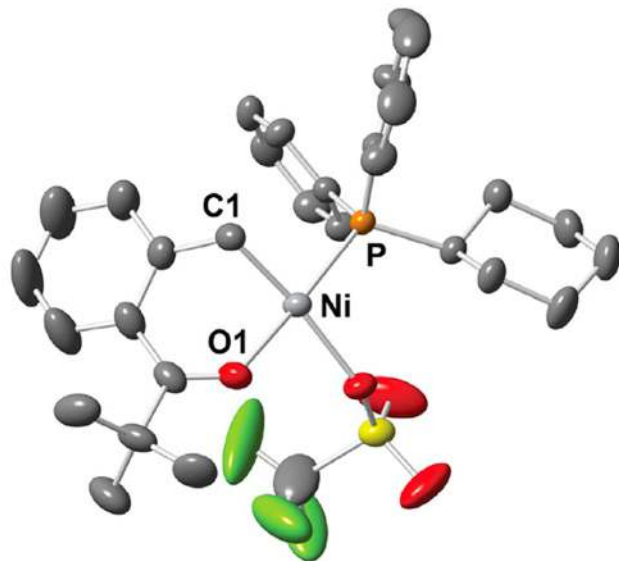
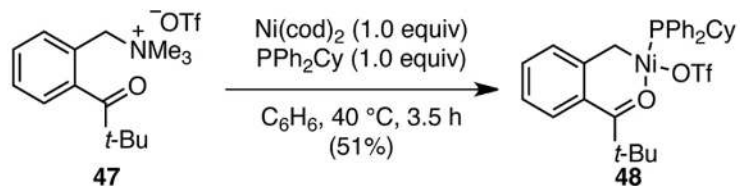
Table 3. Formation of Enantioenriched Diarylethanes^a

entry	product	mol % Ni	ligand (mol %)	yield (%) ^b	prod ee (%) ^c
1		3	P(<i>o</i> -Tol) ₃ (7)	60	99
2 ^{d,e}		10	P(<i>o</i> -Tol) ₃ (22)	72	97
3		3	P(<i>o</i> -Tol) ₃ (7)	82	99
4		3	P(<i>o</i> -Tol) ₃ (7)	51	95
5		3	P(<i>o</i> -Tol) ₃ (7)	68	98
6		10	P(<i>o</i> -Tol) ₃ (22)	(15)	n.d. ^f
7 ^{d,g}		10	P(<i>o</i> -Tol) ₃ (22)	94	98
8 ^g		10	P(<i>o</i> -Tol) ₃ (22)	71	98
9 ^{d,h}		1	P(<i>o</i> -Tol) ₃ (3)	76	95
10		3	P(<i>o</i> -Tol) ₃ (7)	94	97
11 ^{d,i}		10	P(<i>o</i> -Tol) ₃ (22)	53	52
12 ^j		2	P(<i>o</i> -Tol) ₃ (5)	96	99
13 ^{d,i}		10	P(<i>o</i> -Tol) ₃ (22)	(91)	77
14 ^{d,e,k}		10	<i>t</i> -Bu-XantPhos (12)	46	98
15 ^e		10	<i>t</i> -Bu-XantPhos (12)	37	95
16 ^e		15	P(<i>o</i> -Tol) ₃ (32)	56	98
17 ^e		15	P(<i>o</i> -Tol) ₃ (32)	54	91

Nickel Catalysis

Watson (2013): Coupling of benzylic ammonium compounds

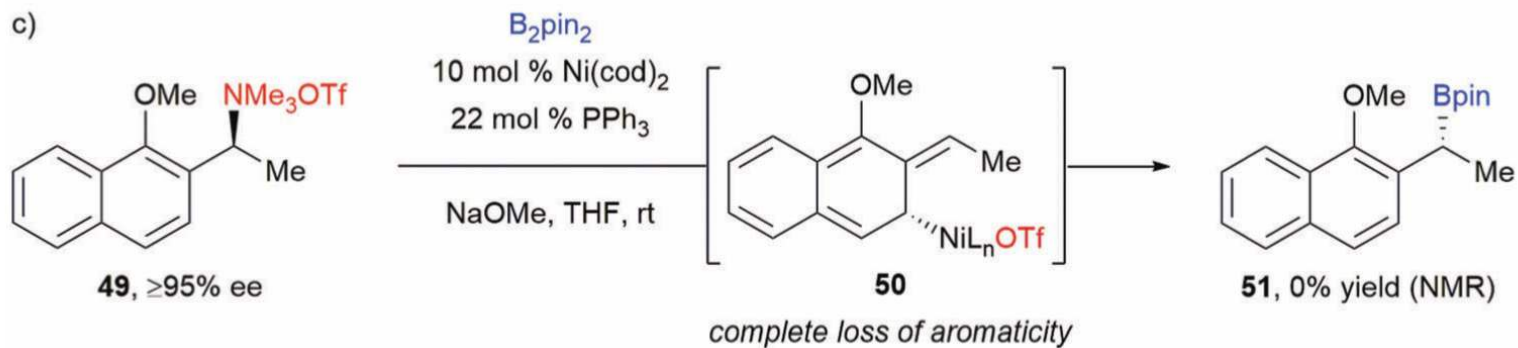
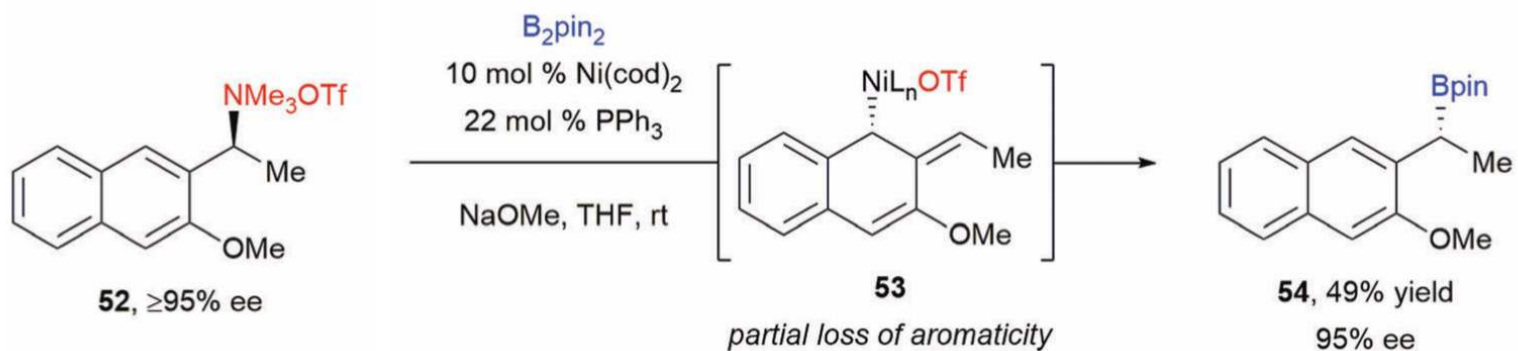
Scheme 4. Synthesis and Crystal Structure of Oxidative Addition Complex 48^a



^aMolecular diagram of 48 with ellipsoids at 30% probability. H-atoms omitted for clarity.

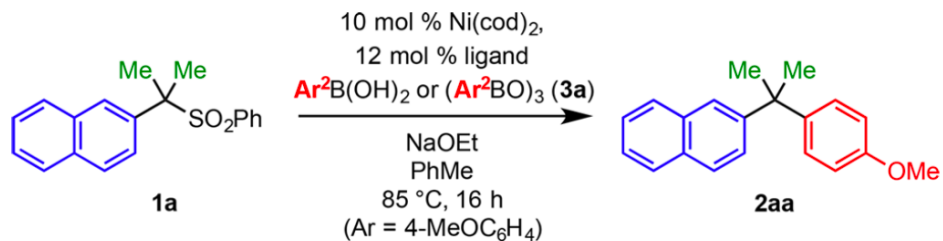
Nickel Catalysis

Watson (2018): Loss of aromaticity according to sterically accessible positions

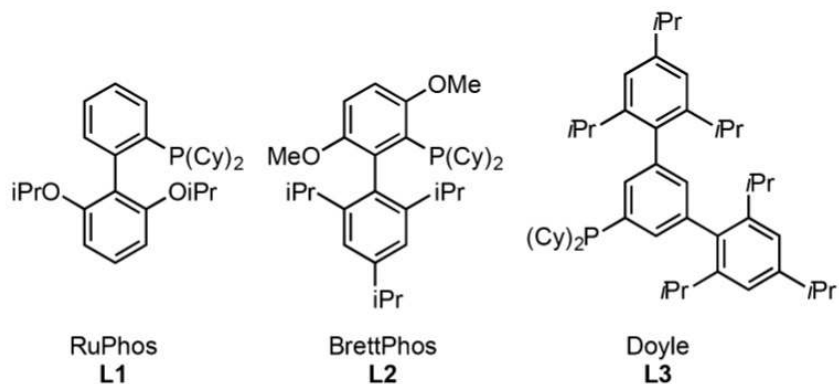


Nickel Catalysis

Nambo and Crudden (2018): Coupling of benzylic sulfones



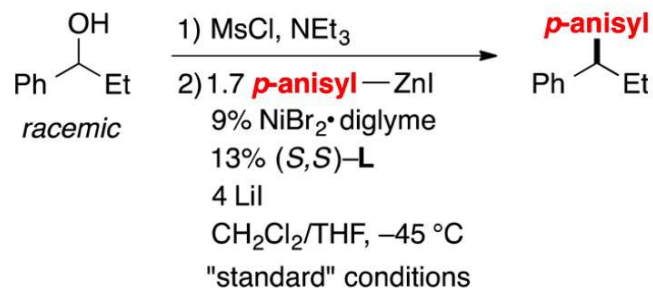
entry	arylboron (equiv)	ligand	NaOEt (equiv)	yield ^b
1	ArB(OH) ₂ (2.0)	RuPhos (L1)	1.5	40%
2	(ArBO) ₃ (3a) (1.0)	L1	2.25	86%
3	3a (0.7)	BrettPhos (L2)	2.2	91%
4 ^c	3a (0.7)	Doyle (L3)	2.2	98% ^d



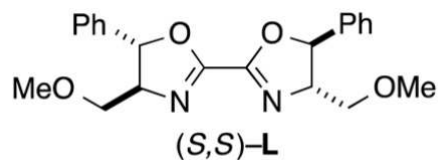
Nickel Catalysis

Fu: Halide exchange for benzylic substrates (2013)

Table 1. Influence of Reaction Parameters on the Catalytic Asymmetric Synthesis of a 1,1-Diarylalkane^a



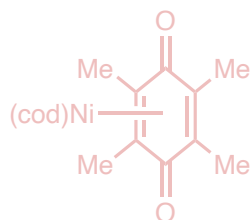
entry	variation from the "standard" conditions	ee (%)	yield (%) ^b
1	none	94	93



Nickel Catalysis

Topics in nickel cross-coupling:

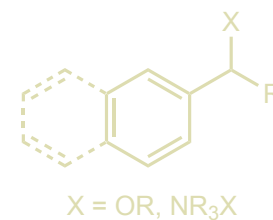
Directions in Precatalyst Synthesis



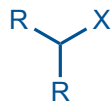
“Inert”/“Nonclassical” C(sp²)-X Electrophiles Ni(0)/Ni(II)



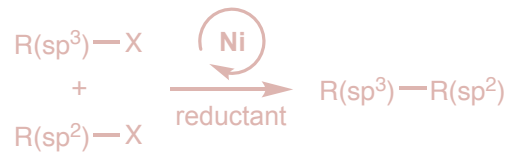
Benzylic C(sp³)-X Electrophiles Ni(0)/Ni(II)



“Unactivated” C(sp³)-X Electrophiles Ni(I)/Ni(III)



Cross-Electrophile Coupling Ni(0)/Ni(I)/Ni(II)/Ni(III)

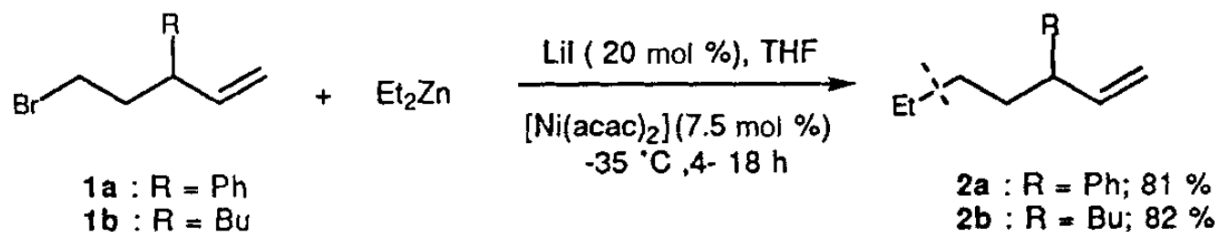


Conjunctive Cross-Coupling (Short)

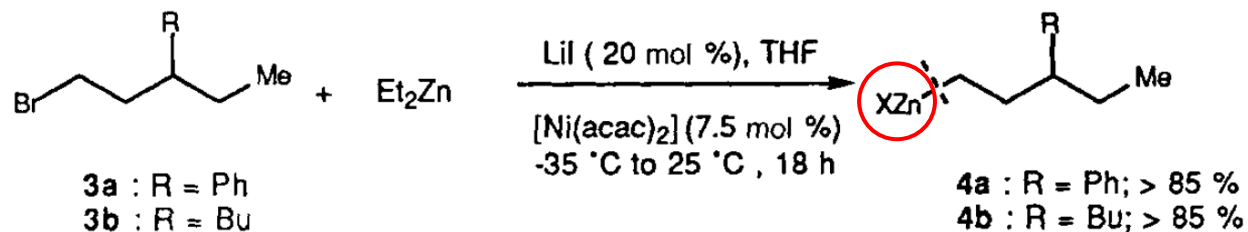


Nickel Catalysis

Knochel (1995): One of the first nickel-catalyzed C(sp³)-X cross-coupling reactions



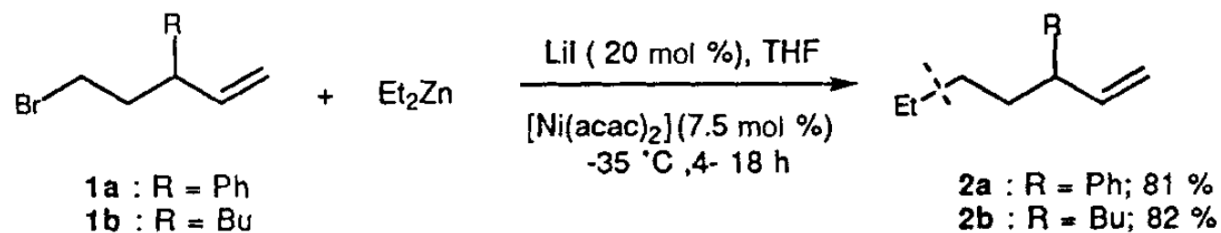
discovery: nickel-catalyzed cross-coupling in presence of alkene



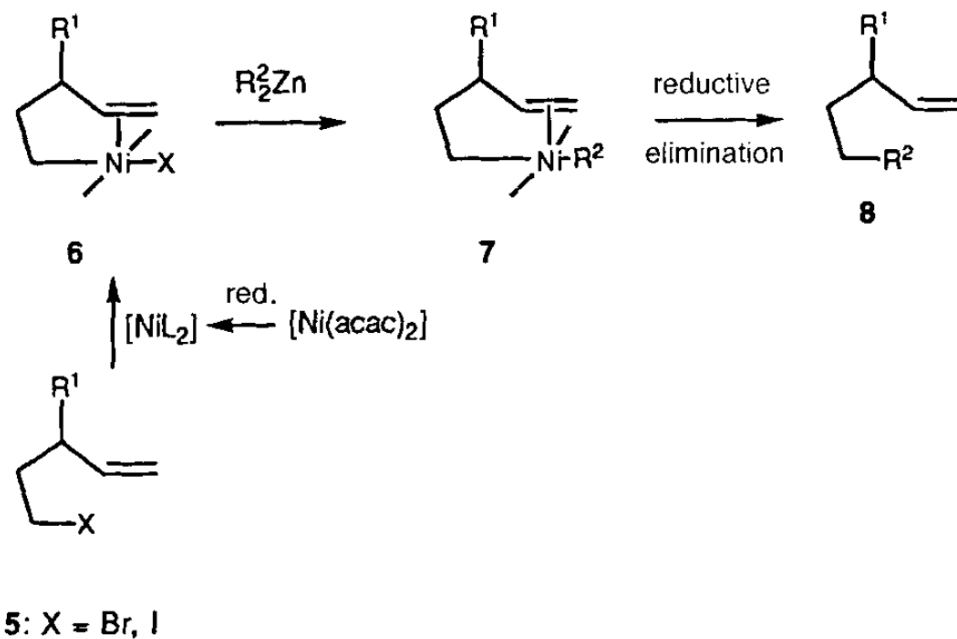
In absence of alkene: only Br-Zn exchange observed

Nickel Catalysis

Knochel (1995): One of the first nickel-catalyzed C(sp³)-X cross-coupling reactions

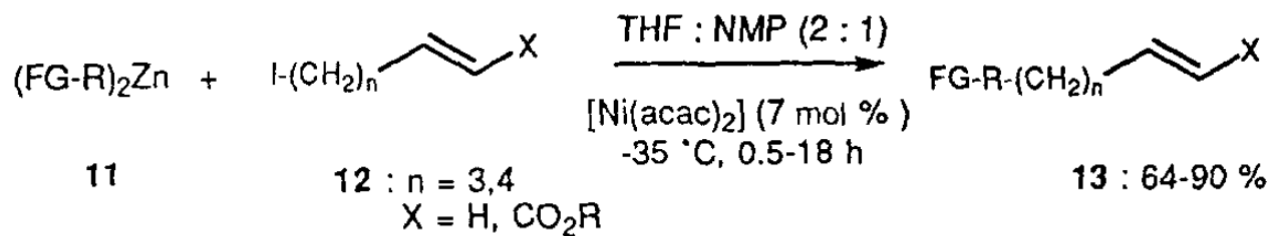
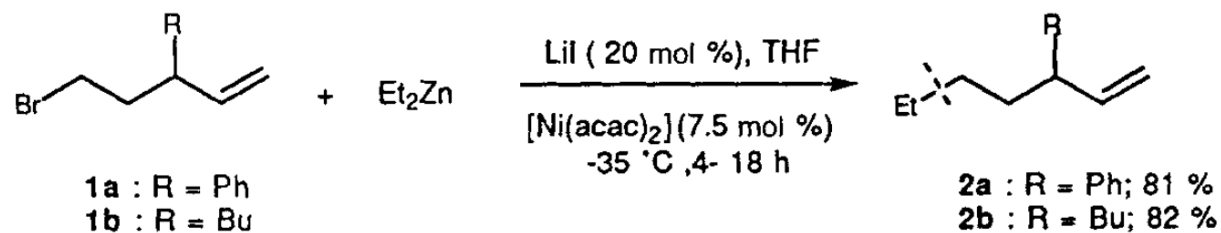


Proposal:



Nickel Catalysis

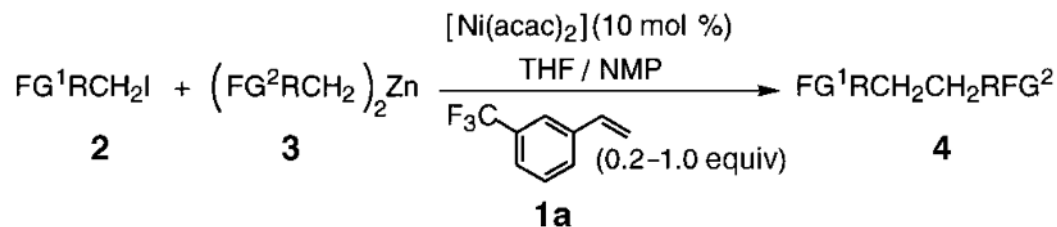
Knochel (1995): One of the first nickel-catalyzed C(sp³)-X cross-coupling reactions



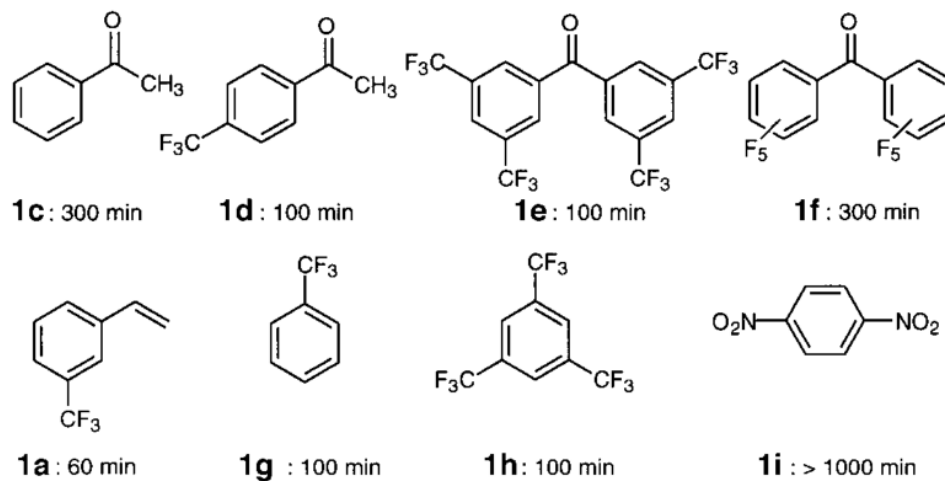
Scheme 3. FG-R = functionalized alkyl group, NMP = *N*-methylpyrrolidinone.

Nickel Catalysis

Knochel (1998): Use of exogenous alkene as ligand



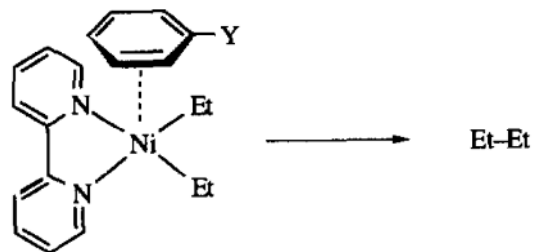
Scheme 1. Cross-coupling between sp³ carbon centers in the presence of cocatalysts **1a**. FG = functional group; NMP = *N*-methylpyrrolidone.



Scheme 5. Different cocatalysts and their influence of the cross-coupling of **2d** with **3a**.

Nickel Catalysis

Yamamoto (1997): Reductive elimination promoted by electron-deficient substrate



NiEt₂(bpy) is stable in various non-aromatic solvents (e.g. acetone, THF, DMF, CH₃CN, and *n*-C₆F₁₄) and aromatic solvents without an electron-withdrawing group (e.g. benzene and toluene) at room temperature under N₂. On the other hand, addition of an aromatic compound with the electron-withdrawing group (e.g. C₆H₅CN and C₆F₅CF₃) into a solution (e.g. THF solution) of NiEt₂(bpy) leads to the reductive elimination of Et-Et, butane (0.71–0.96 mol/mol NiEt₂(bpy) as determined by gas chromatography). These results suggest

Nickel Catalysis

Yamamoto (1997): Reductive elimination promoted by electron-deficient substrate

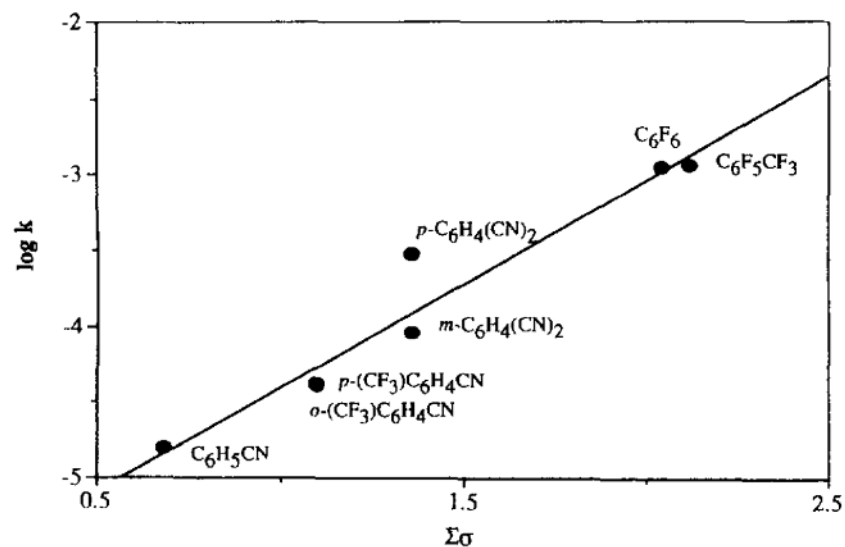
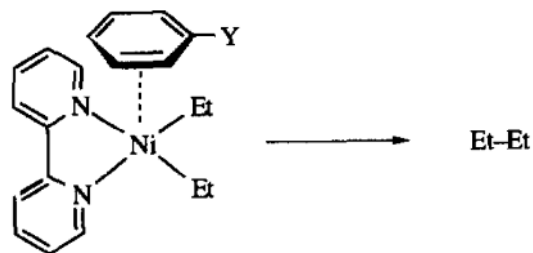
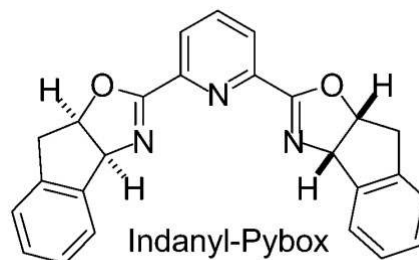
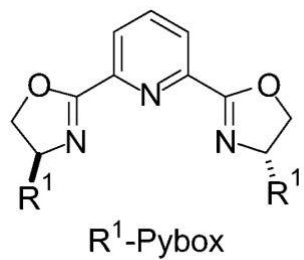
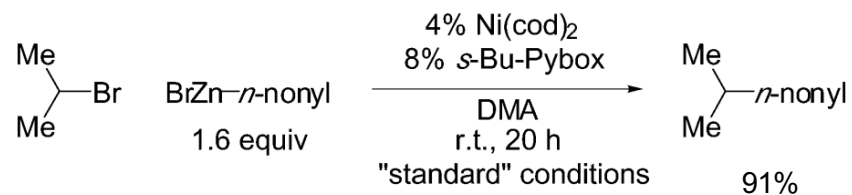


Fig. 3. Plot of $\log k$ (k in $\text{M}^{-1} \text{s}^{-1}$) against $\Sigma\sigma$ at 25°C ; σ = Hammett's σ . $p\text{-(CF}_3\text{)C}_6\text{H}_4\text{CN}$ and $o\text{-(CF}_3\text{)C}_6\text{H}_4\text{CN}$ give almost the same k value.

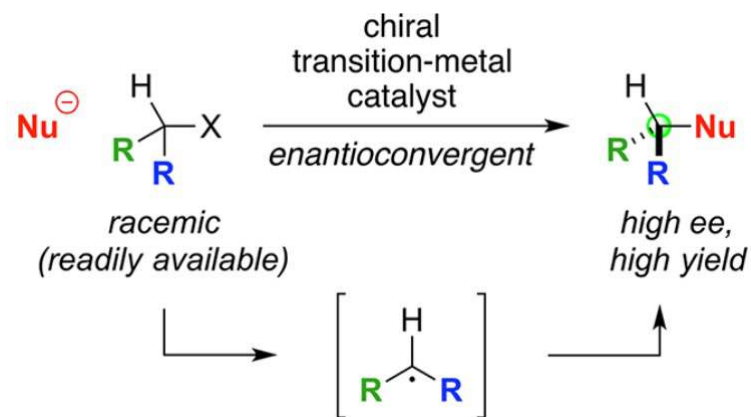
Nickel Catalysis

Fu (2003): Alkyl–alkyl cross-coupling using pybox ligands



Nickel Catalysis

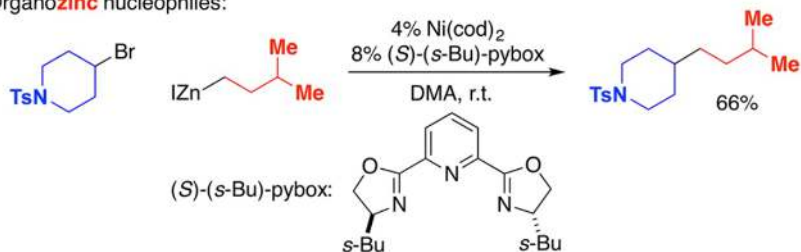
Nickel-catalyzed C(sp³)-X cross-coupling (Fu)



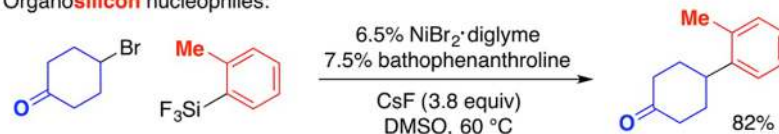
Nickel Catalysis

Examples of nickel-catalyzed C(sp³)-X cross-coupling

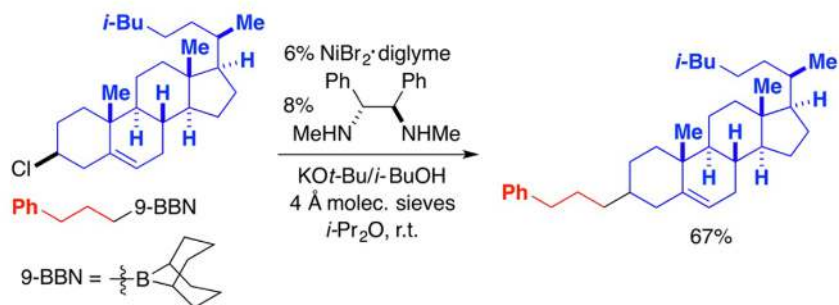
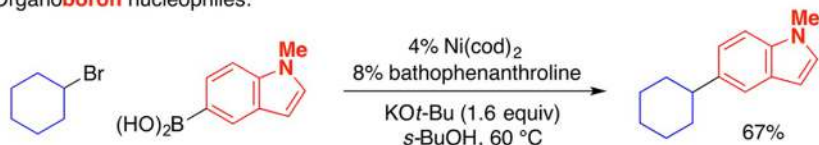
Organozinc nucleophiles:



Organosilicon nucleophiles:



Organoboron nucleophiles:



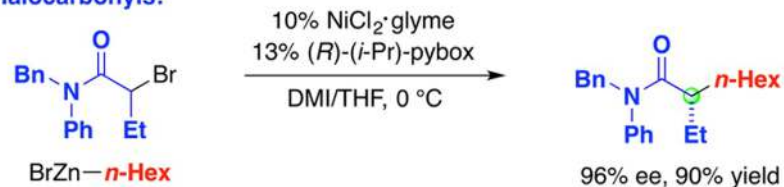
Organotin nucleophiles:



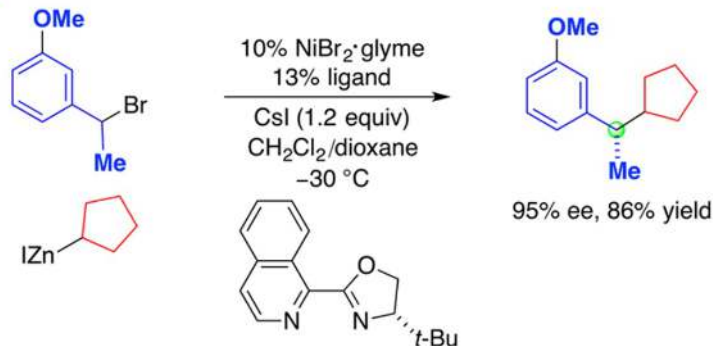
Nickel Catalysis

Examples of enantioconvergent nickel-catalyzed C(sp³)-X cross-coupling

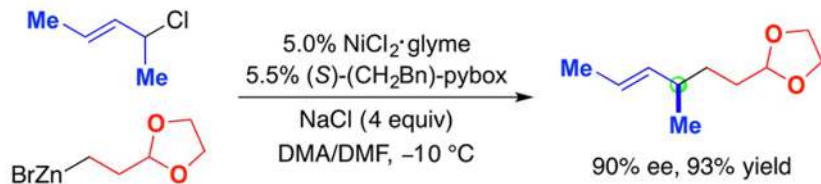
α -Halocarbonyls:



Benzylic halides:



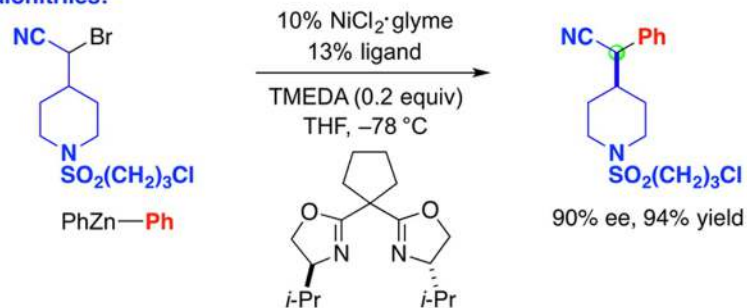
Allylic halides:



Propargylic electrophiles:



α -Halonitriles:



Vicic, (terpy)Ni–Me (JACS, 2004):



JACS
COMMUNICATIONS

Published on Web 06/15/2004

Evidence for a Ni^{II} Active Species in the Catalytic Cross-Coupling of Alkyl Electrophiles

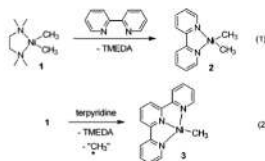
Thomas J. Anderson, Gavin D. Jones, and David A. Vicic*

Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Arkansas 72701

Received March 21, 2004; E-mail: dvicic@uak.edu

The cross-coupling reaction between an organometallic reagent and an organic halide is one of the most versatile methods for forming a new carbon–carbon bond. The majority of catalytic cross-couplings involve some type of a C(sp²)-functionalized partner, and there are much fewer reports on methods to couple two C(sp³) partners to form a new alkyl–alkyl bond. However, in recent years, advances in nickel and palladium chemistry have made possible the catalytic cross-coupling of simple alkyl electrophiles with simple alkyl nucleophiles, even using substrates that possess normally reactive β-hydrogens.^{1–10} To expand the scope of these current catalysts to include more sophisticated transformations with alkyl electrophiles, more fundamental information is needed concerning the nature of the catalytically active species so that rational modifications to the catalysts can be made to suit a particular need.

We have been actively trying to develop synthetic methods to prepare nickel dialkyl complexes in order to determine what factors favor reductive elimination of saturated alkanes over the competing β-hydride elimination pathways. While working with polypyridine-based ligands, an interesting organometallic transformation was uncovered that sheds new light on the mechanism of a certain class of alkyl cross-coupling reactions. Reaction of bispyridine with (TMEDA)Ni(CH₃)₂ (1, TMEDA = N,N,N',N'-tetramethylethylenediamine) is well-known to provide the nickel dimethyl complex 2 (eq 1).¹¹ It was found, however, that reaction of 1 with terpyridine did not provide the related dimethyl complex, but instead led to the high-yield formation of the monomethyl complex 3 (eq 2). This paramagnetic metal complex is a rare example of an isolable Ni^{II} organometallic species that is stable at room temperature. Magnetic susceptibility ($\chi_{\text{M}}^{\text{calc}} = 1.64 \mu_{\text{B}}$) in THF determination by the Evans NMR method^{12,13} confirms a product having one unpaired d-electron. It was also found that 3 exhibits two quasi-reversible waves in the cyclic voltammogram at –1.47 and –0.92 V vs Ag₂/Ag⁺ in THF solution.



Complex 3 was found to crystallize as extremely small violet plates that only weakly diffracted X-rays and afforded an ill-refined data set (see Supporting Information). A connectivity structure could be obtained, however, and a structural diagram of 3 is shown in Figure 1. Of particular note is the “head-to-head” packing¹⁴ between

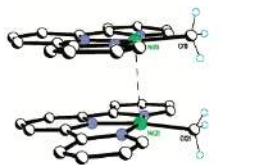


Figure 1. Ball and stick diagram of stacked 3. Hydrogen atoms on the terpy ligand are omitted for clarity.

the two nickel complexes and the ligand-induced flattening of the Ni(1) centers.¹⁵ The nickel–carbon bond lengths averaged to 1.95–1.13 Å, and a short nickel–nickel contact of 3.18(12) Å was also observed.

Presumably the formation of 3 arises from a Ni–C bond homolysis reaction^{16,17} resulting from distortion of a Ni^{II} dialkyl species from square planarity. In the context of alkane cross-coupling reactions, the failure of the dimethyl nickel complex to eliminate a full equivalent of ethane upon addition of terpyridine suggests that Ni^{II} dialkyl intermediates may not be viable in the catalytic cross-coupling of saturated alkyl electrophiles using similar ligands. To probe this possibility, a number of reactions were performed using alkyl halides as electrophilic substrates in both stoichiometric and catalytic cross-coupling reactions.

Reaction of complex 3 with 1 equiv of cyclohexyl iodide at room temperature for 24 h in C₆D₆ solution indeed showed that transfer of the metal-bound methyl group to alkyl halides could occur (eq 3). The reaction was monitored by NMR spectroscopy (referenced to an internal standard), and the yield of methylcyclohexane produced was found to be 79%. Analysis of the volatiles by ¹H NMR spectroscopy also confirmed that the major product of the reaction was methylcyclohexane, with no significant amount of olefinic products resulting from β-hydride elimination reactions. The inorganic product of the reaction was characterized by elemental analysis, which was consistent with the mono-iodo Ni^{II} complex 4a. The stoichiometric reaction described in eq 3 is thus further evidence against a Ni^{IV}/Ni^{II} redox cycle, as no disproportionation products were produced during alkyl transfer.

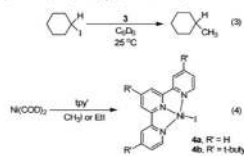
The results described in eq 4 suggest that Ni^{II} alkyl halide complexes derived from the terpyridyl ligand were unstable, similar to the dimethyl counterparts. Reaction of Ni(COD)₂ with 1 equiv of terpy-based ligand and 1 equiv of alkyl iodide did not lead to any stable oxidative addition products, but rather led to isolable Ni^{II} iodide complexes. The more soluble 4b has even been structurally characterized (see Supporting Information).

Experiments were also performed to see if a Ni^{II} alkyl complex such as 3 could be a viable precursor in cross-coupling catalysis.

Table 1. Catalytic Alkyl Cross-Coupling Reactions

entry	alkyl halide	product	yield % ^a
1	hexyl-Br	undecane	15
2	Ph(CH ₂) ₃ -Br	Ph(CH ₂) ₃ -CH ₃	13
3	Ph(CH ₂) ₃ -I	Ph(CH ₂) ₃ -CH ₃	60
4	iodocyclohexane	pericyclohexane	64
5 ^b	iodocyclohexane	pericyclohexane	65

^a Yields based on GC relative to a calibrated internal standard. ^b Catalyst employed was Ni(COD)₂ and terpyr (5 mol %).

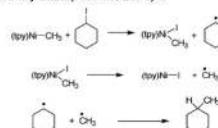


The results of this study are provided in Table 1, and show that, in the presence of a transmetalating agent such as alkylzinc halides, moderate yield formation of cross-coupled alkane could be achieved without any overwhelming formation of β-hydride elimination products. Of note is the greater efficiency of the cross-coupling reaction using alkyl iodides over alkyl bromides. High yields of a product containing a relatively bulky tertiary C(sp³) center could even be achieved using secondary alkyl halides such as iodocyclohexane as the electrophile. Use of the commercially available starting materials Ni(COD)₂ and terpy yielded results (entry 4 vs 5) similar to those seen with 3. The minor products in the catalysis of alkyl iodides suggest the presence of a radical pathway, as Ph(CH₂)₃Ph and cyclohexyl were detected for entries 3 and 4, respectively. Additionally, reaction of 3 with the radical clock iodomethylcyclopropane afforded substantial formation of olefinic products as detected by ¹H NMR spectroscopy.

In light of the fact that both the Ni^{II} alkyl halide and dialkyl complexes were found to be unstable with respect to their Ni^{II} decomposition products, and the fact that 3 can both transfer its methyl group to alkyl halides to form a Ni^{II} iodide complex and to serve as an initiator for catalytic alkyl cross-coupling, we speculate that a radical mechanism of the type shown in Scheme 1 may be operative under catalytic conditions. There are two noteworthy features of the proposed mechanism which we find attractive. First, the 17-electron nickel alkyl complex is thermodynamically capable of reducing alkyl iodides in THF solution. In fact, the reduction potential of 3 is close to that of samarium diiodide, which is a well-known catalyst for alkyl iodide reductions.¹⁸ Second, formation of 4a after the cross-coupling event allows for the cycle to begin anew in the presence of alkylzinc halide reagents, as transmetalation will provide a new (terpy)NiR complex. A related electron-transfer mechanism has been proposed by Eisenberg and co-workers for

COMMUNICATIONS

Scheme 1. Possible Mechanism for the Cross-Coupling of Saturated Alkyl Electrophiles Mediated by 3



the reduction of alkyl halides by odd-electron rhodium complexes.¹⁹ To our knowledge, this is the first time a Ni^{II} species has been proposed as the catalytically active species in the cross-coupling of saturated alkyl groups, and these results build upon the seminal work by Espenson and Kachi, who also observed electron-transfer reactions between organic halides and nickel complexes.^{20,21} The results presented here may also be relevant to the cross-coupling chemistry involving other ligands such as those derived from pybox,⁹ which are also tricoordinating in nature. A survey of new ligands which may be able to support a similar odd-electron redox shuttle and provide higher yields for catalytic cross-coupling of alkanes is currently being undertaken.

Acknowledgment. D.A.V. thanks the University of Arkansas, the Arkansas Biosciences Institute, and NIH (RR-15569) for support of this work.

Supporting Information Available: General methods and X-ray data for all relevant compounds (PDF, CIF). This material is available free of charge via the Internet at <http://pubs.acs.org>.

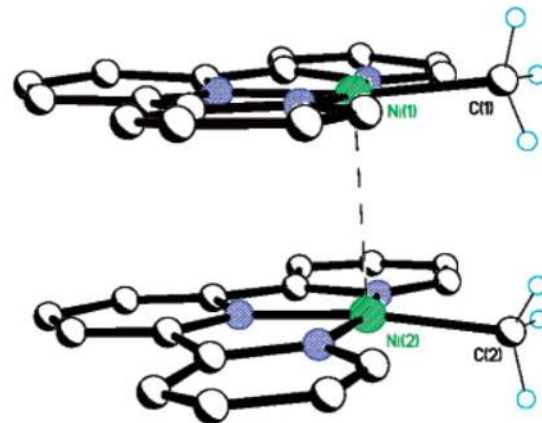
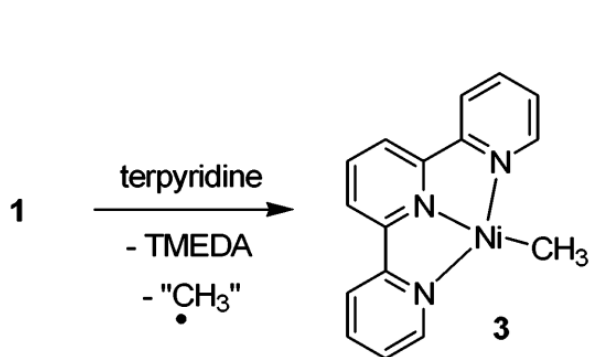
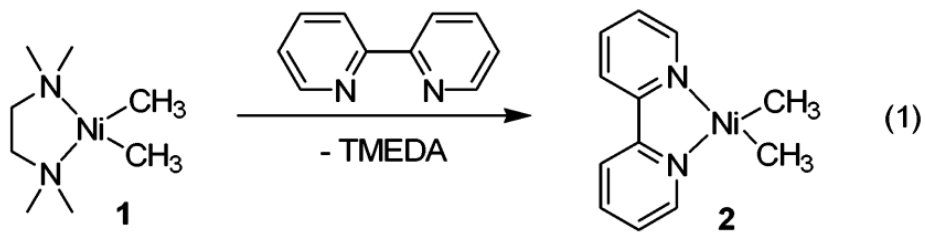
References

- Zhou, J.; Fu, G. C. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2003**, *125*, 12327–12330.
- Teran, J.; Watanabe, H.; Ikami, A.; Kamaya, N. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2002**, *124*, 4225–4223.
- Carlicchia, D. J.; Anzov, *Chem. Rev.* **2003**, *42*, 364–387.
- Seitama, M. K.; Dai, C.; Neiswander, K.; Fu, G. C. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2001**, *123*, 10099–10100.
- Kirshof, J. H.; Netherton, M. R.; Hills, F. D.; Fu, G. C. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2002**, *124*, 11662–11663.
- Giovannini, R.; Staudemann, T.; Dussan, G.; Knochel, P. *Angew. Chem., Int. Ed.* **1998**, *37*, 2347–2350.
- Giovannini, R.; Staudemann, T.; Devagayary, A.; Dussan, G.; Knochel, P. *J. Org. Chem.* **1999**, *64*, 3544–3553.
- Jacobs, A. E.; Knochel, P. *J. Org. Chem.* **2002**, *67*, 79–85.
- Zhou, J.; Fu, G. C. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2003**, *125*, 14726–14727.
- Zhou, J.; Fu, G. C. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2004**, *126*, 1180–1191.
- Yamamoto, T.; Yamamoto, A.; Ikeda, S. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1991**, *93*, 3359–9.
- Evans, D. F. *J. Chem. Soc.* **1959**, 2003–2003.
- Sar, S. K. *J. Magn. Reson.* **1989**, *82*, 169–73.
- Wang, X.-S.; Lippert, S. *J. J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun.* **1977**, 824–825.
- Braiser, M.; Doemer, S.; Guo, L.; Zabel, M. *Eur. J. Inorg. Chem.* **2002**, 2003–2013.
- Schiffel, M. H.; Halpern, J. *J. Org. Chem.* **2003**, *68*, 353–358.
- Holland, P. L.; Gindoff, T. R.; Perry, L. L.; Fekert, N. A.; Lachowicz, R. *J. J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2002**, *124*, 14116–14122.
- Parisi, E.; Hovatta, R. *J. J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2002**, *124*, 6885–6899.
- Sofronius, J. A.; Eisenberg, R.; Kempeier, J. A. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1979**, *101*, 1043–1044.
- Balke, A.; Espenson, J. H. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1986**, *108*, 719–723.
- Morrell, D. G.; Kochi, J. K. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1975**, *97*, 7262–7270.

JAD483903

Nickel Catalysis

Vicic, (terpy)Ni–Me (2004)



Nickel Catalysis

Vicic, (terpy)Ni–Me (2004)

Chart 1. Representations of **2a** as a Ni(I)–Methyl Complex (left) and the Charge-Transfer State Comprising a Ni(II)–Alkyl Cation (right)

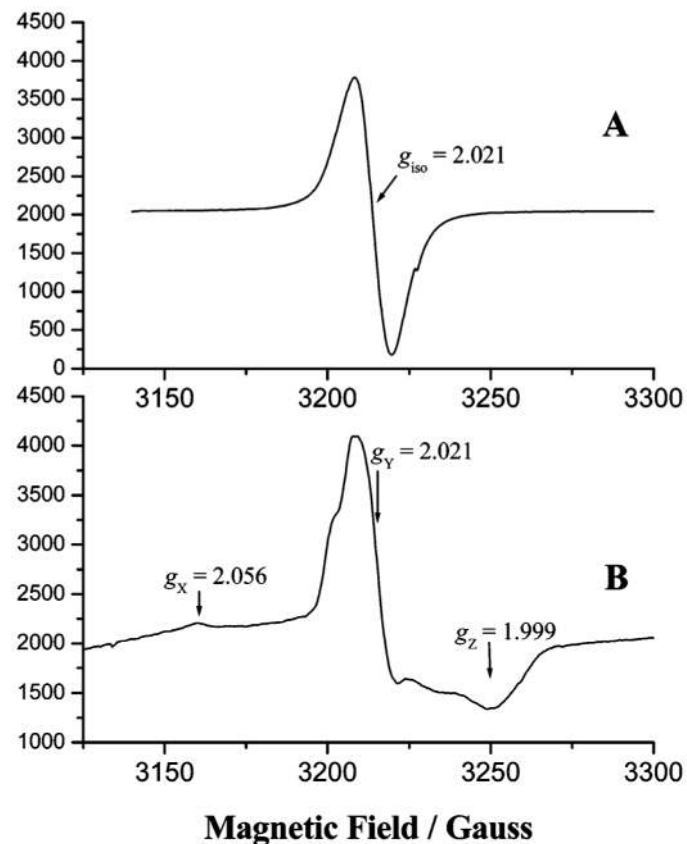
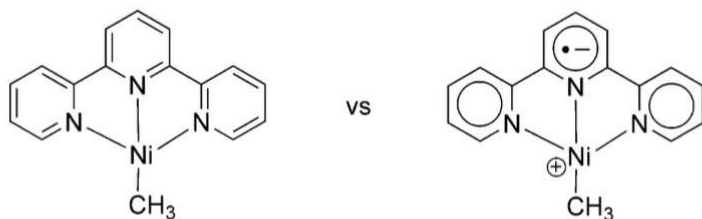


Figure 1. X-band EPR spectra of **2a** in THF (a) in fluid solution at room temperature, (b) in frozen glass at 77 K. Parameters: microwave frequency 9.095 GHz; microwave power 5 mW; modulation amplitude 1 G; gain 2×10^3 .

Radical in extended π -system: $g = 2.003$ – 2.005
4-coordinate Ni(I): $g = 2.18$

Nickel Catalysis

Vicic, (terpy)Ni–Me (2004)

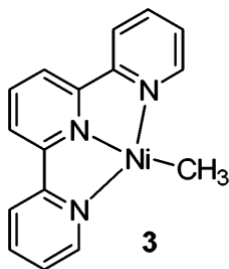
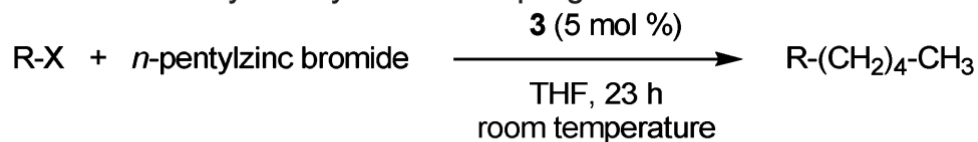
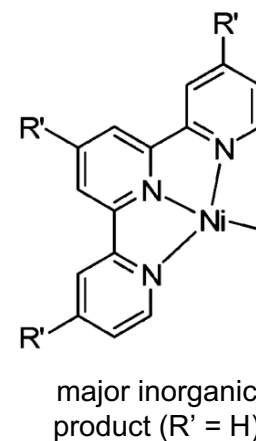
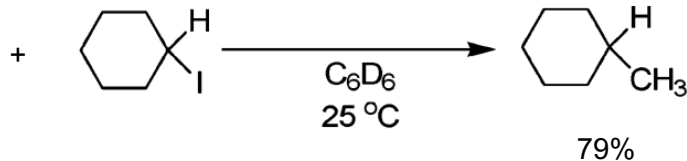
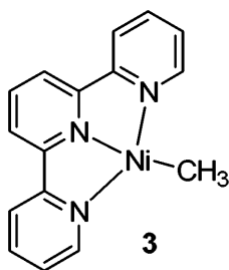


Table 1. Catalytic Alkyl Cross-Coupling Reactions

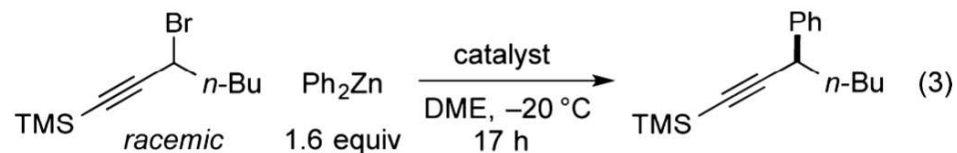


entry	alkyl halide	product	yield (%) ^a
1	hexyl-Br	undecane	15
2	Ph(CH ₂) ₃ Br	Ph(CH ₂) ₇ CH ₃	13
3	Ph(CH ₂) ₃ I	Ph(CH ₂) ₇ CH ₃	60
4	iodocyclohexane	pentylcyclohexane	64
5 ^b	iodocyclohexane	pentylcyclohexane	65



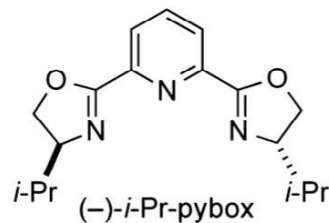
Nickel Catalysis

Fu: Mechanistic study of C(sp³)-Br Negishi cross-coupling



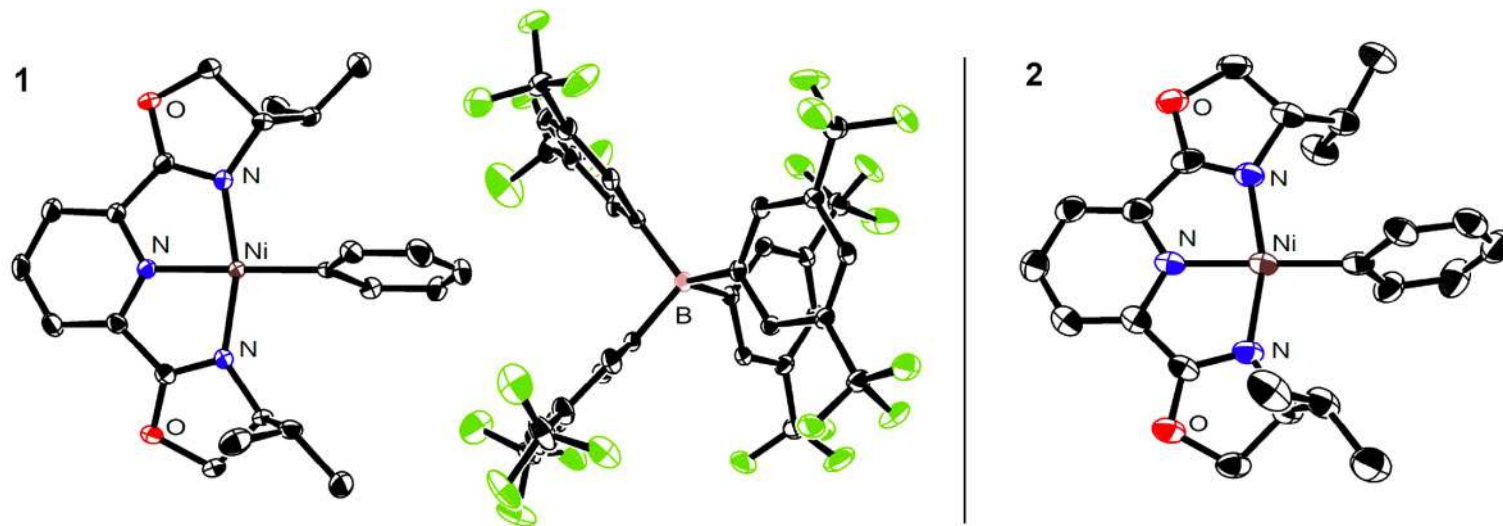
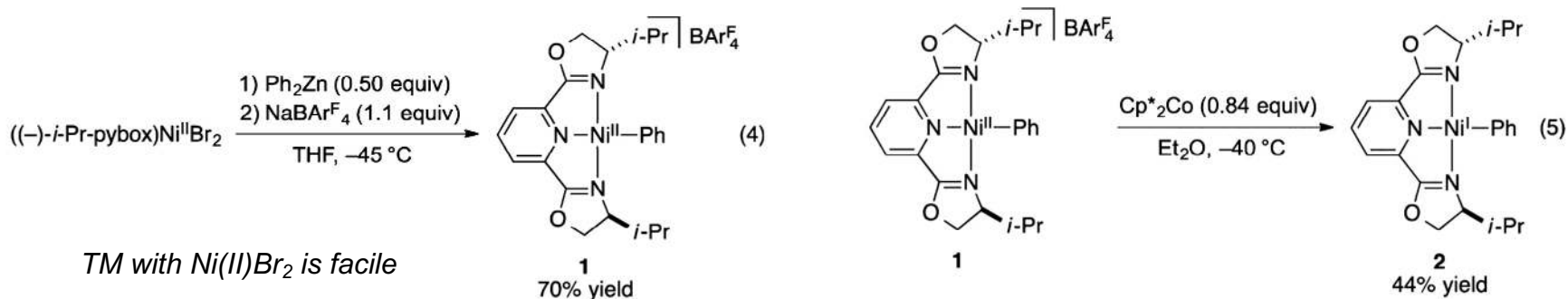
catalyst

3.0% $\text{NiBr}_2 \cdot \text{DME}$ / 3.9% (-)-indanyl-pybox	76% yield, 85% ee
3.0% $\text{NiBr}_2 \cdot \text{DME}$ / 3.9% (-)- <i>i</i> -Pr-pybox	77% yield, 82% ee
3.0% ((-)- <i>i</i> -Pr-pybox) NiBr_2	72% yield, 81% ee



Nickel Catalysis

Fu: Mechanistic study of C(sp³)–Br Negishi cross-coupling



One of the first Ni(I)–aryl compounds!!

Nickel Catalysis

Fu: Mechanistic study of C(sp³)–Br Negishi cross-coupling

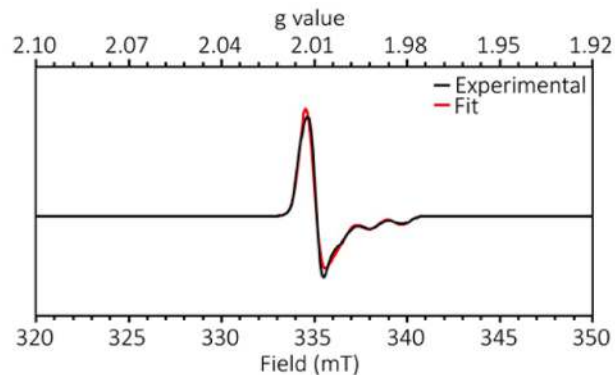
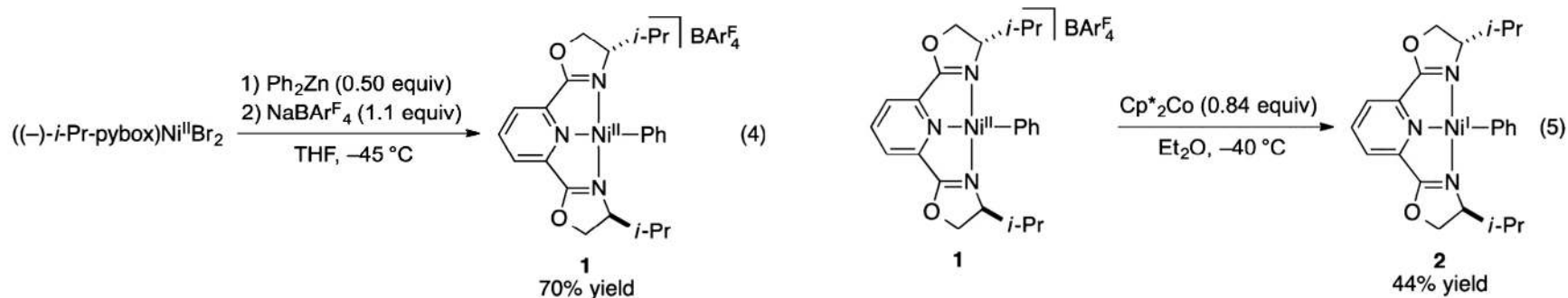
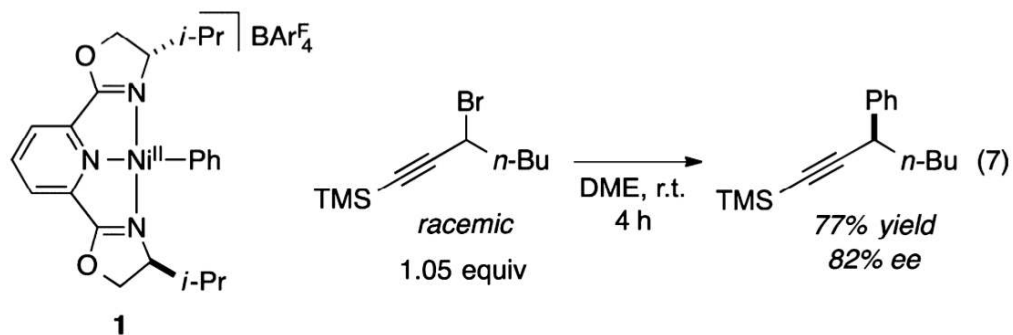
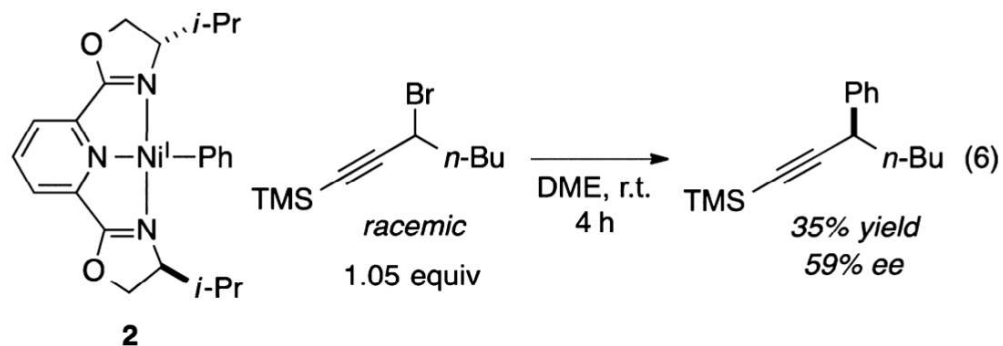


Figure 3. EPR spectrum of $(-)-i\text{-Pr-pybox}Ni^I Ph$ (**2**; black) and corresponding fit (red). Fit parameters: $g_1 = 2.0067$, $g_2 = 2.0075$, $g_3 = 1.9889$, ^{14}N coupling (MHz) = 0.0205, 0.0124, 47.2047, line width = 0.9929. X-band EPR spectra were collected at 77 K in a toluene glass at $\nu = 9.411$ GHz at 2 mW power and a modulation amplitude of 2 G.

One of the first Ni(I)–aryl compounds!!

Nickel Catalysis

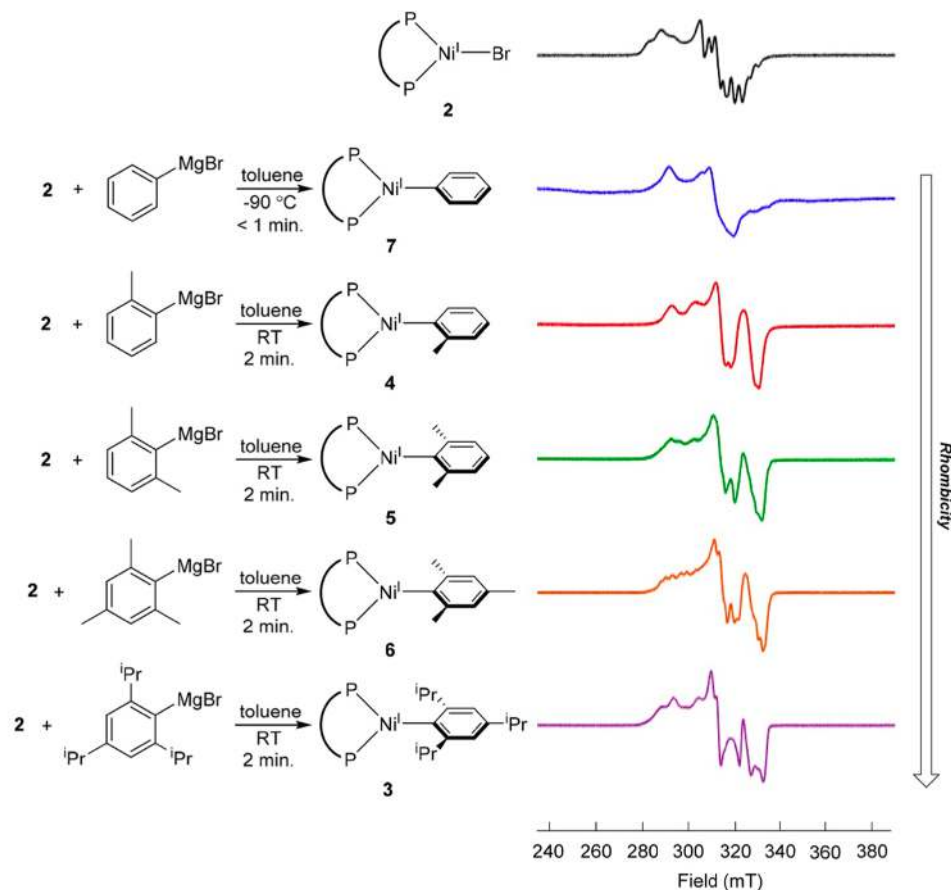
Fu: Mechanistic study of C(sp³)-Br Negishi cross-coupling



(pybox)Ni(I)-Ph seems less relevant to productive C-C bond formation

Nickel Catalysis

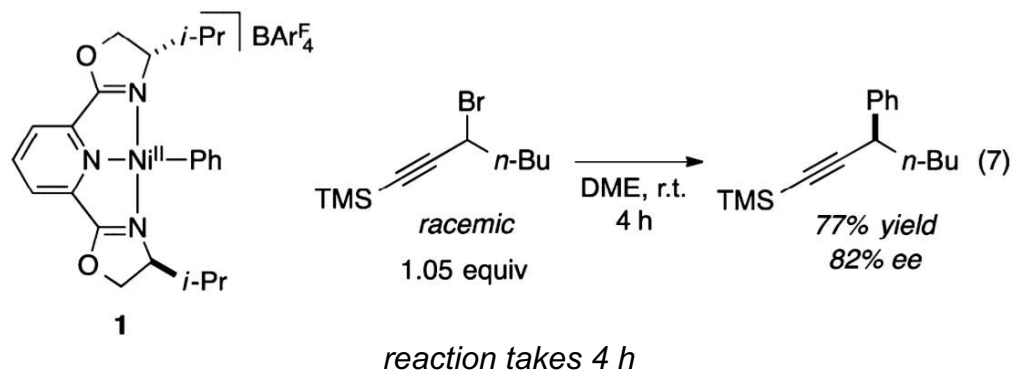
Hazari: Synthesis, stability of Ni(I)–aryl compounds



Ni^I(2,4,6-mesityl) (6). As the size of the aryl group decreases, the stability of the Ni(I) aryl species decreases significantly, with 4 decomposing completely in approximately 6 h at room temperature. The instability of these species prevented

Nickel Catalysis

Fu: Mechanistic study of C(sp³)–Br Negishi cross-coupling



Compare with (pybox)NiBr:

Treatment of a solution of (i-Pr-pybox)Ni^IBr (3) with the propargylic bromide (1.0 equiv) leads to immediate bleaching (violet → colorless) and the formation of (i-Pr-pybox)Ni^{II}Br₂ (identified by UV–vis spectroscopy) and a mixture of racemic

yield, 82% ee; eq 9). Similarly, in the absence of TEMPO, the addition of (i-Pr-pybox)Ni^IBr to a solution of phenylnickel(II) complex (1) and the propargylic bromide leads to an enhanced rate of carbon–carbon bond formation.²³

established that (i-Pr-pybox)Ni^IBr reacts much more rapidly with a propargylic bromide than with Ph₂Zn). The mechanism

1. (pybox)NiBr likely activates Alk–Br (faster activation)
2. (pybox)Ni(II)Ph[X] captures radical (consistent with Alk–Br activation by Ni(I)Br)

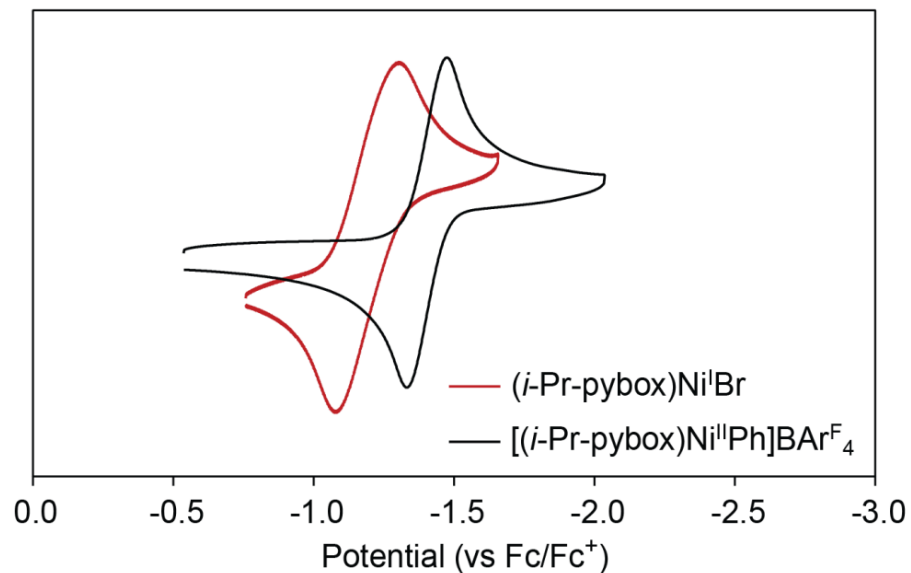
Nickel Catalysis

Fu: Mechanistic study of C(sp³)–Br Negishi cross-coupling

Proposal:

1. *(pybox)NiBr* likely activates *Alk–Br*
2. *(pybox)Ni(II)Ph[X]* captures radical

Cyclic Voltammogram of $[(i\text{-Pr-pybox})\text{Ni}^{\text{II}}\text{Ph}]\text{BAr}^{\text{F}}_4$ overlaid with $(i\text{-Pr-pybox})\text{Ni}^{\text{I}}\text{Br}$ in THF (100 mV/s, 0.10 M TBAPF₆, arbitrary *y* scale).



Kinetics of substrate activation are distinct from thermodynamics of electron transfer (likely not ET mechanism)

Nickel Catalysis

Fu: Mechanistic study of C(sp³)-Br Negishi cross-coupling

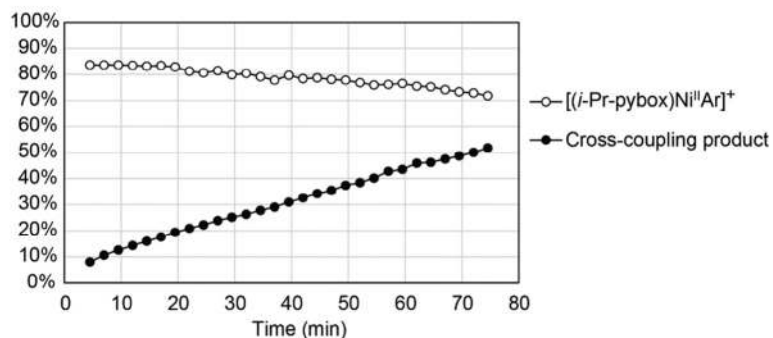
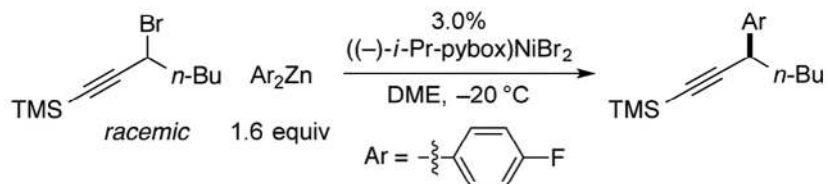


Figure 9. Analysis via ^{19}F NMR spectroscopy of a catalyzed Negishi reaction in progress: (○) $[(i\text{-Pr-pybox})\text{Ni}^{\text{II}}\text{Ar}]^+$ as a percentage of all nickel that is present; (●) yield of cross-coupling product.

4-FPh by ^{19}F NMR (DME):
(pybox) $\text{Ni}^{\text{II}}\text{Ar}^+$: -62.33 ppm
Product: -116.97 ppm

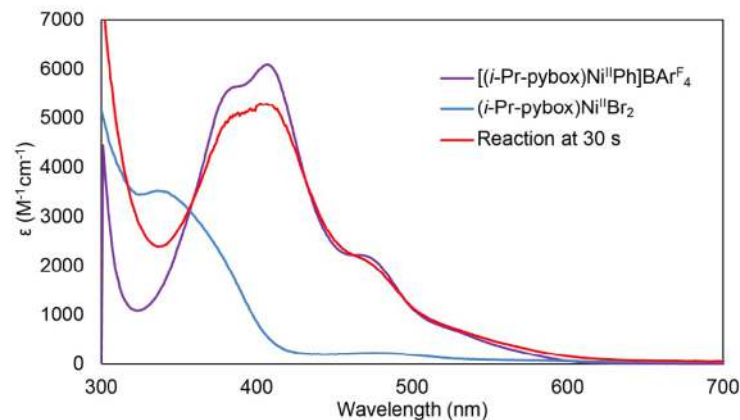
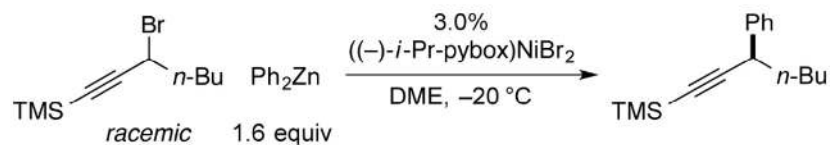


Figure 10. Analysis via UV-vis spectroscopy of a catalyzed Negishi reaction in progress: blue: $(i\text{-Pr-pybox})\text{Ni}^{\text{II}}\text{Br}_2$; red: cross-coupling reaction in progress; purple: $[(i\text{-Pr-pybox})\text{Ni}^{\text{II}}(\text{Ph})]\text{BARF}_4$.

Resting state established as Ni(II)-Ar by ^{19}F NMR and UV-vis spectroscopy

Nickel Catalysis

Fu: Mechanistic study of C(sp³)-Br Negishi cross-coupling

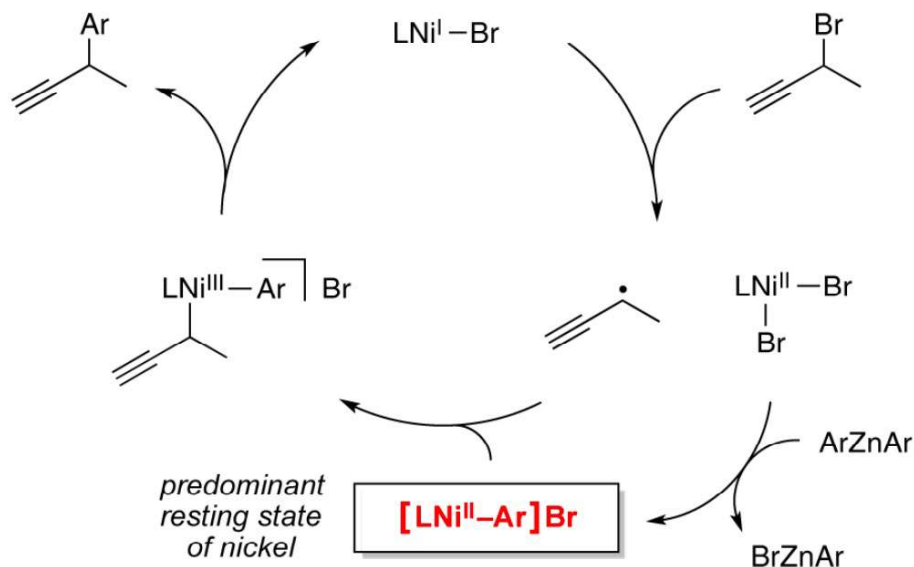


Figure 6. A possible catalytic cycle for the nickel/pybox-catalyzed Negishi arylation of a propargylic bromide. For the sake of simplicity, all elementary steps are illustrated as being irreversible.

Very small amount of nickel “activates” (i.e., turns to Ni(I))
Essentially a radical initiation/propagation mechanism

For related Kumada cross-coupling study: Yin, H.; Fu, G. C. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2019**, *141*, 15433–15440.

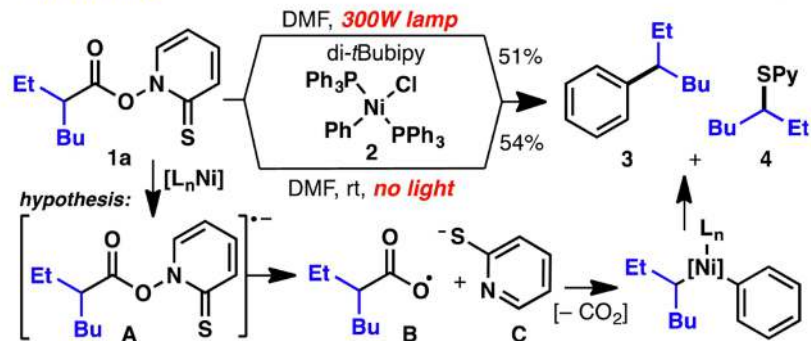
Schley, N. D.; Fu, G. C. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2014**, *136*, 16588–16593.

Nickel Catalysis

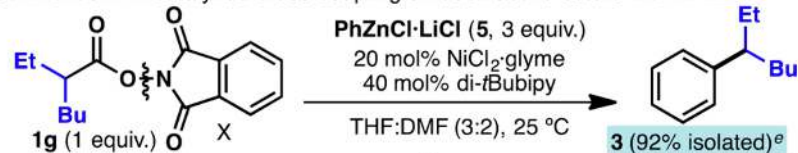
Beyond halides: Baran and Weix—Ni-catalyzed reactions of redox-active esters

Baran (2016):

B. Key Finding: Barton esters react with aryl-Ni complexes in the absence of light

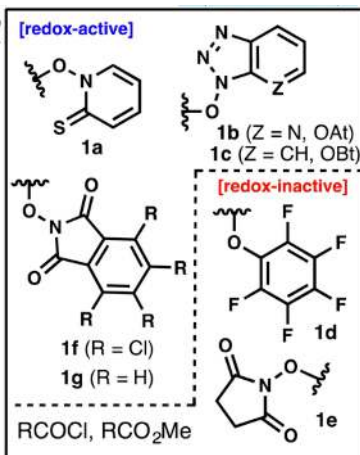


C. Invention: Ni-catalyzed cross-coupling of redox active esters with Ar-ZnCl^{2a}



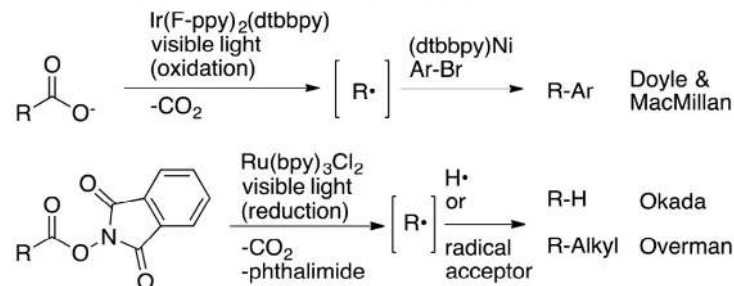
entry	deviation from above	yield (%) ^b
1	X = 2-pyridothione, 1a	43
2	1a (150W Lamp)	43
3	X = Cl	< 1 ^c
4	X = OMe	< 1 ^c
5	X = OAt, 1b	42 ^d
6	X = OBt, 1c	51 ^d
7	1d	< 1 ^c
8	X = NHS, 1e	< 1 ^c
9	1f	46
10	1g (w/o Ni catalyst)	< 1 ^c
11	1g (150W lamp)	82
12	1g (rigorously dark)	89
13	1g (w/ NiCl ₂ ·6H ₂ O)	93 ^e

^a 0.1 mmol. ^b Yield determined by ¹H NMR using CH₂Br₂ as an internal standard. ^c No product was observed by GC/MS. ^d Prepared *in situ* from HATU or HBTU, respectively (see SI for details). ^e 0.25 mmol scale, isolated

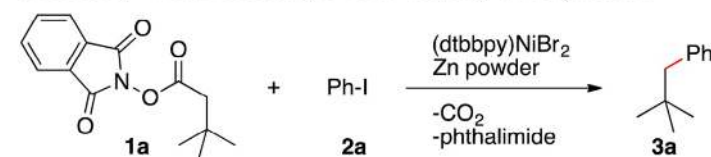


Weix (2016):

Previous studies - visible-light photocatalysis



This study - non-photocatalytic cross-coupling with aryl iodides



entry	change from standard conditions	1a (%) ^b	3a (%) ^b
1	none ^a	0	60
2	reaction run in the dark	0	62
3	Ni(diglyme)Br ₂ as catalyst	0	0
4	no nickel or ligand	84	0
5	no zinc	85	0
6	NHS ester in place of NHP ester ^c	81	0

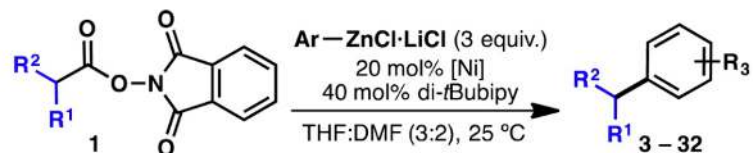
(a) Cornella, J.; Edwards, J. T.; Qin, T.; Kawamura, S.; Wang, J.; Pan, C.-M.; Gianatassio, R.; Schmidt, M.; Eastgate, M. D.; Baran, P. S. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2016**, *138*, 2174–2177.

(b) Huihui, K. M. M.; Caputo, J. A.; Melchor, Z.; Olivares, A. M.; Spiewak, A. M.; Johnson, K. A.; DiBenedetto, T. A.; Kim, S.; Ackerman, L. K. G.; Weix, D. J. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2016**, *138*, 5016–5019.

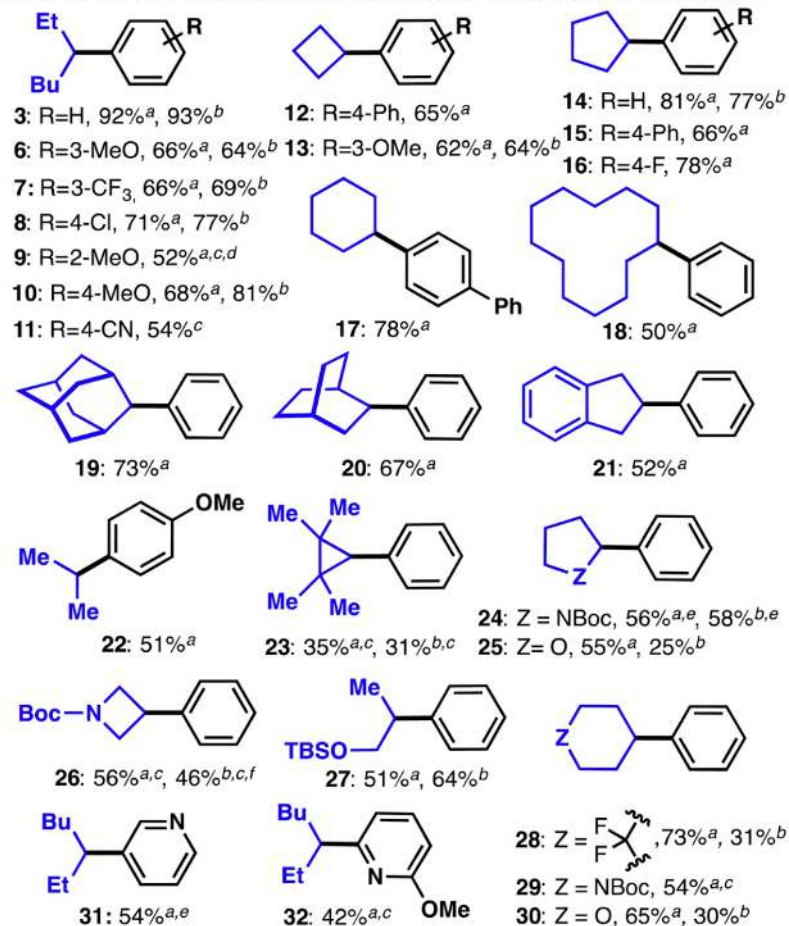
Nickel Catalysis

Baran: Ni-catalyzed reactions of redox-active esters

Table 1. Initial Scope of the Nickel-Catalyzed Cross-Coupling of Redox-Active *N*-Hydroxyphthalimide Esters with Aryl Zinc Reagents



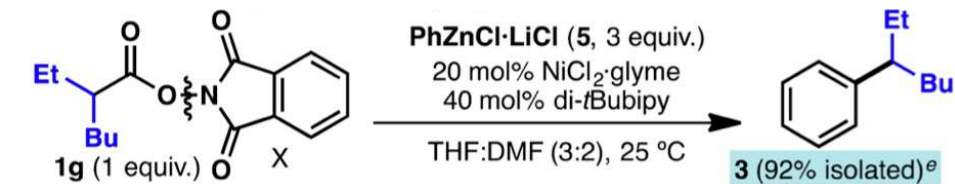
- 28 examples
- unactivated (non-heteroatom stabilized) acids
- cyclic and acyclic substrates
- Lewis-basic heteroatoms
- simple setup, room temp



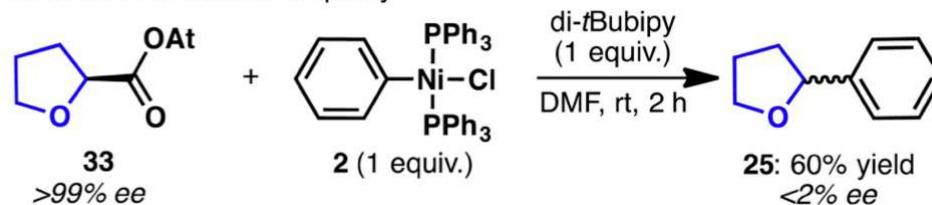
Nickel Catalysis

Baran: Ni-catalyzed reactions of redox-active esters

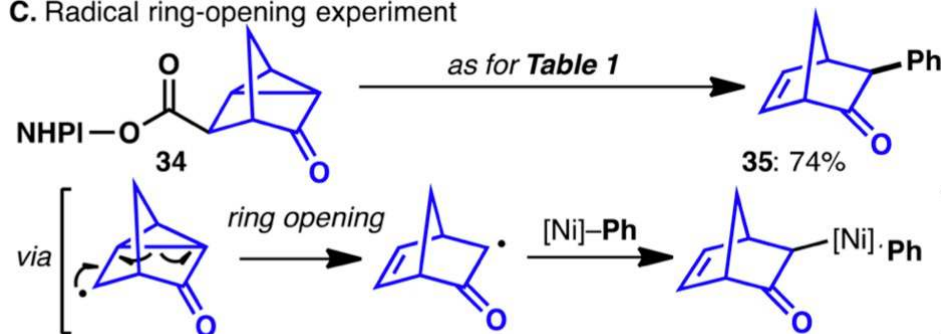
Std. conditions:



B. Erosion of the enantiopurity



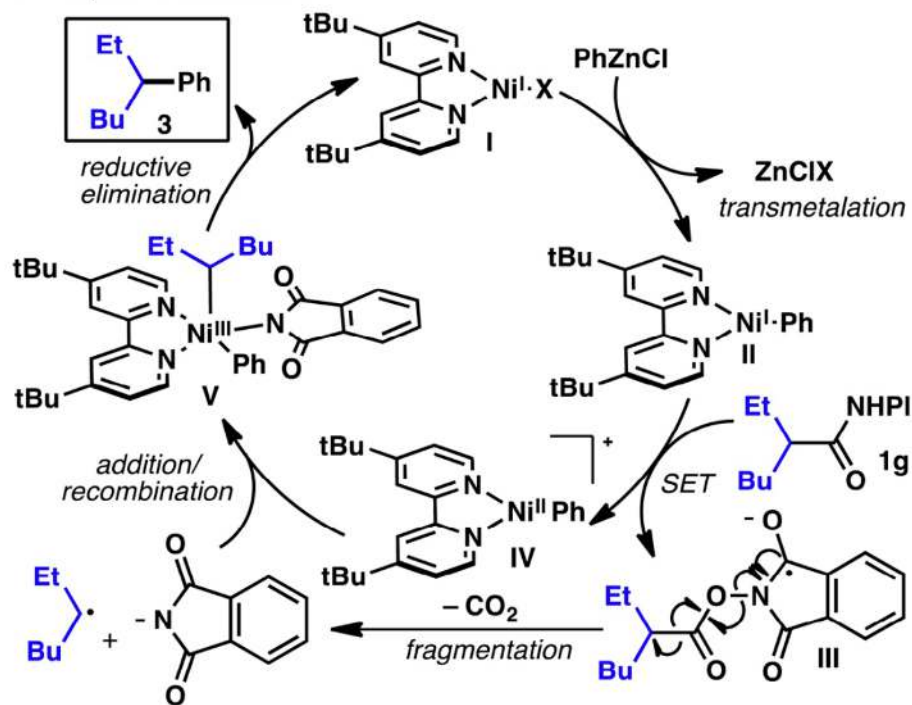
C. Radical ring-opening experiment



Nickel Catalysis

Baran: Ni-catalyzed reactions of redox-active esters

A. Proposed mechanism



Nickel Catalysis

Baran: Ni-catalyzed reactions of redox-active esters

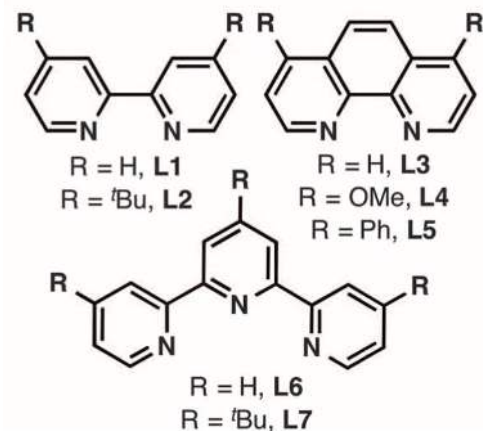
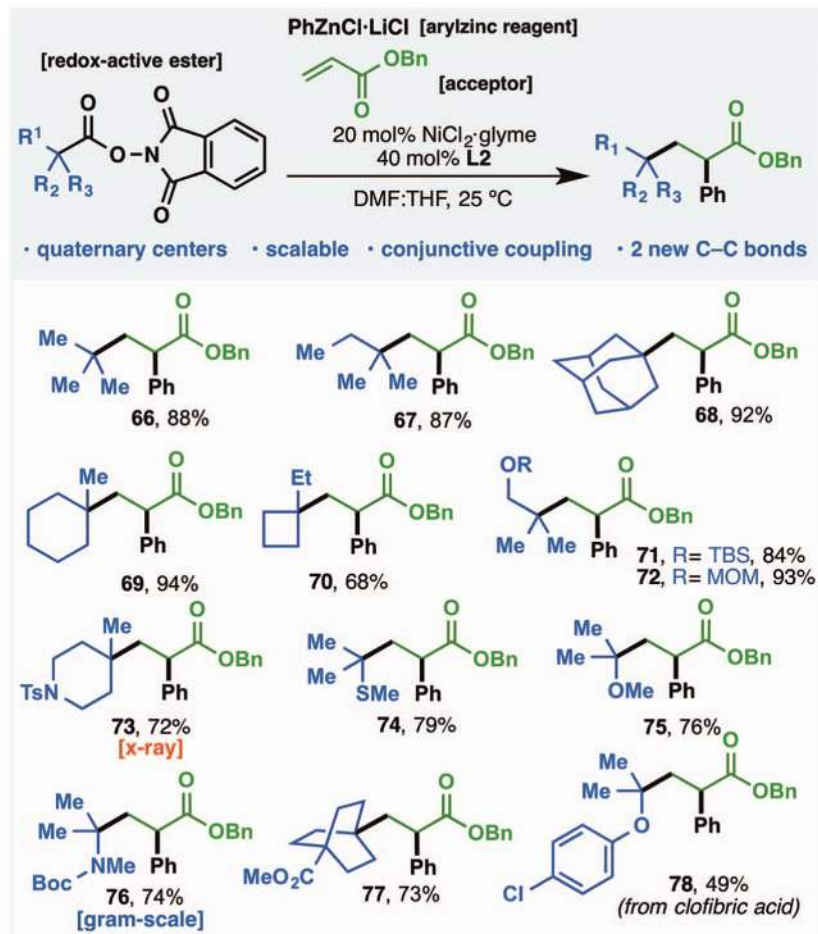
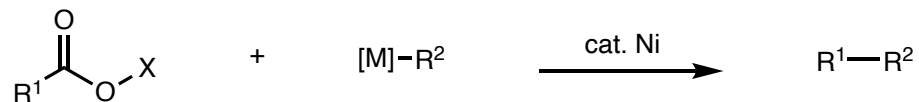


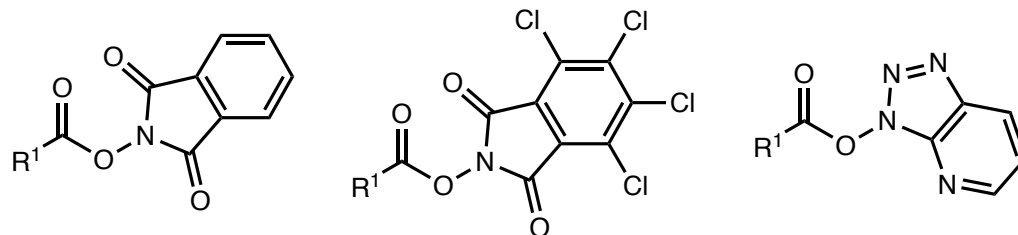
Fig. 4. Scope of the Ni-catalyzed three-component conjunctive cross-coupling. Standard conditions were redox-active ester (1 eq), acceptor (2.5 eq), PhZnCl-LiCl complex (3 eq), NiCl₂-glyme (20 mol %), L2 (40 mol %), THF:DMF, 25°C, 8 hours. All the products shown were obtained in racemic form.

Nickel Catalysis

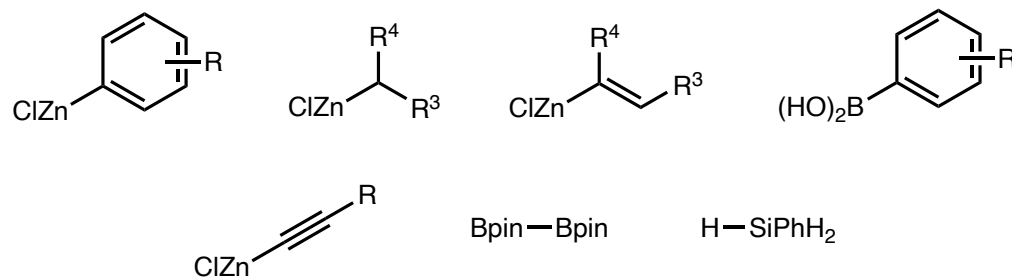
Ni-catalyzed reactions of redox-active esters



Redox-active esters:



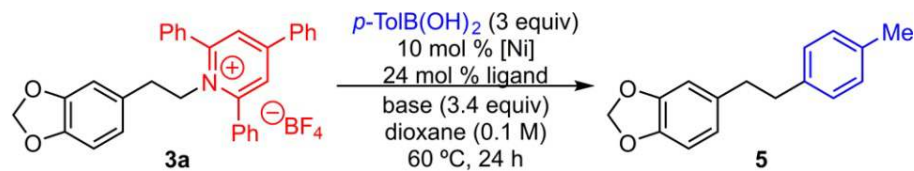
[M]-R² sources



Nickel Catalysis

Watson: Nickel-catalyzed activation of alkyl pyridiniums (Katritzky salts):

Table 1. Optimization^a



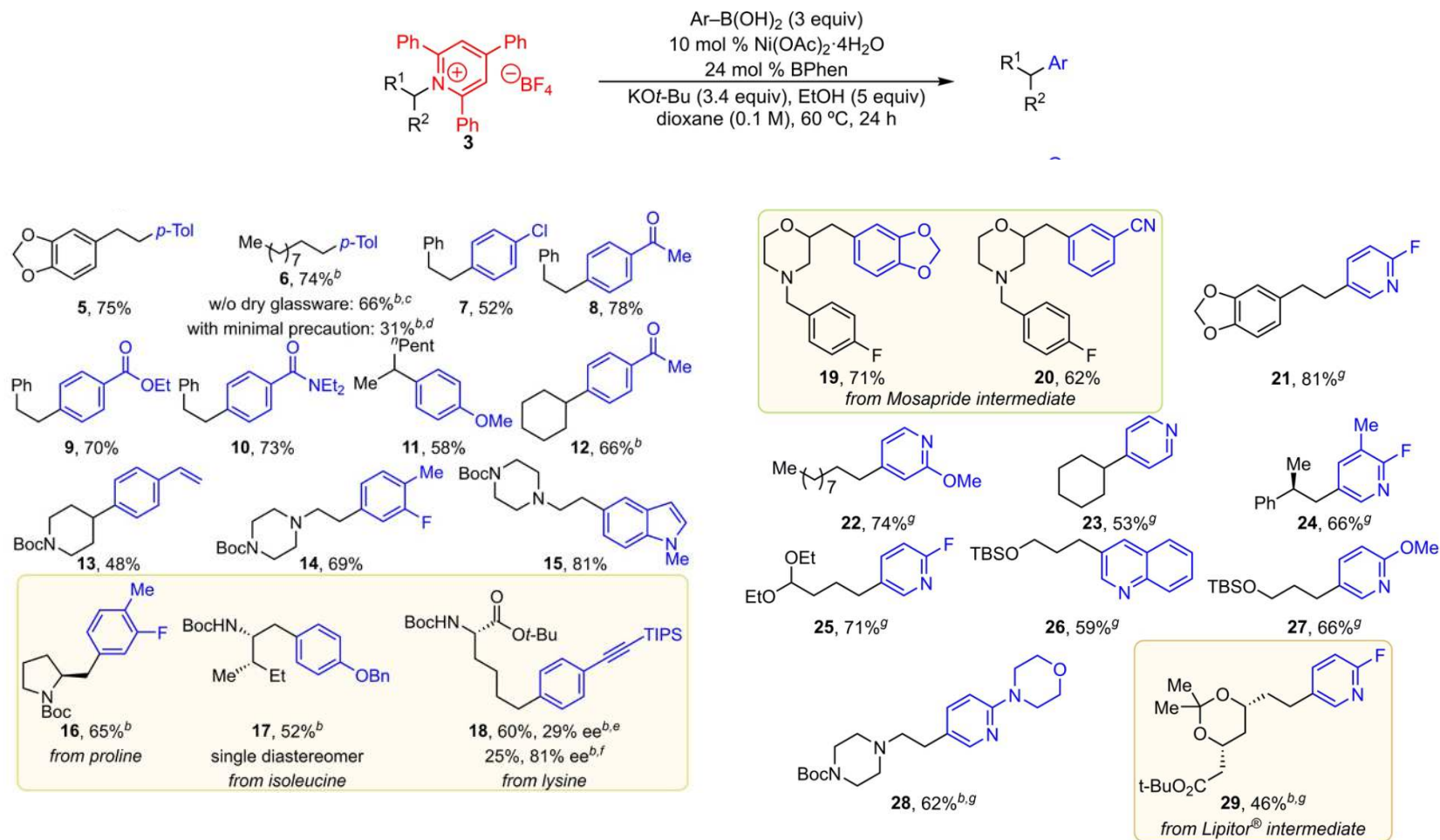
entry	[Ni]	ligand	base	yield (%) ^b
1	Ni(cod) ₂	PPh ₂ Cy	K ₃ PO ₄	6
2	Ni(cod) ₂	BPhen	K ₃ PO ₄	21
3	Ni(cod) ₂	BPhen	KO ^t Bu	24
4	Ni(OAc) ₂ ·4H ₂ O	BPhen	KO ^t Bu	39
5 ^c	Ni(OAc) ₂ ·4H ₂ O	BPhen	KO ^t Bu	52
6 ^{c,d}	Ni(OAc) ₂ ·4H ₂ O	BPhen	KO ^t Bu	81
7 ^{c,d}	Ni(OAc) ₂ ·4H ₂ O	BPhen	KOEt	68
8 ^{c,d}	—	BPhen	KO ^t Bu	0
9 ^{c,d}	Ni(OAc) ₂ ·4H ₂ O	—	KO ^t Bu	0
10 ^{c,d}	Ni(OAc) ₂ ·4H ₂ O	bipy	KO ^t Bu	54
11 ^{c,d}	Ni(OAc) ₂ ·4H ₂ O	BPhen	—	0
12 ^{c,d}	Ni(OAc) ₂ ·4H ₂ O	BPhen	K ₃ PO ₄	3

^aConditions: pyridinium salt **3a** (0.1 mmol), [Ni] (10 mol %), ligand (24 mol %), *p*-TolB(OH)₂ (3.0 equiv), base (3.4 equiv), dioxane (0.1 M), 60 °C, 24 h. ^bDetermined by ¹H NMR using 1,3,5-trimethoxybenzene as internal standard. ^cTwo mixtures (Vial 1: [Ni], BPhen, dioxane. Vial 2: *p*-TolB(OH)₂, KO^tBu, EtOH, dioxane. **3a** in either vial.) were stirred for 1 h before combining. ^dEtOH (5 equiv) added.

Nickel Catalysis

Watson: Nickel-catalyzed activation of alkyl pyridiniums (Katritzky salts):

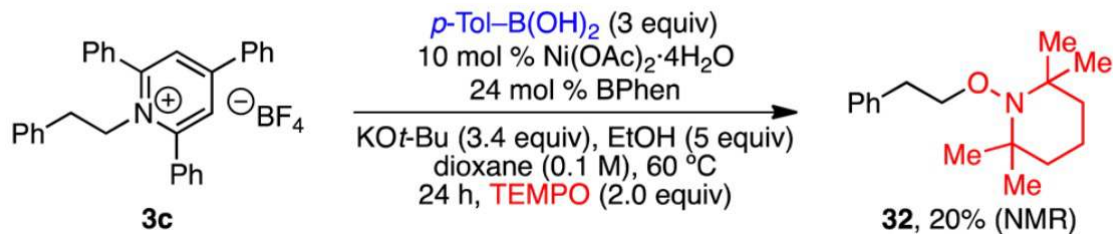
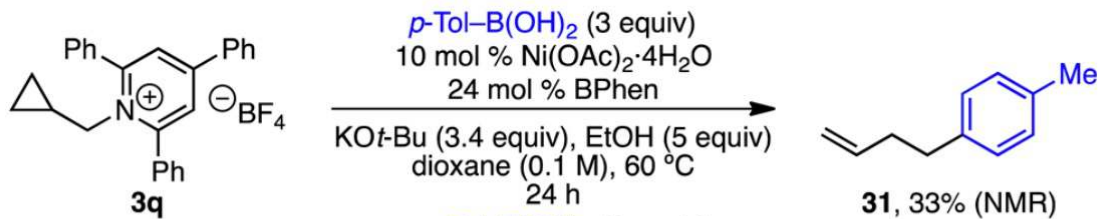
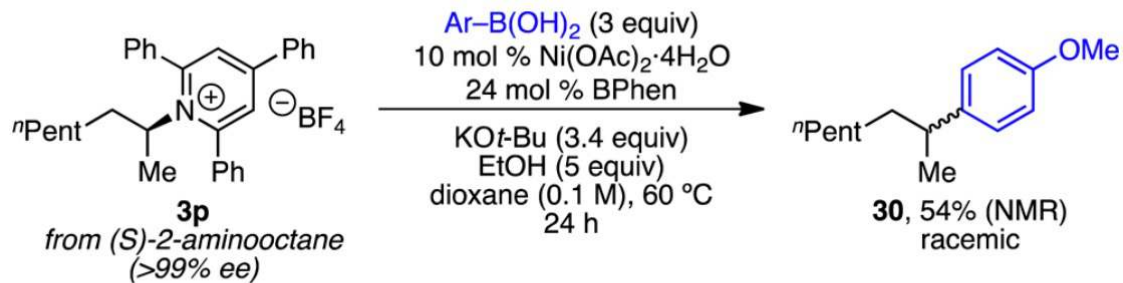
Scheme 2. Reaction Scope



Katritzky, A. R.; De Ville, G.; Patel, R. C. *Tetrahedron* **1981**, 37, 25–30; Basch, C. H.; Liao, J.; Xu, J.; Piane, J. J.; Watson, M. P. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2017**, 139, 5313–5316.

Nickel Catalysis

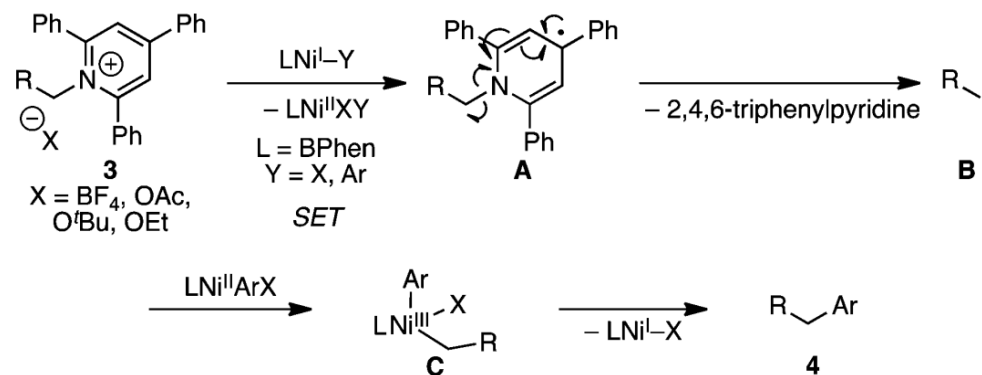
Watson: Nickel-catalyzed activation of alkyl pyridiniums (Katritzky salts):



Nickel Catalysis

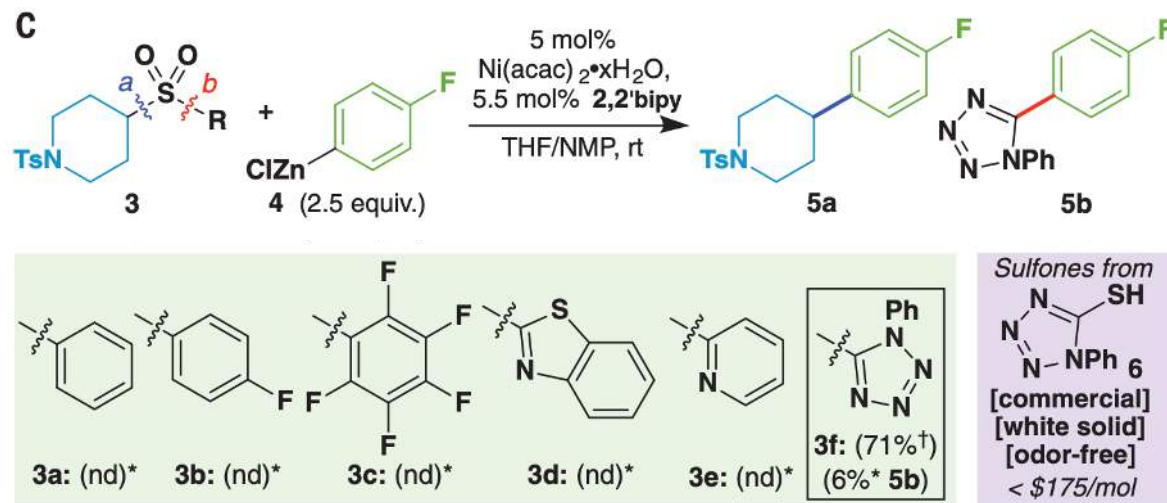
Watson: Nickel-catalyzed activation of alkyl pyridiniums (Katritzky salts):

Scheme 4. Mechanistic Proposal



Nickel Catalysis

Baran: Nickel-catalyzed activation of alkyl sulfones (2018)



Inspiration for these leaving groups (Denmark 2013, iron chemistry):
Denmark, S. E.; Cresswell, A. J. *J. Org. Chem.* **2013**, *78*, 12593–12628.

Merchant, R. R.; Edwards, J. T.; Qin, T.; Fruszyk, M. M.; Bi, C.; Che, G.; Bao, D.-H.; Qiao, W.; Sun, L.; Collins, M. R.; Fadeyi, O. O.; Gallego, G. M.; Mousseau, J. J.; Nuhant, P.; Baran, P. S. *Science* **360**, 2018, 75–80.

Nickel Catalysis

Baran: Nickel-catalyzed activation of alkyl sulfones (2018)

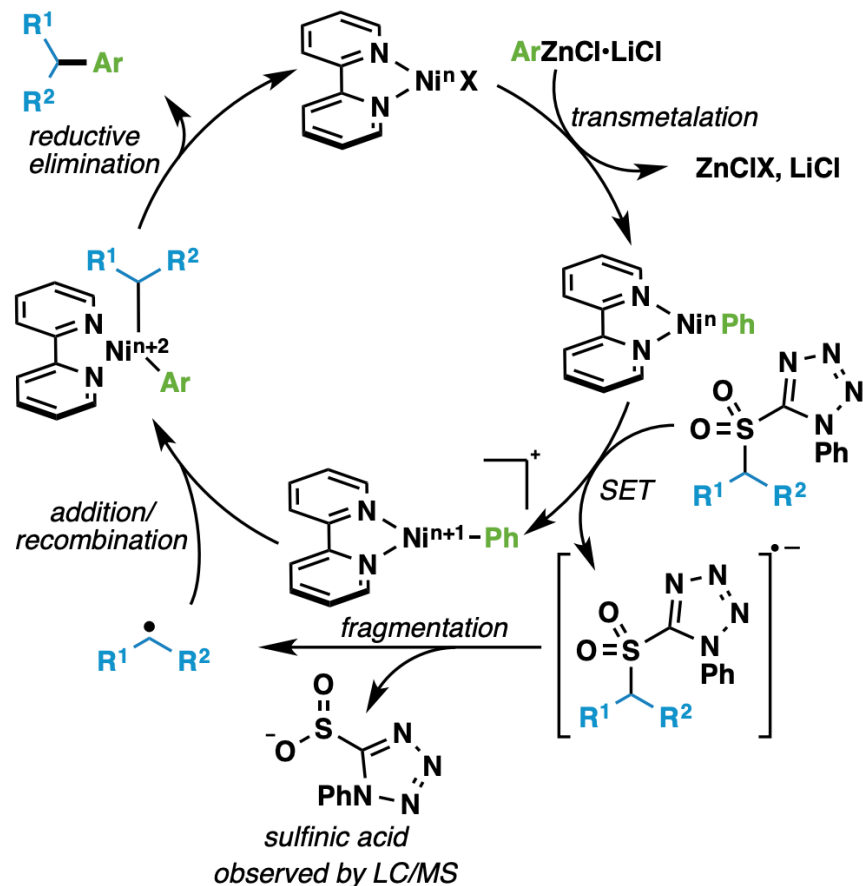
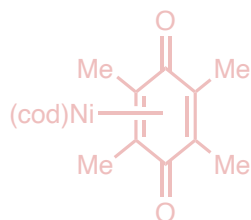


Figure S9: Possible catalytic cycle for the desulfonylative arylation. (54-57)

Nickel Catalysis

Topics in nickel cross-coupling:

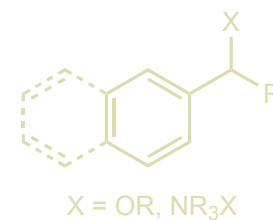
Directions in Precatalyst Synthesis



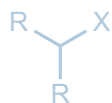
“Inert”/“Nonclassical” C(sp²)-X Electrophiles Ni(0)/Ni(II)



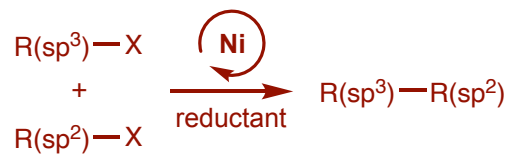
Benzylic C(sp³)-X Electrophiles Ni(0)/Ni(II)



“Unactivated” C(sp³)-X Electrophiles Ni(I)/Ni(III)



Cross-Electrophile Coupling Ni(0)/Ni(I)/Ni(II)/Ni(III)



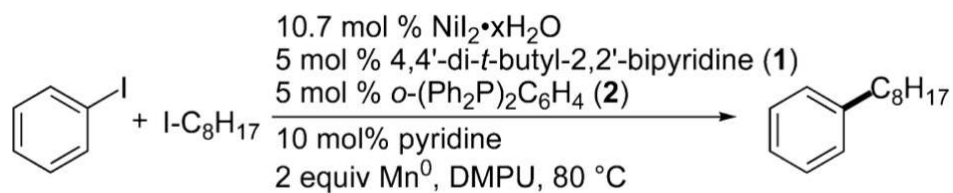
Conjunctive Cross-Coupling (Short)



Nickel Catalysis

Prototypical cross-electrophile coupling (Weix, 2010)

Table 1. Optimized Reaction Conditions^a

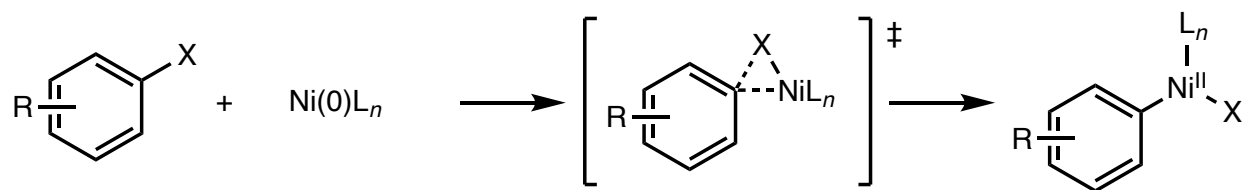


Entry	Deviation from Standard Conditions	Yield (%) ^b
1	none	88

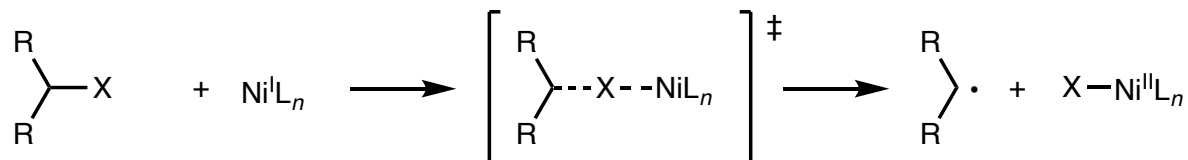
Nickel Catalysis

Typical reactivity trends (important for discriminating between coupling partners in cross-electrophile coupling)

Reactivity with C(sp²)-X electrophiles

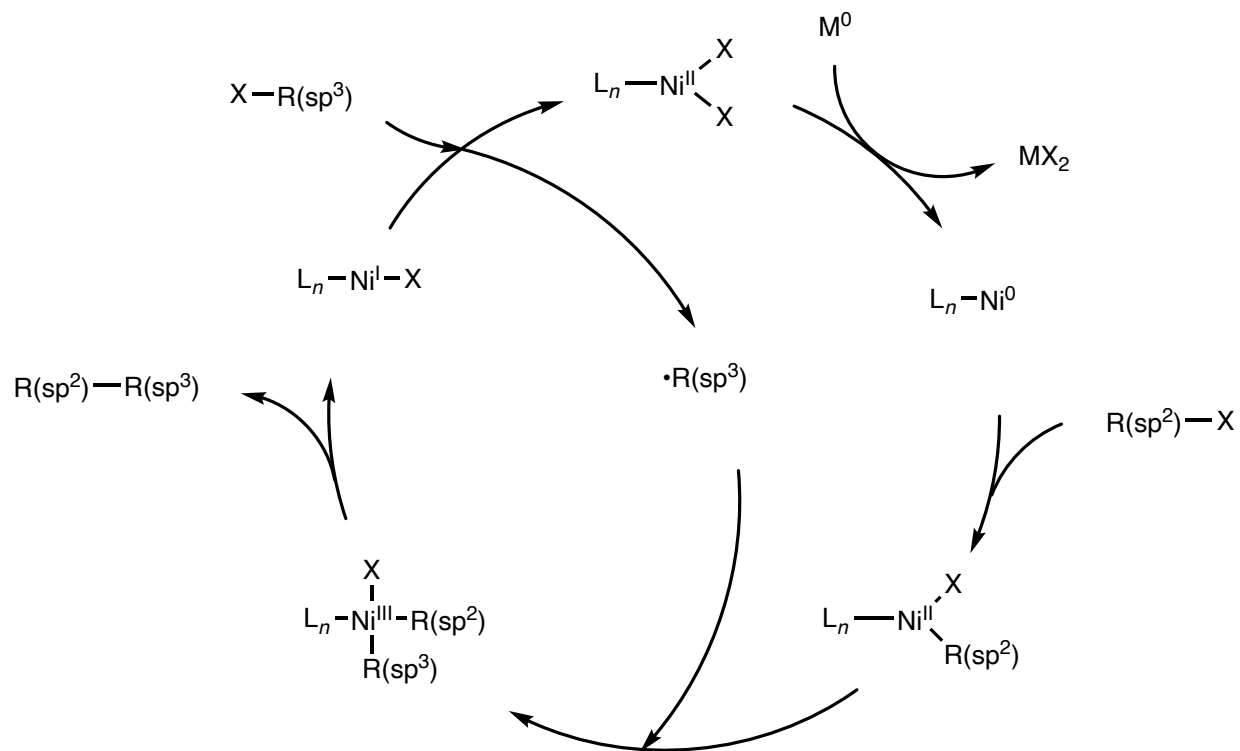


Reactivity with C(sp³)-X electrophiles



Nickel Catalysis

Prevailing mechanism: "Radical chain" mechanism



Nickel Catalysis

Weix, 2013: Reactivity of Ni(0) with electrophiles

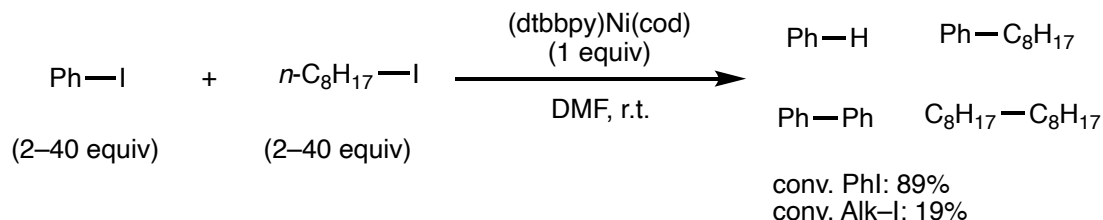
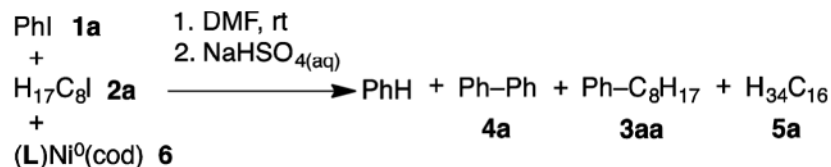


Table 2. Selectivity in Oxidative Addition to (L)Ni⁰(cod)^a

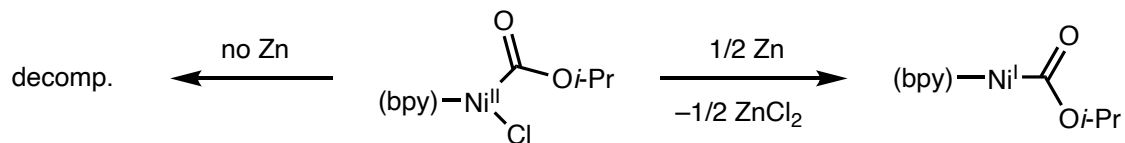
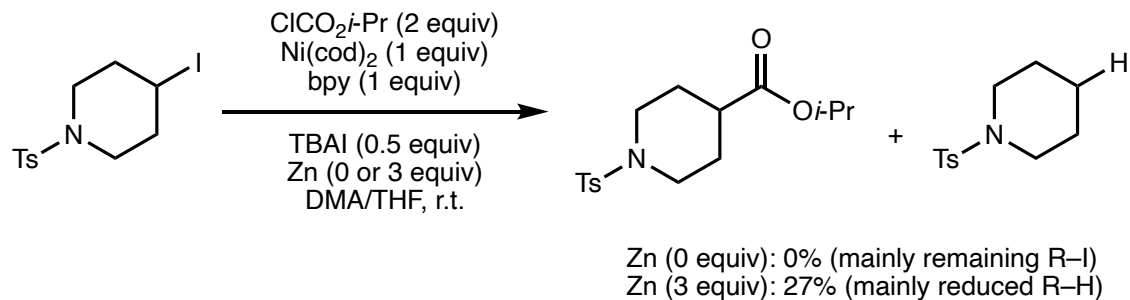


substrate	total conv (%) ^b	yield (%) ^c			
		alkyl-H or Ph-H	4a	3aa	5a
Ph-I	89	49	21	13	NA
H ₁₇ C ₈ -I	19	0	NA	51	45

^aA 1:1 mixture of **1a**:**2a** was added to a DMF solution of **6**. Samples were analyzed by GC. Reported values are an average of data using between 2 and 40 equiv each of **1a** and **2a** to **6**. See Supporting Information for full experimental details. ^bConversion with respect to amount of **6**. ^cYield with respect to amount of **6**. NA = not applicable.

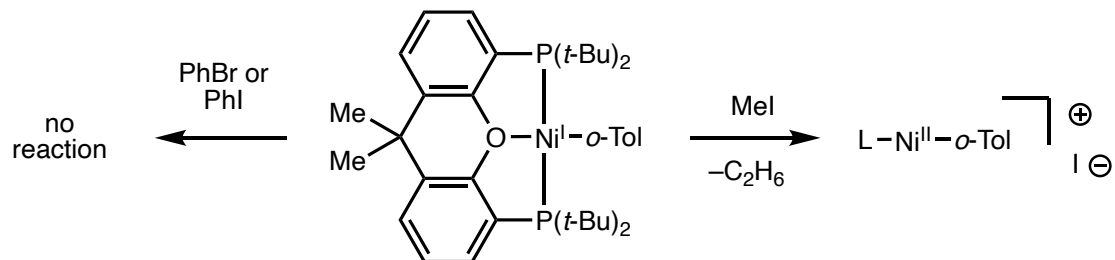
Nickel Catalysis

Gong: Reactivity with C(sp²)-X and C(sp³)-X electrophiles

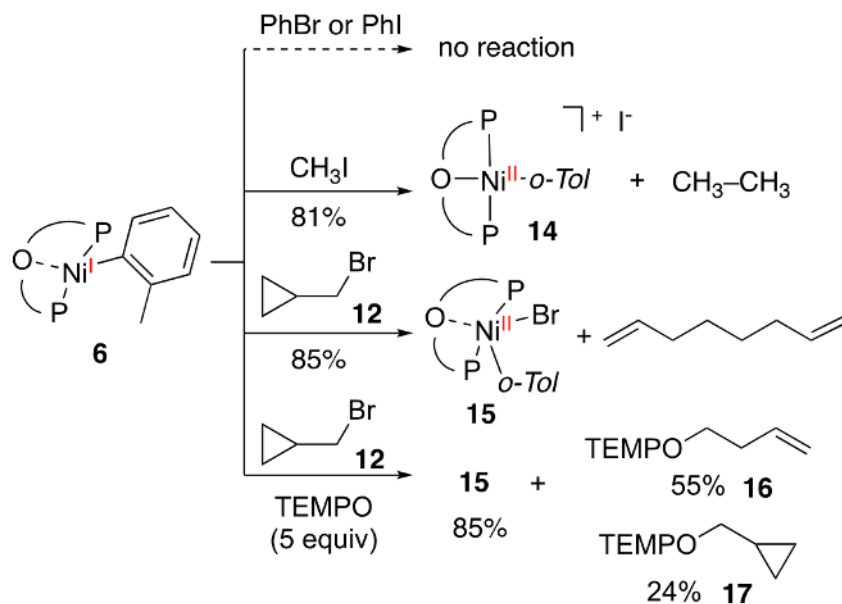


Nickel Catalysis

Diao: Reactivity of Ni(I)–Aryl compounds



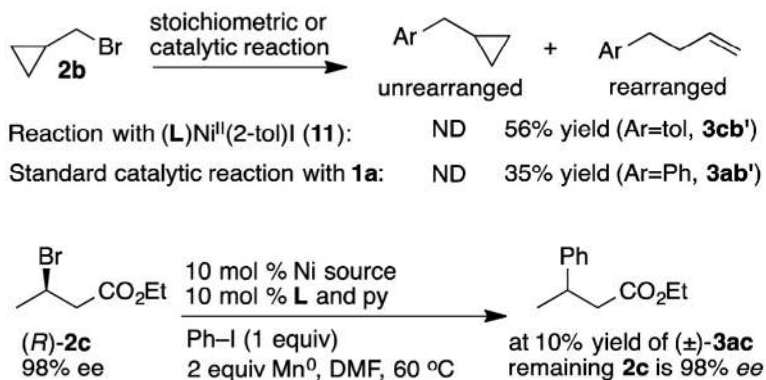
Scheme 5. Ni(I) Complex 6-Mediated Activation of Alkyl and Aryl Halides



Nickel Catalysis

Weix, 2013: Mechanism of cross-electrophile coupling

Scheme 3. Radical Clock Experiments^a



^aND = none detected. Catalytic reaction as in Table 1, entry 1.

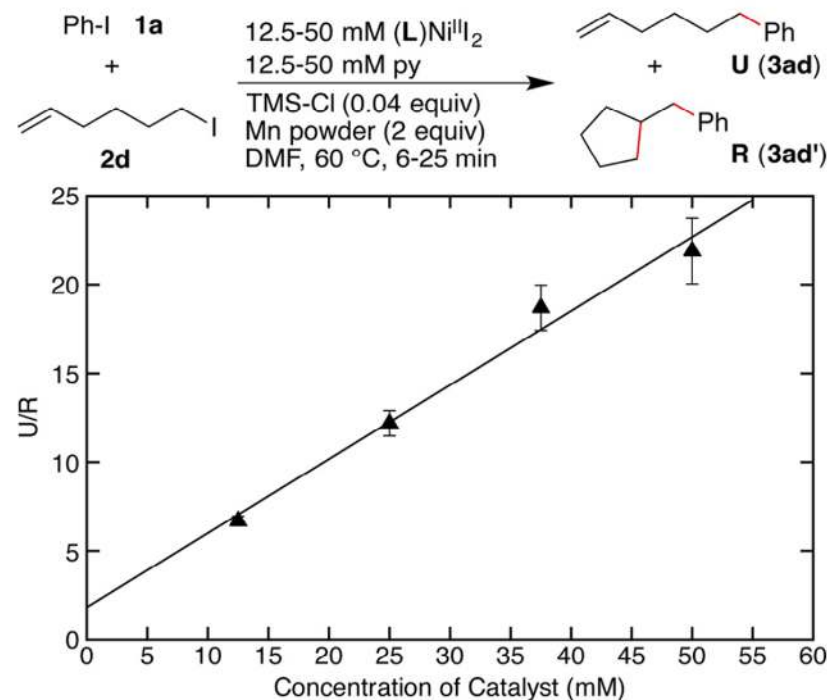


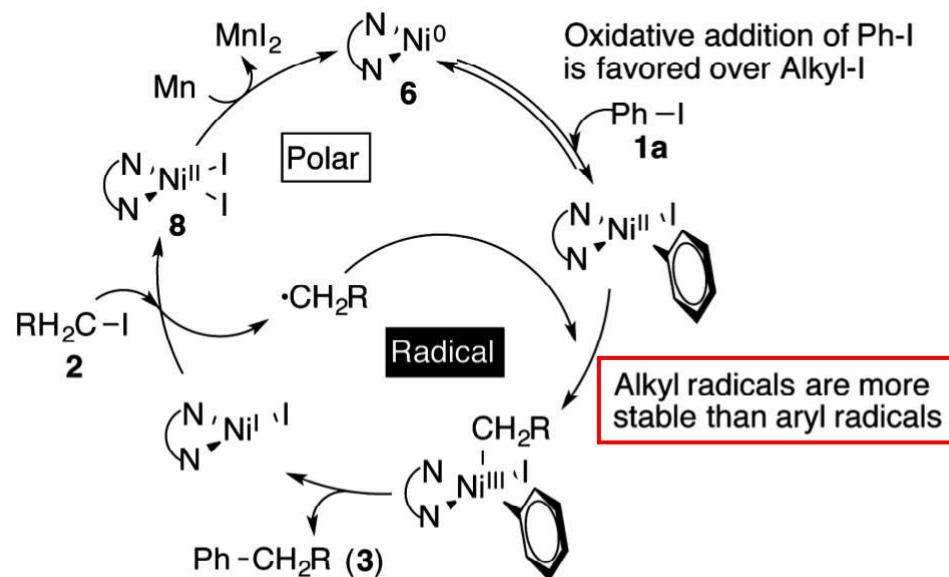
Figure 4. Ratio of **U** (**3ad**, includes olefin isomers) to **R** (**3ad'**) formed in reactions at different catalyst concentrations, showing that the degree of rearrangement, a measure of the radical lifetime, depends upon nickel concentration. The data shown are for 50–100% conversion to avoid fluctuations in active catalyst concentration at the beginning of the reaction. Error bars are the standard deviation of the data used for the plot. Linear fit: $f(x) = 0.417x + 1.83$; $R^2 = 0.984$.

steep slope consistent with catalyst resting state being
 (L)Ni(II)(Ar)(X)
 (or another productive intermediate)

Nickel Catalysis

Weix, 2013: Mechanism of cross-electrophile coupling

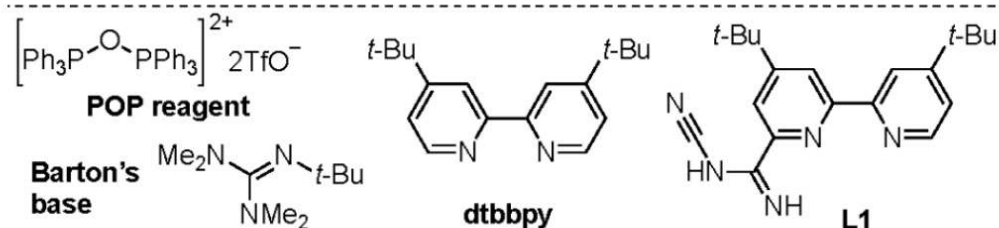
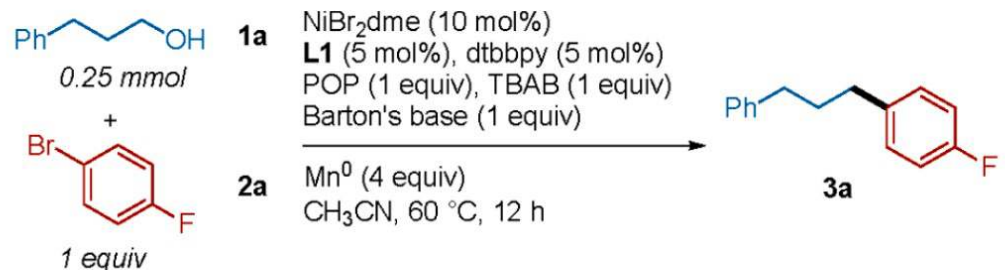
Scheme 4. Proposed Mechanism for Cross-Electrophile Coupling of Aryl Halides with Alkyl Halides



Nickel Catalysis

Weix: Dual ligand system for selective activation of electrophiles (2022)

Table 1. Optimization and Control Studies^a

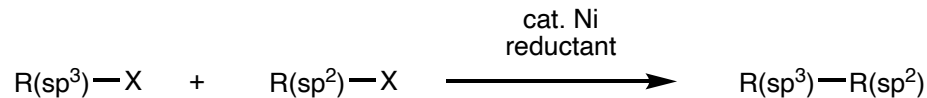


entry	deviations from above conditions	3a^b (%)
1	none	89 (79)

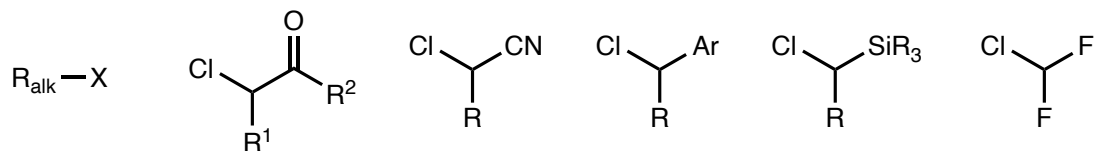
and dtbbpy had complementary reactivity: dtbbpy-ligated Ni primarily consumed the aryl bromide, whereas L1-ligated Ni favored alkyl bromide consumption. The synergistic effect of

Nickel Catalysis

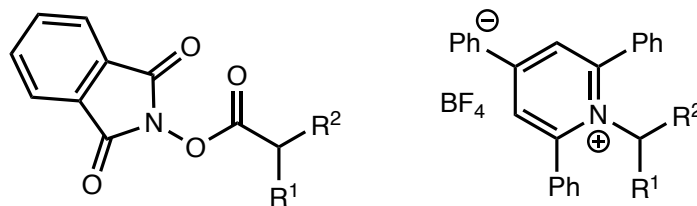
Overview: Reductive cross-electrophile coupling



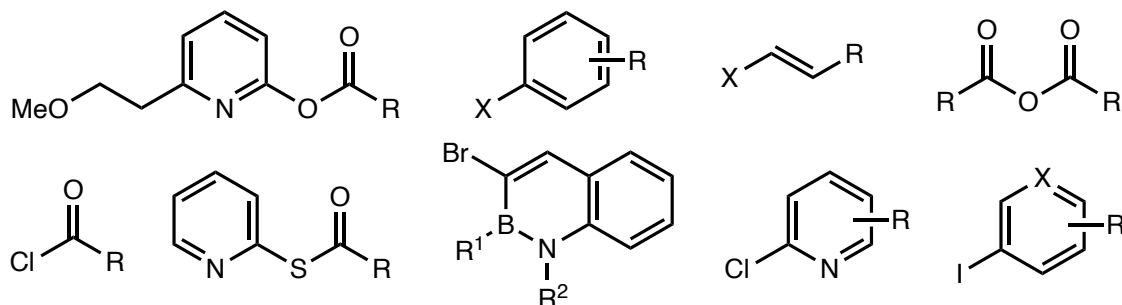
Representative R(sp³)-X coupling partners



X = I, Br, Cl



Representative R(sp²)-X coupling partners

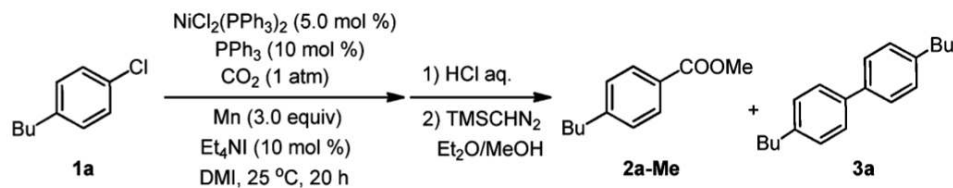


For reviews: Knappke, C. E. I.; Grupe, S.; Gärtner, D.; Corpet, M.; Gosmini, C.; von Wangelin, A. *J. Chem. Eur. J.* **2014**, *20*, 6828–6842; Everson, D. A.; Weix, D. J. *J. Org. Chem.* **2014**, *79*, 4793–4798; Weix, D. J. *Acc. Chem. Res.* **2015**, *48*, 1767–1775; Goldfogel, M. J.; Huang, L.; Weix, D. J. *Cross-Electrophile Coupling: Principles and New Reactions*, pp. 183–222, in *Nickel Catalysis in Organic Synthesis*. Wiley-VCH, 2020; Gu, J.; Wang, X.; Xue, W.; Gong, H. *Org. Chem. Front.* **2015**, *2*, 1411–1421; Wang, X.; Dai, Y.; Gong, H. *Top. Curr. Chem.* **2016**, *374*, 43; Lucas, E. L.; Jarvo, E. R. *Nat. Chem. Rev.* **2017**, *1*, 0065; Richmond, E.; Moran, J. *Synthesis* **2018**, *50*, 499–513; Diccianni, J. B.; Diao, T. *Trends Chem.* **2019**, *1*, 830–844; Diccianni, J.; Lin, Q.; Diao, T. *Acc. Chem. Res.* **2020**, *53*, 906–919.

Nickel Catalysis

Cross-electrophile coupling with π -electrophiles (CO_2) (Tsuji, 2012)

Table 1. Nickel-Catalyzed Carboxylation of 1a Employing Carbon Dioxide^a

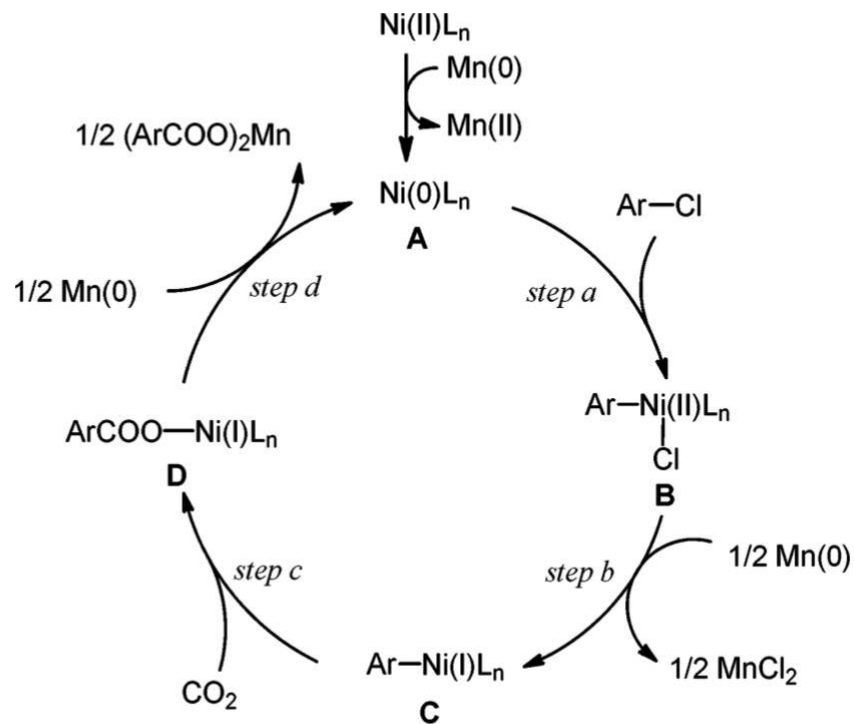


entry	catalyst system: change from standard conditions	yield (%) ^b	
		2a-Me	3a
1	standard conditions	95 (84) ^c	0

Nickel Catalysis

Cross-electrophile coupling with π -electrophiles (CO_2) (Tsuji, 2012)

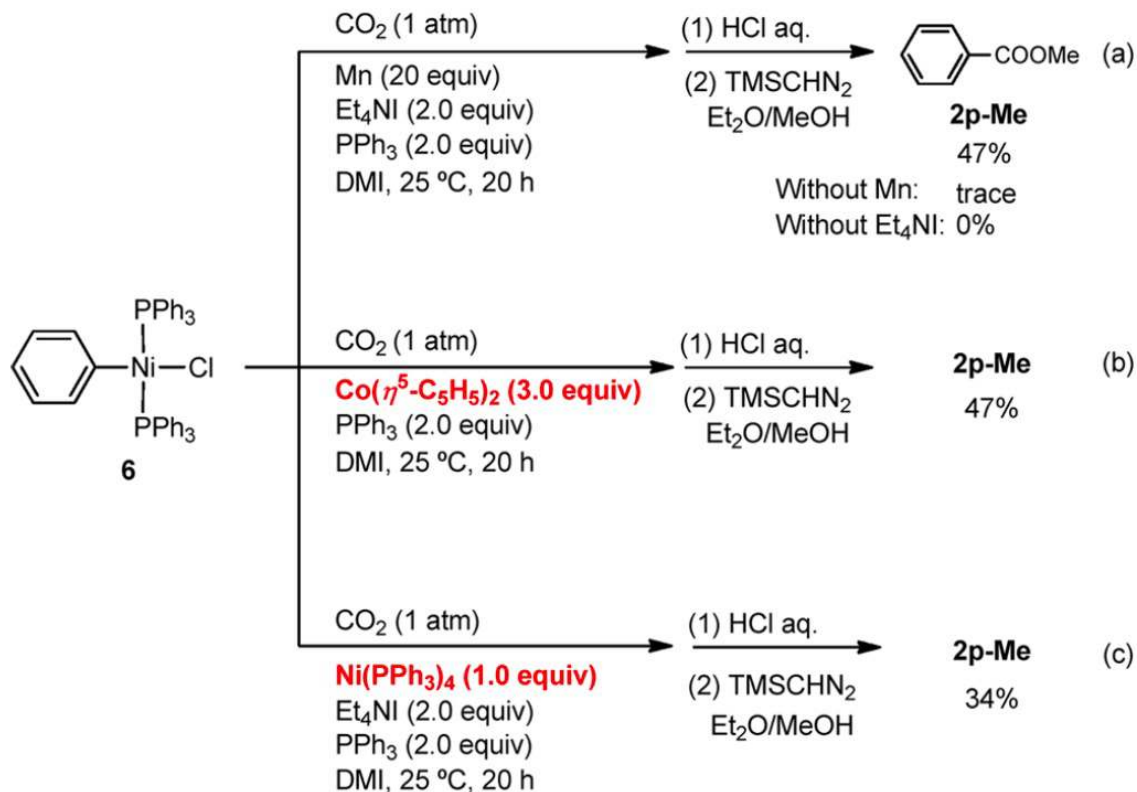
Scheme 3. Plausible Reaction Mechanism



Nickel Catalysis

Cross-electrophile coupling with π -electrophiles (CO_2) (Tsuji, 2012)

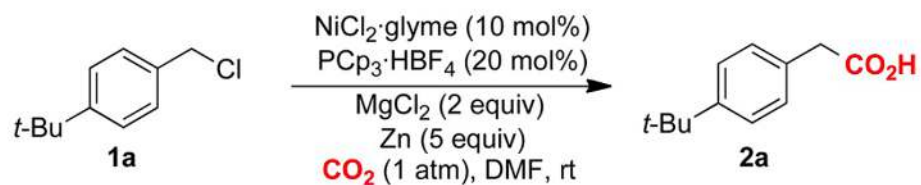
Scheme 2. Stoichiometric Reactions Relevant to Mechanism



Nickel Catalysis

Reductive carboxylation using CO₂ (Martin)

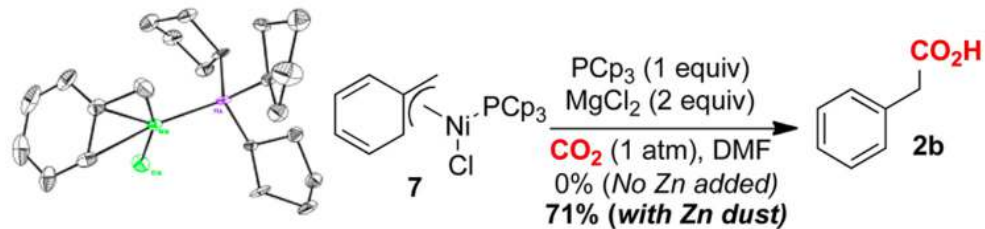
Table 1. Ni-Catalyzed Carboxylation of 1a with CO₂^a



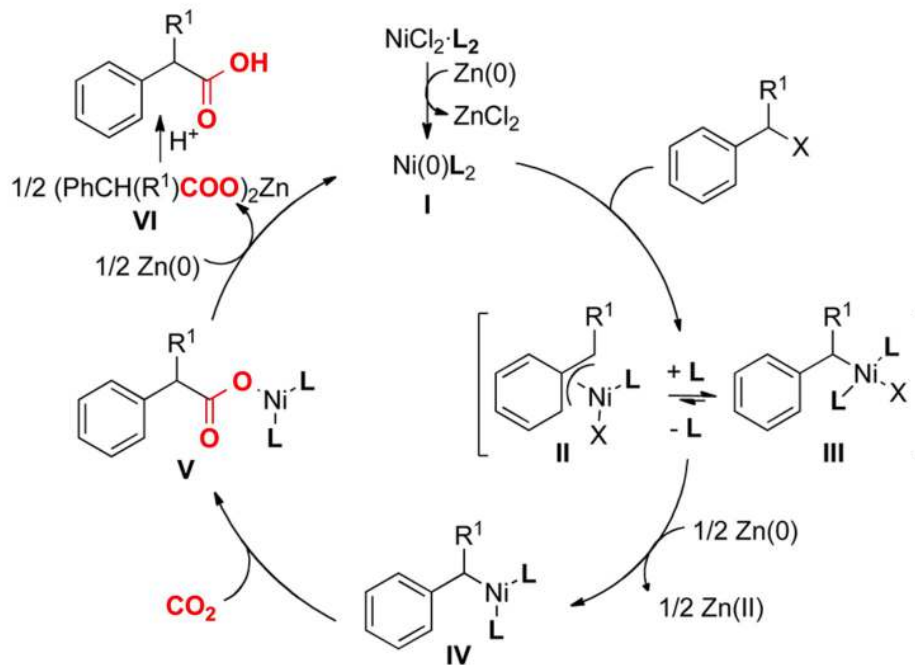
entry	change from standard conditions	yield of 2a (%) ^b
1	none	74 (70 ^c)

Nickel Catalysis

Reductive carboxylation using CO₂ (Martin)

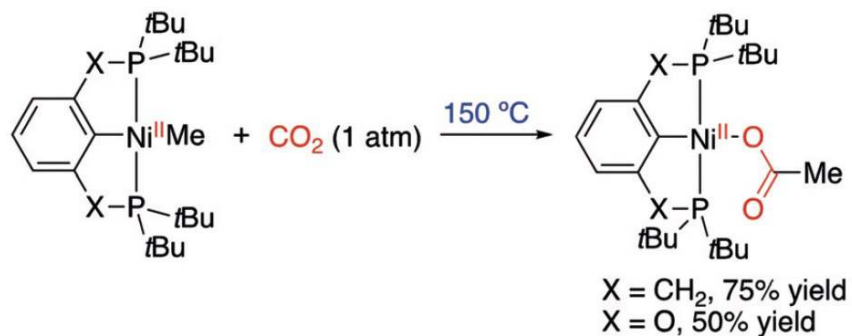


Scheme 3. Proposed Catalytic Cycle

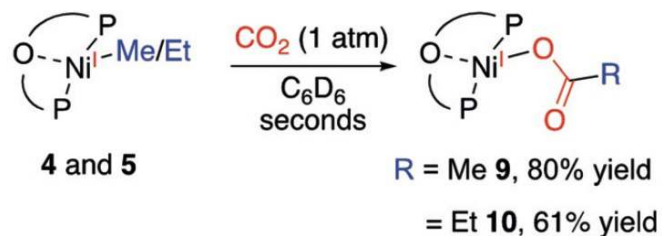
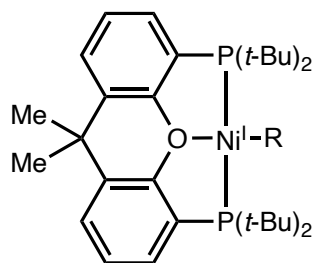


Nickel Catalysis

Diao: Migratory insertion into CO₂



Ni(II): requires forcing conditions



Nickel Catalysis

Hopmann and Martin, 2020: Insertion into CO₂

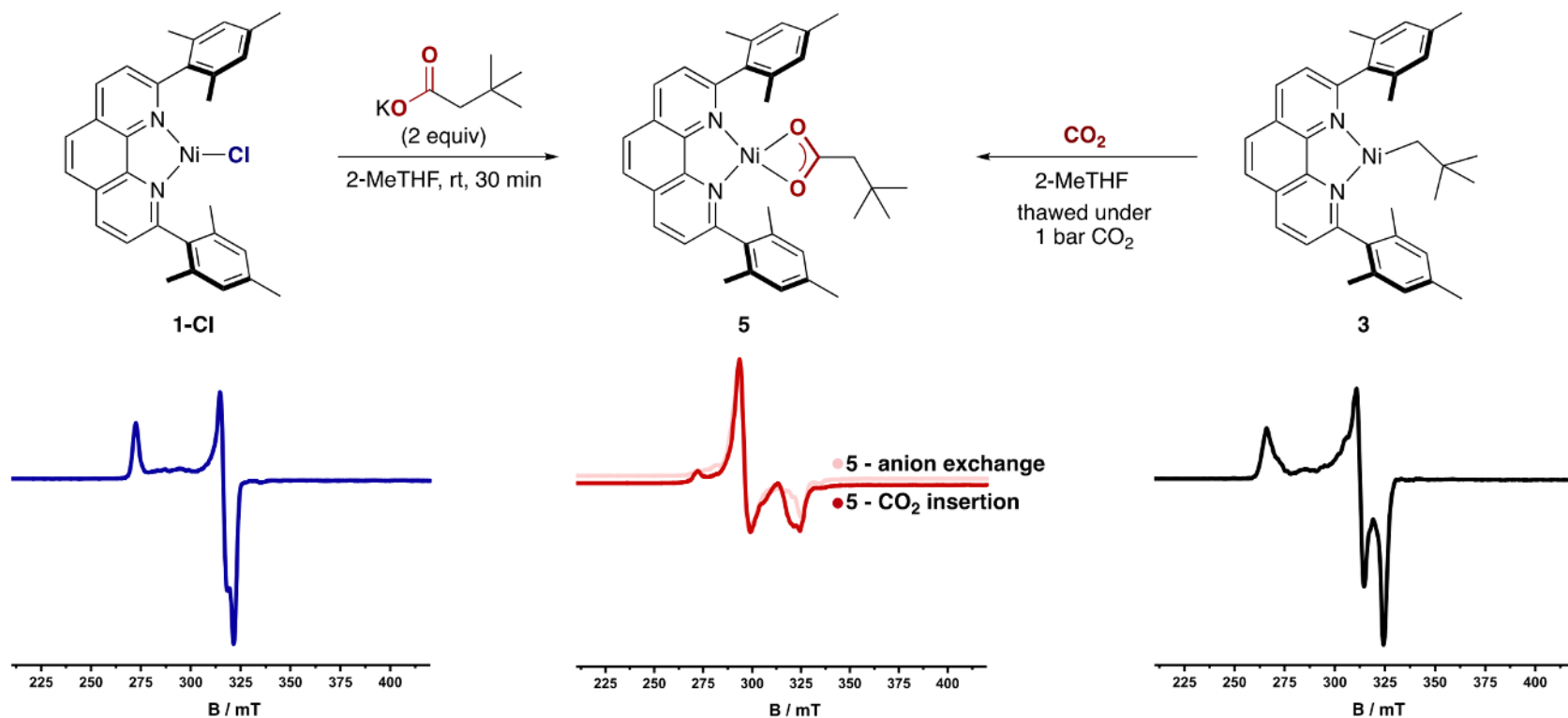


Figure 2. CO₂ insertion at Ni(I). (top) Anion metathesis reaction (left) and CO₂ insertion into **3** (right). (bottom) Changes in the 77 K X-band EPR spectra of **1-Cl** (left, $g_x = 2.084$, $g_y = 2.119$, $g_z = 2.461$) after anion metathesis and after CO₂ insertion at **3** (right, $g_x = 2.065$, $g_y = 2.145$, $g_z = 2.519$) to form **5** (center, $g_x = 2.299$, $g_y = 2.272$, $g_z = 2.064$).

Nickel Catalysis

Hopmann and Martin, 2020: Insertion into CO₂

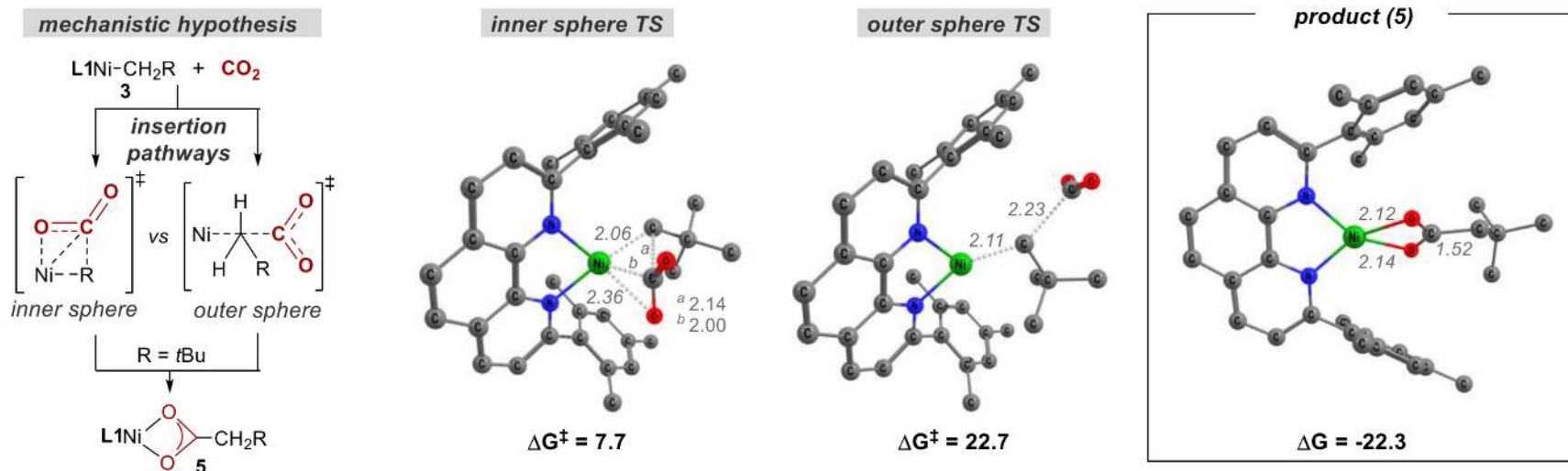
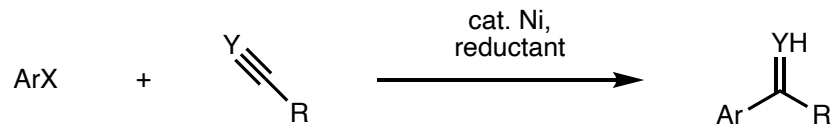


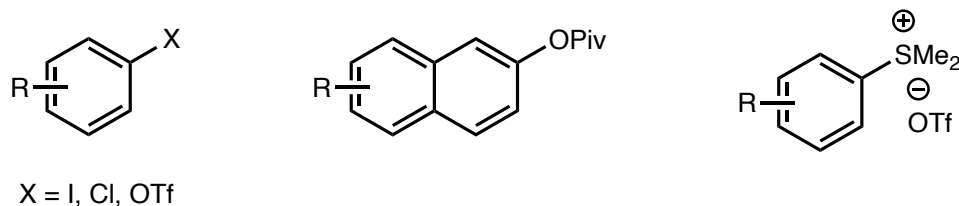
Figure 3. Optimized TS geometries for inner-sphere vs outer-sphere CO₂ insertion and the optimized geometry of **5** (PBE-D3BJ/def2-TZVP/IEFPCM, H atoms omitted, distances in Å, energies in kcal mol⁻¹ relative to **3** + free CO₂, 298.15 K).

Nickel Catalysis

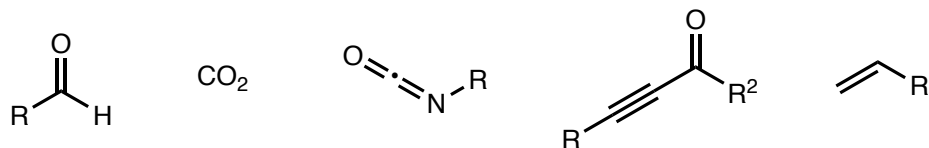
Reductive coupling with C(sp²) π-electrophiles:



Representative aryl electrophiles



Representative π-electrophiles

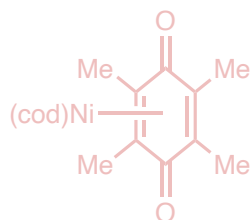


Huang, Y.-C.; Majumdar, K.; Cheng, C.-H. *J. Org. Chem.* **2002**, *67*, 1682–1684; Nogi, K.; Fujihara, T.; Terao, J.; Tsuji, Y. *J. Org. Chem.* **2015**, *80*, 11618–11623; Correa, A.; León, T.; Martin, R. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2014**, *136*, 1062–1069; Yanagi, T.; Somerville, R. J.; Nogi, K.; Martin, R.; Yorimitsu, H. *ACS Catal.* **2020**, *10*, 2117–2123; Vandavasi, J. K.; Hua, X.; Halima, H. B.; Newman, S. G. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2017**, *56*, 15441–15445; Garcia, K. J.; Gilbert, M. M.; Weix, D. J. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2019**, *141*, 1823–1827; (a) Meng, Q.-Y.; Wang, S.; König, B. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2017**, *56*, 13426–13430; Wang, S.; Xi, C. *Org. Lett.* **2018**, *20*, 4131–4134; Ma, C.; Zhao, C.-Q.; Xu, X.-T.; Li, Z.-M.; Wang, X.-Y.; Zhang, K.; Mei, T.-S. *Org. Lett.* **2019**, *21*, 2464–2467; Correa, A.; Martin, R. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2014**, *136*, 7253–7256; Wang, X.; Nakajima, M.; Serrano, E.; Martin, R. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2016**, *138*, 15531–15534; Dorn, S. C. M.; Olsen, A. K.; Kelemen, R. E.; Shrestha, R.; Weix, D. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2015**, *56*, 3365–3367; Ninokata, R.; Yamahira, T.; Onodera, G.; Kimura, M. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2017**, *56*, 208–211; Xiao, J.; Wang, Y.-W.; Peng, Y. *Synthesis* **2017**, *49*, 3576–3581; Anthony, D.; Lin, Q.; Baudet, J.; Diao, T. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2019**, *58*, 3198–3202; Walker, B. R.; Sevov, C. S. *ACS Catal.* **2019**, *9*, 7197–7203; Lin, T.; Mi, J.; Song, L.; Gan, J.; Luo, P.; Mao, J.; Walsh, P. J. *Org. Lett.* **2018**, *20*, 1191–1194.

Nickel Catalysis

Topics in nickel cross-coupling:

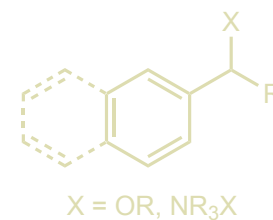
Directions in Precatalyst Synthesis



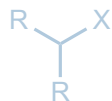
“Inert”/“Nonclassical” C(sp²)-X Electrophiles Ni(0)/Ni(II)



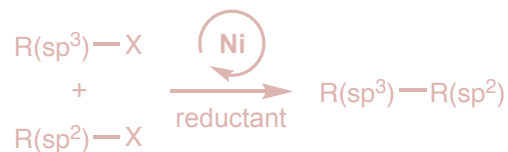
Benzylic C(sp³)-X Electrophiles Ni(0)/Ni(II)



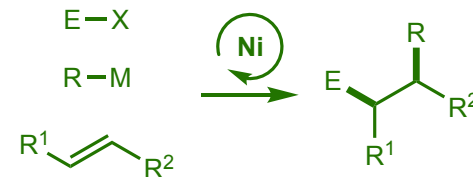
“Unactivated” C(sp³)-X Electrophiles Ni(I)/Ni(III)



Cross-Electrophile Coupling Ni(0)/Ni(I)/Ni(II)/Ni(III)

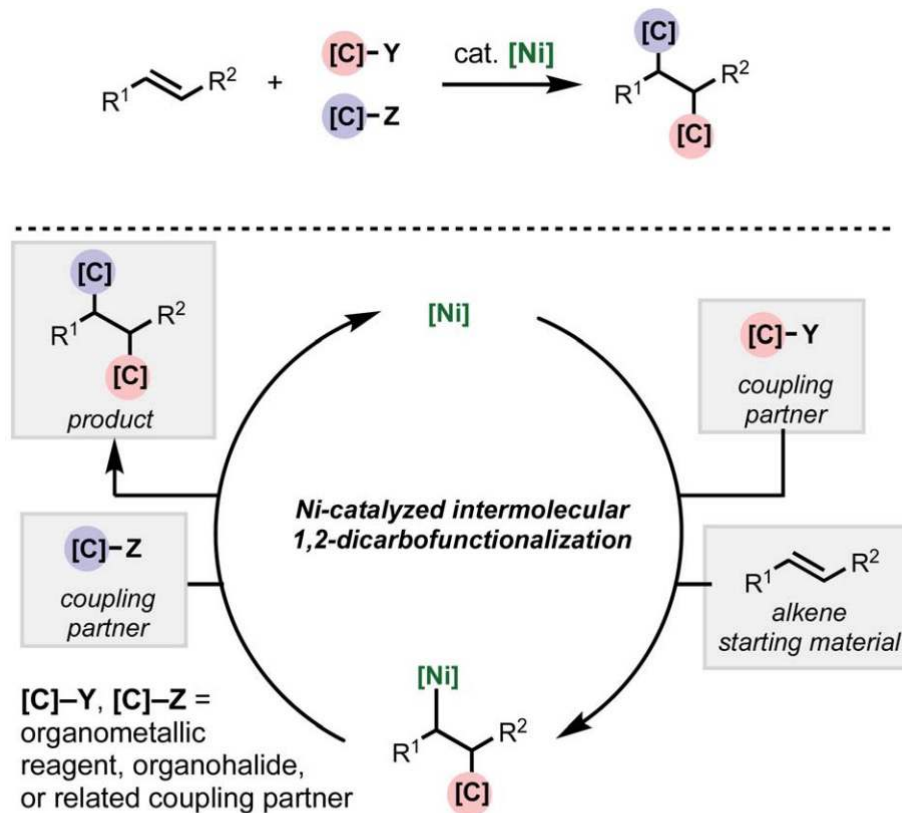


Conjunctive Cross-Coupling (Short)



Nickel Catalysis

Advances in conjunctive cross-coupling (Engle):



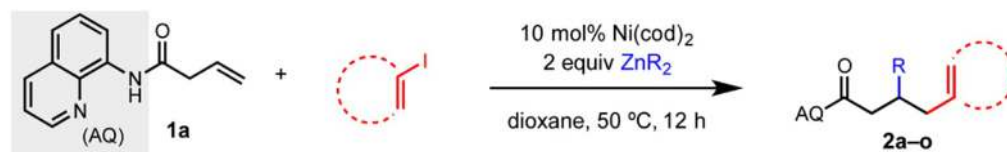
Regimes:

1. Radical 1,2 addition chemistry
2. Coordination-insertion chemistry

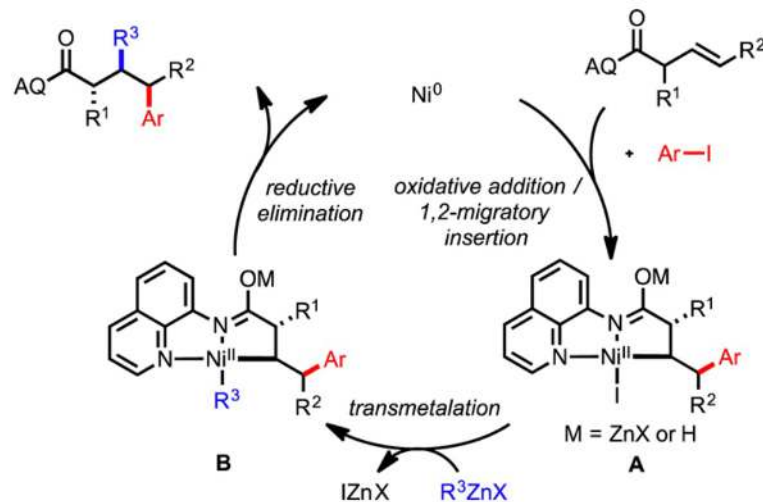
Nickel Catalysis

Nickel-catalyzed, directed conjunctive cross-coupling (Engle, 2017):

Table 2. Aryl/Vinyl Electrophile and Alkyl/Aryl Nucleophile Scope^a



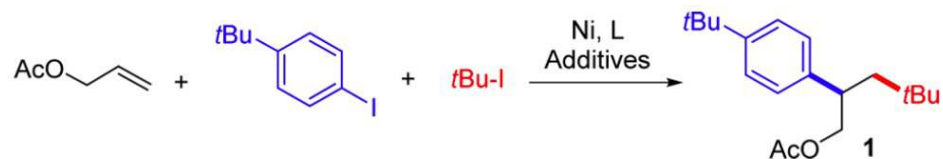
Scheme 3. Proposed Catalytic Cycle



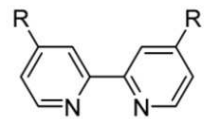
Nickel Catalysis

Radical conjunctive cross-coupling regime (Nevado, 2017):

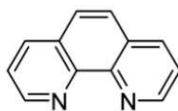
Table 1. Optimization of the Reaction Conditions^a



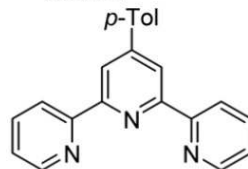
entry	Ni	ligand	additive	yield of 1 (%) ^b
1	NiCl ₂ ·DME	L1	Zn	0
2	NiCl ₂ ·DME	L1	Mn	0
3	NiCl ₂ ·DME	L1	B ₂ pin ₂ /KO <i>t</i> Bu	0
4	NiCl ₂ ·DME	L1	TDAE ^c	17
5	NiCl ₂ ·DME	L2	TDAE ^c	1
6	NiCl ₂ ·DME	L3	TDAE ^c	2
7	NiCl ₂ ·DME	L4	TDAE ^c	0
8	NiBr ₂ ·DME	L1	TDAE ^c	54
9	Ni(acac) ₂	L1	TDAE ^c	27
10	NiCl ₂ (Py) ₄	L1	TDAE ^c	82 (83)
11	—	L1	—	0
12	NiCl ₂ (Py) ₄	—	TDAE ^c	0



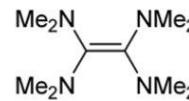
L1: dtbbpy (R = *t*Bu)
L2: bpy (R = H)



L3: phen



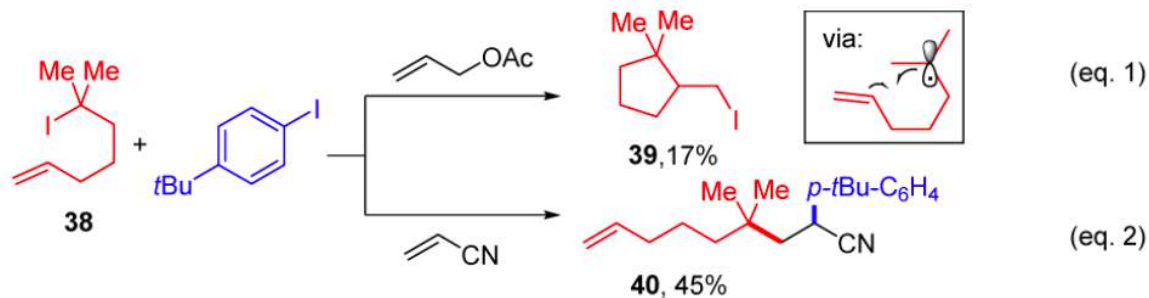
L4: tolterpy



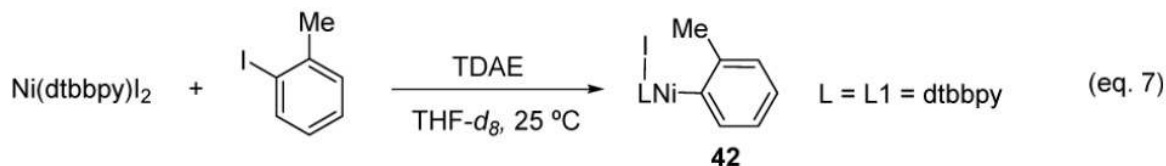
TDAE

Nickel Catalysis

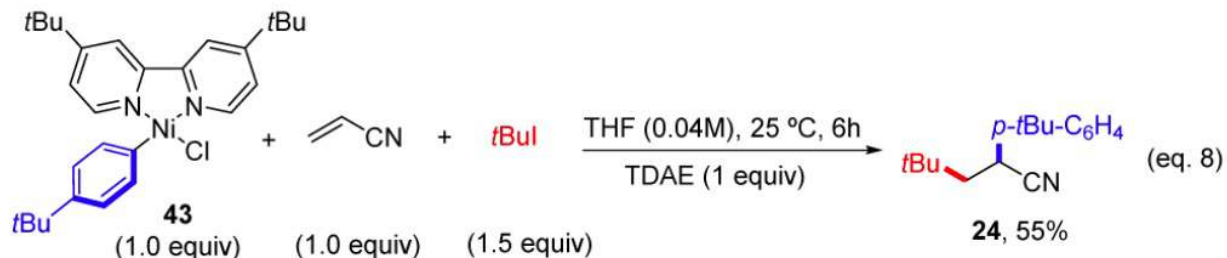
Radical conjunctive cross-coupling regime (Nevado, 2017):



5-*exo-trig* radical cyclization observed (cage-escaped radical)



Reaction with ArI leads to (dtbbpy)Ni(II)(aryl)(I)

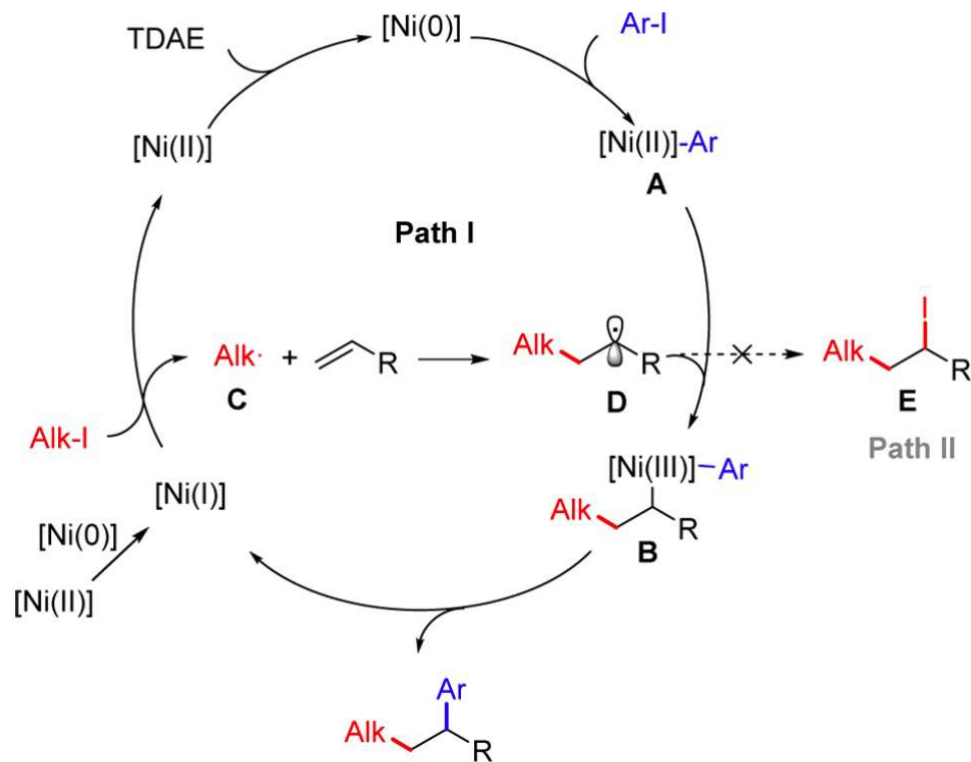


Oxidative addition intermediate is competent in stoichiometric reaction

Nickel Catalysis

Radical conjunctive cross-coupling regime (Nevado, 2017):

Scheme 4. Proposed Reaction Mechanism

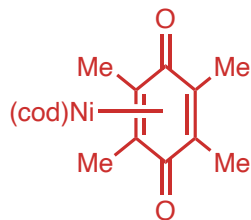


For a relevant mechanistic study, see:
Lin, Q.; Diao, T. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2019**, *141*, 17937–17948.

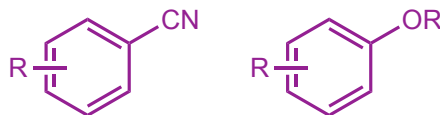
Nickel Catalysis

Topics in nickel cross-coupling:

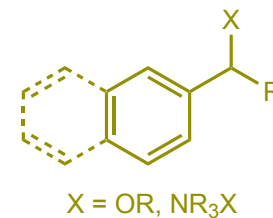
Directions in Precatalyst Synthesis



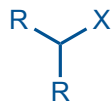
“Inert”/“Nonclassical” C(sp²)-X Electrophiles Ni(0)/Ni(II)



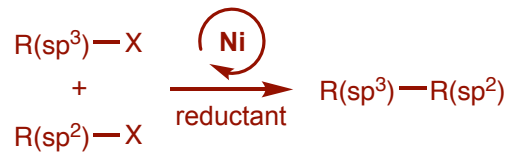
Benzylic C(sp³)-X Electrophiles Ni(0)/Ni(II)



“Unactivated” C(sp³)-X Electrophiles Ni(I)/Ni(III)



Cross-Electrophile Coupling Ni(0)/Ni(I)/Ni(II)/Ni(III)



Conjunctive Cross-Coupling (Short)

