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### Synergistic Dual Transition Metal Catalysis

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**ABSTRACT:** Synergistic catalysis, a type of plural catalysis which utilizes at least two different catalysts to enable a reaction between two separately activated substrates, has unlocked a plethora of previously unattainable transformations and novel chemical reactivity. Despite the appreciable utility of synergistic catalysis, specific examples involving two transition metals have been limited, as ensuring a judicious choice of reaction parameters to prevent deactivation of catalysts, undesirable monocatalytic event(s) leading to side products, or premature termination and other potentially troublesome outcomes present a formidable challenge. Excluding those driven by photocatalytic mechanisms, this review will highlight the reported examples of reactions that make use of two simultaneous catalytic cycles driven by two transition metal catalysts.

### starting material Nu TM<sup>1</sup>cat. TM Synergistic Catalysis \*Nu-TM<sup>1</sup>cat. \*E-TM<sup>2</sup>cat.

Review

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Synthetic organic chemistry is indebted to the power of transition metal-catalyzed reactions for key bond-forming events. During the last century, great strides were made in this field, where a single transition metal catalyst activates a substrate to promote a particular transformation. Even though this strategy has provided a wealth of new chemical reactions, some transformations are still challenging or nigh impossible using a sole catalyst. In addition, although a monocatalytic strategy utilizes substoichiometric amounts of the catalyst to activate one of the reactants, the second reactant of the reaction often requires further activation through the use of a stoichiometric (or greater) amount of an activating agent, and/or prior functional group manipulation in order to be amenable to the monocatalytic system. Concerns regarding the economic and environmental impact of such reactions have necessitated an investigation into processes that can further maximize the chemical usefulness and efficiency of catalyst-driven reactions while minimizing waste.<sup>1</sup> To address these challenges, different types of multicatalytic systems have been developed<sup>2-4</sup> such as bifunctional catalysis,<sup>5-9</sup> double activation catalysis,<sup>10</sup> cascade catalysis (and related tandem or domino catalysis),<sup>11</sup> and synergistic catalysis.<sup>12</sup>

Many recent works featuring synergistic catalysis, catalytic systems driven by two distinct catalysts acting on two different substrates to enable reaction between two activated intermediates, have focused on combining a transition metal catalyst with Lewis acids,  $^{13}$  organocatalysts  $^{14,15}$  (i.e., Lewis bases,  $^{16-18}$  chiral amines,  $^{19}$  Brønsted acids,  $^{20}$  and N-heterocyclic carbenes<sup>21,22</sup>), combining of *N*-heterocyclic carbenes with Lewis acids,<sup>23,24</sup> and combining of transition metal catalysis with photocatalysis.<sup>25–28</sup> Dinuclear transition metal catalyzed reactions, where two of the same metals are placed in close proximity to each other to form active sites containing two metallic ions, are also known.<sup>29,30</sup> In contrast, combination of two different transition metals for synergistic dual catalysis has been far less explored until recently,  $3^{1-35}$  which is due in part to the difficulty in ensuring redox compatibility between the transition metal catalysts, and balanced kinetics between the two catalytic cycles, avoiding catalyst deactivation. In this review, we present the primary literature which features synergistic dual catalysis that utilize transition metals up to June 2020, excluding those driven by photocatalytic mechanisms, which are the subject of several excellent accounts and reviews.<sup>25-28</sup> Specifically, we will highlight catalyst pairings and their proposed catalytic cycles which are critical in enabling the reactivity of known and novel transformations.

For successful synergistic dual transition metal catalysis (Figure 1), each transition metal catalyst [cat.-M1] and [cat.-M2] must activate reactants [S<sup>1</sup>] and [S<sup>2</sup>] in a substrate selective manner with comparable and compatible activation rates ( $k_1$  and  $k_2$ ), as otherwise the high reactivity and prolonged presence of one of the activated species over the other could encourage decomposition or promote side reactions which diminish the reaction efficiency.

In this review, we have termed activated intermediates cat.  $M1\cdots[S^{1*}]$  and cat.  $M2\cdots[S^{2*}]$  as the (first and second) "catalytically activated reactive species". The two "catalytically activated reactive species" then must react with each other directly to afford the desired product with regeneration of the catalysts. As such, the near-simultaneous turnover of two metallic catalysts is important, and achieving this can be



Figure 1. A schematic representation of synergistic dual transition metal catalysis.

exceptionally challenging, as any particular reaction conditions suited for the one metal catalyst may not be compatible with the presence of the other. Often, undesirable conditions which are introduced by the increased number of variables inherent in such systems serve to imbue further difficulty in the refinement and optimization of these processes.

In light of these constraints, understanding and surveying intercatalyst compatibility may be a helpful undertaking for the development of new synergistic dual transition metal catalysis. As depicted in Figure 2, an overview of the publications which



**Figure 2.** Compatible transition metals (indicated by double-headed arrows) in synergistic dual catalysis. The numbers represent frequency of the transition metal pairs taking part in synergistic catalysis as surveyed and featured by this review.

utilize synergistic dual transition metal catalysis indicate that palladium catalysts (which generally activate an electrophile) show a broad range of catalyst cross-compatibility with various other transition metal catalysts such as copper, gold, ruthenium, rhodium, nickel, vanadium, and silver.

In addition, copper catalysts (which generally activate a nucleophile) can be largely compatible with iron, ruthenium, manganese, nickel, rhodium, and rhenium. Other reported combinations of transition metals include some rhodium and silver, ruthenium and titanium, gold and iron, and titanium and nickel catalysts. It must be highlighted that at this time, the most prominent catalytic metal pairing is between palladium and copper.

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#### 2. SYNERGISTIC Pd/Cu DUAL CATALYSIS

In the context of dual transition-metal synergistic catalysis, Pd/ Cu catalytic pairing has received the greatest attention from the scientific community, which is well attested by the breadth and depth of methods attesting for it in the reported literature. The prominence of Pd/Cu parings also illustrates the general versatility and compatibility of Cu-derived nucleophilic intermediates and Pd-derived electrophilic intermediates in synergistic catalytic systems. During the final stages in preparation of this review, Zhang and co-workers published an overview focused on Pd/Cu synergistic catalysis, which can be further consulted by interested readers.<sup>36</sup>

#### 2.1. Sonogashira and Modified Stille Reactions

**2.1.1. Sonogashira Reaction.** One of the earliest instances of synergistic dual transition metal catalysis was disclosed by Sonogashira to effect the alkynylation of aryl iodides under Pd(0)/Cu(I) dual catalytic conditions (Scheme 1).<sup>37</sup> This synergistic catalysis allowed for much milder conditions relative to the analogous alkynylations involving stoichiometric Cu<sup>38</sup> or monocatalytic Pd (Heck–Cassar reaction).<sup>39,40</sup>

# Scheme 1. Sonogashira Cross-Coupling Reaction of Alkynes and Aryl Iodides



The Sonogashira reaction has now grown to encompass a vast range of substrates and different modes of reactivity. As such, Sonogashira reactions have been the focal subject of reviews elsewhere and will not be fully discussed here.<sup>41</sup> Briefly, the coupling reaction involves the substitution of an acetylenic hydrogen with an appropriately activated electrophile, mediated by catalytic Pd and Cu. The mechanistic details of the seminal report are as follows (Scheme 1B). First, the oxidative addition of Pd(0) into iodide 2 forms Pd(II) complex 3. Meanwhile, simultaneous activation of 1 occurs through deprotonative coordination with the Cu(I) catalyst, and the resultant Cu(I)- acetylide 4 then undergoes transmetalation with 3 to generate Pd(II) complex 5, along with regeneration of the Cu(I) catalyst. Reductive elimination yields the cross-coupled product 6 with regeneration of the Pd(0) catalyst. Using ethyne (1,  $R^1 = H$ ) as the nucleophilic starting material, a series of symmetrical disubstituted alkyne 7 were prepared in good yield. Use of 1,4-diidobeneze as the electrophile 2 led to dialkynylation, affording diyne 8. In addition to the original Pd/Cu procedure, synergistic Ni/Cu variants have also been developed.<sup>42–44</sup>

**2.1.2. Modified Stille Coupling.** While the traditional Stille cross-coupling employs a single Pd(0) catalyst to activate a vinyl halide (or pseudohalide) in reaction with stoichiometric organostannanes, <sup>45</sup> the use of both Pd and Cu catalysts were also documented as a footnote in Long's work on carbocyclic annulations, although without special emphasis.<sup>46</sup> This finding was further emphasized by Liebeskind and co-workers in the Stille reaction of 3-stannylcyclobutenediones **9** and monoacetals **10** with iodides **11**, where Pd(0)/Cu(I) dual catalysts enhanced the reaction to furnish substituted diones **12** and ketones **13** under mild conditions and in good yields (Scheme 2).<sup>47</sup> The

### Scheme 2. Synergistic Pd/Cu Dual Catalysis for Modified Stille Coupling



proposed mechanism is shown in Scheme 2B. First, catalytically activated Cu(I) species 14 is derived from preliminary transmetalation of organostannane 9/10 with the copper catalyst. On the palladium catalytic cycle, oxidative addition of Pd(0) into iodide 11 affords Pd(II) complex 15. Transmetalation of Cu(I)-14 with Pd(II)-15 furnishes Pd(II) complex 16, which undergoes reductive elimination to yield the desired cross-coupled product 12/13. This synergistic Pd/Cu catalytic methodology was investigated further by Baldwin and co-workers<sup>48</sup> in the coupling of 1-substituted vinyl stannanes, which are typically challenging substrates under traditional Pd monocatalysis.

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### 2.2. Cross-Coupling Reactions for the Synthesis of Biaryl Compounds

**2.2.1. Decarboxylative Cross-Coupling.** Inspired by enzymatic decarboxylation in nature as a means for carbanion generation,  $^{49,50}$  Gooßen envisioned that copper catalysts would facilitate decarboxylative cupration of 2-nitrobenzoic acids to form a Cu bound nucleophilic complex which could undergo a coupling reaction with an electrophile. In this context, a decarboxylative coupling between 2-nitro benzoic acid 17 and aryl bromide 18 has been developed for the synthesis of biaryl compounds 19 through synergistic Pd(0)/Cu(I) catalysis (Scheme 3).<sup>51,52</sup> The initial coordination of the Cu(I) catalyst

# Scheme 3. Synergistic Pd/Cu Dual Catalysis for the Decarboxylative Cross-Coupling Reaction



with the carboxylate oxygen of 17 allows for the decarboxylative insertion of Cu to form aryl-Cu(I) intermediate 20. Meanwhile, oxidative addition of the Pd(0) catalyst into aryl bromide 18 produces aryl-Pd(II) complex 21. Transmetalation between 20 and 21 forms 22, which subsequently undergoes reductive elimination to furnish biaryl 19 with regeneration of Pd(0) catalyst. The use of 1,10-phenanthroline was important to promote binding of the Cu catalyst with carboxylate 17 over the free halide ions that are released during the transmetalation process.

Gooßen and co-workers extended this synergistic Pd/Cu dual catalysis to make use of other electrophiles in place of aryl bromides such as aryl triflates,<sup>53</sup> tosylates,<sup>54</sup> mesylates,<sup>55</sup> and slightly different nucleophiles such as potassium carboxylates,<sup>56–58</sup>  $\alpha$ -oxocarboxylates,<sup>59,60</sup> and picolinic acids.<sup>61</sup> The effect of microwave irradiation in facilitating this reaction was also explored.<sup>61</sup>

**2.2.2. Arylation of Heteroarenes.** Huang and co-workers utilized Pd(0)/Cu(I) dual catalysis to effect the direct C–H arylation of benzthiazoles **23** (Z = S) with aryl halides **24** to

afford arylated heteroarenes **25** (Scheme 4).<sup>62</sup> Under Pd mediated monocatalysis, harsh conditions, high catalyst

### Scheme 4. Synergistic Pd/Cu Dual Catalysis for Arylation of Heteroarenes



loadings, and strong bases are required to effect comparable transformations (Scheme 4C).<sup>63</sup> In contrast, under dual Pd/Cu catalysis, a catalyst loading of only 0.25 mol % Pd and 1.0 mol % Cu was required.

Benzoxazoles 23 (Z = O) could also be arylated by this procedure, while *N*-methylbenzoimidazoles 23 (Z = NMe), were less reactive, providing moderate yields.

In the proposed mechanism (Scheme 4B), coordination of Cu(I)(Xantphos) with the nitrogen atom of benzazole 23 facilitated deprotonation and rearrangement to yield Cu species 26. Transmetalation with aryl-Pd(II) species 27, derived from oxidative addition of Pd(0) into 24, transfers the benzoxazole group onto Pd to yield intermediary Pd(II) complex 28. Subsequent reductive elimination affords desired arylated product 25 with regeneration of the Pd(0) catalyst.

**2.2.3.** Cross-Coupling of Triarylbismuths with Aryl Halides. Rao and co-workers established a synergistic Pd(0)/Cu(I) dual catalytic system for cross-coupling sterically hindered *ortho*-substituted triarylbismuth reagents 29 and aryl halides 30 for the preparation of biaryl compounds 31 (Scheme 5).<sup>64</sup> A control reaction between 29 and 30 under monocatalytic Pd afforded low yields, while under monocatalytic Cu, no product was observed (Scheme 5C). However, under synergistic Pd/Cu dual catalysis, the cross-coupled biaryl 31 was produced in good yields. The proposed catalytic cycle is shown in Scheme

# Scheme 5. Synergistic Pd/Cu Dual Catalysis for the Coupling of Triarylbismuths with Aryl Halides



5B. First, reaction between the Cu(I) catalyst and triarylbismuth **29** affords monoaryl-Cu species **32**. Transmetalation with aryl-Pd(II) complex **33**, generated from oxidative addition of the Pd(0) into aryl halide **30**, affords bis-aryl Pd(II) complex **34**, which then undergoes reductive elimination to furnish the cross-coupled biaryl product **31**. Utilizing this process, various *ortho* functionalized biaryl compounds could be successfully accessed.

2.2.4. Cross-Coupling of Organosilanes with Aryl Tosylates. Nakao and co-workers have previously disclosed a novel organosilicon reagent 35 which acts as a nucleophilic phenyl donor in reaction with aryl sulfonates mediated by Ni monocatalysis.<sup>65,66</sup> However, the monocatalytic system suffered from limited substrate scope, especially with compounds with ortho-substituents and sensitive functional moieties such as formyl groups. To address these limitations and improve the reactivity and scope of the reaction, they developed a novel synergistic Pd(0)/Cu(II) dual catalysis whereupon organosilicon reagent 35 underwent coupling with aryl tosylate 36 in the presence of allylPdCl and Cu(hfacac)<sub>2</sub> catalysts to afford the cross-coupled biaryl product 37 (Scheme 6).<sup>67</sup> In the proposed reaction mechanism (Scheme 6B), the Cu(II) catalyst reacts with arylsilicon 35 to form Cu-alkoxide intermediate 38, which undergoes intramolecular rearrangement to transfer the aryl group from the silvl appendage to the Cu(II) center, affording copper complex 39 as the catalytically activated species. Meanwhile, the second catalytically active species 40 is derived from the oxidative addition of Pd(0) into 36. Transmetalation between 39 and 40 yields Pd(II) complex 41, which after reductive elimination, furnishes the desired product 37.

Scheme 6. Synergistic Pd/Cu Dual Catalysis for the Cross-Coupling between Aryl Tosylates and Organosilanes



**2.2.5. Cross-Coupling of Aryl Boronic Acids and Aryl lodides.** Traditional monocatalytic Cu mediated coupling of boron-containing nucleophiles (such as boronic acid **42**) with aryl iodides (**43**) require harsh reaction conditions to necessitate the energetically demanding direct insertion of the LCu(I)Ar complex into the aryl iodide, forming the Cu(III) reaction intermediate (Scheme 7C).<sup>68,69</sup> To circumvent this reaction pathway, Lipshutz and co-workers reported milder synergistic Pd(0)/Cu(I) dual catalytic system, where LCu(I)Ar complex **45**, formed from boronic acid **42** in the presence of a Cu(I) catalyst, undergoes a facile transmetalation reaction with aryl-Pd(II) complex **46**, which is derived from oxidative addition of Pd(0) into an aryl iodide **43**. The resultant Pd(II) intermediate **47** underwent reductive elimination to yield desired biaryl product **44** in good yields (Scheme 7).<sup>70</sup>

The use of a surfactant (TPGS-750-M) allowed for ppm levels of Pd(0) loading. The authors also reported sequential cross-coupling reactions by utilizing dihalide compounds whereupon Cu(I)/ppm-Pd(0) mediated Suzuki coupling was followed by a second cross-coupling reaction mediated by either Fe/Pd nanoparticles<sup>71</sup> or other Pd catalysts to afford triaryl compounds. Similarly, Hoshi and co-workers reported a Cu(I)/Pd(0) mediated cross-coupling of aryl bromides **48** with pinacol boronic ester **49** for the synthesis of biaryl compounds **50** (Scheme 8).<sup>72</sup>

In designing this reaction, it was rationalized that while the R-Phos ligand enhances the oxidative addition step of Pd(0) catalyst into aryl bromide **48**, it does not enhance the efficiency of the transmetalation of arylPd(II)-Br complex with boronic esters. To tune for the transmetalation, 5 mol % of Cu(I) cocatalyst was introduced, enabling very low catalytic Pd loadings (0.1 mol %).

Scheme 7. Synergistic Pd/Cu Dual Catalysis for Modified Suzuki Coupling



Scheme 8. Pd/Cu Dual Catalysis for Suzuki Coupling of Pinacol Boronic Esters and Aryl Bromides



#### 2.3. α-Allylation of Carbonyl Compounds

Riant and co-workers utilized synergistic Pd(0)/Cu(I) dual catalysis for enantioselective  $\alpha$ -allylation of  $\alpha$ , $\beta$ -unsaturated ketones **51** with allyl carbonates **52** to afford optically active allylated ketone **53** (Scheme 9).<sup>73</sup>

In this process, copper hydride 54 is generated *in situ* from Cu(I) catalyst and silane. The conjugated hydride addition reaction of 54 with  $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated ketone 51 affords Cu(I) enolate 55, which can then react with  $\pi$ -allylPd(II) complex 57, derived from oxidative addition of Pd(0) catalyst into carbonate 52, to form either the *O*-allylation product 58 at room temperature or the  $\alpha$ -allylated 53 at slightly elevated temperatures. The copper hydride 54 could be generated by reaction of 56 with silane. It was shown that the silyl enolate 59 would not react with  $\pi$ -allylPd(II) complex 57 without addition of a co-Cu catalyst, demonstrating that copper enolate 55 was the specifically required catalytically activated species. Studies on converting the *O*-allylation product 58 to the desired  $\alpha$ -allylated product 53 showed that the conversion could be promoted with either a Pd(0) or a Pd(II) catalyst, suggesting that both an



oxidative addition pathway and Claisen-type [3,3]-sigmatropic rearrangement pathway are plausible.

In addition, this dual catalytic reaction was further developed for the  $\alpha$ -allylation of  $\alpha$ , $\beta$ -unsaturated malonates **60** and coumarins **61** to afford allylated **62** and **63**, respectively (Scheme 10).<sup>74</sup>

Recently, Shibasaki and co-workers disclosed enantioselective  $\alpha$ -allylation of CF<sub>3</sub>-containing azaindoline amide **64** with allylic carbonate **65** that affords allylated **66** under synergistic Pd(0)/Cu(I) dual catalysis conditions (Scheme 11).<sup>75</sup> Treatment of

Scheme 10. Synergistic Pd/Cu Dual Catalysis for  $\alpha$ -Allylation of Malonates (A) and Coumarins (B)



https://dx.doi.org/10.1021/acs.chemrev.0c00245 Chem. Rev. 2020, 120, 13382-13433 Scheme 11. Synergistic Pd/Cu Dual Catalysis for  $\alpha$ -Allylation of  $\alpha$ -CF<sub>3</sub> Amides



amide 64 with Cu(I) in the presence of base generated a chelated Cu enolate 67, which was resistant toward the otherwise often observed  $\beta$ -elimination of fluoride. The Cu enolate 67 intercepts the  $\pi$ -allylPd(II) complex 68 generated from allylic carbonate 65 to afford the  $\alpha$ -allylated product 66 with regeneration of both Pd(0) and Cu(I) catalysts. Stereo-control is exerted by the  $(R,R_p)$ -Walphos chiral ligand to achieve excellent level of asymmetric induction. Reaction with diastereomerically pure, *syn* carbonates lead to exclusive formation of *syn* products stereospecifically, which suggests that catalytic reaction may proceed through outer-sphere mechanism without a distinct transmetalation step (Scheme 11C).

Zhang and co-workers modified the known, Pd(0) catalyzed asymmetric allylation of aldimine Schiff base **69** by introducing a Cu(II) cocatalyst (Scheme 12).<sup>76</sup> Under these synergistic dual catalysis conditions, formation of a stable, Cu-bound *N*-metalated azomethine ylide **72** is realized. Reaction of **72** with  $\pi$ -allylPd(II) complex **73** furnished the desired allylated product **71** in high yield with excellent enantioselectivities. Use of same chiral ligand L for both Pd and Cu catalysts mitigated problems arising from ligand exchange. The authors demonstrated the utility of this method by performing sequential asymmetric

Scheme 12. Synergistic Pd/Cu Dual Catalysis for Asymmetric Allylic Alkylation of Amino Acids



allylations after successive peptide couplings to prepare a triallylated peptide 74, illustrating the potential for general, site specific, and enantioselective allylic alkylation of whole peptides (Scheme 12C). Furthermore, the same authors have also reported allylation on glycine-based aldimine esters.<sup>77</sup> Wang and co-workers reported a similar transformation utilizing synergistic catalysis between a chiral Cu(I) complex derived from aldimine Schiff base 76 and an achiral Pd(0) complex derived from allyl carbonates 75 to furnish chiral allylation products 77 (Scheme 13).<sup>78</sup> Recently, an updated account was published by the same authors utilizing glycine and cyclic ketamine esters to access various nonproteinogenic  $\alpha$ -allyl  $\alpha$ -amino acids.<sup>79</sup> The cooperative allylation reactions were recognized in its own topical review.<sup>34</sup> Similarly, The allylations of aldimine esters<sup>80–82</sup> and azaaryl acetamides<sup>83</sup> were also enabled under synergistic Cu/Ir dual catalytic conditions.

**2.3.1. Carboallylation of Alkenes.** Recently, Nakao and co-workers reported a three-component Pd/Cu mediated

Scheme 13. Synergistic Pd/Cu Dual Catalysis for Allylic Alkylation of Amino Acids

R <sup>1</sup> R <sup>2</sup> <b>75</b> (1.2 eq	⊃c + A  .)	Ar	N Ar = / 76	R p-Clr (1 e	OMe Cul OMe Pd(F C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> q.)	BF <sub>4</sub> /I PPh <sub>3</sub> C: THF ther	L (3 s <sub>2</sub> CC , –2 n Na	mol ∣mo D₃ 0°C BH₄	%)   %]	) R <sup>1</sup> 77		R NH PPh2 L	CHCH	Me I <sub>2</sub> Ar
R <sup>1</sup>	$\mathbb{R}^2$	R	ee	%	R <sup>1</sup>	R <sup>2</sup>	R	ee	%	R <sup>1</sup>	$\mathbb{R}^2$	R	ee	%
Ph	н	Bn	95	91	2-thienyl	н	Bn	96	97	Ph	Н	<i>n</i> -Pr	96	81
4-Me-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	н	Bn	94	96	3-(1-tosyl-	н	Bn	88	84	Ph	н	<i>n-</i> Bu	98	81
3-Me-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	н	Bn	96	91	1 <i>H</i> -indolyl)					Ph	н	<i>i</i> -Bu	97	85
2-Me-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	н	Bn	80	92	-CH=CHPh	н	Bn	98	83	Ph	н	-CH <sub>2</sub>	98	89
4-OMe-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	н	Bn	94	81	Me	н	Bn	90	84			$CH_2SMe$		
4-CI-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	н	Bn	92	94	н	н	Bn	90	92	Ph	н	Ph	99	86
3-CI-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	н	Bn	-91	81	н	Me	Bn	88	70	Ph	Н	4-F-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	94	79

carboallylation of electron-deficient alkenes 78 with allylic carbonates 79 and aryl boronic acid neopentylglycol esters 80 to furnish addition products 81 (Scheme 14).<sup>84</sup> The reported

Scheme 14. Synergistic Cu/Pd Dual Catalysis for Three-Component Carboallylation



reaction is an update of a similar carboallylation reaction which employs tandem Pd/Cu catalysis, disclosed by the same authors utilizing tetraorganosilicon reagents.<sup>85</sup> Unlike other dicarbofunctionalizations for  $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated compounds, synergistic Pd/Cu dual catalysis enables use of bench-stable reagents in place of moisture and O<sub>2</sub> sensitive reagents. Alkyl-allylation is also possible when using alkyl-9-BBN derivatives, which are prepared *in situ via* hydroboration of corresponding olefins with H-9-BBN. In the proposed reaction mechanism (Scheme 14B), Pd(0) **82** first undergoes oxidative addition into allylic carbonate **79** to generate  $\pi$ -allylPd(II) intermediate **83**. In the copper catalytic cycle, the interaction between Cu methoxide **84** and organoboron reagent **80** yields organocopper **85**. Addition of organocopper **85** across the electron-deficient alkene **78** affords alkyl copper **86** as the catalytically active species. Final reaction between **83** and **86** furnishes the allylated product **81** and return of the Pd and Cu catalysts to their respective cycles.

### 2.4. Carboboration of Alkenes

Synergistic Pd/Cu dual catalysis for three-component couplings between alkene, electrophile (aryl/allylic halides, or carbonates) and  $B_2(pin)_2$  afford a highly functionalized boronic ester (Scheme 15). Advances on these transformations have been surveyed by Fananas-Mastral and co-workers, which should be consulted for an in-depth look of the field.<sup>86</sup> The seminal study in this direction was published by Nakao and co-workers where aryl bromide and  $B_2(pin)_2$  were added across terminal aryl olefins to afford 2-boryl-1,1-diarylethanes (Scheme 15A-1).8 Brown and co-workers extended this method to realize addition across 1,2-disubstituted cyclic olefins, where anti aryl-borylation was observed (Scheme 15A-2).88 Further refinements and judicious choice of solvent and ligand then enabled both syn and anti-diastereoselective additions across acyclic 1,2-disubstitued olefins (Scheme 15A-3).<sup>89</sup> Liao and co-workers reported the first example of an enantioselective arylborylation reaction across terminal olefins (Scheme 15A-4).9

Brown and co-workers achieved enantio- and diastereoselective syn addition across cyclic and noncyclic 1,2-disubstituted olefins (Scheme 15A-5),<sup>91</sup> and finally, Liao and co-workers reported enantioselective preparation of 1,1,2-triarylethanes, which was realized with Cu/Pd mediated arylborylation followed by a tandem Pd catalyzed Suzuki reaction (Scheme 15A-6).<sup>92</sup> The mechanistic details of synergistic Pd/Cu dual catalysis for carboboration are generally applicable across the range of reactions featured above. The reaction reported by Liao and co-workers can serve as a typical example (Scheme 15B). First, aryl iodide 87 undergoes oxidative addition into Pd(0)catalyst, generating aryl-Pd(II) species 88. In the Cu catalytic cycle, Cu(I) catalyst in the presence of base and  $B_2(pin)_2$ undergoes transmetalation to furnish boryl copper intermediate **89**. Addition of **89** across olefin **90** yields  $\beta$ -borylorganocopper 91, which undergoes transmetalation with 88 to deliver  $\beta$ borylated alkyl moiety onto the Pd(II) center, forming 92 and regeneration of Cu(I) catalyst. Finally, reductive elimination affords 1,1-diaryl-2-borylalkane product 93 with regeneration of the Pd(0) catalyst. The products were amendable for further Suzuki coupling, affording triarylated 94 in good yields. The utility of the catalytic arylborylation was demonstrated in the gram scale asymmetric synthesis of phosphodiesterase IV inhibitor (R)-CDP840 by coupling vinylarene 95 with iodobenzene and  $B_2(pin)_2$ , followed by a subsequent Suzukicoupling reaction of 96 with 97 (Scheme 15D).

Isoprene is a versatile and abundant starting material,<sup>93</sup> and considerable effort has been invested in functionalizing this feedstock chemical.<sup>94</sup> In this context, Brown and co-workers applied synergistic Pd/Cu dual catalysis to selectively introduce an aryl and a boronic acid pinacol ester moiety onto the isoprene backbone 98 (Scheme 16).95 The problems associated with nonregioselective copper-boration and unselective transmetalation of the two alkene sites could be mitigated by increasing the steric factor of NHC-Cu catalyst. In this context, using [(I<sup>t</sup>Bu)CuBr]<sup>96</sup> and Pd-QPhos catalysts proved optimal in affording 1,4-arylborated 99 as the major geometric regioisomer (Scheme 16A top). Interestingly, 1,2-arylborated regioisomer 100 could be accessed by addition of DMAP in the reaction and with use of a bulkier trialkylphosphine ligand (Scheme 16A, bottom). The exact mechanistic role of DMAP in redirecting the regioselectivity remains unknown. Brown extended this strategy

#### Scheme 15. Three-Component Coupling of Alkene, Electrophile, and B<sub>2</sub>(pin)<sub>2</sub>



to functionalize another type of monosubstituted 1,3-diene (101,  $R^1 \neq H$ , Scheme 16B).<sup>97</sup> It was found that the use of sterically demanding [(IPr)CuCl]<sup>98,99</sup> and Pd-PAd<sub>2</sub>n-Bu complexes enabled facile 1,2-regioselectivity in the arylboration event, affording 1,2-arylborylated 102 with E geometry as the major product (Scheme 16B, top). Proposed mechanistic explanation for regioselective functionalization of 101 is as follows. First, borylcupration of diene 101 leads to regioselective boration at the terminal C(1) position and cupration at the C(4)position, yielding the 1,4-addition intermediate 103. Then, transmetalation takes place between 103 and ArPd(II)BrL, via transition state 104 (Scheme 16B, top) where the Pd complex approaches the C(2)-C(3) double bond with the steric bulk of the ligands shielding the C(4)-Cu position, furnishing intermediate 105. Subsequent reductive elimination affords 1,2-arylborated product 102. On the basis of these results, it was rationalized that to access the 1,4-regioisomer, use of nonhindered ligands would allow for direct transmetalation at the C(4) position of 103 and afford the 1,4-palladated intermediate 106 (Scheme 16B, bottom). This outcome could be promoted by employing an exceptionally electrophilic palladium complex. Thus, the use of SIMesCuCl and PdJackiePhos under modified conditions enabled the selective arylboration of 101 by ArBr and  $B_2(pin)_2$  to yield 107, which after oxidation furnished allylic alcohol 108 in good yields.

#### 2.5. Carboboration of Alkynes

2.5.1. Arylboration of Alkynes. The development of regioand stereoselective methods for tri- and tetrasubstituted olefins are considered highly valuable in organic synthesis.<sup>100,101</sup> Elaborating upon the initial report by Semba and Nakao describing the arylboration of diphenylacetylenes with pbromoanisole,<sup>87</sup> Cazin and co-workers disclosed arylboration of unsymmetrical, disubstituted alkyl(aryl)acetylenes 109 with aryl halides 110 and  $B_2(pin)_2$  under synergistic Pd(0)/Cu(I)dual catalysis to afford the tetrasubstituted alkenylboryl compounds 111 in high yields and regioselectivities (Scheme 17).<sup>102</sup> The mechanistic considerations diverge according to solvent used. In aprotic solvents (Scheme 17B), the reaction proceeds with NHC-Cu complex 112, which reacts with NaO<sup>t</sup>Bu then with  $B_2(pin)_2$  to afford boryl-Cu(I) complex 113. Borylcupration of alkyne 109 with 113 affords alkenyl-Cu(I) species 114 with high regioselectivity, where Cu is placed on the  $\alpha$ -position to the aryl group of the unsymmetrical alkyne. For the Pd cycle, oxidative addition of the Pd(0) catalyst into aryl halide 110 affords Ar-Pd(II)X 115, which upon transmetalation with 114 transfers alkenylboron moiety onto the Pd(II) center, affording intermediate 116 with liberation of Cu(I) catalyst 112. Reductive elimination affords the desired product 111 with regeneration of the Pd(0) catalyst. Interestingly, this reactivity could be altered significantly by the use of a protic solvent such as EtOH, shutting down the synergistic process in favor of relay catalysis (Scheme 17C).

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With ethanol as the solvent, protonation of alkenyl-Cu(I) 114 affords protonated trisubstituted boryl alkenyl species 117, which then reacts with Ar-Pd(II)-X 115, akin to standard Suzuki coupling, to afford intermediate 118, and subsequent reductive elimination affords trisubstituted olefin 119. Following this work, Semba and Nakao reported the arylboration of alkynes with expanded scope, reacting diarylacetylenes, alkyl(aryl)-acetylenes, and dialkylacetylenes with aryl chlorides or bromides under synergistic Pd/Cu catalysis.<sup>103</sup>

**2.5.2.** Alkenyboration of Alkynes. Inspired by Pd/Cu catalyzed arylborations described above, Fañanás-Mastral and co-worker envisioned using an alkenyl (pseudo)halide electrophile **120** for Pd/Cu catalyzed alkyne boration of **121** in the presence of (B<sub>2</sub> pin<sub>2</sub>), giving access to *syn*-1-boron-1,3-dienes **122** (Scheme 18).<sup>104</sup>

Mechanistically, the use of co Pd-catalyst to activate **120** under mild conditions mitigates the potentially problematic, competitive migratory insertion of LCu-Bpin intermediate across alkenyl bromide. Thus, oxidative addition of Pd(0) into **120** furnishes catalytically active species **123**. LCu-Bpin **124** is generated by transmetalation of Cu(I) catalyst in the presence of base and B<sub>2</sub>(pin)<sub>2</sub>, which undergoes subsequent reaction across the acetylene **121** to yield  $\beta$ -boryl-substituted alkenyl copper **125**. Electrophilic trapping of **125** with Pd(II) complex **123** yields regeneration of Cu(I) catalyst and Pd(II)-complex **126**,

whereupon subsequent reductive elimination yields borylated 1,3-diene product **122** and return of the Pd(0) catalyst.

2.5.3. Arylsilylation of Alkynes. Nozaki and co-workers developed a three component intermolecular arylsilylation reaction of alkynes 127 with silylboronate 128 and aryl bromide 129 under synergistic Pd/Cu dual catalysis to prepare tetrasubstituted alkenylsilanes 130 in moderate to good yields (Scheme 19).<sup>105</sup> In this reaction, the silylCu(I) complex 131 was formed by reaction of Cu(I) catalyst with B(pin)-SiMe<sub>2</sub>Ph 128 in the presence of NaO<sup>t</sup>Bu. Addition of 131 across alkyne 127 allows for the formation of alkenyl Cu(I)-complex 132, which then undergoes transmetalation with ArPd(II) complex 133 generated by oxidative addition of Pd(0) into 129, producing vinylsilylPd(II) complex 134 along with regeneration of the Cu(I) catalyst. Reductive elimination of Pd(II) complex 134 afforded the desired arylsilylated product 130 with regeneration of the Pd(0) species. Alkylsilylation was also possible by using alkyl bromide in place of aryl bromide 129, although in such reactions the yield was depressed. Use of an unsymmetrical alkyne ( $R^1 = Ph$ ,  $R^2 = Me$ ) led to moderate regioselectivity (76:24). Most examples utilized symmetrical alkynes  $(R^1 = R^2)$ , where both diaryl acetylenes and dialkyl acetylenes afforded the desired product in moderate to good vields. Additionally, tetrasubstituted alkenyl silane products

#### Scheme 17. Synergistic Pd/Cu Dual Catalysis for Aryl-Boration of Disubstituted Alkynes



Scheme 18. Synergistic Pd/Cu Dual Catalysis for Alkenyl-Boration of Disubstituted Alkynes



#### Scheme 19. Synergistic Pd/Cu Dual Catalysis for Aryl-Silylation of Disubstituted Alkynes



could undergo desilylative bromination to afford the corresponding alkenyl bromides in good yields.

**2.5.4. Allylboration of Alkynes.** Fañanás-Mastral and coworkers reported synergistic Pd/Cu dual catalysis for allylboration of alkynes **135** with allyl carbonate **136** and  $B_2(pin)_2$  to afford borylated 1,4-dienes **137** in good yield with high stereoselectivity (Scheme 20).<sup>106</sup> In the proposed reaction mechanism, Cu(I) catalyst undergoes transmetalation sequentially with alkoxide and  $B_2Pin_2$  to afford LCu(I)Bpin complex **138**, which effects borylcupuration onto alkyne **135**, furnishing  $\beta$ -borylalkenylcopper complex **139** (Scheme 20B).

Regarding the synergistic event, although direct interaction of 139 with the Pd cycle can be suspected, it was proposed that 139 would react with an additional *tert*-butoxide anion to formate complex 140, a more reactive intermediate and thereby rationalizing the stoichiometric amount of *tert*-butoxide required, even when Boc-allyl carbonates are used.<sup>107,108</sup> In the Pd catalytic cycle, oxidative addition of carbonate 136 into Pd(0) catalyst affords  $\pi$ -allylPd(II) complex 141. Transmetalation between intermediates 140 and 141 furnishes 1,4-diene 137 with regeneration of the original Cu(I) and Pd(0) catalysts.

The synthetic utility of this method was demonstrated with total synthesis of (Z,E)- $\alpha$ -homofarnesene (fire-ant pheromone)<sup>109</sup> and formal synthesis of merochlorins A–D (antibiotic marine natural product),<sup>110,111</sup> where key borylated 1,4-diene intermediates were prepared in good yields (Scheme 20C).

### 2.6. Hydroarylation of Alkenes

**2.6.1. Hydroarylation of Arylalkenes.** Nakao and coworkers recently accomplished a reductive-cross-coupling between aryl alkenes **142** and aryl bromides **143** by utilizing stoichiometric amounts of hydrosilane **144** as a reducing agent under Pd/Cu dual catalysis, affording 1,1-diarylalkanes **145** with high regioselectivity (>20:1 dr) (Scheme 21).<sup>112</sup>

The proposed reaction mechanism begins with reaction of (NHC)Cu(I)Br with LiO<sup>t</sup>Bu to generate Cu(I) alkoxide salt 146, which is reduced with HSi(OEt)<sub>3</sub> (144) to furnish Cu(I) hydride species 147. A regioselective hydrocupration reaction

Scheme 20. Synergistic Pd/Cu Dual Catalysis for Allyl-Boration of Disubstituted Alkynes



across conjugated arylalkene **142** affords the more stable  $\alpha$ bound Cu(I) complex **148**,<sup>113</sup> which upon transmetalation with Ar-Pd(II)-Br **149** transfers the arylalkane moiety onto the Pd(II) center, along with one molecular disassociation of PCyp<sub>3</sub> ligand to form Pd(II) complex **150**, which is an unusual tricoordinated catalytic intermediate. Final reductive elimination affords the desired product **145** with regeneration of Pd(0) catalyst.

**2.6.2.** Asymmetric Reductive Cross-Coupling. Buchwald and co-workers reported an asymmetric hydroarylation of vinylarenes 151 utilizing hydrosilane reagent MePh<sub>2</sub>SiH and aryl bromides 152 under synergistic Pd(0)/Cu(I) dual catalysis to afford chiral 1,1-diarylalkanes 153 (Scheme 22).<sup>114</sup> The mechanistic details are similar to the one proposed by Nakao and co-workers in which asymmetrically ligated-Cu complex 154 reacts with MePh<sub>2</sub>SiH to afford chiral Cu(I) hydride species 155 (Scheme 22B).

Scheme 21. Synergistic Pd/Cu Dual Catalysis for Reductive Cross-Coupling of Aryl Alkenes and Aryl Bromides







Hydrocupration of **151** with Cu(I) hydride **155** affords Cu(I) activated species **156**, which undergoes transmetalation with Ar-

Pd(II)-Br complex 157 to furnish 158. Subsequent reductive elimination affords enantioenriched product 153.

**2.6.3. Hydroarylation of**  $\alpha$ -Olefins. Suzuki–Miyaura cross-coupling is a versatile reaction for forging a bond between an aryl halide and alkylboron reagents, with the latter often derived from the hydroboration of an olefin.<sup>115</sup> However, manipulation of boron reagents entail handling and stability issues. In this context, coupling of olefins **159** with aryl halides **160** to yield **161** represent a more direct approach to cross-coupled products, and this vision was realized by Buchwald and co-workers *via* a synergistic Pd(0)/Cu(I) dual catalytic system (Scheme 23).<sup>116</sup>

Scheme 23. Synergistic Pd/Cu Dual Catalysis for the Reductive Cross-Coupling of  $\alpha$ -Olefins and Aryl Bromides



As shown in Scheme 23B, the reaction postulates the generation of a chiral Cu(I) hydride species 162 via action of silyl hydride with copper(I) catalyst, which then inserts into the alkene 159. This anti-Markovnikov regioselectivity is driven by the favorable formation of the sterically less hindered Cu complex, affording catalytically activated alkyl Cu(I) intermediate 163. For the palladium catalytic cycle, oxidative addition of the Pd(0) catalyst into aryl halide 160 affords Pd(II) complex 164. Transmetalation between 163 and 164 transfers the alkyl moiety onto the Pd(II) center to form Pd(II) complex 165 with regeneration of the Cu(I) catalyst. The subsequent reductive elimination affords the desired product 161 with the regeneration of Pd(0) catalyst. In cases where the olefin coupling partner featured both a terminal and internal double bond, the more reactive terminal olefin reacted preferentially to selectively afford monocross-coupled product.

**2.6.4. Hydroarylation of 1,1-Disubstituted Olefins.** A long-standing problem in organic chemistry involved installation of  $\beta$ -stereogenic centers *via* functionalization of 1,1-disubstitued olefins, a class of substrates which feature barely prochiral enantiotopic faces.

Aggarwal termed asymmetric hydroboration on such substrates as "notoriously difficult".<sup>117</sup> This problem however has been met with some advances; beginning with Soderquist's disclosure of 9-borabicyclo[3.3.2]decane derived borohydrides<sup>118</sup> and, more recently, with Yun's discovery of Cucatalyzed asymmetric hydroboration reaction.<sup>119</sup> Yun's hydroboration reaction was driven by the generation of a key, monocatalytic chiral Cu-H species in the presence of a chiral DTBM-SEGPHOS phosphine ligand that undergoes asymmetric hydrocupration across the double bond to yield a chiral Cu intermediate, which is intercepted by boron species to yield  $\beta$ chiral alkylboronates. Quite recently, Buchwald and co-workers disclosed synergistic Pd/Cu catalysis to hydroarylate 1,1disubstitued olefin 166 with aryl bromide 167 to afford chiral product 168 with high asymmetric induction at the  $\beta$ stereogenic center (Scheme 24).<sup>120</sup> Mechanistically, this reaction is highly related to Yun's hydroboration work, utilizing the same DTBM-SEGPHOS phosphine ligand and Cu-H species.





First, the required copper hydride **169** was generated from the reaction of copper acetate with Me(OMe)<sub>2</sub>SiH (DMMS) in the presence of DTBM-SEGPHOS. Subsequently the known, anti-Markovnikov hydrocupration of chiral Cu–H across 1,1-disubstituted olefin **166** delivered chiral Cu(I) alkyl intermediate **170** as the catalytically activated species. Meanwhile, aryl bromide **167** was activated *via* oxidative addition of Pd(0) catalyst to yield aryl-Pd(II) intermediate **171**. Transmetalation of **170** with **171** returns the Cu catalyst to the catalytic cycle while forming the  $\beta$ -chiral Pd(II) alkyl complex **172**. Final

reductive elimination furnishes the enantioenriched **168** while regenerating the Pd catalyst. This work notably exemplifies the potential of synergistic catalysis to powerfully expand the scope of important, monocatalytic reaction through the creative deployment of a second catalyst and reaction partner.

#### 2.7. Miscellaneous Synergistic Pd/Cu Dual Catalysis

2.7.1. Synthesis of Indoles *via* Intramolecular Cyclization of (2-Alkynyl)phenylisocyanate. Yamamoto and coworkers initially envisioned monocatalytic, Pd(0)-catalyzed synthesis of indole 173 from (2-alkynyl)-phenylisocyanate 174 and allyl carbonate 175. During the reaction discovery process, it was realized that coaddition of Cu(I) catalyst promotes the formation of the desired indole, presumably by acting as a  $\pi$ coordinative Lewis acid to activate the alkyne (Scheme 25).<sup>121</sup>

Scheme 25. Synergistic Pd/Cu Dual Catalysis for Indole Synthesis



The detailed mechanistic rationale is described in Scheme 25B. First, the  $\pi$ -allylPd(II) alkoxide complex 176 is formed from decarboxylative oxidative addition of Pd(0) into allyl carbonate 175. Subsequent reaction with the Cu(I)-coordinated isocyanate 177, generated from 174 and Cu(I) catalyst, affords Pd(II)-carbamate complex 178, which effectively furnish the allylated indole 173 through 5-endo cyclization followed by allylation. It was also suggested by the authors that the catalytic roles may be reversed and  $\pi$ -allylPd(II) species might activate the acetylene while the Cu(I) catalyst interacts with the nitrogen nucleophile.

**2.7.2.** Synthesis of Triazoles via Three Component Coupling. In many cases, the [3 + 2] cycloaddition between an alkyne and an azide generally require activation via presence of an electron withdrawing group on one of the starting substrates.<sup>122-125</sup> To realize the triazole forming reaction using nonactivated alkynes, Yamamoto and co-workers disclosed a synergistic Pd(0)/Cu(I) dual catalysis for three component synthesis of 2-allyl-1,2,3-triazole 179 starting from

terminal alkyne 180, azidotrimethylsilane (TMSN<sub>3</sub>), and allyl carbonate 181 (Scheme 26).  $^{126}$ 

# Scheme 26. Synergistic Pd/Cu Dual Catalysis for the Preparation of 2-Allyltriazoles



In the proposed catalytic cycle, trimethylsilyl azide, and allyl carbonate 181 reacts with the Pd(0) catalyst to form  $\pi$ -allyl Pd(II) azide species 182 with extrusion of CO<sub>2</sub> gas and TMSOMe (Scheme 26B). A [3 + 2] cycloaddition of Pd(II)-azide 182 with copper acetylide 183 affords triazole-Pd(II) complex 184, in which 184A–C is in equilibrium. Reductive elimination of Pd(II) and protonolysis of the C–Cu bond affords the desired 2-allyltriazole 179. Subsequent Ru-catalyzed isomerization followed by ozonolysis liberated *N*-unsubstituted 1,2,3-triazoles. Utilizing this methodology, piperidine substituted alkyne 185 was used to prepare 186, a precursor for triazole containing muscarinic agonist (Scheme 26C).<sup>127</sup>

**2.7.3. Three Component Coupling** *via* **Benzyne Intermediate.** Cheng and co-workers reported synergistic Pd(0)/Cu(I) dual catalysis for the three component coupling of *O*-silyl triflate **187**, allylic epoxide **188**, and terminal alkyne **189** to produce 1,2-disubstituted arenes **190** through a benzyne intermediate (Scheme 27).<sup>128</sup>

As shown in Scheme 27B, benzyne 191, formed *in situ via* action of CsF on O-silyl triflate 187, undergoes alkynylcupration with copper acetylide 192, generated from the Cu(I) catalyst and terminal alkyne 189 to afford Cu(I) species 193. The  $\pi$ -allylPd(II) intermediate 194, meanwhile, is generated by the oxidative addition of the Pd(0) catalyst into allylic epoxide 188. The reaction of Cu(I) species 193 with  $\pi$ -allylPd(II)

Scheme 27. Synergistic Pd/Cu Dual Catalysis for Three Component Synthesis of 1,2-Disubstituted Arenes



intermediate **194** occurs at the least hindered position to produce the Pd bound species **195**. Dissociation of Pd(0) catalyst provides the desired 1,2-disubstituted arene **190**.

**2.7.4. Dehydrative Cross-Coupling of Tautomerizable Heterocycles and Alkynes.** Kang and co-workers demonstrated synergistic Pd/Cu dual catalysis for dehydrative crosscoupling of 2-quinoxalinone derived tautomerizable heterocycle **196** and alkyne **197** *via* C(sp)-H/C-O activation using a phosphonium peptide coupling reagent PyBroP<sup>129</sup> for preparation of alkynylated heterocycle **198** in good yields (Scheme **28**).<sup>130</sup>

In the proposed reaction mechanism, 196 (Scheme 28B) first reacts with trimethylamine to form enolate 199, which, in the presence of PyBroP, was trapped as C-O activated phosphonium intermediate 200. Oxidative addition of the Pd(0) into the C-O bond of 200 produced catalytically activated heteroaryl-Pd(II) complex 201. Upon formation of the Cu(I) acetylide species 202 from alkyne 197 and Cu(I) catalyst, transmetalation reaction with 201 transfers the alkynyl moiety from Cu(I) onto the Pd(II) center, forming Pd(II) complex 203. Final reductive elimination furnishes cross-coupled product 198 along with the regeneration of Pd(0) catalyst. Other tautomerizable heterocycles such as 2-hydroxy-3-nitropyridines and 4-quinazolinone derivatives could also undergo analogous C-O activation and subsequent synergistic catalysis when slightly stronger base and higher temperatures were utilized.

**2.7.5. Cyanation of Aryl Halides/Pseudohalides.** The known classical Rosenmund–von Braun reaction uses stoichiometric CuCN and aryl halide at elevated temperature to yield aryl nitriles.<sup>131</sup> Although the introduction of Pd catalyst allowed



Scheme 28. Synergistic Pd/Cu Dual Catalysis for

for milder reaction conditions,<sup>132</sup> the monocatalytic Pd method suffers from Pd catalyst deactivation inflicted by increased concentrations of soluble ionic cyanides. Anderson and coworkers thought to mitigate this problem *via* synergistic Pd(0)/Cu(I) dual catalysis, allowing poorly soluble cyanide sources to be used and thereby realizing efficient cyanation of aryl halide **204** (Scheme 29).<sup>133</sup> The key mechanistic hypothesis was that poorly soluble cvanide sources such as NaCN or KCN in THF under Cu catalysis could form small amounts of the more covalent Cu(I)CN species in situ and work to effectively transfer the cyanide moiety onto the aryl-Pd(II) complex 205, formed by oxidative addition of Pd(0) into any halide **204**, thus furnishing cyanated Pd(II) complex 206 without generation of free cyanide ions in the reaction mixture. Subsequent reductive elimination of 206 furnishes the desired aryl cyanide 207 (Scheme 29B). A diverse array of aryl/heterocyclic halides/pseudohalides were amendable under the reaction conditions, including complex substrates derived from ergot alkaloids, indoles, pyridines, and quinolones.

**2.7.6. Stereoselective Synthesis of Vinyl Silanes.** Riant and co-workers envisioned the use of Pd/Cu dual catalysis for the stereoselective synthesis of vinyl silanes (*Z*)-**208A** and (*E*)-**208B** *via* cross-coupling of alkynoate **196** with allyl carbonate **210** (Scheme 30).<sup>134</sup> The disclosed synthetic strategy entailed initial Cu-mediated *syn* silyl-cupration across the internal alkyne followed by Pd catalyzed allylation. The reaction yielded (*Z*)-isomer when PPh<sub>3</sub> was added (method A) while (*E*)-isomer was formed when PPh<sub>3</sub> was not utilized (method B). The observed selectivity was attributed to the difference in reactivity between the  $\pi$ -allylPd(II) species formed under the two diverging

Scheme 29. Synergistic Pd/Cu Dual Catalysis for the Cyanation of Aryl Iodides



conditions As shown in Scheme 30B, without the phosphine ligand, dimeric  $\pi$ -allylPd(II)X species 211B is formed from oxidative addition of Pd(0) into allylic carbonate, which undergoes direct transmetalation with alkenyl copper 212, furnishing (*Z*)-isomer 208B owing to the *syn*-geometric orientation of the silyl and copper appendage. In presence of PPh<sub>3</sub> however,  $\pi$ -allylPd(II)[PPh<sub>3</sub>]<sub>n</sub> complex 211A is formed from allyl carbonate, and the presence of the PPh<sub>3</sub> ligand inhibits the direct transmetalation pathway. Instead, alkenyl-Cu 212 initially isomerizes into allenoate 213, which then reacts from the less hindered side with 211A to produce (*E*)-isomer 208A.

2.7.7. Boration of Propargylic Substrates. Szabó and coworkers developed Pd/Cu dual catalysis for net S<sub>N</sub>2' boration of propargylic alcohols 214, affording borated allenes 215 (Scheme 31A).<sup>135</sup> The reaction is comparable to monocatalytic CuO<sup>t</sup>Bu procedure reported by Sawamura and co-workers.<sup>136</sup> For selected substrates, the use of Pd/CuCl over Pd/CuI resulted in formal S<sub>N</sub>2 type displacement of carbonate, affording isomeric propargylic-borated products 216 (Scheme 31C). The proposed mechanistic explanation for S<sub>N</sub>2' boration under Pd/CuI catalysis is as follows (Scheme 31B). First, Pd(0) initiated oxidative displacement of the carbonate group of propargylic ester 214 in the presence of iodide counteranion proceeds via S<sub>N</sub>2' mechanism to afford catalytically activated allenyl-Pd(II) species 217. The Cu(I) catalyst meanwhile undergoes transmetalation with  $B_2(Pin)_2$  in the presence of KO<sup>t</sup>Bu to afford Cu-Bpin complex 218 as the second catalytically activated species. The Bpin moiety could then be delivered onto the Pd center to yield 219, and final reductive elimination affords the borated allene 215. Divergent reactivity is realized in the presence of Cu(I)chloride as when carbonate 214 undergoes oxidative addition with Pd(0), the  $S_N 2$ mechanism is effected. This can be ascribed to the effect of the halide counterion on the  $\eta^1$  and  $\eta^3$  propargyl and allenyl palladium complexes, as chloride counteranions strongly stabilize the  $\eta^1$  propargyl Pd species.<sup>137</sup> Thus, transmetalation

### Scheme 30. Synergistic Pd/Cu Dual Catalysis for the Stereoselective Synthesis of Vinyl Silanes



with **218** affords Pd intermediate **220**, which after reductive elimination yields propargylic-borated **216**. Additionally, by substituting Cu catalyst with AgOAc or AgOPiv, terminal alkyne **221** could be used as substrates to give borated allene **222** in moderate yields (Scheme 31D). Propargyl epoxides **223** could also be used as starting substrates and under the reaction conditions gave rise to diborylated alkene **224**, derived from a second Cu-catalyzed  $S_N 2'$  borylation event of the initially expected allyl-OBpin functionalized allenyl boronate **225** (Scheme 31E).

2.7.8. Cross-Coupling Reaction between Xanthenes and Electron Rich Aryls. Zhang and co-workers reported a synergistic Pd/Cu dual catalytic reaction between xanthenes 226 and electron-rich aryls 227 for the preparation of C-9 substituted 228 and C-9,9 disubstituted xanthene derivatives 229 via C-H activation/cross-dehydrogenative coupling sequence (Scheme 32).<sup>138</sup> By varying reaction time and temperatures, both mono- and double C-H activation at the C-9 position of the xanthene was possible, allowing access to C-9 or C-9,9 mono/diaryl xanthene derivatives 228 and 229, respectively. The mechanistic pathway proposed is outlined in Scheme 32B: Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> activates C-H bond at C-9 position of xanthene 226 to produce activated Pd(II) intermediate 230. The second activated Cu(II)-aryl complex 231 is generated by action of the copper catalyst with electron-rich aryl 227. Transmetalation between 230 and 231 affords cross-coupled pubs.acs.org/CR



#### Scheme 31. Synergistic Pd/Cu Dual Catalysis for the Boration of Propargylic Esters, Acetates, and Epoxides

Pd(II) species 232 and copper salt 233, the latter of which is returned to its original catalytic form by the action of TfOH. Reductive elimination of 232 affords the monoarylated product 228 with regeneration of Pd(0) catalyst. The bis-arylated 229 was formed when the reaction was carried out at the higher reaction temperature and prolonged reaction time through further Pd-enabled C-H activation.

**2.7.9.** Synthesis of Z-Enediynes via Trimerization of Phenylacetylenes. Serendipitously, Zhao and co-workers observed trimerization of phenylacetylenes 234 under synergistic Pd/Cu dual catalysis, furnishing Z-enediynes 235 in moderate yield (Scheme 33).<sup>139</sup> Recognizing the importance of this motif in anticancer drugs which work by facilitating Bergman cyclization and subsequent generation of radicals inside cancer cells,<sup>140–142</sup> the authors optimized the reaction to prepare Z-enediynes in good yields. During the reaction design, it was found that the use of molecular oxygen or inorganic oxidants promoted the generation of side product diynes 236 via oxidative homodimerization (route B in Scheme 33B), while exclusion of air greatly reduced the yield of the desired product.

The proposed reaction mechanism is as follows: The oxidatively generated Cu(II) catalyst oxidizes Pd(0) 237 to Pd(II) 238. Complex 238 deprotonates alkyne 234 to form Pd(II)-acetylene complex 239. Additional coordination of alkyne 234 results in 18-electron complex 240, which undergoes carbopalladation to place Pd on the less substituted carbon, leading to the more stable 16-electron Pd(II)-complex 241 (route A in Scheme 33B). Meanwhile, reaction of the copper catalyst and starting alkyne 234 affords Cu(I) acetylide 242 as the catalytically activated species, which undergoes transmetalation with 241 to afford Pd(II) complex 243. Subsequent reductive elimination affords desired product 235 with regeneration of Pd(0) complex 237. The use of the bipyridine ligand in this system suppresses a undesired Pd(0)/Pd(II) monocatalytic pathway reported in a different study by Wu, <sup>143</sup>

which leads to formation of **244** *via* alkenyl palladium intermediate **241**.

2.7.10. Synthesis of (3-Isoindazoyl)allenes. Yamane and co-workers reported synergistic Pd/Cu dual catalysis for the cross-coupling reaction between 2-alkynyl azobenzene 245 and terminal alkyne 246, affording (3-isoindazolyl)allenes 247 (Scheme 34).<sup>144</sup> The proposed reaction mechanism comprises of two Cu-based catalytic cycles interacting with a concurrent Pd catalytic cycle. First, CuI catalyzes an intramolecular cyclization of 245 to yield isoindazolyl-appended copper carbenoid 248. Then the transmetalation with the Pd(II) catalyst returns copper back to its catalytic cycle and forms Pd(II)-carbenoid 249. In the second copper catalytic cycle, copper acetylide 250 is derived from deprotonation of terminal alkyne 246 with CuX and base. Subsequent transmetalation between **250** and Pd(II)-carbenoid 249 transfers the acetylene moiety onto the palladium center to form alkynyl palladium carbene 251. Migratory insertion then affords 252, which undergoes protonation to yield allene 247 with regeneration of the Pd(II) catalyst. In general, aromatic acetylenes yielded better results over aliphatic ones under the disclosed reaction conditions. The utility of the (3-isoindazolyl)allene products were demonstrated by effecting a thermal cyclization reaction to afford indo[2,3-a]-quinolines, whose derivatives show antitumor activity.<sup>145,146</sup>

**2.7.11. Modified Catellani Reactions Mediated by Pd/ Cu Catalysis.** Liang and co-workers developed a variant of the Catellani reaction to react substituted aryl halides **253** with polyfluoroarenes **254**, affording polyfluoroarene- substituted benzofurans **255** (Scheme 35).<sup>147</sup>

The Cu/Pd dual catalysis was important in enabling inactivated polyfluoroarenes to be utilized as a terminal crosscoupling partner. The proposed reaction mechanism initially follows the known mode of the Catellani reaction.<sup>148</sup> Starting with aryl iodide **253**, oxidative addition of Pd catalyst and insertion of norbornene yields Pd complex **256** (Scheme 35B). Next, activation of *ortho* C–H bond leads to alkyl-aryl PdScheme 32. Synergistic Pd/Cu Dual Catalysis for the Cross-Coupling Reaction *via* C–H Activation



complex 257, which undergoes intramolecular oxidative addition into the alkyl halide side chain, forming Pd(IV)complex 258. Reductive elimination and removal of norbornene ligand leads to catalytically activated Pd(II) species 259. Critically, in the Cu catalytic cycle, the deprotonation of polyfluoroarene 254 occurs to give Cu complex 260, which is able to transmetalate onto the Pd center of 259, forming complex 261. Final reductive elimination furnishes crosscoupled product 255 alongside the regeneration of the Pd catalyst.

Gu and co-workers reported a similar Pd/Cu mediated Catellani reaction of aryl iodide **262**, using thioester **263** as the terminal reagent to afford 2-(arylthio)aryl ketones **264** (Scheme **36**).<sup>149</sup> However, the exact role of the copper cocatalyst was not specified, although it is hypothesized the Cu salt may coordinate and activate the C(O)-S thioester bond. Control experiments with radical scavengers ruled out a radical-based mechanism.

**2.7.12. Hydroarylation of Internal Alkynes.** Utilizing synergistic Pd/Cu dual catalysis, Nakao and co-workers accomplished hydrogenative cross-coupling of internal alkynes **265** and aryl iodides **266** under H<sub>2</sub> atmosphere (Scheme 37).<sup>150</sup> Under the disclosed reducing conditions, it was found that unsaturated C–C bonds aptly survive to afford triaryl olefins **267** in good yield. In the proposed mechanism (Scheme 37B),

# Scheme 33. Synergistic Pd/Cu Dual Catalysis for Trimerization of Alkynes



Scheme 34. Synergistic Pd/Cu Dual Catalysis for the Preparation of (3-Isoindazolyl)allenes



the Cu catalyst first reacts with *tert*-butoxide to form copper alkoxide **268**, which is followed by hydrogenative reduction, leading to copper hydride **269**. Subsequent *syn* addition of copper hydride onto internal alkyne **265** furnishes catalytically



# Scheme 35. Synergistic Pd/Cu Catalysis for the Preparation of Polyfluoroarene-Substituted Benzofuran Derivatives

Scheme 36. Pd/Cu Dual Catalysis for the Preparation of 2-(Arylthio)aryl Ketones

R¹-€ 262	H +	0 R² ↓ 63 (	PdCl <sub>2</sub> tris(2-furyl)phc norborr S <sup>Ar</sup> Cul (2 Cs <sub>2</sub> CC (1.5 eg.) 120	(10 pspl nen 20 r 0 <sub>3</sub> , r	mol nine e (3 nol <sup>1</sup> diox	%) (25 mol %) eq.) %) ane	Ar~s	264	<b>`</b> R <sup>2</sup>
262:	np(1-l)		262: np(1-l)						
$\mathbb{R}^2$	Ar	Y%	R <sup>2</sup>	Ar	Y%	R <sup>1</sup>	R <sup>2</sup>	Ar	Υ%
Ph	2-Me-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	66	3-NO <sub>2</sub> -C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	Ph	78	6-Me-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	Ph	Ph	76
Ph	2-CI-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	93	2-np	Ph	66	6-Me-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	Ph(2,6-	4-Me	94
Ph	2,5-Me <sub>2</sub> -C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>3</sub>	46	4-F-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	Ph	79		OMe)	-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	
Ph	2-np	83	4-Ph-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	Ph	76	5-Me,6-OMe	Ph	Ph	39
Ph	4- <sup>t</sup> Bu-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	66	2,6-(OMe) <sub>2</sub> -C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>3</sub>	Ph	92	-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>3</sub>			
Ph	4-CI-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	82	5-benzo[d][1,3]dioxole	Ph	61	5-F,6-Me	Ph	Ph	78
Ph	4-OMe-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	41	2-furyl	Ph	39	-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>3</sub>			
Ph	4-F-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	42	2-thiophenyl	Ph	53	5-CI,6-Me	Ph	Ph	72
Ph	4-ру	68	Me	Ph	82	-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>3</sub>			
Ph	2-thiophene	84	<i>п</i> -Ви	Ph	62	4-NO2,6-Me	Ph	Ph	53
2-Me	-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> Ph	94	'Pr	Ph	87	-C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>3</sub>			
2-CI-0	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> Ph	81	-CH(CH <sub>3</sub> )OPh	Ph	92	4-F,6-Me -C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>3</sub>	Ph	Ph	53

activated alkenyl copper 270. Meanwhile, oxidative addition by Pd(0) catalyst into aryl iodide 266 affords arylPd(II) 271. Transmetalation of 270 onto the Pd center delivers alkenyl

### Scheme 37. Synergistic Pd/Cu Catalysis for Reductive Cross-Coupling of Internal Alkynes with Aryl Iodides



moiety to Pd while regenerating the Cu catalyst. Finally, Pd complex undergoes reductive elimination to afford desired triaryl olefin 267 with regeneration of Pd(0) catalyst.

2.7.13. Three-Component Csp<sup>3</sup>-Csp<sup>2</sup> Cross-Coupling of Aldehydes, Aryl Bromides, and Silylboronates. Ohmiya and co-workers utilized aromatic aldehyde 272 as an  $\alpha$ alkoxyalkyl synthon in reaction with aryl bromide 273 and silvlboronate 274 for formal three-component Pd/Cu mediated cross-coupling reaction to prepare silyl-protected benzhydrol derivatives 275 in good yields (Scheme 38).<sup>151</sup> Although the required intermediary  $\alpha$ -silvloxybenzyl Cu(I) species derived from aldehydes were previously prepared in a stoichiometric manner,<sup>152</sup> in this reaction such species is realized *via* Cu catalysis. The reported reaction mechanism is as follows (Scheme 38B): IPr-coordinated silvlCu(I) species 276 is first generated in the presence of Cu(I) catalyst, NaO<sup>t</sup>Bu, and silvlboron reagent 274. The silvl Cu(I) complex 276 then inserts across the carbonyl of aryl aldehyde 272, affording 277 which undergoes [1,2]-Brook rearrangement to furnish  $\alpha$ silyloxybenzylCu(I) species 278. In the palladium catalytic cycle, activated species  $Ar^2Pd(II)X 279 (X = Br)$  is derived from oxidative addition of Pd(0) into aryl bromide 273. Transmetalation between 278 and 279 delivers  $\alpha$ -silyloxybenzyl moiety onto the Pd center to form 280 and return Cu(I) to its catalytic cycle. Reductive elimination of 280 leads to regeneration of the Pd(0) catalyst and yields silvl-protected benzhydrol 275. The strategy of using aldehydes as latent  $\alpha$ alkoxyalkyl nucleophile such as in this example is an umpolung.153

**2.7.14. Hydrocyanation of Olefins.** Olefin hydrocyanation is a conceptually straightforward method to introduce nitrile functionality. Known methods however generally rely on toxic hydrogen cyanide to produce racemic products. By utilizing synergistic catalysis, Buchwald and co-workers envisioned enantioselective coupling between activated aryl vinylic-olefin **281** and oxazole **282**, which serves as a benign

Scheme 38. Synergistic Pd(0)/Cu(I) Dual Catalysis for the Three-Component Cross-Coupling of Aryl Aldehydes, Silylboronates, and Aryl Bromides



nitrile surrogate, to produce Markovnikov hydrocyanation adducts **283** (Scheme 39).<sup>154</sup> This reaction works *via* initial

### Scheme 39. Synergistic Pd/Cu Dual Catalysis for Enantioselective Hydrocyanation of Olefins



Pd/Cu mediated hydroarylation, then undergoes a tandem [4 + 2] cycloaddition with an alkyne followed by a retro-[4 + 2]sequence to deliver the desired nitrile product 283. The mechanistic details are as follows (Scheme 39B): Olefin 281 first undergoes enantioselctive hydrocupration by CuH species 284 generated from Cu(I) salt and silane 285 in the presence of chiral phosphine ligand to afford chiral Cu(I) alkyl intermediate 286. For the Pd catalytic cycle, oxidative addition of ligated Pd(0) catalyst into 2-halo-oxazole 282 forms catalytically active species 287. Stereospecific transmetalation between 287 and 286 furnishes alkyl Pd(II) complex 288, which then undergoes reductive elimination to furnish enantioenriched oxazole 289. which serves as an electron-rich aza-diene. The nitrile is then unmasked with use of alkyne 290 via thermal [4 + 2]cycloaddition followed by a retro-[4 + 2] sequence, affording desired nitrile 283. Interestingly, use of inactivated, nonvinylic terminal olefins under similar reaction conditions lead to anti-Markovnikov hydrocynation, furnishing terminal nitriles (not shown).

#### 3. SYNERGISTIC Pd/Au DUAL CATALYSIS

As a soft Lewis acid, Au catalysts can often uniquely activate  $\pi$ bond of various substrates such as allenes and alkynes. When Au catalysis is coupled with Pd catalysis, allylations, arylations, or stannylations of allenes and alkynes are possible.

#### 3.1. Preparation of Allylated Butenolides and Isocoumarins

Blum and co-workers developed a Pd/Au dual catalytic system for a catalyst-catalyzed reaction, in which  $\pi$ -allylPd(II) intermediates were coupled with vinyl gold intermediates derived from allyl allenoates **291** or allyl benzoates **292** to afford allylated butenolides **293** (Scheme 40A) or isocoumarins **294** (Scheme 40C), respectively.<sup>155</sup> Proposed mechanistic details are as follows: the gold catalyst first prompted rearrangement of allenonate **291** to yield Au-butenolide **295**,

# Scheme 40. Pd/Au Dual Catalysis for the Synthesis of Allylated Butenolides (A) and Isocoumarins (C)



which subsequently underwent Pd(0)-catalyzed deallylation reaction to generate  $\pi$ -allylPd(II) complex **296** and vinyl gold **297**. Reaction of **296** and **297** furnished the desired allylated product **293** (Scheme 40B).<sup>156</sup> The existence of both vinyl-Au **297** and  $\pi$ -allylPd complex **296** were confirmed in a crossover experiment using two different allenoates. Allyl benzoates **292** containing acetylene moiety were shown to react similarly in forming isocoumarins **294**. The scope of this isocoumarin forming process was further explored to prepare a wider range of fused lactone products.<sup>157</sup>

#### 3.2. Preparation of Arylated Butenolides

Following Blum's work, Nevado and co-workers designed an intermolecular coupling of allenoates **298** and aryl or heteroaryl iodides **299** under Au/Pd dual catalysis for preparation of substituted butenolides **300** (Scheme 41).<sup>158</sup> In the gold

# Scheme 41. Synergistic Pd/Au Dual Catalysis for the Synthesis of Butenolides



catalytic cycle shown in Scheme 41B, substituted allenoate 298 is treated with  $(p\text{-}CF_3Ph)_3PAuOAc$  to form zwitterionic lactone **301** *via* Au-carbophilic Lewis acid promoted rearrangement reaction. On the palladium cycle, the Pd(0) catalyst, generated from  $[PdCl_2(dppf)]$  or  $[PdCl_2(DPEPhos)]$ , undergoes oxidative addition with aryl/heteroaryl iodide 299 to form catalytically activated Pd(II) species **302**. CsOAc is used as an addictive to sequester free anions and thereby prevent undesired catalyst poisoning *via* the formation of Au(I) halides. Transmetalation of **302** with vinylAu(I) **301** affords Pd(II) complex **303** with regeneration of the Au catalyst. Reductive elimination of **303** leads to desired substituted butenolide **300** and regeneration of Pd(0), closing the Pd catalytic cycle.

### 3.3. Stille-like Cross-Coupling Reaction between Alkynes and Organostannanes

Monocatalytic Pd mediated vinylstannylation of alkynes predominantly afford double-addition products (Scheme 42C).<sup>159</sup> Blum and co-workers used synergistic Pd/Au catalysis

### Scheme 42. Synergistic Pd/Au Dual Catalysis for Cross-Coupling Reaction between Alkynes and Organostannanes



to mediate a Stille-like reaction between alkyne 304 and organostanne 305 to afford monoaddition products 306 with regio- and stereoselectivity, giving access to synthetically useful tri- and tetrasubstituted olefins (Scheme 42).<sup>160</sup> Notably, starting substrates do not require the presence of a carbonhalogen bond as the Au(I) catalyst serves to activate the alkyne and thereby promote oxidative addition of Pd(0) into it. The cross-coupled product displays retention of geometric configuration with respect to the organostannane used, although when sterically bulky Z-stannanes are utilized, moderate stereochemical leakage is observed. The proposed reaction mechanism is as follows (Scheme 42B): First, cationic Au(I) coordinates to the alkyne 304 to yield 307, promoting oxidative addition of Pd(0) into it. Transmetalation of vinylstannane 305 results in intermediate 308, which is the product of vinyl transfer to palladium and tin transfer to the nascent olefin. Au(I) is then dissociated, completing the Au cycle and final reductive elimination of Pd(II) complex 309 affords the desired crosscoupled product 306 and return of Pd to its catalytic cycle.

### 4. SYNERGISTIC Pd/Ru DUAL CATALYSIS

Ruthenium catalysts are commonly utilized in directing group guided C-H activation.<sup>161,162</sup> Chang and co-workers exploit this chemistry by pairing Ru with Pd catalysis to achieve

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sequential C–H activation/arylation. Another unique chemistry enabled by ruthenium catalysis is the formation of Ru-carbenoid from diazo compounds.<sup>163</sup> Lautens and co-workers exploited this reactivity combining Ru-carbenoids with a Pd catalyst, enabling the synthesis of allylated heterocycles.

# 4.1. Formyl C–H Insertion/Arylation of Pyridine and Related Substrates

Chang and co-workers envisioned synergistic Pd/Ru dual catalysis for carbonyl arylation and vinylation *via* formyl C–H insertion process (Scheme 43).<sup>164</sup> Carbonyl arylation and vinylation both operate under a similar mechanism, making use of a directing group (Scheme 43B).

It is proposed that nitrogen atom of quinoline **310** chelate with Ru catalyst, bringing Ru in closer proximity to the formyl appendage, allowing a C-H insertion to take place to furnish intermediate **311**. Meanwhile, the Pd(0) catalyst undergoes

#### Scheme 43. Synergistic Pd/Ru Dual Catalysis for Formyl C– H Insertion/Arylation



oxidative addition into aryl iodide **312** to afford Ar–Pd(II) complex **313**. Transmetalation of **311** with **313** yields arylated Pd(II) complex **314**, which after reductive elimination, leads to product **315**. Similarly, aryl or vinyl iodides **312** were functionalized with pyridine-appended formates **316** and formamides **317** to give **318** and **319**, respectively (Schemes 43C,D).<sup>165,166</sup> Analogous to aryl iodides, organostannanes **320** could also undergo C–H insertions with 8-quinolinecarbox-aldehydes **310** under Pd/Cu catalysis to yield ketone **315** (Scheme 43A).

### 4.2. C(sp<sup>2</sup>)-H Insertion/Allylation

Inspired by intramolecular C(sp<sup>2</sup>)-H insertion reaction of *N*-aryl diazoamides using Rh<sup>167</sup> or Ru<sup>168</sup> catalyst, Lautens and coworkers developed a synergistic Pd/Ru dual catalytic system wherein *N*-aryl diazoamide **321** react with allylic carbonate **322** to afford allylated 3-allyl-3-aryl oxindole derivatives **323** (Scheme 44).<sup>169</sup>

# Scheme 44. Synergistic Ru/Pd Dual Catalysis for Intramolecular C–H Insertion and Intermolecular Allylation of Aryl $\alpha$ -Diazoamides



Mechanistically, treatment of aryl  $\alpha$ -diazoamide **321** with a Ru catalyst generates a ruthenium carbenoid which undergoes a C(sp<sup>2</sup>)–H bond insertion to afford ruthenium-bound oxindole enolate **324**. The second catalytically active species **325** is derived from oxidative addition of the Pd(0) catalyst into **322** in the presence of chiral ligand **L6**, which was previously utilized for asymmetric allyl alkylation of 3-aryl oxindoles.<sup>170</sup> The reaction between **324** and **325** furnishes allylated chiral oxindole **323** while returning the Pd and Ru catalysts to their respective catalytic cycles.

#### **Chemical Reviews**

#### 5. SYNERGISTIC Pd/Rh DUAL CATALYSIS

The redox-sensitivity relatively expensive nature of rhodium catalysts has limited its use in synergistic catalysis. Nevertheless, among the earlier reported examples of dual metal synergistic catalysis stands the work by Ito and co-workers, which describes the asymmetric allylation of  $\alpha$ -carbonyl compounds enabled by Pd(0)/Rh(I) catalysis. Lee and co-workers meanwhile utilize synergistic Pd(0)/Rh(II) catalysis differently, pairing known rhodium-iminocarbenes derived from *N*-sulfonyl-1,2,3-triazoles<sup>171,172</sup> with Pd-catalyzed allylic alkylations, in which the traditionally wasted leaving group is incorporated into the final product.

## 5.1. Allylation of $\alpha$ -Cyano Esters, Weinreb Amides, and Phosphonates

Ito and co-workers reported a synergistic Rh(I)/Pd(0) dual catalytic system for the stereoselective allylation of  $\alpha$ -cyano esters **326** with allylic carbonates **327** to prepare allylated  $\alpha$ -cyanoesters **328** (Scheme 45).<sup>173</sup> The dual catalytic system was

# Scheme 45. Synergistic Pd/Rh Dual Catalysis for Enantioselective $\alpha$ -Allylation of $\alpha$ -Cyanoesters



found to be critical for asymmetric induction. Mechanistically, the Rh(I) catalyst **329**, which is ligated to chiral phosphine ligand PhTRAP, forms a complex with  $\alpha$ -cyano functionality of **326**. Elimination of the alkoxide ligand through hydrogen exchange provides enolate **330** as the catalytically active species (Scheme 45B).

The enolate **330** reacts with  $\pi$ -allylPd(II) species **331** derived from allyl carbonate **327** to produce the  $\alpha$ -allylated product **328**. When the reaction was mediated *via* monocatalytic Pd in the presence of chiral ligand, the racemic product was readily formed in high yield, showing that the Rh(I)-chiral ligand complex is required for stereoselectivity. In the absence of the Pd catalyst, the reaction fails to take place entirely, underlining the synergistic nature of this dual-catalytic system. The disclosed methodology was also applicable for  $\alpha$ -allylation of  $\alpha$ -cyano Weinreb amides and  $\alpha$ -cyano phosphonate esters.

### 5.2. Atom-Economical Preparation of Z-Amino Vinyl Carbonates

Lee and co-workers developed a synergistic Rh(II)/Ph(0) dual catalytic system for the synthesis of *Z*-amino vinyl carbonates 334 from *N*-sulfonyl-1,2,3-triazole 333 and allylic carbonate 332 (Scheme 46).<sup>174</sup>

Scheme 46. Synergistic Pd/Rh Dual Catalysis for	
Stereocontrolled Synthesis of (Z)-Amino Vinyl Carboxylate	s



This process combined  $\alpha$ -imino rhodium(II)-carbenoid 336, formed catalytically *via* action of Rh(II) on *N*-sulfonyl triazole 333, with catalytically generated  $\pi$ -allylPd(II) complex 335 and its associated carboxylate counteranion (derived from allylic carbonate 332), to form (*Z*)-amino vinyl carboxylates 334 (Scheme 46B). The ambivalent nature of the Rh(II)-carbenoid 336 allows it to react with both the nucleophilic carboxylate counteranion and the electrophilic  $\pi$ -allylPd(II) moiety to generate the metal-associated zwitterionic intermediate 337. Disassociation of Rh and reductive elimination of Pd affords the desired (*Z*)-amino vinyl carboxylate 334 alongside regeneration of Rh(II) and Pd(0) catalysts. The coordination of the cationic Pd species with the carbonyl appendage and nitrogen atom as shown in intermediate 338 to Pd was thought to be a crucial factor in the formation of the (*Z*)-product. In a similar manner, (*Z*)-amino vinyl ether **339** were prepared by using allyl carbonate starting material **340** and triazole **341** in good yields (Scheme 46C).

#### 6. SYNERGISTIC Pd/Ni DUAL CATALYSIS

# 6.1. Cross-Ullmann Reaction of Aryl Bromides and Aryl Triflates for Biaryl Synthesis

Metal-catalyzed selective cross-coupling between aryl halides and/or pseudo halides presents a formidable challenge due to facile formation of homocoupling side products. Weix and coworkers developed a synergistic Pd(0)/Ni(0) dual catalysis strategy to effect a cross-Ullmann reaction between aryl bromides **342** and aryl triflates **343** for preparation of biaryl compounds **344** (Scheme 47).<sup>175</sup>

Scheme 47. Synergistic Pd/Ni Dual Catalysis for Aryl–Aryl Cross-Coupling



The success of the coupling is based on the elegant recognition of the orthogonal reactivity of two transition metals toward aryl bromides and aryl triflates. Oxidative addition of the two catalysts, Ni(0) into bromide **342** and Pd(0) into triflate **343**, occurs in a chemoselective manner, and transmetalation between the two catalytically activated species give rise to Pd(II) complex **345**. Reductive elimination forms the desired biaryl compound **344** while returning Pd(0) back to the catalytic cycle. Following the transmetalation event, the nickel catalytic cycle is assisted by the use of zinc metal to readjust the oxidation state of the Ni(II) to Ni(0), allowing the catalytic cycle to continue.

### 7. SYNERGISTIC Pd/V DUAL CATALYSIS

### 7.1. Allylation of Propargyl Allenonates

It is known that vanadium enolate/allenonate could react with aldehyde.<sup>176,177</sup> Trost and co-workers reasoned that allenoate intermediate could intercept an electrophilic  $\pi$ -allylPd(II) intermediate to establish the Pd/V synergistic catalysis for the production of  $\alpha$ -allylated  $\alpha$ , $\beta$ -unsaturated carbonyl compounds **346** from reaction between propargyl alcohols **347** and allylic carbonates **348** (Scheme 48).<sup>178–180</sup>

Conceptually, this reaction is comprised of the vanadium(V)catalyzed 1,3-transposition of propargyl alcohol coupled with Pd-mediated allylation reaction. A significant challenge was Scheme 48. Synergistic Pd/V Dual Catalysis for the Synthesis of  $\alpha$ -Allylated  $\alpha_{\beta}$ -Unsaturated Ketones



overcoming monocatalysis derived side reactions such as the vanadium(V) mediated Meyer-Schuster rearrangement of the allenoate, which yields undesired 349 and palladium(0) mediated O-allylation of the propargyl alcohol, yielding undesired 350. Initial studies under monocatalysis respectively furnished both side products. Critically, when both vanadium and palladium catalysts are used concurrently, the desired  $\alpha$ allylated  $\alpha_{,\beta}$ -unsaturated ketone 346 could be accessed. Neither the Meyer-Schuster product 349 nor the O-allylation product 350 could be converted to the desired product under dual catalysis conditions, demonstrating that a two-step relay process was not involved. The proposed Pd/V mediated mechanism involves transesterification of propargyl alcohol 347 with the vanadium(V) catalyst 351, yielding the vanadium ester 352 which, upon rearrangement, affords vanadium allenoate 353 as the catalytically activated species. Reaction of allenoate 353 with the  $\pi$ -allyl palladium species 354 formed from allyl carbonate 348 provides the desired  $\alpha$ -allylated  $\alpha_{\beta}$ -unsaturated product 346. This synergistic dual catalysis was also extended to the production of  $\alpha$ -allylated  $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated esters and amides from vanadium-ketene acetals and aminals generated from the ether and amine appended acetylenes.

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#### 8. SYNERGISTIC Pd/Ag DUAL CATALYSIS

#### 8.1. Pd/Ag Mediated Preparation of Butenolides

Ma and co-workers developed a synergistic Pd(0)/Ag(I) dual catalysis to react aryl and alkenyl halides 355 with allenylic carboxylic acids 356 for the synthesis of butenolides 357 (Scheme 49).<sup>181</sup> Initially, a monocatalytic reaction under Pd

# Scheme 49. Synergistic Pd(0)/Ag(I) Dual Catalysis for the Synthesis of Aryl and Vinyl Butenolides



catalysis was attempted and only low yields of the desired product was obtained. Incorporation of Ag(I) as a cocatalyst significantly increased the yields (Scheme 49C). Mechanistically, in the presence of a carbonate base, Ag(I) catalyst promoted initial intramolecular cyclization of allenylic carboxylic acid 356 to form silver butenolide 358 (Scheme 49B). Transmetalation with the aryl/alkenyl-Pd(II) 359, produced from the oxidative addition of Pd(0) into aryl/alkenyl halides 355, transferred the butenolide moiety onto the Pd center to form 360, and upon reductive elimination the desired product 357 could be accessed. In view of the low yields obtained under monocatalytic Pd catalysis, an alternative nonsynergistic reaction mechanism involving intermolecular carbopalladation of allene followed by intramolecular allylic substitution was also proposed.

#### 8.2. Preparation of Difluoromethyl Arenes

Shen and co-workers developed a synergistic Pd(0)/Ag(I) dual catalysis strategy for the difluoromethylation of aryl halides **361** utilizing trifluoromethyltrimethyl silane (TMS-CF<sub>3</sub>H, **362**) to afford difluoromethyl arenes **363** in a single step (Scheme

50).<sup>182</sup> In the proposed mechanism (Scheme 50B), silver difluoromethyl complex 364 is first generated from action of

## Scheme 50. Synergistic Pd(0)/Ag(I) Dual Catalysis for the Synthesis of Difluoromethyl Arenes



silver catalyst on reagent **362**. Subsequent transmetalation with arylPd(II) **365** produced from oxidative addition of Pd(0) into halide **361** yields difluoromethyl-Pd(II) complex **366**. Reductive elimination furnishes the desired difluoromethyl arenes **363** in good yield. This mild synergistic catalysis could be utilized for the synthesis of difluoromethylated vitamin E derivate **367** from bromide **368** (Scheme 50C).

#### 9. SYNERGISTIC Pd/Pd DUAL CATALYSIS

Generally, it is believed that transition metal synergistic catalysis involves catalytic systems based on two different metals. However, synergistic catalytic systems using a sole Pd catalyst in two catalytic cycles have been developed.

#### 9.1. C-H Arylation

Hong and co-workers disclosed a Pd-catalyzed C–H arylation reaction utilizing unactivated arenes **369** and aryl bromides **370** under monocatalytic Pd catalysis to furnish biaryl products **371** (Scheme 51).<sup>183</sup> Interestingly, the authors contend that the single Pd catalyst participates in a synergistic catalysis-type mechanism with and by itself, where Pd catalyst activates the arene **369** *via* C–H activation and its aryl bromide coupling partner **370** by oxidative addition (Scheme 51B). The two intermediates then undergo a transmetalation step to deliver the penultimate intermediate **372**, which affords desired biaryl compound **371** by reductive elimination. The reaction is mediated in the presence of a rigid, nonflexible diimine ligand,

#### Scheme 51. Putative Synergistic Pd/Pd Dual Catalysis for Synthesis of Biaryl Compounds



which coordinates in a bidentate manner to the Pd center, which shuts down the possibility of a traditional, pivalate-promoted concerted metalation deprotonation (CMD) process. Various mechanistic and kinetic studies by the authors further supported the synergistic catalysis type mechanism. This reaction tolerated nitro-, fluoro-, and cyano- substituents on the simple arene, vielding ortho-substituted diaryls. The reaction was also general with respect to the substituted aryl bromide coupling partner, although an electron withdrawing group at the para position afforded a decreased yield.

#### 9.2. "Copper-Free" Sonogashira Reaction via Synergistic **Pd/Pd Catalysis**

In the traditional Sonogashira reaction, the palladium catalyst activates aryl or vinyl halide while copper cocatalyst activates the acetylene to yield a cross-coupled product via classical, synergistic catalysis (vide supra). Although the use of copper catalyst alongside palladium enables mild reaction conditions, complications such as unwanted Cu-catalyzed acetylene homocoupling (Glaser coupling) necessitates the strict exclusion of oxygen in the reaction mixture.<sup>184</sup> The presence of Cu can also be incompatible with certain functional groups such as azides, amines, and alkynes in various situations. In this context, monocatalytic Pd driven alkynation (Heck and Cassar coupling)<sup>39,40,185</sup> can provide a complementary alternative. Recently, however, Kosmrlj and co-workers disclosed an intriguing "copper-free" variant of the Sonogashira reaction that made use of two distinct palladium catalysts to fulfill the traditional role of Pd (to activate the aryl halide 373) and Cu (to activate the acetylene 374).<sup>186</sup>

In this fully synergistic, Pd/Pd catalysis, cross-coupled product 375 are furnished in good yields (Scheme 52).

The mechanistic considerations played an important role in the development of this system, although superficially, the details are similar to the known Sonogashira reaction. For the first Pd cycle, Pd(0) species undergoes oxidative addition to furnish catalytically active Pd(II) specie 376. In the second Pd

Scheme 52. Synergistic Pd/Pd Dual Catalysis for Coupling of (Hetero)aryl Bromides with Terminal Alkyne



cycle, Pd(II)X in the presence of base and acetylene yields Pd(II)-acetylene complex 377 as the second catalytically active species. Ideally, first and second catalytically active species should be at equimolar concentration as favoring the formation of one intermediate over the another leads to either biaryl homocoupling or 1,3-diyne/enyne homocoupling side products via unwanted mono-Pd catalysis. Upon transmetalation of 376 and 377, arylated-Pd(II)-acetylene complex 378 is furnished, which undergoes reductive elimination to yield 375. To facilitate the first Pd cycle, (PhCN)<sub>2</sub>PdCl<sub>2</sub> precatalyst and phosphine ligand CataCXium A were chosen due to their ability to form active Pd(0) species and undergo subsequent oxidative addition-reductive elimination in cross-coupling systems. For the second Pd cycle, Pd-PyMIC complex was chosen as related NHC-Pd(II)-acetylene complexes have been characterized and Pd-PyMIC has been proven stable in Cu-free alkynylation reaction.18

Under this judicious catalytic combination, Pd/Pd synergistic catalysis takes place at room temperature with potentially exceptionally low Pd loadings (up to 0.25 mol %).

#### 10. SYNERGISTIC Rh/Ag DUAL CATALYSIS

Rh/Ag synergistic catalysis exploit unique reactivity of the two metals; propensity of rhodium to activate -diazo compounds or highly strained carbocyclic moieties and silver to act as soft Lewis acids to activate  $\pi$ -bonds.

#### 10.1. Rh/Ag Mediated Preparation of 1,2-Dihydroisoquinolines

Hu and co-workers envisioned a synergistic Rh(II)/Ag(I) dual catalysis for production of 1,2-dihydroisoquinolines 379 via three component coupling reaction between  $\alpha$ -diazo ester 380, 2-(1-alkynyl)arylaldimine 381, and water or simple alcohols 382 (Scheme 53).<sup>188</sup> Under monocatalytic environment with Rh catalyst, the desired 1,2-dihydroisoquinonlines were afforded in low yields. When AgOTf was used as a cocatalyst, the yields were significantly increased to enable facile access to 1,2-dihydroisoquinolines (Scheme 53C). As shown in Scheme 53B, the coordination of AgOTf with acetylene 381 via 383 promoted intramolecular cyclization, forming the Ag-bound intermediate 384 as the catalytically active species. Meanwhile, action of Scheme 53. Synergistic Rh/Ag Dual Catalysis for the Three Component Synthesis of 1,2-Dihydroisoquinolines



Rh(II) catalyst on  $\alpha$ -diazo ester **380** effects extrusion of nitrogen gas and irreversible generation of Rh-carbenoid **385**. Nucleophilic attack of alcohol **382** onto electrophilic carbenoid carbon in **385** yields Rh-oxonium complex **386** as the second catalytically active species. A Mannich-type reaction between **384** and **386** could furnish penultimate Ag(I) intermediate **387** with regeneration of Rh(II) catalyst. Upon subsequent protodemetalation, the desired 1,2-dihydroisoquinoline product **379** is formed and Ag(I) is regenerated.

# 10.2. Rh/Ag Mediated Tetrahydropyridine-3-ol Tethered 7,4-Enynes

Recently, Shi and co-workers described synergistic Rh(I)/Ag(I)dual catalysis for cycloisomerization/cross-coupling reaction of keto-vinylidencyclopropanes **388** with terminal alkynes **389** for the regio- and enantioselective preparation of tetrayhydropyridin-3-ol tethered 1,4-enynes **390** (Scheme 54).<sup>189</sup> In this reaction, the highly strained structural moiety of vinylidenecyclopropane **388** was exploited in the presence of Rh(I) catalyst, which undergoes oxidative addition into the weaker C– C bond of the three membered ring to form rhodacyclobutene Scheme 54. Synergistic Rh/Ag Dual Catalysis for the Preparation of Tetrahydropyridin-3-ol Tethered 1,4-Enynes



391 (Scheme 54B). The subsequent isomerization via intramolecular ketone carbometalation yields the catalytically activated oxa-rhodacyclic intermediate 392. Meanwhile, alkyne 389 reacts with Ag(I) catalyst to form Ag-alkynyl intermediate 393 as the second catalytically activated species. Transmetalation of 393 with 392 furnishes Rh-alkynyl intermediate 394 with regeneration of the Ag catalyst. Subsequent reductive elimination and protonolysis yields the desired cross-coupling product 390. To firmly implicate intermediate 392 in the proposed reaction mechanism, a control experiment was conducted under a CO atmosphere where Rh intermediate 392 was made to undergo carbonylation followed by reductive elimination and double-bond isomerization to yield a lactone derivative 395, which was characterized. The authors could not rule out, however, an alternative reaction mechanism involving alkynyl migratory insertion.

#### 11. SYNERGISTIC Ru/Cu DUAL CATALYSIS

### 11.1. Enantioselective Propargylic Alkylation of $\beta$ -Ketoesters

Although there are plethora of transition-metal catalyzed allylation substitution reactions,<sup>190</sup> corresponding enantioselective propargylic substitution reactions are limited to ruthenium-catalyzed examples reported by Nishibayashi and co-workers, which are driven by formation of ruthenium allenylidene complexes.<sup>191–193</sup> The same authors extend this methodology by intercepting aforementioned allenylidene intermediate with Cu-enolate complex to achieve Ru/Cu synergistic catalysis. To this end, propargyl alcohol **396** was envisioned to be activated by Ru catalyst to produce an electrophile susceptible to nucleophilic attack by copper enolate of  $\beta$ -ketoesters **397** (Scheme 55).<sup>194</sup>

### Scheme 55. Synergistic Ru/Cu Dual Catalysis for the Propargylic Alkylation of $\beta$ -Ketoesters



The initial complexation of Ru catalyst and propargyl alcohol 396 gave rise to ruthenium vinylidene complex 398 and upon elimination of water, the ruthenium allenylidene 399 was formed as the first catalytically activated species. Meanwhile, interaction of Cu catalyst and  $\beta$ -ketoester 397 affords Cu enolate 400 as the second catalytically activated species. Attack of the 400 at the terminal carbon of 399 forms alkynyl complex 401, which further undergoes acid-catalyzed rearrangement to afford vinylidene 402. Formation of the alkyne and final ligand exchange furnishes the desired product 403 as a mixture of the major anti and minor syn products. The anti product was formed with high enantioselectivity via attack on the Si-face of ruthenium allenylidene complex 399 by the Re-face of the copper enolate 400. Internal alkynes did not react under the optimized reaction conditions, lending support for the presence of a key ruthenium allenylidene intermediate. This work was extended to include the propargylic alkylation of cyclic  $\beta$ -ketophosphonates (Scheme 55C).<sup>195</sup> In this context, using 2oxocyclopentylphosphonates **404** under slightly modified reaction conditions provided high yields of alkynated **405**.

### 12. SYNERGISTIC Cu/Re DUAL CATALYSIS

#### 12.1. Trifluoromethylation of Propargyl Alcohols

The Cu/Re catalyzed trifluoromethylation of propargyl alcohol **406** may or may not proceed by synergistic catalysis and was reported by Sodeoka and co-workers (Scheme 56).<sup>196</sup>

# Scheme 56. Cu/Re Catalyzed Synthesis of E- $\alpha$ -Trifluoromethylated Enones



The dual catalysis method affords Z- $\alpha$ -trifluoromethylated enones (Z)-407, while a related Cu monocatalytic method reported by Tan and Liu and co-workers yields (E)-407 (Scheme 56B).<sup>197</sup> The copper-catalytic process is believed to proceed via Meyer-Schuster rearrangement, affording an intermediary allenol 408, which is then trifluoromethylated by a Cu containing trifluoromethyl species **409**,<sup>198</sup> generated from Togni's reagent 410. The dual Cu/Re catalytic process differed from the monocatalytic process in a few key ways. First, the dual catalysis process produces the Z-isomer as the major product. Second, subjecting the Z-isomer to further copper and rhenium catalysis leads to isomerization, suggesting that the Z-isomer formed under kinetic conditions. Third, a control experiment using an allenol-silyl ether produced the E-isomer as the major product when subjected to the reaction conditions. On the basis of these results, two possible pathways were hypothesized (Scheme 56C). The first mechanism involves a nonsynergistic dual catalytic process where 4-endo-dig cyclization and trifluoromethylation by a copper/rhenium-Togni reagent complex provides cyclic intermediate 411 (path A, Scheme 56C). Subsequently, a ring-opening event while minimizing the steric interactions followed by reductive elimination providing

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the observed Z-isomer (Z)-407. The second proposed mechanism involves synergistic dual catalysis (path B, Scheme 56C), wherein copper activated trifluoromethyl species 409 would react with rhenium species 412 with rearrangement of the propargyl alcohol to provide intermediate 413, which, upon fragmentation and reductive elimination, would afford (Z)-407. The authors suggested both reaction pathways were equally possible and that further studies were needed to ascertain which mechanism was correct.

#### 13. SYNERGISTIC Cu/Mn DUAL CATALYSIS

# 13.1. Nucleophilic Addition of $\alpha$ -Oxoketene Dithioacetals into 2-Substituted 3,4-Dihydropyrans

Gu and co-workers utilized Cu(II)/Mn(II) dual catalysis to react  $\alpha$ -oxoketene dithioacetal **414** with 2-substituted-3,4-dihydropyrans **415** to furnish ring-opened adducts **416** (Scheme 57).<sup>199</sup> The reaction is initiated by the MnCl<sub>2</sub>·4H<sub>2</sub>O mediated

# Scheme 57. Synergistic Cu/Mn Dual Catalysis for Trapping of Ring Opened Pyrans with a Weak Nucleophile



pyran ring-opening of **415**, producing carbonium intermediate **417**. Meanwhile, action of CuBr<sub>2</sub> and  $\alpha$ -oxoketene dithioacetal **414** furnished Cu-nucleophile **418**, which reacts to trap carbonium intermediate **417**, furnishing adduct **416** in good yield alongside regeneration of Cu(II) and Mn(II) catalysts. In support of Cu(II) catalyzed formation of nucleophile **418**, UV–vis spectrum analysis after addition of CuBr<sub>2</sub> showed disruption of superconjugation present in the dithioacetal **414**.

### 13.2. Carbonylative C–C Coupling of Aryl Boronic Acids with Alkyl Halides

Although Pd-catalyzed carbonylations of aryl or vinyl halides are known, analogous Pd-catalyzed carbonylation for Csp<sup>3</sup>-hybridized electrophiles such as alkyl halides are problematic due to alkyl-palladium intermediates undergoing undesirable  $\beta$ -hydride elimination.<sup>200</sup> Mankad and co-workers reasoned such complications could be avoided by using Mn catalyst in place of Pd. In this context, aryl ketone **419** was accessed *via* Mn/Cu mediated carbonylative C–C coupling between alkyl halide **420** and aryl boronic acid **421**, operating under CO atmosphere (Scheme 58).<sup>201</sup> In the optimized reaction conditions, aryl

### Scheme 58. Synergistic Cu/Mn Dual Catalysis for Carbonylative C–C Coupling of Aryl Boronic Acids with Alkyl Halides



boronic acid **421** reacts with copper alkoxide complex **422** to afford cuprate nucleophile **423** as the catalytically activated species (Scheme 58B). Meanwhile, the Heck–Breslow mechanism is effected where anionic manganese complex **424** reacts with alkyl halide **420** to afford alkyl manganese **425**. Carbon monoxide is then incorporated to yield manganese metal-acyl electrophile **426**, which as the catalytically activated species, reacts with nucleophilic aryl cuprate **423** to furnish ketone **419** with regeneration of the manganese and copper catalysts. The authors were astute in conducting a Glorius robustness screen,<sup>202</sup> where it was shown that the disclosed method was inert toward aryl bromide additives, which is a unique advantage over Pd-catalyzed systems where undesired oxidative addition of Pd(0) into the C–Br bond might prove problematic.

#### 14. SYNERGISTIC Cu/Rh DUAL CATALYSIS

#### 14.1. Cu/Rh Dual Catalysis with Alkynyl Nucleophiles

**14.1.1. Preparation of 1,3-Enynes and N-Aryl Enaminones.** Jiang and co-workers utilized Cu(I)/Rh(III) dual catalysis to react  $\alpha$ -diazoketones **427** with nucleophilic terminal alkynes **428** to effect a C–H insertion of carbenoid, affording functionalized 1,3-enynes **429**. A similar three component reaction mediated by Cu(I)/Rh(III) catalysts was also realized in which  $\alpha$ -diazoketones **427**, terminal alkynes **428**, and aryl amines **430** furnished *N*-aryl enaminones **431** (Scheme 59).<sup>203</sup>

In the proposed mechanism (Scheme 59C),  $\alpha$ -diazoketone 427 first interacts with Rh(III) catalyst to form Rh-carbene 432. Transmetalation with Cu-acetylide 433 derived from terminal alkyne 428 and Cu(I) catalyst transfers the alkyne moiety onto

Scheme 59. Synergistic Cu/Rh Dual Catalysis for the Synthesis of 1,3-Enynes and N-Aryl enaminones





the Rh center, affording **434**. Subsequent enolization yields *O*-Rh enolate **435**, which can be protonated to furnish allene **436**. Allene **436** can react with another equivalent of Cu-acetylide **433** to yield enynes **429** (condition A) or with aryl amine **430** to produce *N*-aryl enaminone **431** (condition B).

14.1.2. Preparation of Benzo[b]fluorenes and 2-Naphthalenylmethanones. Following previous work, Jiang and co-workers extended this chemistry to use *ortho*-propenone arylalkynes 437 with  $\alpha$ -aryldiazoesters 438 under Cu/Rh catalysis to afford tetracyclic benzo[b]fluorenes 439 and 2naphthalenylmethanones 440 (Scheme 60A).<sup>204</sup>

In the initial stages, the mechanism of this chemistry is similar to one previously described, where **438** and Rh catalyst first generates Rh(II)-carbenoid **441**, which subsequently undergoes transmetalation with Cu acetylene **442**, derived from terminal alkyne **437** in the presence of Cu catalyst and base to yield Scheme 60. Synergistic Cu/Rh Dual Catalysis for Synthesis of Benzo[b]fluorenes and 2-Napthalenylmethanones



complex 443. Subsequent enolization and H-abstraction affords allene intermediate 444. From this point, however, the *ortho*propenone starting material enables a differentiated mode of reactivity depending on the substitution pattern and reaction parameters. When the aryl-substituted allene is used ( $R^2 = Ph$ , 4-MePh, 4-FPh) with DMF as solvent and at elevated temperatures (60 °C), an intramolecular [4 + 2] cycloaddition takes place to afford 445 (route I in Scheme 60B). In the presence of PhI(OAc)<sub>2</sub>, 445 undergoes oxidative aromatization to afford tetracyclic benzo[*b*]fluorene product 439. Naphthalene 440 could also be accessed by utilizing **438** with different electronic properties (where  $R^2 = H$ ) or with a sterically more demanding 1-naphthyl component. In this context, under CH<sub>3</sub>CN solvent and reaction temperature maintained at 40 or 90 °C, pericyclic cyclization of aryl allene **444** is effected, affording **446**, which then tautomerizes to yield 2-naphthalenylmethanones **440** (route ii in Scheme 60B).

**14.1.3.** *trans*-Dihetroarylation of Internal Alkynes. Recently, You and co-workers reported *trans*-dihetroarylation of internal alkynes 447 with azole 448 under stoichiometric Cu/ monocatalytic Rh system to prepare *trans*-diazole substituted tetraarylethylene 449 (Scheme 61).<sup>205</sup>

Scheme 61. Synergistic Cu/Rh Dual Catalysis for *trans*-1,2-Diheteroarylation of Alkynes



Although the required Cu reagent is utilized stoichiometrically, an in situ formation of a key Cu-intermediate is implicated and the reaction is synergistic with respect to the two transition metal activated substrates. Mechanistically, it is proposed that Rh catalyst activates starting azole 448 and reacts further with alkyne 447 to yield rhodacycle 450 as the first catalytically activated species. Meanwhile, key Cu(I) complex arising from disproportionation of  $Cu(OAc)_2$  reacts with azole to form second catalytically active species 451. In the ensuing reaction between the two activated intermediates, the azole moiety on Cu is transferred on to the Rh and upon formation of the product 449, Rh catalyst is regenerated. Under mono-Rh catalysis, monoarylated adduct is yielded upon protonation of intermediate 450. The detailed mechanism and trans-selectivity of the reaction were supported by computational studies and control experiments.

#### 14.2. Miscellaneous Synergistic Cu/Rh Dual Catalysis

**14.2.1. Cooperative Cu/Rh Dual Catalysis for Preparation of N-Hydroxycarbamates.** Zhang and co-workers reported preparation of N-hydroxycarbamate **452** from N-Boc-hydroxyamine **453** and N-methoxy benzamide **454** *via* Cu/ Rh catalysis (Scheme 62).<sup>206</sup>

The disclosed chemistry exploit the ability of Rh(III) complexes facilitate C–H activation and intercepting it with electrophiles derived from nitrosocarbonyl compounds, formed





*via* Cu catalysis. The reaction mechanism is as follows: First, Cucatalyzed aerobic oxidation of **453** yields catalytically activiated nitrosocarbonyl intermediate **455**. Meanwhile, rhodacyclic intermediate **456** is derived from reversible C–H bond cleavage of **454** with Rh catalyst (Scheme 62B). The reaction between **455** and **456** yields Rh-intermediate **457**, which undergoes nucleophilic addition to form seven-membered rhodacycle **458**, followed by a protonolysis to afford intermediate **459**. Final nucleophilic intramolecular substitution reaction furnishes desired product **452** with displacement of MeONH<sub>2</sub>.

#### 15. SYNERGISTIC Cu/Ni DUAL CATALYSIS

The catalysis based on nickel can be viewed in a similar manner to the more well-known palladium catalysis.<sup>207</sup> This general trend continues for synergistic catalysis; for example, arylboration reported below mediated by Cu/Ni catalysis finds directly analogues example in Cu/Pd catalysis.

#### 15.1. Silylation of C-O Electrophiles

Martin and co-workers developed silylation of aryl/naphthyl pivalates **461** with borylsilane **460** *via* Cu/Ni dual catalysis (Scheme 63).<sup>208</sup> Both phenyl and naphthyl pivalates could undergo the transformation under mild conditions to afford silylated aromatic **462** in good yields. In the proposed mechanism, oxidative addition of the Ni(0) catalyst into aryl pivalate **461** activiates the C–O bond to form aryl-Ni(II) complex **463**. Transmetalation with Cu(II)-silane **464**, derived from reaction of borylsilane and Cu(II) catalyst in the presence of CsF transfers the silyl moiety onto the Ni center to yield Ni(II) complex **465**. Subsequent reductive elimination affords the desired aryl silane **462** in good yield. In addition, this dual catalysis was also capable of converting primary and secondary benzylic pivalates into benzylic silanes.

Scheme 63. Synergistic Cu/Ni Dual Catalysis for Synthesis of Aryl Silanes



#### 15.2. Coupling of Polyfluoroarenes with Aryl Carbamates

Shi and co-workers disclosed a cross-coupling reaction between polyfluoroarene **466** and heteroaryl/naphthyl carbamate **467** *via* aryl sp<sup>2</sup> C–O/C–H cleavage to prepare various biaryl **468** under synergistic Ni/Cu dual catalysis (Scheme 64).<sup>209</sup>

Preliminary investigation focused on realizing a Ni monocatalytic system, as Ni-catalyzed C-H activation of pentafluorobenzene was previously known.<sup>210</sup> However, undesired reductive coupling via Ni mediation of C-F bond activated species necessitated a dual catalytic approach. The proposed mechanism of the dual-catalytic reaction is detailed in Scheme 64B. First, the deprotonation of polyfluoroarene 466 with Cu catalyst afforded the nucleophilic Cu(I) species 469. Meanwhile, oxidative addition of Ni(0) into carbamate 467 furnishes Ni(II) complex 470. Further decarboxylation of 470 may take place to afford 471. Subsequent transmetalation between 469 and nickel complex 470 or 471 would deliver the polyfluoroarene moiety onto the Ni center forming complex 472. Reductive elimination of 472 affords coupled product 468 with regeneration of the Ni catalyst. Additionally, it was shown that terminal alkynes could undergo alkynylation reaction with carbamates in place of polyfluoroarenes, and with slight modification to the reaction conditions benzothiazoles were also shown to be an amendable reaction partner.

#### 15.3. Arylboration of 1-Arylalkenes under Ni/Cu Catalysis

Although the group of Semba and Nakao previously disclosed Pd/Cu catalyzed racemic arylboration of 1-aryl and vinyl alkenes with aryl halides (*vide supra*),<sup>87</sup> the expensive cost of Pd was recognized as a limitation. The reliance on Pd also generally precludes the use of chlorides and tosylates. In this context, a more economical dual catalysis was disclosed wherein analogous three-component coupling between 1-arylalkene **473**, B<sub>2</sub>(pin)<sub>2</sub>, and aryl chloride/tosylate **474** was mediated byCu/Ni catalysts to afford 2-boryl-1,1-diarylalkane **475** (Scheme 65).<sup>211</sup> Proposed mechanistic details of the dual catalytic cycle is

Scheme 64. Synergistic Cu/Ni Dual Catalysis for C–O/C–H Coupling between Polyfluoroarenes and Aryl Carbamates









outlined in Scheme 65B. In the Ni cycle, Ni(0) catalyst undergoes oxidative addition with 474 (X = Cl, OTs) to afford catalytically activated Ni(II) complex 476. In the Cu catalytic cycle, LCuCl is treated with LiO<sup>t</sup>Bu to form LCu-O<sup>t</sup>Bu species in a salt metathesis reaction, followed by reaction with  $B_2(pin)_2$ 

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to furnish LCu-(Bpin). Borylcupration of LCu-(Bpin) across the double bond of **473** affords alkylCu(I) complex **477**, the second catalytically active species. Transmetalation between **476** and **477** affords Ni(II) complex **478**, which undergoes reductive elimination to form desired product **475** and the regenerated LNi(0) catalyst. Electron donating or withdrawing groups on the *para* position of aryl chlorides **474** were well tolerated, however, substituents on the *ortho* position proved suboptimal. Aryl tosylates were able to react in lieu of aryl halides, although the yields were diminished. Although excellent regioselectivity is observed with terminal olefins, the use of 1,2-disubstituted olefins afforded products with moderate to poor stereo-selectivity.

#### 16. SYNERGISTIC Cu/Fe DUAL CATALYSIS

In context of dual catalysis, Cu and Fe metals represent an attractive catalytic pairing as they are inexpensive and relatively insensitive to air and moisture. A general review by Jiao and co-workers give excellent details on bimetallic-Cu/Fe catalytic systems based on tandem and relay mechanisms.<sup>212</sup> In this review, we give overview on Cu/Fe mediated systems which are clearly synergistic in nature, comprising the work disclosed by Hayashi and co-workers which describe Cu/Fe mediated arylmagnesiation of alkynes<sup>213</sup> and isomerization of secondary Grignard reagents,<sup>214</sup> which cumulate in a one-pot relay containing two distinct synergistic catalysis systems.<sup>215</sup> Work by Chavant and co-workers on borylation of aryl bromides under Cu/Fe catalysis is also detailed,<sup>216</sup> followed by application of Cu/Fe catalysis in synthetic nucleoside chemitry.<sup>217</sup>

# 16.1. One-Pot Relay of Two Synergistically Active Catalysis System

**16.1.1. AryImagnesiation of Disubstituted Acetylenes.** Carbometalation of alkynes yields an alkenyl metal intermediate which is often amendable for further functionalization. Although palladium is ubiquitous in enabling such transformations, it is relatively expensive. Shirakawa and Hayashi and co-workers disclosed a strategy for effecting aryl magnesiation of alkyne **479** using synergistic dual Cu/Fe catalysis (Scheme 66).<sup>213</sup>

The utility of the resultant alkenyl magnesium product 480 was demonstrated further by reacting them with aldehydes, alkyl bromides, or water to afford syn-selective addition products 481, where aryl and Mg-derived functionalized groups are placed across the triple bond. The proposed mechanistic details are shown in Scheme 66B. First, interaction of ArMgrBr 482 with Fe catalyst 483 affords aryl-Fe complex 484. Subsequent addition of 484 across alkyne 479 forms alkenyl-Fe complex 485 as the catalytically activated species. Meanwhile, ArMgBr 482 also reacts with Cu(I)Br to furnish diaryl-Cu 486. Transmetalation between alkenyl-Fe complex 485 and 486 transfers alkenyl group onto Cu center, forming alkenyl(Ar)Cu 487 alongside regeneration of the Fe catalyst. The desired aryl magnesiation product 480 is released by the final transmetalation reaction between cuprate 487 and ArMgBr reagent 482, which also regenerates diaryl-Cu 486 and completes the catalytic cycle. Although aliphatic and aromatic substituted alkynes are tolerated, the use of terminal alkynes with inherently acidic acetylenic protons proved problematic, as these reagents were expectedly incompatible with the basic character of an arylmagnesium Grignard reagent. Alkynes demonstrated in the study were mostly symmetrical  $(R^1 = R^2)$ , although in some cases where unsymmetrical alkynes were deployed (where R<sup>2</sup>

Scheme 66. Synergistic Cu/Fe Dual Catalysis for Arylmagnesiation of Internal Alkynes



was much more sterically hindered than  $R^1$ ), excellent regioselectivity was observed.

**16.1.2.** Isomerization of Secondary Alkyl Grignard **Reagents.** Following aforementioned work, Shirakawa and Hayashi and co-workers reported Cu/Fe mediated isomerization of secondary alkyl Grignard reagents **488** into primary Grignard reagents **489** (Scheme 67).<sup>214</sup>

Although Ti(IV)<sup>218</sup> or Ni(II)<sup>219</sup> mediated monocatalytic isomerization of secondary Grignard reagents into primary ones are known (*via*  $\beta$ -hydride elimination/hydrometalation), such reactions typically proceed with low conversion. It was found that synergistic Fe/Cu dual catalysis was effective in yielding

Scheme 67. Synergistic Cu/Fe Dual Catalysis for Isomerization of Secondary Alkyl Grignard Reagents



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**489**, which was further reacted with CO<sub>2</sub> to afford carboxylic acids or with aldehydes to afford secondary alcohols or with D<sub>2</sub>O to afford deuterated primary alkanes. In the proposed mechanism (Scheme 67B), the reaction of secondary Grignard reagent **488** with FeCl<sub>3</sub> affords 2-alkyliron complex **490**, which undergoes  $\beta$ -hydride elimination/hydroferration sequence to afford the 1-alkyl iron **491**. Meanwhile, interaction of the original Grignard reagent **488** with CuBr catalyst affords 1-alkylcupurate complex **493** with regeneration of **490** to continue the iron catalytic cycle. Final transmetalation of **493** with Grignard reagent **488** ultimately affords primary alkyl Grignard reagent **489** in good yield alongside regeneration of cuprate **492**.

16.1.3. A Relay Reaction of Two Synergistically Catalytic System in a Single Pot. Hayashi and co-workers envisioned an exchange reaction between a secondary Grignard reagent 494 and alkene under synergistic Cu/Fe dual catalysis to prepare primary Grignard reagents (Scheme 68). This process is

Scheme 68. Synergistic Cu/Fe Dual Catalysis for One-Pot Tandem Grignard-alkene Exchange/Alkyl-magnesiation Reaction



mechanistically related to the aforementioned isomerization reported by Hayashi (Scheme 67, *vide supra*). In addition to the exchange reaction, a subsequent alkyl-magnesiation of alkynes in a tandem reaction was also engineered, which is mechanistically related to aforementioned Hayashi's aryl-magnesiation of disubstituted alkynes **479** (Scheme 66, *vide supra*). The two processes could be effected by the same Cu/Fe species present in the flask and, in effect, a tandem reaction of the two synergistic catalysis was achieved, an unprecedented undertaking.<sup>215</sup>

**16.1.4. Exchange Reaction between Donor Grignard Reagent and Terminal Olefins.** Using cyclopentylmagnesium bromide **494** as secondary Grignard reagent/Mg donor, the reaction between it and terminal olefin **495** under synergistic Cu/Fe dual catalysis afforded corresponding primary alkyl-Grignard reagent **496** in good yield, which was quantified by quenching the Grignard products with ClSiH<sub>2</sub>Ph or D<sub>2</sub>O (Scheme 69).

It is striking that in this reaction, the presence of otherwise Grignard-incompatible functional groups such as alkyl/aryl halides and alcohols are tolerated. With the regards to the mechanism, the authors considered that secondary alkyl-iron species could be derived from a reaction between a donor Mg-compound such as **493** and FeCl<sub>3</sub>, which would then intercepted by a different terminal alkene introduced into the reaction. Thus, the previously reported intramolecular isomerization process would be made into an intermolecular one. The details are as follows (Scheme 69B): Donor Grignard reagent **494** is treated

Scheme 69. Exchange Reaction with Alkenes and Alkyl-Magnesiation of Alkynes under Cu/Fe Catalysis



 $\begin{array}{c|c} & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & &$ 

with FeCl<sub>3</sub> to form secondary alkyl-iron **497**. Subsequent  $\beta$ -hydride elimination forms transient, iron-coordinated disubstituted olefin **498**. Interaction of **498** with the newly introduced, monosubstituted terminal olefin **495** leads to the hydrometalation of the terminal olefin to afford more stable alkyl iron **499** as the catalytically activated species, with the accompanying extrusion of cyclopentene **508**. Alkyl iron **499**, the first catalytically activated species, then undergoes synergistic catalysis with the Cu cycle (as described previously and below). In brief, copper catalyst reacts with Grignard reagent **494** to afford alkyl copper **501** as the second catalytically active species. Transmetalation between alkyl copper **501** and **499** leads to copper complex **502**, which undergoes further transmetalation with the Grignard reagent to afford desired 1° alkyl Grignard reagent **496**.

**16.1.5. Tandem Alkyl Magnesiation of Alkynes.** To enable a tandem alkyl magnesiation reaction after preparation of primary alkyl-Grignard reagent, the exchange reaction detailed above is allowed to run for 10 min before alkyne **503** is introduced. This enables chemistry disclosed in the previous report (Scheme 66) to take place; the addition of the Grignard reagent across the alkyne (Scheme 69C). The mechanistic details (Scheme 69D) are the same as given in Scheme 66B (*vide supra*). In the current report, it is remarkable that no additional changes other than the introduction of the alkyne reagent into the reaction pot is able to effect the exchange reaction, illustrating the perfect compatibility between these two catalytic systems. In all, it was shown that two distinct synergistic catalysis can be run in a relay manner utilizing a single pair of transition metal catalysts in a single pot.

### 16.2. Miscellaneous Synergistic Cu/Fe Dual Catalysis

**16.2.1. Boration of Aryl Bromides with Pinacolborane.** Cyclic arylboronic esters can be prepared *via* Cu-catalyzed boration of aryl iodides with pinacolborane (HBpin) at room temperature.<sup>220</sup> However, use of aryl bromides require expensive Pd catalysts and higher reaction temperatures.<sup>221</sup> To overcome this limitation, Chavant and co-workers disclosed Fe/Cu-catalyzed boration reaction of aryl bromide **504** with pinacolborane **505**, yielding cyclic boronic ester **506** under exceptionally mild conditions, which even allowed for the selective monoboration of substrates such as *m*- and *p*-dibromobenzene (Scheme 70).<sup>216</sup>

### Scheme 70. Synergistic Cu/Fe Dual Catalysis for Boration of Aryl Bromides with Pinacolborane



Mechanistically, the authors proposed a low-valent Fe, generated by reduction of  $Fe(acac)_3$  with HBpin, inserting into aryl-bromide bond of **504** results in formation of catalytically activated Fe complex **507** (Scheme 70B). Meanwhile, the interaction between Cu catalyst and HBpin **505** in the presence of strong base leads to the deprotonation of HBpin followed by the attack of the boron onto the Cu center generating boryl-copper intermediate **508**. Transmetalation

between **507** and **508** results in the regeneration of Cu catalyst along with the formation of Fe complex **509**, which following reductive elimination affords the desired product **506** with regeneration of the Fe catalyst.

**16.2.2.** Synthesis of 6-Substituted 7-Deazapurines and the Corresponding Nucleosides. Purine nucleoside derivative, 6-substituted 7-deazapurines are classically prepared from its aryl halide precursors *via* Suzuki–Miyaura cross-coupling reaction with boronic acids under Pd (or Ni) catalysis. These metals in trace amounts however, compromise vital antiviral or antitumoral activity which are associated with nucleoside derivatives of purine bases. Herdewijn and co-workers therefore envisioned a cross-coupling process utilizing nontoxic and cheap Cu/Fe catalysts to prepare 6-chloro-7-deazapurines and its ribonucleosides **510** *via* reaction of aryl halides **511** with Grignard reagent **512**, reasoning erroneous biological data due to trace Pd or Ni contamination can then be avoided (Scheme 71).<sup>217</sup> In the reported reaction mechanism,





starting 6-chloro-7-deazapurine **511** undergoes oxidative addition into low-valent Fe species **513** to form alkenyliron species **514**. Transmetalation with organocopper **515** forms diorganointermediate **516**, which upon reductive elimination, affords the desired product **510** and regeneration of the lowvalent iron species. The authors screened selected 6-substituted 7-deazapurine nucelosides against various cancer cell lines, where some compounds displayed up to deca-nanomolar cell proliferation inhibitory activity.

### 17. SYNERGISTIC Cu/Ag DUAL CATALYSIS

### 17.1. Carbohydroxylation of Arylalkenes with Allylic Alcohols

Use of two different coinage metals to accomplish synergistic catalysis is highly attractive as they are relatively inexpensive and abundant. Recently, Bao and co-workers reported direct carbohydroxylation of aryl alkenes **517** with allylic alcohol **518**, adding an olefin and a hydroxyl moiety across the double bond (Scheme 72).<sup>222</sup> This unprecedented transformation was

### Scheme 72. Synergistic Cu/Ag Dual Catalysis for Direct Carbohydroxylation of Arylalkenes with Allylic Alcohols



realized through Cu/Ag synergistic catalysis, which to our knowledge is notably rare in the scientific literature. The reaction yields synthetically useful 4,5-unsaturated alcohol 519 in good yields. Because of the nature of the metal catalysts, the reaction tolerates presence of Cl, Br, and functional groups such as carbonyl and chloromethyl. The authors propose the following reaction mechanism (Scheme 72B): first, the active Cu catalytic species  $[L_nCu(I)S_n]^+$  **520** and active Ag catalytic species [ArCOOAg] 521 is generated from precatalysts  $Cu(MeCN)_4PF_6$  and AgSbF<sub>6</sub>, respectively. The reaction of Cu catalyst 520 with allylic alcohol 518 in the presence of Bronsted acid yields  $\eta^3$ -allyl copper(III) carboxylate 522 as the catalytically active species. In the silver cycle, 521 coordinates to arylalkene 517 to give intermediate 523, which undergoes hydration reaction to furnish catalytically active silver species 524. Key intermolecular hydrogen-bond interaction between 522 and 524 gives rise to intermediate 525, which undergoes intramolecular nucleophilic substitution-like reaction to give Cu complex 526 with the newly forged C-C and C-O bond. Final ligand exchange regenerates the Cu catalyst while yielding the desired 4,5-unsaturated alcohol 519. The prepared 4,5unsaturated alcohols can potentially be utilized as synthons to access heterocycles such as tetrahydrofurans and tetrahydropyranes.

#### 18. SYNERGISTIC Au/Ag DUAL CATALYSIS

The pairing of gold catalysis with silver catalysts can be imagined as silver salts are commonly employed as halogen scavengers in Au(I)/Au(III) catalysis, showing that such gold-based systems at least tolerate the presence of silver. In some cases, Recent studies turned out silver act as a catalyst, achiving synergistic catalytic system.

#### 18.1. Alkynylation of Cyclopropenes

Hashmi and co-workers reported a direct alkynylation of cyclopropene **527**, utilizing alkynyl hypervalent iodine reagent **528** under Au/Ag synergistic catalysis to afford coupled product **529** (Scheme 73).<sup>223</sup>

Scheme 73. Synergistic Au/Ag Dual Catalysis for Alkynylation of Cyclopropenes Using Alkynyl Hypervalent Iodine Reagents



The stated impetus of this work is the rarity of Au/Ag cocatalyzed reactions. In this context, mechanistic studies have been carried out to implicate a clear, Au-bound intermediate alongside an Ag-bound intermediate which undergoes a transmetalation reaction. Reported substrates are restricted to diester containing cyclopropenes. The proposed reaction mechanism is as follows: First, the active gold catalyst 530 undergoes coordination-oxidative addition into hypervalent idodine 528 to afford 531. Subsequently, the alkoxy anion is transferred onto the silver in a ligand-exchange reaction, which activiates the C-H bond of cyclopropene 527 to afford silverbound cyclopropene salt 522 as the catalytically active species. Cyclopropene is then transferred onto the gold, yielding 532 and thereby completing the silver catalytic cycle. Final reductive elimination of gold complex 532 affords the alkynated product 529.

### 18.2. Dehydrogenative Cross-Coupling Reaction between Pyrazoles and Fluoroarenes

Although pyrazole derivatives find importance in drug discovery, realization of site-selective C–C coupling *via* traditional catalysis is difficult due to highly coordinating ability of the nitrogen atom. Recently, Zhu and co-workers thought to exploit the unique functional group tolerance of gold toward hetroatoms such as nitrogen to realize a highly selective cross-dehydrogenative coupling reaction between pyrazole **533** and fluoroarene **534** to yield cross-coupled product **535**. Critically, it was found that use of Ag(I) cocatalyst was essential in activating the C–H bond of the electron-poor arene (Scheme 74).<sup>224</sup>

Scheme 74. Synergistic Au/Ag Dual Catalysis for Dehydrogenative Cross-Coupling



As shown in Scheme 74B, silver salts are used to catalyze the activation of the most acidic C–H bond of the fluoroarene **534** *via* silver-promoted, concerted metalation–deprotonation mechanism, selectively furnishing Ag–Ar<sup>Fn</sup> species **536**. Transmetalation between **536** and [AcOAu-pyrazole] then takes place, affording Ar<sup>Fn</sup>-Au(I) intermediate **537** (detected by <sup>19</sup>F NMR) and completing the silver catalytic cycle. Ar<sup>Fn</sup>-Au(I) **537** is oxidized by PIDA to form Ar<sup>Fn</sup>-Au(II) intermediate, which then activates C–H bond of *N*-phenylpyrazole, furnishing Ar<sup>Fn</sup>-Au(III)-Ar complex **538**. Subsequent reductive elimination completes the gold catalytic cycle and produces the desired biaryl product **535**.

# 18.3. Synergistic Au/Ag Dual Catalysis Previously Thought to Be Operating under Monocatalysis

Traditionally, it was often thought that use of silver salts in gold catalysis was required to generate the active  $[L-Au]^+$  species from [L-AuCl]. The side product AgCl was thought as an innocent bystander.

Shi and co-workers however removed the AgCl "side product" from reaction mixtures operating under Au catalysis and showed that without the silver species, the reactions are often disadvantaged or severely retarded.<sup>225</sup> The authors therefore suggest that many of the reaction mechanisms involving homogeneous gold(I) catalysis should be revised to include actions of silver. In this provocative report, four previously reported monocatalytic Au catalysis are shown to be operating under Au/Ag "bimetallic catalysis" (termed synergistic catalysis in this review), although the exact nature of the intermediates or

metal complexes are not proposed (Scheme 75). In all cases, the synergistic nature of Au/Ag dual catalysis was validated

#### Scheme 75. Synergistic Au/Ag Dual Catalysis for Reactions Previously Considered to Be Operating under Au Monocatalysis

<b>A.</b> Zha	A. Zhang's Tandem 3,3-rearrangement/Nazarov reaction								
		[cat.]							
	Et Me	dry CH	2Cl <sub>2</sub> , rt						
	only gold	only silver	gold + silver						
cat.	1% [PPh <sub>3</sub> Au] <sup>+</sup> ·SbF <sub>6</sub>	5% AgSbF <sub>6</sub>	1% PPh <sub>3</sub> AuCl/AgSbF <sub>6</sub> 1% [PPh <sub>3</sub> Au] <sup>+</sup> ·SbF <sub>6</sub> + 1% AgSbF <sub>6</sub>						
yield	24 h, 0%	24 h, 0%	0.5 h, 74% 4 h, 64%						
<b>B.</b> Tos	ste's 5- <i>endo-dig</i> ca	rbocyclization of	acetylenic dicarbonyl compounds						
		[cat.]	OMe						
	MeU	CH <sub>2</sub> CI	2, rt						
	Ť								
	only gold	only silver	gold + silver						
cat.	1% [PPh <sub>3</sub> Au] <sup>+</sup> ·SbF <sub>6</sub>	5% AgSbF <sub>6</sub>	1% PPh <sub>3</sub> AuCl/AgSbF <sub>6</sub> 1% [PPh <sub>3</sub> Au] <sup>+</sup> SbF <sub>6</sub> + 1% AgSbF <sub>6</sub>						
yield	24 h, 0%	24 h, 0%	0.5 h, 88% 4 h, 73%						
<b>C</b> . Tos	ste's olefin cyclopro	opanation							
	OAc	[cat.]							
PI	h 🔨 † 🖡	h CH <sub>3</sub> NG	$D_2$ , rt						
	only gold	only silver	gold + silver						
cat.	5% [PPh <sub>3</sub> Au] <sup>+</sup> ·SbF <sub>6</sub>	10% AgSbF <sub>6</sub>	5% PPh <sub>3</sub> AuCl/AgSbF <sub>6</sub> 5% [PPh <sub>3</sub> Au] <sup>+</sup> SbF <sub>6</sub> + 5% AgSbF <sub>6</sub>						
yield	24 h, 0%	24 h, 0%	0.5 h, 67% 4 h, 65%						
<b>D</b> . Тоз	ste's Isomerization	of 1,5-Enyne into	Bicyclo[3.1.0]hexenes						
	Ph I	[cat.]							
		CH <sub>2</sub> CI	2, rt						
	only gold	only silver	gold + silver						
cat.	1% [PPh <sub>3</sub> Au] <sup>+</sup> ·BF <sub>4</sub>	5% AgBF <sub>4</sub>	1% PPh <sub>3</sub> AuCl/AgBF <sub>4</sub> 1% [PPh <sub>3</sub> Au] <sup>+</sup> ·SbF <sub>6</sub> + 1% AgBF <sub>4</sub>						
yield	4 h, 0%	4 h, 0%	10 min, 95% 30 min, 92%						

experimentally by carefully removing either the Au or Ag species and showing that without the copresence of both species, the reaction fails to take place in its entirety, which is contrary to the original mechanistic hypothesis put forward with the reported reactions. The reactions reviewed which undergoes a form of Au/Ag catalysis are Zhang's cyclopentenone synthesis (Scheme 75A),<sup>225,226</sup> Toste's cyclopentene synthesis (Scheme 75B),<sup>225,227</sup> Toste's olefin cyclopropanation (Scheme 75C),<sup>225,228</sup> Toste's 1,5-enyne isomerization into bicyclo[3.1.0]hexanes (Scheme 75D).<sup>225,229</sup> This report serves to highlight not only the power of synergistic catalysis but also the importance of being prudent and unassuming when elucidating catalytic cycles and reaction mechanisms of novel systems.

### 19. SYNERGISTIC Au/Mg DUAL CATALYSIS

#### 19.1. Asymmetric Synthesis of 6,6-Spiroketals

6,6-Spiroketal is an important motif commonly found in natural products.<sup>230,231</sup> It is also considered a "privileged scaffold" in medicinal chemistry.<sup>232</sup> Despite its importance, until recently there were limited methods known for enantioselective

construction of the spirocenter found in sprioketals, which at this time are (a) use of chiral acids in cyclization of diol containing ketones<sup>233</sup> or (b) use of chiral iridium complexes from allylic-containing alcohols.<sup>234</sup> Recently, Feng and coworkers disclosed Au/Mg synergistic catalysis for enantiose-lective synthesis of 6,6-spiroketal **539** from  $\beta$ , $\gamma$ -unsaturated  $\alpha$ -ketoester **540** and  $\beta$ -alkynyl ketone **541**. This reaction hinged on the intermolecular, asymmetric [4 + 2] cycloaddition between achiral gold-containing dienophile and chiral *N*,*N'*-dioxide-Mg<sup>II</sup> complex, which enables excellent asymmetric induction (Scheme 76).<sup>235</sup> In the proposed reaction mechanism,  $\beta$ -alkynyl

Scheme 76. Synergistic Au/Mg Dual Catalysis for Asymmetric Synthesis of 6,6-Spiroketals



ketone **541** first undergoes Au<sup>III</sup> mediated 6-endo-dig oxocyclization to afford Au-containing carbonyl ylide **542**, which undergoes deprotonation to generate gold-bound alkene **543**. Meanwhile,  $\alpha$ -ketoester **540** undergoes complexation with chiral Mg(OTf)<sub>2</sub>/L-RaPr<sub>3</sub> to afford second catalytically activated species **544**. Subsequent [4 + 2] cycloaddition and affords goldbound spiroketal intermediate **545**, which upon final protonation furnishes desired product **539**. A slightly different reaction mechanism involving [4 + 2] cycloaddition between enol derived from Au-activiated alkyne and **544** followed by intramolecular cycloisomerization was also proposed by the authors.

#### 20. SYNERGISTIC Ti/Ru DUAL CATALYSIS

#### 20.1. Trichloromethylation of N-Acyl Oxazolidinones

Zakarian and co-workers developed stereoselective trichloromethylation of titanium oxazolidinone enolates using trichloromethyl radicals generated by a ruthenium catalyst (Scheme 77).<sup>236</sup> Traditionally, titanium complexes are preformed stoichiometrically before reaction with an amine base as it was





thought that the irreversible formation of an inactive titanium– amine complex must be prevented. Following this reasoning, Zakarian and co-workers established a stoichiometric titanium/ catalytic ruthenium process for the successful direct chloroalkylation of titanium enolates and applied this technology in the synthesis of halogenated natural products.<sup>237,238</sup> While performing mechanistic studies on this process, it was discovered that this process could also occur while using substoichiometric quantities of the titanium catalyst.

Although NMR studies suggested that the degree of enolization was significantly reduced when using substoichiometric amounts of titanium, the crossover experiments showed that the titanium catalyst could be rapidly exchanged between two different N-acyl oxazolidinones, implicating catalyst turnover without the formation of the feared inactivating titaniumamine complex. Additionally, when examining different amine bases, the inhibitory effects of the amine base was observed to be confined to Hünig's base; both sterically less hindered triethylamine and the more sterically hindered 1,2,2,6,6pentamethylpiperidine (PMP) did not show the presumed inhibitory effect. Further studies where the amine base and the titanium catalyst were deliberately premixed demonstrated that while the titanium-amine complex can decrease the conversion of the reaction, its formation is reversible. As such, following mechanism for this synergistic dual transition metal process was proposed (Scheme 77B). Complexation of the titanium catalyst with N-acyl oxazolidinone 546 followed by enolization forms biradical titanium-enolate species 547 as the catalytically activated species. Meanwhile, single electron transfer (SET) from ruthenium(II) catalyst to BrCCl<sub>3</sub> provides the trichloromethyl radical 548 as the second catalytically activated species. Radical addition of 548 to titanium enolate 547 furnishes titanium(III) complex 549. After the rapid transfer of the titanium to another molecule of substrate, single electron transfer between titanium(III) and ruthenium(III) would

regenerate the catalysts and liberate trichloromethylated product **550**.

### 21. SYNERGISTIC Ti/Ni DUAL CATALYSIS

#### 21.1. Asymmetric Ring-Opening Reaction of Epoxides with Aryl Halide Derived Nucleophiles

Building upon their previous work on regiodivergent (racemic) epoxide openings mediated by Ni monocatalysis,<sup>239</sup> Weix and co-workers utilized Ti/Ni dual catalysis for enantioselective ring-opening of *meso*-epoxide **551** with aryl/vinyl halide **552** to form chiral aryl/vinyl alcohol **553** (Scheme 78).<sup>240</sup>

# Scheme 78. Synergistic Ti/Ni Dual Catalysis for Preparation of Aryl-epoxide Cross-Coupled Product



This coupling is facilitated by stoichiometric Mn(0), and unlike typical enantioselective methods for meso-epoxide opening which involve harsh conditions and aryl lithium reagents, the title process tolerates a range of sensitive functionalities such as ketals, tosylates, trifluoromethyl groups, aryl chlorides, and nitriles. Vinyl bromides and triflates can also be used to afford cross-coupled products in moderate to good yield. In the proposed mechanism, the two catalysts interact not only to bring together their activated intermediates but also to adjust each other's oxidation state to maintain the catalytic cycle with the manganese, affording the overall reducing environment. The details follow: Initial enantioselective reaction of the Ti(III) catalyst 554 with the epoxide 551 affords  $\beta$ -Ti(IV)oxy-carbon radical 555, which can react with Ar-Ni(II) species 556 derived from oxidative addition of Ni<sup>0</sup> into 552 to form the Ti(IV)oxyorgano-Ni(III) species 557. Reductive elimination of the nickel and protonolysis of the titanium affords the desired product 553. Following the reduction of Ti(IV) by Ni(I), and Ni(II) by the manganese, the catalytic cycles can continue.

### 22. SYNERGISTIC Fe/Au DUAL CATALYSIS

### 22.1. Preparation of Heterocycles from Propargyl Substrates under Fe/Au Catalysis

Gold complexes are widely known to catalytically activate alkynes. Shi and co-workers utilized Fe/Au catalysis for the synthesis of aldehyde appended oxazoles **558**, benzofurans **559**, and indoles **560** from monosubstituted propargyl substrates (Scheme 79).<sup>241</sup>

Scheme 79. Synergistic Fe/Au Dual Catalysis for Synthesis of Heterocycles with Aldehyde Appendages



While the exact mechanism for these processes are unknown, experiments using <sup>18</sup>O<sub>2</sub> demonstrated that the gaseous oxygen from the atmosphere is incorporated into the aldehyde, and studies on the reaction kinetics ruled out the possibility of a tandem process, suggesting a synergistic interaction between vinyl gold intermediate **561** and an iron/O<sub>2</sub> radical species. In this manner, various propargyl amides **562** were reacted with oxygen gas to form the desired oxazole aldehydes **558** while releated *ortho*-propargyl phenols **563** furnished benzofurans **559** and *ortho*-propargyl anilines **564** produced indoles **560**.

### 23. SYNERGISTIC Fe/Zn DUAL CATALYSIS

#### 23.1. Asymmetric Cross-Coupling of Tetrahydroisoquinolines with Alkynes

Feng and co-workers developed a Fe(II)/Zn(II) catalyzed aerobic oxidative coupling of tetrahydroisoquinoline **565** with

terminal alkyne 566 to afford  $\alpha$ -alkynyl substituted chiral tetrahydroisoquinolines 567 (Scheme 80).<sup>242</sup>

#### Scheme 80. Synergistic Zn/Fe Dual Catalysis for Cross-Coupling of Tetrahydroisoquinolines and Alkynes



Although previously disclosed Cu-catalyst/O2 system enabled racemic aerobic oxidative coupling of tetrahydroisoquinolines with select nucleophiles,<sup>243</sup> the acetylene coupling partner proved problematic with Cu(I) or Cu(II) mono- or cocatalysis, resulting in unsatisfactory yields and low asymmetric induction. In synergistic Zn/Fe dual catalytic system shown in Scheme 80B, it was rationalized that selective action of zinc catalyst on deprotonated alkyne 566 could furnish chiral zinc acetylene 568 separate from the Fe-mediated oxidative process. In this context, iron-mediated aerobic oxidation of tetrahydroisoquinoline 565 afforded iminium intermediate 569 through the path A and/or path B. The enantioselective alkynylation of 569 is mediated by the chiral  $N_i N'$ -dioxide ligand L-RaPr<sub>3</sub> on the Zn(II) complex **568**, furnishing the desired  $\alpha$ -alkynyl substituted cross-coupled tetrahydroisoquinoline 567 with good asymmetric induction. Further transformations on 567 were demonstrated such as selective reductions of the alkyne bond and deprotection of the *N*-PMB group, showing potential synthetic utility.

#### 24. SYNERGISTIC Ir/Zn DUAL CATALYSIS

#### 24.1. Allylic Etherification

Iridium catalysis can complement palladium-mediated Tsuji– Trost allylation reaction by offering access to branched regioisomers. Lee and co-workers reported allylic etherification of aliphatic alcohol **570** with allylic carbonate **571** under Ir/Zn catalysis for preparation of allylic ether **572** (Scheme 81).<sup>244</sup> It is notable that, in the absence of Zn(II) and Ir(I) catalysts, these starting materials are normally considered inert to each other. The proposed reaction mechanism is as follows: In the presence of [Ir(COD)Cl)]<sub>2</sub> catalyst, the allylic *tert*-butyl carbonate **571** 

# Scheme 81. Synergistic Ir/Zn Dual Catalysis for Allylic Etherification



reacts to generate allyl Ir complex 573, alongside extrusion of carbon dioxide and tert-butoxide counteranion. Aliphatic alcohol 570 meanwhile reacts with zinc catalyst to afford zinc alkoxide 574, the formation of which is driven by a  $pK_a$ dependent equilibrium between 570 and zinc tert-butoxide. The nucleophilic addition of 574 onto 573 affords the desired product 572. The tert-butoxide counteranion regenerates zinc tert-butoxide to return Zn to its catalytic cycle. The poor direct reactivity of zinc tert-butoxide toward Ir complex 573 is essential in allowing the desired cross-coupling event to take place. For 1,2-disubstitued allylic carbonates, stoichiometric amounts of the zinc reagent was required, rendering such process monocatalytic. It was found that the use of enantiopure allylic carbonates led to significant scrambling of chirality, indicating a fast enantiofacial interconversion of the iridium intermediate relative to the nucleophilic addition of zinc alkoxide. In contrast to the disappointing stereochemical outcome, the reaction consistently displayed high regioselectivity.

#### 24.2. $\alpha$ -Allylation of $\alpha$ -Hydroxyketones

The enantioselective and diastereoselective construction of contiguous stereocenters are as useful as inherently challenging. Zhang and co-workers accomplished  $\alpha$ -allylation of unprotected  $\alpha$ -hydroxyketone 575 with allyl carbonate 576 to establish two new contiguous stereocenters of allylated 577 in a single step with high enantio- and diastereoselectivities, enabling access to all four possible stereoisomers (Scheme 82).<sup>245</sup> Mechanistically, chiral iridium complex prepared derived from [Ir(cod)Cl]<sub>2</sub> and the optically active phosphoramidite ligand La undergoes oxidative addition into allylic carbonate 576 to generate catalytically activated  $\pi$ -allyl Ir-complex, which independently sets the absolute configuration of C(2) stereocenter in 577.<sup>246</sup> The second catalytically activated species is formed from the reaction of  $\alpha$ -hydroxyketone 575 with the chiral zinc complex derived from  $Et_2Zn$  and chiral ligand  $Lb_2^{247}$  which avails itself as a zinc enolate, setting the stereogenic configuration at the C(3)position. Subsequent allylation of the zinc enolate with the aforementioned electrophilic  $\pi$ -allyl Ir-complex affords  $\alpha$ hydroxyketone 577 and regeneration of the catalysts. The

Scheme 82. Synergistic Ir/Zn Dual Catalysis for Allylic Alkylation of  $\alpha$ -Hydroxyketones



authors highlighted their work by showcasing a selective synthesis of all four possible diastereoisomers of 2-hydroxy-1,3-diphenylpent-4-en-1-one **578** through systematically varying the chirality of ligands (Scheme 82B).

Recently, the same group effected similar allylation mediated by synergistic Ir/Zn dual catalysts upon unprotected  $\alpha$ -hydroxy indanones, with similar mechanistic considerations.<sup>248</sup> By effectively installing two stereocenters independently from two distinctive, catalytically activated chiral species, an exceedingly powerful exploitation of dual transition metal synergistic catalysis have been demonstrated to effect asymmetric synthesis.

#### 25. SYNERGISTIC Ag/Sc DUAL CATALYSIS

Recently, Jiang and co-workers reported reaction between  $\beta$ alkynyl ketone 579 and various reaction partners such as ohydroxybenzyl alcohol 580,249 p-quinone methide 581, and quinone imine ketal 582 under synergistic Ag/Sc dual catalysis to effect different cyclization cascades, 250 selectively affording five different end products (Scheme 83 and Scheme 84). In the first instance,  $\beta$ -alkynyl ketone 579 was treated with ohydroxybenzyl alcohol 580 in the presence of AgTFA and Sc(OTf)<sub>3</sub> at 50 °C to afford 6,6-benzannulated spiroketals 583, a motif found in a wide class of natural products (Scheme 83).<sup>251</sup> As shown in Scheme 83B, it was proposed that *o*-hydroxybenzyl alcohol 580 undergoes a dehydration reaction in the presence of [Sc] catalyst to afford *o*-quinone methine intermediate 584. Meanwhile, o-alkynylated ketone 579 undergoes [Ag]-catalyzed 6-endo-dig cyclization to yield silver species 585, which upon proton transfer and release of the silver catalyst affords isochromene intermediate **586**. A [4+2] cycloaddition between 584 and 586 furnishes 6,6-benzannulated spiroketals 583. It was recognized that spiroketal product 583 could undergo a second

[4 + 2] cycloaddition with 584 to furnish the polycyclic compound 587. To effect this transformation, an excessive amount of starting o-hydroxybenzyl alcohol 580 was used and reaction temperature of the reaction was elevated to 80 °C. This facilitated the second [4 + 2] process with intermediate 584 to afford a wide range of end products represented by 587. Meanwhile, in the aforementioned reaction between 579 and 580, it was unexpectedly found that increased catalyst loading of [Sc] to 20 mol % and elevated reaction temperature of 100 °C led to formation of benzo[c] xanthenes 588. Under these reaction conditions, a wide range of benzo[c]xanthenes were prepared in good yield. Under the modified reaction conditions. a different synergistic Ag/Sc catalysis on starting o-alkynylated ketone 579 was enabled to effect a 6-endo-dig cyclization affording intermediate 589. Further proton-transfer and tautomerization yields key intermediate 590, which undergo [4 + 2] cycloaddition with the intermediate **584**, followed by dehydration to afford polycyclic 588.

The authors postulated that intercepting intermediate **590** with *p*-quinone methides **581** and quinone imine **582** would furnish benzo[*c*]xanthenes **591** and naphtho[1,2-*b*]benzofurans **592**, respectively (Scheme 84).<sup>250</sup> From aforementioned intermediate **590** prepared from synergistic Ag/Sc dual catalysis, [Sc]-catalyzed 1,6-addition of **581** yields intermediate **593**. Subsequent proton transfer and intramolecular oxo-nucleophilic addition affords **594**. Final deprotonation and dehydration sequence yields benzo[*c*]xanthenes **591**. For preparation of naphtho[1,2-*b*]benzofurans **592**, similar mechanistic considerations are in effect. [Sc]-catalyzed 1,4-addition of key intermediate **590** onto quinone imine **582** affords intermediate **595**. Subsequent proton-transfer yields species **596**, which undergoes *oxo*-cyclization followed by dehydration and disassociation of [Sc] to afford desired product **592**.

#### 26. SYNERGISTIC Ni/Co DUAL CATALYSIS

Unlike in examples of Ni/Pd catalysis described above, Ni/Co catalysis give witness to Ni(I) and Ni(III) species and modes of reactions mediated by radical chemistry.

#### 26.1. Hydroarylation of Olefins Using Iodoarenes

In 2016, Shenvi and co-workers disclosed a Markovnikovselective hydroarylation of terminal olefin **597** using iodoarenes **598** under Ni/Co dual catalysis to yield branch-selective crosscoupled product **599** (Scheme 85).<sup>252</sup> Although the reaction was designed with the rationale to create a carbon centered radical which was to be captured with an catalytically generated organonickel species, further mechanistic studies clarified that while an alkyl radical is generated from the olefin **597**, it is likely recaptured by the cobalt to form a cobalt intermediate **600**, which then reacts with the nickel intermediate **601** in a transmetalation process to furnish **602**, giving rise to an unambiguously conventional synergistic catalysis (Scheme 85B).<sup>253</sup>

The reaction readily tolerated presence of thiophenes and sulfides, which are functional moieties with the potential to arrest other types of metal catalysis typically seen in cross-coupling reactions. The authors do show that hydroalkylation is also possible when using iodopentane in place of iodoarenes, although the yield is poor. Later, a more effective hydro-alkylation procedure was disclosed by the authors, which relied on Ni/Mn dual catalysis (*vide supra*).<sup>254</sup> A limitation of this study was that only monosubstituted terminal olefins were tolerated due to disubstituted olefins readily undergoing

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Review

#### Scheme 83

A. Reaction conditions and substrate scope for preparation of 6,6-benzannulated spiroketals 583, hexacyclic spiroketals 587, and benzo[c]xanthenes 588.



unproductive allylic isomerization of the olefin. The authors rectified this shortcoming by disclosing a Fe/Ni dual catalysis strategy for hydroarylations of disubstituted olefins (*vide infra*).<sup>255</sup>

### 26.2. C(sp<sup>3</sup>)–C(sp<sup>3</sup>) Cross-Coupling Reactions of Alkyl halides and Alkyl Tosylates

Given the ubiquitous and prevalent nature of  $C(sp^3)-C(sp^3)$ linkages in organic molecules, many methods have been developed to forge such bonds, which traditionally involved organometallic reagents and monotransition metal catalysis.<sup>256</sup> Recently, modern methodologies such as C–H activation,<sup>257</sup> metallaphotoredox catalysis,<sup>258</sup> and creative use of radical chemistry have also been reported.<sup>259</sup> In this context, Osaka, Komeyama, and co-workers disclosed Ni/Co synergistic catalysis to react alkyl halides **603** with alkyl tosylates **604** to produce cross-coupled products **605** in the presence of a Mn reductant<sup>260</sup> (Scheme 86).

Although exact and detailed mechanism for the transformation are unknown, the following mechanism is proposed by the authors (Scheme 86B). First, the cobalt catalyst is derived from reduction of vitamin  $B_{12}$ , yielding a highly nucleophilic planar-cobalt species **606**, which activates tosylate in an  $S_N2$ type oxidative addition reaction to give alkyl-[Co] intermediate **607**. Meanwhile, [Ni<sup>1</sup>]-X catalyst is reduced by Mn to furnish zerovalent Ni species **608**. Transmetalation between **608** and **607** is triggered by a SET event from Ni to Co, which further leads to spontaneous cleavage of the Co–C bond and generation of the alkyl radical, which is captured by ther Ni, affording alkyl- $[Ni^{II}]$  **609**. Reduction of it by Mn affords alkyl- $[Ni^{I}]$  intermediate **610**, and subsequent oxidative addition into alkyl halide **603** affords dialkyl- $[Ni^{III}]$  **611**. Final rapid reductive elimination event forms cross-coupled product **605** and regeneration of the  $[Ni^{I}]$ -X catalyst **612**. Combination of halide and tosylate reaction partners were found to be essential compared to utilizing different halides such as bromide and a chloride, as in such cases homocoupling reaction were prevalent.

#### 27. SYNERGISTIC Ni/Fe DUAL CATALYSIS

#### 27.1. Hydroarylation of Alkenes

Extending the previously disclosed Ni/Co mediated hydroarylation of monosubstituted terminal olefins, the authors recently disclosed novel Ni/Fe dual catalysis to effect hydroarylation on trisubstituted and nonterminal olefins **613** with aryl iodide **614** to furnish arylated **615**, significantly expanding the utility of the transformation (Scheme 87).<sup>255</sup>

Iron catalyst **616** reacts with the silane **617** to generate an iron-hydride specie **618**. Hydrogen atom is then transferred to the olefin to furnish a key, carbon-centered radical intermediate **619**, which is trapped by the Ni catalyst **620** to afford **621**, which then undergoes oxidative addition into an aryl iodide **614** followed by reductive elimination of **622** to yield the desired cross-coupled product **615**. Presence of a catalytically active, radical species was confirmed by TEMPO adduct trapping experiments. Substrate scope of the reaction includes natural

### Scheme 84. Synergistic Ag/Sc Dual Catalysis for Preparation of Benzo[c]xanthenes and Naphtho[1,2-b]benzofurans



products and substrates usually not amendable for regioselective Fridel–Crafts or Minisci reactions. In addition to trisubstituted olefins, terminal mono and disubstituted olefins were also amendable under slightly modified reaction conditions to deliver the hydroarylated product.

### 28. SYNERGISTIC Ni/Mn DUAL CATALYSIS

#### 28.1. Markovnikov Hydroalkylation of Olefins

Recently, Shenvi and co-workers disclosed hydroarylation of unactivated alkenes *via* Ni/Co dual catalysis.<sup>252</sup> Attempted Ni/Co mediated hydroalkylation under the same conditions delivered desired alkylated product in low yields. To rectify this limitation, Shenvi disclosed a novel Ni/Mn dual catalytic strategy, which accomplished hydroalkylation of unactivated olefins **623** with alkyl iodide **624** in Markovnikov selectivity to yield **625** in good yields (Scheme 88).<sup>254</sup>

# Scheme 85. Synergistic Ni/Co Dual Catalysis for Markovnikov Hydroarylation of Olefins







The reaction is based on metal-catalyzed hydrogen atom transfer strategy,<sup>261</sup> where combination of a Mn catalyst **626** and silane **627** react to form a Mn-hydride **628** and transfers a hydrogen atom onto an olefin to generate an intermediary carbon centered radical **629**. Nickel catalyst **630** then traps the radical to afford Ni(I) species **631**, which upon further oxidative addition into alkyl halide **624** and following a subsequent reductive elimination sequence from **632** affords the desired alkylated compound **625**. Sterochemistry on alkyl iodides are well preserved and translated onto the product without racemization. Sterically congested alkyl halides, however, such as secondary alkyl iodides, proceed in the reaction with low yields due to competing protodehalogenation.

# Scheme 87. Synergistic Ni/Fe Dual Catalysis for Hydroarylation of Cyclic and Acyclic Alkenes



Scheme 88. Synergistic Ni/Mn Dual Catalysis for Markovnikov Hydroalkylation of Olefins Using Alkyl Iodides



#### 29. CONCLUSION AND OUTLOOK

From its beginnings in the Sonagashira reaction, synergistic dual transition metal catalysis have gained increasing prominence and importance. This has been especially evident in the past few years, where the new paradigm of using two different transition metal catalysts have been applied in an increasing number of novel (or improving previously known) chemical transformations, yielding increased reactivity, selectivity, and efficiency.

Although synergistic transition metal catalysis may be perceived to have inherent difficulties, such as ensuring catalyst compatibility and balanced kinetics in substrate selective activation, this review has illustrated these challenges could be overcome with the right combination of transition metal catalysts.

It is also clear that a vast array of different nucleophiles was inventively utilized in synergistic catalysis. However, the electrophiles are still limited to aryl/allylic halides and allylic carbonates. In this context, there may be significant areas of underexplored and underexploited reactivity which might be made accessible by the discovery of other electrophiles and methods of activation amendable to synergistic dual transition metal catalysis. Regardless, it is certain that many discoveries await, and the chemical community can look forward to many additional powerful transformations realized by dual transition metal synergistic catalysis.

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#### Notes

The authors declare no competing financial interest.

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Da Jung Jung was born in Seoul, South Korea. She studied at Ewha Womans University and received her B.Sc. (2013) and Ph.D. (2019) under the supervision of Professor Sang-gi Lee. Her doctoral research was focused on developing transition metal catalyzed one-pot tandem catalytic reactions including metal carbene transformations. In 2019, she joined National Research Foundation of Korea as a researcher. Hyun Ji Jeon was educated at Ewha Womans University for B.Sc. (2013), M.Sc. (2015), and Ph.D. degrees (2019) under the direction of Prof. Sang-gi Lee. Her doctoral research focused on transition metal catalyzed synergistic divergent catalysis and asymmetric catalysis. In 2019, she joined Professor Sukbok Chang's group as a postdoctoral researcher at Institute of Basic Science in Korea Advanced Instituted of Science and Technology (Daejeon, South Korea).

Kris Rathwell grew up in Coronation, Alberta, Canada. He was educated at the University of Alberta (B.Sc. Honors Chemistry, 2005) and at the University of Auckland (Ph.D. Organic Chemistry, 2010). His doctoral research focused on the synthesis of analogues of the nanaomycin family of antibiotics. His postdoctoral research at Ewha Womans University focused on catalysis and the synthesis of polyketide-*N*-acetylcysteamine thioesters pertaining to the biosynthesis of polyketide natural products.

Sang-gi Lee graduated from Kyungpook National University (B.Sc. 1982) and the Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (M.Sc. 1985) and worked at the Korea Institute of Science and Technology (KIST) as a Research Scientist (1990). After completing a Ph.D. from the University of Missouri at Columbia (1994), he joined KIST as a Principal Research Scientist until 2005. During this period, he did postdoctoral research at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (1998). In 2006, he joined the Department of Chemistry and Nano Science at Ewha Womans University as a Professor. His major research interests are homogeneous and heterogeneous catalysts.

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