# Magical Power of Transition Metals: Past, Present, and Future

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# How to Synthesize Any Organic Compounds in High Yields, Efficiently, Selectively, Economically, Safely

#### 1. Consider all usable elements (ca. 70).

Avoid (i) radioactive, (ii) inert, and (iii) inherently toxic elements.

- 2. If desirable and necessary, **consider their binary combinations** (ca. 5,000). (Two is Better than One!)<sup>a</sup>
- 3. Use metals for desirable reactivities.
- 4. Use transition metals mainly as catalysts.
  - <sup>a</sup> E. Negishi, *CEJ* **1999**, *5*, 411-420.





#### Effects of Product Yield and Number of Steps on Overall Yield

		Г		- Overall	Yield (%) -	]
Num	ber of Ste	eps 90% Ave	e. Yield	80% A	ve. Yield	70% Ave. Yield
	5	59	9		33	17
	<mark>10</mark>	35	5		11	3
	15	21	1		<mark>3.6</mark>	0.5
	20	12	2		1	0.1
	30	4			0.1	
	40	<mark>1</mark> .	5			
	50	0.	5			

"Step-economy" is of utmost importance !



#### Scope and Limitations of Uncatalyzed Cross-Coupling with Grignard Reagents and Organoalkali Metals



*Note*: Cu-promoted and Cu-catalyzed reactions have provided some satisfactory procedures. **Conventional Wisdom**: **Avoid Cross-Coupling! But, should we?** 

#### LEGO Game Approach to C—C Bond Formation via Pd-Catalyzed Cross-Coupling Reactions R<sup>1</sup>M + R<sup>2</sup>X <u>cat. PdL</u><sub>n</sub> → R<sup>1</sup>-R<sup>2</sup> + M—X (Thermodynamic sink!)

 $R^1$ ,  $R^2 = C$  group. See below. **M** = Mg, Zn, B, Al, In, Si, Sn, Cu, Mn, Zr, etc. **X** = I, Br, Cl, F, OTs, OTf, etc.

M & X = Regio- & stereo-specifiers, which permit a genuine LEGO Game avoiding addition-ELIMINATION !!!



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#### Why Metals?





C<sup>+</sup> -- short-lived, uncontrolled





Bottom line:



м—с

#### **Intermolecular Interaction in Donor-Acceptor Complexes** $\hat{A} \bigcirc B^{\delta^+} \longleftarrow$ :>B $A \leq$ $\Delta E_{int} = \frac{\Delta E_{es} + \Delta E_{ex}}{\Delta E_{ex}} + \Delta E_{pol} + \Delta E_{ct} + \Delta E_{c} + \Delta E_{dist}$ **Interaction** = Electrostatic + Exchange Repulsion + Polarization + Charge Transfer + Correlation + Geometry Distortion 150 Electrostatic Exchange 100 Polarization Charge-transfer Energy (kcal/mol Correlation 50 Distortion - Total 0 -50 -100 -150 2 3 5 R<sub>BN</sub> (Å)

Mo, Y.; Song, L.; Wu, W.; Zhang, Q. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2004, 126, 3974-3982.

## Why d-Block Transition Metals ?

#### Two Major Reasons (#1)

- I. Simultaneous Availability of Empty and Filled Non-bonding Orbitals (LUMOs and HOMOs)
  - **Note 1**: Strong Affinity toward  $\pi$ -Bonds Explained and Expected.
  - Note 2: Highly Reactive and yet Stable, and Reversible. ("Super-Carbenoidal")



- M. J. S. Dewar
- K. Fukui
- R. Hoffmann
- R. B. Woodward



Note: This has been applied to 1,5-diene synthesis as detailed later.

Note 3: Non-bonding Orbitals can be substituted with  $\sigma$ -Orbitals ("Elemento-metalation")

(These are available to main group metals as well. The only key requirement --- an empty orbital.)



The significance of **concerted synergistic** (HOMO-LUMO & HOMO-LUMO) bonding cannot be overemphasized.

#### Interactions between Two Coordinatively Unsaturated Metal Species



Bottom line: Two is better than one

## Genealogy of Pd-Catalyzed Cross-Coupling

#### **Several Independent Discoveries(1975-1979)**

Mg: S. I. Murahashi, N. Ishikawa,
J. F. Fauvarque (1975 & 1976)
(Following Mg-Ni version of Tamao, Kumada and Corriu, 1972)

- Al, Zn, Zr: E. Negishi (1976-1977)
- B: E. Negishi (1978) → A. Suzuki (1979)
- Sn: M. Kosugi (1977) → J. K. Stille (1978)

Other metals: Li, Na, K, Cu, In, Si, Mn

#### Negishi group contributions:

- 1. Co-discovery of Pd-Catalyzed Cross-Coupling
- 2. Discovery of Al, B, Zn, Zr, etc. as Effective Metal Countercations
- 3. Discovery of Hydrometallation—Cross-Coupling & Carbometallation—Cross-Coupling Tandem Reactions
- 4. Discovery of Double Metal Catalysis, especially with  $ZnX_2$
- Negishi, E., J. Organomet. Chem. 2002, 653, 34.
- Negishi, E., Ed., Handbook of Organopalladium Chemistry for Organic Synthesis 2002, Wiley, Part III, pp 285-1119.



#### ⇒"Last" Synthesis of Amphotericin B C21-C37 Fragment



G. Wang, S. Xu, Q. Hu, F. Zeng, E. Negishi, Chem. Eur. J. 2013, 19, 12938-12942.

## ⇒"Last" Synthesis of Amphotericin B C21-C37 Fragment



G. Wang, S. Xu, Q. Hu, F. Zeng, E. Negishi, Chem. Eur. J. 2013, 19, 12938-12942.

#### Total syntheses of mycolactones A and B

## Synthesis of Triprotected Side-Chain of Mycolactone A



G. Wang, N. Yin, E. Negishi, *Chem. Eur. J.* **2011**, *17*, 4118 - 4130. N. Yin, G. Wang, E. Negishi, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2006**, *45*, 2916-2920. Alkyne Elementometalation–Pd-Catalyzed Negishi Coupling Tandem Processes.

Highly ( $\geq 98\%$ ) Selective Synthesis of All Stereosiomers of 2,4,6-Trienoic Esters



G. Wang, S. Mohan, E. Negishi. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA, 2011, 108, 11344-11349.

Alkyne Elementometalation–Pd-Catalyzed Negishi Coupling Tandem Processes.

Highly ( $\geq 98\%$ ) Selective Synthesis of All Stereosiomers of 2,4,6-Trienoic Esters



Cond. I: 1% PEPPSI, THF, 23 °C, 12 h

G. Wang, S. Mohan, E. Negishi. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA, 2011, 108, 11344-11349.

Alkyne Elementometalation–Pd-Catalyzed Negishi Coupling Tandem Processes.

Highly ( $\geq 98\%$ ) Selective Synthesis of All Stereosiomers of 2,4,6-Trienoic Esters



G. Wang, S. Mohan, E. Negishi. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA, 2011, 108, 11344-11349.

#### ALKYNE ZMA-Pd-CATALYZED ALKYL-ALKENYL COUPLING: LEGO GAME ROUTE TO COQ<sub>10</sub>



# CAN WE POSSIBLY SYNTHESIZE THESE NATURAL POLYOLEFINS BY THE ZIEGLER-NATTA POLYMERIZATION?



Nature does it, but.....

# Zr-Catalyzed Asymmetric Carboalumination of Alkenes (ZACA Discovery)



Early Contributions

- Kondakov, D. Y.; Negishi, E., 1995 JACS 10771, 1996 JACS 1577.
- Huo, S.; Negishi, E., 2001 OL 3253.
- Huo, S.; Shi, J.; Negishi, E., 2002 ACIE 2141.

Contributions by Others

- Erker, G. et al. 1993 JACS 4590
- Wipf, P.; Ribe, S. 2000 OL 1713

# Zr-Catalyzed Asymmetric Carboalumination of Alkenes (Solvent Effect)



Kondakov, D. Y.; Negishi, E. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1996, 118, 1577-1578.

## WHAT CAN HAPPEN IN THE FOLLOWING REACTIONS?



(ii) Polymerization (iii) Cyclic carbozirconation

# **The Importance of Organometallic Functionality**



Catalytic asymmetric C–C bond formation

> One-point-binding without requiring any other functional groups

Organometallic functionality with many potential transformations

# STATISTICAL ENANTIOMERIC AMPLIFICATION



Bottom Line (No. 3): (a) Cleverly exploit the statistical enantiomeric amplication principle.

#### It's mathematical (or statistical)

If each step is 80%ee (90/10),

Enantiomers  
(9R + 1S) (9R + 1S) = 81R,R + 18 R,S (S,R) + 1S,S  
Diastereomers  

$$\frac{R,R}{S,S} = \frac{81}{1} \quad \therefore \text{ Enantiomeric Excess} = \frac{81-1}{81+1} = \frac{80}{82} = 0.976 \quad \approx 98\% ee$$
(9R + 1S)<sup>n</sup> = 9<sup>n</sup> x R<sup>n</sup> +  $\Sigma$ (All Cross Terms) + 1<sup>n</sup> x S<sup>n</sup>  
Diastereomers  

$$\frac{n \quad ee (\%)}{1 \quad 80}$$
2 98 (= 97.6)  
3 99.97  
5 99.997

## Pd-Catalyzed Cross-Coupling Reaction of TBSO



<sup>*a*</sup>**A**: 5% Pd(DPEphos)Cl<sub>2</sub>, 10% DIBAL-H, THF-ether, 23 °C, 12 h; **B**: 5% Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>, THF-ether, 23 °C, 12 h; **C**: 5% Pd(DPEphos)Cl<sub>2</sub>, DMF-THF-ether, 23 °C, 12 h; **D**: 5% Pd(DPEphos)Cl<sub>2</sub>, THF, 23 °C, 12 h. <sup>*b*</sup>Zincation: <sup>*t*</sup>BuLi (2.1 equiv), and then dry ZnBr<sub>2</sub> (0.6 equiv)

B. Liang, T. Novak, Z. Tan, E. Negishi, J. Am. Chem. Soc. , 2006. 128, 2770-2771.

#### Synthesis of (2*R*,4*R*,6*R*,8*R*)-2,4,6,8-Tetramethyldecanoic Acid, The Acid Component of Preen-Gland Wax of Graylag Goose, *Anser Anser*



B. Liang, T. Novak, Z. Tan, E. Negishi, J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2006, 128, 2770 – 2771.

#### **LEGO Game Route to Yellow Scale Pheromone**



<sup>a</sup> (-)-ZACA =  $Me_3AI(3.0 \text{ equiv})$ , 1 mol % (-)-(NMI)<sub>2</sub>ZrCl<sub>2</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>O(0.5 equiv), CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 23 <sup>o</sup>C, 5 h

<sup>b</sup> OAc(5 equiv), Amano PS lipase (30 mg/ mmol)

Z. Xu, E. Negishi, Org. Lett. 2008, 10, 4311-4314.

#### Lipase-Catalyzed Kinetic Resolution of Enantiomeric Mixtures



#### Preparation of (S)-2-Methyl-1-alcohols (≥98% ee) from Enantiomeric Mixtures

Initial ee <sub>o</sub> (%)	$E^{[a]}$	Max. yield (%) <sup>[a</sup>	a,b]	Initial ee <sub>o</sub> (%)	$E^{[a]}$	Max.	
0 (racemic)	100 90	<u>≤</u> 2 0		70	100 50	yield (%) <sup>[a,b]</sup>	<u>≤</u> 85 ~80
20	100 80 60	≤35 ~20			30 20 10		~80 ~25 0
50	100 50 40 30	≤70 ~55 ~25 0		80	100 30 20 10		≤90 ~85 ~70 0
60	100 50 30 20	<u>&lt;</u> 80 ~65 ~25		90	100 20 10 5		≤95 ≤95 80 0

(adopted from C. J. Sih's paper: JACS, 1982, 104, 7294)

Huang, Z.; Tan, Z.; Novak, T.; Zhu, G.; Negishi, E., Adv. Synth. Catal. 2007, 349, 539-545.

#### ⇒E Factors



Huang, Z.; Tan, Z.; Novak, T.; Zhu, G.; Negishi, E., Adv. Synth. Catal. 2007, 349, 539-545.

## Lipase-Catalyzed Kinetic Resolution of ZACA Products

R	AlMe <sub>3</sub> , cat.(-)-(NMI) Initial Yield	2ZrCl <sub>2</sub>	Me R Initial ee	Enzyme, Solven	vinyl acetate t, Temp.	e Me R J O Final e	H + R	OAc
R	Initial Yield (%)	Intial ee (%)	Enzyme	Solvent	Temp.( <sup>o</sup> C)	Conversion (%)	Recovery (%)	Final ee (%)
Ph	85	89	Amano PS	THF/H <sub>2</sub> O	23	22	68	93
			Amano PS	THF/H <sub>2</sub> O	23	50	43	96
			PPL	THF/H <sub>2</sub> O	23	31	62	99
PhCH <sub>2</sub>	85	76	PPL	THF/H <sub>2</sub> O	23	48	51	77
			Amano PS	THF/H <sub>2</sub> O	23	40	<mark>-59</mark>	99
Ph(CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	84	76	PPL	THF/H <sub>2</sub> O	23	30	64	99
			Amano PS	THF/H <sub>2</sub> O	23	38	56	99
<sup>n</sup> Hex	71	72	Amano PS	$CH_2CI_2$	0	44	52	98
CH <sub>2</sub> =CHCH <sub>2</sub>	NA	82	Amano PS	$CH_2CI_2$	0	19	76	98

Huang, Z.; Tan, Z.; Novak, T.; Zhu, G.; Negishi, E., Adv. Synth. Catal. 2007, 349, 539-545.

#### Enantiomeric Purification of (R) and (S) Isomers of 2-Methyl-1-alkanols



Huang, Z.; Tan, Z.; Novak, T.; Zhu, G.; Negishi, E., Adv. Synth. Catal. 2007, 349, 539-545.

#### ⇒How to Prepare Feebly Chiral Compounds of ≥99% ee



# General Strategy for Synthesis of Feebly Chiral 2-Alkyl-1-Alkanols of ≥99% ee



## ZACA Reaction of Allyl Alcohol

#### Asymmetric synthesis of (R)- and (S)-3-iodo-2-alkyl-1- alkanols 1

//	∕ОН	i) (+)-ZAC or (-)-Z/	$ACA R_2AI$		ii) I <sub>2</sub> ; ii) H <sub>2</sub> O <b>3</b>	I, S or R	ЭН
	Entry	R	Protocol <sup>[a]</sup>	Product	Yield <sup>[b]</sup> (%)	Purity of 1 (% ee <sup>[c]</sup> )	5 1
	1	Ме	I	(S)-1a	80	82	
	2	Ме	II	( <i>R</i> )-1a	81	84	Zr
	3	Et		( <i>S</i> )-1b	60	87	CI CI
	4	Et	IV	( <i>R</i> )-1b	62	88	(-)-(NMI) <sub>2</sub> ZrCl <sub>2</sub>
	5	<sup><i>n</i></sup> Pr		(S)-1c	59	82	or (+)-(NMI) <sub>2</sub> ZrCl <sub>2</sub>
	6	<sup><i>n</i></sup> Pr	IV	( <i>R</i> )-1c	60	80	

<sup>[a]</sup> Protocol I: i) Me<sub>3</sub>Al (2.5 eq), MAO (1 eq), 5%(+)-(NMI)<sub>2</sub>ZrCl<sub>2</sub> ii) I<sub>2</sub> (2.5 eq), THF Protocol II: i) Me<sub>3</sub>Al (2.5 eq), MAO (1 eq), 5%(-)-(NMI)<sub>2</sub>ZrCl<sub>2</sub> ii) I<sub>2</sub> (2.5 eq), THF Protocol III: i) R<sub>3</sub>Al (3.0 eq), IBAO (1 eq), 5%(+)-(NMI)<sub>2</sub>ZrCl<sub>2</sub> ii) I<sub>2</sub> (6 eq), Et<sub>2</sub>O Protocol IV: i) R<sub>3</sub>Al (3.0 eq), IBAO (1 eq), 5%(-)-(NMI)<sub>2</sub>ZrCl<sub>2</sub> ii) I<sub>2</sub> (6 eq), Et<sub>2</sub>O
<sup>[b]</sup> Isolated yield <sup>[c]</sup> Enantiomeric excess

#### **Lipase-Catalyzed Acetylation of (S)-3-Iodo-2-Alkyl-1-Alkanols**

I (S)-	→OH + -1 <sup>(4)</sup>	Lipase + 0 mg/ mmol)		R I (S)-1	$H + I \xrightarrow{R} OAc$ (R)-2
R = 1	Vle ( <b>1a</b> ), Et ( <b>1</b>	<b>b</b> ), <sup>n</sup> Pr( <b>1c</b> )		Major	Minor
Entry	Substrate	Initial purity of (S)-1 (% ee)	Lipase	Recovery of (S)-1 (%)	Purity of ( <i>S</i> )-1 (% <i>ee</i> )
1	(S) <b>-1a</b>	82	Amano PS	63	≥99 —► 50% yield from allyl alcohol
2	(S) <b>-1b</b>	87	Amano PS	72	96
3	(S)-1b	87	Amano AK	74	96
4	(S)- <b>1b</b>	87	Amano AK	60	≥99 —➤ 36% yield from allyl alcohol
5	(S)- <b>1c</b>	82	PPL	35	85
6	(S) <b>-1c</b>	82	Amano AK	74	94
7	(S) <b>-1c</b>	82	Amano AK	58	≥99 —> 34% yield from allyl alcohol
8	(S)-1c	82	Amano PS	74	92
9	(S)- <b>1c</b>	82	Lipase from Rhizomucor Miehei	. 34	80
10	(S)- <b>1c</b>	82	Lipase from Candida rugosa	59	83

### Lipase-Catalyzed Acetylation of (R)-3-Iodo-2-Alkyl-1-Alkanols

R = N	→OH + 1 <sup>(40</sup> //e (1a), Et (1	Lipase + 📉 0 mg/ mmol) <b>b</b> ), <sup>n</sup> Pr( <b>1c</b> )	OAc <u>THF</u>		OAc + I	R OH (S)-1 Minor
Entry	Substrate	Inital purity of ( <i>R</i> ) <b>-1</b> (% ee)	Lipase	Yield of ( <i>R</i> ) <b>-2</b> (%)	Purity of ( <i>R</i> ) <b>-2</b> (% e	e)
1	( <i>R</i> )-1a	84	Amano PS	60	<b>≥</b> 99 —	→ 49% yield from allyl alcohol
2	( <i>R</i> )-1b	88	Amano PS	52	<u>&gt;</u> 99	
3	( <i>R</i> )-1b	88	Amano PS	64	98	
4	( <i>R</i> )- <b>1b</b>	88	Amano PS	81	96	
5	( <i>R</i> )-1b	96	Amano PS	<b>62</b> <sup>[a]</sup>	<mark>≥</mark> 99 —	→ 38% yield from allyl alcohol
6	( <i>R</i> )-1c	80	Amano AK	50	<u>&gt;</u> 99	
7	( <i>R</i> )-1c	80	Amano AK	60	98	
8	( <i>R</i> )-1c	80	Amano AK	79	94	
9	( <i>R</i> )-1c	94	Amano AK	<b>60</b> <sup>[b]</sup>	<mark>≥</mark> 99 —	→ 36% yield from allyl alcohol

<sup>[a]</sup> Overall yield in two rounds of lipase-catalyzed purification (entry 4+5).

<sup>[b]</sup> Overall yield in two rounds of lipase-catalyzed purification (entry 8+9).

### **Synthesis of Feebly Chiral 2-Alkyl-1-alkanols**



#### **Synthesis of Feebly Chiral 2-Alkyl-1-alkanols**



[a] LiAlH₄ [b] Con. I: CuCl₂ (5 mol%),PhC≡CMe (15 mol%), RMgCl [c] i) Con. I; ii) KOH

## **Synthesis of Feebly Chiral 2-Alkyl-1-alkanols**





#### **Synthesis of (***R***)- and (***S***)-Arundic Acids**



# General Strategy for the Synthesis of Remotely Chiral (n+1)-alkyl-1-alkanols of $\geq 99\%$ ee, where $n \geq 2$



 $R^1$  = alkyl group,  $R^2$  = alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, or aryl group

 $R^1$  and  $CH_2R^2$  may be very similar

#### **Synthesis of Feebly Chiral 3-Alkyl-1-alkanols**



## **Synthesis of Feebly Chiral 4-Alkyl-1-alkanols**



## **Synthesis of Feebly Chiral 4-Alkyl-1-alkanols**



## **Synthesis of Feebly Chiral 5-Alkyl-1-alkanols**



#### Determination of ee by MaNP Ester



#### Acknowledgments

#### Pd- or Ni-Catalyzed C–C Bond Formation

1976-1980	Baba, S. King, A. O. Okukado, N. Kobayashi, M. Van Horn, D. E.	Valente, L. F. Silveira, A. Jr. Villani, F. J. Klima, W. L. Spiegel, B. I.	
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