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RESEARCH ARTICLE | ORGANIC CHEMISTRY



Palladium-catalyzed cross-coupling of alcohols with olefins by positional tuning of a counteranion

SVEN H. M. KASTER (D), LEI ZHU (D), WILLIAM L. LYON (D), RULIN MA, STEPHEN E. AMMANN (D), AND M. CHRISTINA WHITE (D) Authors Info & Affiliations

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Wenqian Miao 2025/01/18

Biography



M. Christina White

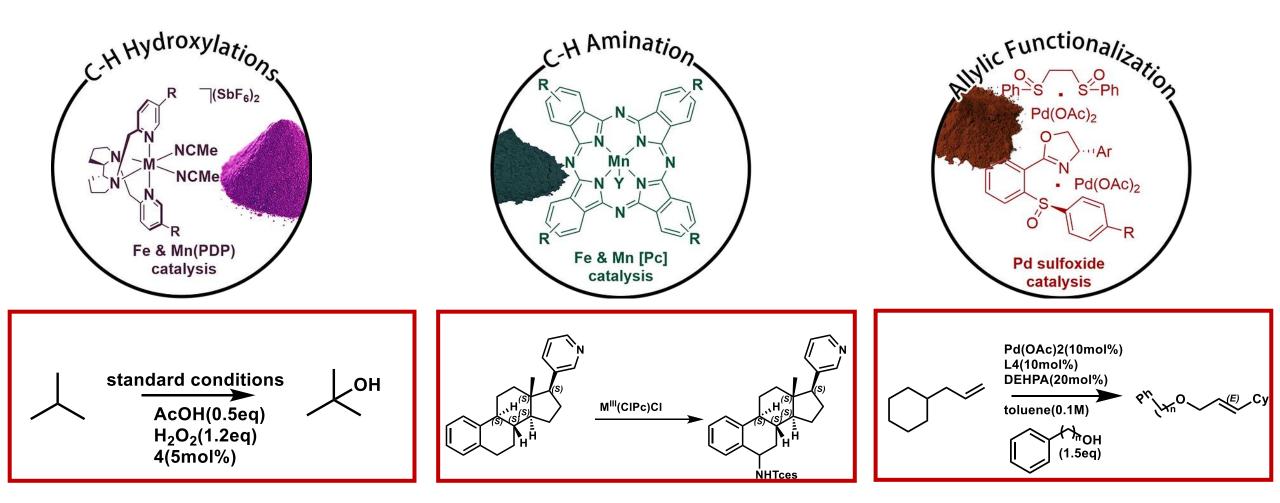
1992 She received her B.A. with highest honors in Biochemistry from Smith College

1998 She received her Ph.D. from Johns Hopkins University

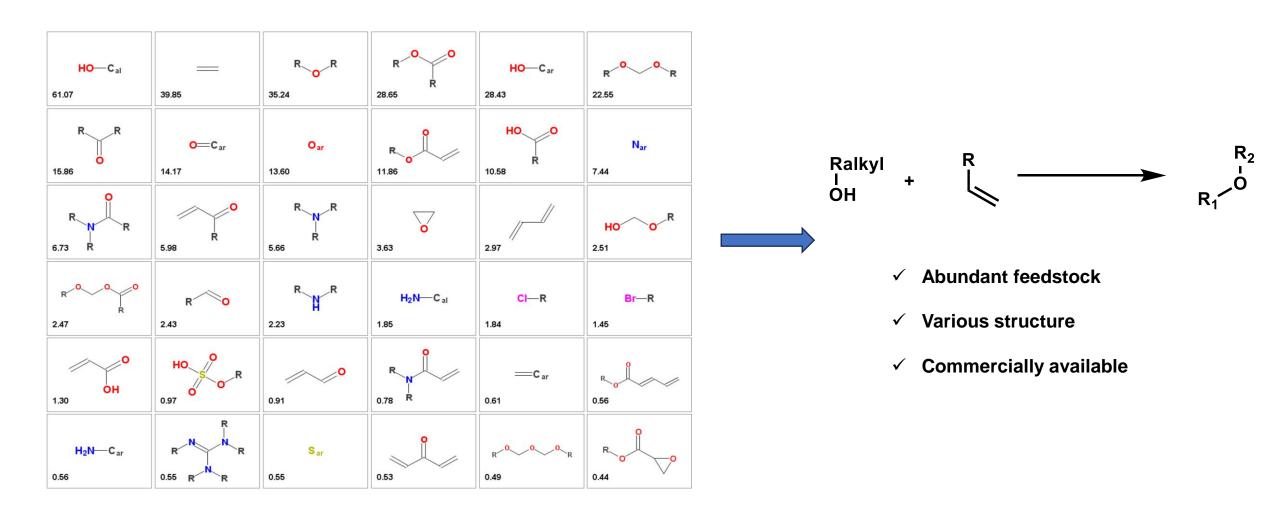
1999-2002 After a postdoctoral fellowship at Harvard University, she joined the faculty there in 2002

2005 She joined the faculty at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC)

Research



alcohols and olefins

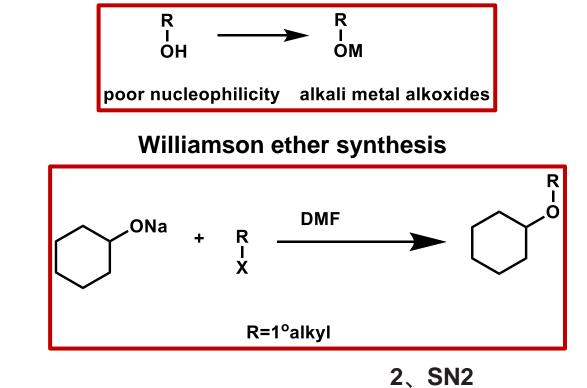


Most frequent functional groups found in natural products. The number indicates percentage of molecules having this group.

J. Nat. Prod. 82, 1258-1263 (2019).

Background

Williamson ether synthesis



1、the basicity of ROM

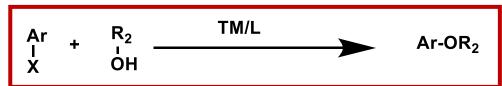
- **Undesirable E2 eliminations**
- Racemization
- Poor control of site selectivity in polyol settings

Poorly suited to furnishing ethers in sterically hindered

J. Sci. 37, 350–356 (1850)

Etherification

Transition metal-mediated crosscoupling

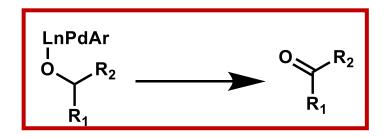


1、Forming C-O bond by reductive elimination is challenging



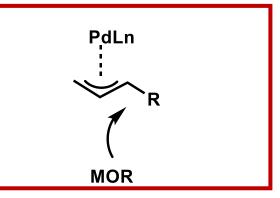
ArX:Ar with electron-withdrawing groups Ln:sterically hindered ligand

 $2_{\times} \beta$ -hydride elimination byproducts



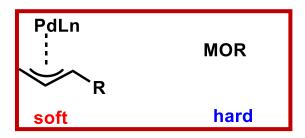
J. Am. Chem. Soc. 121, 3224–3225 (1999) Org. Lett. 22, 5369–5374 (2020).





1、 Undesirable E2 eliminations

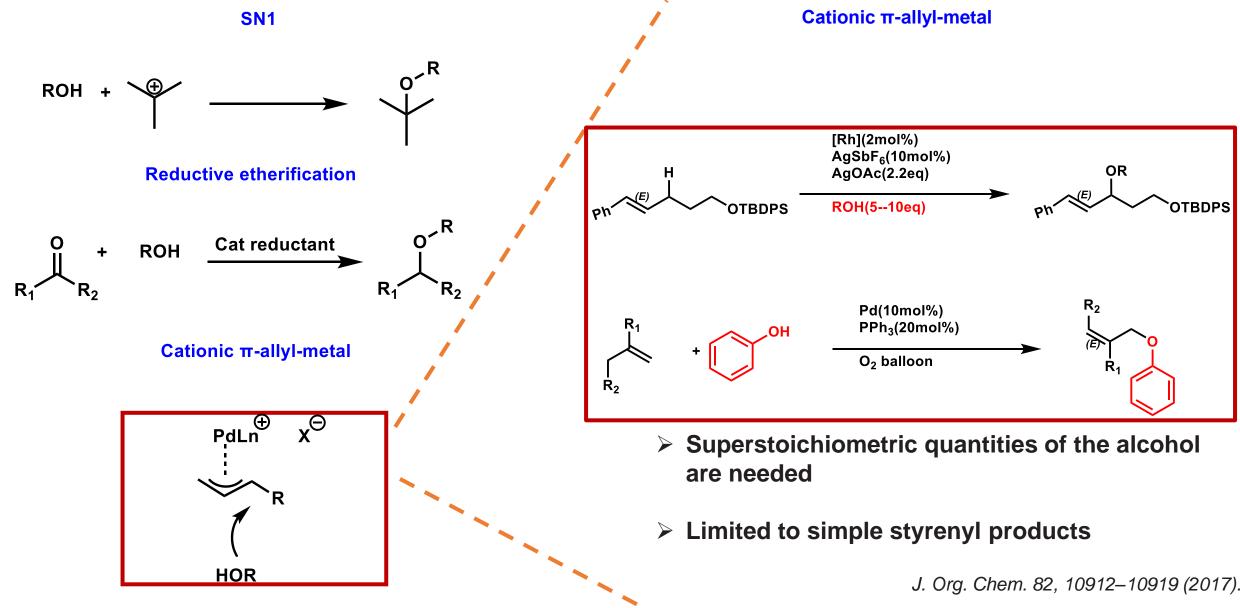
2、 mismatch between hard alkali metal alkoxide the relatively soft p-allyl transition metal electrophile



J. Am. Chem. Soc. 124, 7882–7883 (2002). J. Org. Chem. 50, 3558–3566 (1985).

Background

Unactivated alcohols



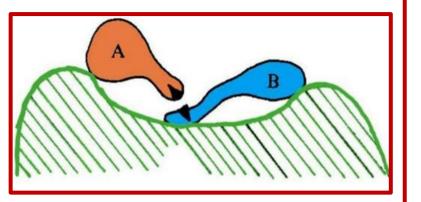
Nature 573, 398–402 (2019). J. Am. Chem. Soc. 139, 10224–10227 (2017)

Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 57, 14911–14915 (2018).

Hypothesis

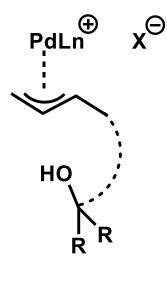
Hypothesis: Increasing the rate of the bimolecular C(sp³)–O bond formation step would be the fundamental challenge and key-----proximity and orientation

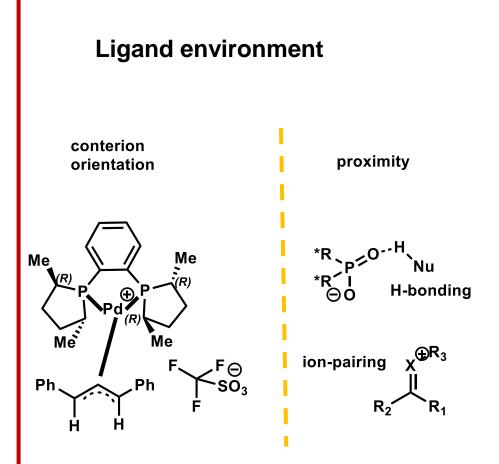




C. Walsh, Enzymatic Reaction Mechansims

Substrate-enforced proximity



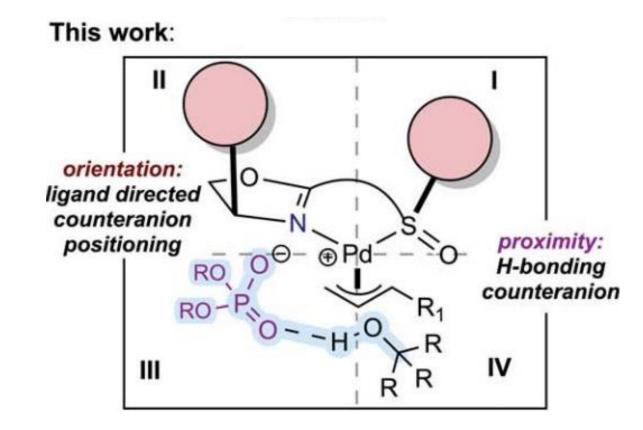


Chem. 44, 76–82 (2006). Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 43, 1566–1568 (2004).

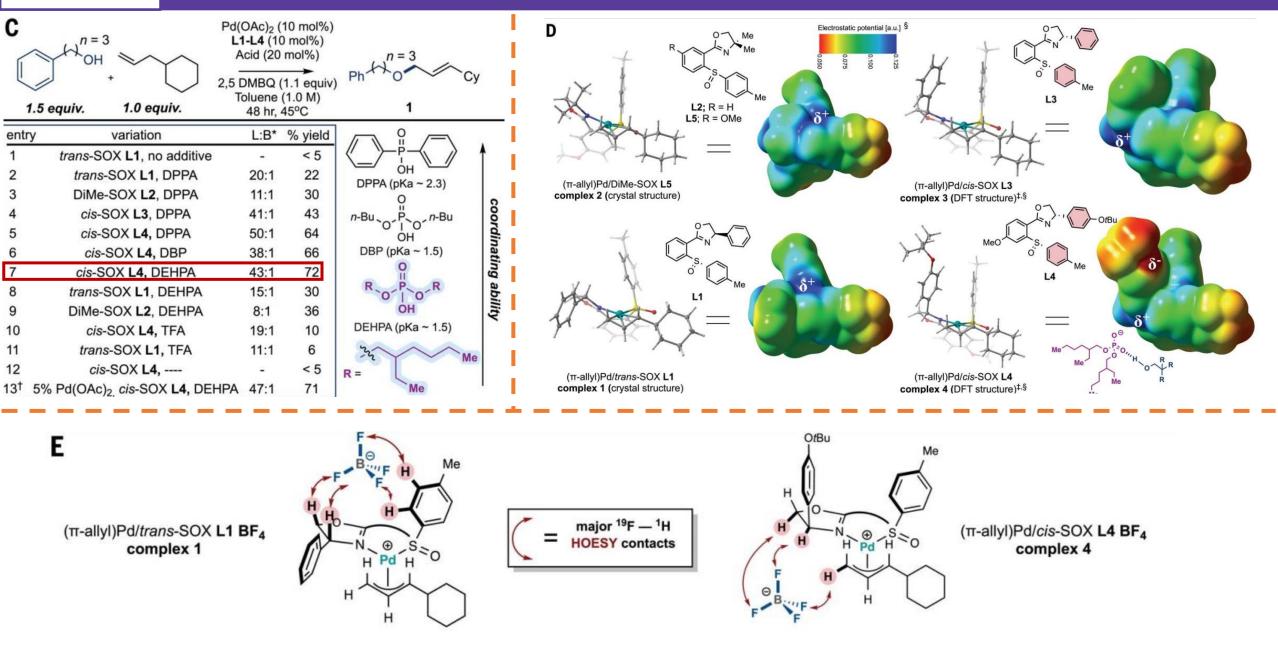
Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 55, 9571–9575 (2016).

Hypothesis

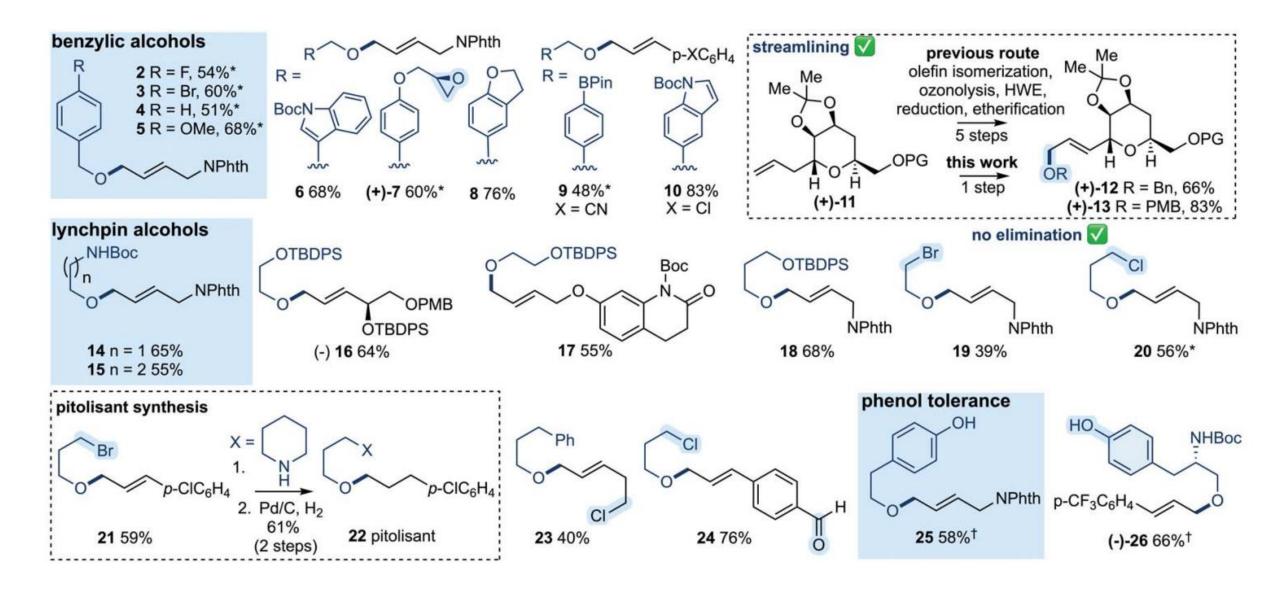
Hypothesis: Increasing the rate of the bimolecular C(sp³)–O bond formation step would be the fundamental challenge and key



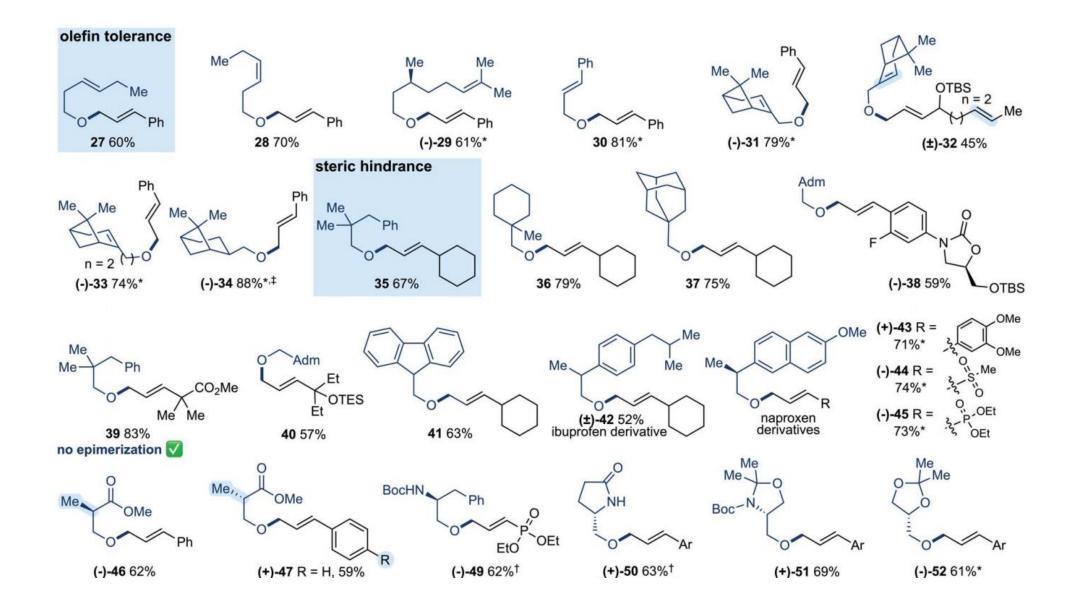
Catalyst development

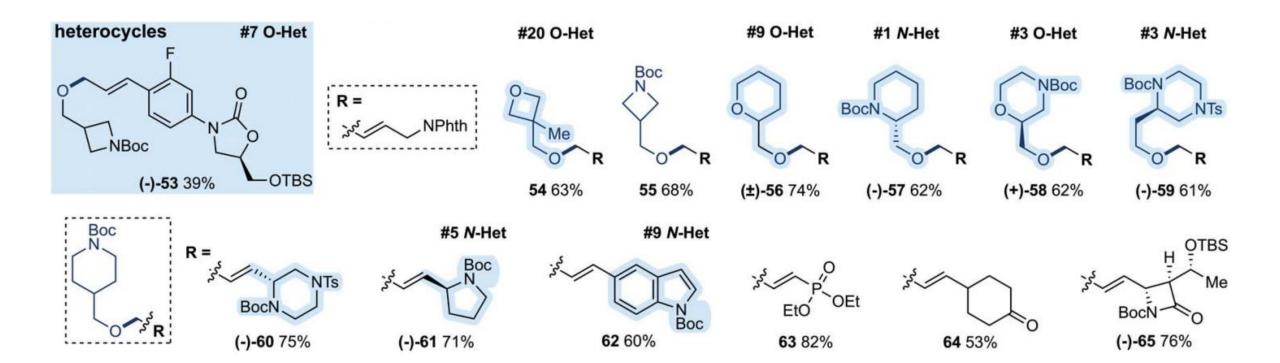


Substrate scope: primary (1°) alcohol

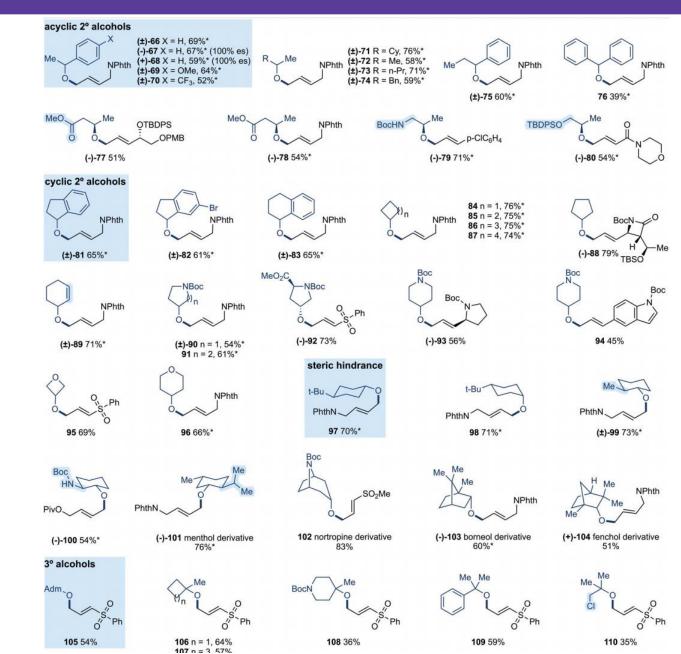


Substrate scope: primary (1°) alcohol

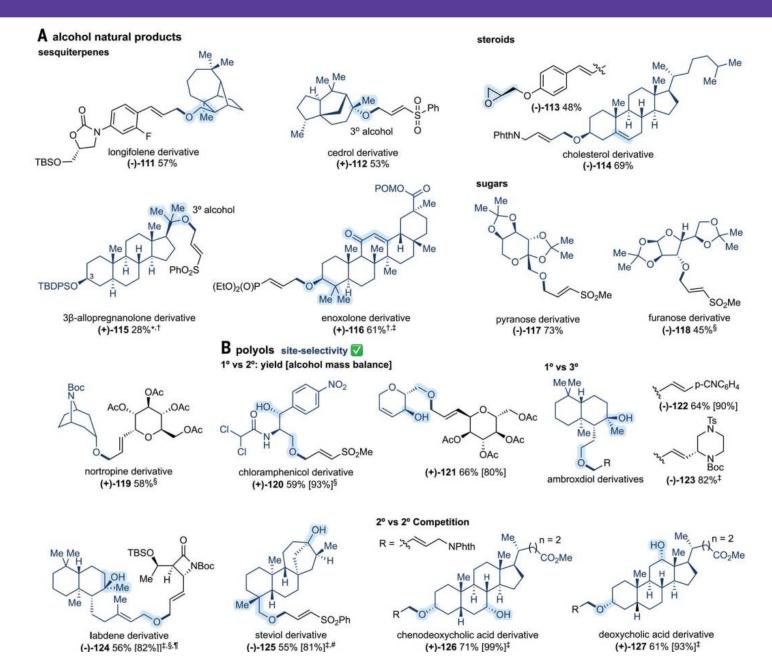




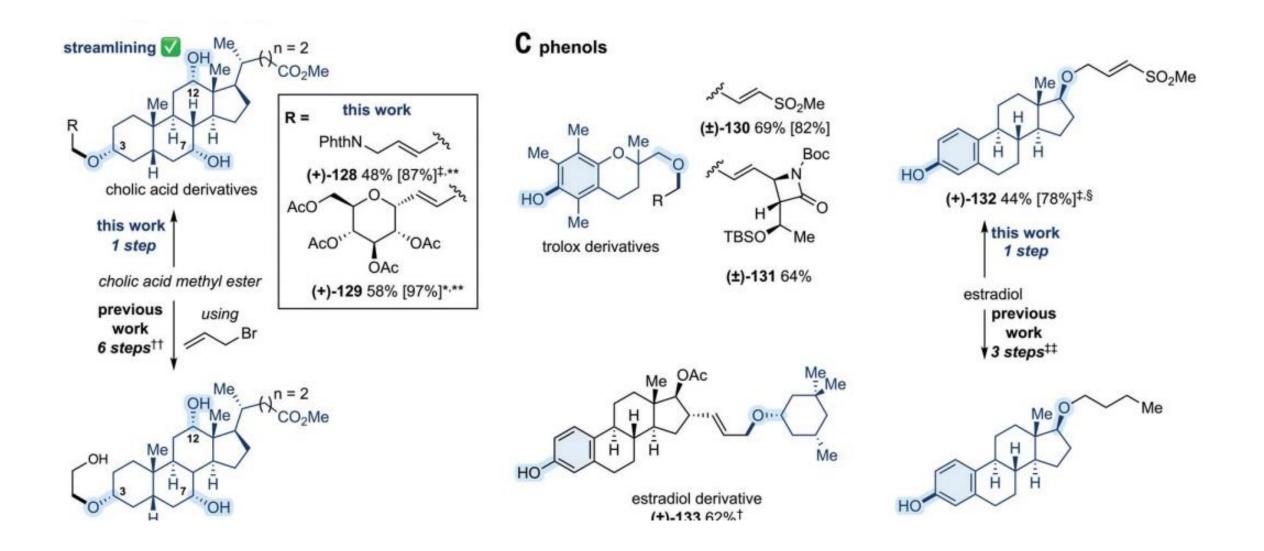
Substrate scope: secondary and tertiary alcohols



Result and discussion Substrate scope: natural product alcohols and polyols

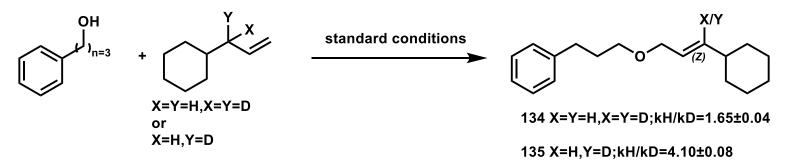


Result and discussion Substrate scope: natural product alcohols and polyols

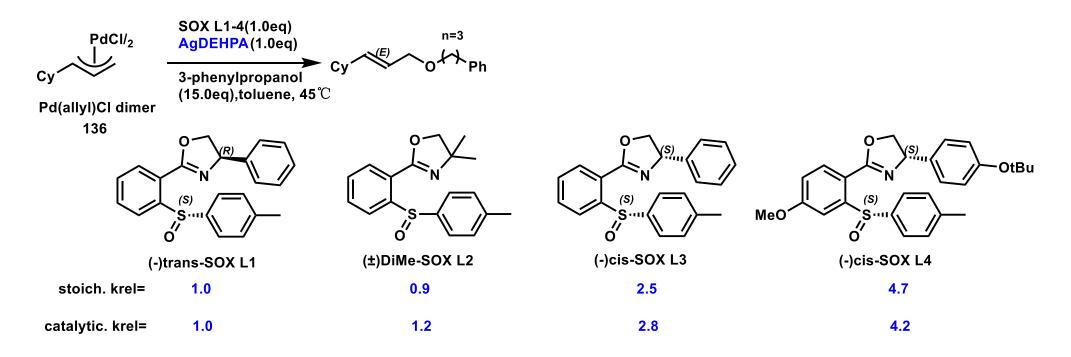


Mechanism

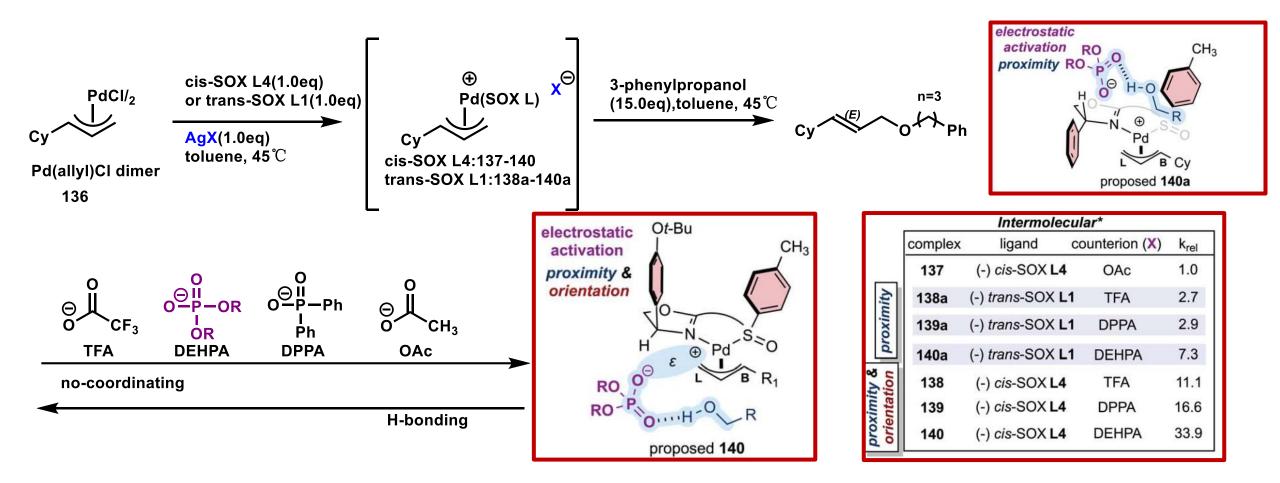
1 Intra- and intermolecular KIE



2、 The impact of ligand geometry on rate

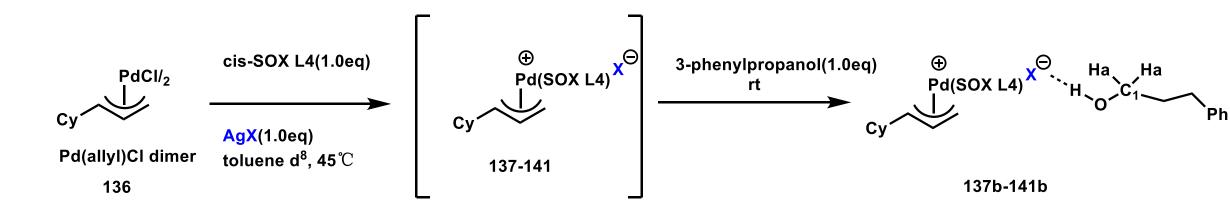


3、The effect of the counter anion on the rate



Mechanism

4、H-bonding between the counter anion and the alcohol nucleophile



¹³C-¹H coupling as a measure of H-bonding

	¹ Ј _{С1-На} †	$\Delta^{1}J_{C1-Ha}^{\dagger}$	
free alcohol	140.19 Hz (141.23 Hz)	0 Hz (0 Hz)	
137b OAc	139.71 Hz (140.96 Hz)	-0.48 Hz (-0.27 Hz)	
138b TFA	140.18 Hz (141.24 Hz)	-0.01 Hz (+0.01 Hz)	
139b DPPA	139.60 Hz (140.80 Hz)	-0.59 Hz (-0.43 Hz)	
140b DEHPA	139.20 Hz (140.75 Hz)	-0.99 Hz (-0.48 Hz)	
141b BF ₄	140.24 Hz (141.30 Hz)	+0.05 Hz (+ 0.07 Hz)	

effect of solvent polarity with 140 & 140b

solvent	ε‡	β‡	k _{rel}	$\Delta^1 J_{C1-Ha}$ §
DCM	8.93	0.10	1.0	-0.63 Hz
CHCI ₃	4.89	0.10	1.1	-0.48 Hz
toluene	2.38	0.11	3.9	-0.99 Hz
benzene	2.27	0.10	2.5	-0.88 Hz
dioxane	2.21	0.37	0.7	-0.13 Hz

Thank you for your attention