



Methylation Based on C-H Activation

Research Center for Molecular Recognition and Synthesis

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Supervisor: Prof. Shengming Ma

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2.1 Developed from **precious** metals: **Pd/Rh/Ru/Ir**

2.2 Developed from **cheap** metals: **Fe/Mn/Ni/Co**



3. Summary and Outlook



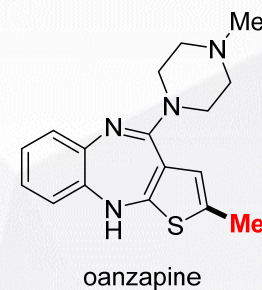
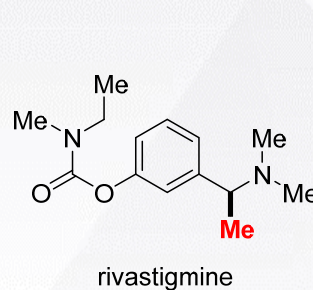
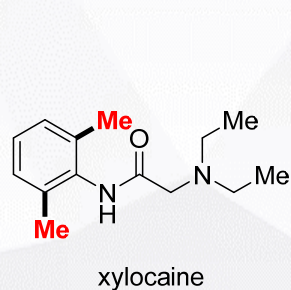
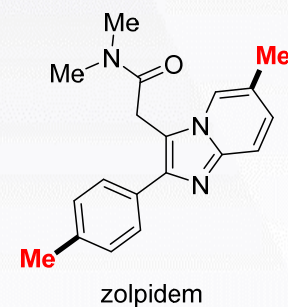
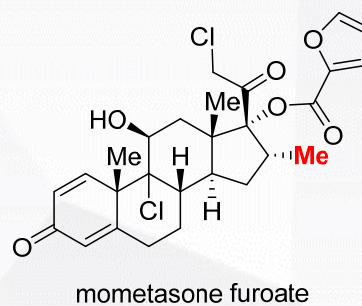
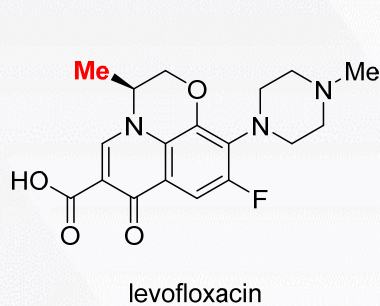
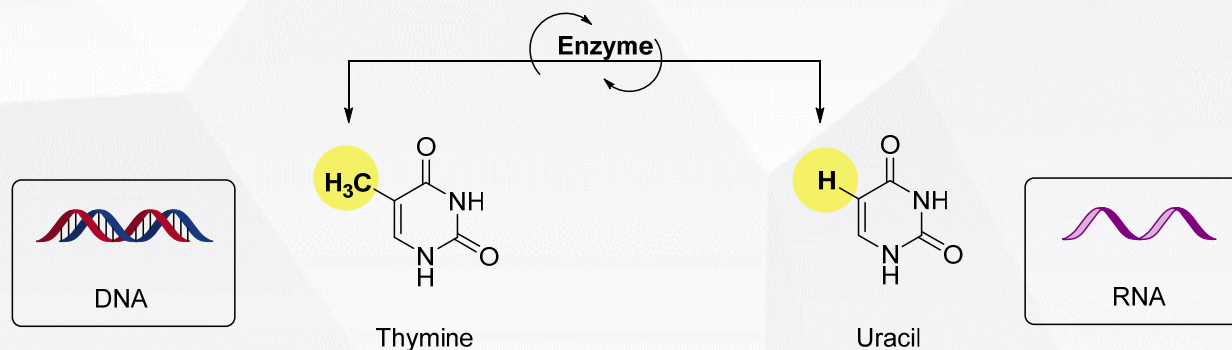
Background

Methyl & “magic methyl effect”



Background

Methyl & "Magic Methyl Effect"



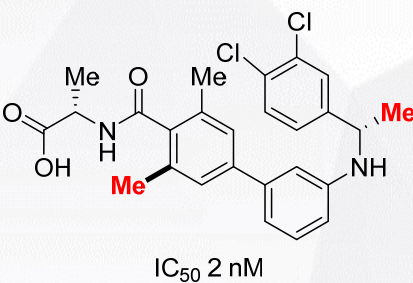
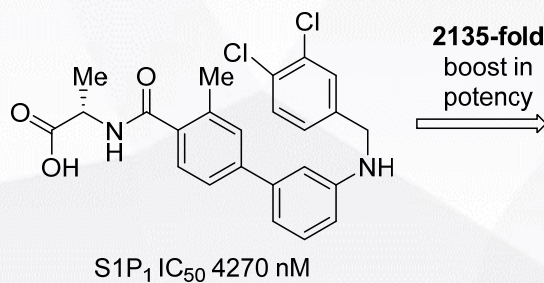
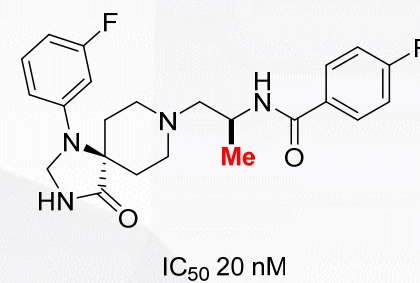
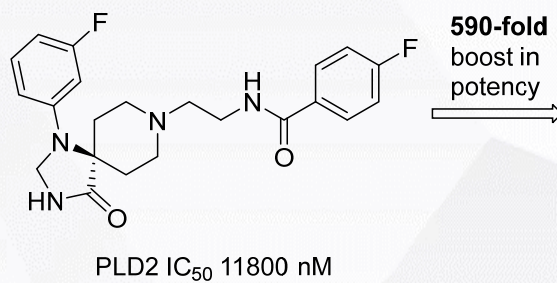
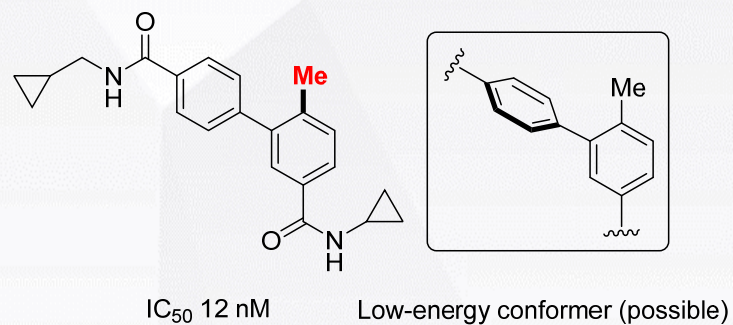
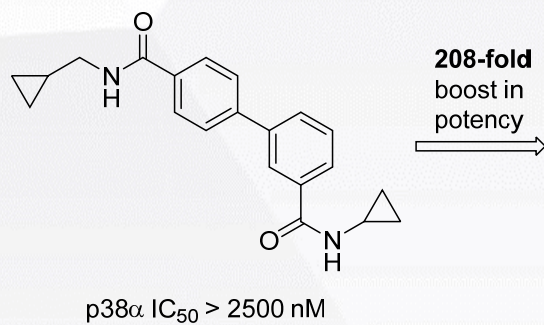
In 2018, 73% of top 200 small-molecule drugs by Retail Sales contain at least one methyl group.

- Cernak, T. et al. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2013**, 52, 12256-12267.
- Fraga, C. A. M. et al. *Chem. Rev.* **2011**, 111, 5215-5246.



Background

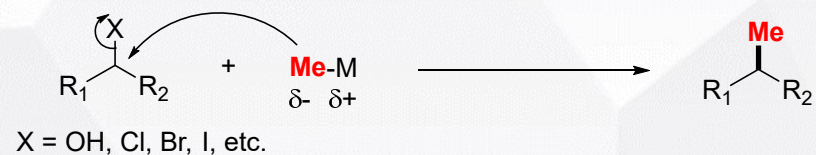
Methyl & "Magic Methyl Effect"



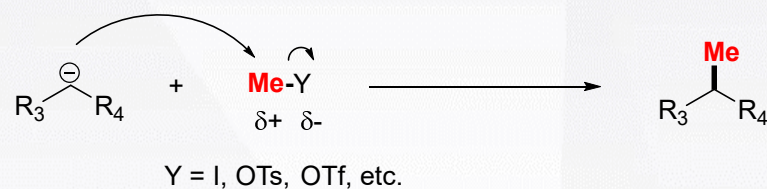


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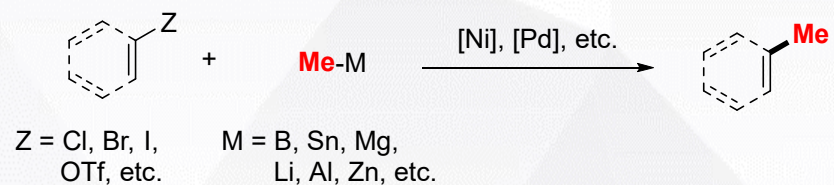
a) Methylation *via* Nucleophilic Substitution



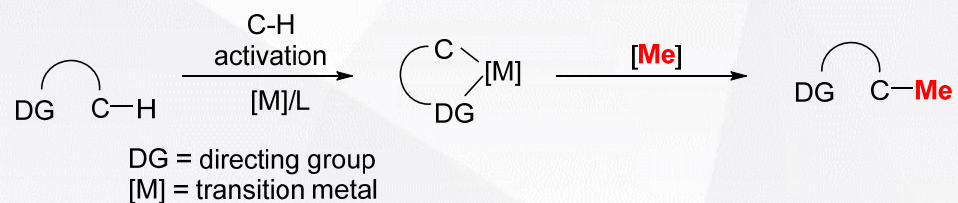
b) Methylation *via* Electrophilic Substitution



c) Methylation *via* Cross-coupling



d) Methylation *via* C-H Activation

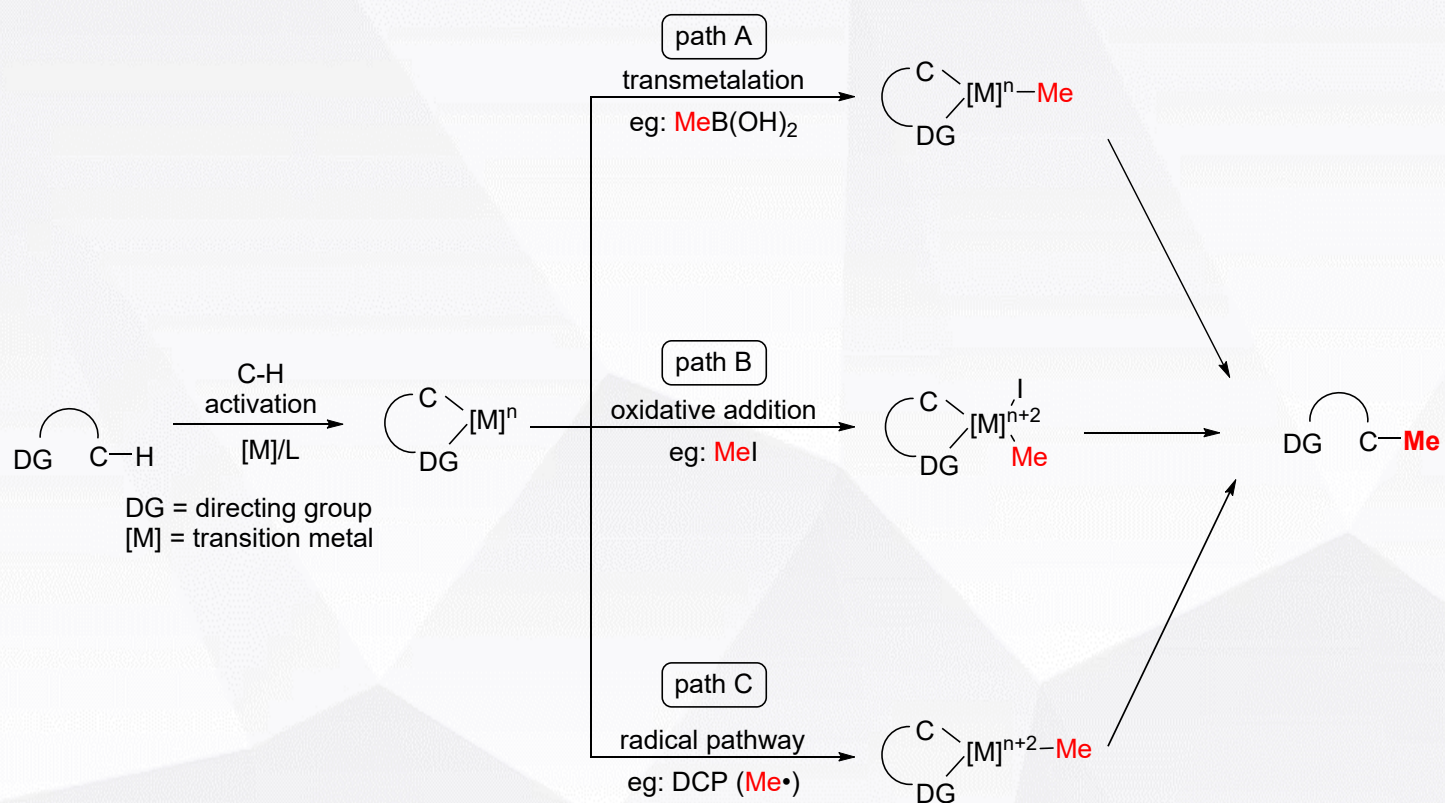


- ✓ *Straightforward*
- ✓ *Atom economic*
- ✓ *Efficient*
- ✓ *Late-stage modification*



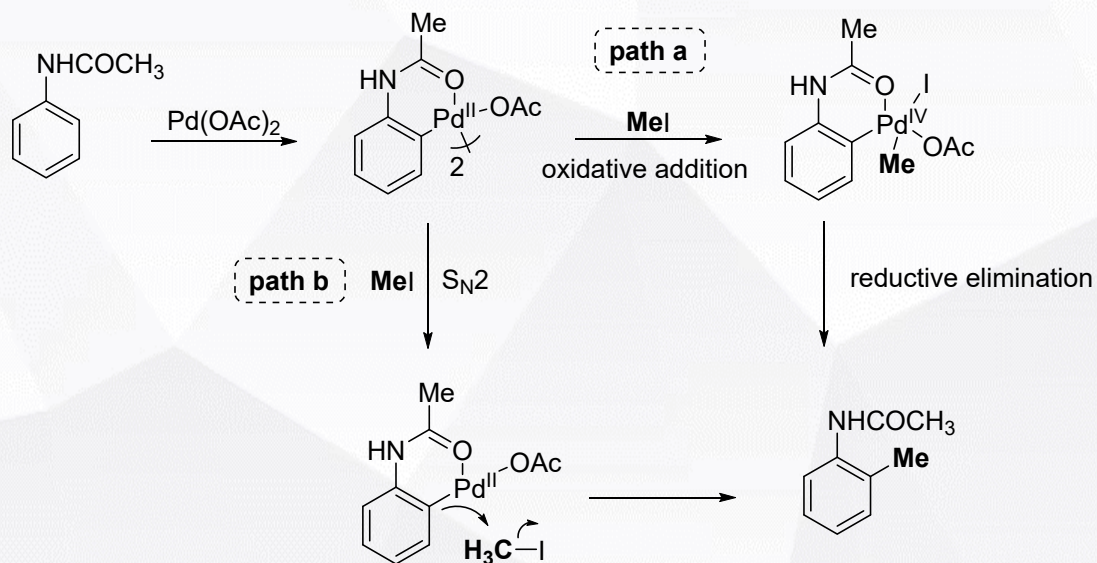
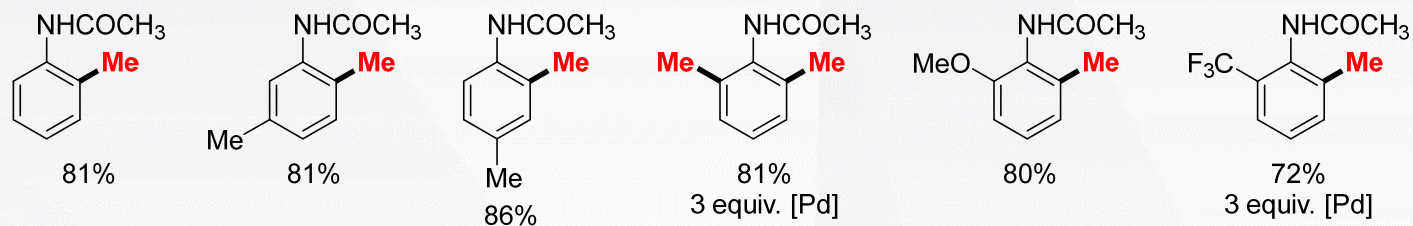
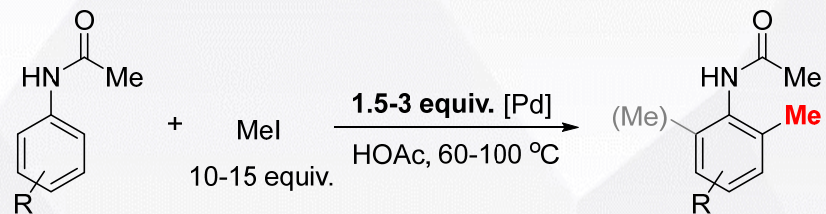
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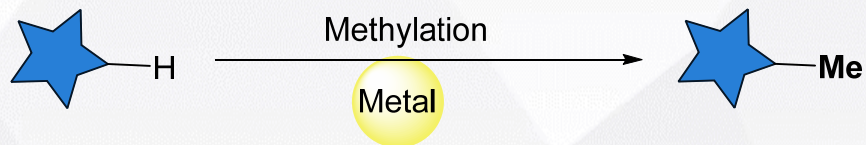
d) Methylation via C-H Activation



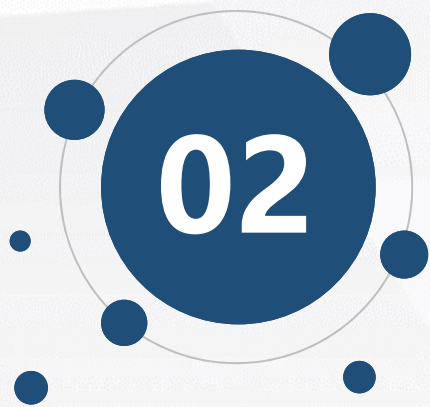


Background





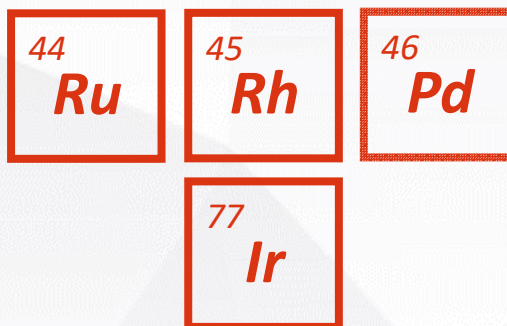
1 H hydrogen 1.008 [1.0078, 1.0082]																	18 He helium 4.0026						
3 Li lithium 6.94 [6.938, 6.997]	4 Be beryllium 9.0122	Key: atomic number Symbol name conventional atomic weight standard atomic weight																13 B boron 10.81 [10.806, 10.821]	14 C carbon 12.011 [12.009, 12.012]	15 N nitrogen 14.007 [14.006, 14.008]	16 O oxygen 15.999 [15.999, 16.000]	17 F fluorine 18.998	10 Ne neon 20.180
11 Na sodium 22.990	12 Mg magnesium 24.305 [24.304, 24.307]	3	4	25 Mn vanadium 50.942	26 Fe iron 55.845(2)	27 Co cobalt 58.933	28 Ni nickel 58.693	11 Cu copper 63.546(3)	12 Zn zinc 65.38(2)	13 Al aluminium 26.982	14 Si silicon 28.085 [28.084, 28.086]	15 P phosphorus 30.974	16 S sulfur 32.06 [32.059, 32.076]	17 Cl chlorine 35.45 [35.446, 35.457]	18 Ar argon 39.95 [39.792, 39.963]								
19 K potassium 39.098	20 Ca calcium 40.078(4)	21 Sc scandium 44.956	22 Ti titanium 47.867	23 V vanadium 50.942	24 Cr chromium 51.996	25 Mn manganese 54.938	26 Fe iron 55.845(2)	27 Co cobalt 58.933	28 Ni nickel 58.693	29 Cu copper 63.546(3)	30 Zn zinc 65.38(2)	31 Ga gallium 69.723	32 Ge germanium 72.630(8)	33 As arsenic 74.922	34 Se selenium 78.971(8)	35 Br bromine 79.904 [79.901, 79.907]	36 Kr krypton 83.798(2)						
37 Rb rubidium 85.468	38 Sr strontium 87.62	39 Y yttrium 88.906	40 Zr zirconium 91.224(2)	41 Nb niobium 92.906	42 Mo molybdenum 95.95	43 Tc technetium 98.9062(1)	44 Ru ruthenium 101.07(2)	45 Rh rhodium 102.9055(2)	46 Pd palladium 106.42(1)	47 Ag silver 107.8682(1)	48 Cd cadmium 112.41	49 In indium 114.82	50 Sn tin 118.71	51 Sb antimony 121.76	52 Te tellurium 127.60(3)	53 I iodine 126.90	54 Xe xenon 131.29						
55 Cs caesium 132.91	56 Ba barium 137.33	57-71 lanthanoids	72 Hf hafnium 178.49(2)	73 Ta tantalum 180.95	74 W tungsten 183.84	75 Re rhenium 186.21	76 Os osmium 190.23(4)	77 Ir iridium 192.22	78 Pt platinum 195.08	79 Au gold 196.97	80 Hg mercury 200.59	81 Tl thallium 204.38 [204.38, 204.39]	82 Pb lead 207.2	83 Bi bismuth 208.98	84 Po polonium	85 At astatine	86 Rn radon						
87 Fr francium	88 Ra radium	89-103 actinoids	104 Rf rutherfordium	105 Db dubnium	106 Sg seaborgium	107 Bh bohrium	108 Hs hassium	109 Mt meitnerium	110 Ds darmstadtium	111 Rg roentgenium	112 Cn copernicium	113 Nh nihonium	114 Fl flerovium	115 Mc moscovium	116 Lv livermorium	117 Ts tennessine	118 Og oganesson						



Methylation

Based on C-H Activation

Precious Metals:



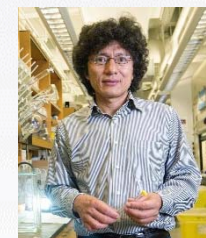


Methylation

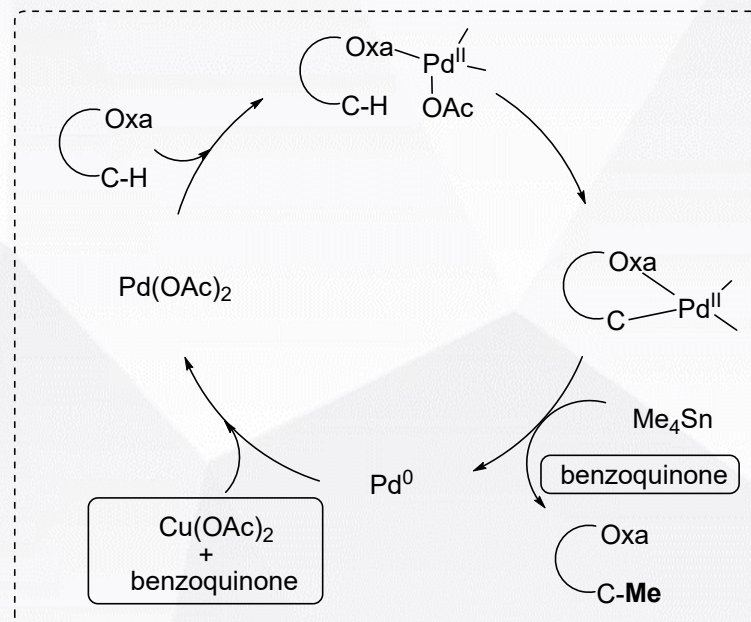
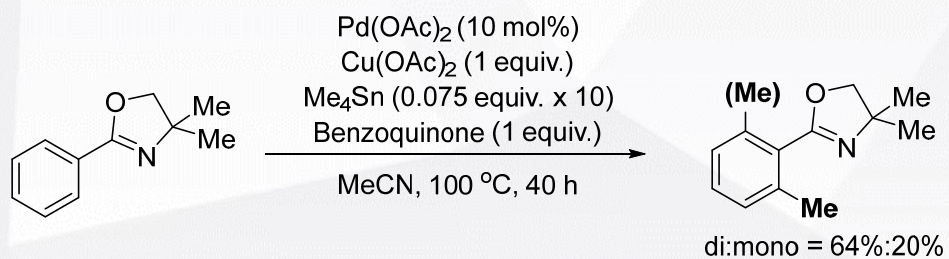
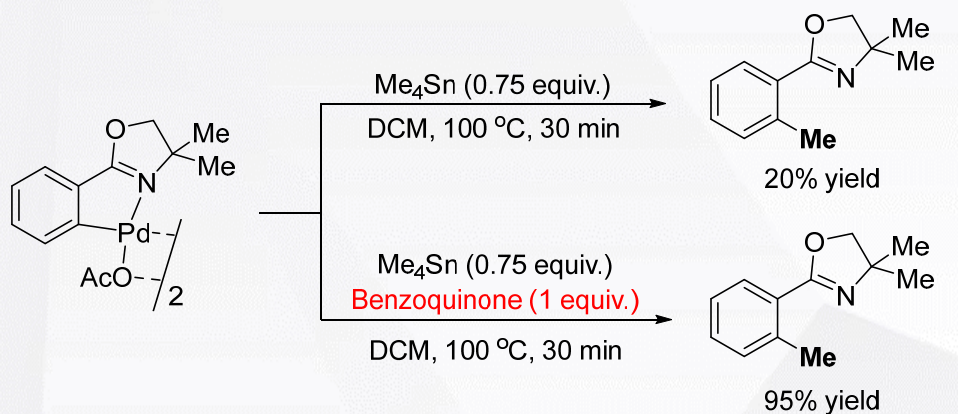
Based on C-H Activation

46
Pd

Palladium catalysis



>> Yu, J.-Q 2006-a:



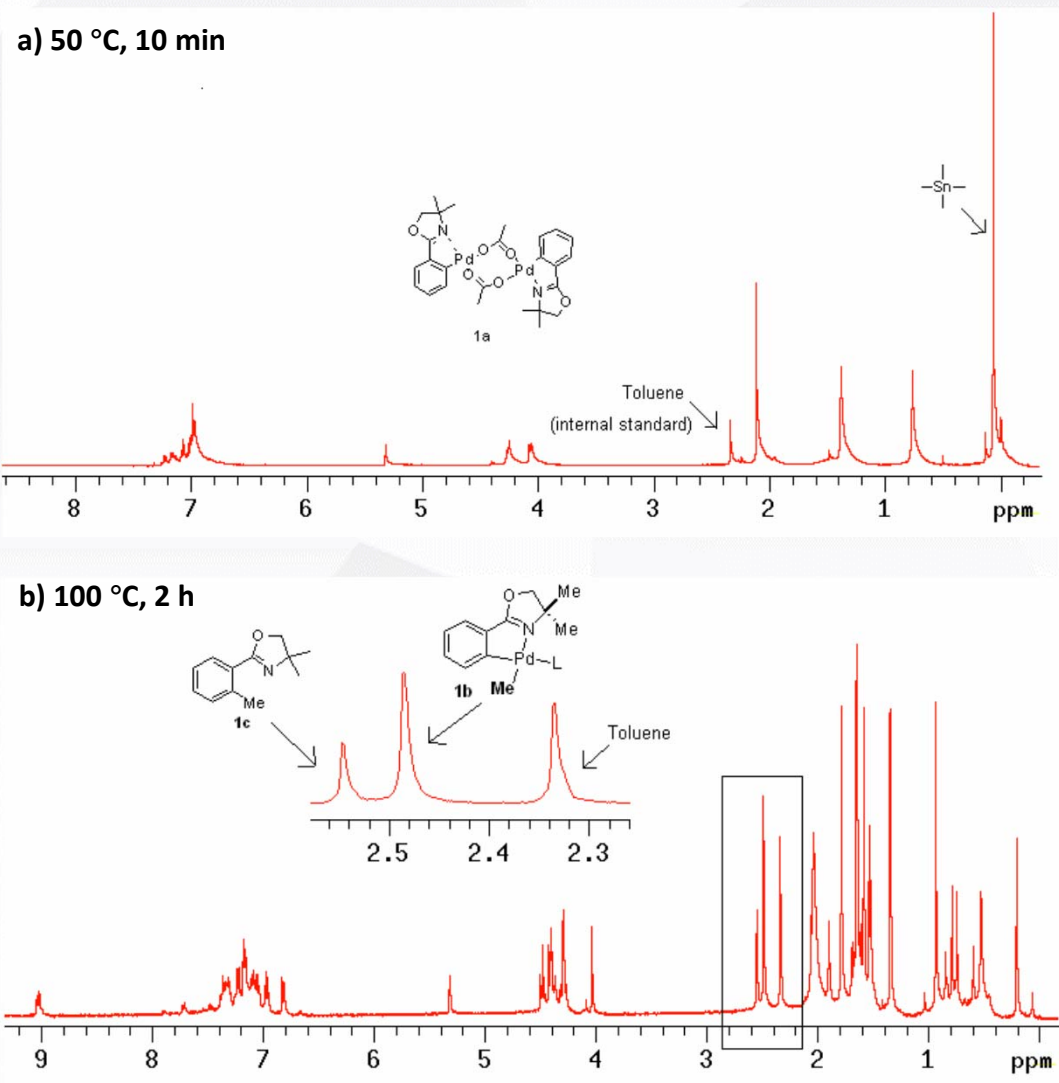


Methylation: Pd

Based on C-H Activation

>> Yu, J.-Q 2006-a:

No benzoquinone



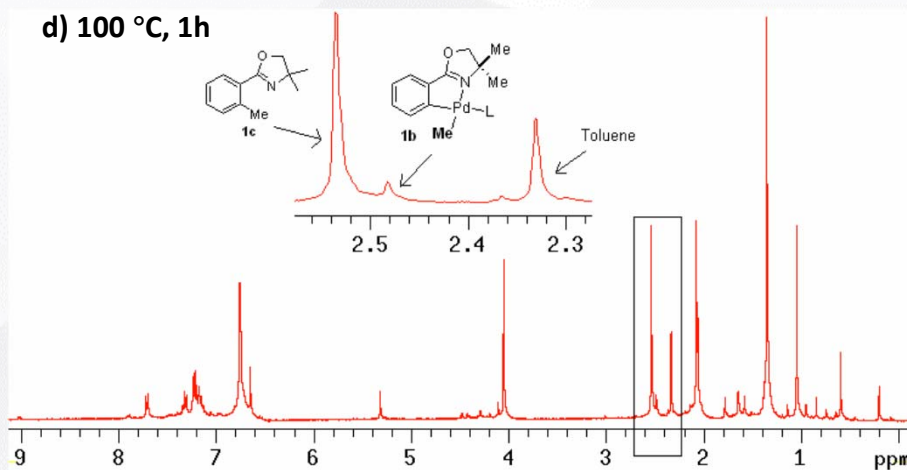
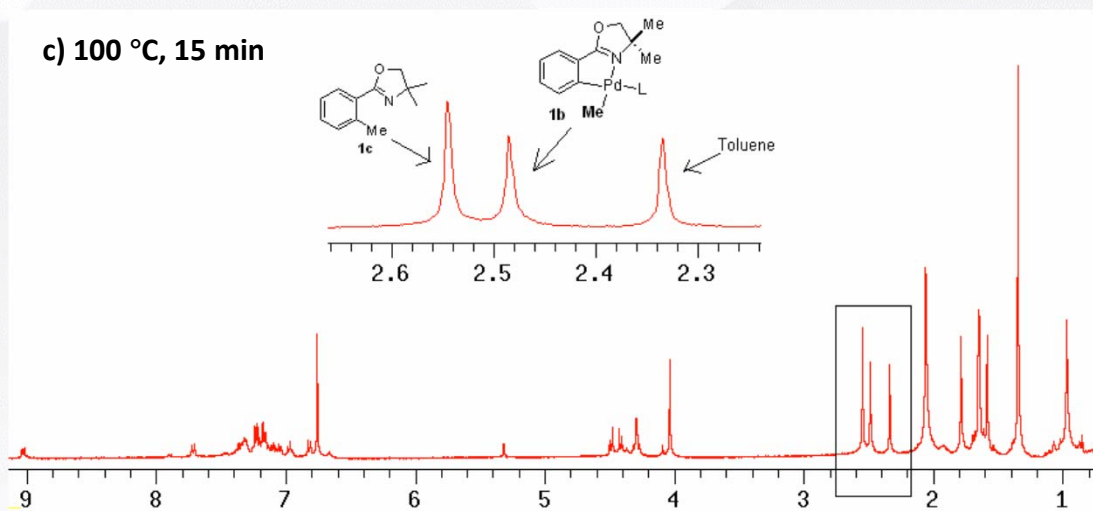


Methylation: Pd

Based on C-H Activation

>> Yu, J.-Q 2006-a:

Benzoquinone(1 equiv.)
was added

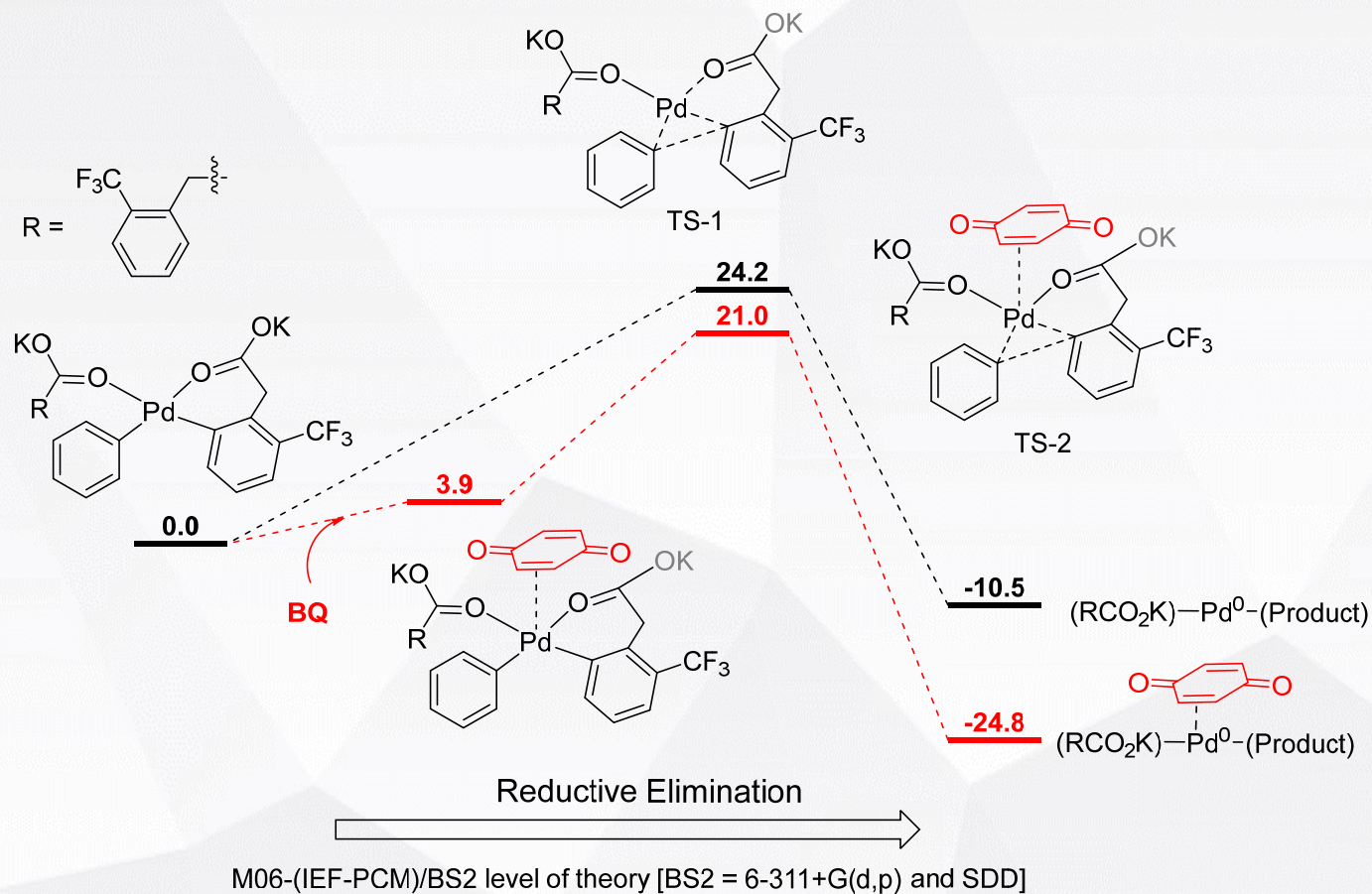




Methylation: Pd

Based on C-H Activation

Extended explanation for benzoquinone:



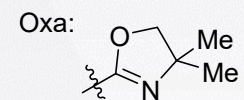
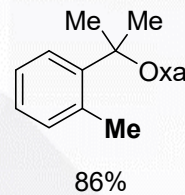
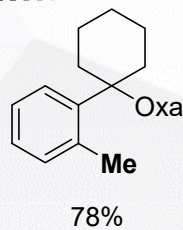
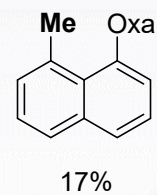
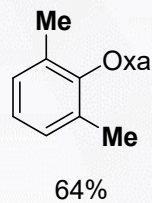
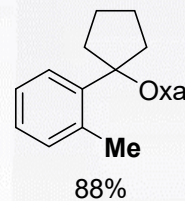
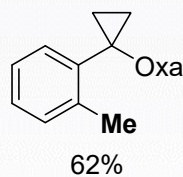
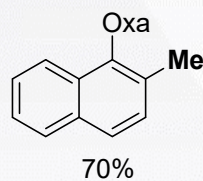
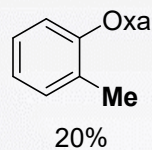
Benzoquinone may coordinate with Pd to promote the reductive elimination step.



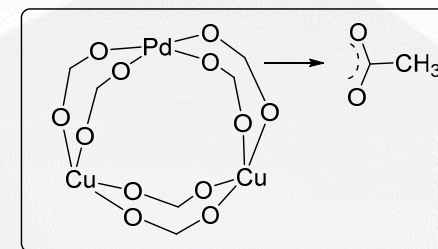
Methylation: Pd

Based on C-H Activation

>> Yu, J.-Q 2006-a:



Condition: Pd(OAc)₂ (10 mol %), Me₄Sn (0.075 equiv. x 10), Cu(OAc)₂ (1 equiv.), benzoquinone (1 equiv.), MeCN, 100 °C, 40 h.



- Yu, J.-Q. et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2006**, *128*, 78-79.
- Thornton, P. et al. *Inorg. Chim. Acta.* **1986**, *120*, 173.

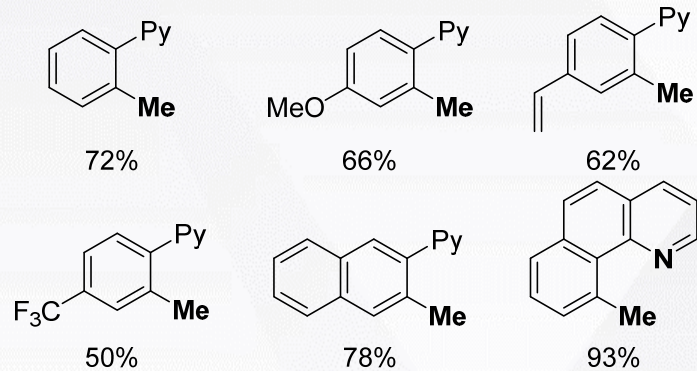


Methylation: Pd

Based on C-H Activation

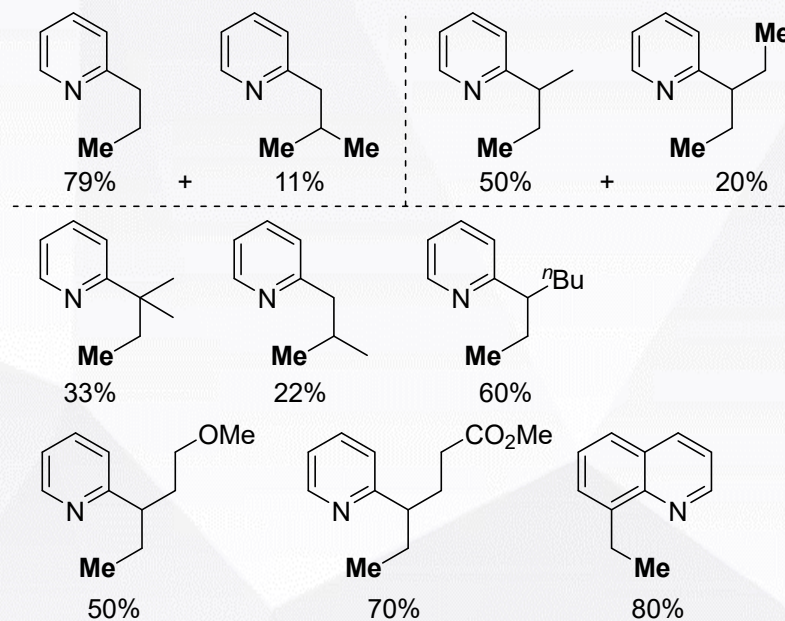
>> Yu, J.-Q 2006-b:

C(sp²)-H



Condition: Pd(OAc)₂ (10 mol%), benzoquinone (1 equiv.) Cu(OAc)₂ (1 equiv.), methylboroxine (2 equiv.), 100 °C, 24 h, CH₂Cl₂, air.

C(sp³)-H



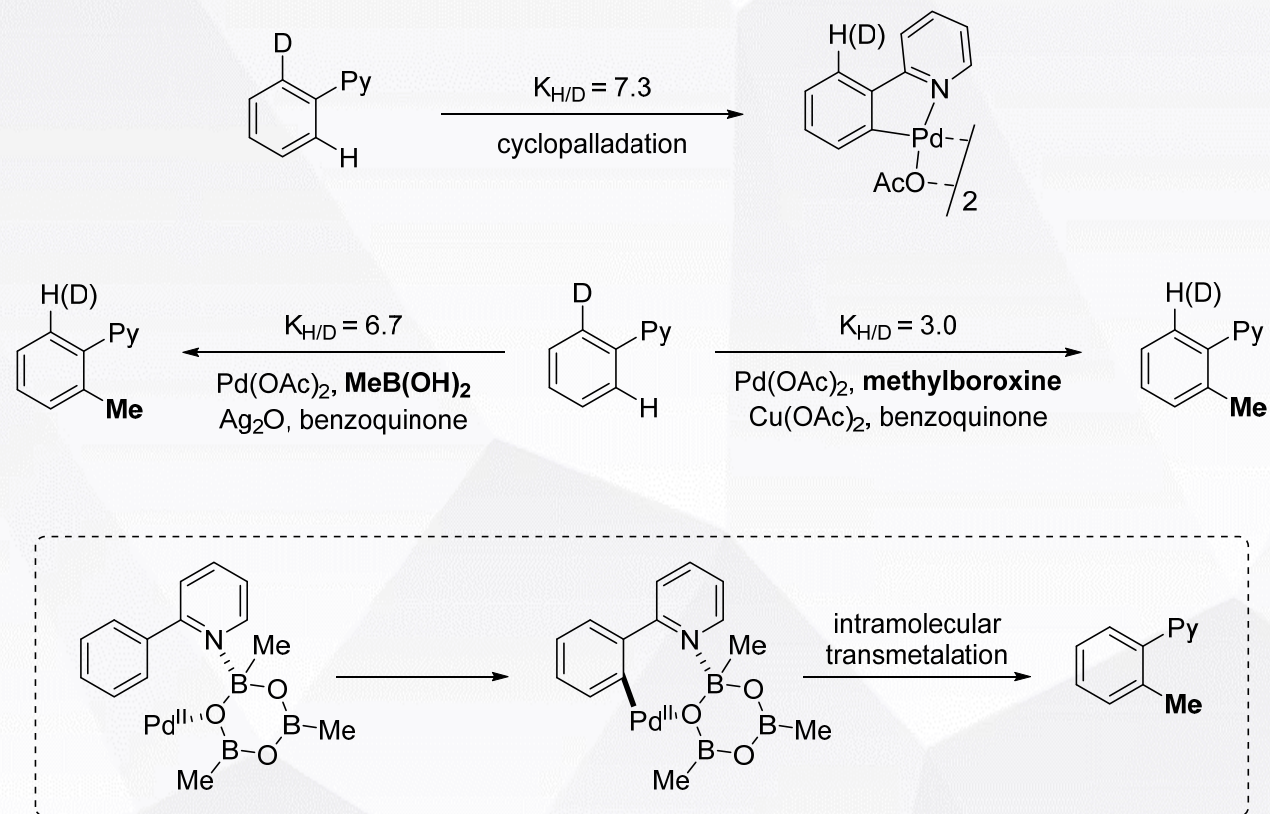
Condition: Pd(OAc)₂ (10 mol%), benzoquinone (2 equiv.) Cu(OAc)₂ (2 equiv.), methylboroxine (2 equiv.), 100 °C, 24 h, HOAc, O₂.



Methylation: Pd

Based on C-H Activation

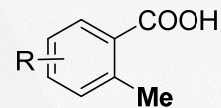
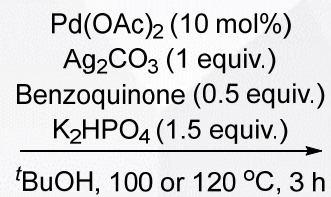
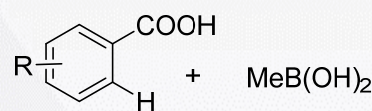
>> Yu, J.-Q 2006-b:



Methylation: Pd

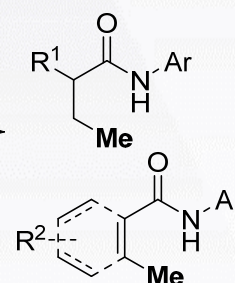
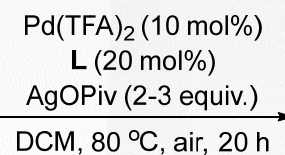
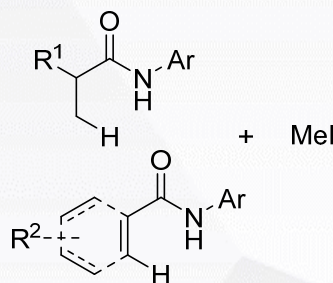
Based on C-H Activation

2007:

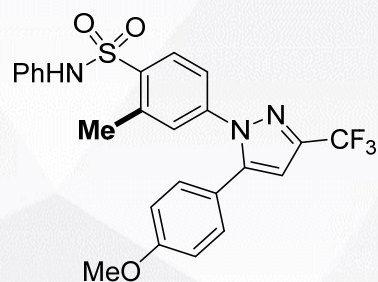
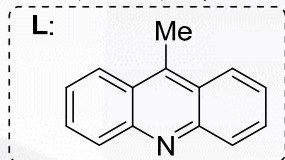


63-75%

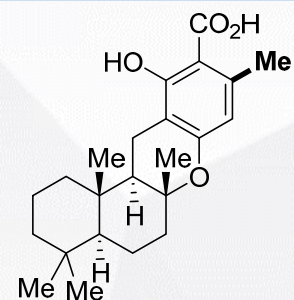
2014:



50-88%



2011: Celecoxib analogue
70%



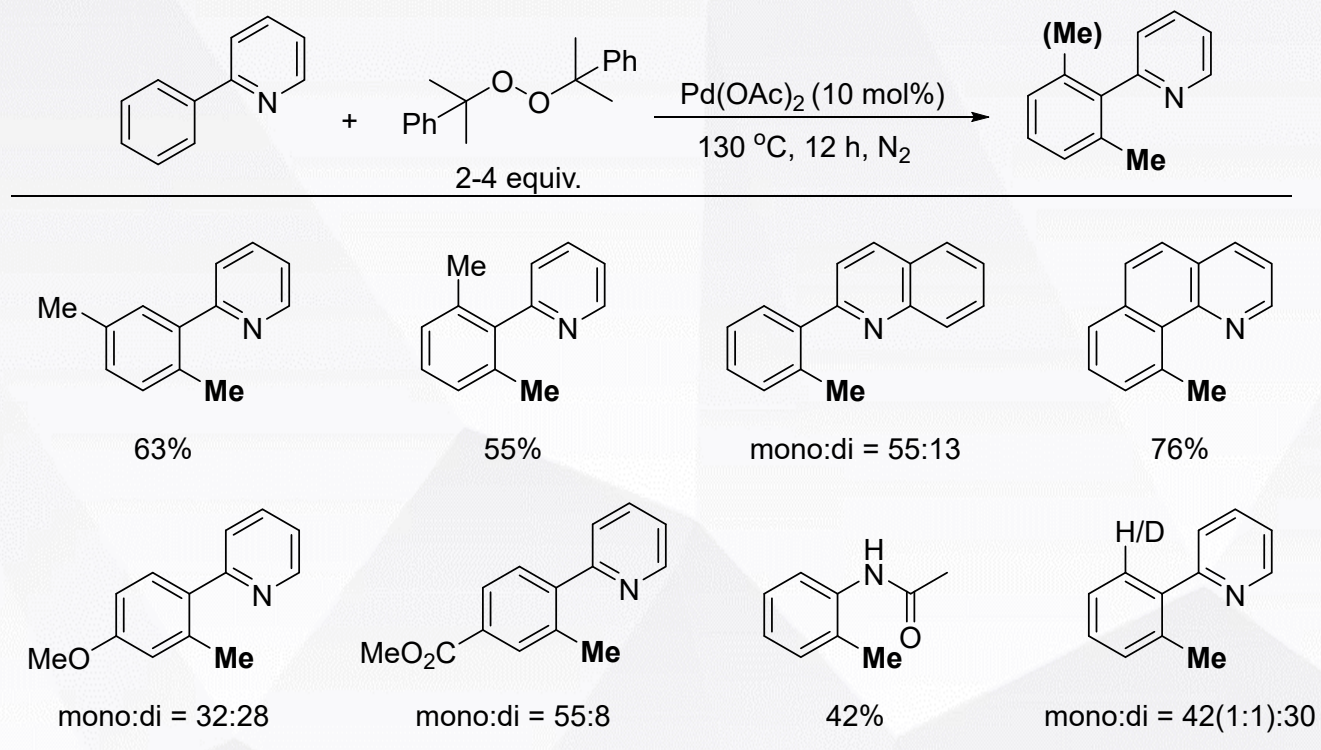
2013: (+)-hongoquercin (A)
Methylation: 60%



Methylation: Pd

Based on C-H Activation

>> Li, C.-J 2008:



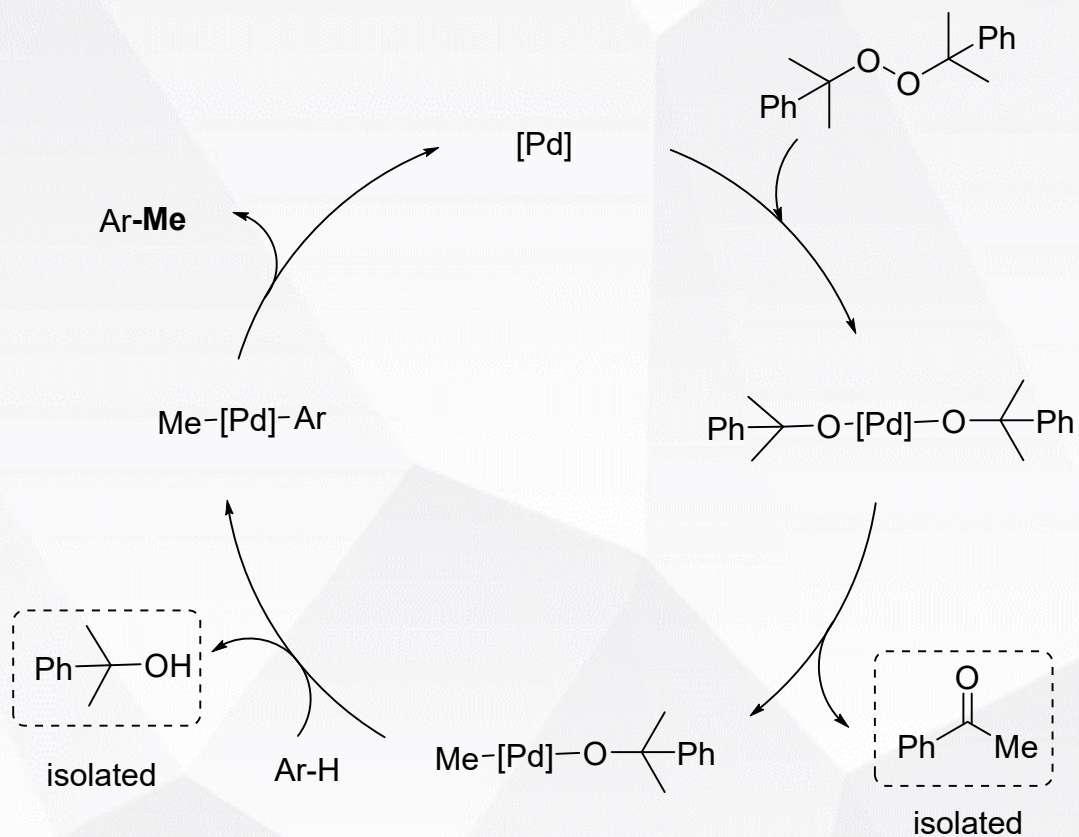
□ Li, C.-J. et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2008**, *130*, 2900-2901.



Methylation: Pd

Based on C-H Activation

>> Li, C.-J 2008:

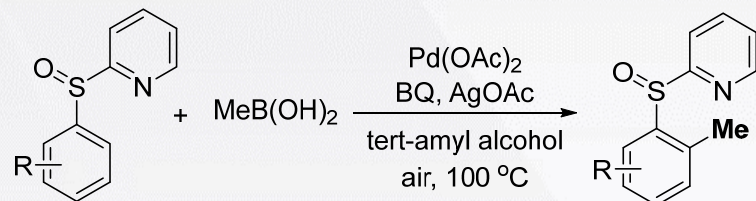




Methylation: Pd

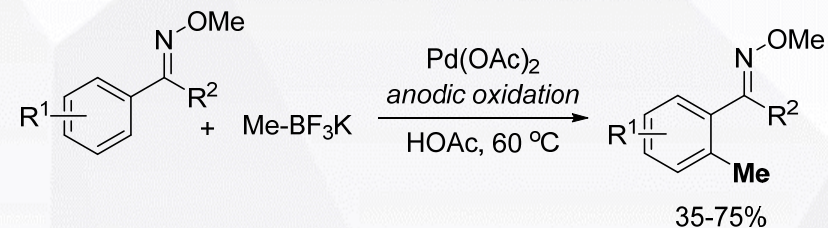
Based on C-H Activation

2011: Carretero



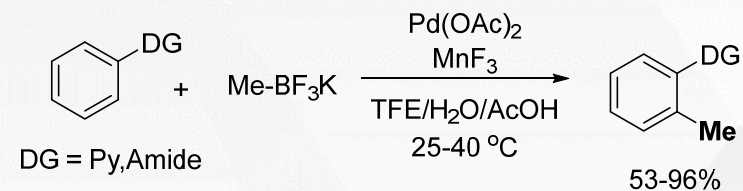
Carretero, J. C. et al. *J. Org. Chem.* **2011**, *76*, 9525-9530. 16-75%

2017: Mei



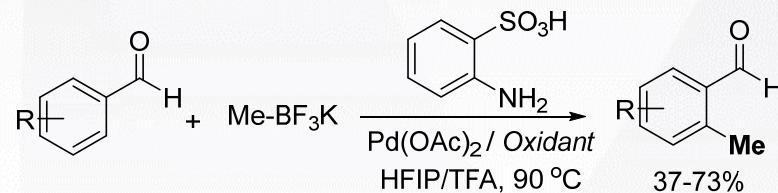
Mei, T.-S. et al. *Chem. Commun.* **2017**, *53*, 12189-12192. 35-75%

2013: Sanford



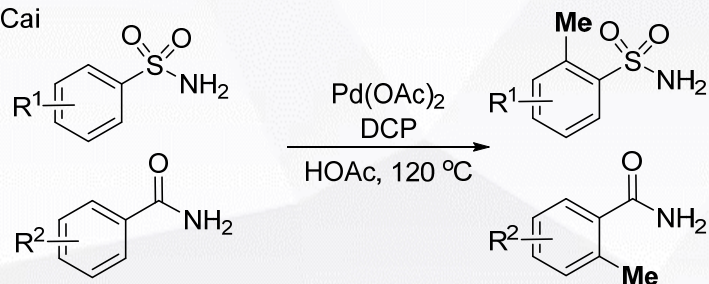
Sanford, M. S. et al. *Org. Lett.* **2013**, *15*, 2302-2305. DG = Py, Amide 53-96%

2018: Sorensen



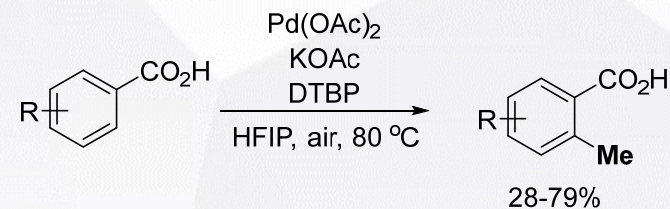
Sorensen, E. J. et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2018**, *140*, 2789-2792. 37-73%

2017: Cai



Cai, C. et al. *Org. Chem. Front.* **2017**, *4*, 2207-2210. 43-65%

2019: Cheng



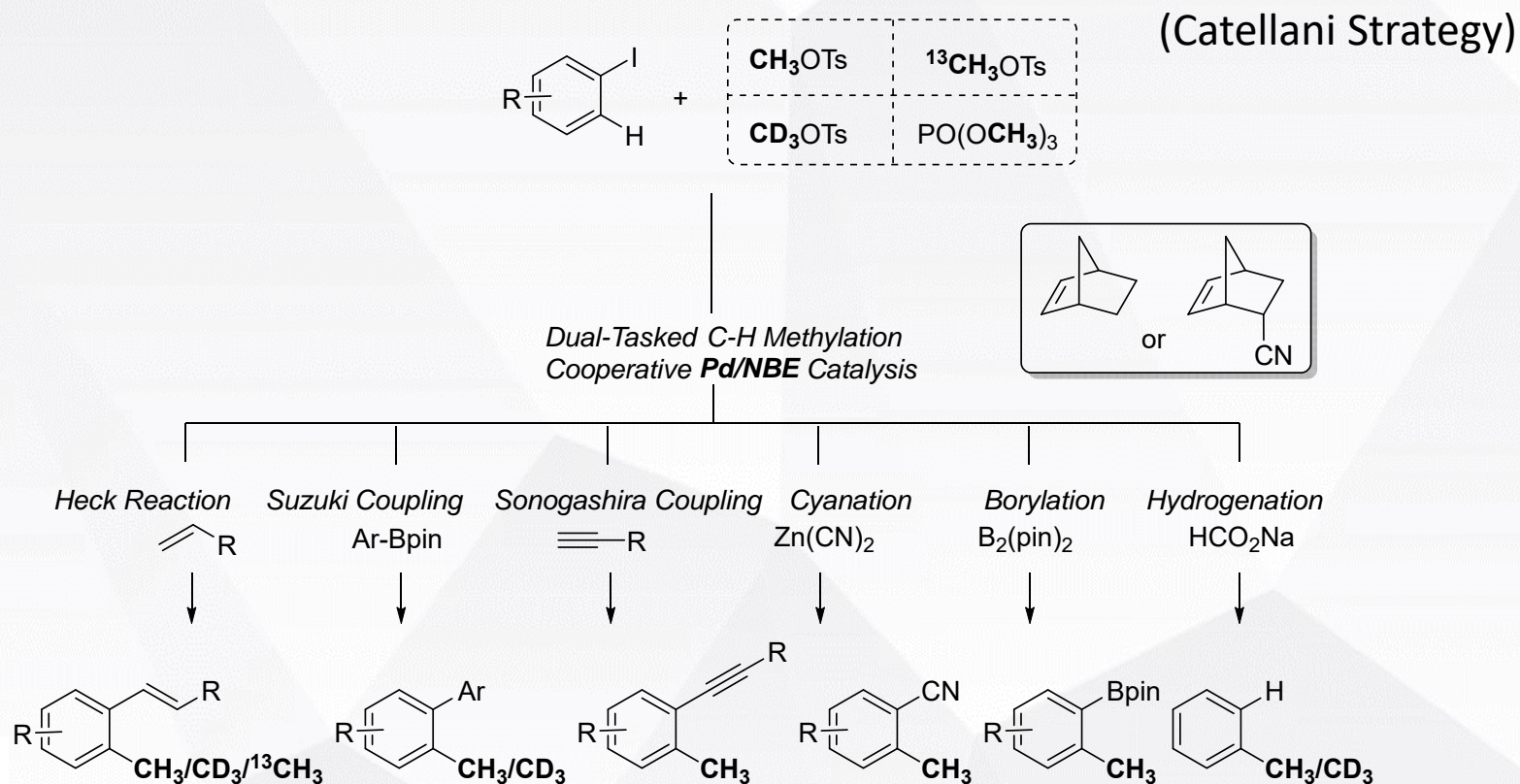
Cheng, G. et al. *J. Org. Chem.* **2019**, *84*, 9786-9791. 28-79%



Methylation: Pd

Based on C-H Activation

>> Zhou, Q. 2019:



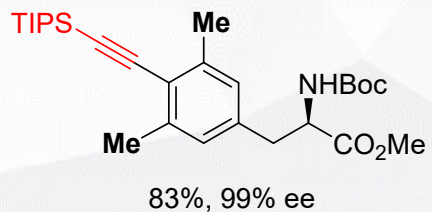
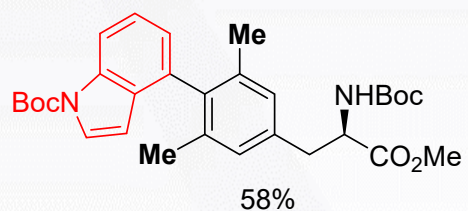
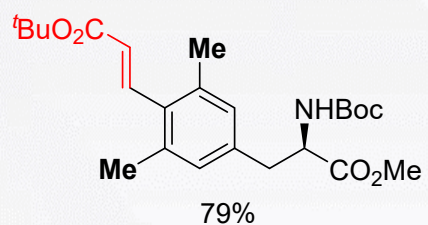


Methylation: Pd

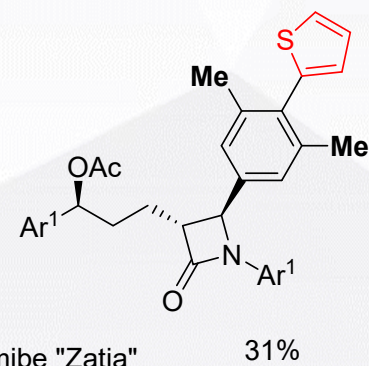
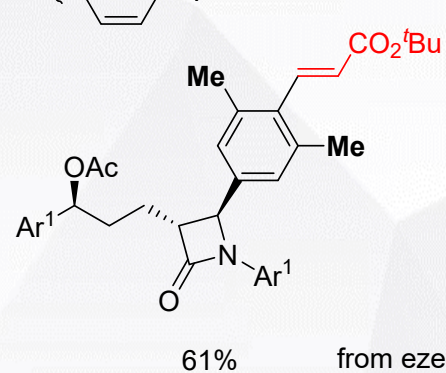
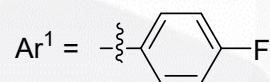
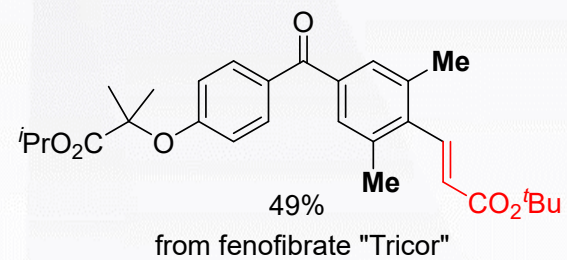
Based on C-H Activation

>> Zhou, Q. 2019:

Methylation of Biologically Important Substrate



Late-Stage Modification of Medicinal Agents





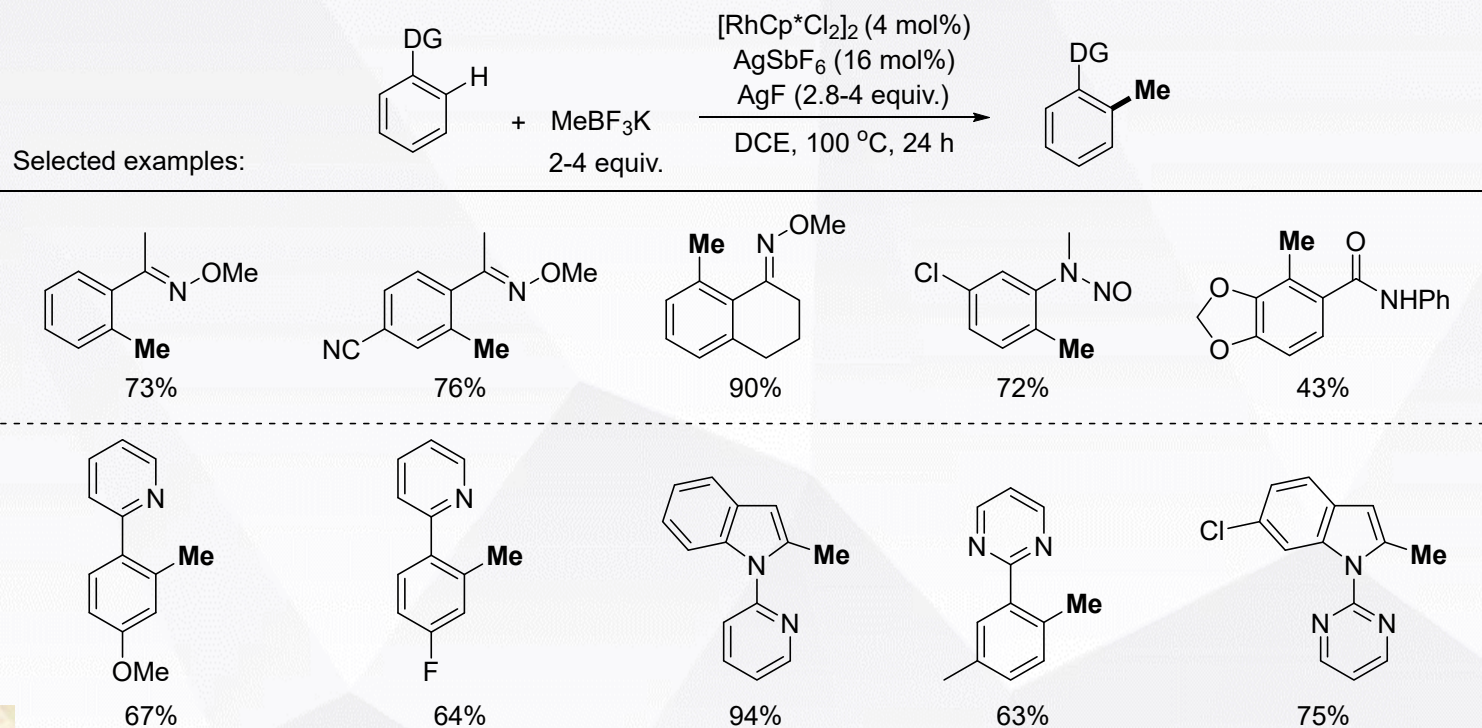
Methylation:

Based on C-H Activation

45
Rh

Rhodium catalysis

>> Li, X. 2015:

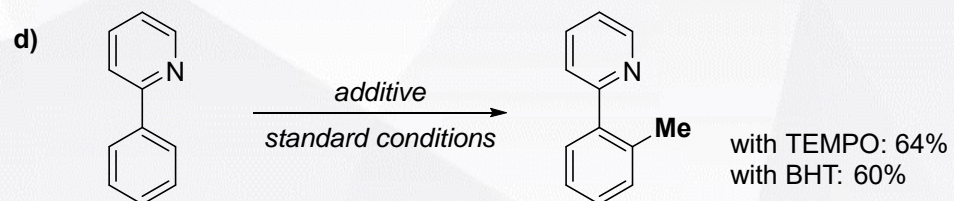
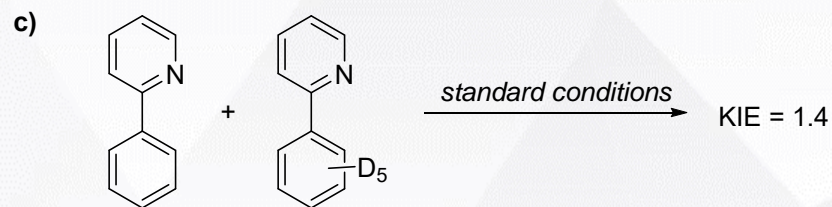
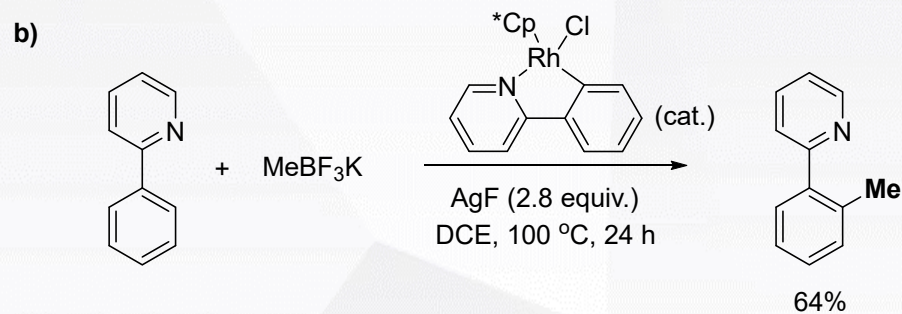
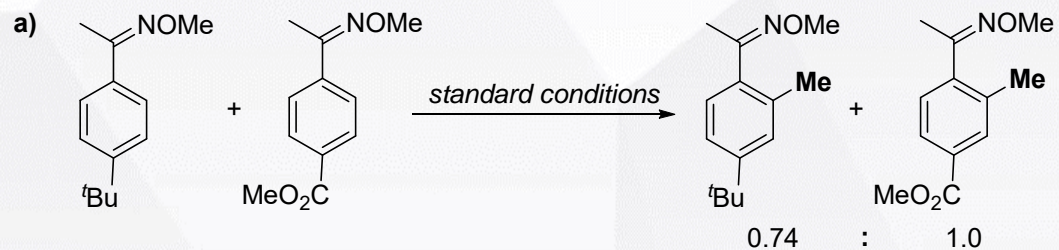




Methylation: *Rh*

Based on C-H Activation

>> Li, X. 2015:



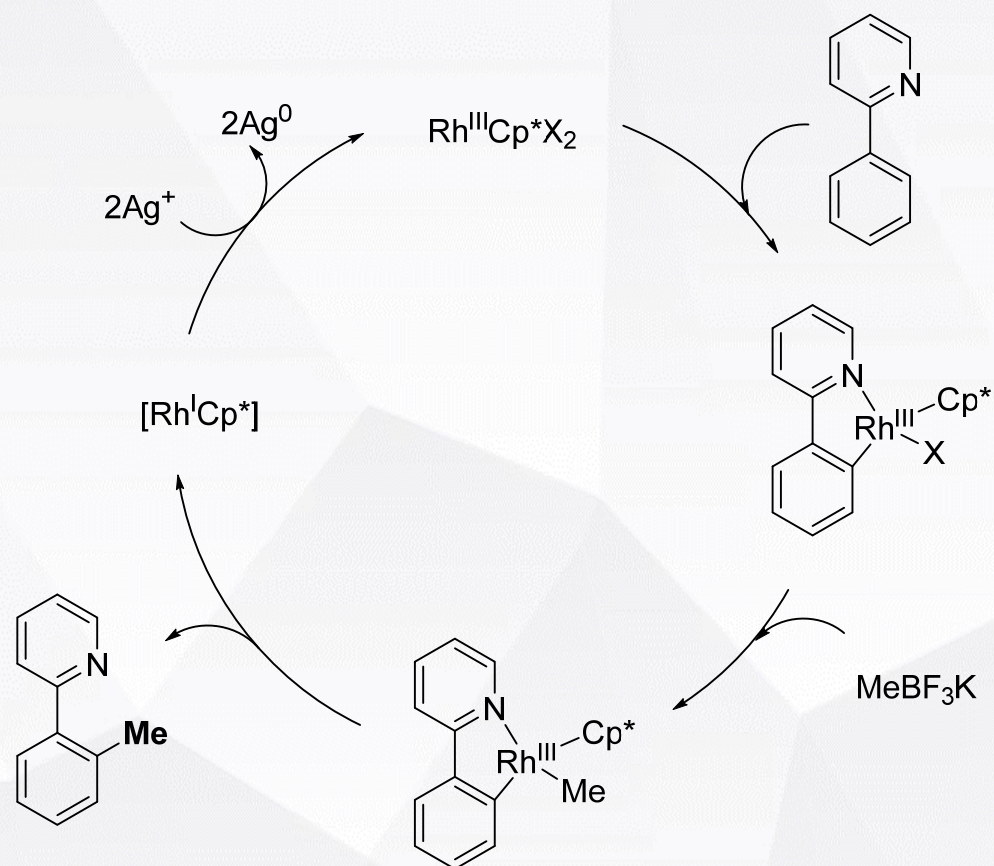


Methylation: *Rh*

Based on C-H Activation

>> Li, X. 2015:

Proposed mechanism: Rh^I/Rh^{III}

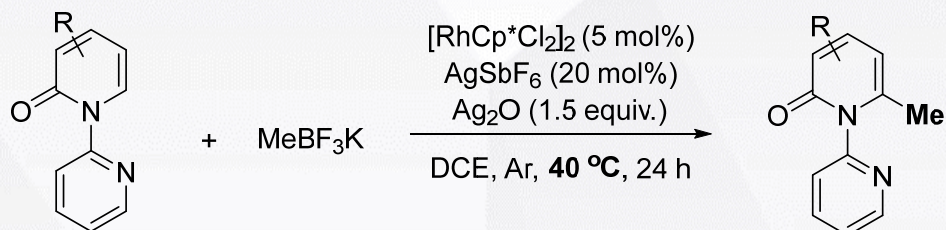




Methylation: **Rh**

Based on C-H Activation

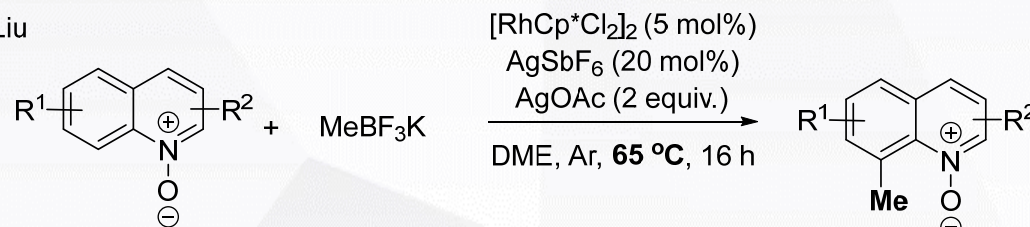
2016: Liu



Liu, H. et al. *Org. Lett.* **2016**, *18*, 5376-5379.

78-93%

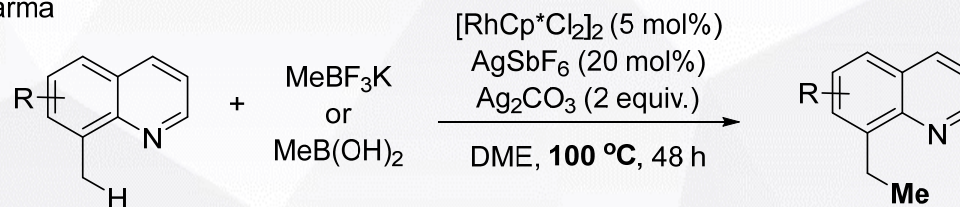
2017: Liu



Liu, H. et al. *Adv. Synth. Catal.* **2017**, *359*, 3029-3034.

52-96%

2019: Sharma



Sharma, U. et al. *Org. Lett.* **2020**, *22*, 305-309.

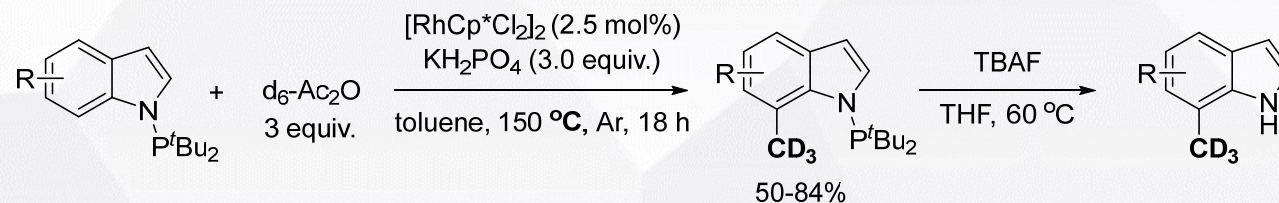
39-92%



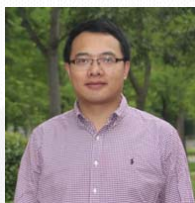
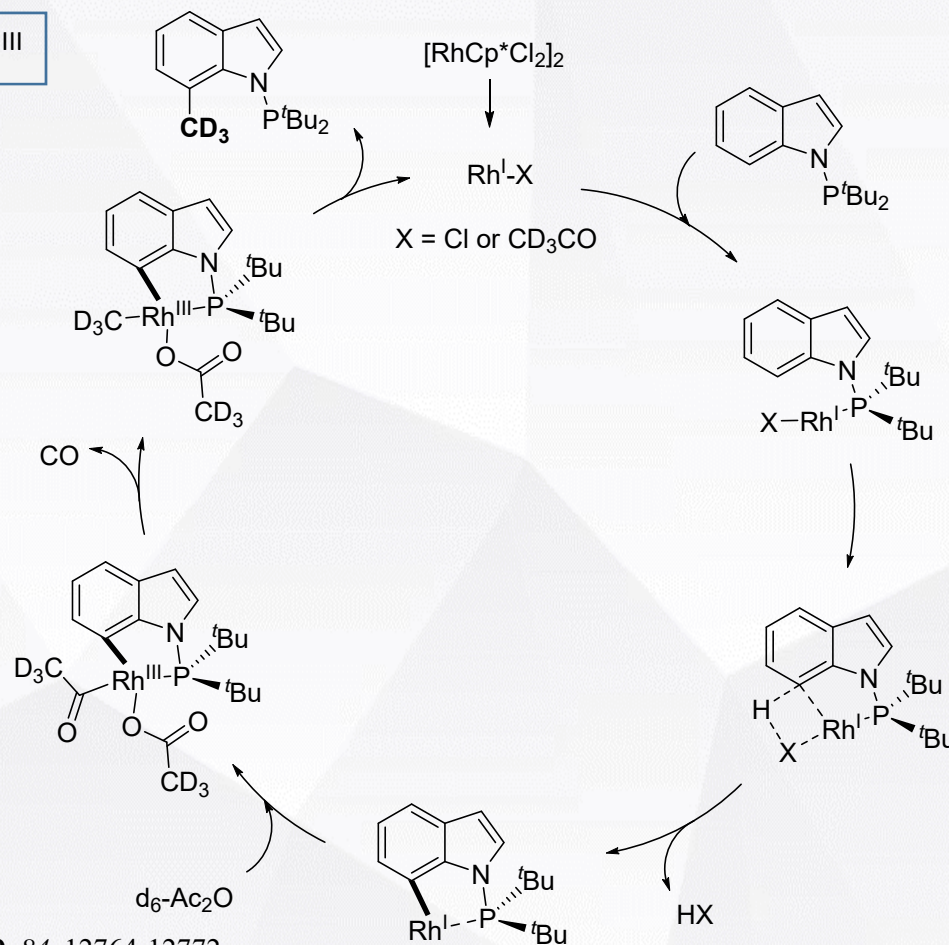
Methylation: **Rh**

Based on C-H Activation

>> Shi, Z. 2019:



Proposed mechanism: Rh^I/Rh^{III}



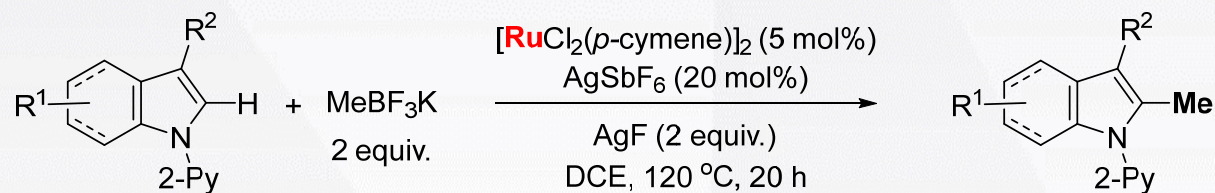
Shi, Z. et al. *J. Org. Chem.* **2019**, *84*, 12764-12772.



Methylation: Ru/Ir

Based on C-H Activation

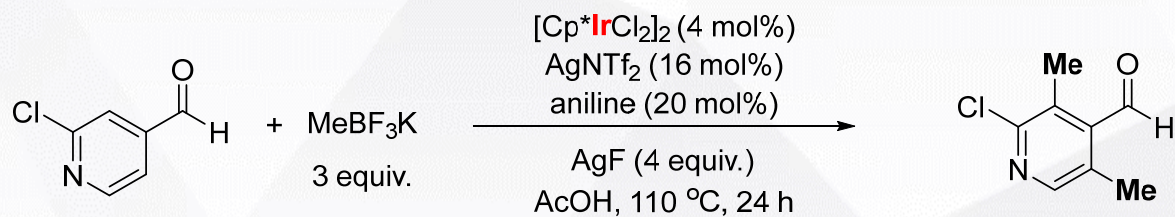
2016: Ackermann



Ackermann, L. et al. *Synthesis* **2017**, 49, 127-134.

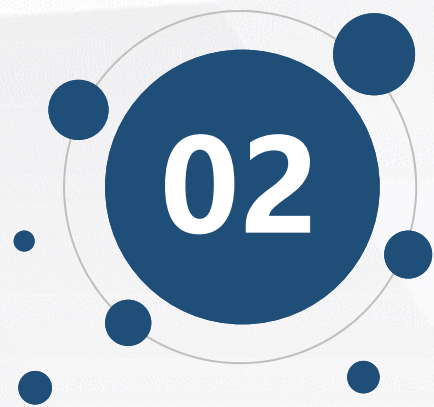
58-93%

2018: Sorensen



Sorensen, E. J. et al. *Chem. Sci.* **2018**, 9, 8951-8956.

18%



Methylation

Based on C-H Activation

Cheap Metals:

²⁵
Mn

²⁶
Fe

²⁷
Co

²⁸
Ni



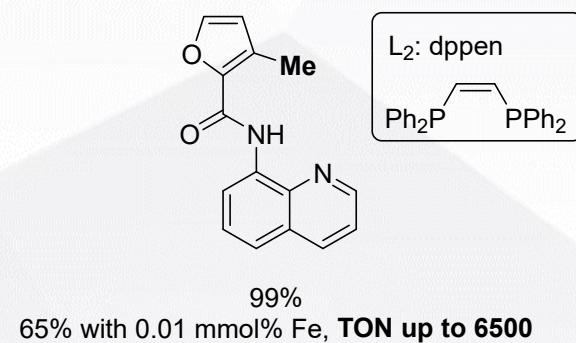
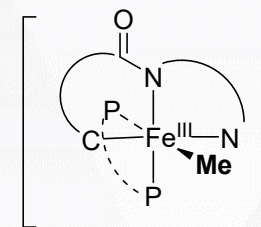
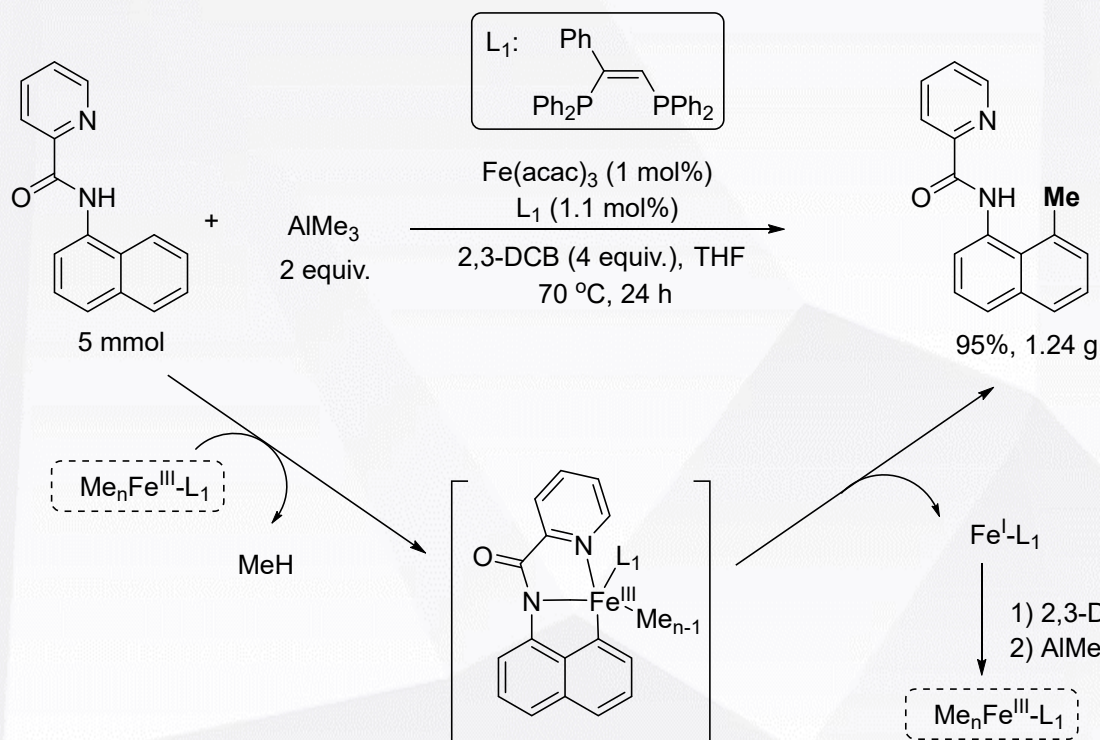
Methylation:

Based on C-H Activation

26
Fe

Iron catalysis

>> Nakamura, E. 2015:



- Nakamura, E. et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2015**, *137*, 7660-7663.
- Nakamura, E. et al. *Adv. Synth. Catal.* **2015**, *357*, 2175-2179.
- Yoshikai, N. et al. *ChemSusChem.* **2019**, *12*, 3049-3053.



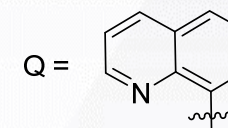
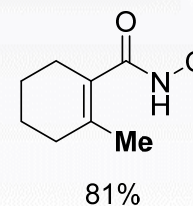
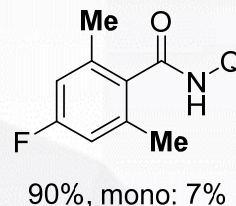
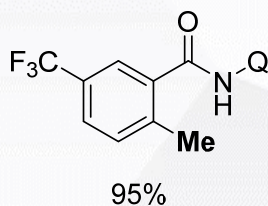
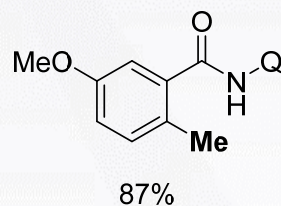
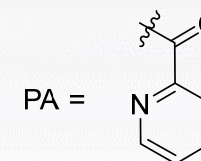
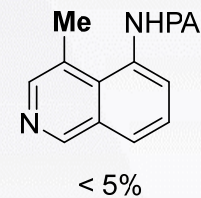
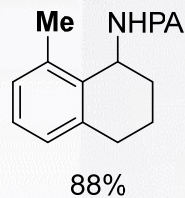
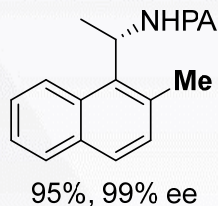
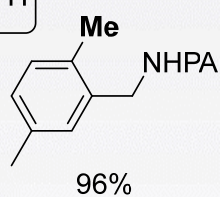
Methylation: *Fe*

Based on C-H Activation

>> Nakamura, E. 2015:

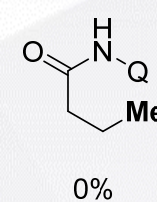
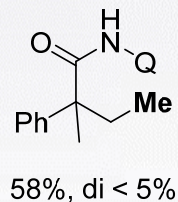
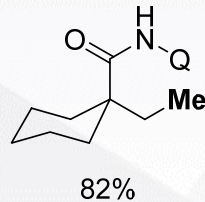
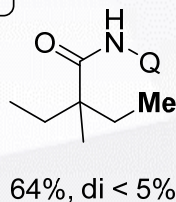
Selected examples:

C(sp²)-H



C(sp³)-H

10 mol% Fe & 11 mol% Ph-dppen

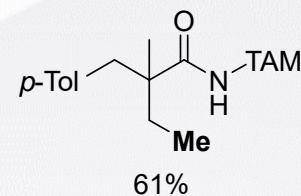
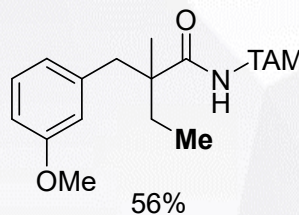
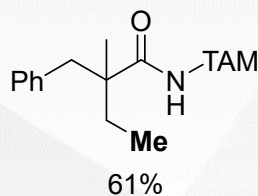
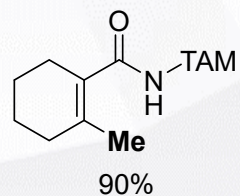
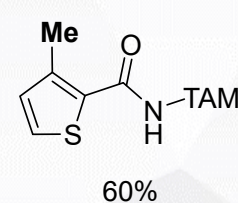
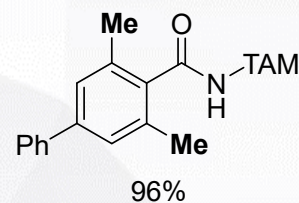
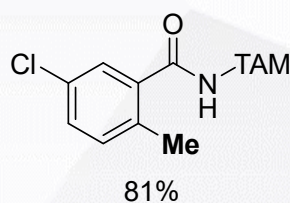
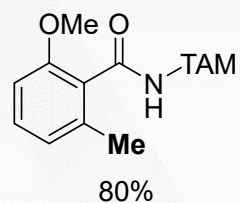
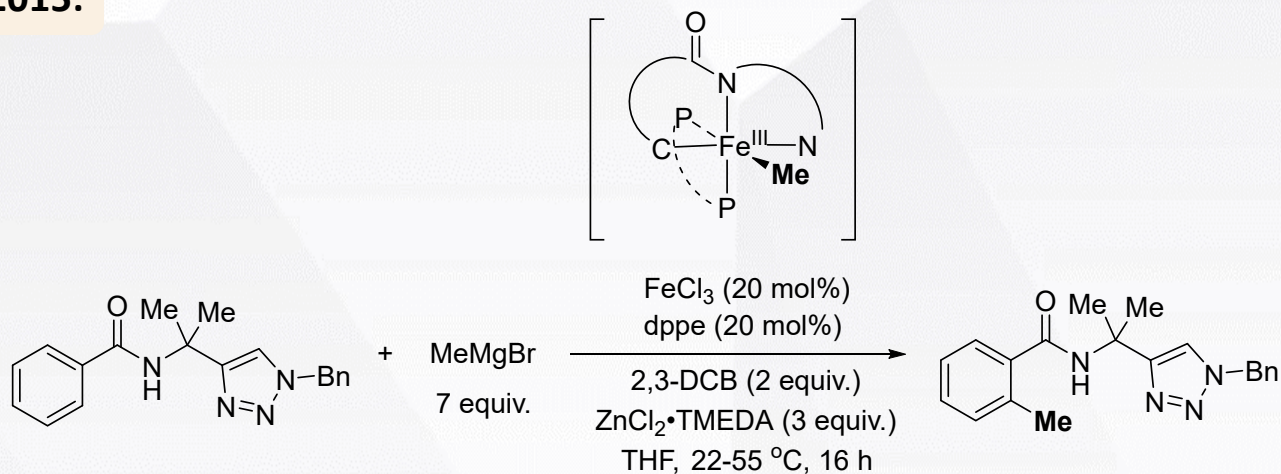




Methylation: *Fe*

Based on C-H Activation

>> Ackermann, L. 2015:



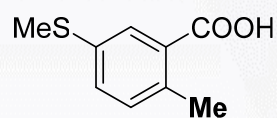
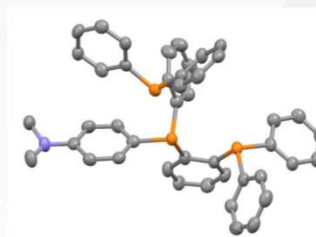
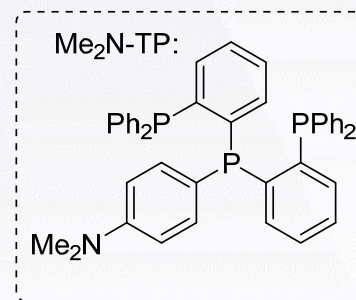
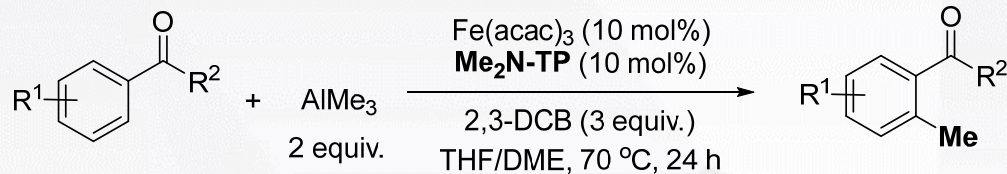
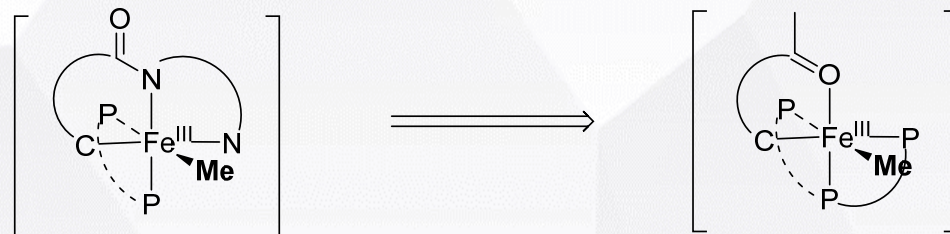
□ Ackermann, L. et al. *Chem. Eur. J.* **2015**, *21*, 8812-8815.



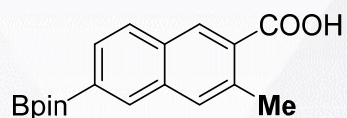
Methylation: *Fe*

Based on C-H Activation

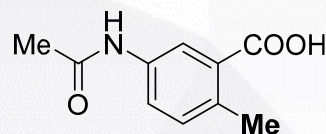
>> Nakamura, E. 2016:



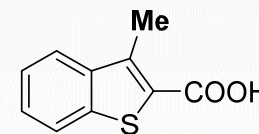
89%



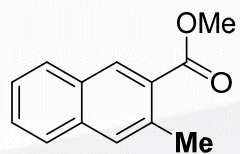
95%
(89%, 1.11 g)



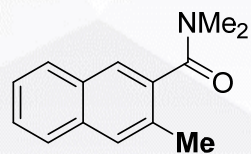
50%



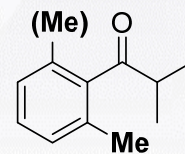
55%



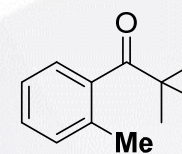
76%



66%



mono:di = 70%:22%

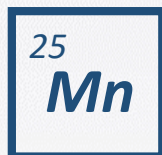


98%
 $K_H/K_D = 1.23$



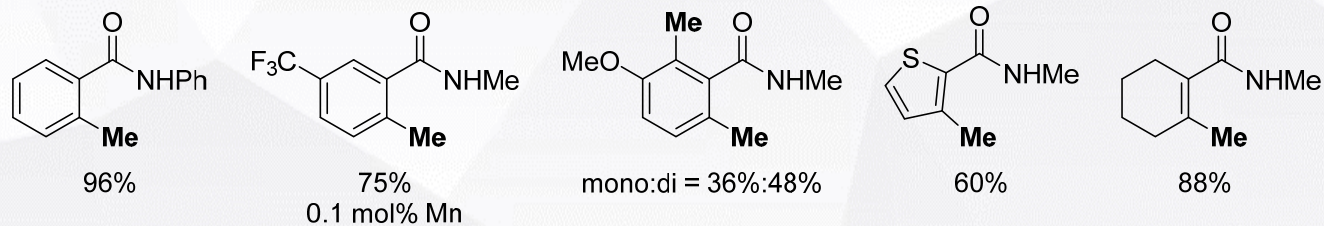
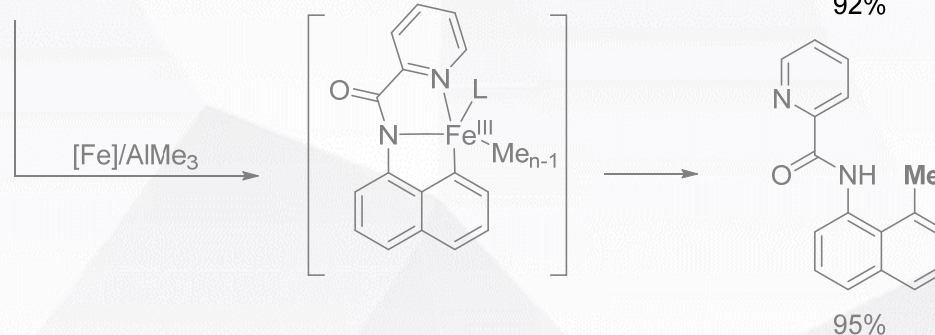
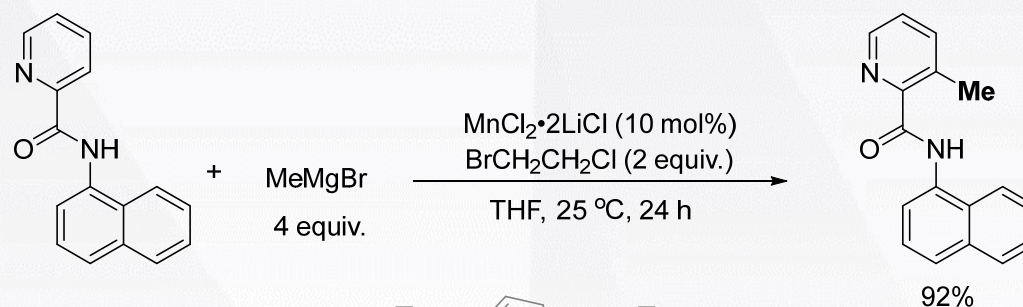
Methylation:

Based on C-H Activation



Manganese catalysis

>> Nakamura, E. 2017:



condition: [Mn] (1 mol%)



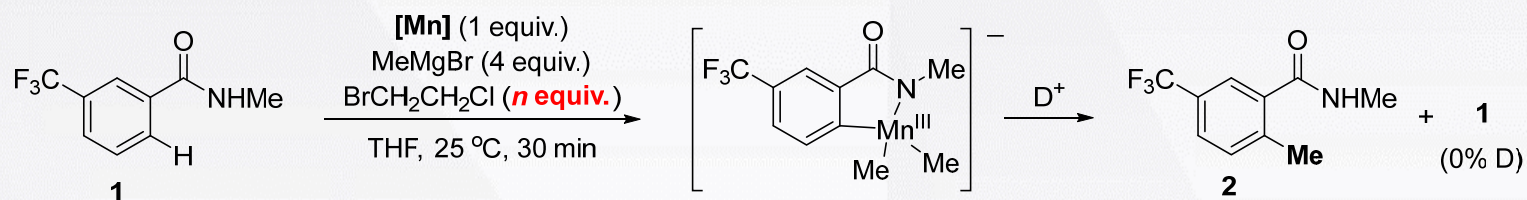
□ Nakamura, E. et al. *Org. Lett.* **2017**, *19*, 5458-5461.



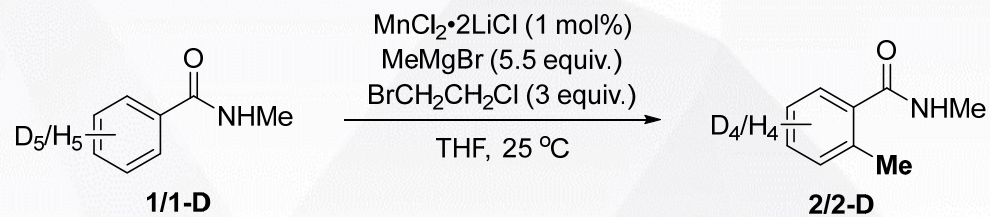
Methylation: *Mn*

Based on C-H Activation

>> Nakamura, E. 2017:



Mn(acac) ₂	<i>n</i> = 2	55%	40%
Mn(acac) ₃	<i>n</i> = 2	41%	54%
Mn(acac) ₂	<i>n</i> = 0	0%	100%
Mn(acac) ₃	<i>n</i> = 0	17%	82%



	2/2-D			
time / h	1.5	2	2.5	3
yield of 2 (%)	9	14	20	25
yield of 2-D (%)	5	7	9	12

$$K_H/K_D = 2.0 \pm 0.1$$

- Nakamura, E. et al. *Org. Lett.* **2017**, *19*, 5458-5461.
- Girolami, G. S. et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1988**, *110*, 6245-6246.

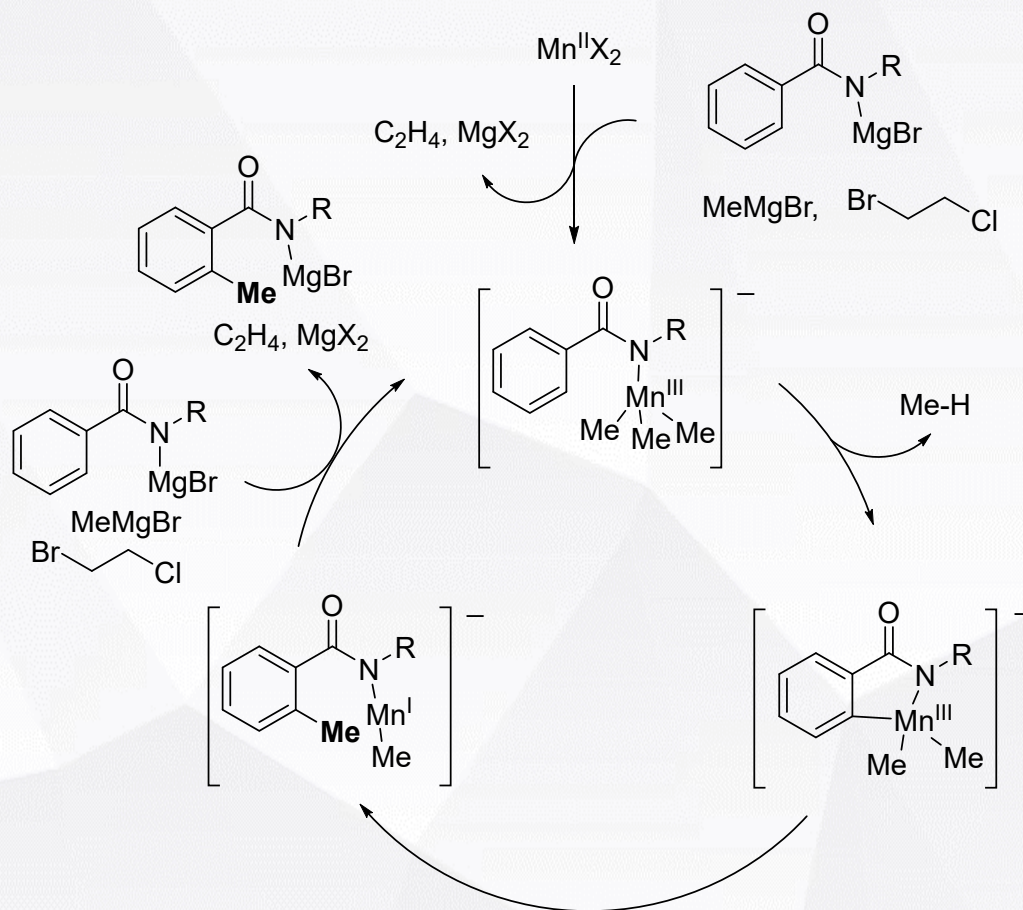


Methylation: Mn

Based on C-H Activation

>> Nakamura, E. 2017:

Proposed mechanism: Mn^I/Mn^{III}



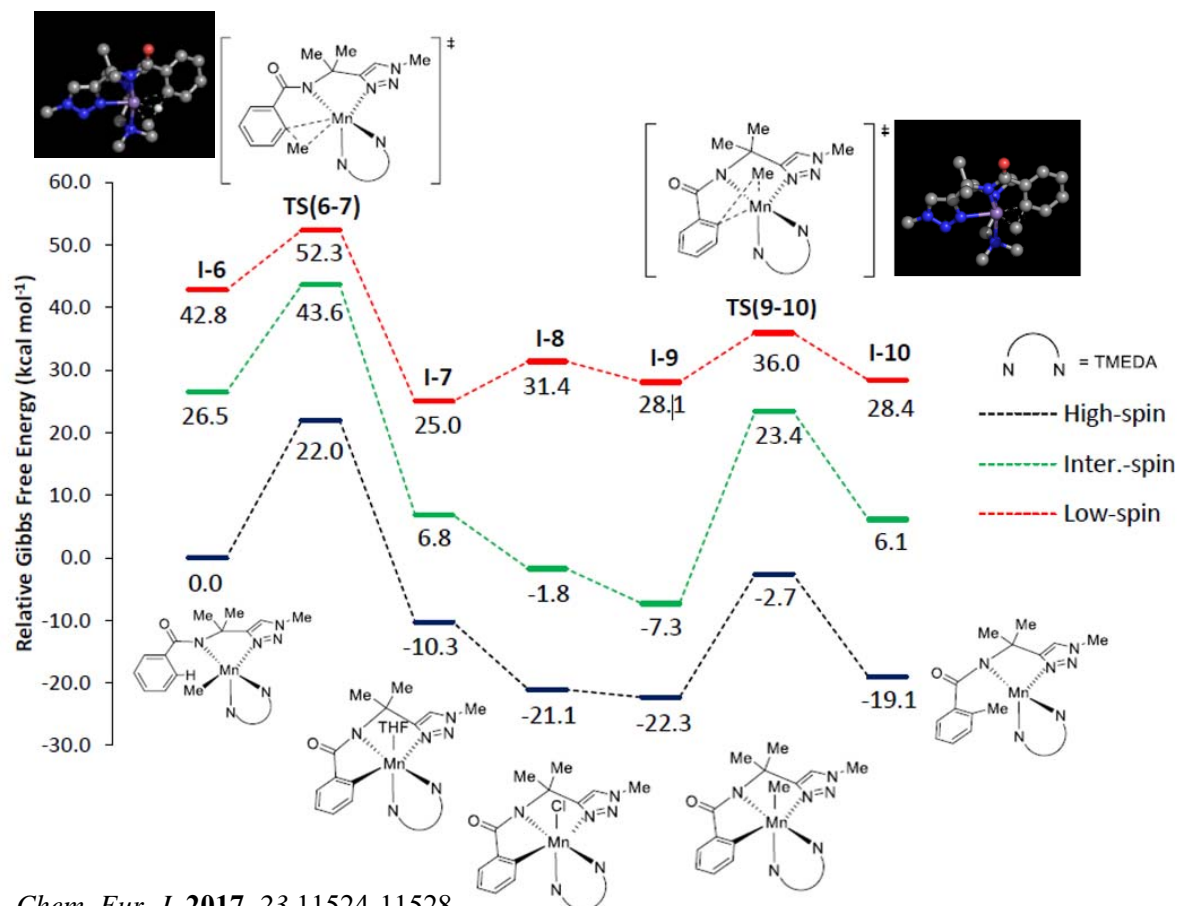
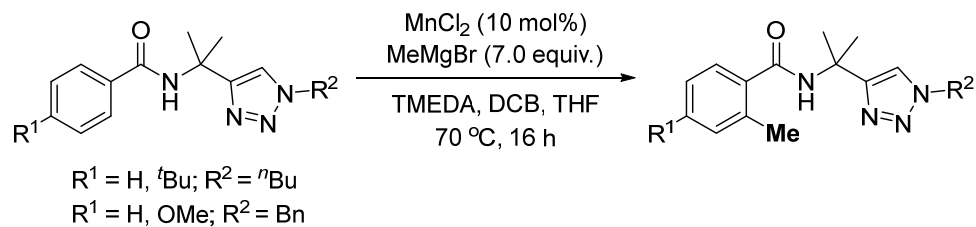
- Nakamura, E. et al. *Org. Lett.* **2017**, *19*, 5458-5461.
- Girolami, G. S. et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1988**, *110*, 6245-6246.



Methylation: **Mn**

Based on C-H Activation

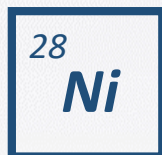
>> Ackermann, L. 2017:





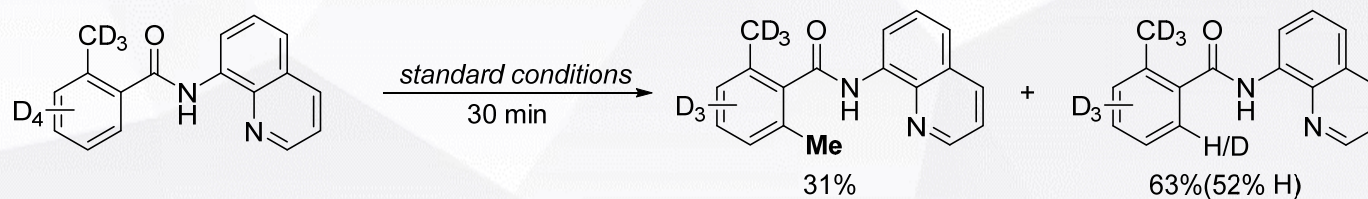
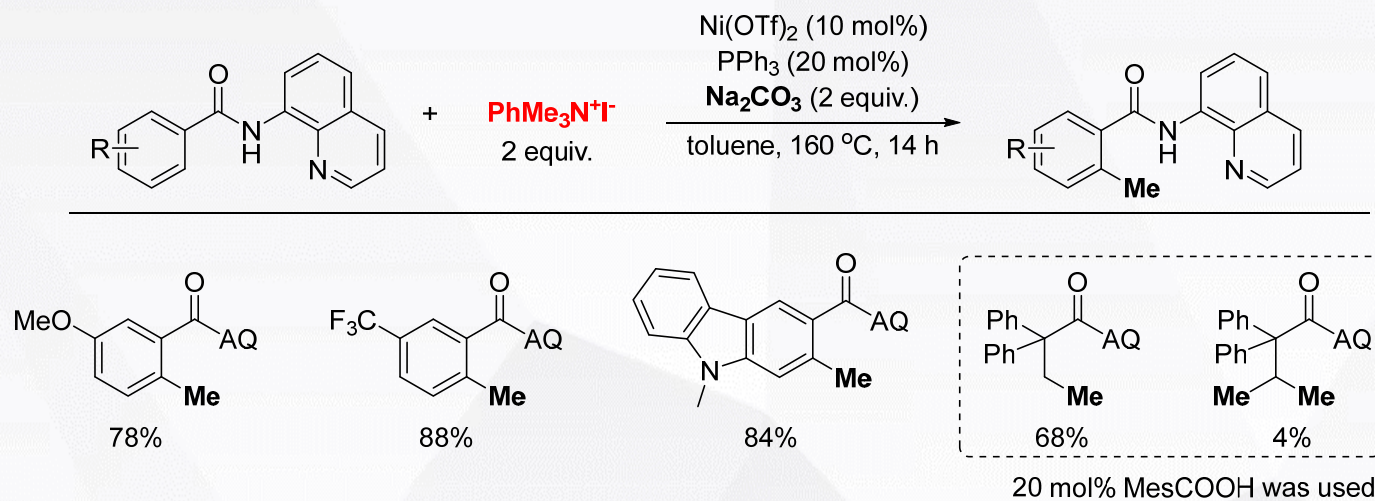
Methylation:

Based on C-H Activation



Nickel catalysis

>> Chatani, N. 2016:



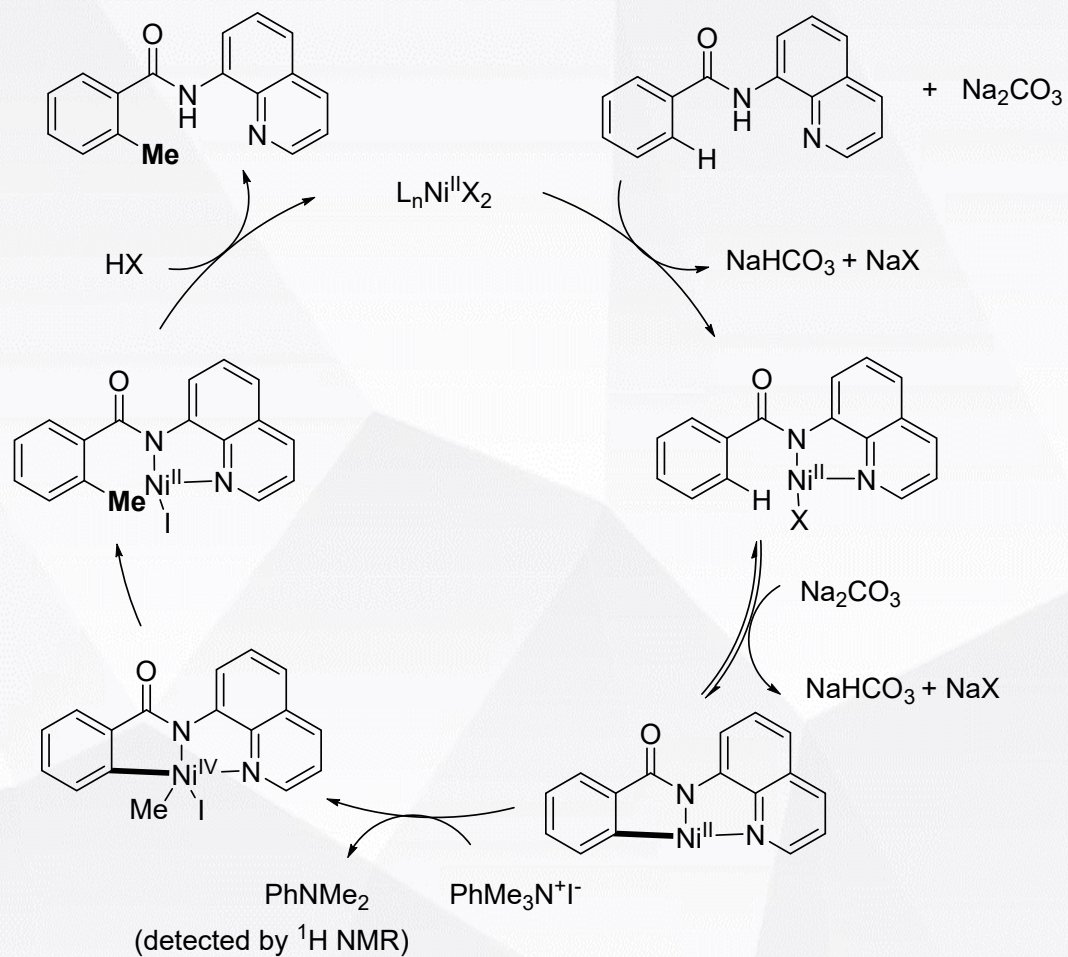


Methylation: Ni

Based on C-H Activation

>> Chatani, N. 2016:

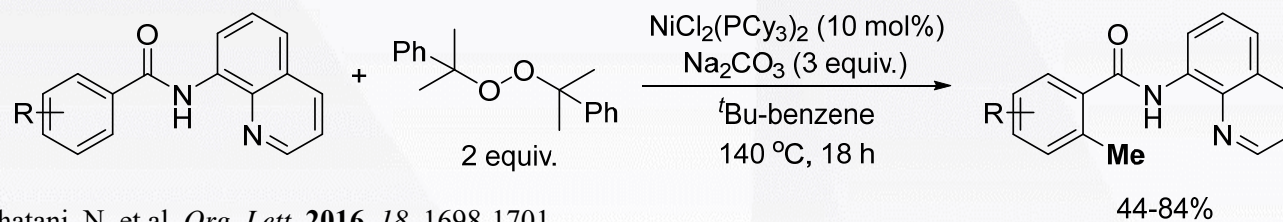
Proposed mechanism: Ni^{II}/Ni^{IV}



Methylation: Ni

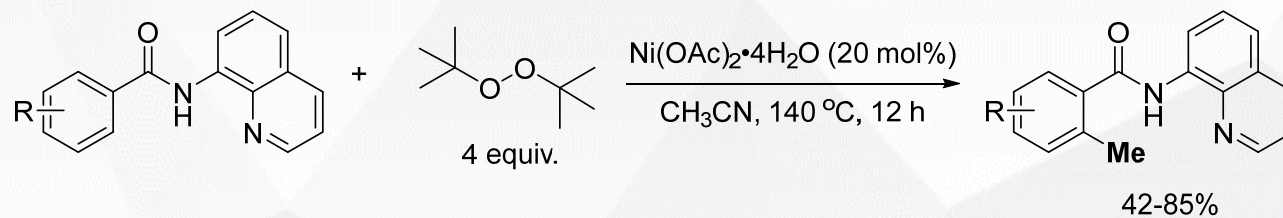
Based on C-H Activation

2016: Chatani



Chatani, N. et al. *Org. Lett.* **2016**, *18*, 1698-1701.

2019: Chen

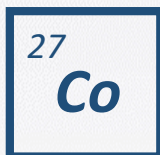


Chen, X.; Tan, Z. et al. *Eur. J. Org. Chem.* **2019**, 6930-6934.



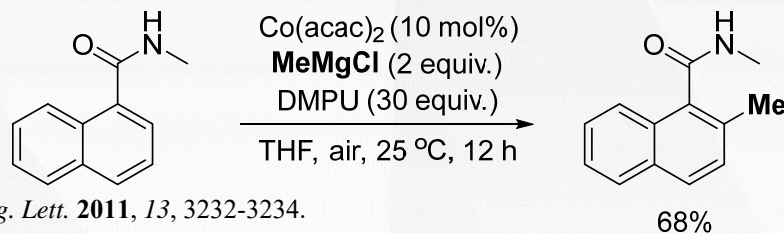
Methylation:

Based on C-H Activation



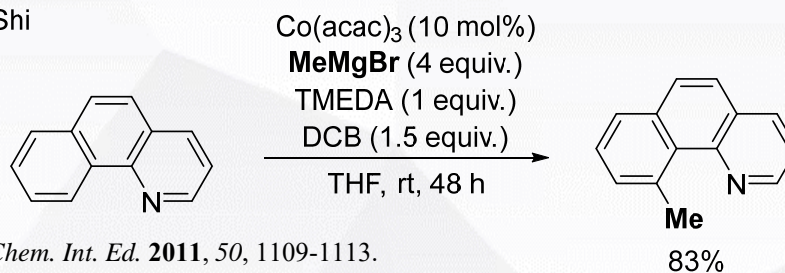
Cobalt catalysis

2011: Nakamura



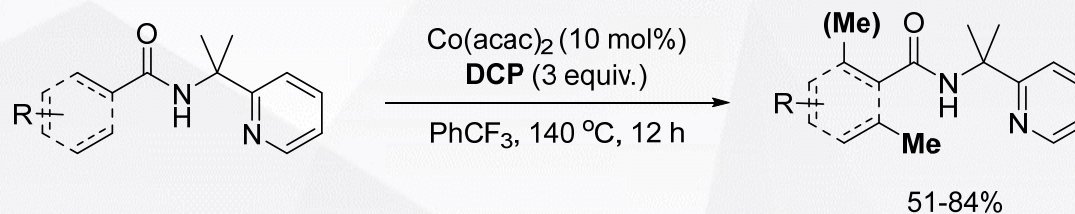
Nakamura, E. et al. *Org. Lett.* **2011**, *13*, 3232-3234.

2011: Shi



Shi, Z. et al. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2011**, *50*, 1109-1113.

2016: Lu



Lu, H.; Li, G. et al. *Chem. Eur. J.* **2016**, *22*, 12286-12289.



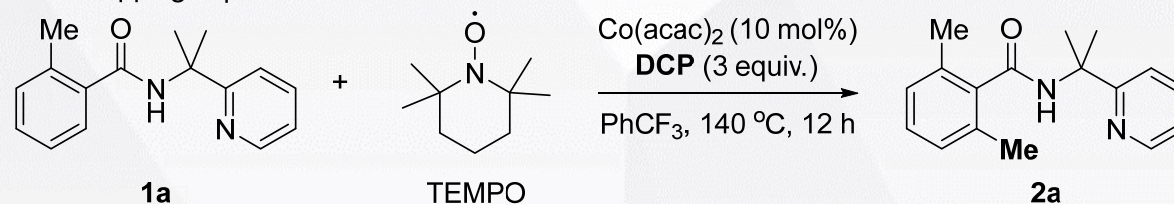


Methylation: **Co**

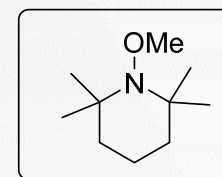
Based on C-H Activation

>> Lu, H. 2016:

a) radical trapping experiment

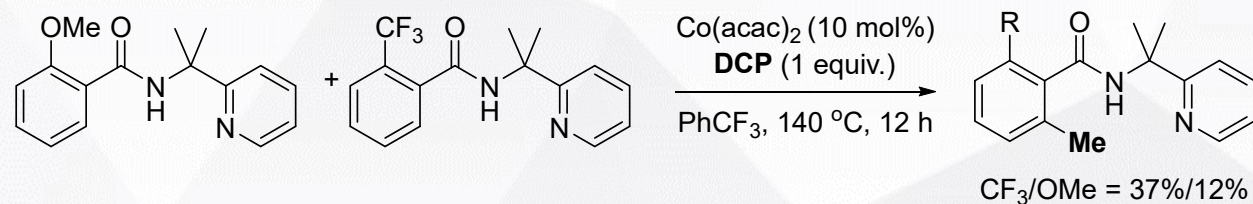


TEMPO (equiv.)	yield of 2a
1.0	66%
2.0	41%
3.0	0%

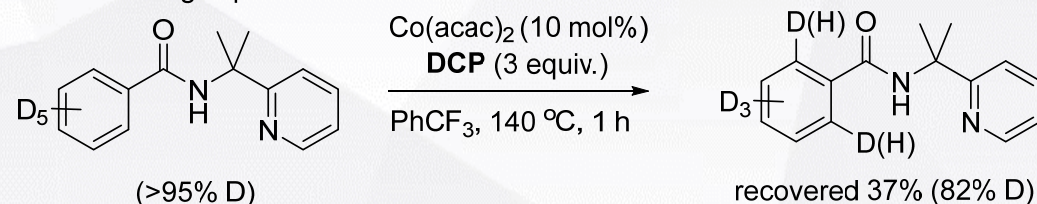


detected by GCMS

b) intermolecular competition experiment



c) H/D scrambling experiment



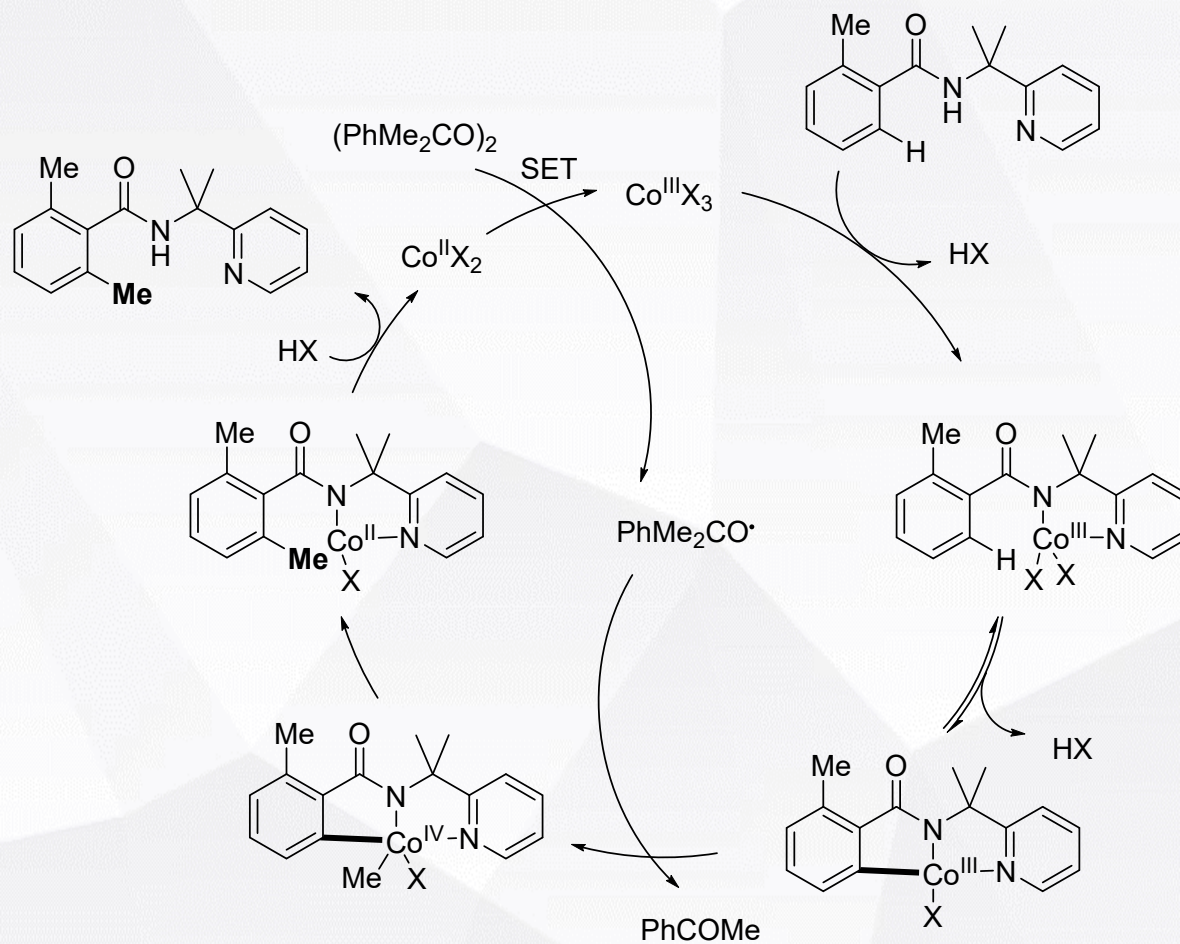


Methylation: **Co**

Based on C-H Activation

>> Lu, H. 2016:

Proposed mechanism: $\text{Co}^{\text{II}}/\text{Co}^{\text{IV}}$

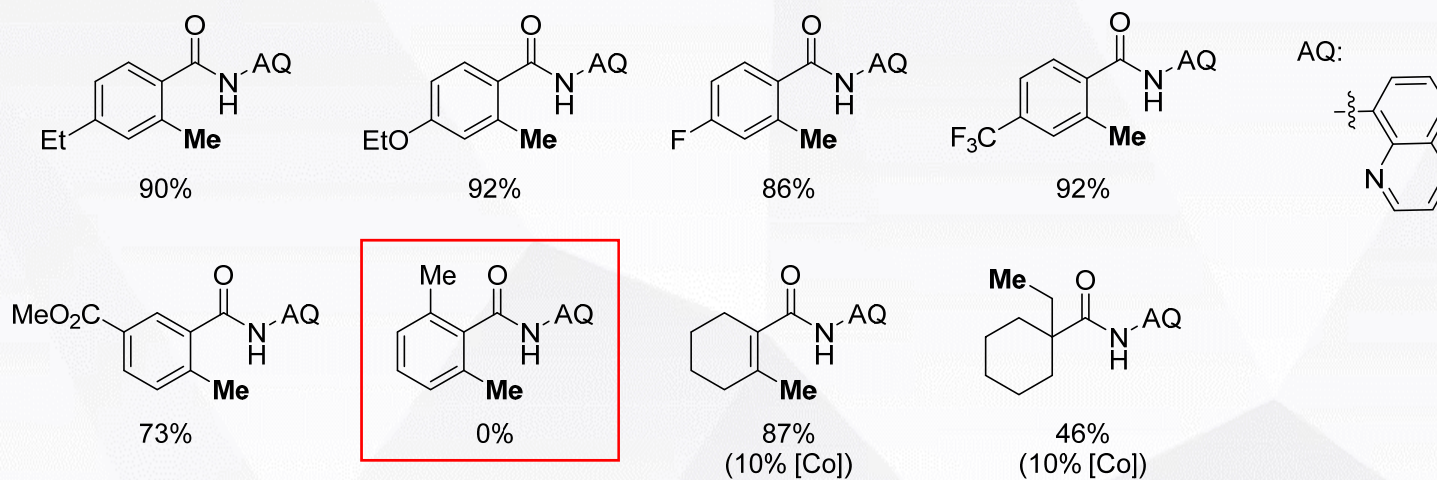
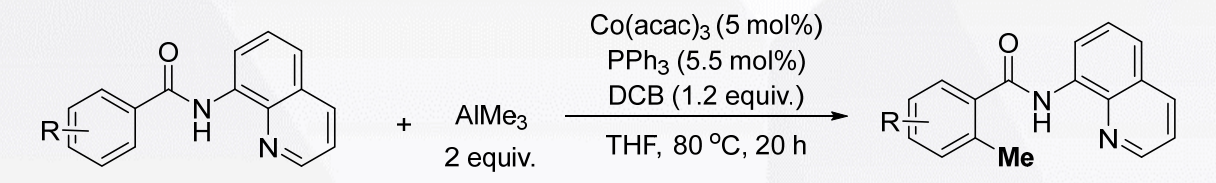




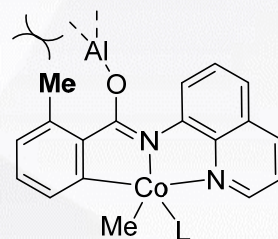
Methylation: **Co**

Based on C-H Activation

>> Xu, K. 2016:



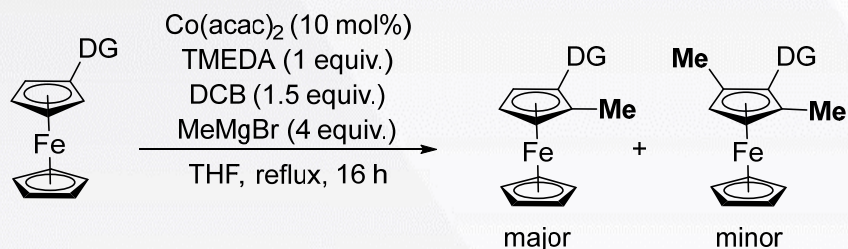
□ Xu, K. et al. *Org. Lett.* **2016**, *18*, 5628-5631.



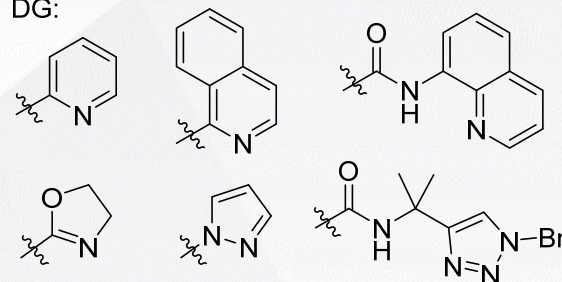
Methylation: **Co**

Based on C-H Activation

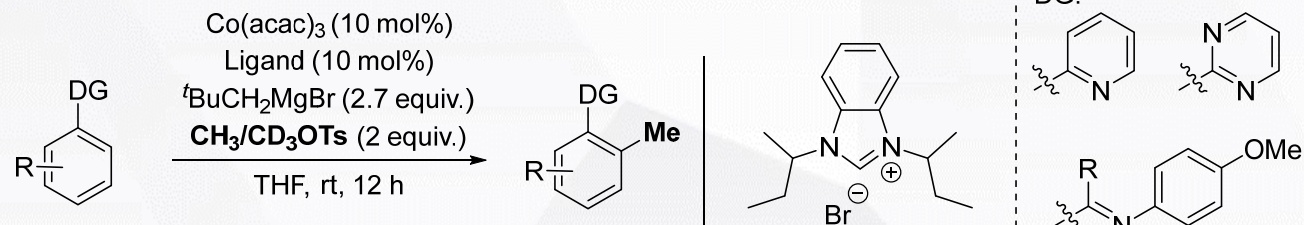
2017: Butenschön

Butenschön, H. et al. *Eur. J. Org. Chem.* **2017**, 3041-3048.

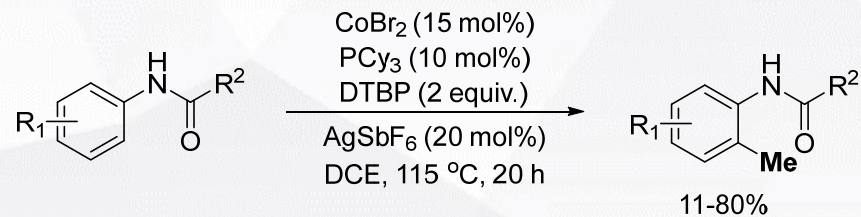
DG:



2018: Yoshikai

Yoshikai, N. et al. *Org. Chem. Front.* **2018**, 5, 2214-2218.

2019: Cai

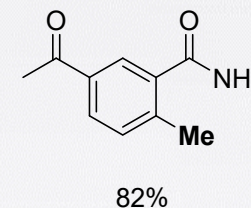
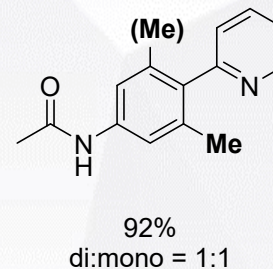
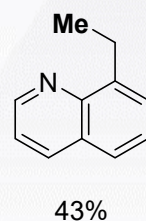
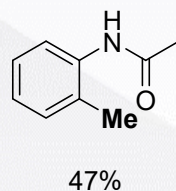
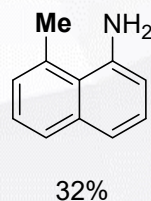
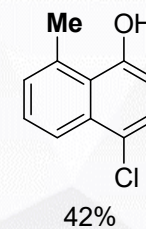
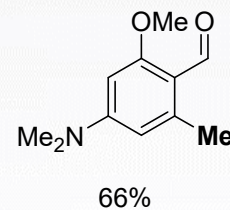
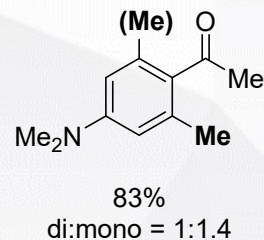
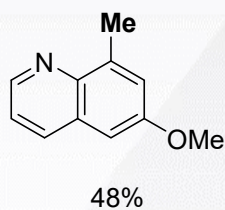
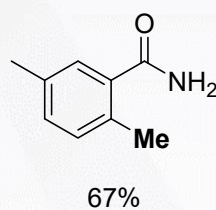
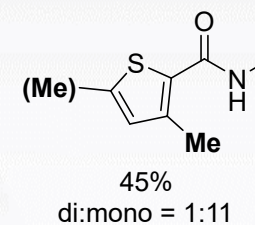
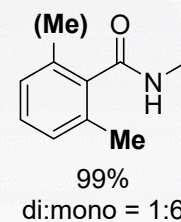
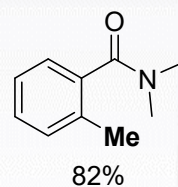
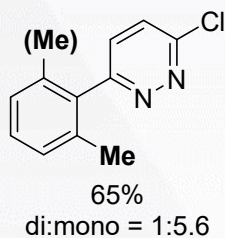
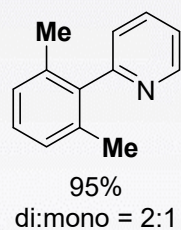
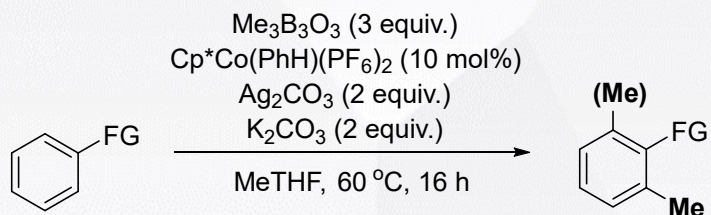
Cai, C. et al. *Org. Chem. Front.* **2019**, 6, 2043-2047.



Methylation: **Co**

Based on C-H Activation

>> Ackermann, L. 2020:



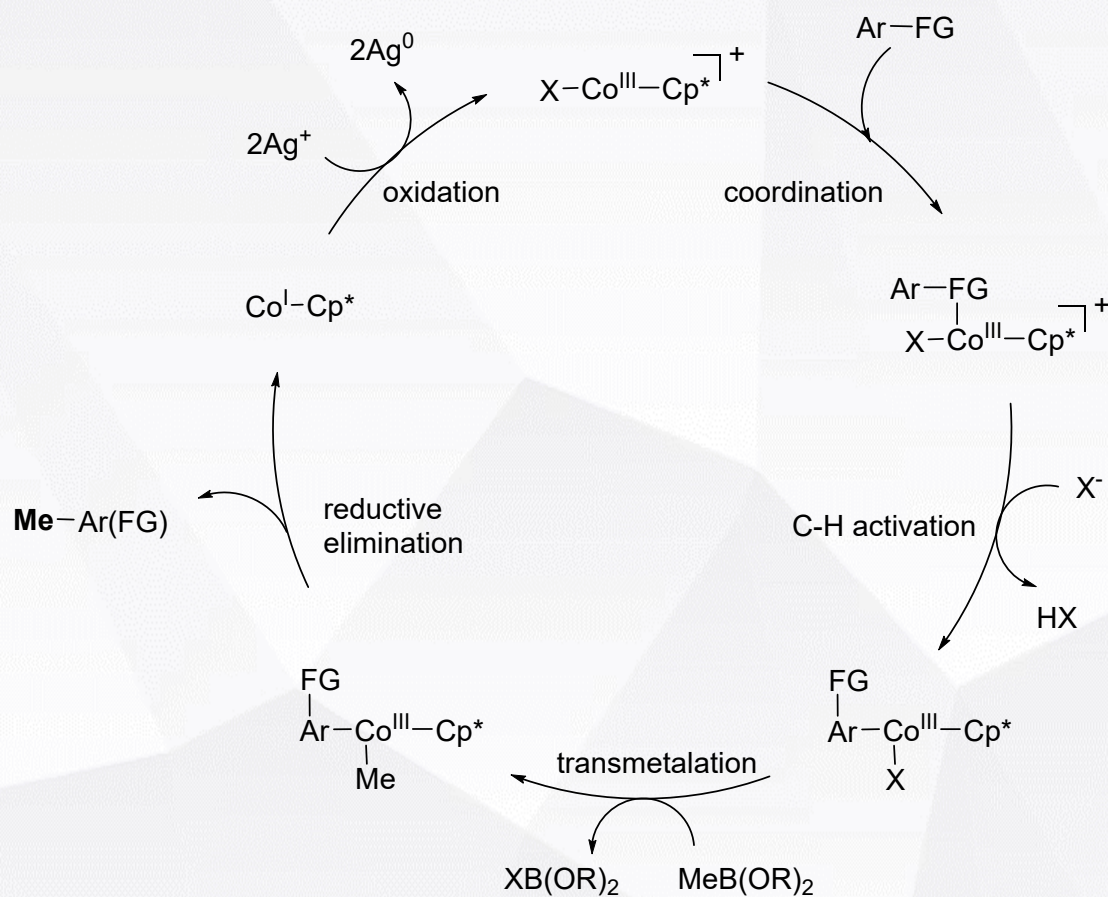


Methylation: **Co**

Based on C-H Activation

>> Ackermann, L. 2020:

Proposed mechanism: $\text{Co}^{\text{I}}/\text{Co}^{\text{III}}$

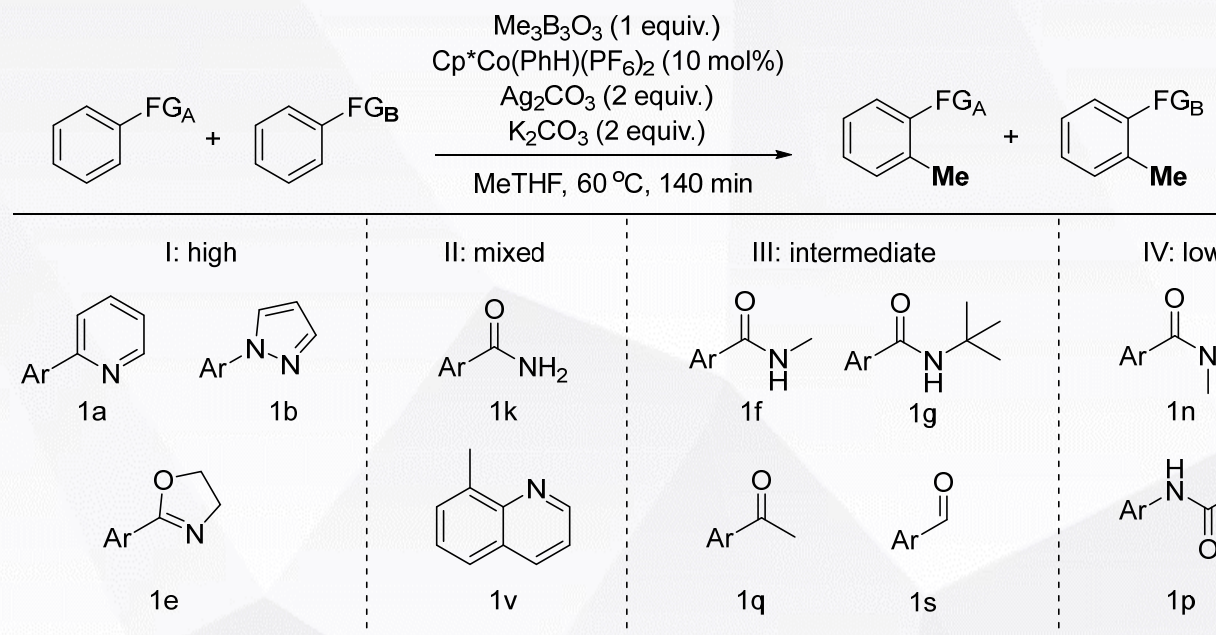
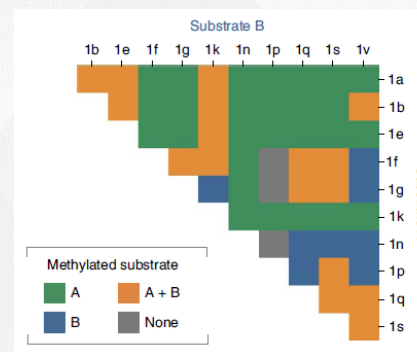




Methylation: **Co**

Based on C-H Activation

>> Ackermann, L. 2020:

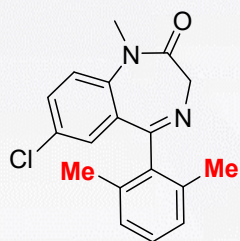
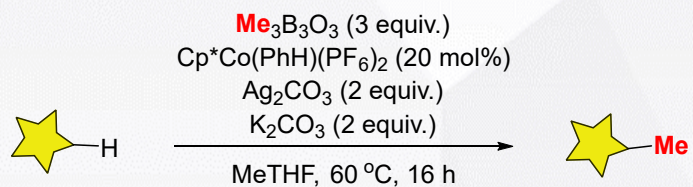




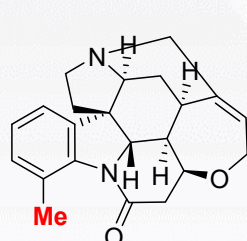
Methylation: **Co**

Based on C-H Activation

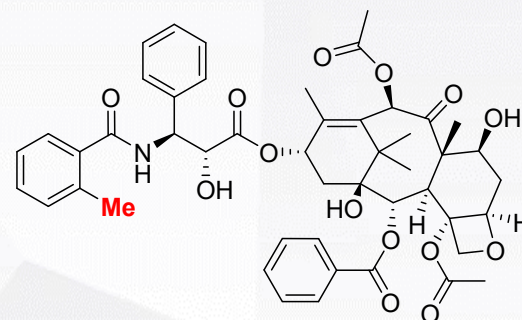
>> Ackermann, L. 2020:



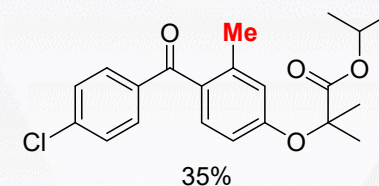
di:mono = 55%:31%
From diazepam



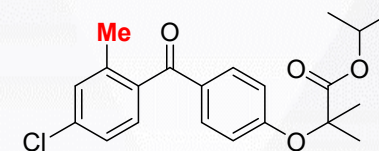
28%
From strychnine



32%
From paclitaxel

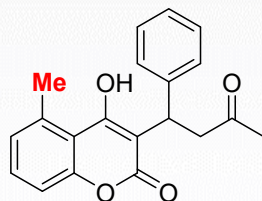


35%

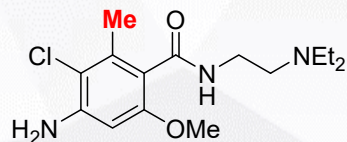


11%

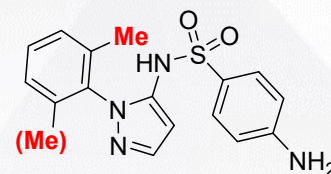
From fenofibrate (inseparable)



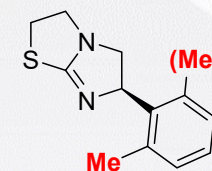
56%
From warfarin



24%
From metoclopramide



mono:di = 48%:24%
From sulfaphenazole



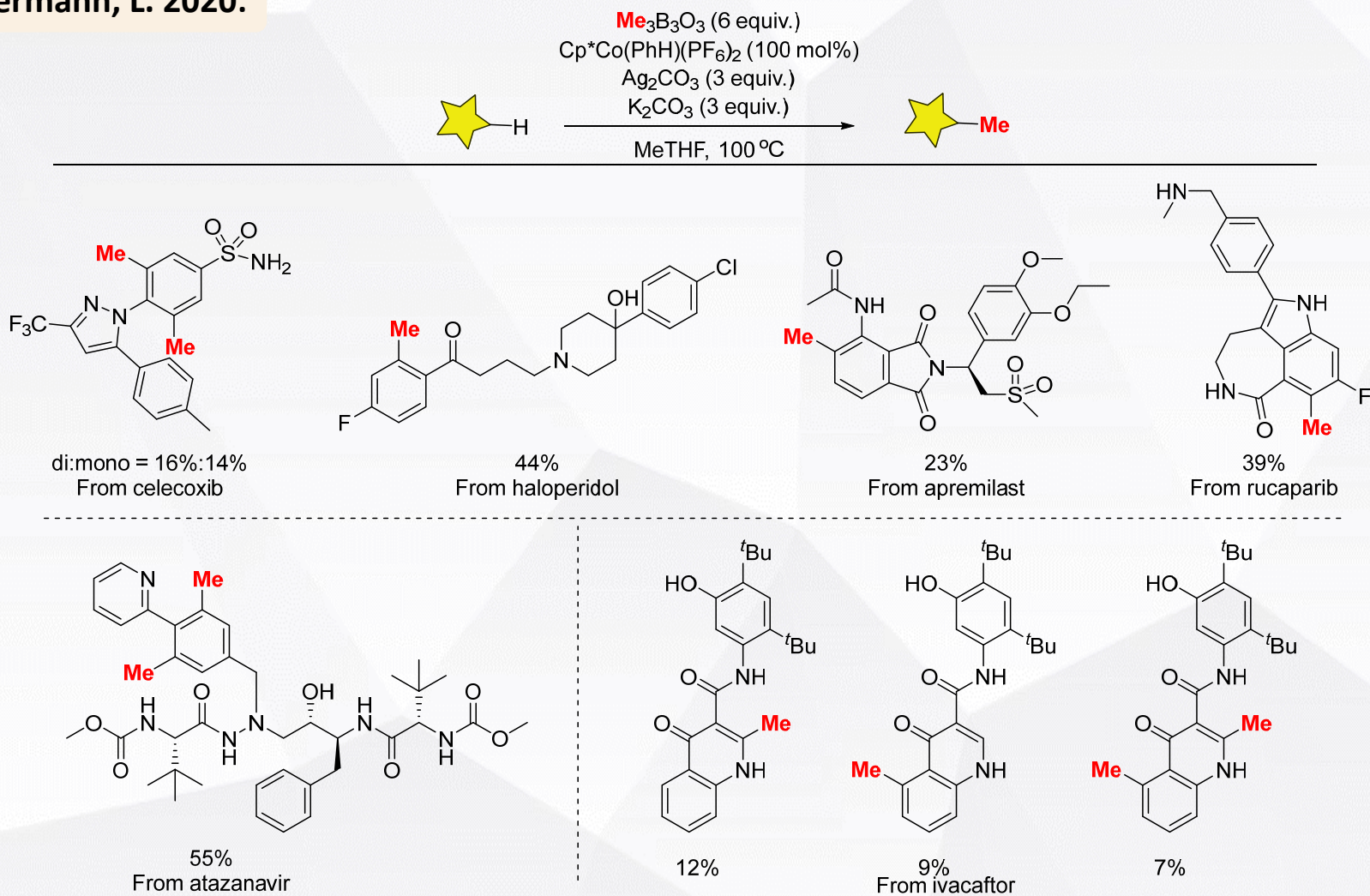
mono:di = 32%:20%
From levamisole



Methylation: **Co**

Based on C-H Activation

>> Ackermann, L. 2020:





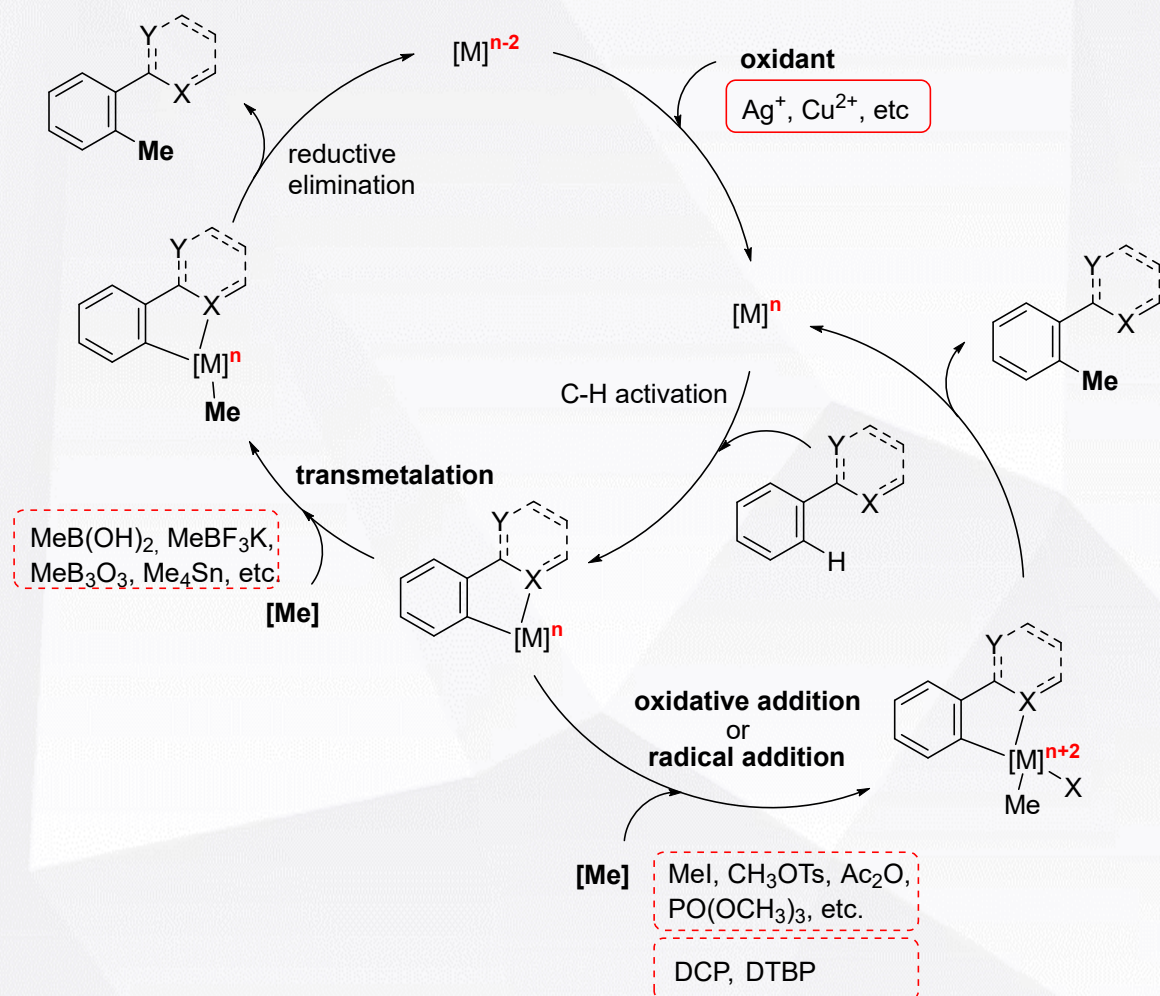
Summary & Outlook



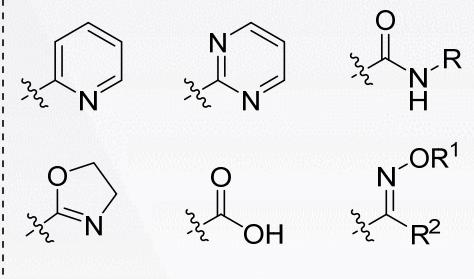
Summary

For Precious Metals: Pd/Rh/Ru/Ir

typical path:



DG: for examples



Advantages:

- ✓ Relatively simple DG
- ✓ No additional ligands usually
- ✓ Always mild methyl reagent

Disadvantages:

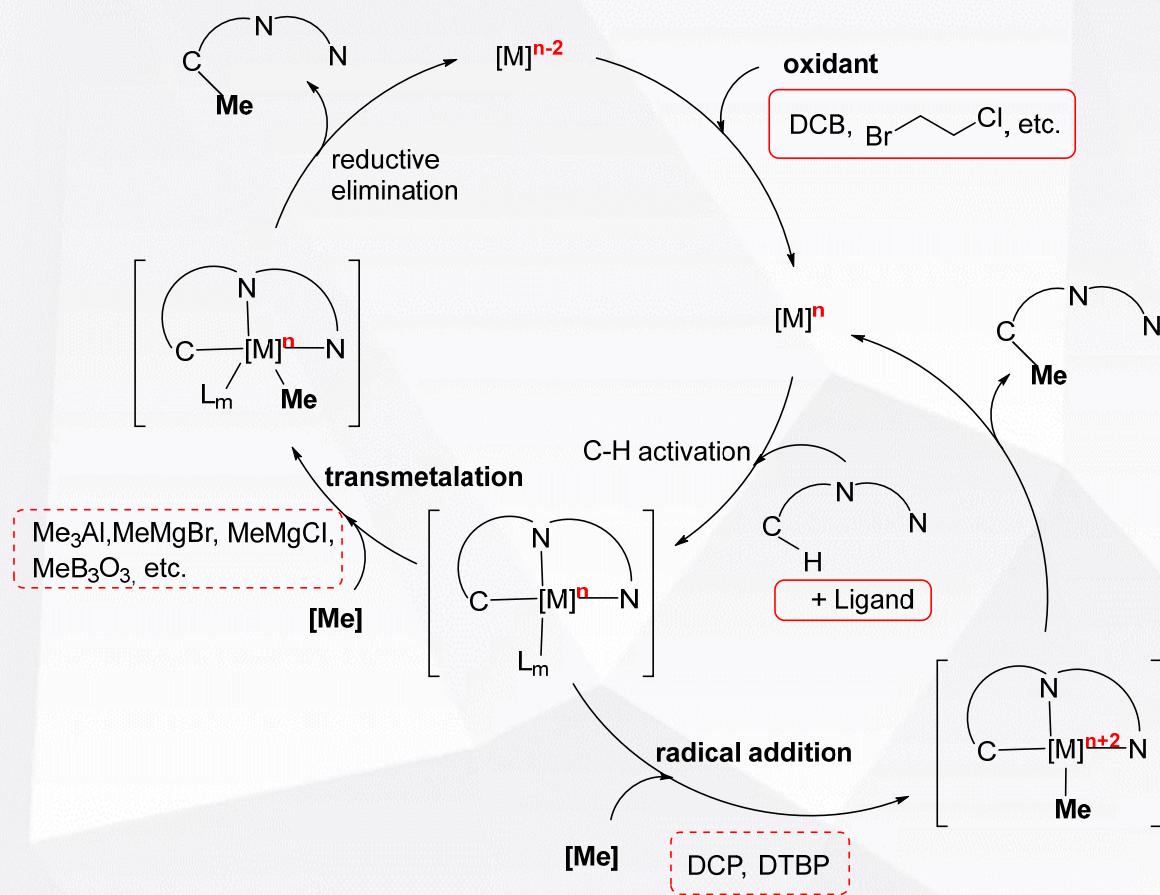
- Expensive metal catalyst
- Always equivalent metal oxidant
- Always high reaction temperature
- Additional additive for activation (such as AgSbF₆ for Rh)



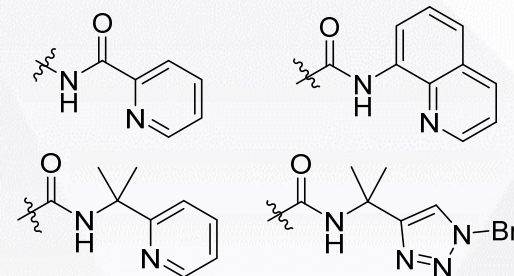
Summary

For Cheap Metals: Mn/Fe/Co/Ni

typical path:



DG: for examples



Ligand: for examples

dppen, dppe, TMEDA, PPh₃, Me₂N-TP, etc.

Advantages:

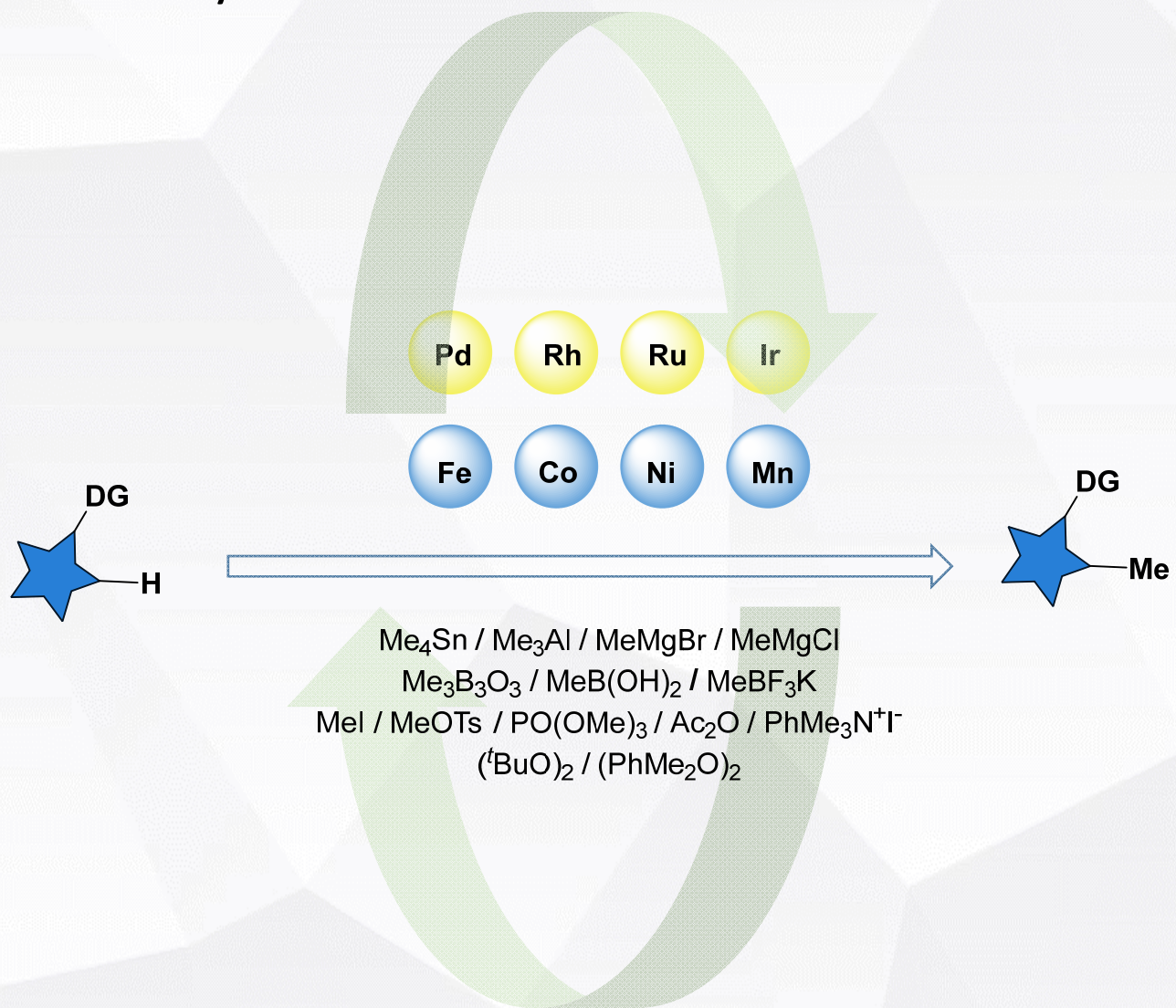
- ✓ Cheap metal catalyst
- ✓ Always mild oxidant
- ✓ Relatively low reaction temperature
- ✓ Relatively high TON (such as Fe)

Disadvantages:

- Relatively complicated DG
- Always additional ligand
- High-reactivity methyl reagent



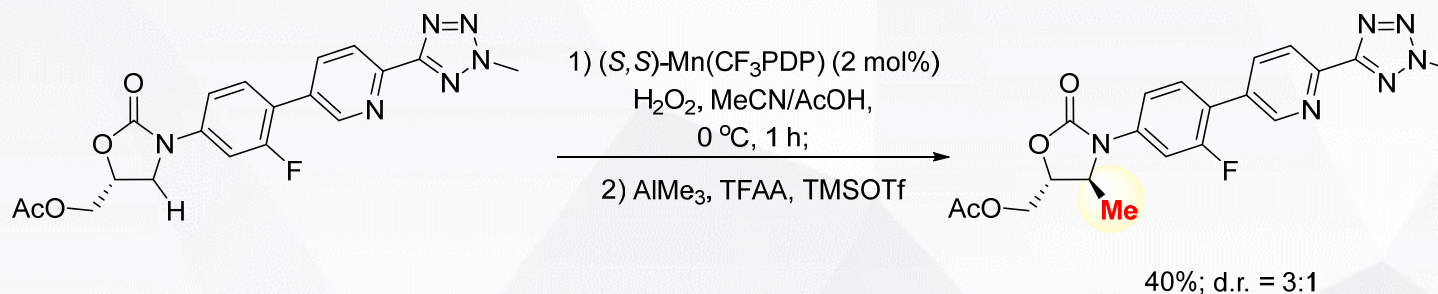
Summary





Outlook

- ✓ Understanding of the **relationship** between DGs and metals
- ✓ Conversion of DGs from “introduction” to **inherent functional group**
- ✓ Development of **methylation reagents** with high-activity and high-selectivity including CD_3 , CT_3 , $^{11}\text{CH}_3$, $^{14}\text{CH}_3$, etc.



□ White, M. C. et al. *Nature*, **2020**, 580, 621–627.

- ✓ Upgrade of C-H activation from C(sp²)-H to **C(sp³)-H** in late-stage modification
- ✓ Exploitation of **chiral** catalyst and **chiral** ligand



THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION