# **Literature Report**

# Ligand-Controlled C(sp<sup>3</sup>)–H Arylation and Olefination in Synthesis of Unnatural Chiral α–Amino Acids

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Yu, J.-Q. *et al.* Science **2014**, *343*, 1216-1220.



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# Contents



# Introduction

**Education:** Harvard University - Cambridge, MA, USA Postdoctoral Fellow, supervisor: E. J. Corey February 2001 - May 2002 University of Cambridge - Cambridge, UK Junior Research Fellow (JRF) of St. John's College October 1999 - October 2003 University of Cambridge - Cambridge, UK Ph.D. in Chemistry with Jonathan Spencer October 1994 - September 1999 Guangzhou Institute of Chemistry - Guangzhou, China M.Sc. in Chemistry with S. D. Xiao September 1988 - July 1990 Shanghai Institute of Organic Chemistry - Shanghai, China Coursework for M.Sc. degree September 1987 - July 1988 East China Normal University - Shanghai, China B.Sc. in Chemistry Top 5% of national examination for admission to SIOC Supervisors: L. X. Dai and B. Q. Wu September 1982 - July 1987

## **Academic Positions:**

 Scripps Research Institute - La Jolla, CA, USA Frank and Bertha Hupp Professor of Chemistry, 2012 Professor of Chemistry, 2010 – 2012 Associate Professor of Chemistry, 2007 - 2010
Brandeis University - Waltham, MA, USA Assistant Professor of Chemistry, 2004 - 2007
University of Cambridge - Cambridge, UK Royal Society Research Fellow, 2003 - 2004

# **Research Focus:**

Discovering new reactions for synthesis through C-H activation

- 1. Ligand-Controlled C(sp<sup>3</sup>)-H;
- 2. C-H Bonds Directed by a U-Shaped Template.





# Ligand-Controlled C(sp<sup>3</sup>)-H Arylation and Olefination in Synthesis of Unnatural Chiral $\alpha$ -Amino Acids



Yu, J.-Q. et al. Science 2014, 343, 1216-1220.

#### Palladium-Catalyzed Arylation of Primary C(sp<sup>3</sup>)-H Bonds







### Palladium-Catalyzed Arylation of Secondary C(sp<sup>3</sup>)-H Bonds





![](_page_11_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_12_Figure_0.jpeg)

## **Further Applications of Pd Catalysis with L10**

![](_page_13_Figure_1.jpeg)

![](_page_14_Figure_0.jpeg)

#### Unnatural $\alpha$ -Amino Acid Elaboration

![](_page_15_Figure_1.jpeg)

- a) 5 mol% Grubbs Catalyst 2nd Generation, DCM, 50 °C, 16-19 h;
- b) Pd/C, H<sub>2</sub>, rt, EtOAc, 40 min-24 h.

## Synthesis and Crystallography of Primary and Secondary C(sp<sup>3</sup>)-H Activation Intermediates

![](_page_16_Figure_1.jpeg)

## Catalytic Reaction of Intermediates in C(sp<sup>3</sup>)-H Arylation Reactions

![](_page_17_Figure_1.jpeg)

## Ligand-Enabled Methylene C(sp<sup>3</sup>)–H Bond Activation with a Pd<sup>II</sup> Catalyst

![](_page_18_Figure_1.jpeg)

Yu, J.-Q. et al. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2012, 134, 18570-18572.

## Ligand-Enabled Triple C-H Activation Reactions: One-Pot Synthesis of Diverse 4-Aryl -2-quinolinones from Propionamides

![](_page_19_Figure_1.jpeg)

Yu, J.-Q. et al. Angew.Chem.Int. Ed. 2014, 53, 6692-6695.

# **Proposed Catalytic Pathway**

![](_page_20_Figure_1.jpeg)

# Ligand-Enabled $\gamma$ -C-H Olefination and Carbonylation: Construction of $\beta$ -Quaternary Carbon Centers

![](_page_21_Figure_1.jpeg)

## Ligand-Enabled Cross-Coupling of C(sp<sup>3</sup>)–H bonds with Arylboron Reagents *via* Pd(II)/Pd(0) Catalysis

![](_page_22_Figure_1.jpeg)

Yu, J.-Q. et al. Nat. Chem. 2014, 6, 146–150.

#### C-H Activation of Aliphatic Amines Directed by Strong $\delta$ Chelation

![](_page_23_Figure_1.jpeg)

# Palladium(0)-Catalyzed Intermolecular Arylation/Alkynylation of C(sp<sup>3</sup>)-H Bonds

![](_page_24_Figure_1.jpeg)

Yu, J.-Q. et al. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2009, 131, 9886–9887.

![](_page_24_Figure_3.jpeg)

Yu, J.-Q. et al. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2013, 135, 3387-3390.

Pd<sup>II</sup>-Catalyzed Enantioselective Activation of C(sp<sup>2</sup>)-H and C(sp<sup>3</sup>)-H Bonds Using Monoprotected Amino Acids as Chiral Ligands

![](_page_25_Figure_1.jpeg)

## **Pd<sup>II-</sup>Catalyzed Enantioselective C-H Activation of Cyclopropanes**

![](_page_26_Figure_1.jpeg)

Yu, J.-Q. et al. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2011, 133, 1959-19601.

# Palladium<sup>II</sup>-Catalyzed Enantioselective C(sp<sup>3</sup>)–H Activation Using a Chiral Hydroxamic Acid Ligand

![](_page_27_Figure_1.jpeg)

Yu, J.-Q. et al. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2014, 136, 8138-8142.

## Pd-Catalyzed Asymmetric Iodination of Unactivated C-H Bonds under Mild Conditions

![](_page_28_Figure_1.jpeg)

#### Catalyst recycling experiments

Run	1	2	3	4	5
Yield (%)	98	97	93	88	84

Yu, J.-Q. et al. Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. 2005, 44, 2112-2115.

# Pd-Catalyzed Stereoselective Oxidation of Methyl Groups by Inexpensive Oxidants under Mild Conditions

![](_page_29_Figure_1.jpeg)

Yu, J.-Q. et al. Angew.Chem.Int. Ed. 2005, 44, 7420-7424.

![](_page_30_Figure_0.jpeg)

Yu, J.-Q. et al. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2006, 128, 12634-12635.

![](_page_30_Figure_2.jpeg)

Yu, J.-Q. et al. Org. Lett. 2006, 8, 3387-3390.

![](_page_31_Figure_0.jpeg)

Yu, J.-Q. et al. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2007, 129, 3510-3511.

![](_page_31_Figure_2.jpeg)

Yu, J.-Q. et al. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2008, 130, 7190-7191.

![](_page_32_Figure_0.jpeg)

Yu, J.-Q. et al. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2010, 132, 3680-3681.

![](_page_32_Figure_2.jpeg)

Yu, J.-Q. et al. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2010, 132, 17378-17380.

# Summary

# Ligand-Controlled C(sp<sup>3</sup>)-H

![](_page_33_Figure_2.jpeg)

# Auxiliary-Controlled C(sp<sup>3</sup>)-H

![](_page_33_Figure_4.jpeg)

Over the past decade, substantial progress has been achieved in the palladium catalyzed activation of the inert  $\beta$ -C(sp<sup>3</sup>)–H bonds of aliphatic carboxylic acid derivatives using chiral oxazolines, the 8-aminoquinoline auxiliary, and a variety of weakly coordinating amide directing groups. In particular, the synthesis of unnatural amino acids via the direct  $\beta$ functionalization of  $\alpha$ -amino acids has been an area of extensive research since a seminal report by Reddy et al. We envisioned that a sequential diarylation of alanine with two different aryl iodides could potentially provide an efficient route for the preparation of  $\beta$ -Ar- $\beta$ -Ar'- $\alpha$ -amino acids containing a  $\beta$ -chiral center. Although the more strongly coordinating 8-aminoquinoline auxiliary developed by Zaitsev et al. is a powerful directing group for the  $\beta$ arylation of alanine, this auxiliary provides predominantly  $\beta$ , $\beta$ -homodiarylated products, which prevents the sequential installation of two different aryl groups. It is possible to use a specifically designed 2-methylthioaniline auxiliary to achieve monoarylation of alanine in moderate yield and then use a different auxiliary to perform the secondary C(sp<sup>3</sup>)-H arylation with a distinct aryl iodide. However, this hypothetical route has not yet been used

for preparing  $\beta$ -Ar- $\beta$ -Ar'- $\alpha$ -amino acids because the removal and installation of the second auxiliary would add three synthetic steps to the sequence. In addition, the basic reaction conditions used in the first arylation step partially racemize the amino acid to 90% enantiomeric excess.

Herein, we report the discovery that a pyridine-based ligand promotes monoarylation of primary  $\beta$ -C(sp<sup>3</sup>)–H bonds exclusively and that a second, quinoline-based ligand enables introduction of a distinct aryl group *via* subsequent secondary  $\beta$ -C(sp<sup>3</sup>)–H activation in one pot. The reactions proceed with excellent levels of diastereoselectivity with respect to the starting configuration at the  $\alpha$  carbon. As such, both configurations at the new  $\beta$ -stereogenic center can be constructed by simply choosing the order of aryl group installation. We further demonstrate that the use of the quinoline-based ligand enables the C(sp<sup>3</sup>)–H olefination of an alanine derived substrate to afford olefin-substituted chiral  $\alpha$ -amino acids.