

## **Cross-Coupling**

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Rapid and Efficient Trifluoromethylation of Aromatic and Heteroaromatic Compounds Using Potassium Trifluoroacetate Enabled by a Flow System



Going to the source: The trifluoromethylation of aryl/heteroaryl iodides has been demonstrated using a flow system, thus enabling a rapid rate of reaction. A broad spectrum of trifluoromethylated com-

pounds was prepared in good to excellent yields using CF<sub>3</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>K as the trifluoromethyl source. The process has the advantage of short reaction times and uses convenient [CF<sub>3</sub>] sources.

## Homogeneous Catalysis

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Palladium-Catalyzed Asymmetric Hydrogenation of  $\alpha$ -Acyloxy-1arylethanones

First hand: The first example of a palladium-catalyzed asymmetric hydrogenation of  $\alpha$ -acyloxy ketones (1) was accomplished to give the hydrogenated products 2 with by far the highest catalytic efficiency in up to quantitative conversions and

excellent enantioselectivities. The hydrogenated products could serve as important intermediates for the preparation of many drug candidates. TFE = 2,2,2-trifluoroethanol.

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## Years Ago

Angewandte Chemie International Edition was first published in 1962, the mother journal first in 1888. In this monthly flashback, we feature some of the articles that appeared 50 years ago. This look back can open our eyes, stimulate discussion, or even raise a smile.

The next instalment of Rolf Huisgen's groudbreaking work on 1,3-dipolar cycloadditions was published in the form of a Review on their kinetics and mechanism. Studies on stereoselectivity, solvent and substituent effects, activation parameters, and orientation phenomena showed that the reaction proceeds by a concerted addition process.

Selenium chemistry was the subject of two contributions. In a Review, J. Gosselck discussed the chemistry of organoselenium compounds, including selenols, fluorinated organoselenium compounds, and selenium-containing carbenes. In a Communication, Max Schmidt et al. reported on the reactions of selenium trioxide, which reacts explosively with oxidizable compounds. Among the reactants investigated were thiols and hydrogen chloride.

Helmut Bredereck was the author of two papers in this issue. In a Review, the synthesis of substituted s-triazines from N-formyl compounds was discussed, and in a Communication, the reactions of

N-alkylformamides with dimethyl sulfate were reported.

Directed aldol condensations to form α,β-unsaturated aldehydes were reported by Georg Wittig et al. Selfcondensation of the aldehyde was avoided by metalating the corresponding Schiff base with lithium diethylamide, and the resulting organometallic species was found to add smoothly to ketones to give the target unsaturated aldehydes.

Read more in Issue 11/1963.