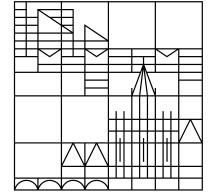


Universität
Konstanz



Isocyanate Chemistry

Ueber die Verbindungen der Cyanursäure und Cyansäure mit Aethoxyd, Methoxyd, Amyloxyd und die daraus entstehenden Producte; Acetyl- und Metacetylharnstoff, Methylamin, Aethylamin, Valeramin;
von *Adolph Wurtz* *).

Isocyanate: History, physical- and chemical data

History

- first synthesis of an organic isocyanate reported in 1848 by Adolf Wurtz

Man erhält cyanursaures Aethyloxyd, wenn man alkalisch reagirendes cyanursaures Kali mit schwefelweinsaurem Kali im Oelbade destillirt. In dem Hals der Retorte und in der Vorlage condensirt sich das Product in der Form einer krystallinischen Masse, welche man durch wiederholtes Auflösen in Alkohol reinigt, woraus beim Erkalten sehr glänzende prismatische Krystalle sich ausscheiden.

A. von Wurtz, Justus Liebigs Ann. Chem. 1849, 71, 326–342

- commercially important synthesis by phosgenation of amines and amides discovered 1884 by W. Hentschel
- Since 1930 commercially polyurethane production discovered by O. Bayer at the I.G. Farben laboratories in Leverkusen
- Bhopal disaster 1984: Over half a million people exposed to MIC-Methyl-Isocyanate. Over 5000 deaths, rest injured.

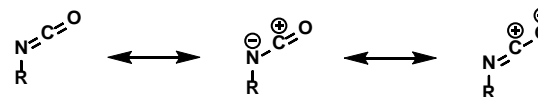


Physical Properties

- colourless liquids or low melting solids
- IR: 2300 to 2250 cm⁻¹
- ¹³C: 115-135 ppm

Chemical Properties

- versatile reactivity due to its electronic structure
- reaction with various nucleophiles; steric hindrance influences rate of reaction: primary > secondary > tertiary
- reaction with various electrophiles
- various addition, cycloaddition and insertion reactions along the N-C-bond

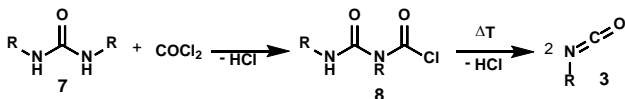
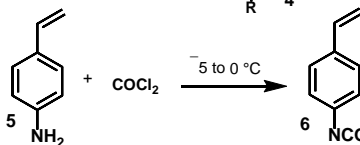
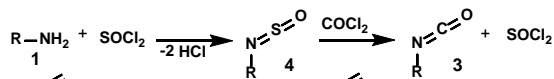
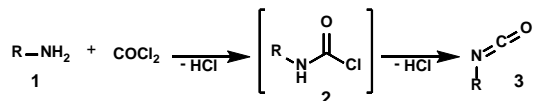


Syntheses of Isocyanates

1 Phosgenation reactions

- Disadvantage: high toxicity
- Advantage: very clean reaction, merely no side products

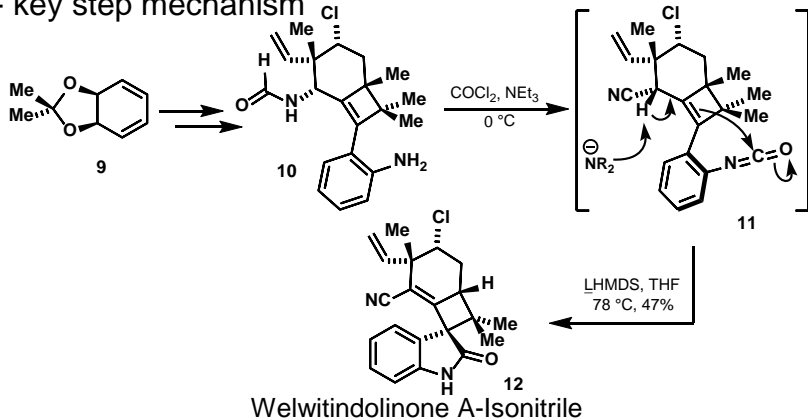
Reaction with amines



S. Ozaki *Chem. Rev.*, **1972**, 72 (5), pp 457–496

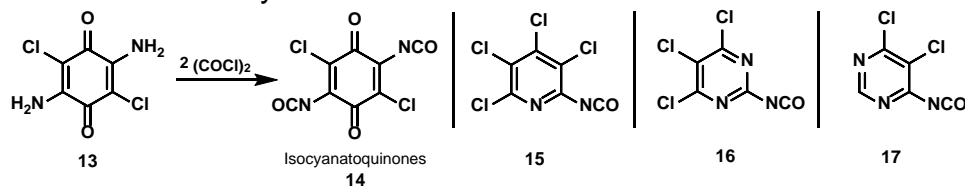
Application in the Total Synthesis of Welwitindolinone A

- key step mechanism



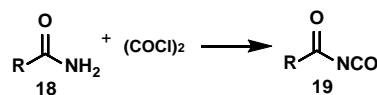
2 Reaction of amines and amides

Reaction of oxalyl chloride with amines

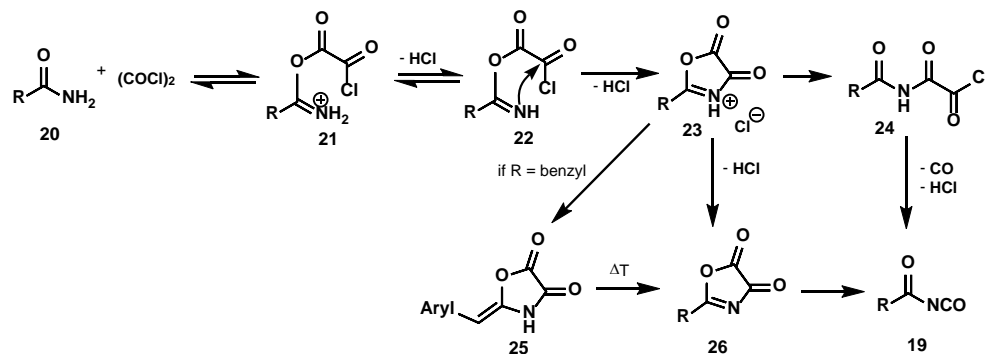


S. Ozaki *Chem. Rev.*, **1972**, 72 (5), pp 457–496

Reaction of amides with oxalyl chloride to deliver acyl isocyanates

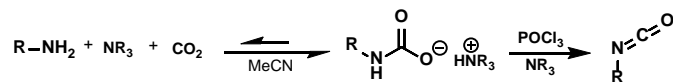


proposed mechanism



A. J. Speziale, L. R. Smith, *J. Org. Chem.* **1963**, 28, 1805–1811

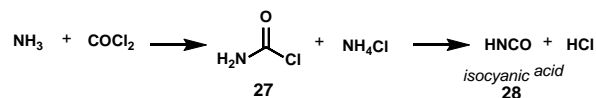
Reaction of primary amines with amine bases and CO₂



T. E. Waldman, W. D. McGhee, *J. Chem. Soc. Chem. Commun.* **1994**, 957

Syntheses of Isocyanates

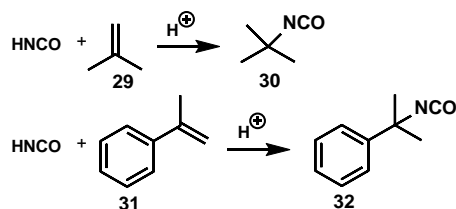
3 From isocyanic acid



H. S. Rothrock, 1964, 111, 3–5

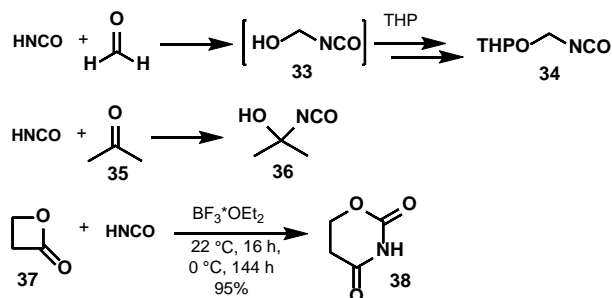
3a Reaction with Olefins

- exo-Methylene most reactive
- major drawback: harsh conditions, trimerization of isocyanic acid, polymerization of olefins
- ionizable H-N bond makes HNCO behave like pseudo hydrogen halide



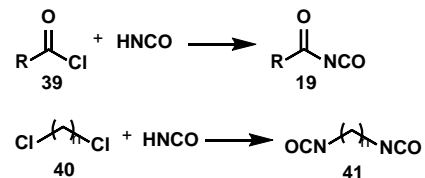
H. S. Rothrock, 1964, 111, 3–5

3b Reaction with Carbonyls



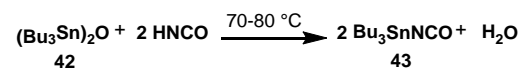
H. S. Rothrock, 1964, 111, 3–5

3c Reaction with Acid Chlorides and Alkyl Chlorides



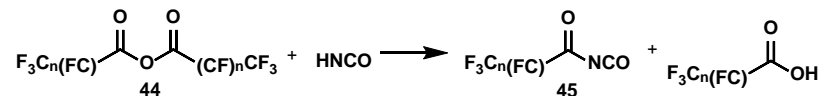
S. Ozaki *Chem. Rev.*, 1972, 72 (5), pp 457–496

3d Reaction with Organometal Oxides



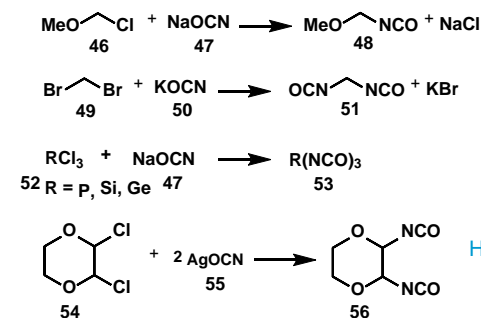
S. Ozaki *Chem. Rev.*, 1972, 72 (5), pp 457–496

3e Reaction with Acid Anhydrides



S. Ozaki *Chem. Rev.*, 1972, 72 (5), pp 457–496

3f Reaction of Alkylhalides with Alkali Cyanates

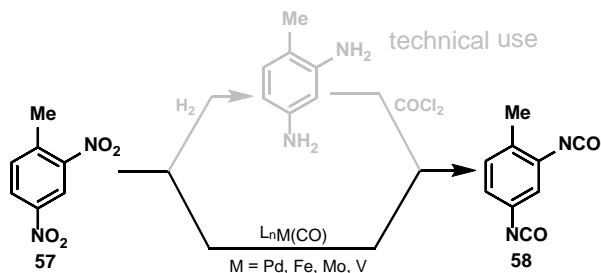


H. S. Rothrock, 1964, 111, 3–5

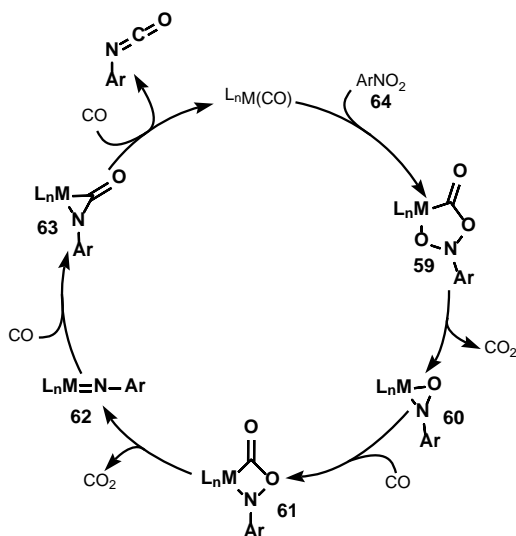
S. Ozaki *Chem. Rev.*, 1972, 72 (5), pp 457–496

Syntheses of Isocyanates

4 Reduction of Nitrocompounds with "CO"

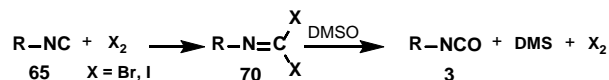
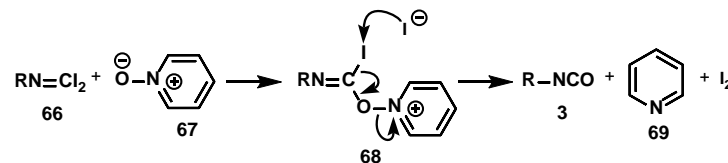
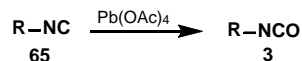


Proposed mechanism:

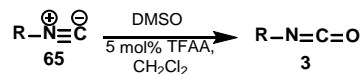


A. M. Tafesh, J. Weiguny, *Chem. Rev.* **1996**, *96*, 2035–2052

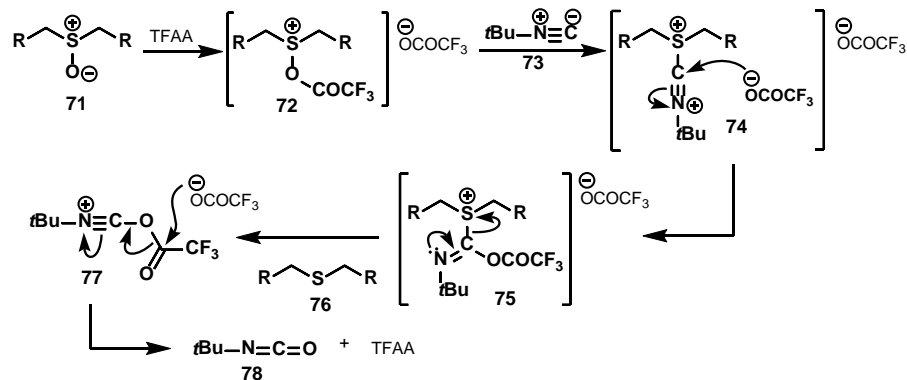
5 Oxidation of Isonitriles



S. Ozaki *Chem. Rev.*, **1972**, *72* (5), pp 457–496



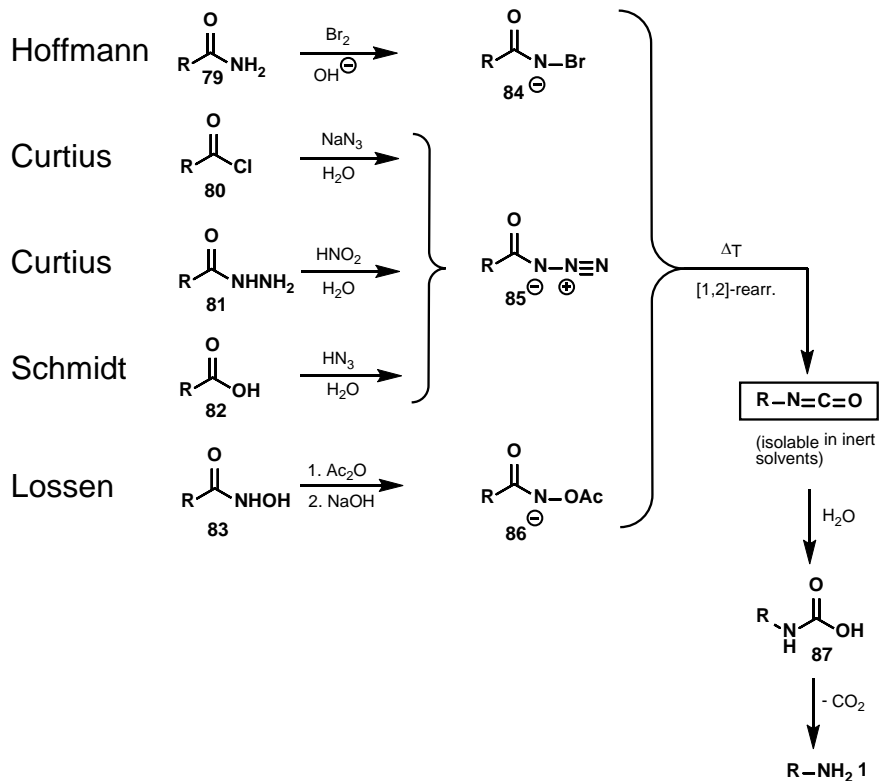
Proposed mechanism for the Oxidation of Isonitriles by Sulfoxides with TFAA:



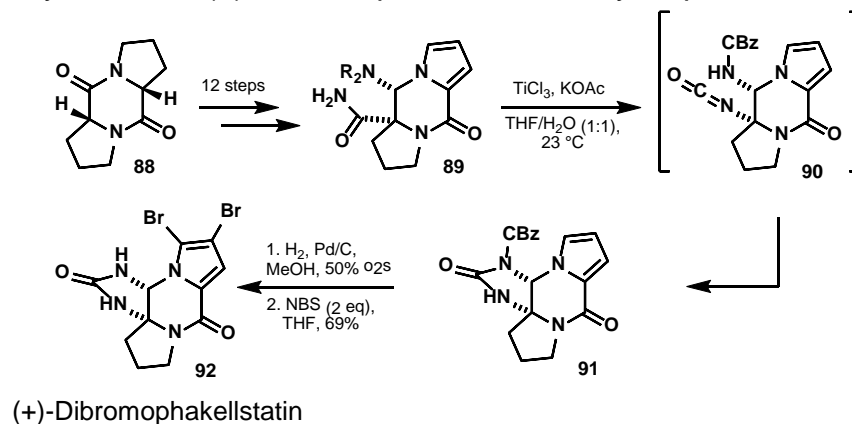
H. V. Le, B. Ganem, *Org. Lett.* **2011**, *13*, 2584–2585

Syntheses of Isocyanates

7 Rearrangement Reactions

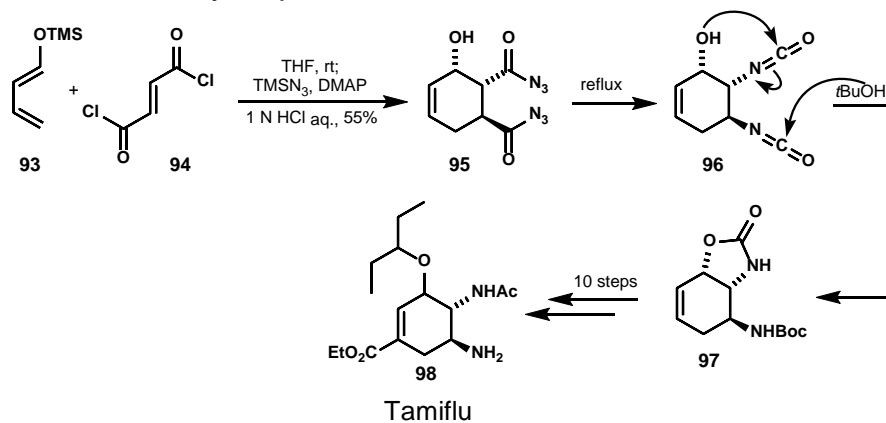


Application of the Hofmann rearrangement in the Total Synthesis of (+)-Dibromophakellstatin - key step mechanism



D. Romo *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **2003**, *125* (21), pp 6344–6345

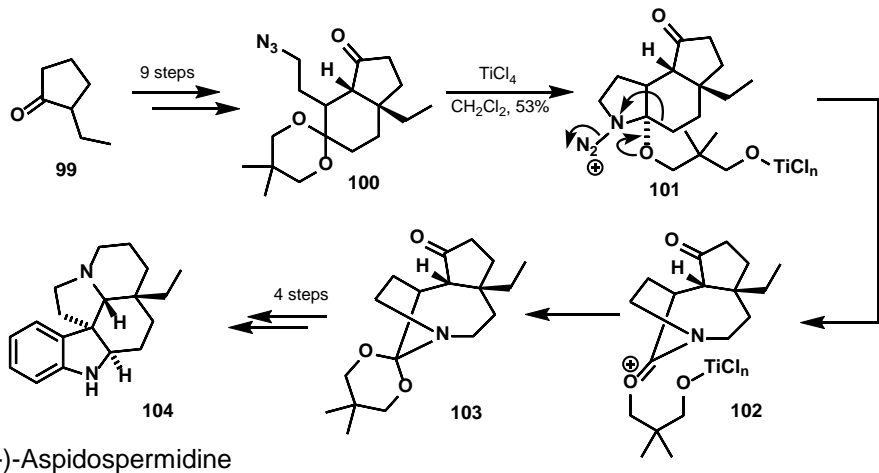
Application of the Curtius rearrangement in the Total Synthesis of Tamiflu - key step mechanism



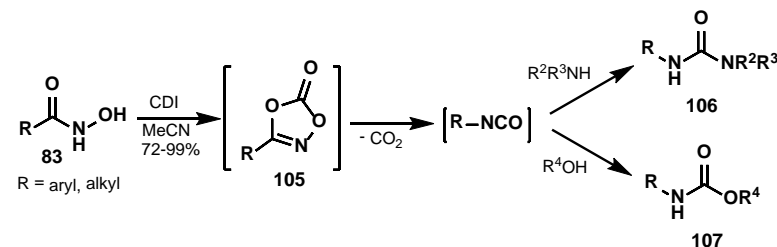
K. Yamatsugu, S. Kamijo, Y. Suto, M. Kanai, M. Shibasaki, *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2007**, *48*, 1403–1406

Syntheses of Isocyanates

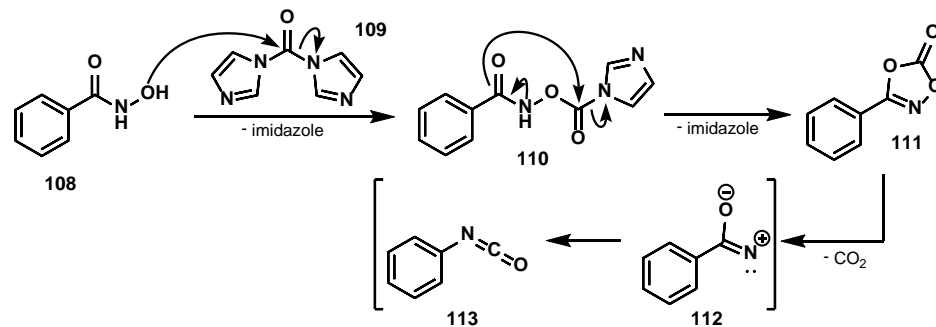
Application of the Schmidt rearrangement in the Total Synthesis of (+)-Aspidospermidine - key step mechanism



Carbonyldiimidazole-mediated Lossen-rearrangement



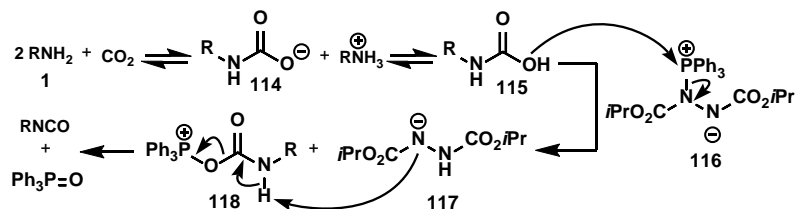
proposed mechanism:



Syntheses of Isocyanates

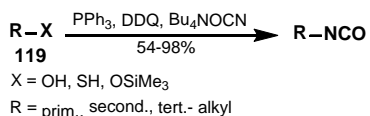
8 More phosgene-free preparation methods

8a Isocyanate formation using Mitsunobu Chemistry



D. Saylik, M. J. Horvath, P. S. Elmes, W. R. Jackson, C. G. Lovel, K. Moody, *J. Org. Chem.* **1999**, *64*, 3940–3946

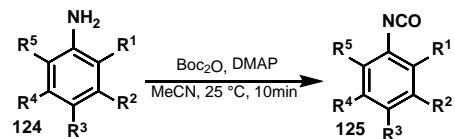
8b Alkyl isocyanates from Alcohol, Thiol, TMS-Ethers



| Entry | Conversion | Entry | Conversion |
|-------|------------|-------|------------|
| 1 | 100% | 3 | 100% |
| 2 | 0% | | 0% |
| | 100% | | 0% |
| | 0% | | |

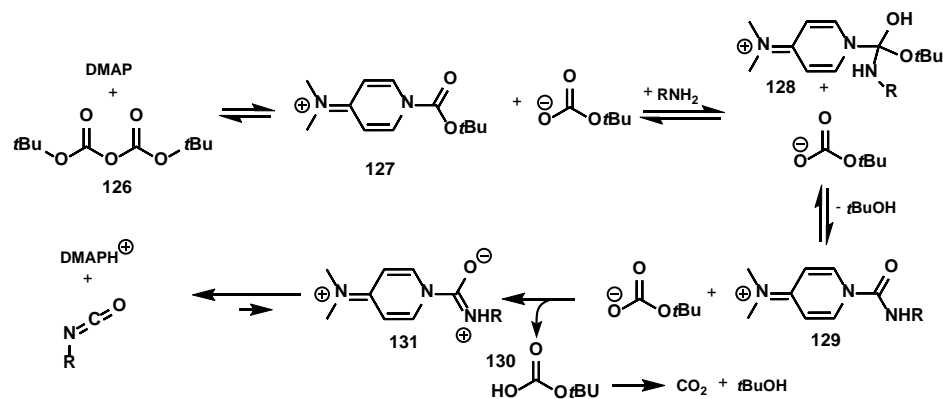
B. Akhlaghinia, S. Samiei, *Turkish J. Chem.* **2007**, *31*, 35–43

8c Mild phosgene free synthesis of isocyanates



| R ¹ | R ² | R ³ | R ⁴ | R ⁵ | Yield [%] |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------|
| Me | H | Me | H | Me | 96 |
| Me | H | H | H | Me | 94 |
| iPr | H | H | H | iPr | 99 |
| OMe | H | OMe | H | OMe | 97 |
| Me | H | H | H | H | 44 |
| OMe | H | H | H | H | 86 |
| OMe | H | Me | H | H | 88 |
| OMe | H | OMe | H | H | 76 |
| Me | H | OMe | H | H | 58 |
| Me | Me | OMe | H | H | 89 |
| Ch | Ch | OMe | H | H | 42 |
| H | H | OMe | H | H | 41 |

Proposed Mechanism:

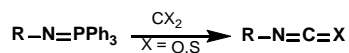


H. J. Knolker, T. Braxmeier, G. Schlechtingen, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. Engl.* **1995**, *34*, 2497–2500

Syntheses of Isocyanates

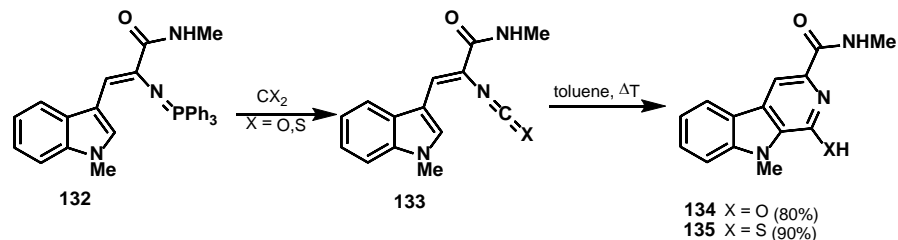
9 The Staudinger-Aza-Wittig Reaction

Main advantage: replacement of toxic phosgene by CO₂ (nontoxic, abundant, economical)

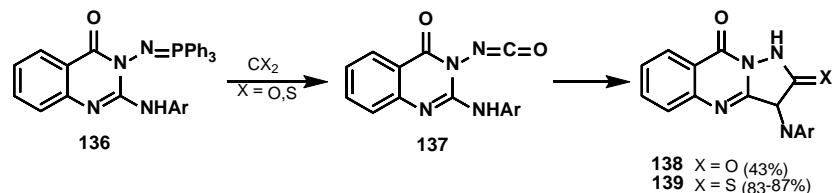


9a Aza-Wittig/intramolecular electrocyclic ring closure

Synthesis of β -carbolines

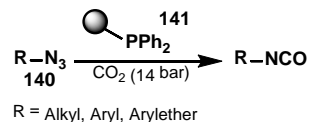


Synthesis of 1,2,4-triazolo[5,1-*b*]quinazolin-9(3*H*)-ones



9b Microwave assisted Staudinger-Aza-Wittig-Reaction

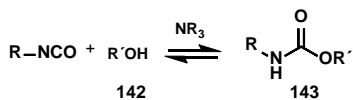
• polymer-bound diphenylphosphine (advantage: easily removable by filtration)



D. Camaroglio, K. Martina, G. Palmisano, A. Penoni, C. Domini, G. Cravotto, *Beilstein J. Org. Chem.* **2013**, *9*, 2378–2386

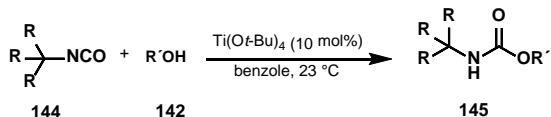
Reactions of Isocyanates

1a Reaction with Alcohols – Carbamate Formation

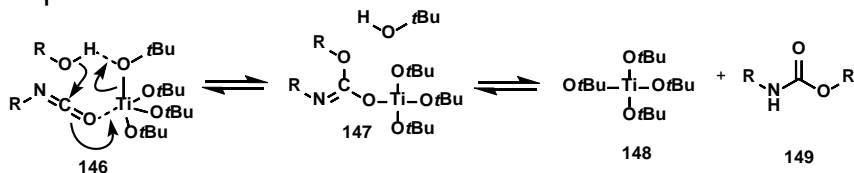


S. Ozaki *Chem. Rev.*, **1972**, 72 (5), pp 457–496

Ti-catalyzed reaction of highly hindered Isocyanates with Alcohols:

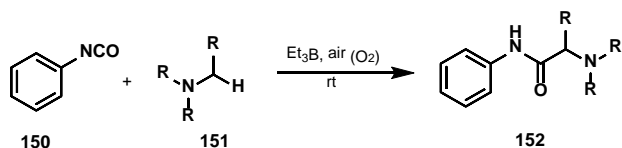


Proposed mechanism:



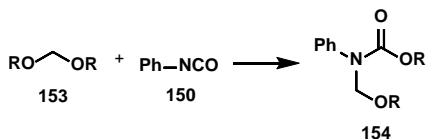
C. Spino, M. A. Joly, C. Godbout, M. Arbour, *J. Org. Chem.* **2005**, 70, 6118–6121

1b Reaction with tertiary Amines – Carbamoylation



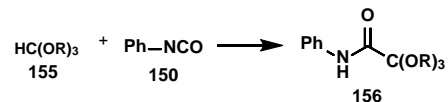
Tanaka *Org. Lett.*, **2007**, 9 (24), pp 5115–5118

1c Reaction with Acetals



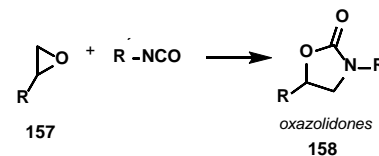
S. Ozaki *Chem. Rev.*, **1972**, 72 (5), pp 457–496

1d Reaction with ortho-Esters



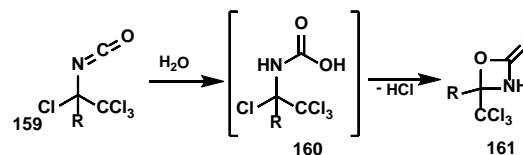
S. Ozaki *Chem. Rev.*, **1972**, 72 (5), pp 457–496

1e Reaction with Epoxides



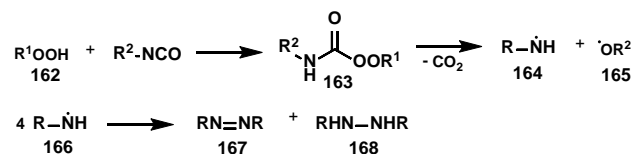
A. Baba, M. Fujiwara, H. Matsuda, *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1986**, 27, 77–80

Synthesis of oxazetidinones:



S. Ozaki *Chem. Rev.*, **1972**, 72 (5), pp 457–496

1f Reaction with Peroxy-compounds

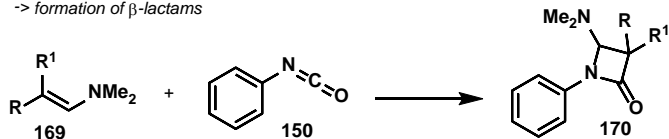


S. Ozaki *Chem. Rev.*, **1972**, 72 (5), pp 457–496

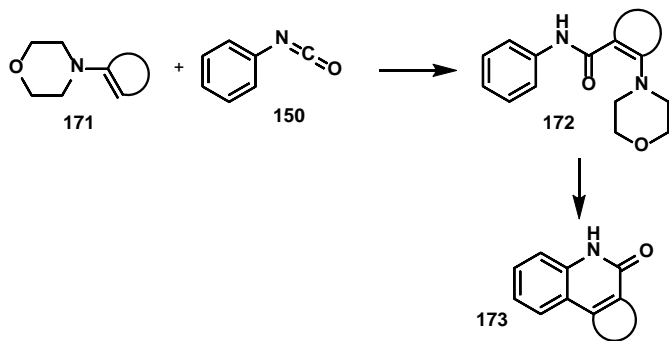
Reactions of Isocyanates

2a Reaction with Enamines

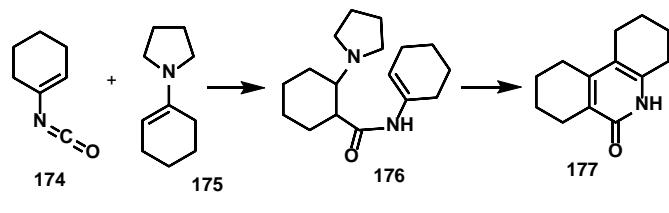
-> formation of β -lactams



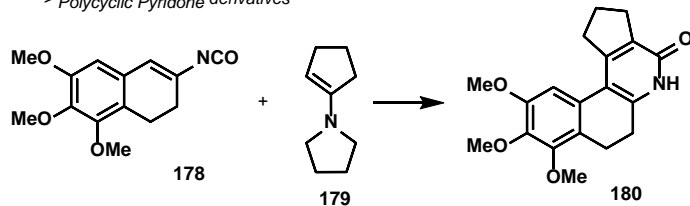
-> Quinoline derivatives



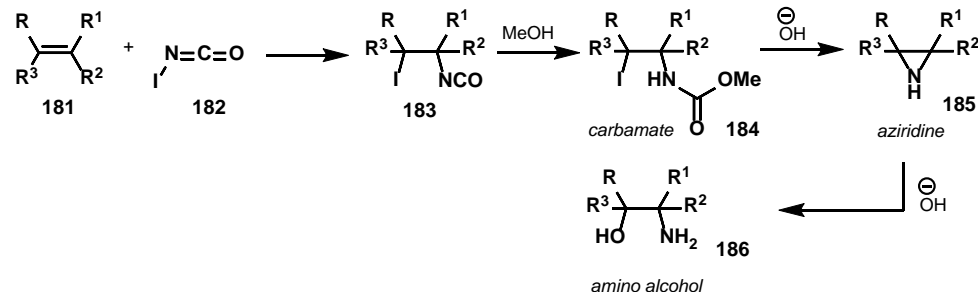
-> Pyridone derivatives



-> Polycyclic Pyridone derivatives



2b Reaction of Iodo Isocyanates with double bonds

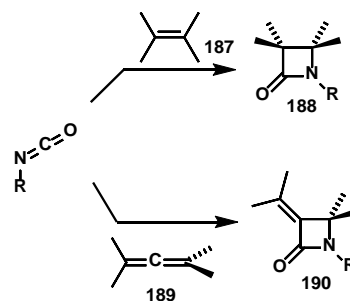


S. Ozaki *Chem. Rev.*, 1972, 72 (5), pp 457–496

3 Cycloaddition Reactions – Formation of Heterocyclic Ring Systems

3a [2+2]-Cycloaddition reaction

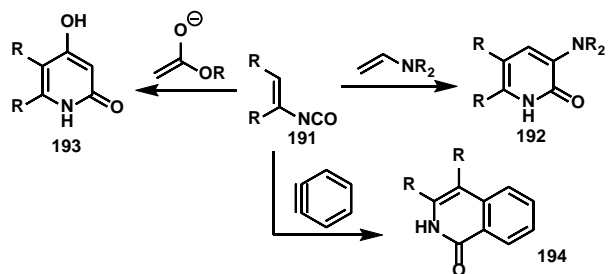
Synthesis of β -Lactams (Azetidiones)



F. P. Cossío, G. Roa, B. Lecea, J. M. Ugalde, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1995, 117, 12306–12313

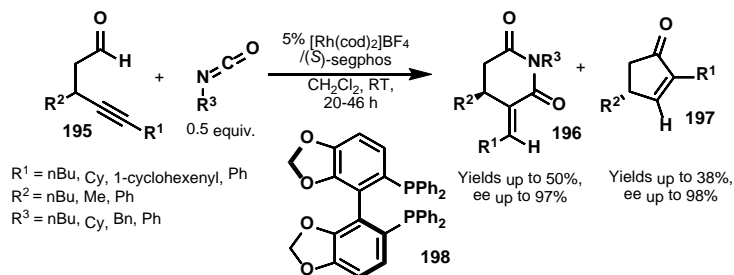
Reactions of Isocyanates

3b Formal [4+2]-Cycloaddition



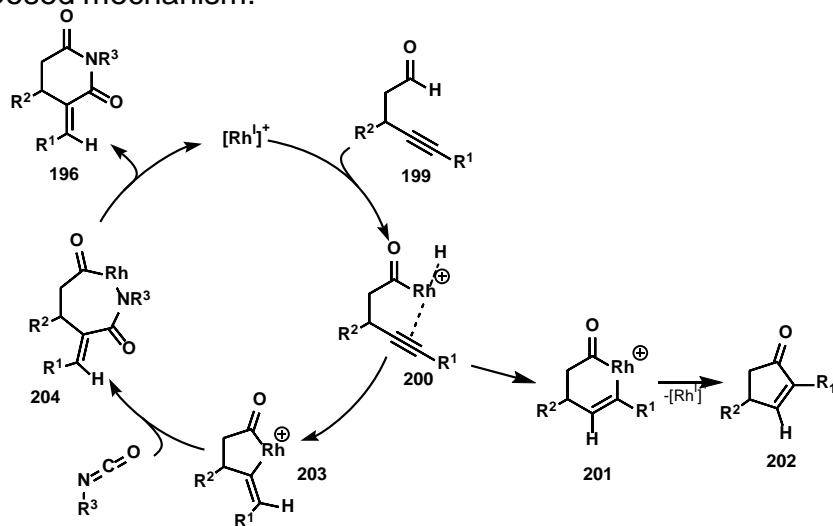
J. H. Rigby, M. Qabar, G. Ahmed, R. C. Hughes, *Tetrahedron* **1993**, *49*, 10219–10228

Synthesis of 4-alkylidene-glutarimides:

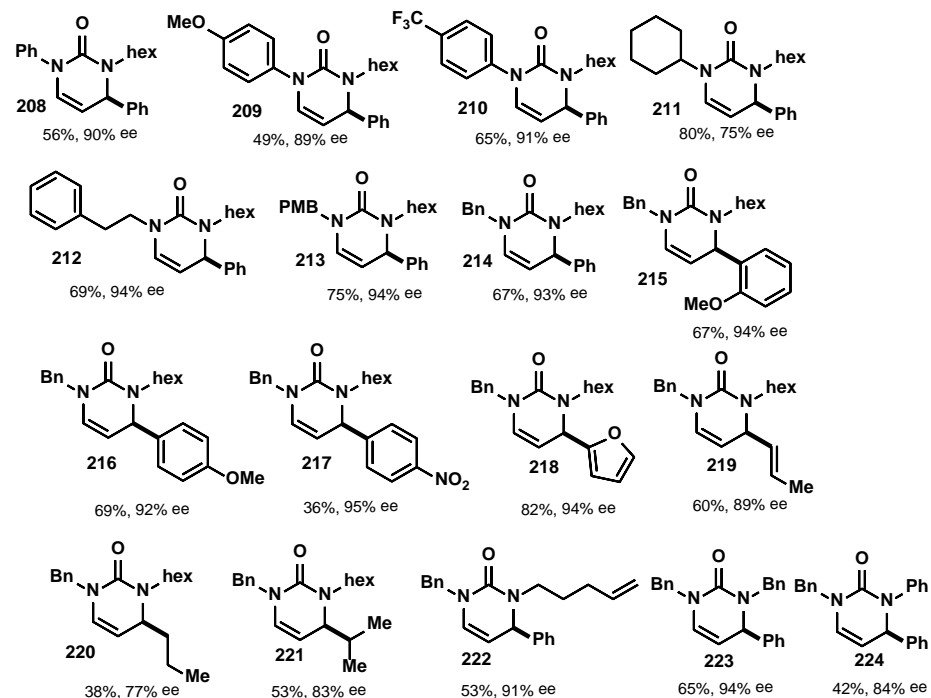
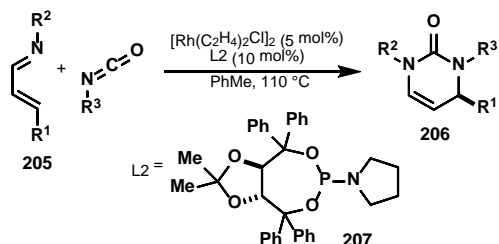


R¹ = nBu, Cy, 1-cyclohexenyl, Ph
R² = nBu, Me, Ph
R³ = nBu, Cy, Bn, Ph

Proposed mechanism:



Enantioselective Synthesis of Pyrimidinones:

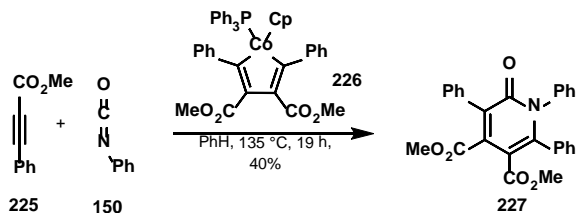


K. M. Oberg, T. Rovis, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2011**, *133*, 4785–4787

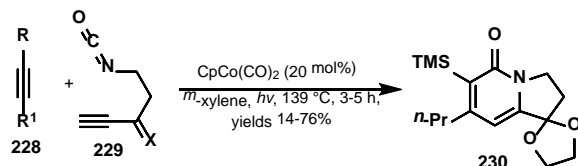
Reactions of Isocyanates

3c [2+2+2]-Cycloaddition

Cobalt-catalyzed:



Yamazaki, *Tet. Lett.* 1977, 18, 1333-1336.

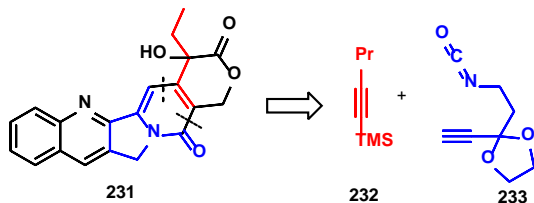


R = TMS, nPr, tBu, Me, ketal, CH_2OR

R¹ = TMS, Et, CO_2Et

X = H_2 , ketal

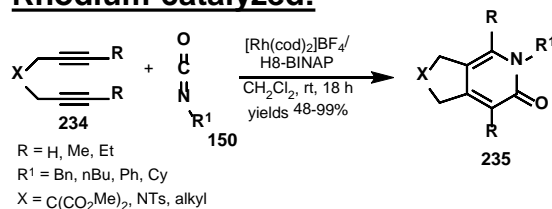
Application in the Total Synthesis of Camptothecin:



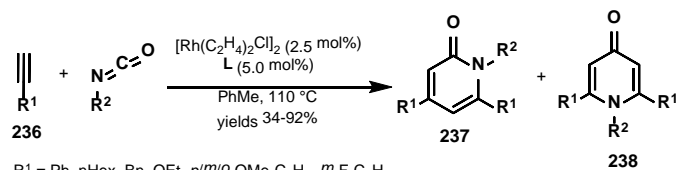
camptothecin

R. A. Earl K. P. Vollhardt, 1983, 6991-6993

Rhodium-catalyzed:

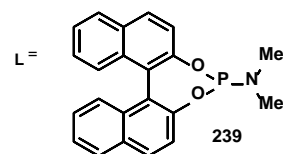


K. Tanaka, A. Wada, K. Noguchi, *Agriculture* 2005, 2117-2119



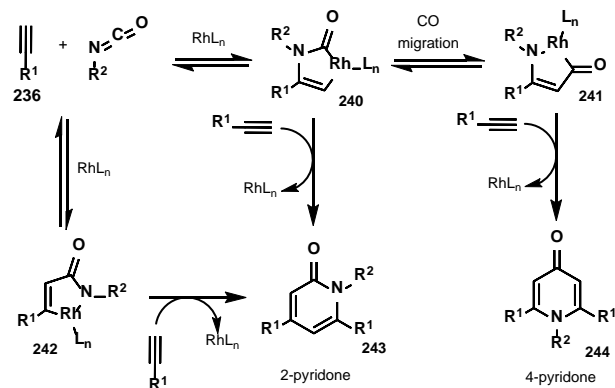
R¹ = Ph, nHex, Bn, OEt, *p/m/o*-OMe- C_6H_4 , *m*-F- C_6H_4

R² = Bn, PMB, Ph, nHex, Cy, *p*-F- C_6H_4 , *p*-OMe- C_6H_4



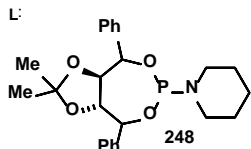
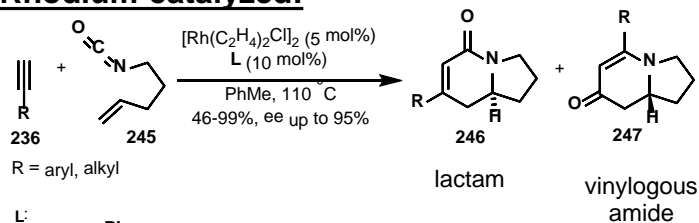
K. M. Oberg, E. E. Lee, T. Rovis, *Tetrahedron* 2009, 65, 5056-5061

Proposed Mechanism:

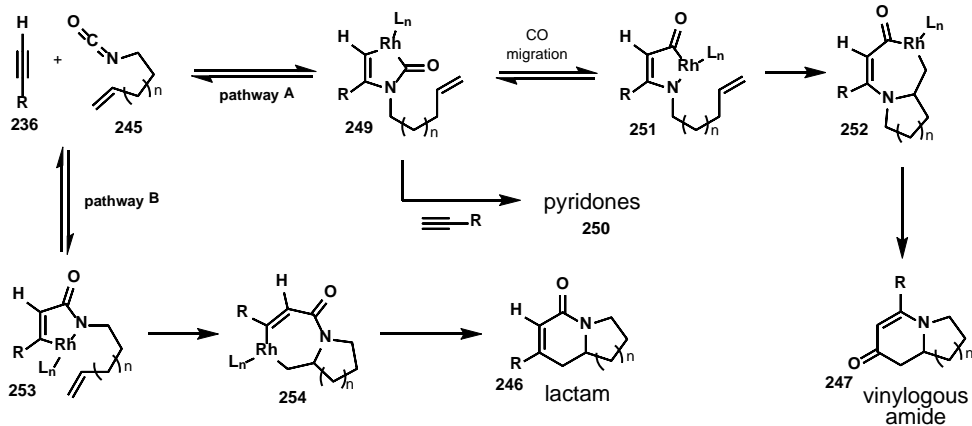


Reactions of Isocyanates

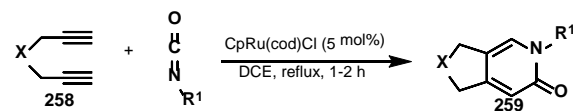
Rhodium-catalyzed:



Proposed Mechanism:

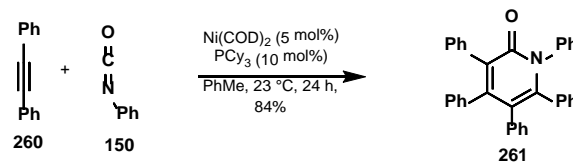


Ruthenium-catalyzed:

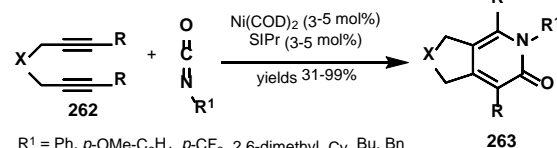


Yamamoto Y, Itho K, *Org. Lett.* **2001**, 3, 2117.

Nickel-catalyzed:

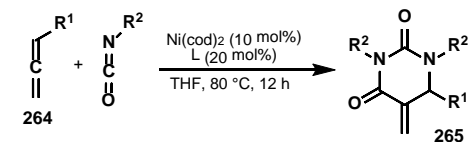


H. Hoberg, B. W. Oster, *Synthesis (Stuttg.)* **1982**, 1982, 324-325

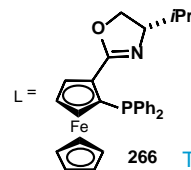


R¹ = Ph, *p*-OMe-C₆H₄, *p*-CF₃, 2,6-dimethyl, Cy, Bu, Bn
R = H, Me, Et, *i*Pr
X = C(CO₂Me)₂, C₂H₄, NTs, O

H. A. Duong, M. J. Cross, J. Louie, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2004**, 126, 11438-11439

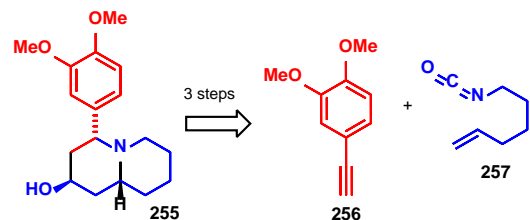


R¹ = hex, CH₂Cy, (CH₂)₂Cy, Cy, (CH₂)₄OBn, (CH₂)₄OTBS, (CH₂)₂CH=CMe₂, Oct
R² = Tol, 4-Me₂N-C₆H₄, 4-OMe-C₆H₄, Ph, 4-Cl-C₆H₄, 4-CO₂Me-C₆H₄,
4-MeCO-C₆H₄, 4-CF₃-C₆H₄, 3-Me-C₆H₄, 2-Naphthyl, Bn



T. Miura, M. Morimoto, M. Murakami, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2010**, 132, 15836-15838

Application in the Total Synthesis of (+)-Lasubine II:

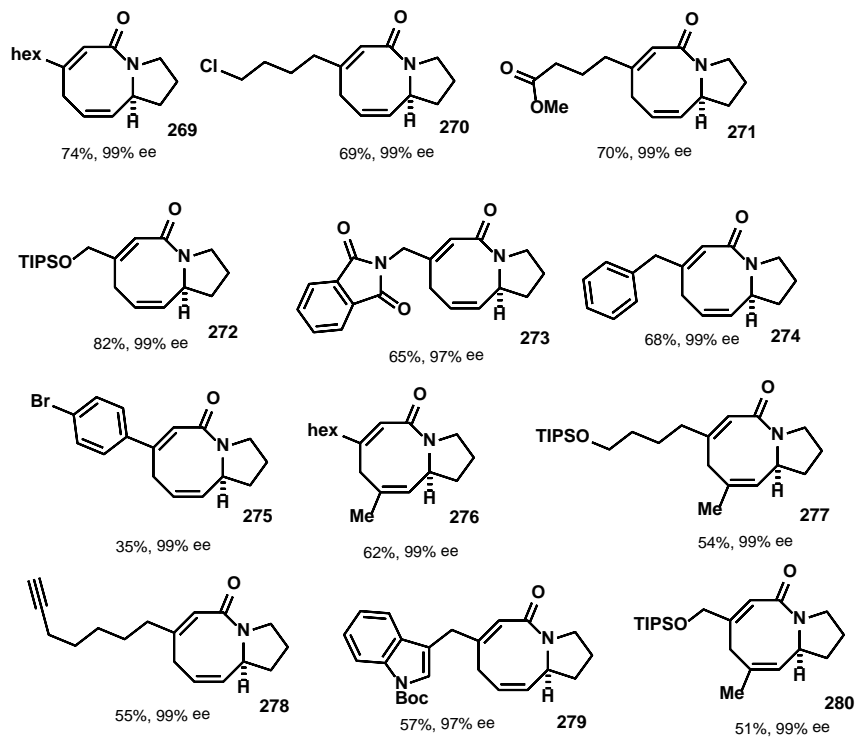
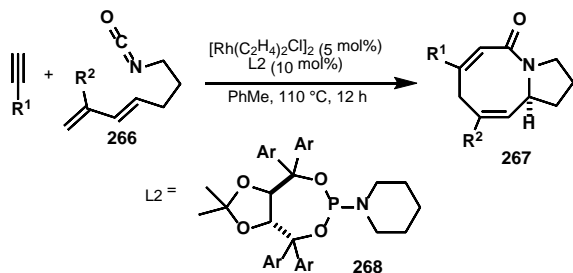


(+)-lasubine II

R. T. Yu, T. Rovis, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2006**, 12370-12371

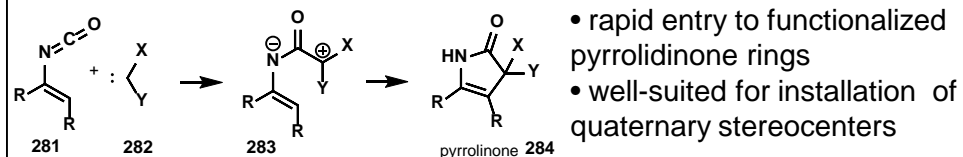
Reactions of Isocyanates

3e [4+2+2]-Cycloaddition – Synthesis of Bicyclic Azocine Rings



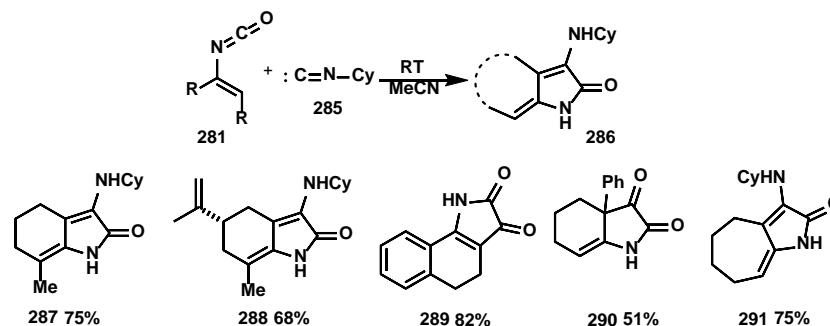
R. T. Yu, R. K. Friedman, T. Rovis, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. Engl.* **2009**, 13250–13251

3g [4+1]-Cycloaddition of Isocyanates with various carbenes



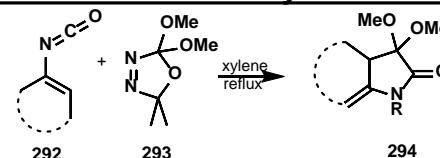
J. H. Rigby, M. Qabar, G. Ahmed, R. C. Hughes, *Tetrahedron* **1993**, 49, 10219–10228

Synthesis of functionalized Pyrrolinone derivatives:

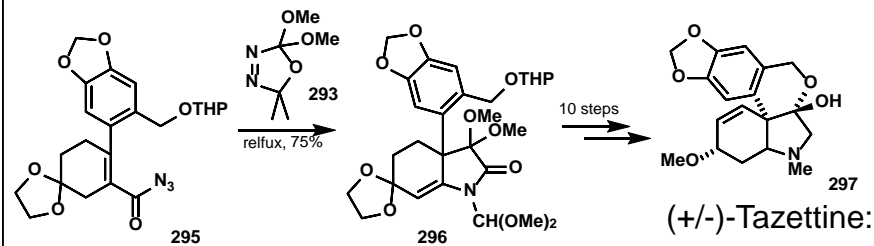


J. H. Rigby, M. Qabar, G. Ahmed, R. C. Hughes, *Tetrahedron* **1993**, 49, 10219–10228

Synthesis of functionalized hydroindolones:

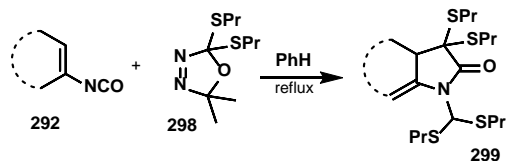


Application in the Total Synthesis of Tazettine:



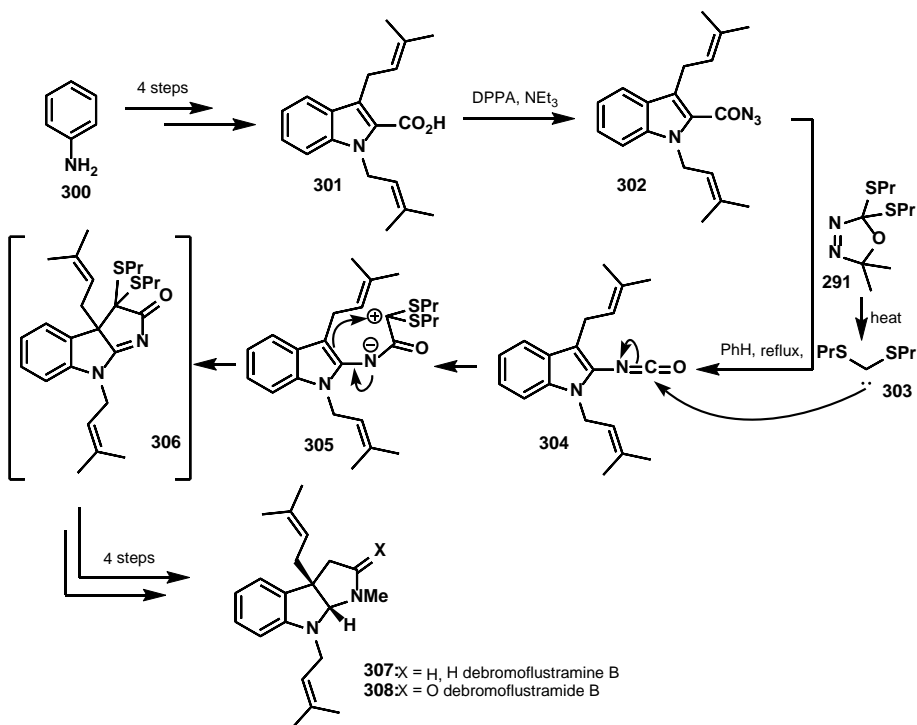
Reactions of Isocyanates

[4+1]-Cycloaddition with bis(alkylthio)carbenes



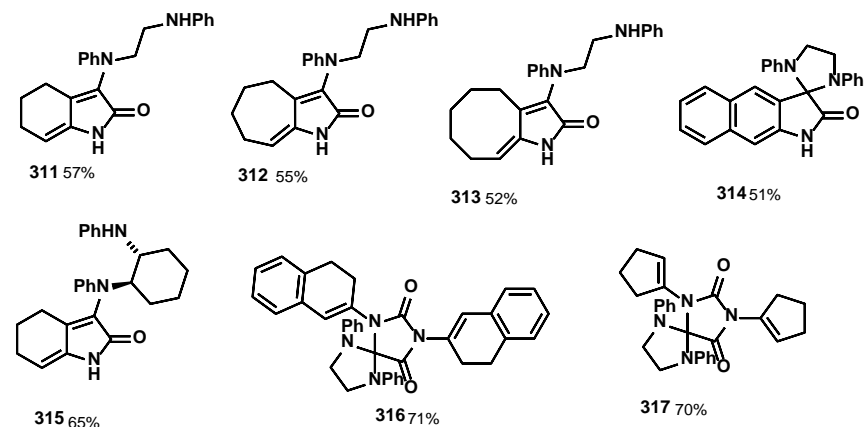
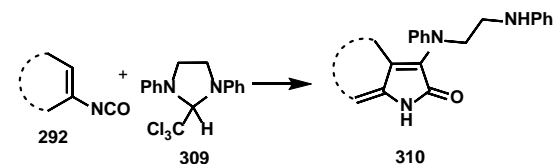
J. H. Rigby, S. Laurent, *J. Org. Chem.* **1999**, *64*, 1766–1767

Application in the Total Synthesis of debromoflustramide/-amine:



S. De, J. H. Rigby, *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2013**, *54*, 4760–4762

[4+1]-Cycloaddition with cyclic carbenes

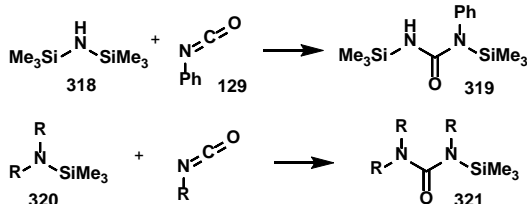


J. H. Rigby, Z. Wang, *Org. Lett.* **2002**, 22–24

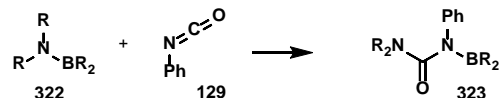
Reactions of Isocyanates

4 Insertion Reactions

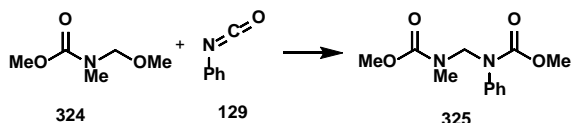
4a Insertion in Si-N bond



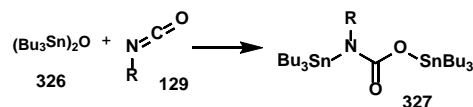
4b Insertion in B-N bond



4c Insertion in labile Methoxy Derivatives

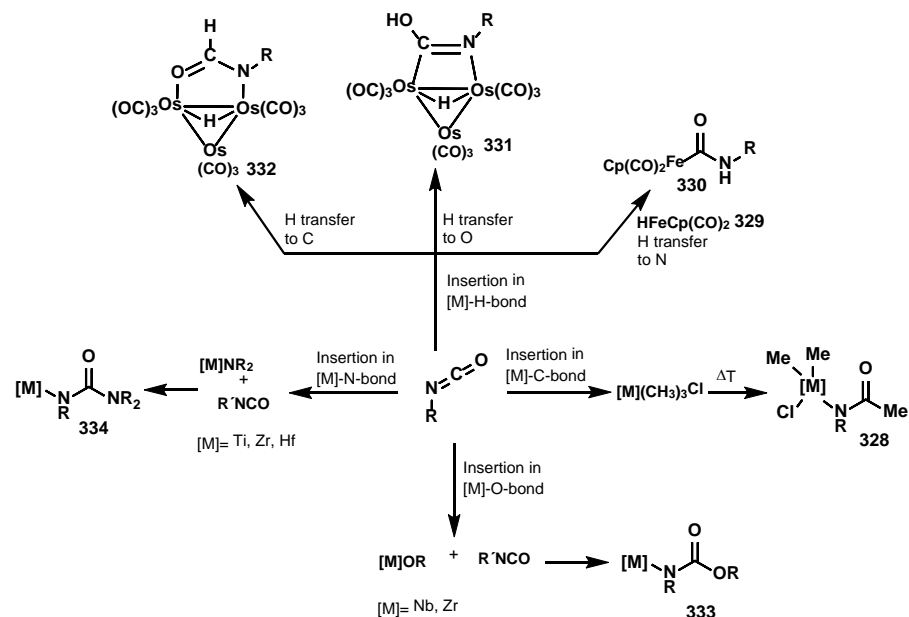


4d Insertion in Organotin Oxides



S. Ozaki *Chem. Rev.*, 1972, 72 (5), pp 457–496

4e Insertion in Metal-C/H/N/O bond



P. Braunstein, D. Nobel, *Chem. Rev.* 1989, 89, 1927–1945

C. Chang, J. Chen, B. Srinivas, M. Y. Chiang, G. Lee, S. Peng, G. J. C. Soc, D. Trans, J. A. A. Chem, I. E. Engl, et al., *Organometallics* 1997, 7333, 4980–4984

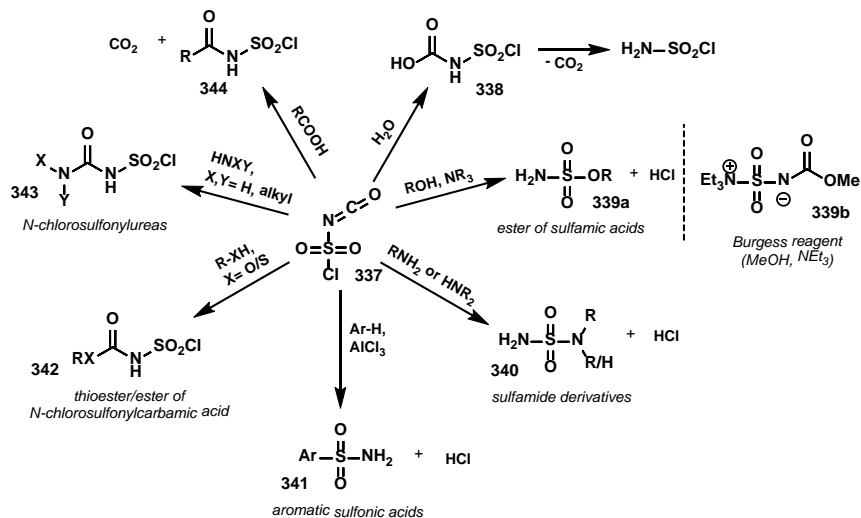
Reactions of Isocyanates

5 Chlorosulfonyl Isocyanate

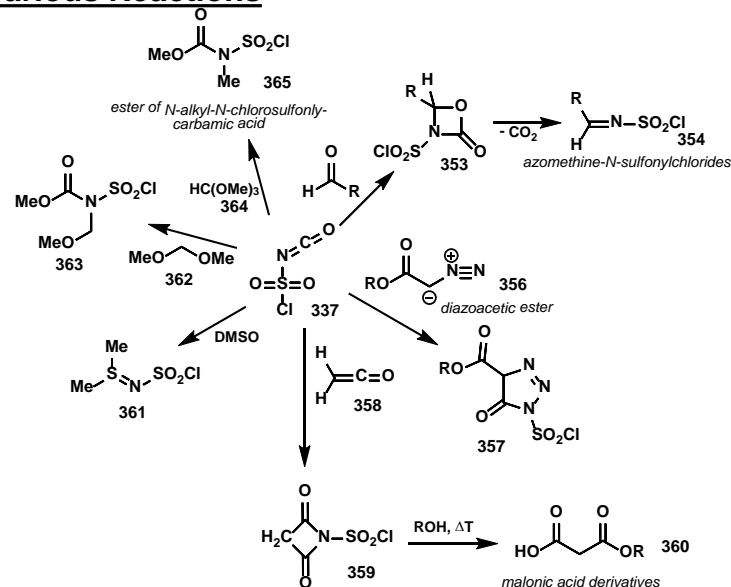


- colorless liquid
- mp -44 to -43 °C, bp 107-108 °C
- thermally stable up to 300 °C
- most reactive isocyanate species

5a Reaction with H-X

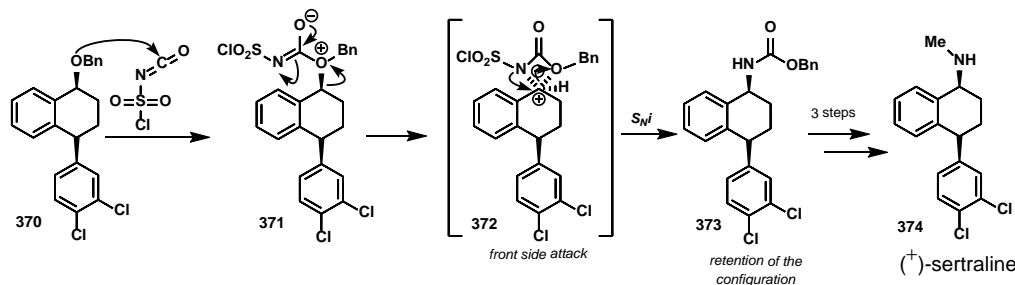
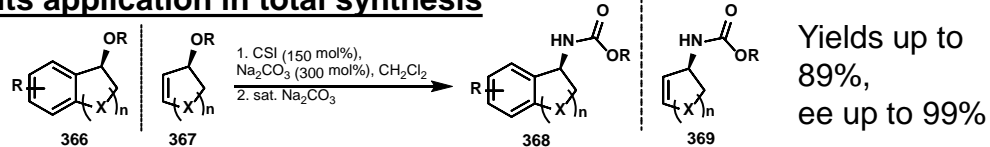


5c Various Reactions

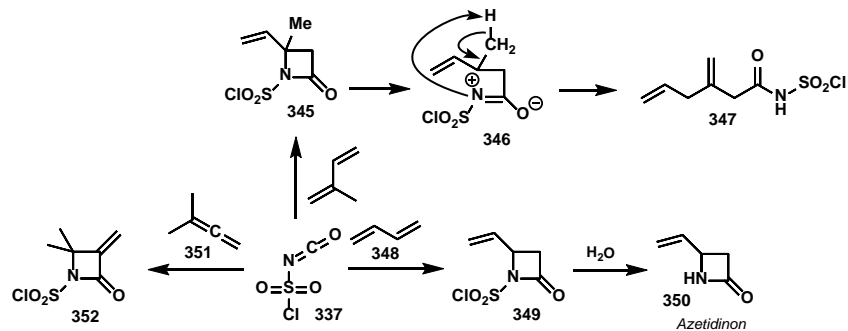


S. Ozaki *Chem. Rev.*, 1972, 72 (5), pp 457–496

5d Stereoselective amination of chiral benzylic ethers and its application in total synthesis



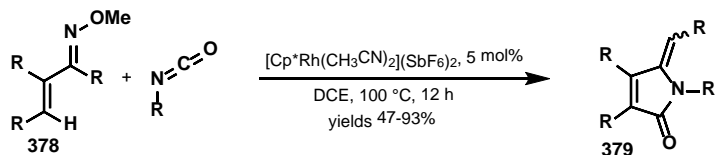
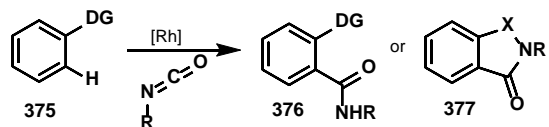
5b Reaction with Olefines – Synthesis of β-lactams



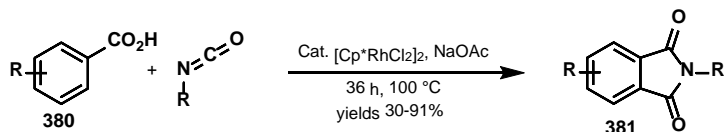
S. Ozaki *Chem. Rev.*, 1972, 72 (5), pp 457–496

Reactions of Isocyanates

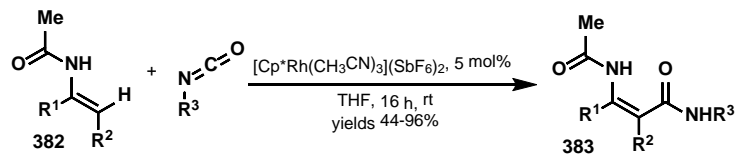
6 Catalytic C-H Amidation Reactions



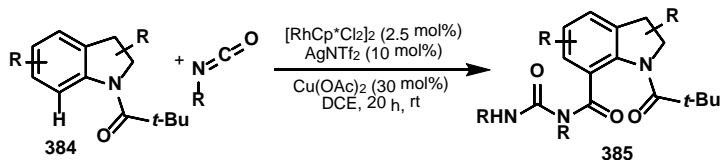
W. Hou, B. Zhou, Y. Yang, H. Feng, Y. Li, *Org. Lett.* **2013**, *2*, 1–42



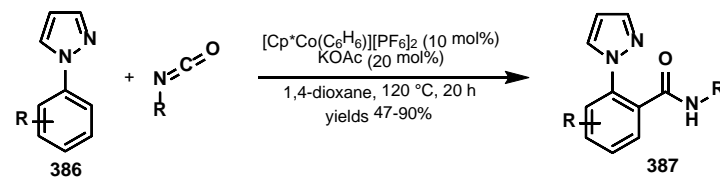
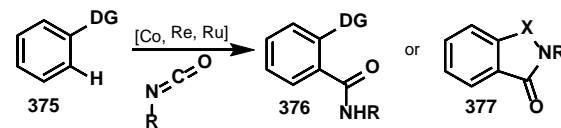
X. Y. Shi, A. Renzetti, S. Kundu, C. J. Li, *Adv. Synth. Catal.* **2014**, *356*, 723–728



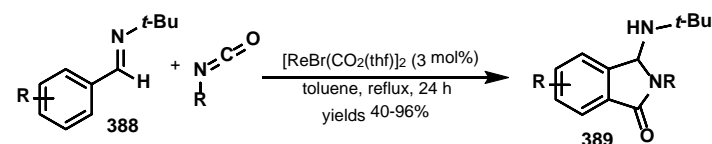
J. A. Ellman, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2011**, *113*, 11430-11433.



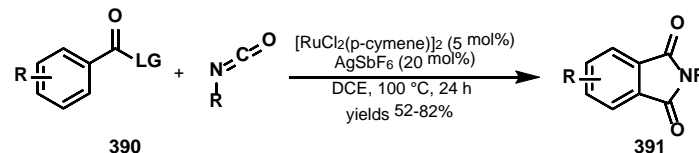
I. S. Kim, O. P. Zee, Y. H. Jung, *Adv. Synth. Catal.* **2017**, *359*, 1-9.



J. R. Hummel, J. A. Ellman, *Org. Lett.* **2015**, *17*, 2400–2403



Y. Kuninobu, Y. Tokunaga, A. Kawata, K. Takai, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2006**, 202–209



S. Desarkar, L. Ackermann, *Chem. - A Eur. J.* **2014**, *20*, 13932–13936

Take Home Message

Synthesis of Isocyanates

- despite the high toxicity of phosgene, very clean reaction with merely no side products
- synthesis from isocyanic acid with a large amount of functional groups.
- a lot of mild, phosgene free methods available with various functional groups

Reactions of Isocyanates

- Isocyanate reacts with a huge amount of different functionalities
- Cycloaddition and C-H-Amidation reactions as very powerful reactions for the synthesis of heterocyclic systems
- Chlorosulfonyl isocyanate a very powerful and versatile applicable reagent!