

# S02 Conversion to Sulfones: Development and Mechanistic Insights of a Sulfonylative Hiyama Cross-Coupling Reaction

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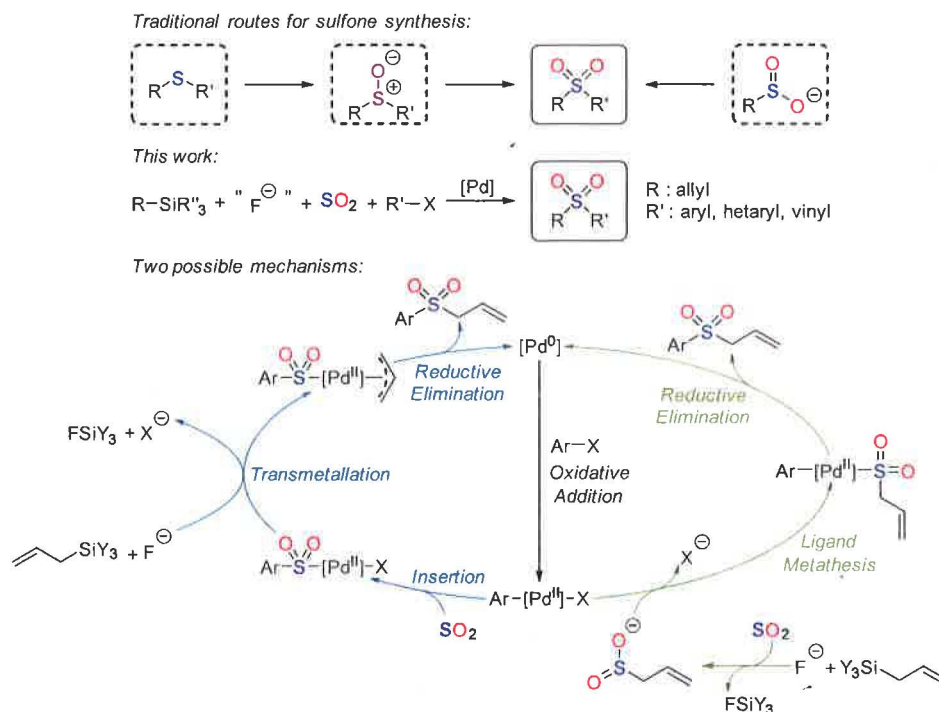
## SO<sub>2</sub> Conversion to Sulfones: Development and Mechanistic Insights of a Sulfonylative Hiyama Cross-Coupling Reaction

Aurélien ADENOT,<sup>a</sup> Joëlle CHAR,<sup>a</sup> Niklas VON WOLFF,<sup>a</sup> Guillaume LEFEVRE,<sup>a</sup> Thibault CANTAT<sup>a,\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup> NIMBE, CEA, CNRS, Université Paris-Saclay, CEA Saclay, 91191 Gif-sur-Yvette cedex, France

Email: [aurelien.adenot@cea.fr](mailto:aurelien.adenot@cea.fr)

Due to distinctive structural and electronic features, sulfones have attracted a particular attention over the past few decades, making it a widespread functional group.<sup>1</sup> Present in many contemporary pharmaceuticals and agrochemicals, they are also used as essential intermediates in organic synthesis. Therefore, numerous methodologies have been developed for their preparation.<sup>1</sup> However, the most common methods (see Scheme below) suffer from significant limitations with harsh reaction conditions or regioselectivity issues. Recently, the insertion of a molecule of sulfur dioxide between two partners was investigated and reactions involving organomagnesium,<sup>2a</sup> organozinc<sup>2b</sup> and organoboron<sup>2c</sup> compounds were reported. As regards the use of organosilanes to produce sulfones from SO<sub>2</sub> or SO<sub>2</sub> surrogates, developed routes are limited to the formation of an intermediate sulfinate anion that undergoes S-alkylation and therefore to sp<sup>3</sup>-hybridized electrophiles only.<sup>3</sup> Herein we report the first Hiyama cross-coupling, enabling the synthesis of sulfones in a direct single-step from organosilanes, SO<sub>2</sub> and sp<sup>2</sup>-hybridized electrophiles. Different mechanistic pathways were envisaged and discussed both from an experimental and theoretical standpoint.



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