



Revised

*The Chinese University of Hong Kong  
Department of Chemistry  
Research Seminar Series*

**Speaker:** Professor Linhong Deng  
Institute of Biomedical Engineering and  
Health Sciences  
Changzhou University

**Title:** Cell dynamics as key determinants of health  
and disease

**Date:** December 11, 2018 (Tuesday)

**Time:** 10:30 a.m.

**Venue:** L3  
Science Centre





*The Chinese University of Hong Kong*  
*Department of Chemistry*  
*Research Seminar Series*

**Speaker:** Professor Zhang-Jie Shi  
Department of Chemistry  
Fudan University

**Title:** Upgrading Cross Coupling for Biaryl Syntheses

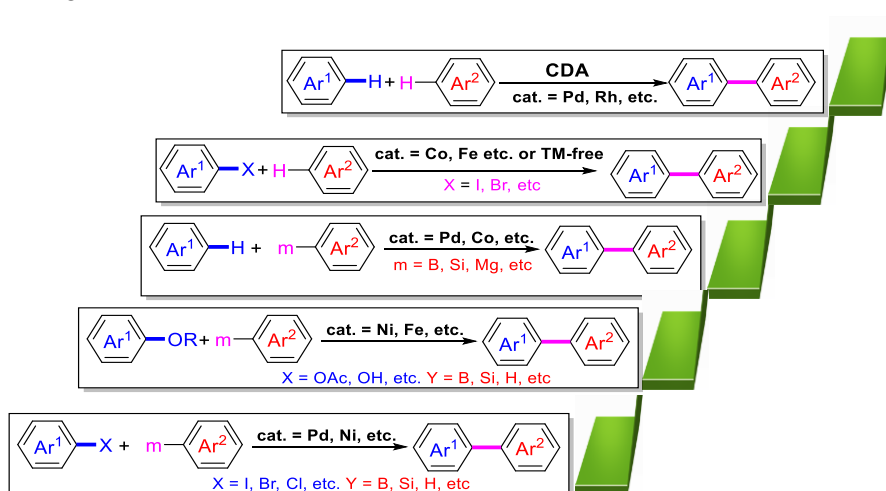
**Date:** 11 December, 2018 (Tuesday)

**Time:** 3:30 p.m.

**Venue:** L3, Science Centre

< Abstract >

Conventional cross coupling is one of the most powerful methods to construct carbon-carbon bonds starting from organohalides and organometallic reagents, catalyzed by late transition-metal catalysts in general.<sup>1</sup> With our and others' efforts, the electrophilic partner can be taken place of by O-based electrophiles.<sup>2</sup> C-H bonds could also applied as coupling partners, coupled with various organometallic reagents, as well as another molecule of C-H bonds.<sup>3</sup> To avoid the utilization of late and heavy transition-metal catalysts, the earth-abundant transition-metal and even metal free catalytic systems were built up to proceed the cross coupling between organohalides and arenes.<sup>4</sup> These studies may lead the evolution of cross coupling in an environmentally benign manner.



**References:**

- de Meijere, A., Diederich, F., *Metal-Catalyzed Cross-Coupling*. Wiley-VCH: Weinheim: **2004**.
- Su, B., Ca, Z.-C., Shi, Z.-J. *Acc. Chem. Res.* **2015**, 48, 886.
- Yu, D.-G., Li, B.-J., Shi, Z.-J. *Tetrahedron*, **2012**, 68, 5130.
- Sun, C.-L., Li, H., Yu, D.-G., Yu, M., Zhou, X., Lu, X.-Y., Huang, K., Zheng, S.-F., Li, B.-J., Shi, Z.-J. *Nat. Chem.* **2010**, 2, 1044.
- Y.-F. Zhang, Shi, Z.-J. *Acc. Chem. Res.* **2018**, asap.



*The Chinese University of Hong Kong  
Department of Chemistry  
Research Seminar Series*

**Speaker:** Professor Xuefeng Jiang  
School of Chemistry and Molecular  
Engineering  
East China Normal University

**Title:** Greenization for Organic Synthesis

**Date:** December 12, 2018 (Wednesday)

**Time:** 4:30 p.m.

**Venue:** L3  
Science Centre



*ALL ARE WELCOME*

Contact Person:  
Prof. Henry N.C. Wong



*The Chinese University of Hong Kong  
Department of Chemistry  
Research Seminar Series*

**Speaker:** Professor Huimin Zhao  
Departments of Chemical and Biomolecular  
Engineering, Chemistry, Biochemistry, and  
Bioengineering  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

**Title:** Synthetic Biology: Putting Synthesis into Biology

<< Abstract >>

Synthetic biology is the design of novel or improved biological systems using engineering principles. It is a rapidly growing area with broad applications in medical, chemical, food, and agricultural industries. In this talk, I will highlight our recent work in the development and application of novel foundational synthetic biology tools. Specifically, I will introduce four interrelated stories, including: (1) development of the Illinois Biological Foundry for Advanced Biomanufacturing (iBioFAB) for next-generation synthetic biology applications; (2) development of new strategies and tools for discovery of novel natural products from genomes and metagenomes; (3) development of genome-scale engineering tools for rapid metabolic engineering applications, and (4) integration of biocatalysis and chemical catalysis for synthesis of value-added chemicals.

**Date:** December 13, 2018 (Thursday)

**Time:** 10:30 a.m.

**Venue:** L3  
Science Centre



*ALL ARE WELCOME*

Contact Person:  
Prof. Jiang Xia



*The Chinese University of Hong Kong  
Department of Chemistry  
Research Seminar Series*

**Speaker:** Professor Qilong Shen  
Key Laboratory of Organofluorine Chemistry  
Shanghai Institute of Organic Chemistry  
Chinese Academy of Sciences

**Title:** New of Fluoroalkylating Reagents: Design,  
Preparation and Reactivity

**Date:** December 13, 2018 (Thursday)

**Time:** 2:30 p.m.

**Venue:** L3  
Science Centre



# New of Fluoroalkylating Reagents: Design, Preparation and Reactivity

Qilong Shen (沈其龙)

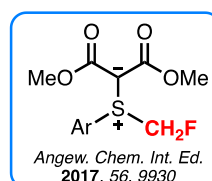
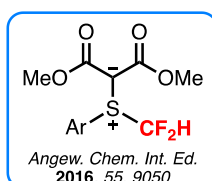
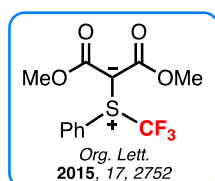
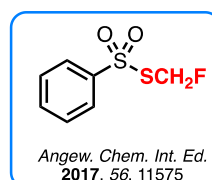
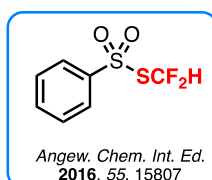
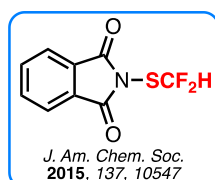
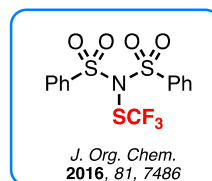
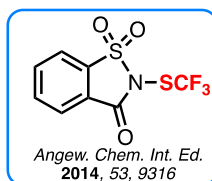
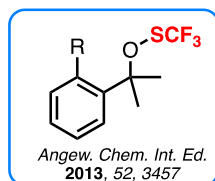
Key Laboratory of Organofluorine Chemistry, Shanghai Institute of Organic Chemistry, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Shanghai 200032, China

Email: [shenql@sioc.ac.cn](mailto:shenql@sioc.ac.cn)

Due to the well-known “fluorine effect” of the fluorine atom and the fluorinated groups on the chemical, physical and biological properties of a given molecule, incorporation of a fluorine atom or a fluoroalkyl group into has become a routine practise in the development of drugs or agrochemicals. Consequently, development of efficient methods that could late-stage introduction of fluorine or fluorinated groups of the drug molecules have been of intense current interests.

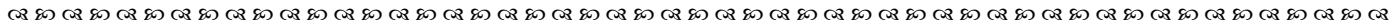
Among the rapidly increasing and powerful fluoroalkylating methods, direct fluoroalkylation of a nucleophile with an electrophilic fluoroalkylating reagent arguably represents one of the most versatile and actively studied methods for the preparation of fluoroalkylated compounds.

Even though some electrophilic fluoroalkylating reagents have been reported, development of novel, easily available and highly reactive electrophilic fluoroalkylating reagents represents an unmeted challenge. In the past eight years, we have discovered several electrophilic fluoroalkylating reagents that allow efficient fluoroalkylation of different nucleophiles under mild conditions. The low cost and structural flexibility of these reagents make them idea agents for late stage fluoroalkylation.



## References

1. Liu, T.-F.; Shao, X.-X.; Wu, Y.-M.; Shen, Q. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2012**, 51, 540.
2. Shao, X.-X.; Wang, X.-Q.; Yang, T.; Long Lu, L. Shen, Q. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2013**, 52, 3457.
3. Wang, X.-Q.; Tao Yang, T.; Xiaolin Cheng, X.; Shen, Q. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2013**, 52, 12860.
4. Xu, C.-F.; Ma, B.-Q.; Shen, Q. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2014**, 53, 9316.
5. Hu, F.; Shao, X.-X.; Zu, D.-H.; Lu, L.; Shen, Q. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2014**, 53, 6105.
6. Gu, Y.; Leng, X.-B.; Shen, Q. *Nat. Commun.* **2014**, 5, 5405.
7. Zhu, D.-H.; Gu, Y.; Lu, L.; Shen, Q. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2015**, 137, 10547.
8. Wu, J.; Gu, Y.; Leng, X.-B.; Shen, Q. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2015**, 54, 7648.
9. Zhu, D.-H.; Shao, X.-X.; Hong, X.; Lu, L.; Shen, Q. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2016**, 55, 15807.
10. Zhu, J.-S.; Liu, Y.-F.; Shen, Q. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2016**, 55, 9050.
11. Shao, X.-X.; Xu, C.-F.; Lu, L.; Shen, Q. *Acc. Chem. Res.* **2015**, 48, 1227.



*The Chinese University of Hong Kong*

*Department of Chemistry*

*Research Seminar Series*

---

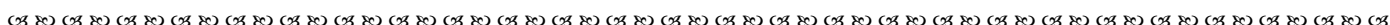
**Speaker:** Professor Pierre Braunstein  
University of Strasbourg – CNRS  
France

**Title:** Selective Metalation of N-Heterocyclic  
Carbene-Based Pincer Ligands and Catalytic  
Applications

**Date:** December 14, 2018 (Friday)

**Time:** 4:30 p.m.

**Venue:** L1  
Science Centre



*ALL ARE WELCOME*

Contact Person:  
Prof. Michael F.Y. Kwong

# Selective Metalation of *N*-Heterocyclic Carbene-Based Pincer Ligands and Catalytic Applications

Pierre Braunstein

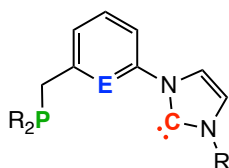
University of Strasbourg - CNRS

Institute of Chemistry, 4 rue Blaise Pascal, 67081 Strasbourg (France)

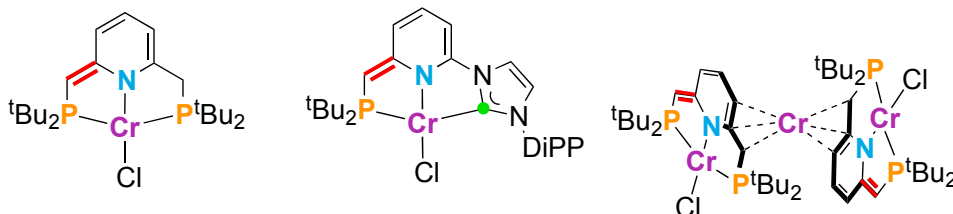
*braunstein@unistra.fr*

The growing interest for the structural, catalytic and physical properties of coordination/organometallic metal complexes is triggered by their numerous applications, the development of new multifunctional ligands, particularly with constrained geometry, that allow a better control of the metal coordination sphere.<sup>1,2</sup>

Functional *N*-heterocyclic carbene (NHC) ligands, bearing donor groups with significantly different stereoelectronic properties, are ideal candidates to study the chemoselectivity of their coordination to metal centres.<sup>3</sup> Furthermore, NHC donors can be introduced in pincer-type structures, as shown below where **E** can be **CH** or **N**, thus providing an entry into non-symmetrical pincer ligands.



With such ligands having a CH<sub>2</sub> group in  $\alpha$  position to P, their deprotonation followed by metalation can lead to de-aromatized systems and examples will be illustrated in chromium chemistry with application to the catalytic oligomerization of ethylene.<sup>4</sup> Their properties will be compared with those of complexes containing related P,N,P pincers.



1. See e.g. A. A. Danopoulos, P. Braunstein, *Oil & Gas Science and Technology – Rev. IFP Energies nouvelles – Special Issue in Tribute to Yves Chauvin*, **2016**, 71(2), article 24.
2. See e.g. C. Fliedel, A. Ghisolfi, P. Braunstein, *Chem. Rev.* **2016**, 116, 9237.
3. See e.g. S. Hameury, P. de Frémont, P. Braunstein, *Chem. Soc. Rev.* **2017**, 46, 632 ; V. Charra, P. de Frémont, P. Braunstein, *Coord. Chem. Rev.* **2017**, 341, 53.
4. T. Simler, A. A. Danopoulos, P. Braunstein, *Chem. Commun.* **2015**, 51, 10699; T. Simler, A. A. Danopoulos, P. Braunstein, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2015**, 54, 13691.