# Organobismuth Compounds: Synthesis and Reactivity

2/22/2018

Ben Boyle

#### Introduction: Bismuth

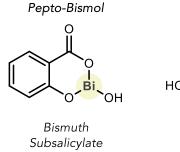
#### Elemental Bismuth:

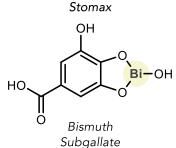
- heaviest stable element in periodic table ( $^{209}$ Bi = only stable isotope)
- Non-toxic and non-carcinogenic
- Group 15 p-block element
- Expands on solidification
- Configuration: [Xe]4f<sup>14</sup>5d<sup>10</sup>6s<sup>2</sup>6p<sup>3</sup>

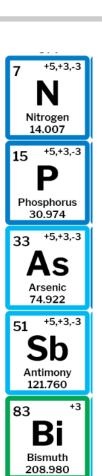
#### Organobismuth:

- Most common oxidation states: Bi<sup>III</sup> and Bi<sup>V</sup>
- Range of reactivities
- Useful in oxidation of alcohols
- "Green" metal
- Forms –ate and –onium salts









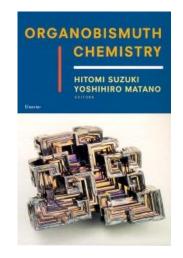
#### Introduction: Bismuth

#### Notable Names:

- Sir Derek Barton (Nobel Laureate: 1969 Conformational Analysis)
- Dr. Hitomi Suzuki (Organobismuth Chemistry)
- Dr. Jean-Pierre Finet (Ligand Coupling Reactions with Heteroatomic Compounds)



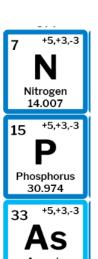
Sir Derek Barton



Dr. Hitomi Suzuki

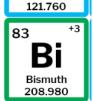


Dr. Jean-Pierre Finet





Antimony

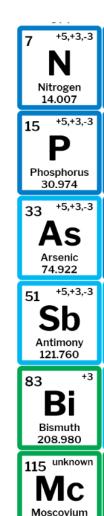




#### Introduction: Bismuth

#### Reviews:

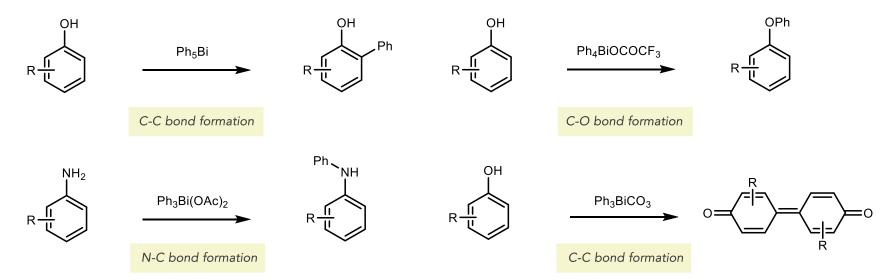
- Gilman, H.; Yale, H. L. Organobismuth Compounds. *Chem. Rev.* **1942**, *30* (2), 281–320.
- Leonard, N. M.; Wieland, L. C.; Mohan, R. S. Applications of Bismuth(III) Compounds in Organic Synthesis. *Tetrahedron* **2002**, *58* (42), 8373–8397.
- Barton, D. H. R.; Finet, J.-P. Bismuth(V) Reagents in Organic Synthesis. *Pure and Applied Chemistry* **1987**, *59* (8), 937–946.
- Condon, S.; Pichon, C.; Davi, M. Preparation and Synthetic Applications of Trivalent Arylbismuth Compounds as Arylating Reagents. A Review. *Organic Preparations and Procedures International* **2014**, *46* (2), 89–131.
- Gagnon, A.; Dansereau, J.; Roch, A. L. Organobismuth Reagents: Synthesis, Properties and Applications in Organic Synthesis. *Synthesis* **2017**, *49* (8), 1707–1745.
- Elliott, G. I.; Konopelski, J. P. Arylation with Organolead and Organobismuth Reagents. *Tetrahedron* **2001**, *57* (27), 5683–5705.
- Freedman, L. D.; Doak, G. O. Preparation, Reactions, and Physical Properties of Organobismuth Compounds. *Chem. Rev.* **1982**, *82* (1), 15–57.



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## **Reactivity Overview**

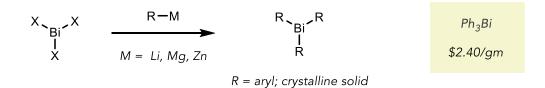
Powerful arylating reagent with tunable chemoselectivity



- Useful and practical mild oxidants for alcohols
- Nucleophilic Partner in Metal-Catalyzed Cross-Couplings

Synthesis starts with elemental bismuth, however a number of organobismuth reagents are commercially available







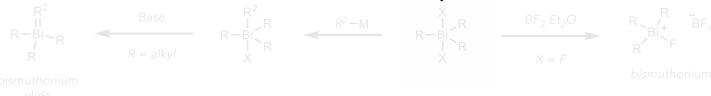
R = alkyl; air/moisture sensitive



- A number of organobismuth derivatives can be synthesized these these techniques, however...
- Limitations
  - Highly reactive nucleophiles R = aryl; crystalline solid
  - Poor functional group tolerance
  - Not economical to require three groups on the bismuth
  - Weak C-Bi bond (46 kcal/mol); can cleave under reaction conditions



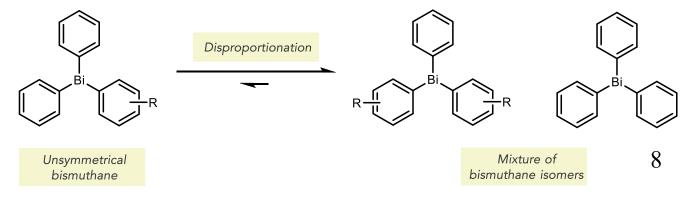
"Given the unique reactivity of organobismuth reagents... these limitations need to be addressed." -Konopelski



#### Potentially useful reactions in precusor synthesis

Matano, Y.; Miyamatsu, T.; Suzuki, H Organometallics 1996, 15 (7), 1951–1953.

#### Caution: Disproportionation reactivity



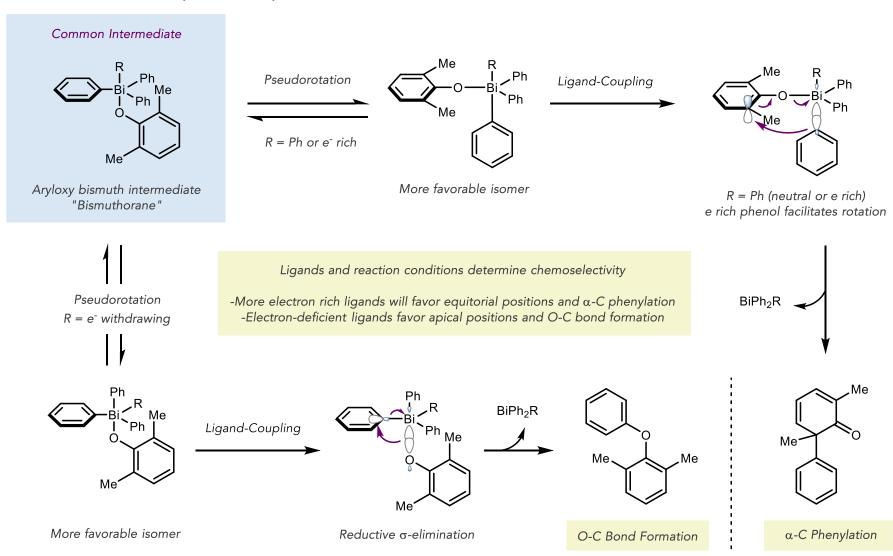
#### Potentially useful reactions in precusor synthesis

Suzuki, H *Organometallics* **1996**, *15* (7), 1951–1953.

Distinct Chemoselectivity based on choice in bismuth reagent

What is the origin of the chemoselectivity for bismuth ligand-coupling reactions?

#### Chemoselectivity dictated by bismuthorane



Distinct Chemoselectivity based on choice in bismuth reagent

TMG

What is the origin of the chemoselectivity for bismuth ligand-coupling reactions?

Aryloxy bismuth intermediate "Bismuthorane"

**BTMG** 

Dimerization goes through a bisaryloxy bismuthorane intermediate

Mechanism for dimerization is less understood.

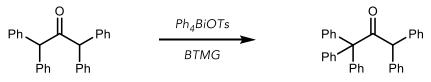
Limited to 2,6-disubstituted phenols with di-tBu producing a large amount Multiple proposals invoking radicals and ligand-coupling Radical trapping reactions did not produce adducts nor shut down reactivity

Dimerization C-C Bond Formation

Chemoselectivity is also impact by phenol substituent when paired with a deficient group on bismuth

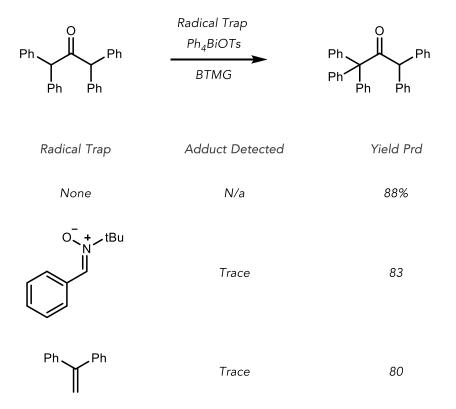
# Organobismuth: Is it radicals?

While ligand-coupling appeared to match the results; a radical mechanism gained attention



Highly hindered product
Pointed towards radical mechanism

ESR indicated the presence/generation of Ph radical under the reaction conditions



# Organobismuth: Aliphatic Alcohols

While earlier work had focus on phenols and enolizable systems; Bi<sup>V</sup> was found to phenylate aliphatic diols as well (David)

tBu 
$$\longrightarrow$$
 OH  $\xrightarrow{Ph_3Bi(OAc)_2}$  tBu  $\longrightarrow$  OP  $\longrightarrow$  OP  $\longrightarrow$  OP  $\longrightarrow$  OH  $\longrightarrow$  OH  $\longrightarrow$  Axial phenylation preference

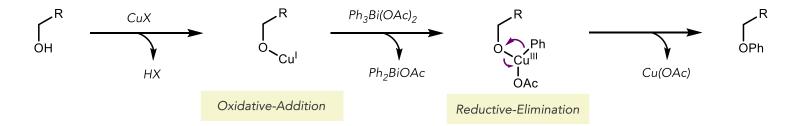
- -Worked well for primary and secondary diols: tertiary resulted in low yields
- -Only mono-arylated products were observed
- -Axial hydroxyls were phenylated preferencially

- -Only worked in DCM
- -Required light (no reaction in the dark)
- -Induction period prior to reaction progressing
- Barton discovered that the reaction could be catalyzed with copper salts (Co, Ni, and Fe were not effective)

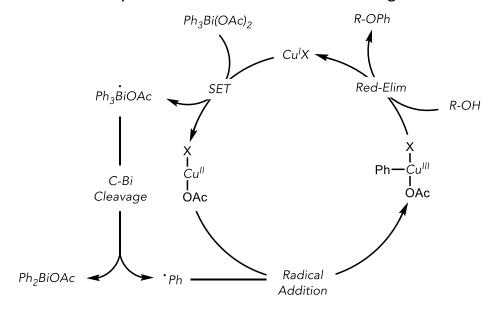
\*2 hour induction period

## Organobismuth: Copper Reaction Mechanism

- Mechanistic debate regarding the copper catalyzed mechanism: Oxidative addition/elimination vs radical
- Barton: Proposed a Cu<sup>I</sup> to Cu<sup>III</sup> cycle with oxidative addition by the Cu<sup>I</sup> species



- ESR studies indicated presence of Ph radical
- Dodonov: Proposed a Cu<sup>I</sup> to Cu<sup>II</sup> cycle with SET to reduce the Bi<sup>V</sup> and generate Ph radical



#### Organobismuth: Copper Reaction Mechanism

- Mechanistic debate regarding the copper catalyzed mechanism: Oxidative addition/elimination vs radical
- Finet: Radical trapping studies on both copper catalyzed and non-copper catalyzed bismuth reactions

$$\begin{array}{c|c} & R\text{-}OH \\ \hline \\ Cu^lX \\ \hline \\ 3 \\ \hline \\ Not \ observed \\ \hline \end{array}$$

■ Trapping experiment supports radical-free mechanism

## Organobismuth: Copper Phenylation

- Impact of copper catalyzed reaction: allowed for a larger range of alcohols
- No longer required high temperature and long reaction times
- Expanded heteroatoms to nitrogen as well

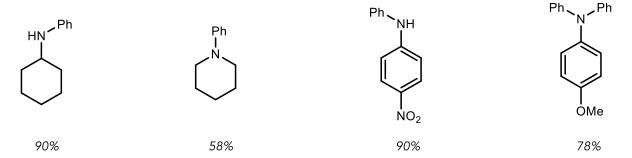
$$Ph_{3}Bi(OAc)_{2} \xrightarrow{RXH} R-XPh$$

$$DCM, rt$$

$$X = O \text{ or } N$$

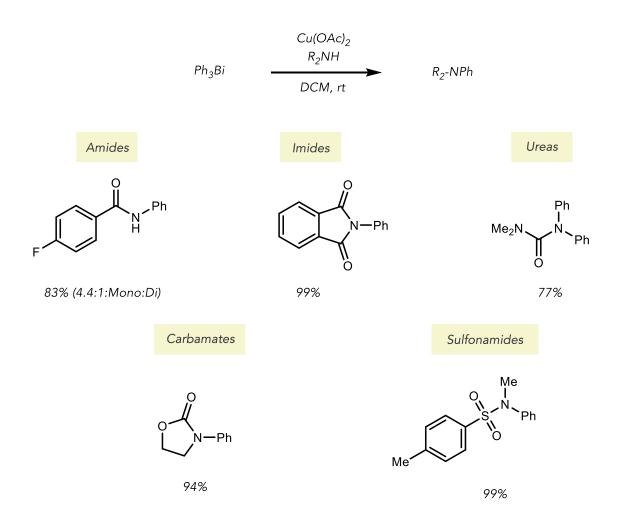
#### Oxygen Copper-catalyzed phenylation

#### Nitrogen Copper-catalyzed phenylation



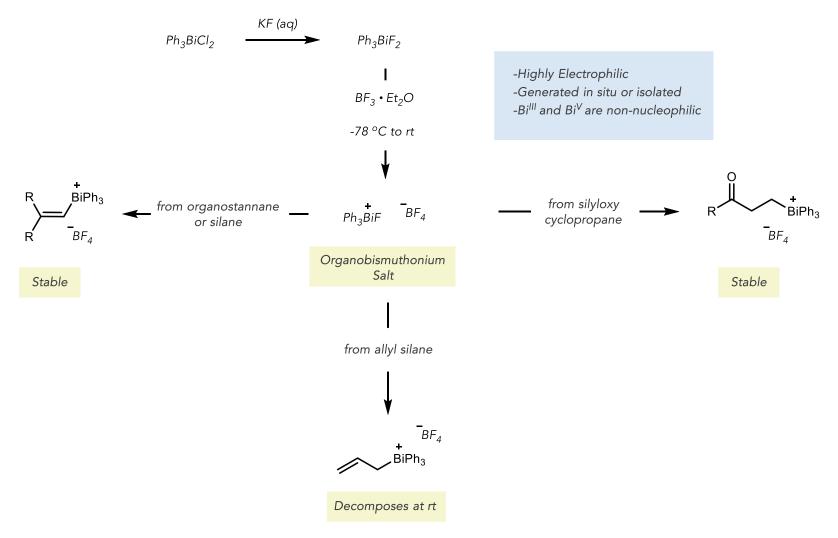
# Organobismuth: Copper Phenylation

Stoichiometric copper was found to enable deficient functional groups and allow the use of Bill



## Organobismuth: Bismuthonium Salts

- Most work in the area was focused on Bi<sup>V</sup> species and using the nucleofugality of Bi to drive reactions
- Hitomi Suzuki developed conditions for synthesis of a range of organobismuthonium salts



# Organobismuth: Bismuthonium Salts

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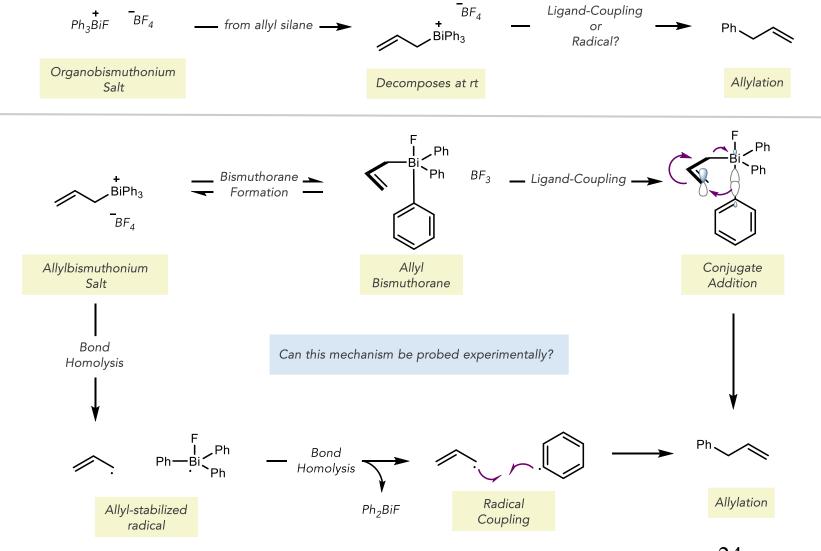
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# Organobismuth: Bismuthonium Salts

Bismuthonium ylides react with aldehydes to give epoxide products (distinct from the Wittig reaction)

## Organobismuth: Allyl Bismuthonium Salts

While unstable at room temperature, allyl bismuthonium salts display unusual reactivity

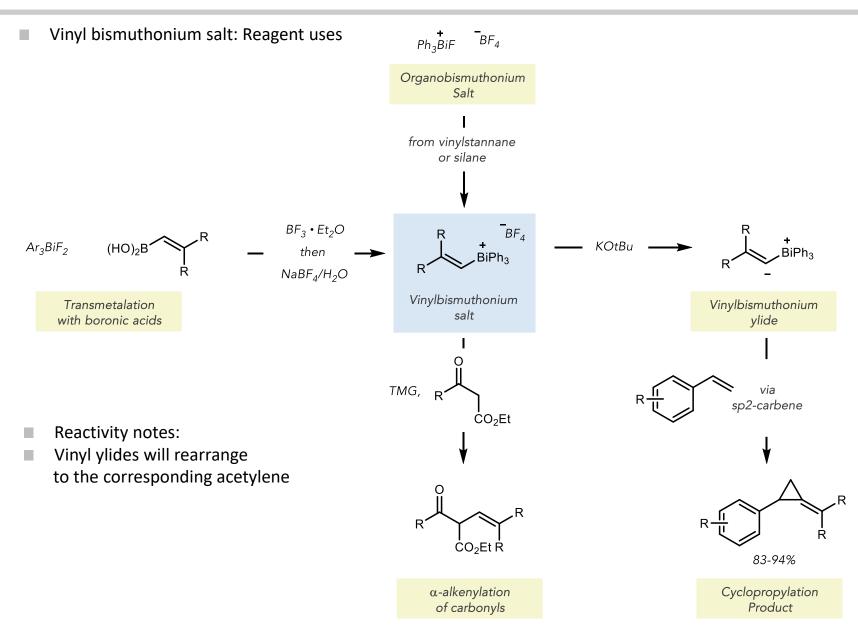


## Organobismuth: Allyl Bismuthonium Salts

Allyl bismuthonium salt decomposition: mechanistic probe

Resulting product indicates radical mechanism for decomposition

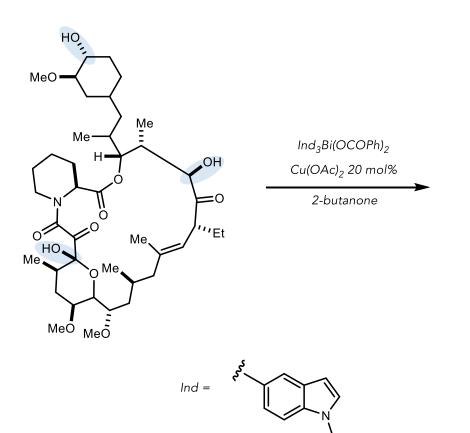
# Organobismuth: Vinyl Bismuthonium Salts

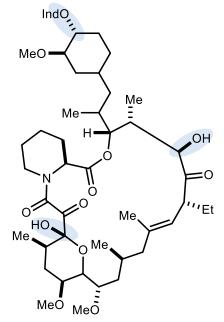


# Organobismuth: Examples from literature

**OTBDMS** 

Vinyl Merck Process: L-732531 synthesis: Selective arylation





Eq [Bi]	Yield	Double addition
1.26	83	8
1.47	86	12

## Organobismuth: Examples from literature

Controlling aryl group transfer: Solving the 3x requirement of arene (Finet)

 $\alpha$ -phenylation of  $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated ketones (Krische)

$$\begin{array}{c} PBu_3 \ 20mol\% \\ Ar_3BiCl_2 \ 1 \ eq \\ DIPEA \\ \hline DCM/t-BuOH \\ 9:1 \end{array}$$

Distinct chemoselectivity can be exploited (Gagnon)

Finet, J.-P. *J. Chem. Soc., Perkin Trans.* 1 **2000**, *0* (22), 3775–3778. Krische, M. J *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2004**, *126* (17), 5350–5351. Gagnon, A. *J. Org. Chem.* **2016**, *81* (13), 5401–5416