## TOWARDS IODANE-DIRECTED ITERATIVE C-H ALKYLATION

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The synthetic potential of high-valent organoiodine reagents has been the focus of an intense interest. Among the most intriguing reactivity patterns of such reagents is their scarcely utilized ability to undergo iodine-based sigmatropic rearrangement processes resulting in a formal C-H alkylation. Hence, the laboratories of Ochiai and Norton reported a selective formation of the *ortho*-propargyl iodobenzene by treatment of the BF<sub>3</sub>-activated PhI(OAc)<sub>2</sub> with allylsilanes, apparently through a [3,3] sigmatropic rearrangement of an allenyl iodonium intermediate [1]. A greater synthetic potential of this approach to form a broad range of *ortho*-propargyl iodoarenes was recently explored by our laboratory [2]. Although most related studies have centered on *ortho* C-H coupling reactions, we will now discuss an unusual *para*-selective C-H benzylation, achieved by the reaction of acid-activated ArI(OAc)<sub>2</sub> with benzylic silanes.

In addition to discussing the scope and mechanistic details of this reaction, discovered independently by us as well as by Hyatt *et al.*[4], we will also illustrate how iodine reoxidation allows for the iterative synthesis of multi-substituted iodoarenes cores [3].

<sup>[1]</sup> a) M. Ochiai, T. Ito, Y. Takaoka, Y. Masaki, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1991**, *113*, 1319-1323; b) D. A. Gately, T. A. Luther, J. R. Norton, M. M. Miller, O. P. Anderson, *J. Org. Chem.* **1992**, *57*, 6496-6502.

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