PHOTOREDUCIBLE Au(III) COMPLEXES FOR CATALYSIS

Brigitte Bibal

Université de Bordeaux, Institut des Sciences Moléculaires UMR 5255, Talence, France

Reductive elimination in gold(III) complexes is a key transformation towards the creation of carbon-carbon or carbon-halide bonds. [1]

We investigated this process for complexes between thioethers and gold(III) chloride, that appeared to be fast under photochemical conditions ($\lambda = 365-400$ nm). [2]

The mechanism of gold(III) photoreduction is discussed based on a kinetic study and the chemical trap of chlorine species: Cl_2 , radical Cl^{\bullet} and possibly Cl^{+} . The catalytic activity of these thioeter gold(III) chloride complexes and the corresponding gold(I) ones obtained by *in situ* photoreduction were evaluated towards the cyclization of *N*-propargylic amides towards oxazoles and towards a new cascade reaction allowing the synthesis of a *4H*-quinolizin-4-one in high yields and illustrating the convenience of these photoreducible complexes in homogeneous gold catalysis

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^{[2] (}a) C. Mongin, I. Pianet, G. Jonusauskas, D. M. Bassani, B. Bibal, *ACS Catal.* **2015**, 5, 380-387; (b) Z. Cao, D. M. Bassani, B. Bibal, *Chem. Eur. J.* **2018**, 24, 18779-18787 (hot paper).