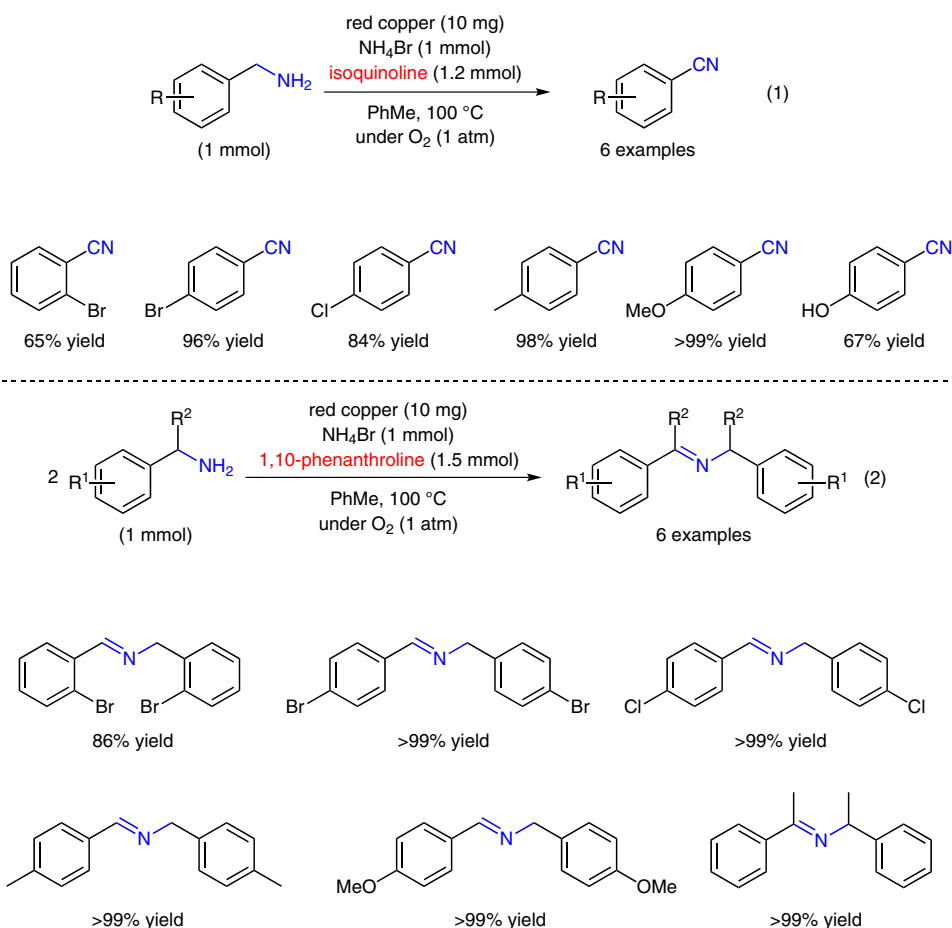


# Ligand-Controlled Copper-Catalyzed Oxidation of Benzylamines with Oxygen



**Significance:** Commercially available red copper catalyzed the oxidation of benzylamines with molecular dioxygen in the presence of isoquinoline or 1,10-phenanthroline to give the corresponding benzonitriles (eq. 1) or dibenzylimines (eq. 2).

**Comment:** The SEM analyses of the catalyst before and after the reaction showed that the surface of the catalyst was roughened during the reaction to suggest leaching of copper.