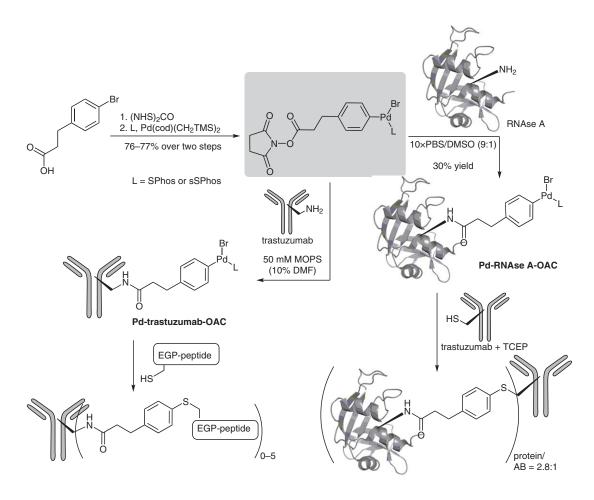
H. H. DHANJEE, I. BUSLOV, I. W. WINDSOR, R. T. RAINES, B. L. PENTELUTE\*, S. L. BUCHWALD\* (MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, CAMBRIDGE, USA) Palladium-Protein Oxidative Addition Complexes by Amine-Selective Acylation *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2020**, *142*, 21237–21242, DOI: 10.1021/jacs.0c09180.

## Lysine-Selective Oxidative Addition Complexes for the Conjugation of Proteins, Antibodies, and Peptides



**Significance:** Many protein conjugation strategies require the pre-installation of aryl halides onto the protein or are selective for cysteine side chains. The authors describe stable NHS ester based Pd-Oxidative Addition (OA) transfer reagents that can be used for the amine-selective conjugation of proteins, peptides, or antibodies. The strategy described was further used for the protein–protein cross-coupling of lysozyme C to anthrax protective mutant antigen K563C.

**Comment:** The bifunctional OAC transfer reagent was developed by the installation of an NHS ester on one end and a biaryl phosphine supported Pd-OAC on the other end. The NHS ester is capable of selectively acylating amine side chains of proteins installing a Pd-OAC reagent on the surface of a protein or antibody. The resulting Pd-OAC complexes undergo efficient conjugation with thiol-containing substrates such as proteins, peptides, and antibodies. Protein homodimerization was achieved with dithiol linkers.

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## Key words

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