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Sodium Nitrite (NaNO₂): An Expressive and Efficient Nitrating/Nitrosating Reagent in Organic Synthesis.

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This graphical review provides a concise overview of the main organic chemical reactions reported in scientific works that used sodium nitrite as a nitrating/nitrosating agent capable of acting on various reactive substrates for the functionalization and synthesis of a wide variety of useful organic molecules.

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Sodium Nitrite (NaNO₂): An Expressive and Efficient Nitrating/Nitrosating Reagent in Organic Synthesis.

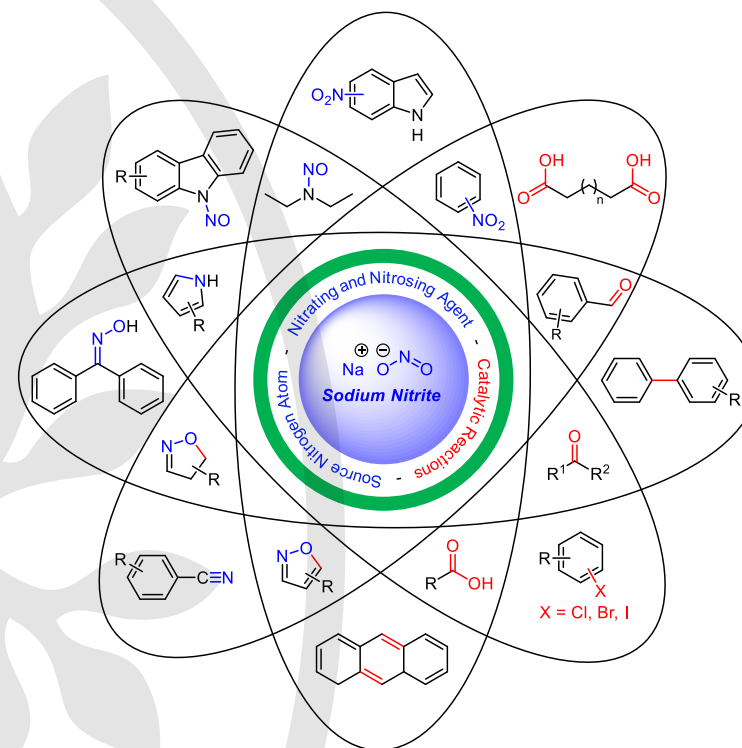
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Abstract This graphical review provides a concise overview of the main organic chemical reactions reported in scientific works that used sodium nitrite as a nitrating/nitrosating agent capable of acting on various reactive substrates for the functionalization and synthesis of a wide variety of useful organic molecules.

Key words sodium nitrite, nitrating, nitrosating, functionalization, synthesis, catalytic reactions



Sodium nitrite (NaNO₂) is a hygroscopic and crystalline inorganic salt that slowly oxidizes in air. It is highly soluble in water and slightly soluble in ethyl ether, methanol, and ethanol. Industrially, it is the most important salt produced from nitrous acid. It is obtained on a large scale by the reaction between a mixture of nitrogen oxides and an alkaline solution of sodium hydroxide or carbonate.^{1a-b} Sodium nitrite finds extensive use in the chemical and pharmaceutical industries for the production of nitroso and isonitroso compounds, diazotization reactions (especially for dyes), and the synthesis of pharmaceutical products (e.g., caffeine) and agricultural pesticides (e.g., pyrimin). In the food industry, it acts as a preservative added to cured meat products due to its ability to enhance flavor, prevent discoloration, and protect against the growth and toxin formation by *C. botulinum*.^{1h-k} The applications of sodium nitrite in organic synthesis are widely studied. NaNO₂, in mixture with mineral or organic acids, results in the formation of unstable nitrous acid (HNO₂), a reactive species readily available in several reactions. Polyatomic species generated *in situ*, such as nitrosonium (NO⁺) and nitronium (NO₂⁺) ions, are capable of acting on several organic substrates.^{1l} A prominent example is the reaction with primary aromatic amines, forming aryl diazonium salts, widely used in modern organic synthesis. This

reaction is represented by classic synthetic routes such as those of Sandmeyer,^{1e-g} Gomberg–Bachmann, Balz–Schiemann, as well as more robust methodologies developed by Heck–Matsuda.^{1m-n} The objective of this review was to present methodologies that use sodium nitrite in different types of substrates for the synthesis of organic molecules, without involving the formation of aryl diazonium salt intermediates. NaNO₂, as a source of nitrite ions, has been used in various reactive sites as a nitrating and nitrosating agent. This includes reactions such as direct nitration of arenes,^{2a-aw} nitrosation of secondary amines,^{3a-p} synthesis of nitriles^{6a-h} and oximes,^{7a-n} functionalization and formation of heterocycles,^{8a-p} as well as catalytic reactions involving cleavage and formation of C–C bonds.⁹⁻¹⁰ Additionally, it plays a role in oxidation and halogenation reactions, acting as a catalyst or co-catalyst in the synthesis of organic compounds, specifically carbonyl and halogenated aromatic compounds.^{4-5,11} This work explores pioneering studies and contemporary synthetic methodologies encompassing a variety of synthesized molecules, reaction yields, mechanistic aspects of reactions, and future prospects. All figures are presented in color, highlighting the main reagents, and providing a logical and concise sequence of the key studies discussed.

Biosketches



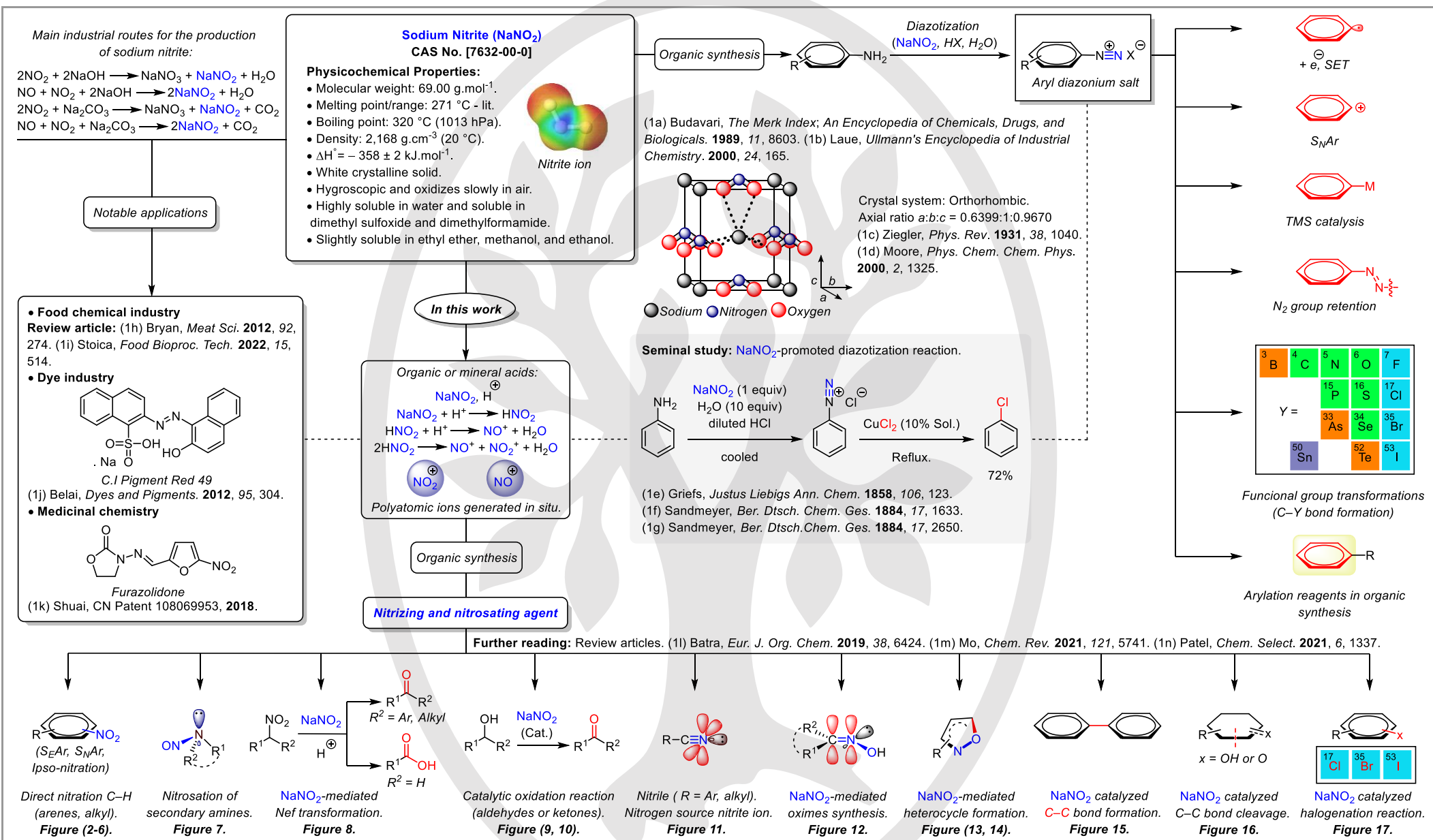
Lamark Carlos I received his in chemistry from the Federal University of Rio Grande do Norte in 2019. Currently, he is an MSc Pharmaceutical Sciences at the same institution under the supervision of Prof. Dr. A. K. Jordão and Prof. Dr. E. G. Barbosa. His work involves the synthesis and antimalarial evaluation of new *1H*-1,2,3-triazoles derived from melatonin and tryptamine.



Euzebio Guimarães Barbosa received his PhD in chemistry from Campinas University (UNICAMP) in 2011 under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Marcia Miguel Castro Ferreira. Currently he is a professor at the Federal University of Rio Grande do Norte. His research interests focus on medicinal chemistry and computer-aided drug design.



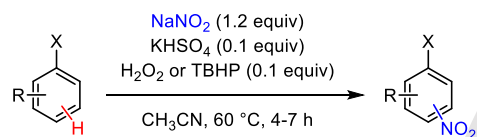
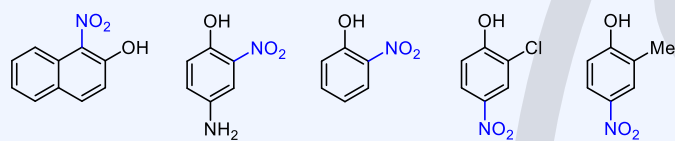
Alessandro Kappel Jordão received his PhD in chemistry from the Fluminense Federal University (UFF) in 2010 under the supervision of Prof. Vitor Francisco Ferreira and Prof. Anna Claudia. Currently he is a professor at the Federal University of Rio Grande do Norte. His research interests focus on the synthesis of heterocyclic compounds.



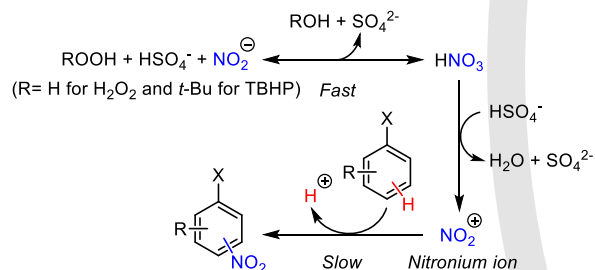
NaNO₂-Mediated (C–H) Direct Nitration. Notable Features:

- *In situ* generated nitrating species.
- Nitration via electrophilic and nucleophilic substitution reactions.
- Practical access to nitro compounds under mild reaction conditions.

Direct nitration mediated NaNO₂/hydroperoxides/KHSO₄.

**Selected examples**

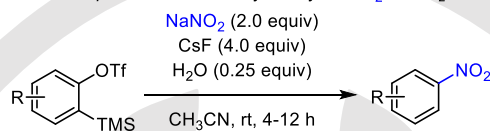
(2a) Kamatala, *Chemical Data Collections*. **2019**, *21*, 1. ^a TBHP (0.1 equiv).

**Hydroperoxides triggered mechanism of nitration of aromatic compounds.**

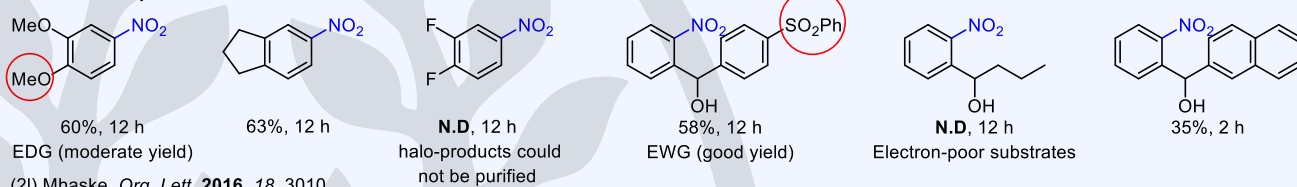
Further reading: NaNO₂-mediated synthesis of substituted nitrophenols. **Notable feature:** Distinct methodologies for direct nitration of aromatic compounds.

- (2b) Zolfigol, *Molecules*. **2002**, *7*, 734.
 (2c) Zolfigol, *Mendeleev Commun*. **2006**, *16*, 41.
 (2d) Jereb, *Current Org. Chem*. **2013**, *17*, 1694.
 (2e) Rajanna, *Int. J. Chem. Kinet*. **2017**, *49*, 209.
 (2f) Rajanna, *Res. Chem. Intermed*. **2018**, *44*, 6023.
Other further reading:
 (2g) Syvret, *J. Org. Chem*. **2002**, *67*, 4487.
 (2h) Rajanna, *Synth. Commun*. **2018**, *48*, 59.
 (2i) Terent'ev, *Chem. Eur. J*. **2019**, *25*, 5922.
 (2j) Jia, *Org. Lett*. **2019**, *21*, 5030.
 (2k) Ranjan, *J. Am. Chem. Soc*. **2023**, *145*, 2745.

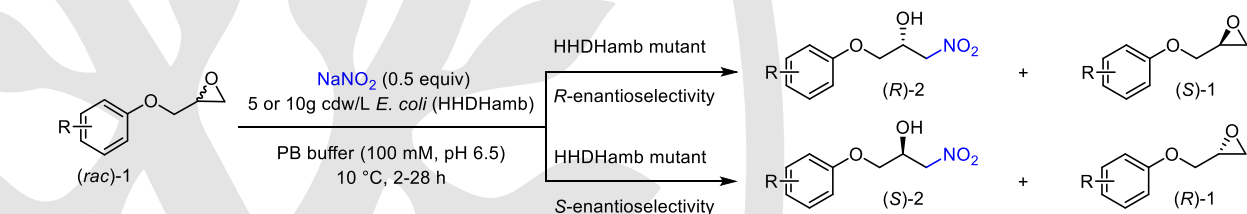
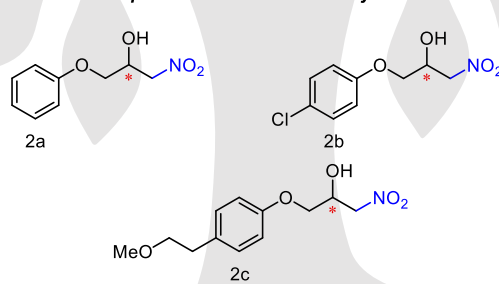
Nucleophilic nitration of arynes by NaNO₂ and H₂O.



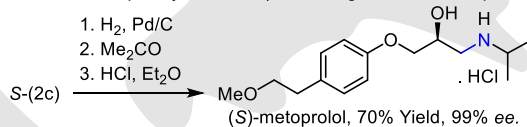
- Mild reaction conditions.
- Free from transition metal catalysts.
- Synthesis of pharmaceutically important molecules.

Selected examples

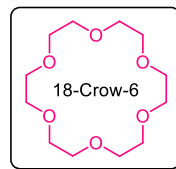
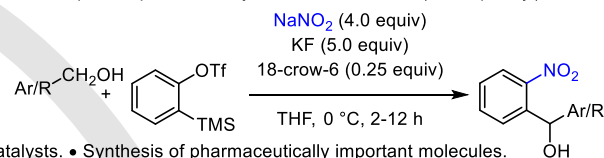
Enantiocomplementary synthesis of β -adrenergic blocker precursors via biocatalytic nitration of phenyl glycidyl ethers.

**Selected products 2a-c via biocatalytic nitration.**

Additional scope: Synthesis of β -adrenergic blocker metoprolol.

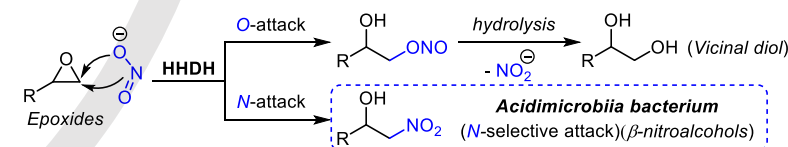


Multicomponent protocol to synthesize substituted (2-nitrophenyl)methanol.



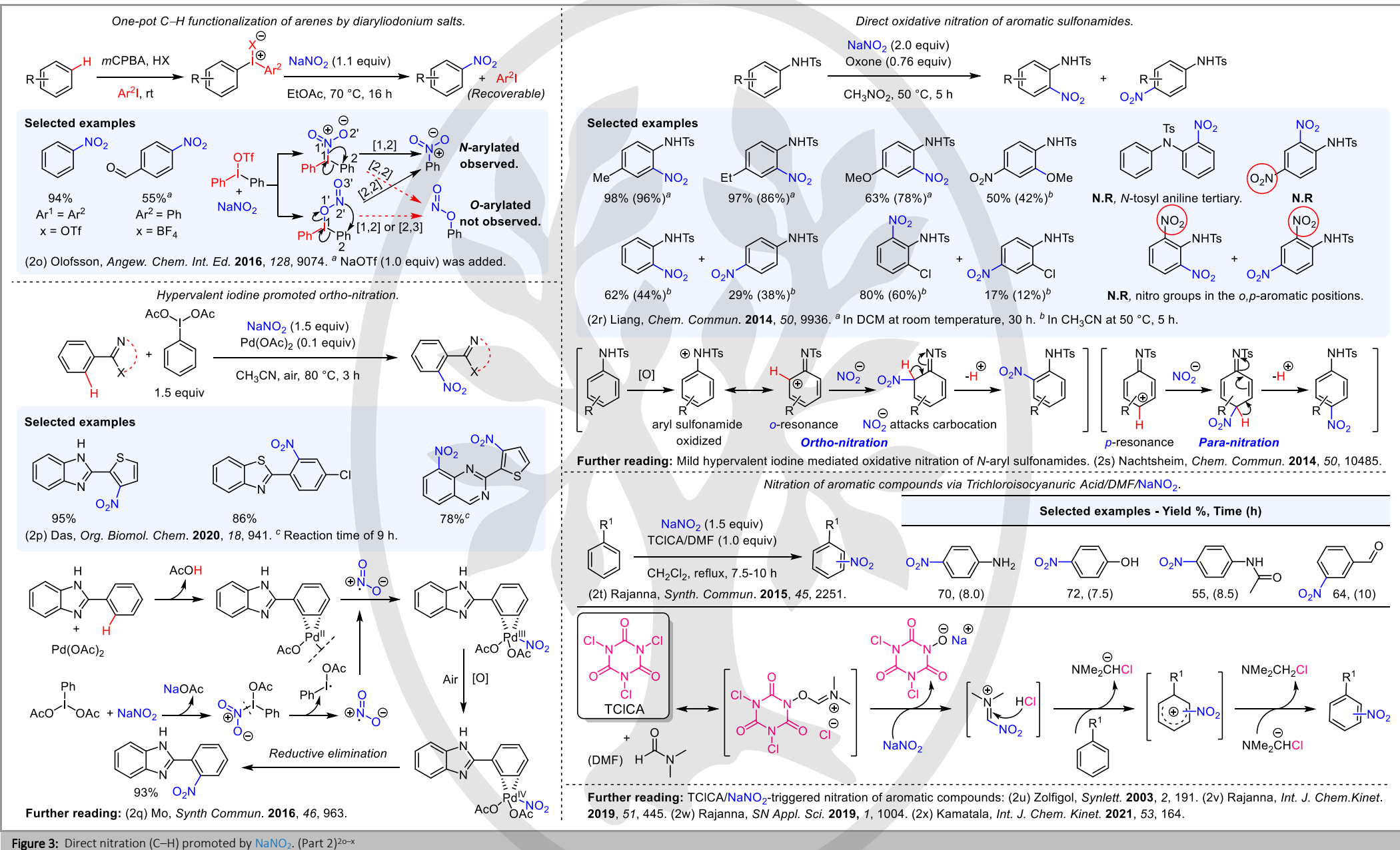
| HDDHamb | Substrate | Product | Time (h) | ee 1 (%) ^a | ee 2 (%) ^a | Yield 2 (%) ^b |
|---------|-----------|---------|----------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| RM8 | 1a | R-(2a) | 2 | 97 | >99 | 41 |
| SM7 | 1a | S-(2a) | 21 | 85 | 95 | 42 |
| RM8 | 1b | R-(2b) | 8 | 96 | >99 | 39 |
| SM7 | 1b | S-(2b) | 20 | 88 | 91 | 42 |
| RM8 | 1c | R-(2c) | 5 | >99 | 99 | 40 |
| SM7 | 1c | S-(2c) | 28 | 91 | 96 | 41 |

(2m) Liu, *Bioorg. Chem*. **2023**, *138*, 106640. ^a The ee values were determined by chiral HPLC. ^b Isolated yields were obtained by flash chromatography.

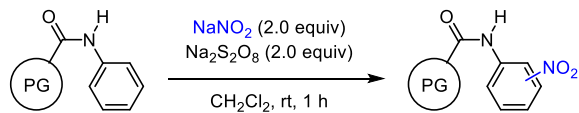


NaNO₂-mediated ring-opening reaction catalyzed by halohydrin dehalogenase (HDDH).
Further reading: (2n) Gao, *Enzyme Microb. Technol*. **2015**, *34*, 73.

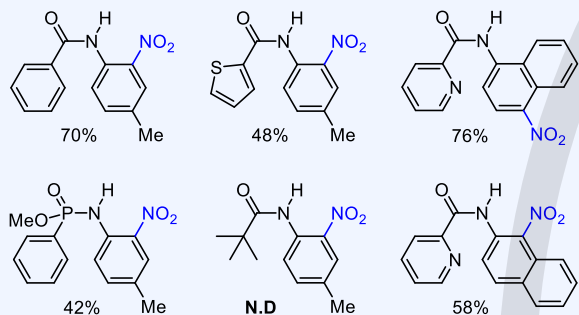
Figure 2: Direct nitration (C–H) promoted by NaNO₂. (Part 1)^{2a–n}

Figure 3: Direct nitration (C–H) promoted by NaNO₂. (Part 2)^{20–x}

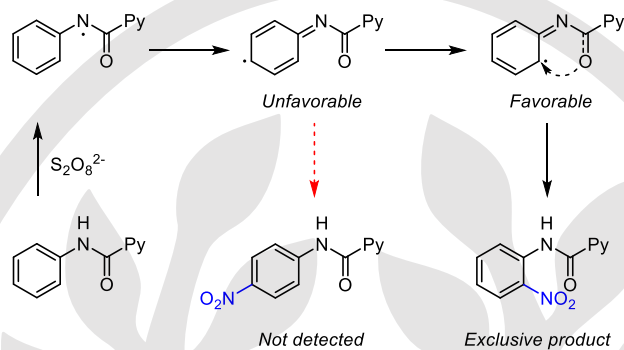
NaNO₂-mediated synthesis of monoarylamides from protected arylamines.



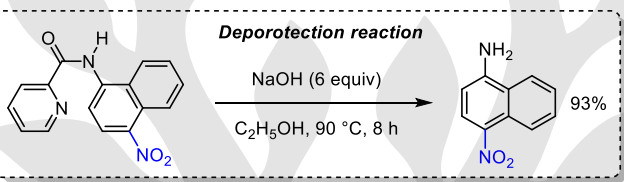
Selected examples



(2y) Shao, *Tetrahedron*. **2019**, 75, 1157.

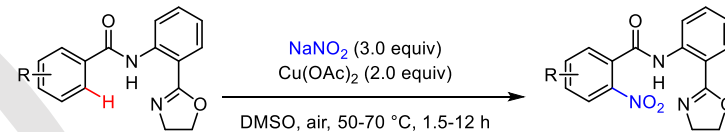


Proposed free radical mechanism.

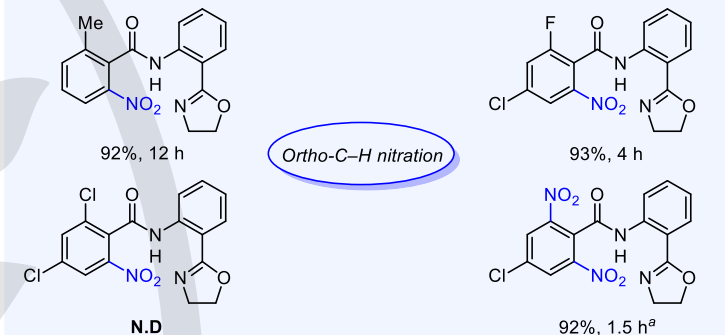


Further reading: (2aa) Tan, *Adv. Synth. Catal.* **2015**, 357, 732. (2ab) Zhang, *RSC Adv.* **2016**, 6, 89979. (2ac) Kianmehr, *Eur. J. Org. Chem.* **2018**, 2018, 6447.

Cu^{II}-mediated ortho-C-H nitration using amideoxazoline.



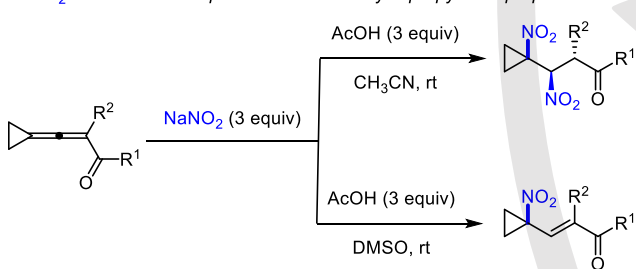
Selected examples



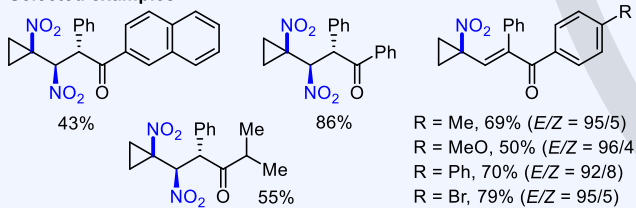
Ortho-C-H nitration

(2z) Sun, *Eur. J. Org. Chem.* **2019**, 2019, 3005. ^a Product from 2,4-dichloro substrate.

NaNO₂-mediated nucleophilic nitration of 3-cyclopropylidene-prop-2-en-1-ones.



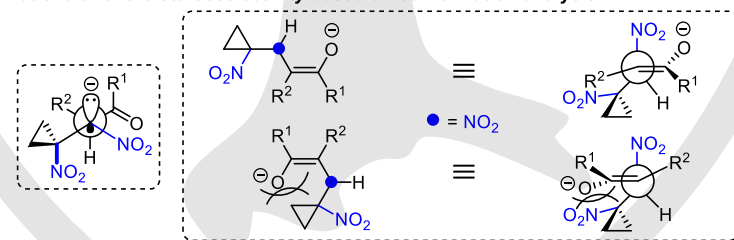
Selected examples



(2ad) Miao, *J. Org. Chem.* **2017**, 82, 12224.

Proposed mechanism.

Rationale for the stereoselectivity based on conformation analysis.



Scope increase: Synthesis of pyrroles via reductive conversion of dinitro intermediates.

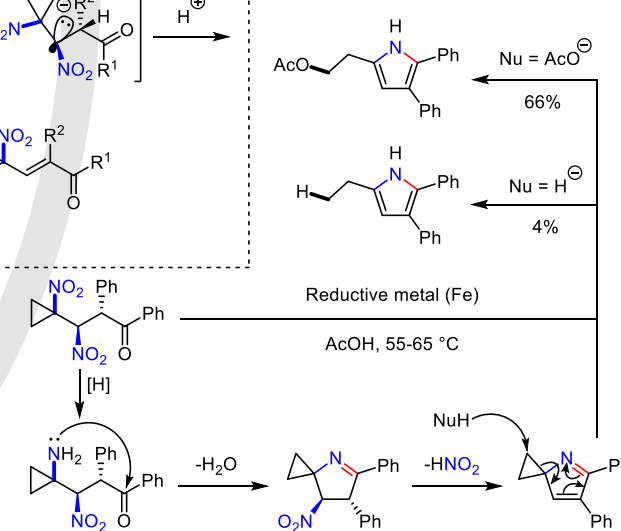
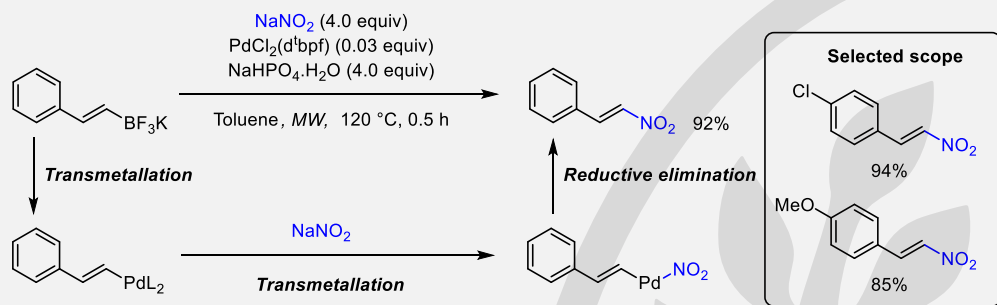


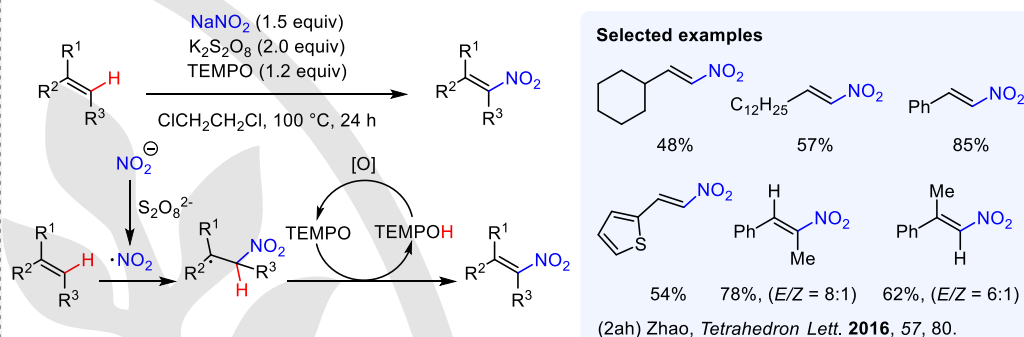
Figure 4: Direct nitration (C-H) promoted by NaNO₂. (Part 3)^{2y-2ad}

Seminal Study: NaNO_2 -mediated potassium styryltrifluoroborates nitration via cross-coupling reaction.

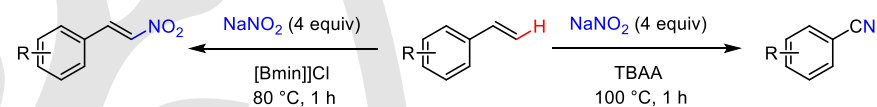


(2ae) Saito, *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2005**, 46, 4715. (2af) Al-Masum, *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2013**, 54, 1141.

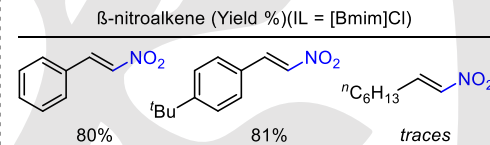
$\text{K}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_8$ -mediated nitration of alkenes with NaNO_2 and TEMPO: Stereoselective synthesis of (*E*)-nitroalkenes.



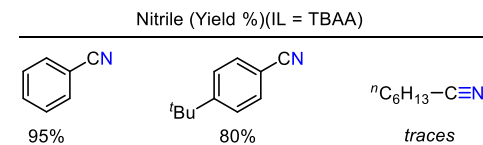
Proposed mechanism of nitration method.



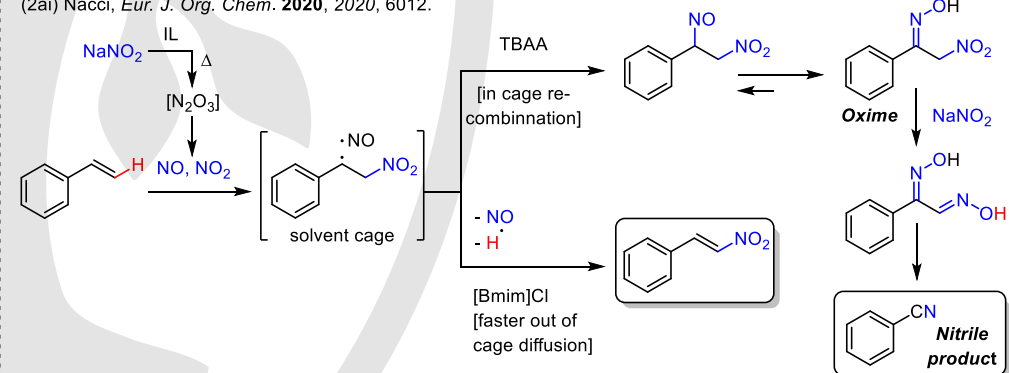
Selected examples



Selected examples



(2ai) Nacci, *Eur. J. Org. Chem.* **2020**, 2020, 6012.



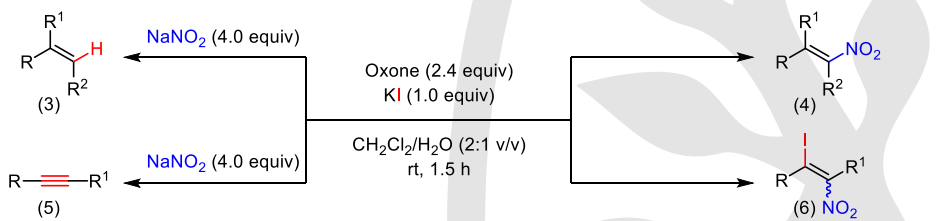
Plausible mechanism of nitration of styrenes in ionic liquids.

Beckmann rearrangement

Further Reading: NaNO_2 -mediated direct nitration of alkenes and alkynes. (2aj) Bonetti, *J. Org. Chem.* **1967**, 33, 237.

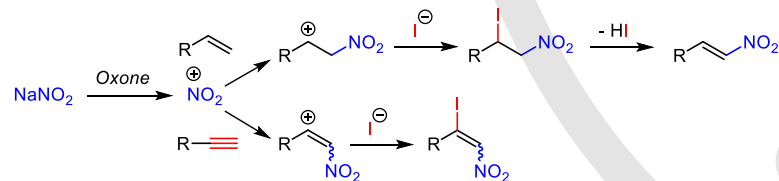
(2ak) Hwu, *J. Chem. Soc., Chem. Commun.* **1994**, 10, 1425. (2al) Hwu, *Organometallics.* **1996**, 15, 499. (2am) Buevich, *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2008**, 49, 2132. (2an) Motornov, *J. Org. Chem.* **2017**, 82, 5274.

Oxone/KI-mediated nitration of alkenes and alkynes: synthesis of nitro- and β -iodonitro substituted alkenes.



| Substrate | R | R ¹ | R ² | Product | Yield (%) | (<i>E/Z</i>) ^b |
|-----------------|---|----------------|----------------|---------|-----------|-----------------------------|
| 3a | 4-BrC ₆ H ₄ | H | H | 4a | 88 | - |
| 3b ^a | 3-ClC ₆ H ₄ | H | H | 4b | 87 | - |
| 3c ^a | C ₆ H ₅ | H | H | 4c | 75 | - |
| 3d ^a | 4-(ClCH ₂)C ₆ H ₄ | H | H | 4d | 73 | - |
| 5a | C ₆ H ₅ | H | - | 6a | 62 | 5.6:1 |
| 5b | C ₆ H ₅ | Me | - | 6b | 53 | 4.7:1 |
| 5c | 4-BrC ₆ H ₄ | H | - | 6c | 63 | 6.7:1 |
| 5d | 4-MeC ₆ H ₄ | H | - | 6d | 70 | 4.8:1 |

(2ag) Kuhakam, *Eur. J. Org. Chem.* **2014**, 2014, 7433. ^a After 1.5 h, aqueous NaOH (10 M, 1 mL) was added, and the mixture was heated at reflux for 1 h. ^b The (*E/Z*) ratios were determined from by ¹H NMR analysis.



Proposed ionic nitration of alkenes and alkynes.

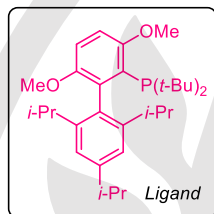
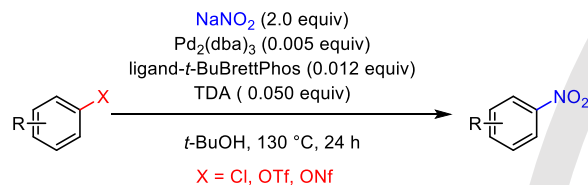
Figure 5: Direct nitration (C–H) promoted by NaNO_2 . (Part 4)^{2ae–an}

NaNO₂-Mediated Ipso-Nitration of Boronic Acids, Aryl Halides, Aryl Triflates and Nonaflates.

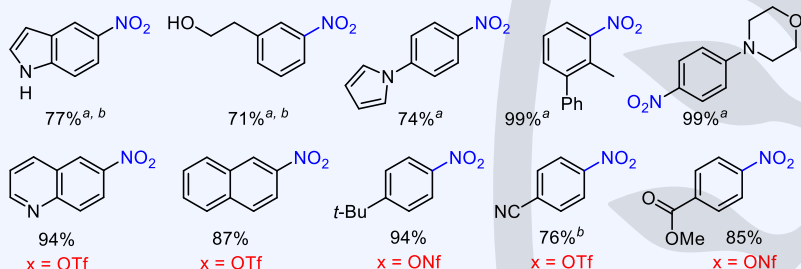
Notable Features:

- Chemo and homogeneous ipso-nitration reaction.
- Broad range of synthesized compounds.
- Mild conditions reactions.

Preparation of nitro aromatic compounds via ipso-nitration reaction of aryl chlorides, triflates and nonaflates.

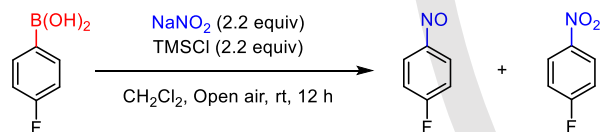


Selected examples

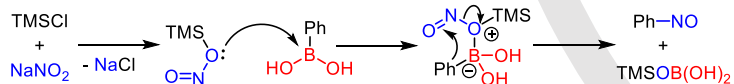


(2ao) Buchwald, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2009**, *131*, 12898. ^a X = Aryl halide. ^b Pd₂(dba)₃ (0.025 equiv), ligand (0.06 equiv).

Ipso-nitrosation/nitration of aryl boronic acids using NaNO₂ and TMSCl.

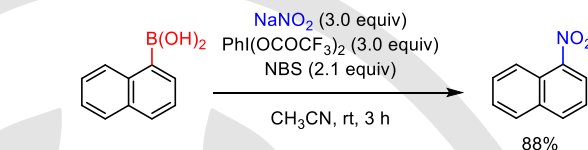


(2ap) Prakash, *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2014**, *55*, 1975.



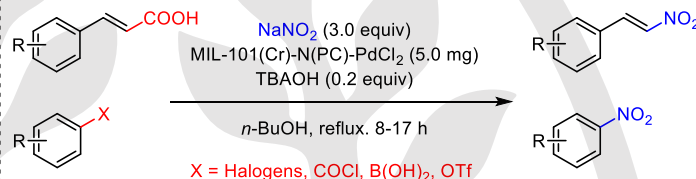
Proposed mechanism of ipso-nitrosation.

Further Reading: (2au) Feldman, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1979**, *101*, 4768. (2av) Fu, *Chem. Eur. J.* **2011**, *17*, 5652. (2aw) Bora, *Appl. Organomet. Chem.* **2019**, *33*, 4951.

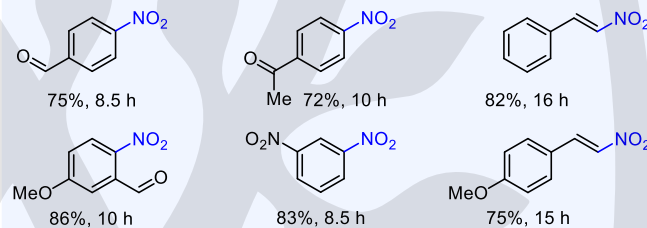


(2aq) Goswami, *Org. Biomol. Chem.* **2015**, *13*, 4828.

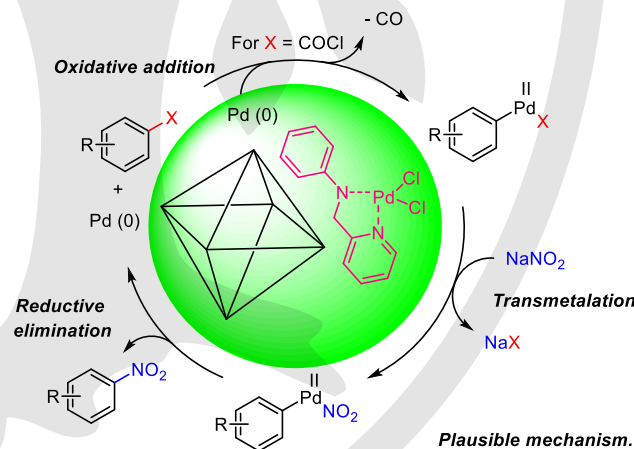
Selective nitration using MOFs/NaNO₂.



Selected examples

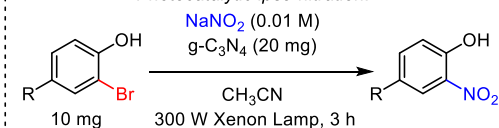


(2ar) Sepehrmansourie, *Molecular Catalysis.* **2022**, *531*, 112639.

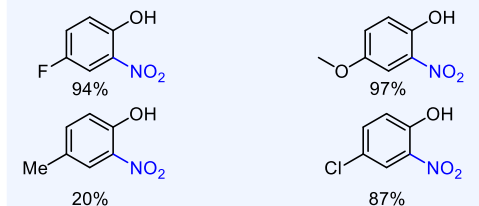


Plausible mechanism.

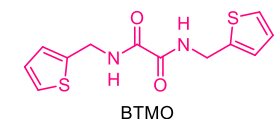
Photocatalytic ipso-nitration.



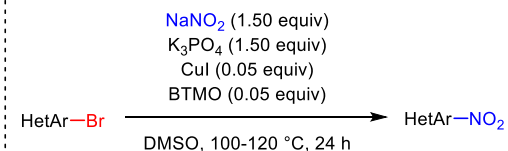
Selected examples



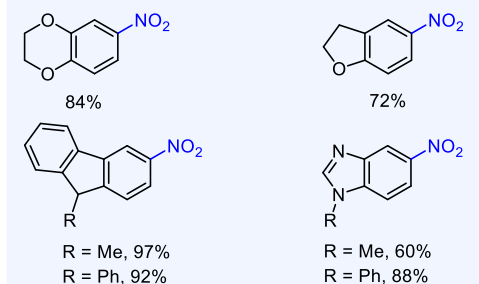
(2as) Liang, *Sustain. Chem. Pharm.* **2023**, *33*, 101077.



BTMO
Ligand for Cu-catalyzed ipso-nitration.



Selected examples

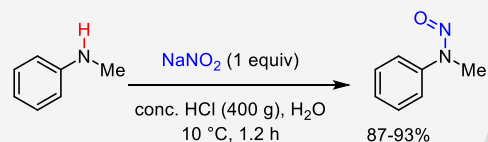
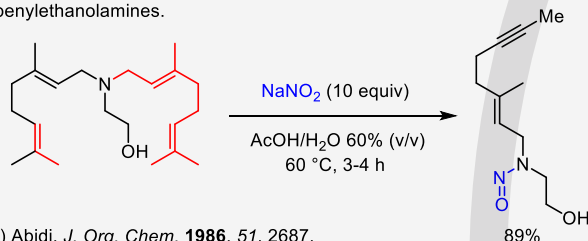
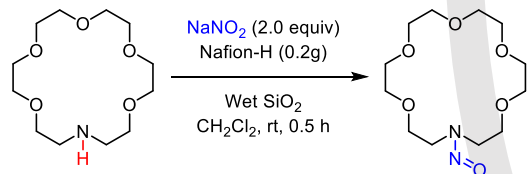
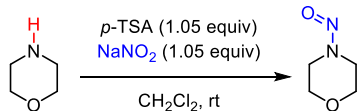


(2at) Ma, *J. Org. Chem.* **2024**, *89*, 6626.

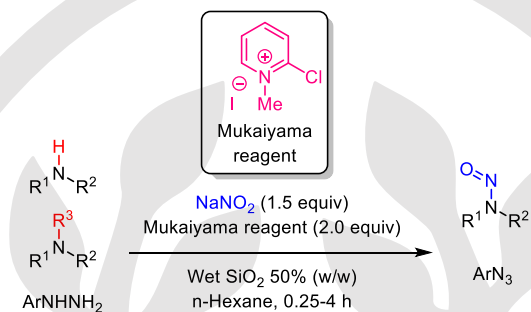
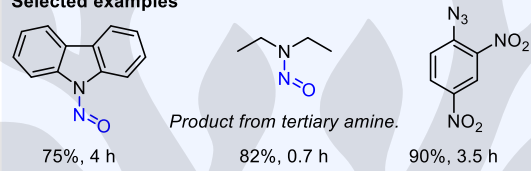
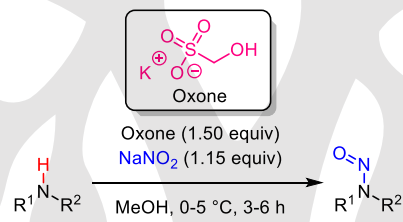
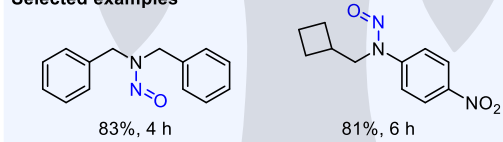
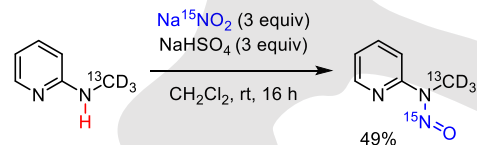
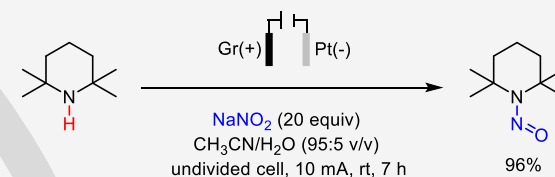
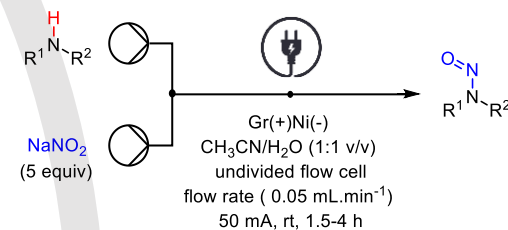
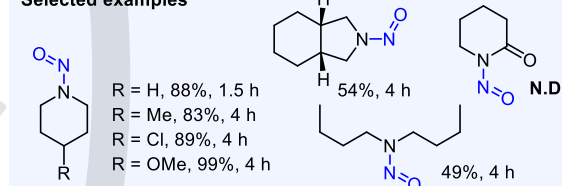
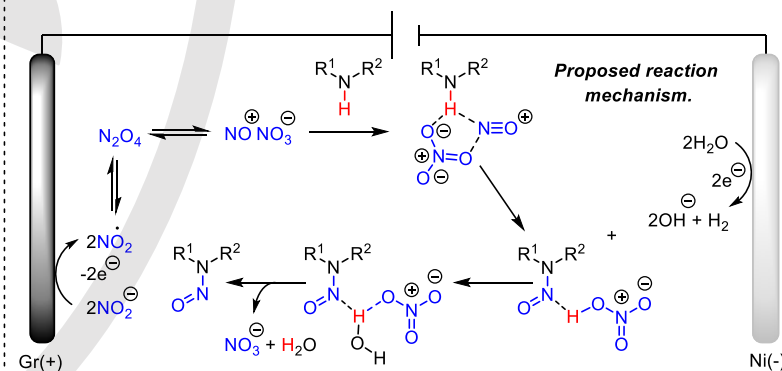
Figure 6: Direct Ipso-nitration (C–H) promoted by NaNO₂. (Part 5)^{2ao-aw}

Nitrosamines. Notables Features:

- NaNO_2 -mediated nitrosation of secondary amines.
- Nitrosonium ions NO^+ generated *in situ*.

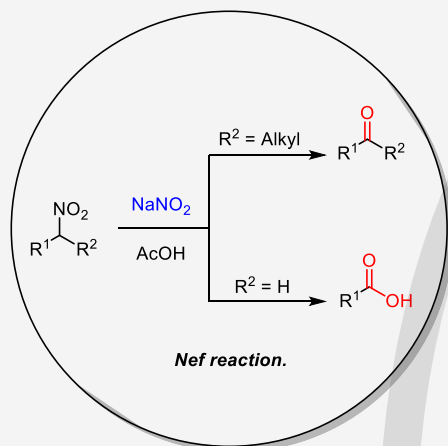
Seminal study: Sodium nitrite-mediated synthesis of *N*-nitrosamines.**Seminal study:** Sodium nitrite-mediated nitrosative dealkylation of tertiary terpenylethanolamines.**Further reading:** NaNO_2 -mediated Abidi transformation (Review article).(3c) Zard, *Chem. Commun.* **2002**, 15, 1555.(3e) Borikar, *Synth. Commun.* **2010**, 40, 654.**Futher Reading:**

- (3l) Smith, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1967**, 89, 1147.
- (3m) Hecht, *J. Org. Chem.* **1978**, 43, 72.
- (3n) Nakajima, *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1984**, 25, 2619.
- (3o) Giumanini, *Tetrahedron.* **1990**, 46, 4303.
- (3p) Chehardoli, *J. Chem. Sci.* **2009**, 121, 441.

**Selected examples**(3f) Azadi, *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2015**, 56, 5613.**Selected examples**(3g) Banerjee, *Synth. Commun.* **2019**, 49, 2270.*Isotopically labelled precursor. NMAP*(3h) Derdau, *Labelled. Comp. Radiopharm.* **2023**, 66, 41.**Seminal study:** Electrochemical flow method mediated by sodium nitrite.(3i) Masui, *Chem. Pharm. Bull.* **1988**, 36, 459.**Selected examples**(3j) Ali, *Chem. Eur. J.* **2023**, 29, e202300957.**Futher Reading:** Review article using electrochemical methods.(3k) Ali, *Chemistry-Methods.* **2024**, 4, e20230005.**Figure 7:** NaNO_2 -mediated nitrosation of secondary amines.^{3a-p}

NaNO₂-Mediated Nef Transformations.

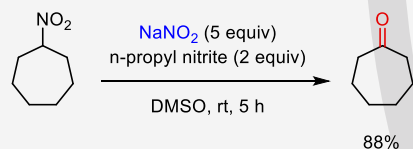
Seminal study: Acid hydrolysis of primary and secondary nitroalkane salts into aldehyde or ketone.



(4a) Nef, *Justus Liebigs Ann. Chem.* **1894**, 280, 263.

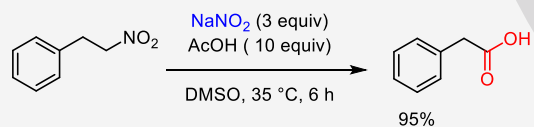
Use of sodium nitrite in the nef reaction:

Seminal study: Synthesis of ketones and carboxylic acids from nitro compounds mediated by NaNO₂/alkyl nitrite.

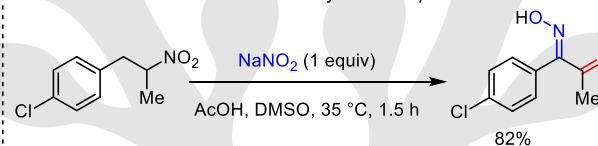
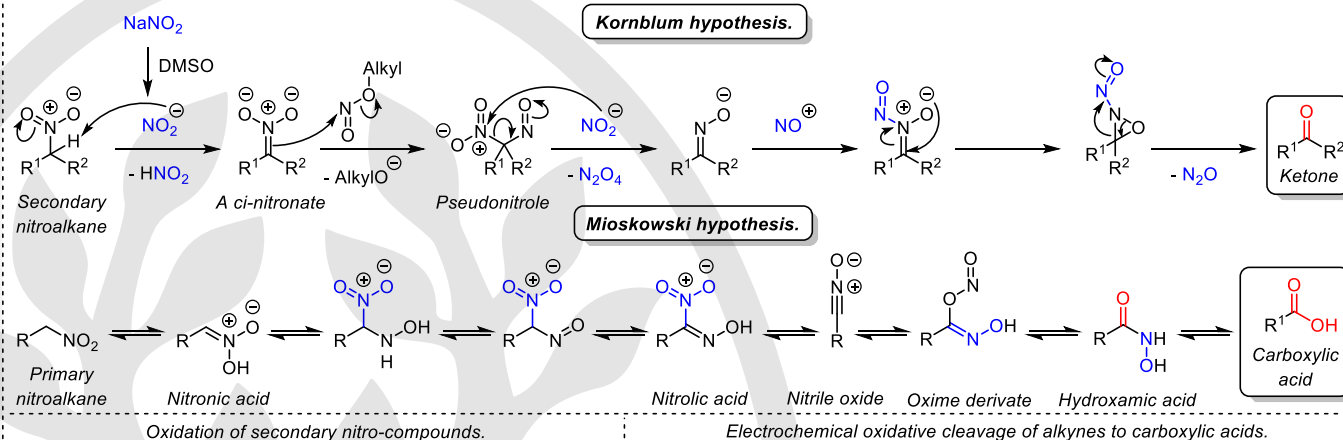


(4b) Kornblum, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1956**, 78, 1501. (4c) Kornblum, *J. Org. Chem.* **1973**, 38, 1418.

Seminal study: Conversion of primary nitro compounds into carboxylic acids in the presence of NaNO₂/AcOH.

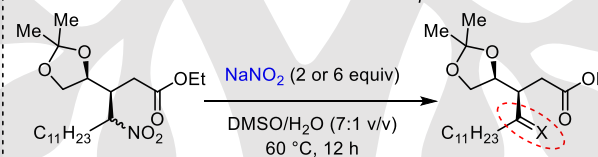


(4d) Mioskowski, *J. Org. Chem.* **1997**, 62, 234.



(4e) Ran, *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2003**, 44, 8061.

Effect of the sodium nitrite concentration on product distribution.

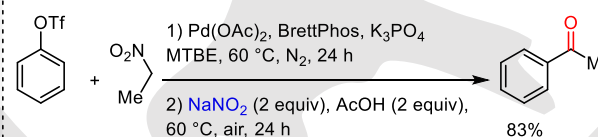


NaNO₂ (2 equiv): 40% (X = O) and 25% (X = NOH)

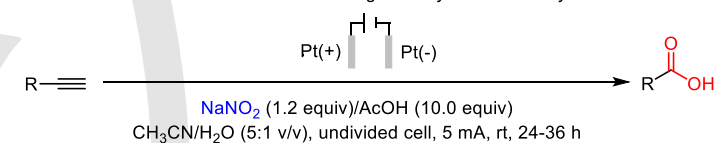
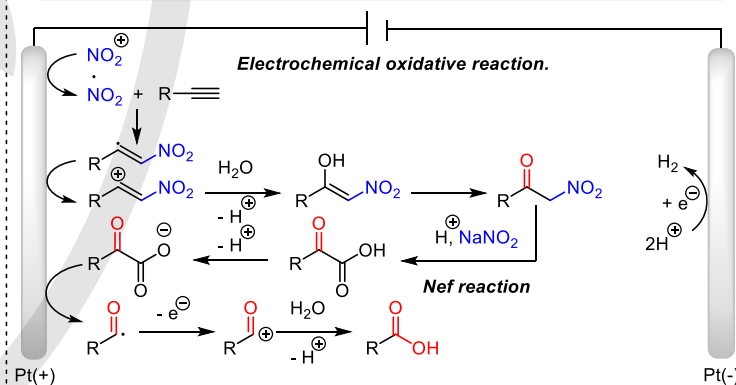
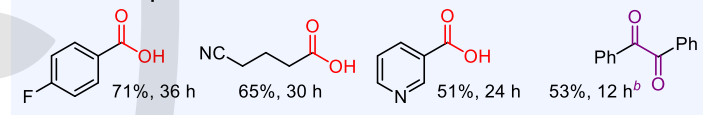
NaNO₂ (6 equiv): 71% (X = O) and 0% (X = NOH)

(4f) Patrocínio Pereira, *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2009**, 50, 6389.

Access to ketones through Pd-catalyzed cross-coupling of phenol derivatives with nitroalkanes.



(4g) Yu, *Eur. J. Org. Chem.* **2022**, 2022, e202200731.

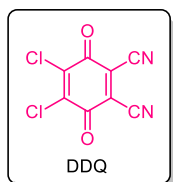
**Selected examples**

Further reading: Review article on new perspectives on the Nef reaction and NaNO₂-mediated methodologies. (4i) Petri, *Adv. Synth. Catal.* **2015**, 357, 2371.

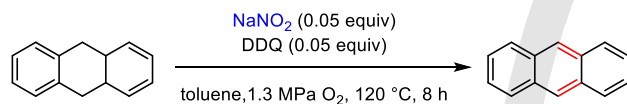
Figure 8: NaNO₂-mediated Nef reaction.^{4a-i}

NaNO₂-Catalyzed Oxidation Reactions. Notables Features: • Simple and efficient catalytic system. • Bicyclic nitroxyl derivative catalysts. • Nitroxyl radical regenerated in the presence of the NO₂/NO redox couple and oxygen as terminal oxidant.

Oxidation reaction with DDQ/catalyst-NaNO₂/cocatalyst and dioxygen as the terminal oxidant.

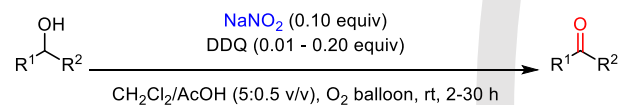


Catalytic oxidative dehydrogenation.

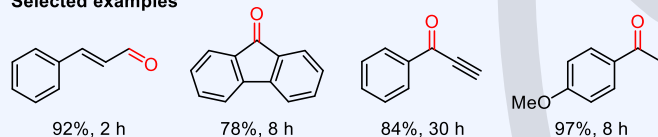


(5a) Xu, *Molecules*. **2008**, 13, 3236.

99%

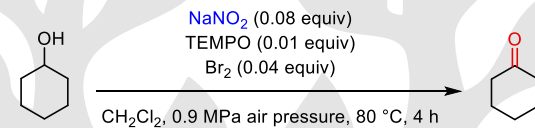
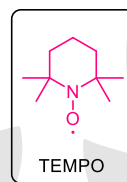


Selected examples



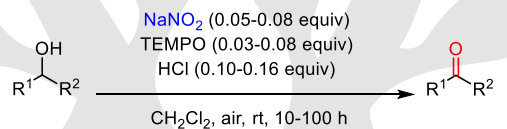
(5b) Wang, *J. Org. Chem.* **2012**, 77, 790.

Oxidation reaction with TEMPO/catalyst-NaNO₂/cocatalyst and dioxygen as the terminal oxidant.

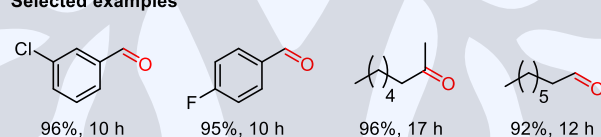


(5e) Liu, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2004**, 126, 4112.

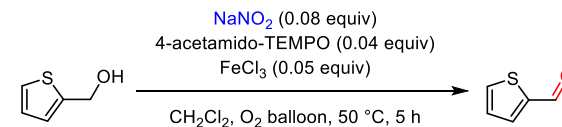
89%



Selected examples



(5f) Liang, *Chem. Eur. J.* **2008**, 14, 2679.



(5g) Liang, *Adv. Synth. Catal.* **2010**, 352, 113.

85%

Further reading: TEMPO/NaNO₂-mediated oxidation reaction.

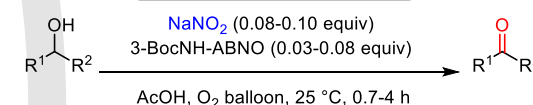
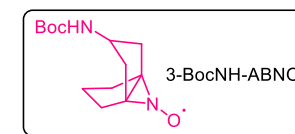
(5h) Liang, *Chem. Commun.* **2005**, 5322.

(5i) Miao, *Adv. Synth. Catal.* **2009**, 351, 2209.

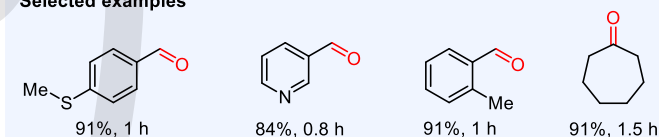
(5j) Lou, *J. Chem. Res.* **2013**, 37, 409.

(5k) Zhang, *J. Chem. Sci.* **2020**, 132, 122.

Oxidation reaction with 3-BocNH-ABNO/catalyst - NaNO₂/cocatalyst.

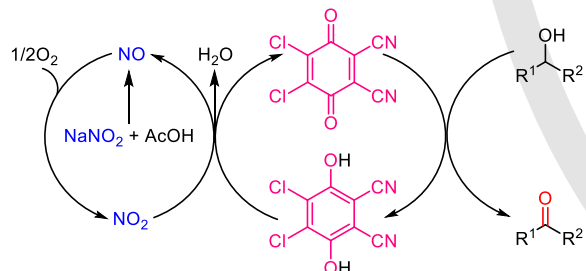


Selected examples



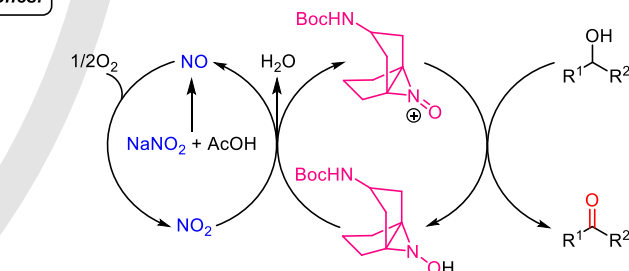
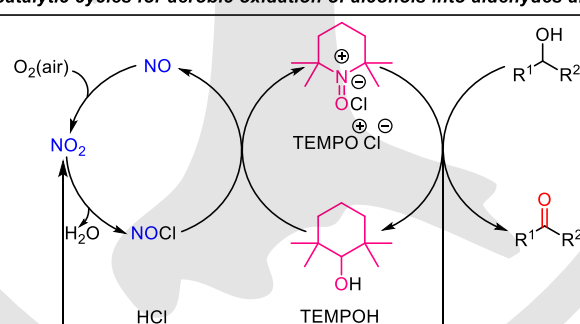
(5l) Zhao, *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2019**, 60, 150994.

Proposed catalytic cycles for aerobic oxidation of alcohols into aldehydes and ketones.



Further reading: DDQ/NaNO₂-mediated oxidation reaction.

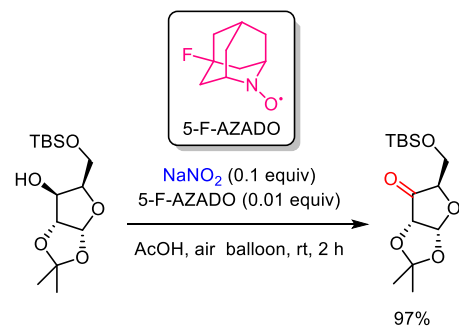
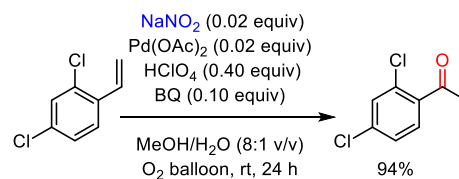
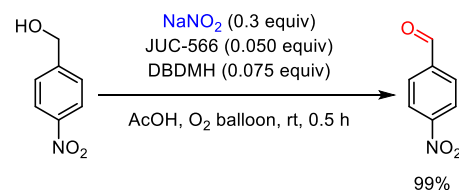
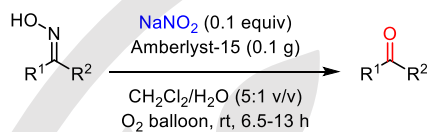
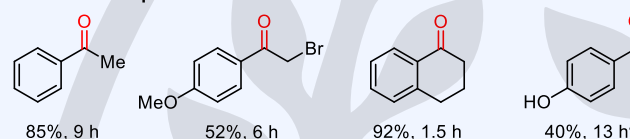
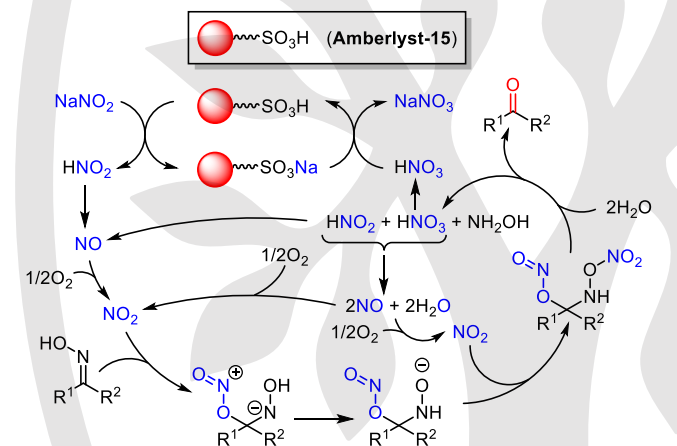
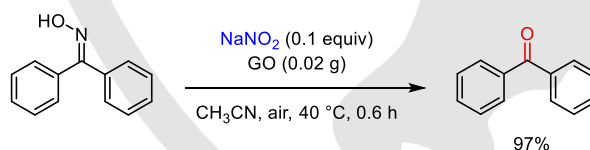
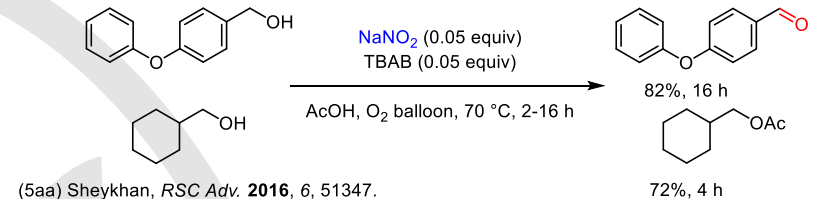
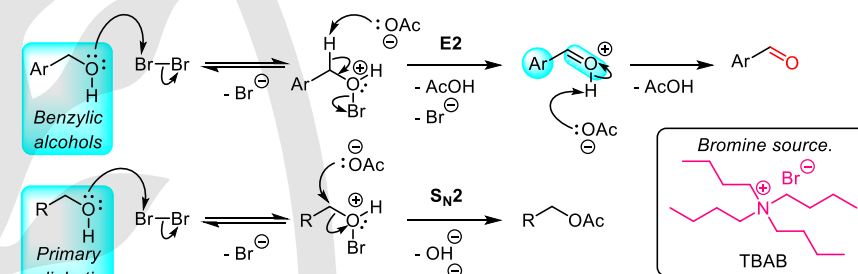
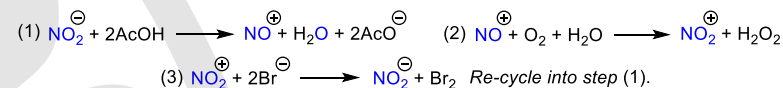
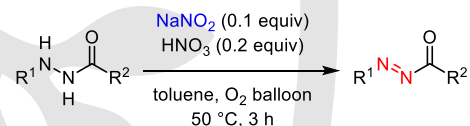
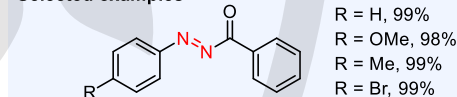
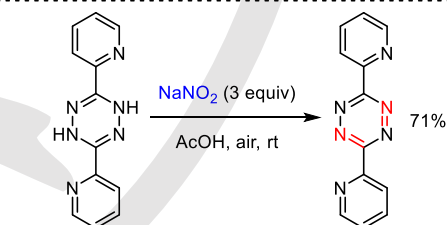
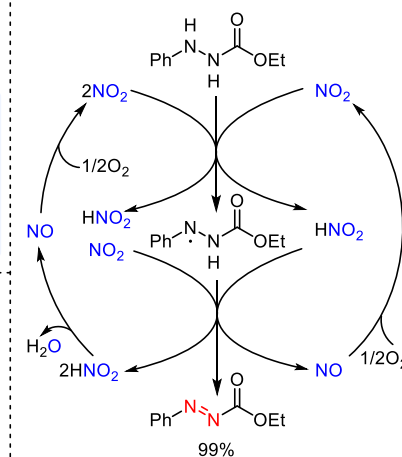
(5c) Moody, *Org. Lett.* **2014**, 16, 5224. (5d) Tong, *J. Mol. Catal. A Chem.* **2014**, 391, 1.

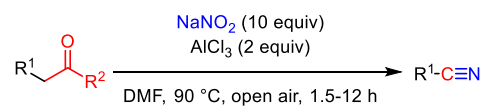
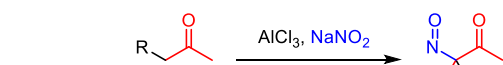
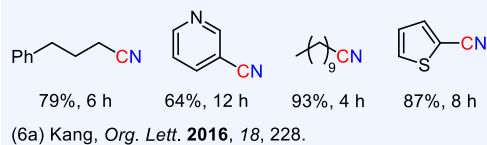
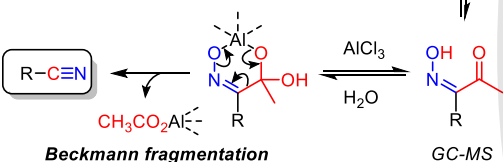


Further reading: ABNO/Keto-ABNO/NaNO₂-mediated oxidation reactions.

(5m) Stahl, *ACS Catal.* **2013**, 3, 2612.

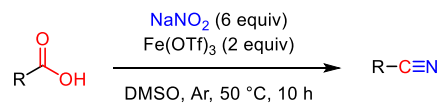
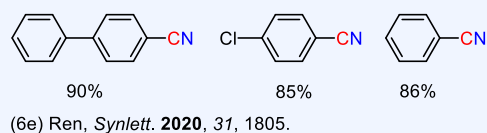
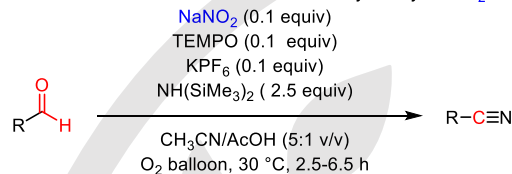
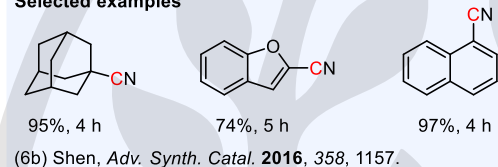
Figure 9: NaNO₂-mediated oxidation reactions. (Part 1)^{5a-m}

(5n) Iwabuchi, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2011**, 133, 6497.**Further reading:** Mechanistic studies.(5o) Iwabuchi, *J. Org. Chem.* **2014**, 79, 10256.**Chemoselective oxidation of α -hydroxy acids to α -keto acids catalyzed by AZADO/ NaNO_2 :**(5p) Shibuya, *Org. Lett.* **2016**, 18, 4230.**Wacker oxidation of styrene derivatives into ketones.**(5q) Ding, *Org. Biomol. Chem.* **2013**, 11, 2947.**Further reading:** Wacker oxidation.(5r) Grubbs, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2014**, 136, 890.(5s) Wan, *Org. Biomol. Chem.* **2022**, 20, 7814.(5t) Chen, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2021**, 60, 22230.**Other further reading:**(5u) Bosch, *J. Org. Chem.* **1994**, 59, 2529.(5v) Liang, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2005**, 44, 5520.(5w) Xu, *Adv. Synth. Catal.* **2009**, 351, 558.(5x) Liu, *Org. Lett.* **2021**, 23, 4057. **NaNO_2 catalyzed aerobic oxidative deoxygenation.****Selected examples**(5y) Ding, *J. Org. Chem.* **2011**, 76, 4665. ^aIncomplete conversion.**Plausible mechanism for aerobic oxidative deoxygenation catalyzed by NaNO_2 .****Deoxygenation method for deprotection of ketones and aldehydes using a Graphene-Oxide/Sodium Nitrite-based catalytic system.**(5z) Tong, *Adv. Synth. Catal.* **2019**, 361, 3137.(5aa) Sheykhani, *RSC Adv.* **2016**, 6, 51347.**Proposed catalytic cycle for the aerobic oxidation.****Selected examples**(5ab) Kim, *J. Org. Chem. Frontiers.* **2020**, 7, 834.(5ac) Méndez, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2023**, 62, 11186.**Synthesis of azo compounds catalyzed by NaNO_2 .****Figure 10:** NaNO_2 -mediated oxidation reactions. (Part 2)^{5m-ac}

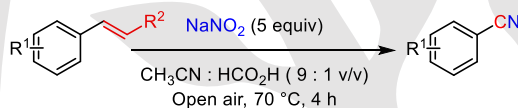
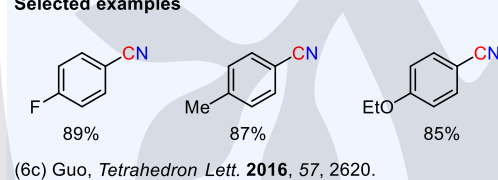
NaNO₂-Mediated Synthesis of Nitriles.Deacylative cleavage C(sp³)-C(sp²): oxidative amination.**Selected examples****NaNO₂: Oxidizing agent and source of nitrogen.****Further reading:**

(6g) Sato, *Chem. Lett.* **1984**, *13*, 1913.
 (6h) Shechter, *Helv. Chim. Acta.* **2005**, *88*, 354.

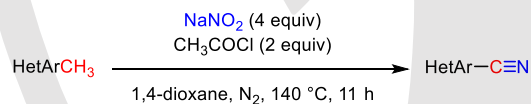
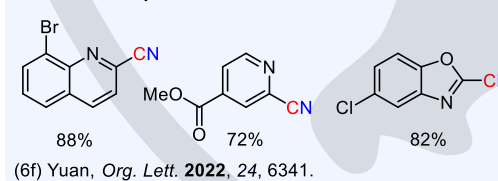
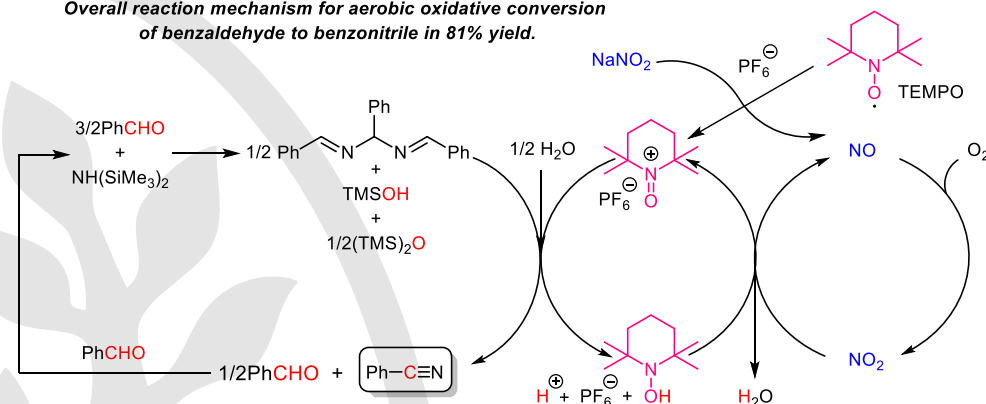
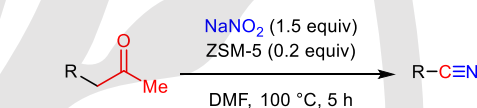
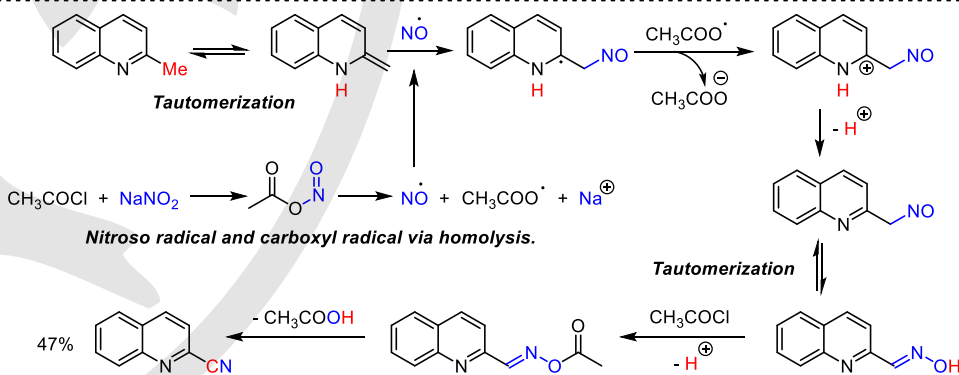
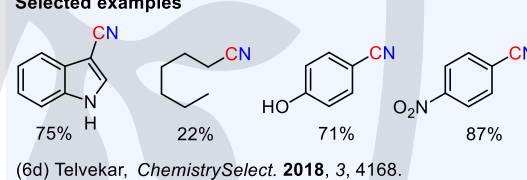
Iron-promoted decarboxylation of arylacetic acids.

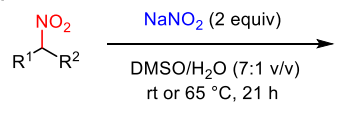
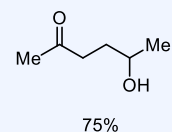
**Selected examples**Aerobic oxidative conversion co-catalyzed by NaNO₂.**Selected examples**

Direct synthesis of nitriles from cleavage of C=C double bond.

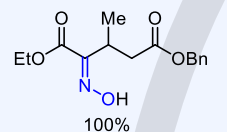
**Selected examples**

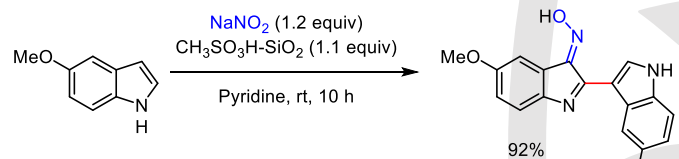
Direct Transformation of methyl arenes into nitriles.

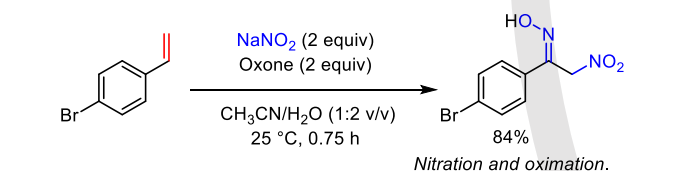
**Selected examples****Overall reaction mechanism for aerobic oxidative conversion of benzaldehyde to benzonitrile in 81% yield.**NaNO₂/ZSM-5 mediated C-C cleavage of ketone derivatives.**Selected examples****Figure 11:** NaNO₂-mediated synthesis of nitriles. ^{6a-h}

NaNO₂-Mediated Oximation Reactions: Versatile Building Block in Organic Synthesis.

Selected examples

Electron rich substrate.

 (7a) Mioskowski, *J. Org. Chem.* **2004**, *69*, 8997.

Nef reaction

Electron deficient substrate.

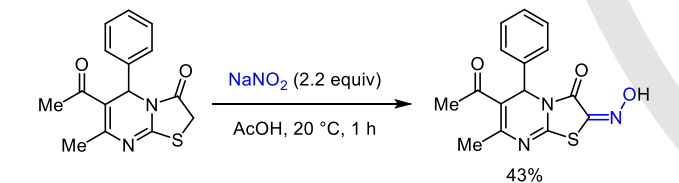
 (7b) Mioskowski, *J. Org. Chem.* **2004**, *69*, 8997.

Three-component coupling reaction.

 (7b) Liu, *Synth. Commun.* **2013**, *43*, 2926.

Nitration and oximation.

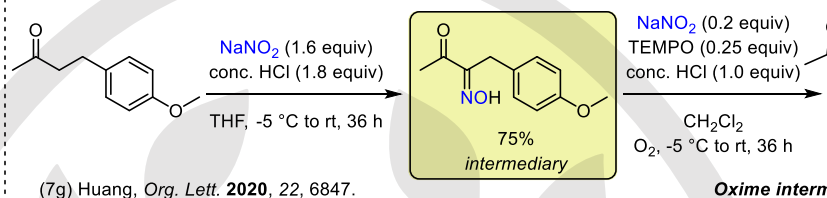
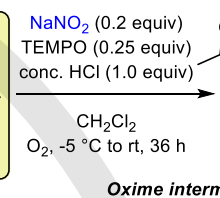
 (7c) Kuhakarn, *RSC Adv.* **2014**, *4*, 59726.

Additional reading:

 (7d) Smith, *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1998**, *39*, 6617.

 (7e) Padmanaban, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2022**, *144*, 4585.


43%

 (7f) Shiryayev, *Chem. Heterocycl. Compd.* **2015**, *51*, 377.

 (7g) Huang, *Org. Lett.* **2020**, *22*, 6847.


88%

Further reading:

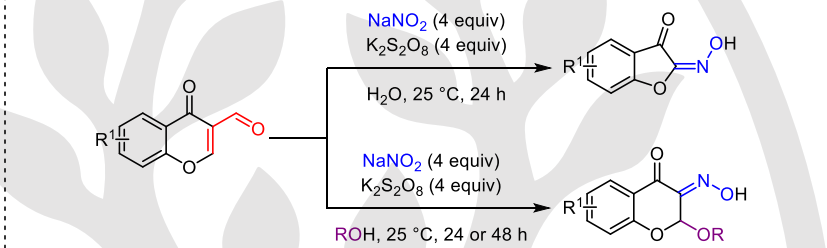
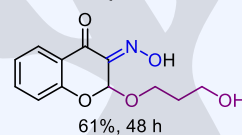
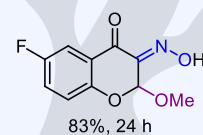
 (7h) Katritzky, *J. Org. Chem.* **2003**, *68*, 9093.

 (7i) Hopkins, *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2004**, *45*, 2137.

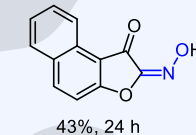
 (7j) Huggins, *Synth. Commun.* **2008**, *38*, 4226.

 (7k) Bobrov, *Org. Biomol. Chem.* **2023**, *21*, 3604.

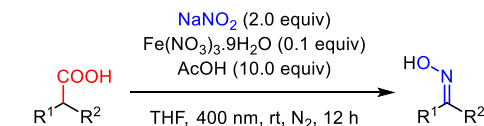
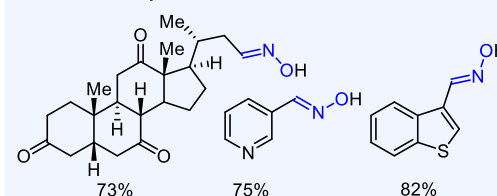
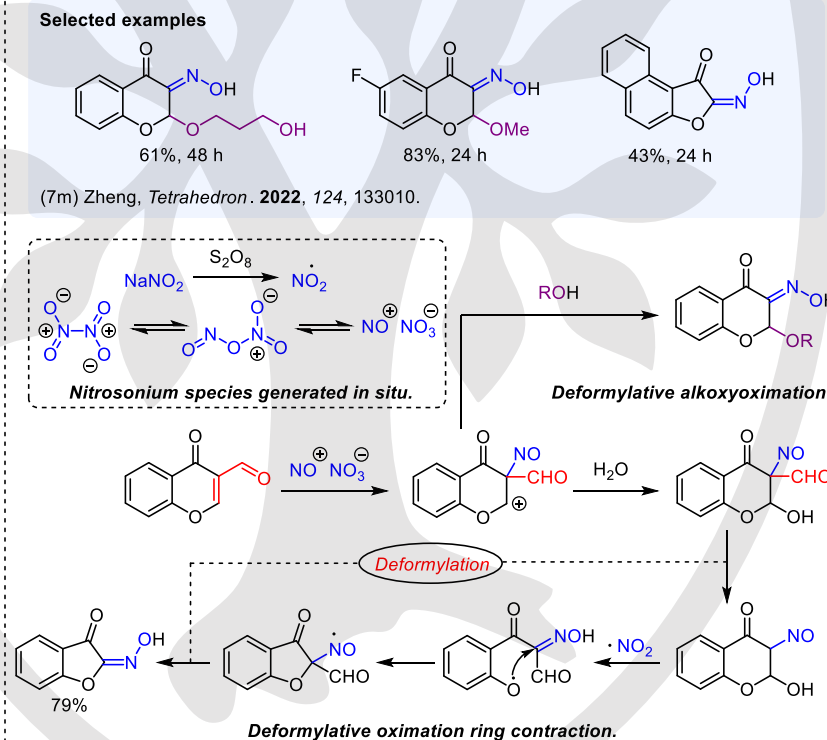
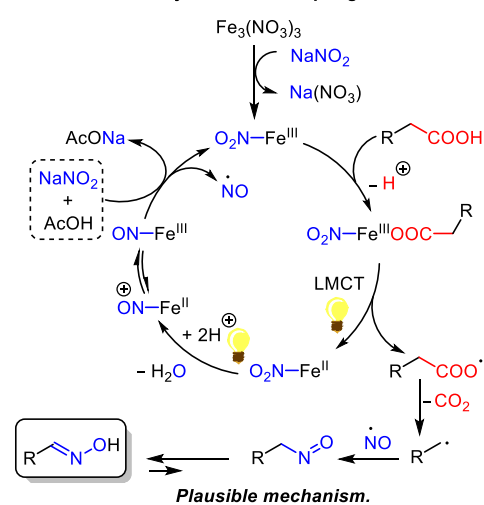
 (7l) Filyakova, *Chem. Heterocycl. Compd.* **2023**, *59*, 546.

Oxime intermediates: Synthesis of pyrroles, thiazoles, oxazoles and pyrazoles.

Selected examples

 (7m) Zheng, *Tetrahedron.* **2022**, *124*, 133010.


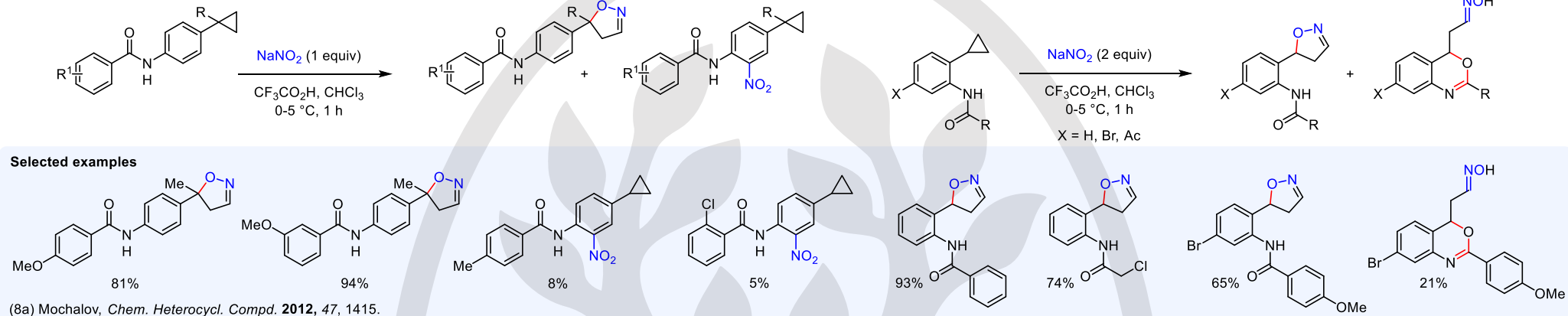
83%, 24 h



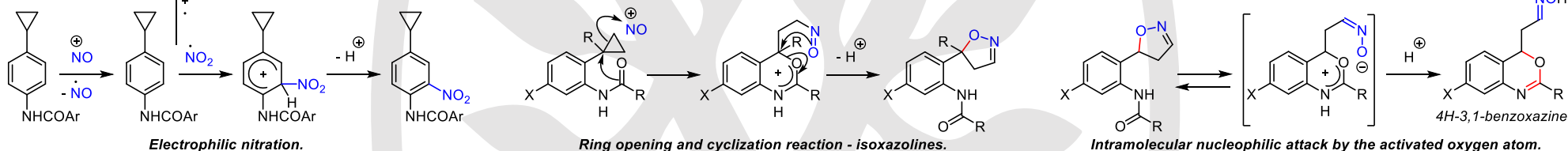
43%, 24 h


Selected examples

 (7n) Yu, *Org. Lett.* **2023**, *25*, 8834.

Decarboxylative C–N coupling reaction.

 Figure 12: NaNO₂-mediated oximation reaction. ^{7a–n}

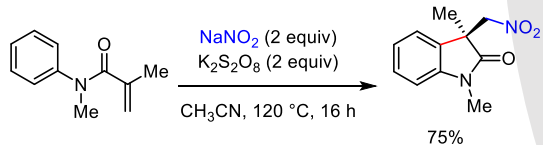
NaNO₂-Mediated Functionalization and Cyclization. Notables Features: • One-pot transformation. • Transition-metal-free. • Mild reactions conditions. • Simple experimental procedures. • Regioselectivity. • Applicable to a range of substrates.



Plausible mechanisms for the nitration reaction and ring opening of *N*-acylaminophenylcyclopropanes mediated by NaNO₂ for the synthesis of Δ^2 -isoxazolines.

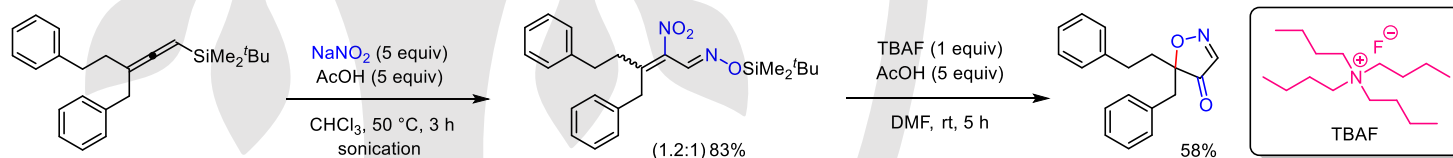


Carbonitration of alkenes and C–H functionalization to obtain oxindoles.



(8b) Yang, *Chem. Commun.* **2013**, 49, 11701.

Synthesis of isooxazolidinones from α -nitro- α,β -unsaturated silyl oximes.



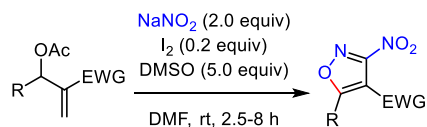
(8c) Sabbasani, *Org. Lett.* **2013**, 15, 3954.

(*E/Z*) ratio determined by ¹H NMR.

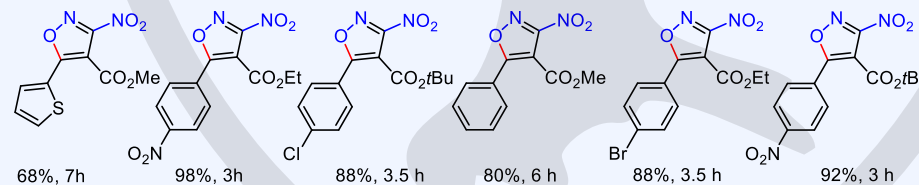
Isooxazolidinone product by Nef reaction.

Synthesis of 3,4,5-trisubstituted isoxazoles.

Selected examples

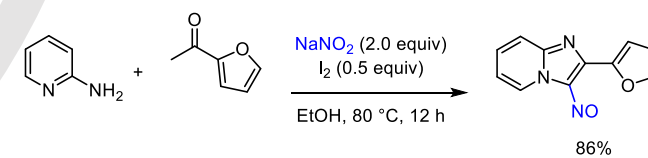


EWG = CO₂Me, CO₂Et, CO₂tBu.



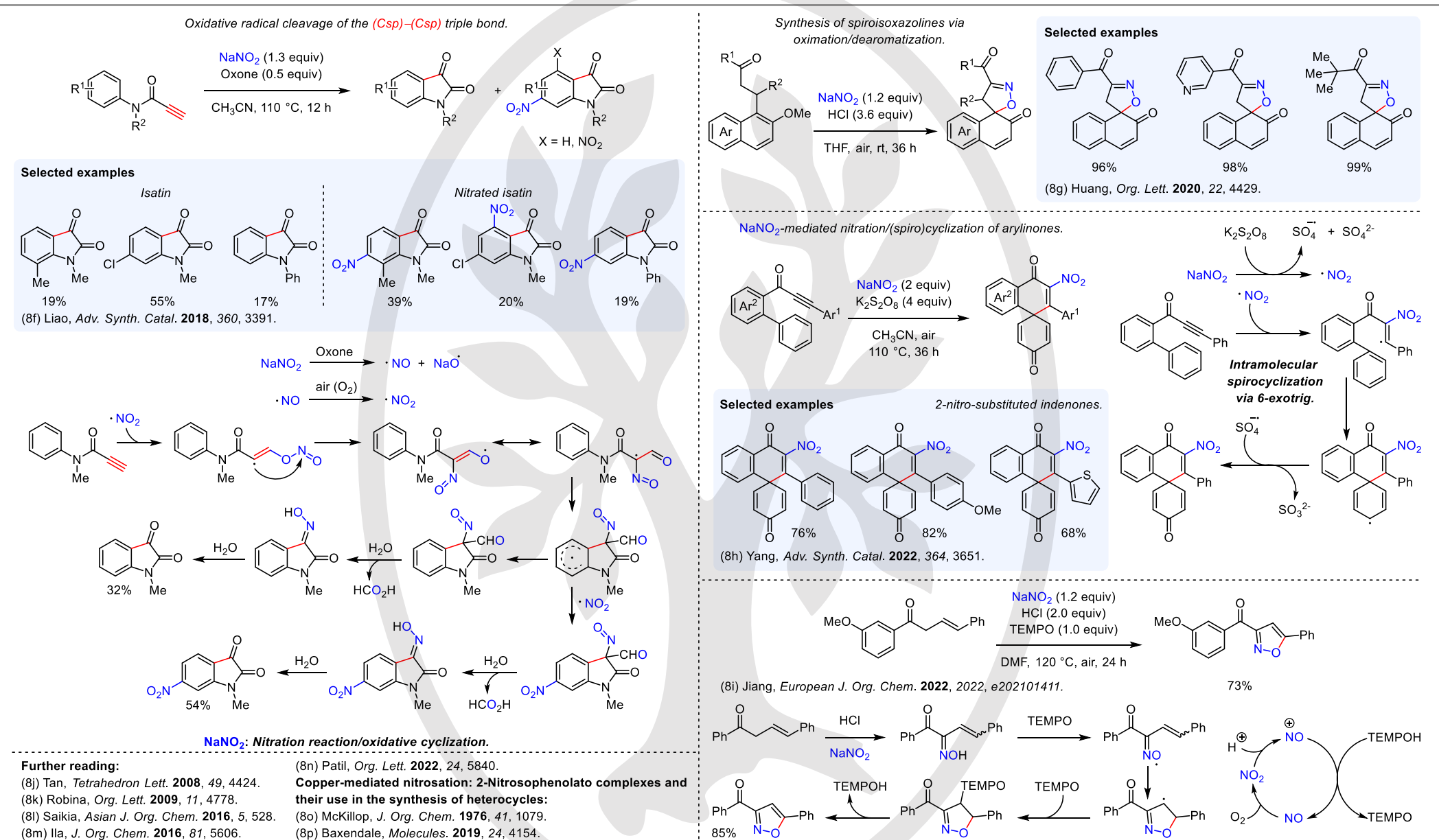
(8d) Batra, *Angew. Chem.* **2015**, 127, 11076.

Synthesis of 3-nitrosoimidazo[1,2-*a*]pyridines.



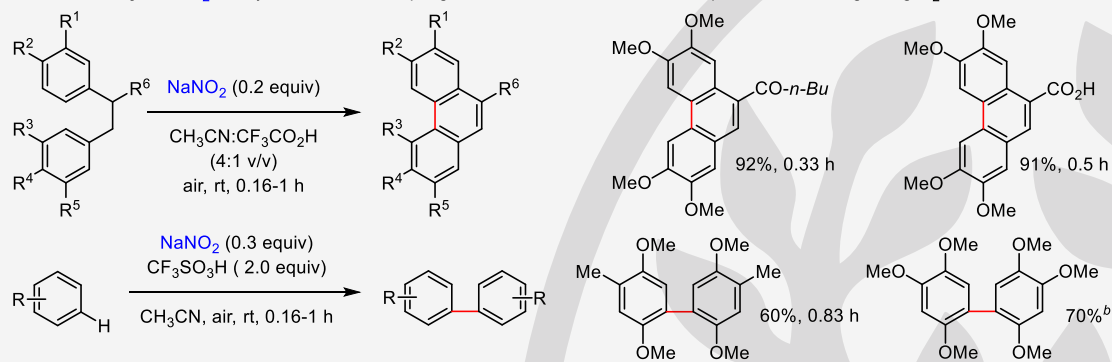
(8e) Batra, *Eur. J. Org. Chem.* **2016**, 3836.

Figure 13: NaNO₂-mediated heterocycle formation. (Part 1)^{8a-e}

Figure 14: NaNO_2 -mediated heterocycle formation. (Part 2)^{8f-p}

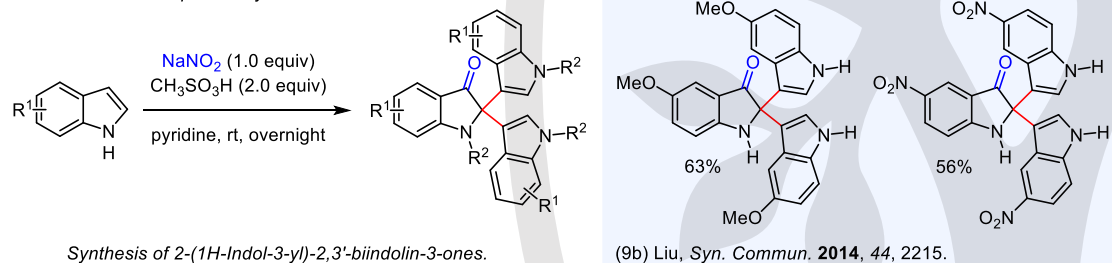
Coupling Reaction and C-C Bond Formation Catalyzed/Mediated by NaNO_2 .

Seminal Study: NaNO_2 -catalyzed oxidative coupling reaction for construction of the phenanthrene ring using O_2 as terminal oxidant.

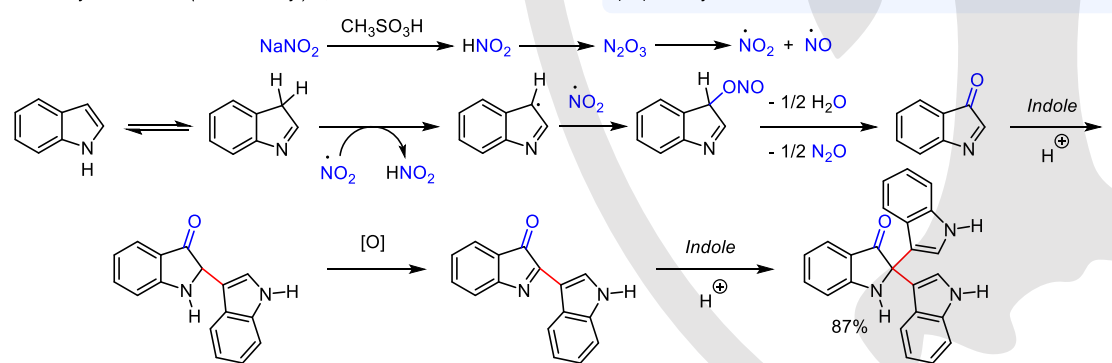


(9a) Wang, *Adv. Synth. Catal.* **2012**, 354, 383. ^b $\text{CF}_3\text{CO}_2\text{H}:\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ (1:9 v/v), 0.16 h.

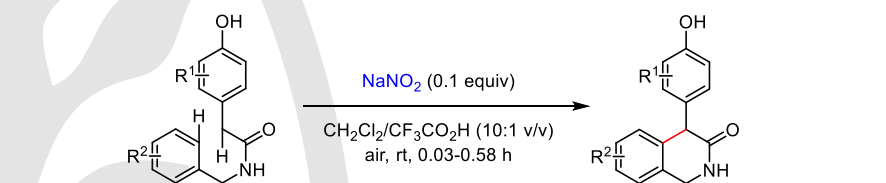
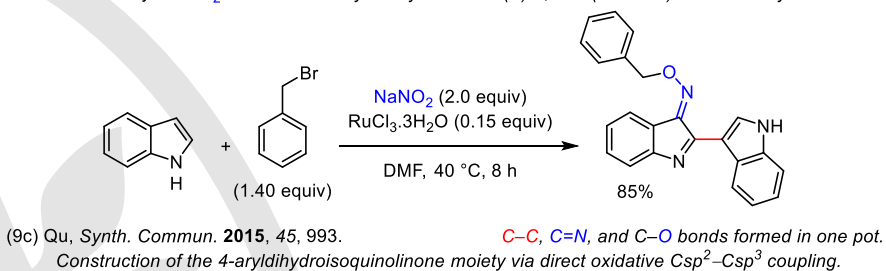
Oxidative trimerization of indoles using NaNO_2 to construct quaternary carbon centers.



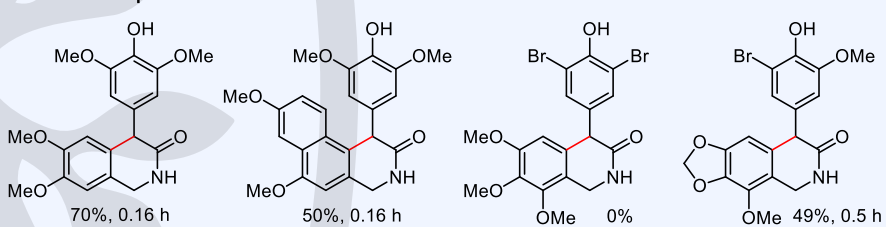
Synthesis of 2-(1H-Indol-3-yl)-2,3'-biindolin-3-ones.



Additional study: NaNO_2 /ruthenium-catalyzed synthesis of (E)-2,30-bi(3H-indol)-3-one O-alkyl oximes.



Selected examples



NaNO_2 -catalyzed aerobic oxidative coupling of benzylic compounds.

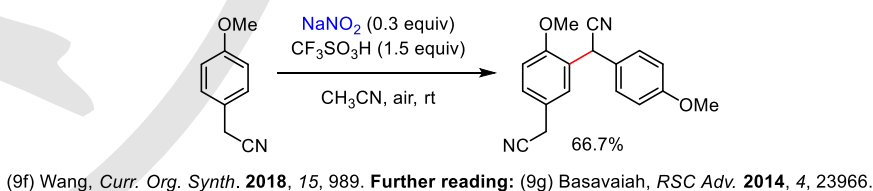
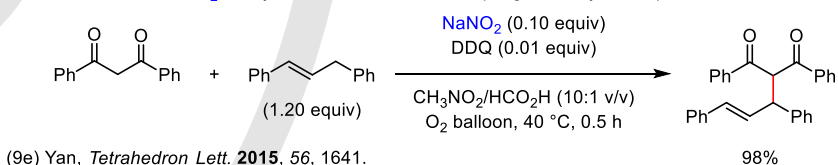
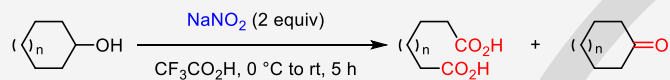
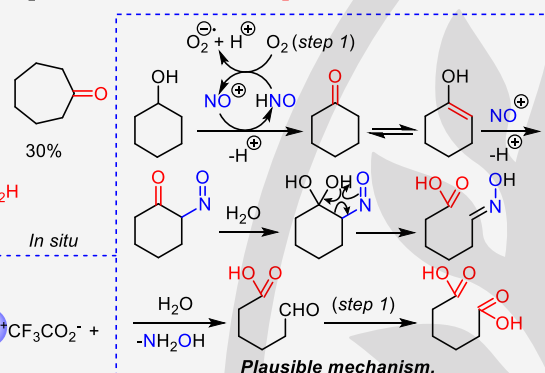
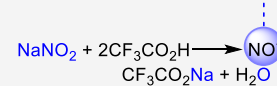
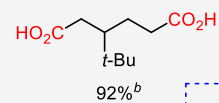
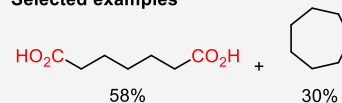
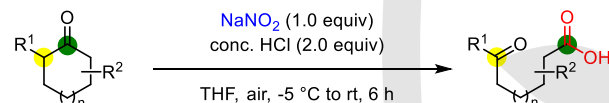
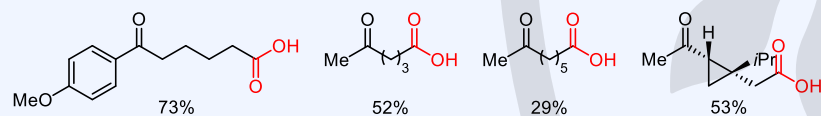
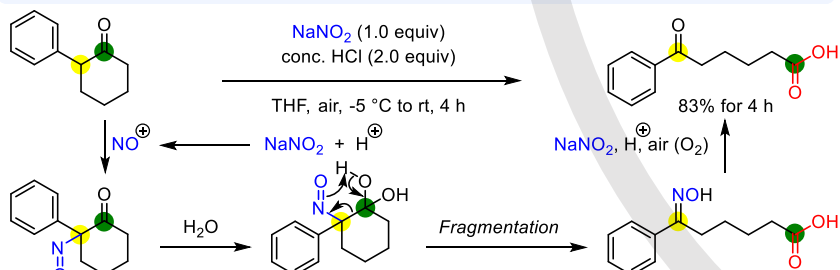
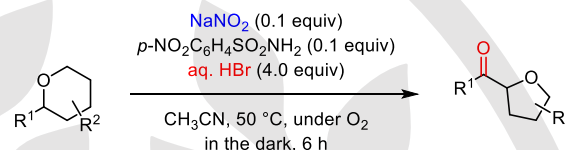
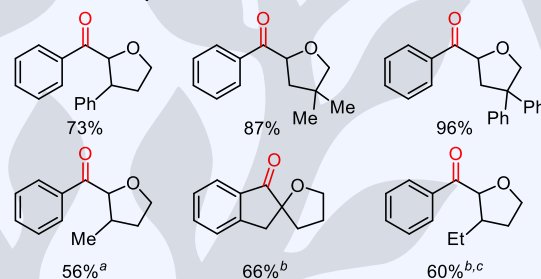


Figure 15: NaNO_2 -catalyzed/mediated C-C bond formation reaction. ^{9a-g}

NaNO₂-Mediated C–C Bond Cleavage and Ring Opening/Contraction Reaction.**Seminal study:** Oxidation of aliphatic 1-cycloalkanol into dicarboxylic acids and ketones.**Selected examples**(10a) Matsumura, *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2004**, 45, 8221. ^b Non-isolated corresponding ketone.**Selected examples**(10b) Huang, *Org. Lett.* **2021**, 23, 6525.**Proposed reaction mechanism for Csp³–Csp³ bond cleavage of cyclic ketones.****Further reading:** (10c) Onomura, *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2008**, 49, 6728.**Notable:** Ring-contraction reaction of substituted tetrahydropyrans via dual functionalization dehydrogenative by NaNO₂-catalyzed double activation of bromine.

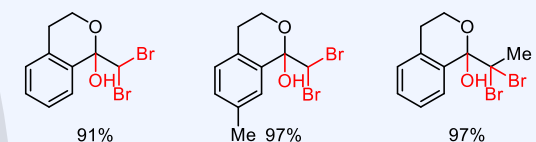
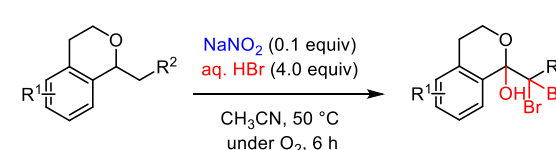
Ring contraction of multisubstituted tetrahydropyrans.

**Selected examples**

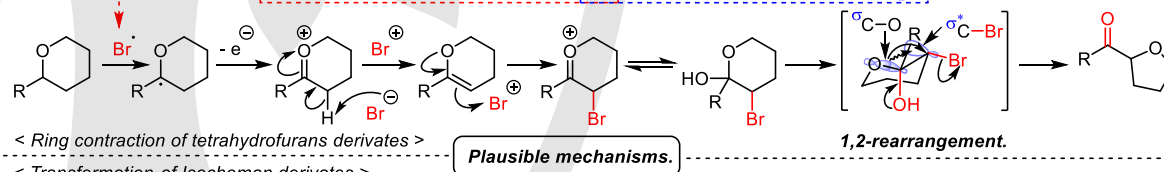
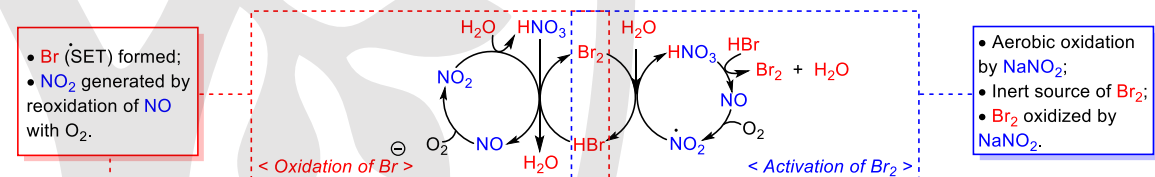
Substituted tetrahydrofurans.

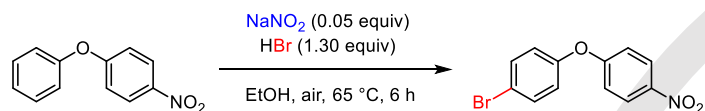
(10d) Moriyama, *Org. Lett.* **2018**, 20, 5803. ^a NaNO₂ (0.2 equiv). ^b At 60 °C. ^c For 24 h.

Dual functionalization of 1-Alkylisochromans.



Isochoman derivatives.

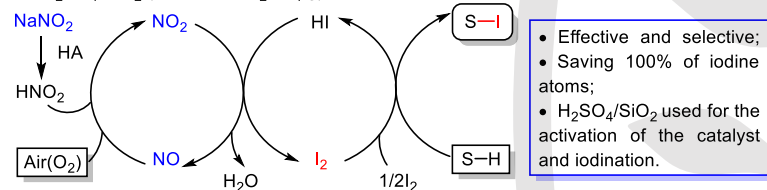
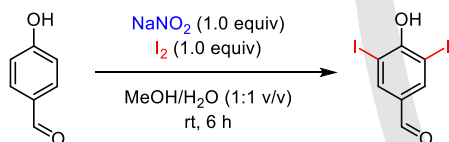
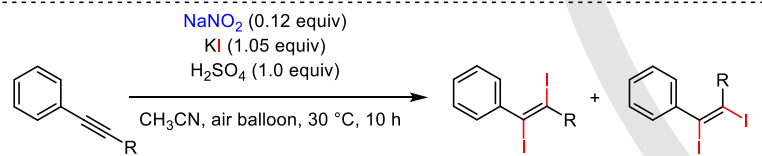
**Figure 16:** NaNO₂-mediated ring opening/contraction reaction. ^{10a–d}

NaNO₂ Catalyzed Aerobic Halogenation of Organic Compounds.(11a) Zhang, *Adv. Synth. Catal.* **2006**, 348, 862.

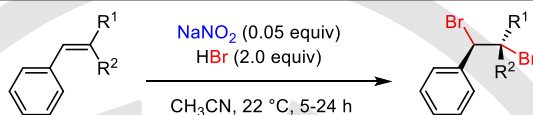
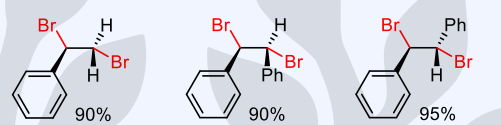
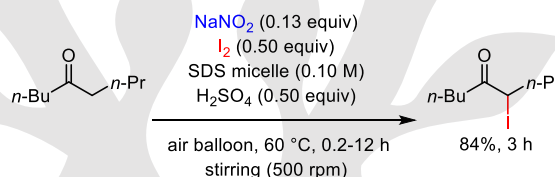
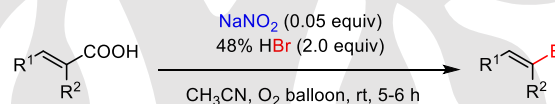
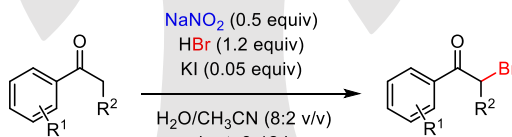
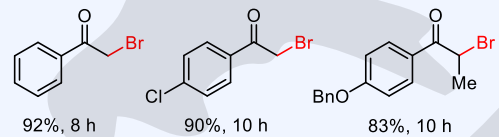
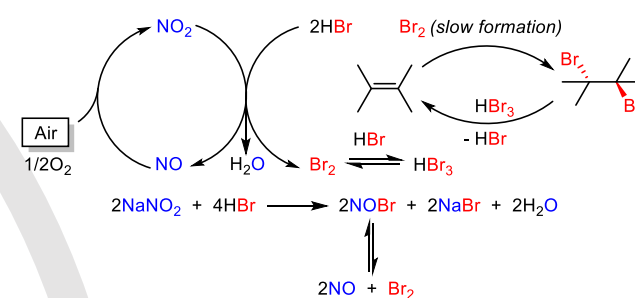
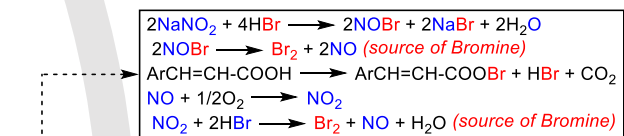
Aerobic oxidative iodination activated by sodium nitrite.

| Substrate | Acid (mmol) | Time (h) | Product | Yield (%) |
|-----------|-------------|----------|-------------|-----------|
| | 0.25 | 12 | <i>o</i> -I | 85 |
| | 1.0 | 24 | <i>p</i> -I | 97 |
| | 1.0 | 24 | <i>o</i> -I | 95 |

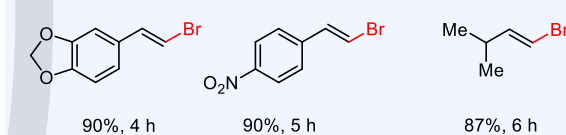
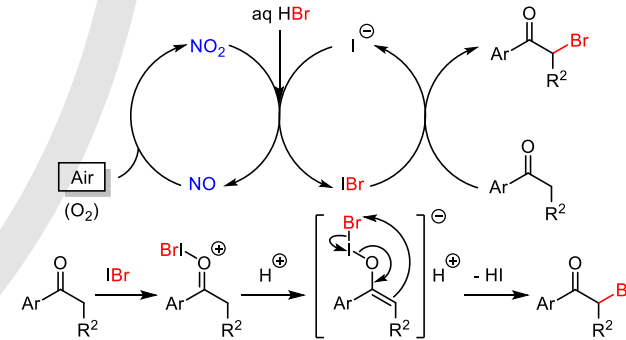
Reaction conditions: 1 equiv. of substrate, I₂ (0.5 equiv), NaNO₂ (0.03 equiv), 50% H₂SO₄/SiO₂ (3.62 mmol H₂SO₄/g), 2 mL MeCN, rt.

(11b) Iskra, *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2008**, 49, 893.(11c) Konakahara, *Synthesis.* **2008**, 15, 2327.Stereospecific anti addition forming (*E*)-1,2-diodoalkene.

| Selected examples - Yield (%) | |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| R = H | 100 |
| R = Me | 87 |

(11d) Stavber, *Adv. Synth. Catal.* **2008**, 350, 2921.**Selected examples**(11e) Iskra, *J. Green Chemistry.* **2009**, 11, 120.Iodination of ketones catalyzed by NaNO₂ in a micelle-based aqueous system.(11f) Stavber, *Green Chemistry.* **2009**, 11, 1262.Bromodecarboxylation of α,β -unsaturated carboxylic acids.Catalytic system for α -monobromination of ketones.**Selected examples**(11h) Akamanchi, *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2016**, 57, 4918.**NaNO₂ catalyzed aerobic dibromination of alkenes.****Plausible mechanism of selective trans-dibromination of alkenes.**

Good yield (Heterocyclics, EWGs, EDGs)

Selected examples(11g) Telvekar, *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2011**, 52, 2394.**Plausible mechanism of α -bromination.**Further reading: (11i) Zhang, *Synlett.* **2011**, 15, 2265. (11j) Lu, *Org. Lett.* **2018**, 20, 5264.Figure 17: NaNO₂-mediated halogenation reactions. ^{11a-j}

Insert all full-page Figures ahead of this line, and leave this line here – it includes a necessary section break.

Acknowledgment

To the postgraduate program in pharmaceutical sciences at the Federal University of Rio Grande do Norte and collaborating members of the pharmaceutical chemistry laboratory of the pharmacy department.

Conflict of Interest

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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