Expanding the Scope of the Diels-Alder Reaction: Development of Cationic Dienophiles Stabilized by Cobalt-Complexed Alkynes

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Diels-Alder reactions of cationic dienophiles stabilized by cobalt-complexed alkynes show greatly enhanced reactivity versus the corresponding substrates lacking cobalt complexation. Studies are currently underway to determine the regio- and stereoselectivity of these novel dienophiles.