

## Characterization of Natural Brazilian Clays and their Utilization as Catalysts in the Coiodination of Alkenes with Water and Alcohols

Raul A. S. Villegas<sup>a</sup>, José Luiz do Espírito Santo Jr.<sup>b</sup>, Marcio C. S. de Mattos<sup>\*,a</sup>,  
Mônica R. M. P. de Aguiar<sup>\*,b</sup> and Alcides W. S. Guarino<sup>c</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Instituto de Química, Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, CP 68545, 21945-970 Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil

<sup>b</sup>Instituto de Química, Universidade do Estado do Rio de Janeiro, 20550-013 Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil

<sup>c</sup>Escola de Ciências Biológicas, Departamento de Ciências Naturais, Universidade Federal do Estado do Rio de Janeiro, 22290-240 Rio de Janeiro - RJ, Brazil

As argilas naturais brasileiras F-101, F-117 e caulim foram caracterizadas através de análises química e textural, difração de raios X e RMN no estado sólido de <sup>27</sup>Al e <sup>29</sup>Si. A argila F-101 é uma esmectita, a F-117 é uma estrutura interstratificada contendo esmectita, caulinita e mica como argilominerais. O caulim é essencialmente uma caulinita. As argilas F-101 e F-117 são catalisadores mais eficientes para a coiodação de estireno e ciclo-hexeno com água e álcoois para produzir iododrinhas e β-iodo-éteres, respectivamente, comparadas ao caulim e a argila montmorillonita K-10.

The natural Brazilian clays F-101, F-117 and kaolin were characterized by chemical and textural analysis, XRD, and <sup>27</sup>Al and <sup>29</sup>Si MAS-NMR. The F-101 clay is a smectite, while F-117 is an interstratified structure with smectite, kaolinite and mica as clay-minerals. Kaolin is mainly kaolinite. F-101 and F-117 clays were more efficient catalysts for the coiodination of styrene and cyclohexene with water and alcohols to produce iodohydrins and β-iodoethers, respectively, than the kaolin and montmorillonite K-10 clay.

**Keywords:** natural clays, characterization methods, catalysis, coiodination, green chemistry

### Introduction

The successful application of heterogeneous catalysis in organic reaction has been one of the most fruitful areas of green chemistry. Clay-minerals are aluminosilicates with layered structure that present a wide use in organic synthesis<sup>1</sup> and exhibit specific features such as high versatility, gain in yield and / or selectivity, low cost etc.<sup>2</sup>

The electrophilic halogenation of alkenes to produce vicinal dihaloalkanes is a well-known reaction in organic chemistry.<sup>3</sup> However, when the halogenation of the alkene is carried out in a nucleophilic solvent (water, alcohols, carboxylic acids, nitriles, etc), difunctionalized products (halohydrins, β-haloethers, β-haloesters, etc) are obtained. This process is termed 'cohalogenation' and provides useful products for diverse synthetic applications.<sup>4</sup>

Besides the large applicability in organic synthesis, the recent discovery of the bioactivity of naturally occurring organohalogen compounds has increased the interest in such compounds.<sup>5</sup> Furthermore, organic iodides are widely used as auxiliaries in radiodiagnosys.<sup>6</sup>

In contrast to other halogens, the simple iodination of an alkene is very slow and hence, the coiodination of alkenes is only effective using alternate sources of electrophilic iodine.<sup>7</sup> An Indian group published the coiodination reactions of styrene and indene mediated by EPZ-10<sup>®</sup> (a commercial clay zinc prepared from montmorillonite and ZnCl<sub>2</sub>)<sup>8</sup> and recently we published an effective coiodination of some alkenes with water mediated by clay-minerals and obtained the corresponding iodohydrins in good yields.<sup>9</sup>

Herein we communicate our results on the characterization and utilization of natural Brazilian clays (F-101, F-117 and kaolin) as catalysts in coiodination reactions of styrene and cyclohexene with water and alcohols.

\* e-mail: mmattos@iq.ufrj.br, mmarques@uerj.br

## Experimental

### General

All chemicals are commercially available (Aldrich) and were used without further purification. K-10 was purchased from Aldrich, F-101 and F-117 clays (crushed) were donated by "Bentonit do Brasil" (Brazilian Co.) and kaolin was donated by CETEM (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil).

### Characterization of the clays

The chemical compositions of the clays were determined by X-ray fluorescence using a Philips 1480 with Rh tub. The X-ray diffractions (XRD) of oriented samples were conducted using a Bruker AXS D5005 diffractometer equipped with a proportional counter and pulse height analyzers Ni filtered by  $\text{CuK}\alpha$  radiation (40 kV/35 mA), diffraction patterns collected at a scanning rate of  $0.05^\circ (2\theta) \text{ min}^{-1}$  in the interval of  $3^\circ$  to  $50^\circ$  (for F-101, F-117 and K-10 clays) or by  $\text{CoK}\alpha$  radiation (35 kV/40 mA), diffraction patterns collected at a scanning rate of  $0.02^\circ (2\theta) \text{ min}^{-1}$  in the interval of  $5^\circ$  to  $80^\circ$  (for kaolin). Textural analysis of clays were performed from the nitrogen adsorption isotherms on an ASAP 2000 at 333 K (to avoid collapse in the framework of the clay-mineral) using the multipoint BET method. Solid state NMR measurements (MAS-NMR) were carried out on a Bruker DRX-300 spectrometer operating at a  $B_0$  of 7.05 Tesla, corresponding to a Larmor frequency of 78.2 MHz for aluminium and 59.6 MHz for silicon. Samples were spun in zirconia rotors equipped with Kel-F caps, at speed of 12 kHz. A short pulse of 7 ms was used and the recycle time was 0.3 s, for  $^{27}\text{Al}$ , while the  $^{29}\text{Si}$  pulse was of 10  $\mu\text{s}$  and its recycle time was 2.0 s. The  $^{27}\text{Al}$  chemical shifts were referenced using a solid sample of  $\text{AlCl}_3 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$  ( $\delta = 0$  ppm), while the  $^{29}\text{Si}$  signal positions were referenced using a secondary standard of kaolin ( $\delta = -91.5$  ppm) in relation to TMS.

### Characterization of reaction products

HRGC (high-resolution gas chromatography) analysis were performed on a HP-5890-II gas chromatograph with FID by using a 30 m (length), 0.25 mm (ID) and 25  $\mu\text{m}$  (phase thickness) RTX-5 silica capillary column and He (flow rate 50 cm/s) as carrier gas (split 1:20). Mass spectra (MS) were obtained on a Hewlett-Packard HP5896-A HRGC-MS using electron impact (70 eV).  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR were acquired on a Bruker DRX-300 (300 MHz and 75 MHz, respectively) or on a Bruker AC-200 (200 MHz and 50 MHz, respectively) spectrometers for  $\text{CDCl}_3$  solutions

with TMS as internal standard. IR spectra were recorded on a Perkin Elmer 1600 FT-IR or on a Nicolet 740 FT-IR spectrometers (NaCl film).

### Typical procedure for cohalogenation reactions of styrene and cyclohexene

To a stirred suspension of the alkene (5 mmol) and the clay (0.2 g) in dioxane (15  $\text{cm}^3$ ) / water (2  $\text{cm}^3$ ) or in the appropriated alcohol (15  $\text{cm}^3$ ) was added iodine (10 mmol) in small portions at room temperature (25 - 30  $^\circ\text{C}$ ). After 24 h, the clay was filtered off,  $\text{Et}_2\text{O}$  (10  $\text{cm}^3$ ) was added and the organic layer was washed with a saturated solution of  $\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_3$  (3 x 5  $\text{cm}^3$ ). The organic extract was dried (anhydrous  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ ) and filtered through a small column of  $\text{SiO}_2$ . The solvent was evaporated on a rotatory evaporator and then concentrated under reduced pressure (267 Pa) and 50  $^\circ\text{C}$  (bath) to give the pure product as a colorless or light orange oil. The analytical data for the products are in accordance with those previously reported.<sup>10</sup>

### 2-Iodo-1-phenylethanol

$^1\text{H}$  NMR  $\delta$  2.80 (d, 1H, OH,  $J$  4.4 Hz), 3.36-3.51 (m, 2H), 4.81-4.84 (m, 1H), 7.36 (m, 5H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR  $\delta$  15.3, 73.8, 125.6, 128.2, 128.5, 141. IR  $\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ : 3410 (broad), 3029, 2956, 2892, 1175, 1055, 845, 764, 700. MS  $m/z$  248 ( $\text{M}^+$ ), 231, 217, 121, 81 (100%).

### 1-Ethoxy-2-iodo-1-phenylethane

$^1\text{H}$  NMR  $\delta$  1.15-1.22 (t, 3H,  $J$  7.0 Hz), 3.27-3.30 (m, 2H), 3.37-3.44 (m, 2H), 4.38-4.44 (dd, 1H), 7.26-7.35 (m, 5H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR  $\delta$  11.1, 15.3, 65.2, 82.0, 126.4, 128.7, 128.8, 140. IR  $\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ : 3055, 2968, 1558, 1490, 1376, 1170, 1070, 762, 698. MS  $m/z$  276 ( $\text{M}^+$ ), 149, 135 (100%), 107, 79, 51.

### 1-Isopropoxy-2-iodo-1-phenylethane

$^1\text{H}$  NMR  $\delta$  1.10 (d, 3H), 1.21 (d, 3H), 3.27 (d, 2H), 3.53 (m, 1H), 4.47 (t, 1H), 7.23-7.41 (m, 5H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR  $\delta$  11.5, 21.4, 23.2, 70.4, 79.6, 126.2, 127.8, 128.5, 141.4. IR  $\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ : 3060, 2966, 2879, 1171, 1118, 1091, 1064, 763, 699. MS  $m/z$  290 ( $\text{M}^+$ ), 231, 149 (100%), 107, 104, 79.

### 1-t-Butoxy-2-iodo-1-phenylethane

$^1\text{H}$  NMR  $\delta$  1.08 (s, 9H), 3.12-3.20 (d, 2H), 4.52-4.57 (dd, 1H), 7.20-7.28 (m, 5H).  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR  $\delta$  13.5, 28.8, 31.4, 74.9, 75.2, 125.9, 127.2, 128.5, 143.8. IR  $\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ : 2973,

1556, 1337, 1188, 1127, 1068, 699, 667. MS  $m/z$  231 ( $M^+$ -Ot-Bu), 163, 107 (100%), 104, 77, 57.

#### trans-2-Iodocyclohexanol

$^1\text{H NMR}$   $\delta$  1.20-1.53 (m, 4H), 1.76-1.96 (m, 1H), 1.99-2.20 (m, 2H), 2.45 (br s, 1H), 3.65-3.76 (m, 1H), 3.95-4.15 (m, 1H,  $J$  9.48 Hz).  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$   $\delta$  22.4, 28.0, 33.7, 38.6, 43.3, 76.0. IR  $\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ : 3385, 2934, 1447, 1355, 1161, 1067, 952. MS  $m/z$  226 ( $M^+$ ), 170, 155, 127, 99, 81 (100%).

#### trans-1-Ethoxy-2-iodocyclohexane

$^1\text{H NMR}$   $\delta$  1.24 (t, 3H,  $J$  7.00 Hz), 1.30-1.61 (m, 4H), 1.7-2.2 (m, 3H), 2.37-2.48 (m, 1H), 3.32 (m, 1H), 3.60 (m, 2H), 4.04 (m, 1H,  $J$  8.9 Hz).  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$   $\delta$  15.8, 23.9, 27.4, 31.6, 36.2, 38.1, 65.0, 82.0. MS  $m/z$  254 ( $M^+$ ), 127, 81 (100%), 57.

#### trans-1-Isopropoxy-2-iodocyclohexane

$^1\text{H NMR}$   $\delta$  1.16 (d, 3H,  $J$  6.15 Hz), 1.23 (d, 3H,  $J$  6.15 Hz), 1.28-1.57 (m, 4H), 1.79-2.14 (m, 4H), 3.38 (m, 1H), 3.78 (m, 1H), 4.02 (m, 1H,  $J$  8.9 Hz).  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$   $\delta$  22.8, 23.4, 24.0, 27.4, 33.2, 37.2, 38.4, 71.5, 80.7. IR  $\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ : 2970, 2934, 2858, 1447, 1377, 1366, 1166, 1117, 1087, 661. MS  $m/z$  268 ( $M^+$ ), 225, 141, 98, 81 (100%).

#### trans-1-t-Butoxy-2-iodocyclohexane

$^1\text{H NMR}$   $\delta$  1.18 (s, 9H), 1.30-1.60 (m, 4H), 1.70-2.10 (m, 4H), 3.60 (m, 1H), 4.10 (m, 1H,  $J$  8.0 Hz).  $^{13}\text{C NMR}$   $\delta$  23.9, 27.4, 29.4, 31.2, 36.6, 38.7, 67.1, 82.7. MS  $m/z$  282 ( $M^+$ ), 267 (100%), 209, 155, 81.

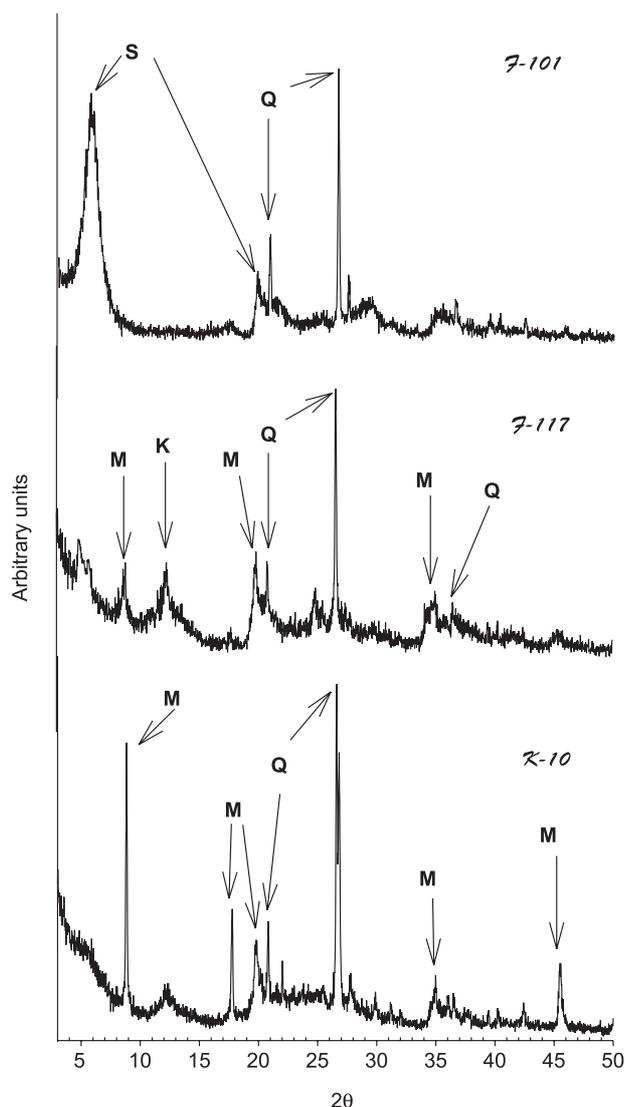
## Results and Discussion

### Characterization of the clays

Figure 1 shows the XRD patterns of F-101, F-117 and K-10 clays. The F-101 clay shows a strong reflection at 15.23 Å ( $2\theta = 5.78^\circ$ ), which indicates the presence of smectite.<sup>11</sup> In addition, this sample shows a peak at 3.30 Å ( $2\theta = 27.05^\circ$ ) corresponding to  $\alpha$ -quartz.<sup>12</sup> On the other hand, the XRD patterns of the natural clay F-117 show several peaks: 8.76 Å ( $2\theta = 10.15^\circ$ ) and 6.46 Å ( $2\theta = 13.69^\circ$ ) suggesting the presence of mica and kaolinite respectively and 3.18 Å ( $2\theta = 28.06^\circ$ ) indicating the presence of  $\alpha$ -quartz. In addition, the broad weak peak corresponding to smectite in F-117 clay suggests that this clay mineral is not the main component and its structure is disarranged.<sup>13</sup>

These results indicate that F-117 clay is an interstratified clay and F-101 clay presents a sole kind of clay mineral (smectite). K-10 showed a very weak and broad reflection  $d(001)$  in  $2\theta = 6.0^\circ$  ( $d = 14.7$  Å), suggesting the presence of clay mineral of smectite group. The reflections in  $2\theta = 9.00^\circ$  ( $d = 10.0$  Å) and  $2\theta = 18.0^\circ$  ( $d = 4.92$  Å) suggest the presence of a clay-mineral of the mica group. Claver *et al.* identified K-10 as an acid treated montmorillonite with a partially destroyed structure.<sup>14</sup> According to Cseri *et al.*, K-10 was activated with mineral acid at high temperature and this treatment results in ion exchange, dealumination, and extraction of iron and manganese.<sup>15</sup> As seen in Figure 2, the XRD patterns of kaolin indicates that kaolinite is the only clay-mineral component of the clay.<sup>16</sup>

Table 1 shows the results of the chemical analysis of the clays. The results of chemical analysis showed that the



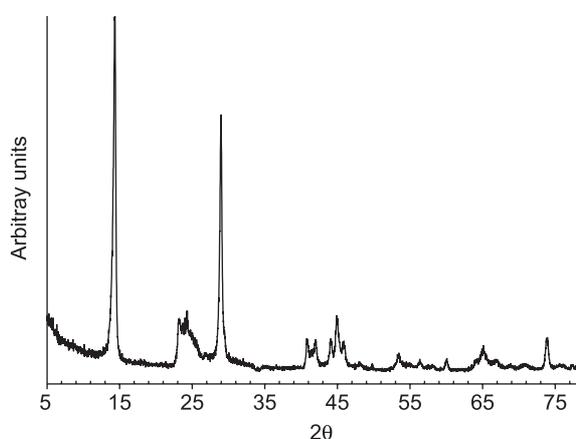
**Figure 1.** XRD patterns of F-101, F-117 and K-10 clays (S = smectite; Q = quartz; M = mica).

**Table 1.** Chemical analysis of clays

Clay	SiO <sub>2</sub>	Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	MgO	Na <sub>2</sub> O	K <sub>2</sub> O	CaO	TiO <sub>2</sub>	others
F-101	66.19	17.10	10.11	3.21	0.42	0.45	1.42	1.10	-
F-117	59.57	22.28	11.31	2.25	0.01	2.83	0.72	1.03	-
Kaolin	53.09	42.47	2.49	-	-	0.02	0.01	1.74	0.17
K-10	77.76	15.60	3.10	1.27	0.40	0.78	0.11	0.58	0.40

**Table 2.** Textural parameters of clays

Clay	Surface Area (m <sup>2</sup> /g)	Specific External Area (m <sup>2</sup> /g)	Pore Diameter(Å)	Micropore Volume (cm <sup>3</sup> /g)
F-101	104	69	46	0.015
F-117	108	94	62	0.006
K-10	254	238	55	0.005

**Figure 2.** XRD patterns of kaolin.

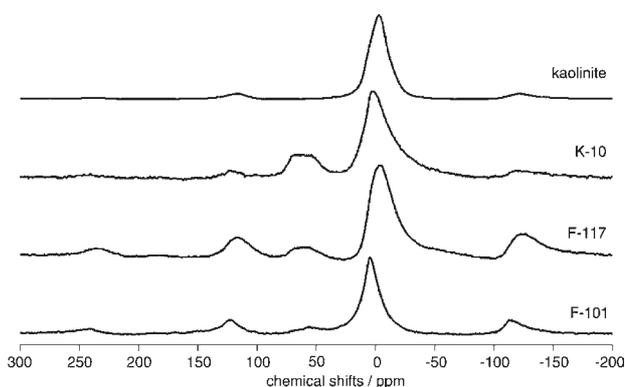
amount of K ion in F-117 clay (2.83) is greater than in F-101 clay, suggesting the existence of illite in the former.<sup>17</sup> As observed, both F-101 and F-117 clays show iron contents around 10% and Mg cation presented in both clays in the octahedral layer. This conclusion was based on a previous report of Guarino, in which the Mg cation amount was not altered in the homoionic clays studied.<sup>11</sup> On the other hand, the low content of elements different from Si, Al and Fe in kaolin suggests it is a 1:1 clay, as other kaolinitic clays.<sup>18</sup>

The results of textural properties of the smectites are summarized in Table 2. Both F-101 and F-117 clays exhibit analogous hysteresis, characteristic of mesoporous solids.<sup>11</sup> Although the pore diameter were similar too, the K-10 clay presents greater surface area than the other clays.

Figure 3 and Table 3 show the <sup>27</sup>Al MAS-NMR spectra of clays. The <sup>27</sup>Al NMR spectrum of F-101 clay shows a broad peak at 56.4 ppm due to tetrahedral Al ions and another one at -5.1 ppm which can be attributed to octahedral Al sites. In a previous paper, it was observed that tetrahedral Al sites were not present in the structure of this clay<sup>12</sup> as it was expected to be from the composition of

**Table 3.** <sup>27</sup>Al MAS-NMR of clays

Clay	δ (ppm)	Assignment	Relative Area (%)
F-101	5.1	Al <sup>VI</sup>	94.5
	56.4	Al <sup>IV</sup>	5.5
F-117	-3.0	Al <sup>VI</sup>	95.6
	61.4	Al <sup>IV</sup>	4.4
Kaolin	-2.2	Al <sup>VI</sup>	100
K-10	2.1	Al <sup>VI</sup>	81.6
	62.3	Al <sup>IV</sup>	18.4

**Figure 3.** <sup>27</sup>Al MAS-NMR of clays.

feldspar, which was not detected by XRD as it presents low crystallinity.<sup>11</sup> On the other hand, the F-117 clay presents a peak at 61.4 ppm attributed to tetrahedral Al sites. All Al is hexacoordinated (structural) in kaolin and the percentage of Al<sup>IV</sup> in acid commercial K-10 (18.4%) is greater than in the others Brazilian natural clays, probably due to the acid-high temperature treatment of this clay.<sup>15</sup> Moreover, the Al<sup>VI</sup> is smaller in K-10 due to its disarranged framework.

Figure 4 shows the <sup>29</sup>Si MAS-NMR spectra of the clays. The region of Q<sup>3</sup>(nAl) in the spectra of F-101 and F-117 clays, detected between -70 and -93 ppm, presents a peak that indicates the presence of Si of the clay framework.<sup>12</sup>

The signal attributed to  $\alpha$ -quartz and amorphous silica,  $Q^4(OAl)$ , observed in the range from -106 to -130 ppm, is also presented in both natural Brazilian clays. K-10 clay shows a  $Q^4(OAl)$  peak more defined than the natural clays, suggesting it has more amorphous silica than the others. As expected, kaolin exhibits a signal at -91.3 ppm related to structural Si, not been detected quartz nor amorphous silica.

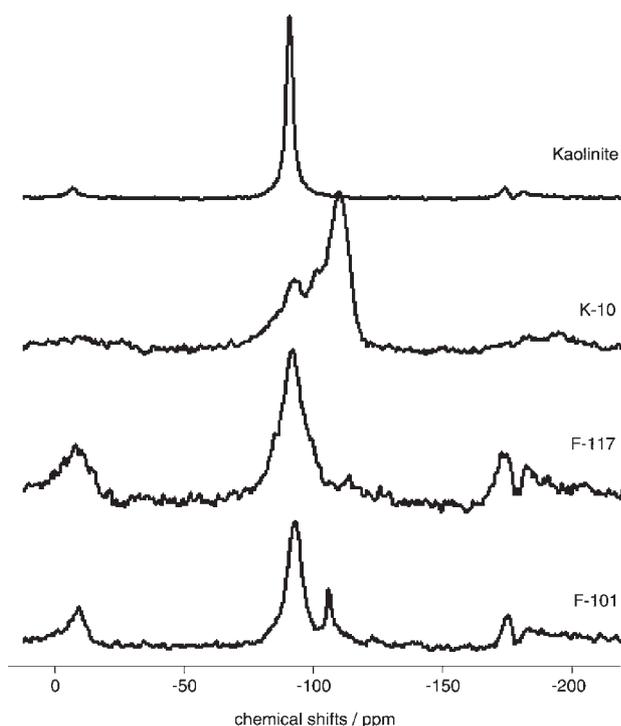
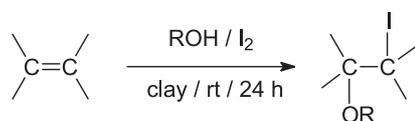


Figure 4.  $^{29}Si$  MAS-NMR of clays.

#### Utilization of clays in coiodination reaction of alkenes

The results of the reactions of coiodination of styrene and cyclohexene with water and alcohols in the presence of clays are summarized in Scheme 1 and Table 4. These reactions were carried out at room temperature by stirring together the alkene, iodine and the clay in the appropriated solvent (aqueous dioxane or alcohols). The reaction products were analyzed by HRGC and characterized by spectroscopic methods. It was observed a sole product in each reaction (iodohydrin or  $\beta$ -iodoether) with no detectable amount of any other products, such as diiodo



Scheme 1.

Table 4. Yields of products according to Scheme 1

Product	R	Clay				
		None	F-101	F-117	Kaolin	K-10
	H	59%	94%	96%	77%	79%
	Et	31%	92%	91%	65%	76%
	i-Pr	30%	89%	89%	59%	68%
	t-Bu	19%	76%	74%	40%	64%
	H	28%	90%	86%	52%	79%
	Et	27%	90%	93%	63%	70%
	i-Pr	23%	90%	92%	60%	71%
	t-Bu	17%	72%	72%	37%	50%

compounds or iodohydrin in the case of the reaction with the bulk *t*-butanol.

The natural Brazilian clays F-101 and F-117 showed better yields, while K-10 clay was intermediate and kaolin was the worst. As kaolin presents an invariable basal distance and K-10 clay has its framework disarranged by previous acid-treatment,<sup>13</sup> our results support the need of a well-defined variable basal distance, which is present in F-101 and F-117 clays. Besides, the iron contents of F-101 and F-117 clays are greater than the other ones and  $Fe^{3+}$  is known to catalyze coiodination reactions.<sup>7,19</sup> On the other hand, the same reactions in the absence of any catalyst led to the same products in considerably lower yields.

## Conclusions

The characterization of natural Brazilian clays showed that F-101 clay is constituted of only one clay-mineral (smectite), while F-117 clay is an interstratified clay. The use of these clays as catalysts in coiodination reactions present great advantages over traditional methods,<sup>7,8</sup> such as inexpensive material, mild reactions conditions and minimal environmental impact. Considering the environmental issues that require the substitution of toxic catalysts by more friendly solid catalysts and the advantages of the heterogeneous catalysis in terms of easy work up procedures, our methodology agrees with the green chemistry approach.<sup>20</sup>

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