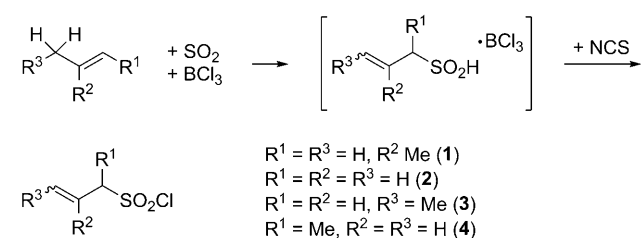


The Catalyzed Desulfinylative Allylation of Carbonyl Compounds with Alk-2-enesulfonyl Chlorides and Silyl Alk-2-enesulfonates

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Carbon–carbon cross-coupling reactions are very important in the areas of material science and medicinal chemistry.^[1] Transition-metal-catalyzed cross-coupling of organometallic reagents (nucleophiles) with halides or triflates (electrophiles) constitutes one of the most powerful methods for constructing C–C bonds.^[2] Arene- and alkanesulfonyl chlorides are inexpensive and readily available compounds. We have shown that Stille, carbonylative Stille,^[3] Suzuki–Miyaura,^[4] Sonogashira–Hagihara,^[5] Mizoroki–Heck,^[6] and Negishi^[7]-type cross-couplings can all be carried out by using sulfonyl chlorides as the electrophilic partners under desulfinylative conditions.^[8] We have also shown that 2-methylprop-2-ene- (**1**), prop-2-ene- (**3**), and (*E*)-but-2-ene-sulfonyl chlorides (**4**) are useful electrophilic partners in desulfinylative palladium-catalyzed C–C coupling reactions with inexpensive Grignard reagents and sodium salts of malonic esters and methyl acetoacetate.^[9] As these sulfonyl chlorides can be prepared in one-pot operations (Scheme 1) through a BCl₃-promoted ene reaction of the corresponding



Scheme 1. The one-pot synthesis of alk-2-enesulfonyl chlorides.^[10]

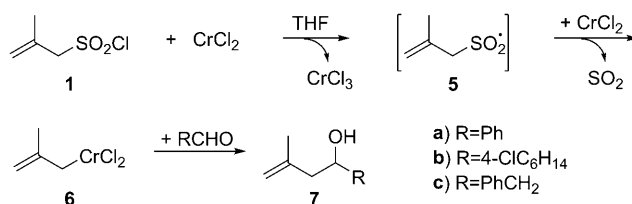
monoalkenes with sulfur dioxide,^[10] substrates **1–4** have become powerful electrophilic allylating agents (without BCl₃, the ene reaction of simple monoalkenes with SO₂ is endergonic above –100 °C).^[11] We have recently reported that iron catalysts can be used in the desulfinylative C–C cross-coupling reaction of Grignard reagents with alkane-, alkene-, and arenesulfonyl chlorides^[12] and with alk-3-ene-sulfonyl chlorides.^[13]

In 1977, Nozaki and co-workers^[14] reported the chemoselective allylation of aldehydes with allyl halides mediated by CrCl₂. The reaction was then extended to the alkenylation^[15] and alkynylation^[16] of carbonyl compounds. Alkenyl triflates can also be used in this type of reaction under nickel catalysis.^[17] The reaction requires two equivalents of CrCl₂ to reduce the allyl halides into allylchromium complexes^[18] that then add to the carbonyl compounds, like other allyl-metal species, through a Zimmermann–Traxler-like transition state.^[19] Alternative mechanisms implying radical intermediates^[20] and oxidation/reduction equilibria (Oppenauer–Meerwein–Ponndorf–Verley-type mechanism) have been proposed.^[21] These alternative mechanisms suggested to us that CrCl₂ might induce desulfinylation of alk-2-enesulfonyl chlorides generating allylchromium(III) intermediates that could be used as nucleophilic partners in carbonyl-compound allylation, thus creating umpolung^[22] reactivity by converting allyl–SO₂Cl compounds (C-electrophile) into allyl–metal compounds (C-nucleophile; Scheme 2).

When we reacted 2-methylprop-2-enesulfonyl chloride (**1**) in THF at room temperature with a) benzaldehyde, b) *para*-

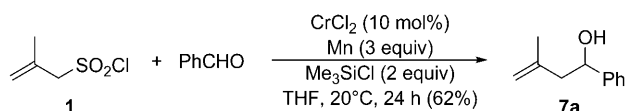
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Scheme 2. The CrCl₂-mediated conversion of electrophilic sulfonyl chlorides into nucleophilic allylating agents.

chlorobenzaldehyde, and c) phenylacetaldehyde in the presence of two equivalents of CrCl₂, the corresponding homoallylic alcohols **7a–c** were formed as the sole products of the reaction and isolated in 70, 63, and 55% yields, respectively (Scheme 3). As with other Nozaki–Hiyama-type reactions, the stoichiometric CrCl₂ can be replaced by Mn (metal) and Me₃SiCl, allowing the use of CrCl₂ as a catalyst.^[23] Indeed we found that **1** reacted with benzaldehyde in the presence of Mn (3 equiv) and Me₃SiCl (2 equiv) in THF at room temperature to afford **7a** in 62% yield.



Scheme 3. CrCl₂-catalyzed reductive allylation of benzaldehyde with 2-methylprop-2-enesulfonyl chloride.

We then explored whether the toxic CrCl₂ could be removed completely. Since we have previously observed that alk-2-enesulfonyl chlorides undergo fast desulfinylation in the presence of palladium complexes,^[9] generating electrophilic allylpalladium intermediates, we searched for reducing agents capable of converting these into C-nucleophiles (allylation by umpolung^[24]). Our results are summarized in Table 1 for the reaction of **1** with benzaldehyde to give **7a**.

With metallic indium^[25] (Table 1, entry 1) and [Pd(Ph₃P)₄] as the catalyst, **7a** was not found in the crude reaction mixture after 24 h at 25 °C.^[26] In hexane/toluene (4:1) with Et₂Zn and using either [Pd(Ph₃P)₄] or Pd(OAc)₂/*n*Bu₃P (Table 1, entries 2 and 4, respectively) as the catalyst system the reaction led to the formation of homoallyl alcohol **7a** in good yields. If hexane alone was used as the solvent (Table 1, entry 5), the reaction was slower, whilst without a phosphane ligand in the reaction (Table 1, entries 3 and 7) the yield dropped. Interestingly, if [PdCl₂(PhCN)₂] was used as the catalyst, SnCl₂ was a suitable reductant for this allylation by umpolung reaction (Table 1, entry 8).^[27] As expected, if Et₂Zn or SnCl₂ were replaced by ZnCl₂, no allylation was observed (Table 1, entry 6).

Table 1. Palladium-catalyzed reductive and desulfinylative allylation of benzaldehyde with 2-methylprop-2-enesulfonyl chloride **1** at 25 °C.^[a]

	Catalyst (5 mol %)/ ligand (10 mol %)	Reductant (3 equiv)	Solvent	<i>t</i>	Yield [%] ^[b]
1	[Pd(Ph ₃ P) ₄]	In	THF	24 h	–
2	[Pd(Ph ₃ P) ₄]	Et ₂ Zn	hexane/toluene ^[c]	25 min	62
3	[Pd ₂ (dba) ₃] ^[d]	Et ₂ Zn	hexane/toluene ^[c]	25 min	traces
4	Pd(OAc) ₂ / <i>n</i> Bu ₃ P	Et ₂ Zn	hexane/toluene ^[c]	15 min	85
5	Pd(OAc) ₂ / <i>n</i> Bu ₃ P	Et ₂ Zn	hexane	30 min	47
6	Pd(OAc) ₂ / <i>n</i> Bu ₃ P	ZnCl ₂	hexane/toluene ^[c]	24 h	–
7	[PdCl ₂ (PhCN) ₂]	Et ₂ Zn	hexane/toluene ^[c]	30 min	15 ^[e]
8	[PdCl ₂ (PhCN) ₂]	SnCl ₂	THF	24 h	65

[a] Conditions: **1** (1 mmol) and PhCHO (1.2 mmol) in solvent (5 mL). [b] Yield after purification by column chromatography on silica gel. [c] 4:1 hexane/toluene. [d] dba = dibenzylideneacetone. [e] Yield by ¹H NMR spectroscopy of the crude product.

We then applied the conditions with the best yield for the reaction (Table 1, entry 4) to various carbonyl compounds using both 2-methylprop-2-enesulfonyl chloride (**1**) and prop-2-enesulfonyl chloride (**2**). Our results are summarized in Table 2 and show the versatility of the method as a wide range of aliphatic and aromatic aldehydes and ketones can be allylated in good yields.

By using a mixture of (*E*)- and (*Z*)-but-2-enesulfonyl chloride (**3**; 3:1), we studied the regio- and diastereoselectivity of the allylation of benzaldehyde (Table 3). Under our standard conditions (Table 1, entry 4: Pd(OAc)₂/*n*Bu₃P in hexane/toluene), a 1:1:2 mixture of the three possible homo-

Table 2. Pd-catalyzed reductive and desulfinylative allylations of carbonyl compounds with **1** and **2**.^[a]

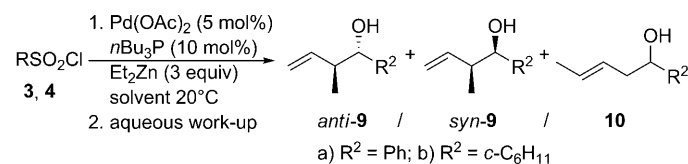
$$\text{RSO}_2\text{Cl} + \text{R}^1\text{C(=O)R}^2 \xrightarrow[\text{hexane/toluene, 0-25}^\circ\text{C}]{\text{Pd(OAc)}_2 \text{ (5 mol\%)}, \text{nBu}_3\text{P (10 mol\%)}, \text{Et}_2\text{Zn (3 equiv)}} \text{R-allyl-OH-R}^1\text{R}^2$$

1 R = Me
2 R = H
7 R = Me
8 R = H

	RSO ₂ Cl	Carbonyl compound	Yield [%] ^[b]	Product	R ¹	R ²
1	1	4-ClC ₆ H ₄ CHO	76	7b	H	4-ClC ₆ H ₄
2	1	4-EtC ₆ H ₄ CHO	77	7c	H	4-EtC ₆ H ₄
3	1	4-MeOC ₆ H ₄ CHO	68	7d	H	4-MeOC ₆ H ₄
4	1	PhCH ₂ CHO	59	7e	H	PhCH ₂
5	1	<i>n</i> -C ₁₀ H ₂₁ CHO	65	7f	H	<i>n</i> -C ₁₀ H ₂₁
6	1	<i>c</i> -C ₆ H ₁₁ CHO	72	7g	H	<i>c</i> -C ₆ H ₁₁
7	1	PhCOMe	65	7h	Me	Ph
8	1	PhCOPh	67	7i	Ph	Ph
9	1	cyclohexanone	63	7j	–	–(CH ₂) ₅ –
10	2	4-PhC ₆ H ₄ CHO	81	8a	H	4-PhC ₆ H ₄
11	2	4-PhOC ₆ H ₄ CHO	75	8b	H	4-PhOC ₆ H ₄
12	2	PhCH ₂ CHO	69	8c	H	PhCH ₂
13	2	4-FC ₆ H ₄ COPh	72	8d	Ph	4-FC ₆ H ₄
14	2	PhCOOMe	–	–	–	–

[a] Conditions: **1** (1 mmol) and the carbonyl compound (1.2 mmol) in hexane/toluene (4:1; 5 mL). [b] Isolated yield after flash column chromatography on silica gel.

Table 3. Regio- (**9** vs. **10**) and diastereoselectivity (*syn*-**9** vs. *anti*-**9**) of the reductive and desulfinylative Pd-catalyzed allylation of aldehydes with but-2-enesulfonyl (**3**) and 1-methylprop-2-enesulfonyl chloride (**4**).

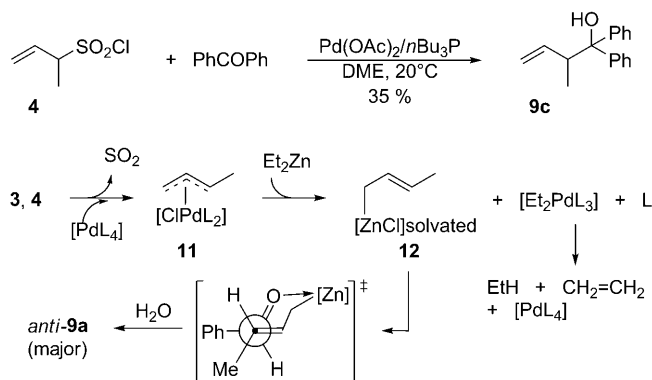


	RSO ₂ Cl	Aldehyde	Solvent	Yield [%] ^[a]	Product ratio ^[b]	R ²
1	3 or 4	PhCHO	hexane/toluene	75	1:1:2	Ph
2	3	PhCHO	toluene	44	1:1:2	Ph
3	3	PhCHO	THF	69	2:1:0	Ph
4	3 or 4	PhCHO	DME	73	2.5:1:0	Ph
5	3 or 4	<i>c</i> -C ₆ H ₁₁ CHO	DME	68	2.3:1:0	<i>c</i> -C ₆ H ₁₁

[a] Yield of the product mixture by flash column chromatography on silica gel. [b] The *anti*-**9**/*syn*-**9**/**10** product ratio was determined by ¹H NMR spectroscopy of the crude reaction mixture.

allylic alcohols *anti*-**9a**, *syn*-**9a**, and **10a** was obtained in a 75% combined yield (Table 3, entry 1).

The same yield and product ratio were obtained if **4** was used instead of **3**, which supports the possible mechanism shown in Scheme 4 by implying the formation of the same

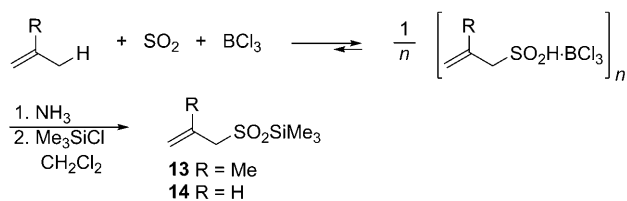


Scheme 4. A possible mechanism for the reductive (Et_2Zn) and desulfynylative allylation of benzaldehyde with alk-2-enesulfonyl chlorides; DME = dimethoxyethane.

but-2-en-1-yl-palladium intermediate **11** starting from either **3** or **4**. Transmetalation generates butenylzinc intermediate **12**, which allylates the carbonyl compounds. Interestingly, whereas the formation of homoallylic alcohol **10** competed with the generation of products **9** in non-polar solvents (Table 3, entries 1 and 2), product **10** was not visible if more polar solvents such as THF (Table 3, entry 3) or DME (Table 3, entries 4 and 5) were used. If $[\text{Pd}(\text{Ph}_3\text{P})_4]$ was used as the catalyst instead of $\text{Pd}(\text{OAc})_2/n\text{Bu}_3\text{P}$, the product ratio was 1:1:1 (*syn*-**9**/*anti*-**9**/**10**). The reaction of 1-methylprop-2-enesulfonyl chloride **4** with benzophenone formed the corresponding homoallylic alcohol **9c** in 35% yield (Scheme 4).

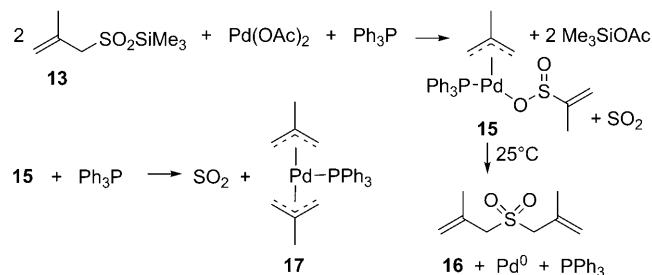
β,γ -Unsaturated silyl sulfinyl esters can be obtained readily by an ene reaction of allylsilanes with SO_2 ^[28] and as intermediates in the cocondensation of SO_2 with electron-rich 1,3-dienes and alkenes.^[29,30] As these compounds can also be obtained by the H-ene reaction of alkenes with SO_2/BCl_3 , followed by neutralization with NH_3 and reaction with silyl chlorides^[10] (Scheme 5), we wondered whether these systems could be employed as nucleophilic allylating agents.

Preliminary studies within our group^[31] have shown that silyl sulfinate **13** reacts with $\text{Pd}(\text{OAc})_2/\text{Ph}_3\text{P}$ to give allylpal-



Scheme 5. The preparation of β,γ -unsaturated silyl sulfinates through an H-ene reaction of SO_2/BCl_3 .

ladium complex **15** and Me_3SiOAc (Scheme 6). Complex **15** was then converted, at 25°C , into sulfone **16**. On adding a further 0.5 equivalents of Ph_3P , **15** was converted into **17** and SO_2 . These experiments suggested that silyl sulfinate **13** reacts with palladium, generating allylpalladium intermediates that could be used as nucleophilic allylating reagents.



Scheme 6. Known reactions of $\text{Pd}(\text{OAc})_2/\text{Ph}_3\text{P}$ with β,γ -unsaturated silyl sulfinates.

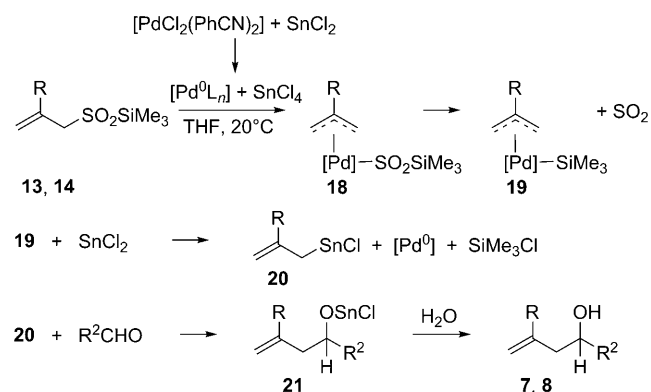
If **13** or **14** were reacted with benzaldehyde and catalytic amounts of $\text{Pd}(\text{OAc})_2/n\text{Bu}_3\text{P}$, the corresponding homoallylic alcohols **7a** (3-methyl-1-phenylbut-3-enol) and **8e** (1-phenylbut-3-enol) were formed in low yields (<10%). This failure suggests that a stronger Lewis acid must be added to enhance the electrophilicity of the aldehyde. After several unsuccessful attempts, we found that the use of $[\text{PdCl}_2(\text{PhCN})_2]$ as the precatalyst (5 mol%), in the presence of SnCl_2 , in THF permitted the nucleophilic allylation of PhCHO with both sulfinates **13** and **14**, giving **7a** and **8e** in 75 and 71% yields, respectively (Table 4, entries 1 and 2). The reaction was extended to 4-chlorobenzaldehyde (Table 4, entry 3) and aliphatic aldehydes such as undecanal (Table 4, entry 4) and phenylacetaldehyde (Table 4, entry 5). Further work will have to be carried out to find a promoter that does not have to be used in excess, as was required here (3 equivalents of SnCl_2).

A possible mechanism for the allylation of aldehydes with silyl alk-2-enesulfinates is proposed in Scheme 7. After re-

Table 4. Pd-catalyzed desulfynylative allylation of aldehydes with trimethylsilyl 2-methylprop-2-enesulfinate (**13**) and trimethylsilyl prop-2-enesulfinate (**14**).

Sulfinate	Aldehyde	Yield [%] ^[a]	Product	R ²
13 R = Me	PhCHO	75	7a	Ph
14 R = H	PhCHO	71	8e	Ph
13	4-ClC ₆ H ₄ CHO	67	7b	4-ClC ₆ H ₄
13	<i>n</i> -C ₁₀ H ₂₁ CHO	72	7f	<i>n</i> -C ₁₀ H ₂₁
14	PhCH ₂ CHO	58	8f	PhCH ₂

[a] Yield of isolated product after flash column chromatography on silica gel.



Scheme 7. Possible mechanism for the Pd-catalyzed allylation of aldehydes with silyl alk-2-enesulfonates in the presence of SnCl₂.

duction of the Pd^{II} precatalyst into a Pd⁰ catalyst, coordination of **13** or **14** by the latter and subsequent oxidative addition into the C–S bond generates allylpalladium intermediates of type **18**. Desulfinylation produces compound **19**, which undergoes Pd/Sn exchange to form allyltin intermediate **20**. This intermediate undergoes additions to aldehydes giving homoallyl alcoholates **21** that are hydrolyzed by aqueous work-up into products **7** or **8**.

Alk-2-enesulfonyl chlorides can be obtained easily by the H-ene reaction of monoalkenes with SO₂. We have demonstrated for the first time that these sulfonyl chlorides are suitable reagents for the palladium-catalyzed reductive and desulfinylative allylation of aldehydes and ketones. Alternatively, the allylations can occur by applying the Nozaki–Hiyama conditions, including those in which CrCl₂ is used as a catalyst in the presence of metallic Mn and trimethylsilyl chloride. Preliminary results demonstrate that silyl alk-2-enesulfonates can also be used as reagents in the desulfinylative allylation of aldehydes. Further work is underway to explore the scope of these new reactions.

Acknowledgements

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Keywords: allylation • ene reaction • palladium • sulfonyl chlorides • umpolung

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