Remarkable Rate Enhancement in CO Insertion into Pd-C Bond by Generating Cationic Organopalladium Complexes $[PdR(s)L_2]^+BF_4^-$ (R = Alkyl Group, s = Acetone, L = Phosphine Ligands) from Neutral Monoorganopalladium Complexes $[PdR(X)L_2]$ (X = Halide)

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Removal of the halide ligand X in $PdR(X)L_2$ with $AgBF_4$ generates solvent-coordinated cationic organopalladium complexes $[PdR(s)L_2]BF_4$ which show much higher reactivities for CO insertion than the parent neutral complexes.

Clarification of elementary processes involving organopalladium complexes is essential to understand mechanisms of palladium-catalyzed reactions such as olefin arylation and carbonylation processes (Heck reactions). Recent findings of remarkable rate acceleration effect by adding silver salts to olefin arylation systems catalyzed by palladium halide complexes implicate involvement of cationic complexes that have higher reactivities than neutral ones in the catalytic processes. However, only limited studies have been made to compare the reactivities of isolated cationic vis-à-vis neutral organopalladium complexes. We now report that reactivities of monoorganopalladium complexes toward CO are remarkably enhanced by generating cationic organopalladium complexes [PdR(s)L₂]⁺ by treating neutral monoorganopalladium complexes trans-PdR(X)L₂ with AgBF₄.

Scheme 1.

Scheme 1 shows an array of neutral monoorganopalladium halide complexes 1a - 1f from which cationic organopalladium complexes 2a - 2f have been produced by treatment of these complexes with an equivalent of AgBF₄ in acetone at -30 °C. Retainment of the trans configuration of the parent neutral PMe₃-coordinated complexes in the produced cationic complexes on removal of the halide ligand was confirmed by NMR. ⁴⁾ The cationic methylpalladium complexes, 2a, 2e, and 2f, proved to be stable enough to be isolated as white solid and characterized as acetone-coordinated complexes. ⁵⁾ Other cationic complexes were identified in solutions. Recently, cationic monomethyl- and monoethyl-palladium complexes having chelate ligands have been reported by K. Vrieze, ^{3a)} M. Brookhart, ^{6a)} and J. L. Spencer, ^{6b)} respectively, but so far there are no reports, to our knowledge, of preparation and properties of trans cationic monoalkylpalladium complexes.

All the organopalladium complexes 1 and 2 reacted with atmospheric pressure of CO in acetone- d_6 at low temperature to give the corresponding acyl palladium complexes 3 and 4 as characterized by $^1\text{H-}$ and $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$ (Scheme 2). Decarbonylation of 3 and 4 were not observed at -30 °C. It was revealed by using ^{13}CO that the cationic acetyl complex 4 contained the coordinated ^{13}CO at the site trans to the acetyl group as shown by the ^{13}C resonance observed at 181 ppm as a triplet. 7 , 8) Both reactions of the neutral complex 1a and the cationic complex 2a toward CO followed the pseudo-first order reaction kinetics and the observed rate constant of 2a ($k_{obsd} = 2.3 \times 10^{-4} \, \text{s}^{-1}$) was revealed to be far greater by the factor of 10^2 than that of 1a ($k_{obsd} = 2.5 \times 10^{-6} \, \text{s}^{-1}$).

We have further compared the reactivity of the cationic *trans*-methylpalladium complex 2a toward CO with the reactivities of the methylpalladium complexes 2e and 2f containing chelating ligands. The methylpalladium complexes 2e and 2f having a coordination site available adjacent to the methyl ligand for the incoming CO showed higher reactivities than 2a having a coordination site trans to the methyl ligand; the half-life period for the reaction of 2a with CO was about 30 min, whereas those of 2e and 2f were less than 10 min under the same conditions. 3b)

Changing the solvent from acetone- d_6 to other strongly coordinating solvents such as acetonitrile- d_3 caused the delay in the CO insertion. Addition of 1 eq of trimethylphosphine to 2a gave [PdMe(PMe₃)₃]BF₄ which proved to be unreactive to CO unless the reaction is run at room temperature. The retardation effect on CO insertion by strongly coordinating ligands suggests the requirement of an available coordination site in the cationic

complex for CO insertion.^{3a)}

The reaction of 2a with isocyanide that is isoelectronic with CO was also examined. Addition of 1 eq of benzyl isocyanide to 2a gives an isocyanide-coordinated complex *trans*-[PdMe(CNCH₂Ph)(PMe₃)₂]⁺BF₄⁻ 5 without giving an insertion product even at 25 °C. Complex 5 on further treatment with one more equivalent of benzyl isocyanide gave the isocyaide insertion product 6 whereas the reaction with CO gave the CO insertion product, *trans*-[Pd(CH₃CO)(CNCH₂Ph)(PMe₃)₂]⁺BF₄⁻ 7 (Scheme 3). These results indicate that isocyanide coordination to the site trans to the methyl group in the trans-methylpalladium complex does not block the further isocyanide or CO insertion into the CH₃-Pd bond. We are examining the reaction courses to clarify the isocyanide insertion mechanism from 5.

$$\begin{bmatrix} H_{3}C & PMe_{3} \\ Me_{3}P & (s) \end{bmatrix}^{+} \xrightarrow{PhCH_{2}NC} \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 1 \text{ eq} \\ (1 \text{ eq}) \\ -30 \text{ °C} \sim r.t.}_{\text{acetone}} \begin{bmatrix} H_{3}C & PMe_{3} \\ Me_{3}P & CNCH_{2}Ph \end{bmatrix}^{+} \xrightarrow{r.t.}_{\text{acetone}} \begin{bmatrix} CH_{2}Ph \\ H_{3}C-C & PMe_{3} \\ Me_{3}P & CNCH_{2}Ph \end{bmatrix}^{+} \\ \begin{bmatrix} CO \text{ (1 atm)} \\ -30 \text{ °C} \\ \text{acetone} \end{bmatrix}^{+} \\ \begin{bmatrix} H_{3}C-C & PMe_{3} \\ Me_{3}P & CNCH_{2}Ph \end{bmatrix}^{+} \\ \end{bmatrix}^{+} \\ \end{bmatrix} \\ BF_{4} \\ \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} H_{3}C-C & PMe_{3} \\ Pd & PMe_{3} \\ Me_{3}P & CNCH_{2}Ph \end{bmatrix}^{+} \\ BF_{4} \\ \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} CO \text{ (1 atm)} \\ -30 \text{ °C} \\ \text{acetone} \end{bmatrix}^{+} \\ \end{bmatrix}$$

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$$\begin{bmatrix} CO \text{ (1 atm)} \\ -30 \text{ °C} \\ \text{acetone} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} CO \text{ (1 atm)} \\ -30 \text{ °C} \\ \text{acetone} \end{bmatrix}$$

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- 4) The isolated complexes 2a, 2e, and 2f were not stable enough to be subjected to elemental analysis and were characterized by spectroscopic means. NMR data for 2 are as follows. ¹H (270 MHz), ³¹P{¹H} (109.4 MHz),

and $^{13}\text{C}\{^{1}\text{H}\}$ NMR (67.9 MHz) were observed in acetone- d_6 solutions. 2a: ^{1}H NMR δ 0.49 (t, $^{3}J_{\text{PH}} = 7.1$ Hz, 3 H), 1.36 (vt, $J_{\text{PH}} = 3.3$ Hz, 18 H); $^{31}\text{P}\{^{1}\text{H}\}$ NMR δ -13.24 (s); $^{13}\text{C}\{^{1}\text{H}\}$ NMR δ -6.59 (t, $^{2}J_{\text{PC}} = 5.4$ Hz), 12.53 (vt, $J_{\text{PC}} = 14.8$ Hz). 2b: ^{1}H NMR δ 1.03 (tt, $^{4}J_{\text{PH}} = 4.0$ Hz, $^{3}J_{\text{HH}} = 8.0$ Hz, 3 H), 1.38 (vt, $J_{\text{PH}} = 3.3$ Hz, 18 H), 1.43-1.63 (m, 2 H); $^{31}\text{P}\{^{1}\text{H}\}$ NMR δ -14.31 (s); $^{13}\text{C}\{^{1}\text{H}\}$ NMR δ 10.20 (br s), 12.58 (vt, $J_{\text{PC}} = 14.1$ Hz), 16.47 (s). 2c: ^{1}H NMR δ 1.15 (vt, $J_{\text{PH}} = 3.5$ Hz, 18 H), 6.90-7.13 (m, 3 H), 7.30-7.45 (m, 2 H); $^{31}\text{P}\{^{1}\text{H}\}$ NMR δ -16.34 (s); $^{13}\text{C}\{^{1}\text{H}\}$ NMR δ 12.43 (vt, $J_{\text{PC}} = 15.2$ Hz), 124.73 (s), 129.18 (s), 136.18 (t, $^{3}J_{\text{PC}} = 5.0$ Hz), 146.60 (t, $^{2}J_{\text{PC}} = 8.1$ Hz). 2d: ^{1}H NMR δ 1.14 (vt, $J_{\text{PH}} = 3.7$ Hz, 18 H), 2.20 (s, 3 H), 6.91-6.96 (m, 2 H), 7.20-7.25 (m, 2 H); $^{31}\text{P}\{^{1}\text{H}\}$ NMR δ -16.56 (s); $^{13}\text{C}\{^{1}\text{H}\}$ NMR δ 12.45 (vt, $J_{\text{PC}} = 15.1$ Hz), 21.03 (s), 130.03 (s), 133.73 (s), 135.82 (t, $^{3}J_{\text{PC}} = 4.7$ Hz), 141.68 (t, $^{2}J_{\text{PC}} = 8.7$ Hz). 2e: ^{1}H NMR δ 0.42 (dd, $^{3}J_{\text{PH}} = 0.9$, 7.2 Hz, 3 H), 2.42-2.64 (m, 2 H), 2.82-3.04 (m, 2 H), 7.55-7.90 (m, 20 H); $^{31}\text{P}\{^{1}\text{H}\}$ NMR δ 39.44 (d, $^{2}J_{\text{PP}} = 23.4$ Hz), 62.89 (d, $^{2}J_{\text{PP}} = 23.4$ Hz). 2f: ^{1}H NMR δ 0.20 (dd, $^{3}J_{\text{PH}} = 1.3$, 7.3 Hz, 3 H), 1.53 (d, $^{2}J_{\text{PH}} = 9.3$ Hz, 6 H), 1.71 (d, $^{2}J_{\text{PH}} = 12.1$ Hz, 6 H), 1.80-2.40 (m, 4 H); $^{31}\text{P}\{^{1}\text{H}\}$ NMR δ 25.73 (d, $^{2}J_{\text{PP}} = 23.5$ Hz), 43.52 (d, $^{2}J_{\text{PP}} = 23.5$ Hz).

- 5) The signal of acetone was observed in the acetonitrile- d_3 solution of the isolated complexes in ¹H-NMR; ν (CO) of solvated acetone was observed at 1636 cm⁻¹ in the IR spectrum of 2a.
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- 7) NMR data for 3 7 are as follows. 1 H (270 MHz), 31 P{ 1 H} (109.4 MHz), and 13 C{ 1 H} NMR (67.9 MHz) were observed in acetone- d_6 solutions. 3: 1 H NMR δ 1.35 (vt, J_{PH} = 3.9 Hz, 18 H), 2.31 (t, $^{4}J_{PH}$ = 1.5 Hz, 3 H); 31 P{ 1 H} NMR δ -18.02 (s); 13 C{ 1 H} NMR δ 14.57 (vt, J_{PC} = 13.7 Hz), 42.70 (t, $^{3}J_{PC}$ = 19.1 Hz), 236.92 (s). 4: 1 H NMR δ 1.38 (vt, J = 3.3 Hz, 18 H), 2.54 (t, $^{4}J_{PH}$ = 1.5 Hz, 3 H); 31 P{ 1 H} NMR δ -18.97 (s); 13 C{ 1 H} NMR δ 13.74 (vt, J_{PC} = 14.1 Hz), 39.95 (t, $^{1}J_{PC}$ = 13.0 Hz), 181.38 (t, $^{2}J_{PC}$ = 14.9 Hz), 225.68 (s). 5: 1 H NMR δ 0.14 (br s, 3 H), 1.50 (s, 18 H), 5.22 (s, 2 H), 7.42-7.60 (m, 5 H); 31 P{ 1 H} NMR δ 13.20 (s); 13 C{ 1 H} NMR δ -1.71 (s), 14.30 (vt, J_{PC} = 15.3 Hz), 48.92 (t, $^{4}J_{PC}$ = 6.1 Hz), 128.82 (s), 129.33 (s), 130.12 (s), 130.29 (s), 133.32. 6: 1 H NMR δ 18.61 (vt, J_{PC} = 15.8 Hz), 35.21 (t, $^{3}J_{PC}$ = 9.8 Hz), 51.45 (s), 67.13 (t, $^{4}J_{PC}$ = 6.7 Hz) 130.28 (s), 131.15 (s), 131.34 (s), 132.08 (s), 132.16 (s), 133.05 (s), 136.07 (s), 144.65 (s), 194.78 (s). 7: 1 H NMR δ 1.44 (br s, 18 H), 2.37 (br s, 3 H), 5.22 (s, 2 H), 7.42-7.60 (m, 5 H); 13 C{ 1 H} NMR δ 15.50 (s), 41.99 (br), 49.02 (t, $^{4}J_{PC}$ = 6.5 Hz), 129.43 (s), 129.93 (s), 130.35 (s), 130.49 (s), 133.47 (s), 242.20 (br).
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