

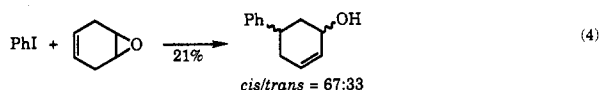


Table I. Palladium-Catalyzed Arylation of Olefinic Epoxides

entry	$p\text{-XC}_6\text{H}_4\text{I}$ X =	n	$\text{H}_2\text{C}=\overset{\text{R}^1}{\text{C}}(\text{CH}_2)_n\overset{\text{R}^2}{\text{C}}\begin{matrix} \text{R}^3 \\ \diagup \\ \text{O} \\ \diagdown \\ \text{CR}^4 \end{matrix}$				reaction time, days	% isolated yield <sup>a</sup>	E/Z
			R <sup>1</sup>	R <sup>2</sup>	R <sup>3</sup>	R <sup>4</sup>			
1	H	1	H	H	Me	H	1	78	79:21
2	H	1	H	H	Me	Me	1	79	<sup>b</sup>
3	H	2	H	H	H	H	1	65	76:24
4	H	2	H	Me	H	H	1	69	32:68
5	H	2	Me	Me	H	H	3	47	33:67
6	H	4	H	H	H	H	1.5	62	76:24
7	H	10	H	H	H	H	2	44	76:24
8	Me	4	H	H	H	H	1	55	77:23
9	MeO	4	H	H	H	H	1	65 <sup>c</sup>	77:23
10	MeCO	4	H	H	H	H	1	62	75:25
11	EtO <sub>2</sub> C	4	H	H	H	H	1	68 <sup>c</sup>	80:20

<sup>a</sup> All products gave appropriate <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C NMR, IR, and mass spectral data. <sup>b</sup> Could not be determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectroscopic analysis. <sup>c</sup> Contains 9% of diformate 2.

ganocopper, and previous arylpalladium additions to 3,4-epoxy-1-alkenes.<sup>1,2</sup> The reaction accommodates important organic functional groups (entries 9–11), and the presence or absence of electron-donating or -withdrawing groups on the aryl halide has little effect on the yield or the stereoselectivity of the process (entries 8–11). However, more substituted double bonds, as in 4,5-epoxycyclohexene, afford lower yields of stereoisomeric arylation products (eq 4).



This arylation process most likely proceeds as illustrated in Scheme I. The oxidative addition of aryl halides to Pd(O) and subsequent olefin insertion are well-established processes.<sup>4</sup> Only recently, however, has palladium migration chemistry been put to good use in organic synthesis.<sup>3,5</sup> Eventual palladium–oxygen ring opening<sup>2</sup> would appear to occur in either a syn or anti fashion, as evidenced by the formation of syn and anti alcohols in the phenylation of 4,5-epoxycyclohexene (eq 4). While palladium hydride migration from one face of a cycloalkene to the other has literature precedence<sup>6</sup> and would also account

for the mixture of stoichiometric alcohols, this process appears unlikely.<sup>7</sup> While organopalladium intermediates have previously been reduced by formate salts,<sup>8</sup> our process appears to be the first in which a palladium alkoxide has been reduced to an alcohol by a formate salt. Simultaneous formation of zerovalent palladium regenerates the catalyst.

In conclusion, we report the first generally useful method for the arylation of a wide variety of olefinic epoxides in which the C–C double bond and the epoxide are separated by one or more carbons. Unlike previous methods for the arylation of 3,4-epoxy-1-alkenes, our approach accommodates important functional groups, uses aryl halides, and requires only catalytic amounts of palladium, rather than employing stoichiometric amounts of organometallics which frequently cannot accommodate key organic functional groups.

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**Supplementary Material Available:** General procedures and results for entries 1–11 (7 pages). Ordering information is given on any current masthead page.

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