Stereo- and Regiocontrolled Synthesis of Branched Trisubstituted Conjugated Dienes by Palladium(0)-Catalyzed Cross-Coupling Reaction

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Received April 11, 1997

The development of transition metal-mediated intermolecular cross-coupling reactions between vinyl metal species and vinyl halides has been an important achievement in the field of organometallic chemistry.¹ These processes provide an efficient method for the assembly of conjugated diene systems. The original report by Schwartz and co-workers documented that the hydrozirconation of unsymmetrical alkynes proceeds with complete stereoselectivity and high regioselection to produce vinylic Zr(IV) complexes.² Subsequent reports by Negishi described highly selective cross-coupling procedures for the synthesis of conjugated olefins involving the reaction of a vinylic zinc intermediate (transmetalated from the vinylic zirconium) with vinyl halides in the presence of a Pd(0)-phosphine complex.³ This efficient approach to unfunctionalized (E,E)-dienes remains highly underdeveloped in the synthesis of their (E,Z)-isomers and functionalized trisubstituted dienes with adjacent nitrogen and oxygen stereogenic centers. This paper reports the use of a Pd(0)-catalyzed cross-coupling reaction of (E)trisubstituted vinyl-zinc intermediates with (E)- and (Z)vinyl iodides under modified Negishi conditions. The present study demonstrates the utility of these transition metal-catalyzed reactions in the development of an effective method for the synthesis of configurationally pure (E,E)-, (E,Z)-, and (Z,E)-dienes bearing α - and α,β -stereogenic centers adjacent to the olefins (eqs 1 and 2).



We anticipated that trisubstituted chiral vinylzirconium derivatives (derived from unsymmetrical internal alkynes) would participate in the cross-coupling reaction with highly functionlized branched (*E*)- and (*Z*)-vinyl iodides.^{4–6} Accordingly, initial efforts focused on optimizing the selectivity of the hydrozirconation of the chiral



^{*a*} For the preparation of the Schwartz reagent, see ref 8b. ^{*b*} Percent conversion was measured by ¹H NMR analysis and is based on remaining alkyne. ^{*c*} Regioselectivity (A/B ratio) was determined by ¹H NMR analysis.

alkyne 1 with zirconocene hydrochloride (Schwartz reagent), Table 1.7 In agreement with literature precedents concerning hydrozirconation of unsymmetrical alkynes,8 this study also determined that in the presence of excess Schwartz's reagent this hydrozirconation reaction displays a significant temperature, solvent, and time dependency toward reaction selectivity. Gratifyingly, quantitative conversion of alkyne 1 to the desired hydrozirconated product A was obtained in THF or benzene at 50 °C with reaction times ranging from 1 to 4 h. It appears that the hydrozirconation of acetylenes is governed by the amount of Schwartz's reagent employed. With 1 equiv, the kinetic product is obtained as a mixture of isomers A and B, while an excess of reagent gives the thermodynamic product A. This may be rationalized by the reversible addition of a second equivalent of reagent to the initially formed vinylzirconium adduct.² Those crucial results allowed us to execute the hydrozirconation and subsequent cross-coupling reactions in THF as a one-pot reaction sequence, significantly improving the operational aspects of the process.

Having achieved a high level of conversion and complete regioselectivity in the hydrozirconation reaction of **1**, we explored the transmetalation to the vinylzinc intermediate and Pd(0)-catalyzed cross coupling with a range of functionalized vinyl halides. The results of the preparation of (E, E)-dienes under the modified Negishi

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^{(5) (}a) For preparation of (*Z*)-vinyl iodide, see: Stork, G.; Zhao, K. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1989**, *30*, 2173–2174. (b) For preparation of (*Z*)-vinyl bromide, see: Matsumoto, M.; Kuroda, K. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1980**, *21*, 4021–4024.

⁽⁶⁾ To our knowledge, comparison of the reactivity between (*E*)- and (*Z*)-vinyl iodides has been rarely documented, and we are aware of a single report where reactivity differences between (*E*)- and (*Z*)-vinyl bromides have been observed; see: Rossi, R.; Carpita, A. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1986**, *27*, 2529–2532.

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^a Hydrozirconation reactions were conducted at 50 °C (THF, 0.4 M) for 1-2.5 h, cooled to rt before adding a THF solution containing anhydrous ZnCl₂ (3.0 equiv) over 3-5 min followed by addition of vinyl iodide (1.0 equiv) and Pd(PPh₃₎₄ (0.05 equiv) for 5-30 min. ^b For preparation of unsymmetrically substituted internal alkyne **1a**-**c**, see ref 9. ^{*c*} Chiral (*E*)-vinyl iodides (**2a**-**e**) were prepared from the corresponding chiral aldehydes with Takai's chromium chloride-mediated homologation (ref 4). Preparation of vinyl indide **2c** and **2d**, see the Supporting Information. ^d Yields refer to configurationally pure materials isolated after SiO₂ chromatography.

coupling conditions are summarized in Table 2. Good to excellent yields of the cross-coupling products were obtained with the chiral alkynes 1a-1c.⁹ The reactions were effective with either (*E*)- or (*Z*)-vinyl iodides $\mathbf{2}$.¹⁰ For the cases studied, the reactions were complete within 0.5 h, affording the (*E*,*E*)-dienes **3a**–**3f** as isomerically pure materials. It is important to note that various substitutions on each reaction partner did not affect reaction rate or coupling efficiency.

The scope of the reaction was broadened using unsymmetrical (internal) alkynes and (Z)-vinyl halides (Table 3). Those experiments provided routes to the complementary (E,Z)- and (Z,E)-dienes. As illustrated for **3g**. the (Z)-vinyl iodides coupled in very good yields (Table 3, entry 2), while the corresponding bromides were less reactive (Table 3, entry 1).¹¹ Symmetrical alkynes 1d and



^a Hydrozirconation reactions were conducted at 50 °C (THF. 0.4 M) for 1-2.5 h and then cooled to rt before adding a THF solution containing $ZnCl_2$ (3.0 equiv) over 3–5 min followed by the addition of the vinyl iodide (1.0 equiv) and in situ generated Pd(0) [PdCl₂(PPh3)₂-DIBAL] for 5–60 min. ^b (Z)-Vinyl halides were prepared from corresponding chiral aldehydes by Wittig olefination, see ref 5. Also see Supporting Information for further details. ^c Yields refer to configurationally pure materials isolated after SiO₂ chromatography.

1e also participated in the cross coupling affording (*E*,*Z*)and (*Z*,*E*)-dienes (Table 3, entries 3 and 4). For example, 3h derived from the coupling of geminal dibromide 2h with alkyne 1d was produced in 55% yield as a single observed (E,Z)-isomer. Such discrimination of the two halogen groups with 1,1-disubstituted olefins has only been documented in the Suzuki/Tamao coupling reaction.¹² Interestingly, for reactions involving (Z)-isomers, best results were obtained employing PdCl₂(PPh₃)₂-DIBAL as the catalytic system,¹³ and no significant differences in reactivity between (*E*)- and (*Z*)-vinyl iodides were observed under the reported reaction conditions.

In conclusion, the present paper describes an efficient one-pot sp²-sp² Pd(0)-catalyzed coupling reaction between complex subunits: the in situ generated vinylic zinc intermediate and the chiral vinyl halide. In the following paper in this issue, we describe an application of this coupling reaction in the asymmetric synthesis of the β -amino acid Adda.

Acknowledgment. Financial support was obtained from NIH (RO1 CA56304).

Supporting Information Available: Complete physical and spectral data and experimental details for all reaction products (77 pages).

JO970647A

⁽⁹⁾ Chiral internal alkynes 1a-1c were prepared from the corresponding dibromo olefins via the Corey–Fuchs protocol; see: Corey, E. J.; Fuchs, P. L. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1972**, 3769–3772. See Supporting Information for further details.

⁽¹⁰⁾ Satisfactory spectroscopic data (¹H and ¹³C NMR, IR, CIMS, CIHRMS) were obtained for all new compounds. Ratios of diastereo-(11) In this case, the coupling reaction was performed at room

temperature for 15 h while an increase in the reaction temperature

<sup>did not improve the yield of the desired coupling product.
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