Synthesis, Structure, and Reaction of the First Thermally Stable *cis*-(Silyl)(stannyl)palladium(II) Complex

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> > Received February 28, 1995

The synthetic utility of the palladium-catalyzed silylstannylation reaction of alkynes has been recognized¹ and recently extended to reactions with various unsaturated organic compounds.² Silylstannylation is understood to proceed through an initial oxidative addition of the Si-Sn linkage to palladium(0), forming a (silyl)(stannyl)palladium(II) complex, followed by the insertion of an unsaturated organic compound and reductive elimination to complete the silvistannylation. The mechanism has also been studied theoretically;³ however, no experimental evidence for the pathway has been reported so far. This paper describes the first synthesis of a thermodynamically stable (silyl)(stannyl)palladium(II) complex^{4,5} by oxidative addition of an Si-Sn linkage to palladium(0) and its reaction with an alkyne, thus providing a mechanistic basis for silylstannylation. Our study also lends a general explanation for the occurrence of the trans adduct in related palladium-catalyzed addition reactions to C-C triple bonds.

The reactivity of three kinds of silylstannanes, 1a-c, toward Pd(0) was examined (Chart 1). The tethers leading to a diphenylphosphine group of **1b**, c were introduced in order to bring the silylstannyl group into the proximity of the palladium atom by precoordination, thus facilitating the oxidative addition.

First, the silylstannane **1a** was treated with Pd(dibenzylideneacetone)_{3/2} (CHCl₃)_{1/2} (2) in C₆D₆ at room temperature for 20 h, and no reaction took place. Next, the silylstannane **1b**, having a single tether leading to a diphenylphosphine group, was treated with 0.5 equiv of 2^6 in C₆D₆ at room temperature. The purple color of 2 disappeared in 15 min. Oxidative addition of the Si-Sn linkage to the palladium was greatly accelerated by the incorporation of the phosphine tether. Monitoring the reaction by ¹H NMR revealed, however, that bis(silyl)palladium-(II) complex **3** and hexamethylditin were formed via a disproportionation reaction (Scheme 1). No signals that could possibly

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(6) The use of 1 equiv of 2 gave a complex mixture.

Chart 1



Scheme 1



Scheme 2

$$1c + 2 \longrightarrow \bigcup_{\substack{P \\ P \\ Me_2}}^{Ph_2} \bigoplus_{\substack{P \\ P \\ Me_2}}^{Ph_2}$$

be assigned to a (silyl)(stannyl)palladium(II) complex were observed. It is likely that oxidative addition of the Si-Sn linkage to palladium(0) is followed by rapid metathesis, although the mechanism of the metathesis is at present unclear. This result suggests the fluxionality of the stannyl ligand on palladium, in accord with previous results of the Pd-catalyzed disproportionation reaction of silylstannanes.^{1a,7}

Oxidative addition of the Si-Sn bond to palladium(0) also occurred on treatment of the silylstannane **1c** with **2**, leading to quantitative formation of Pd[η^2 -(SiMe₂CH₂CH₂PPh₂)][η^2 -(SnMe₂-CH₂CH₂PPh₂)] (**4**, Scheme 2).⁸ Recrystallization from CH₂-Cl₂/MeOH generated air-stable colorless crystals in 70% isolated yield. The crystal structure depicts the square planar geometry with a *cis* arrangement of the silicon and tin atoms. The Si-Pd-Sn skeleton is disordered between two orientations (70: 30), the major of which is shown in Figure 1. Both the silicon and tin atoms are anchored to the palladium atom through the chelating phosphine tethers, preventing the subsequent metathesis. The Pd-Sn distance (2.573(2) Å) of the major component conforms to literature expectations (2.554-2.595 Å).⁹

Next, the reaction of 4 with alkynes was examined. Silylstannylation took place upon treatment of 4 with dimethyl acetylenedicarboxylate¹⁰ at room temperature (Scheme 3). The reaction was complete after 12 h to give (silylstannylated alkene)palladium(0) complex 5 as a mixture of *cis* and *trans* isomers (~10:1 based on ³¹P NMR).¹¹ Removal of the solvent and recrystallization of the residue from CH₂Cl₂/MeOH at -15 °C afforded pale yellow crystals of *cis*-5, which was characterized by an X-ray diffraction study (Figure 2).⁸ As with the analogous (bis-silylated alkene)palladium(0) complex,^{5h,i} the midpoint of the double bond (C43-C44) occupies one coordination site of the trigonal planar geometry.

Notably, upon allowing a solution of the isolated *cis*-5 in C₆D₆ to stand at room temperature, gradual isomerization to *trans*-5 proceeded according to the first-order rate law ($k \approx 1.1$

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Figure 1. Molecular structure of 4 with the hydrogen atoms omitted for clarity (40% probability thermal ellipsoids).



Figure 2. Molecular structures of cis-5 and trans-5 with the phenyl groups and the hydrogen atoms omitted for clarity (40% probability thermal ellipsoids).

Scheme 3



 \times 10⁻² h⁻¹). Pale yellow crystals were obtained from CH₂- Cl_2 /hexane, and the *trans* geometry was established by X-ray crystallography (Figure 2).⁸ In spite of the change in geometry, the C-C double bond lies in the trigonal plane. The isolated trans-5 failed to undergo isomerization even when heated, suggesting a substantial thermodynamic preference. An appealing mechanistic possibility for this cis-trans isomerization is based on the zwitterionic palladium carbene intermediate (Scheme 4).¹² The fixation of the produced alkene on the palladium causes reversible oxidative addition of the C_{sp2} -Sn linkage.4b,13 The resulting vinylpalladium intermediate undergoes isomerization via the zwitterionic palladium carbene complex, the anionic charge of which is significantly stabilized Scheme 4



by the ester and silvl groups. Finally, reductive elimination furnishes the trans isomer. No cis-trans isomerization has been observed with the analogous (bis-silylated alkene)palladium complex,^{5h} which can be ascribed to the lower reactivity of the C_{sp2} -Si bond to undergo oxidative addition.

Treatment of a silylstannylated alkene 6 with $Pd(PPh_3)_4$ at room temperature afforded the homocoupling product 7 in 17% yield (Scheme 5).¹⁴ The formation of 7 is accounted for by postulating oxidative addition of the C_{sp2} -Sn bond to palladium-(0), metathesis, and reductive elimination. Thus, oxidative addition of the C_{sp2} -Sn linkage to palladium(0) is likely to occur with cis-5, leading to isomerizaion.

Two points should be noted in the present study. (i) The first thermodynamically stable (silyl)(stannyl)palladium(II) complex was synthesized and its reaction with an alkyne studied, providing an experimental basis for the postulated mechanism of the silylstannylation. (ii) The observed cis-trans isomerization of the C-C double bond coordinating to the palladium was explained on the basis of a zwitterionic palladium carbene intermediate. The catalytic cycle of related palladium-catalyzed additions to C-C triple bonds, like hydrogenation and bissilylation, also involves vinylpalladium(II). Although the occurrence of anomalous trans adducts in those reactions^{15,16} has been a controversial issue, a plausible explanation can be given by postulating a similar zwitterionic palladium carbene intermediate (Scheme 6). A study in progress in our laboratory is aimed at obtaining experimental evidence for involvement of a zwitterionic palladium carbene complex.

Scheme 6

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}}_{\mathsf{c}=\mathsf{c}} \stackrel{\mathsf{Pd}}{\Rightarrow} \Rightarrow \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{\mathsf{c}} \stackrel{\mathsf{Pd}}{\to} \Rightarrow \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{\mathsf{c}=\mathsf{c}} \stackrel{\mathsf{Pd}}{\Rightarrow} \Rightarrow \hat{\mathbf{x}}_{$$

Supplementary Material Available: Experimental details, spectroscopic data, crystal structure determination data, and tables of atomic coordinates, anisotropic thermal parameters, bond lengths, and bond angles (19 pages). This material is contained in many libraries on microfiche, immediately follows this article in the microfilm version of the journal, can be ordered from the ACS, and can be downloaded from the Internet; see any current masthead page for ordering information and Internet access instructions.

JA950680J

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