

Retention of Configuration on the Oxidative Addition of P–H Bond to Platinum (0) Complexes: The First Straightforward Synthesis of Enantiomerically Pure P-Chiral Alkenylphosphinates via Palladium-Catalyzed Stereospecific Hydrophosphinylation of Alkynes

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P-chiral organophosphorus compounds are of great importance in biological chemistry, organic synthesis, and asymmetric catalysis.¹ However, their preparations usually require tedious steps.² We have reported a series of metal-catalyzed addition reactions of P(V)-H bonds to carbon-carbon unsaturated bonds (hydrophosphinylation), which cleanly and efficiently furnish a wide variety of organophosphorus compounds in high yields and selectivities.³ On the other hand, $(R_{\rm P})$ -phenylphosphinate **1**, a white solid easy to prepare and handle, has been known for more than 30 years.⁴ With these in mind, we commenced our study on a new synthetic strategy for P-chiral phosphorus compounds via metal-catalyzed stereospecific hydrophosphinylation (eq 1). Since the metal-catalyzed hydrophosphinylation of alkynes is triggered by the oxidative addition of the P-H bond as illustrated in eq 1, stereospecific oxidative addition to the metal (either complete retention or inversion) is one of the preconditions. Although oxidative additions of P-H bonds to metal-complexes have been documented previously, nothing is known about its stereochemistry.³ Herein reported are (1) the first investigation on the stereochemistry of the oxidative addition of the P(V)-H bond to metal complexes, revealing retention of configuration at the phosphorus center in the reaction of 1 with platinum (0) complexes, and (2) the first straightforward synthesis of 2 by a novel palladium-catalyzed stereospecific hydrophosphinylation of alkynes with 1. Compound 2 is a versatile intermediate, which can be readily converted to other P-chiral compounds by simple operations.²



When an equimolar mixture of 1 and $Pt(PEt_3)_4$ was mixed in toluene at room temperature for 1 h, the starting materials completely disappeared to afford white hydrido platinum complex **3a** in 87% isolated yield as single stereoisomer.⁵ On the other hand, a similar treatment of a 50/50 mixture of 1/1' resulted in the formation of a 50/50 mixture of two isomeric complexes, **3a** and **3a'**, which are readily distinguishable in NMR spectroscopies⁵(see



Chart 1). The oxidative addition of the P–H bond to platinum (0), therefore, proceeds stereospecifically.

Although complex **3a** failed to give crystals suitable for X-ray analysis, the structure of a similar complex **3b**, generated via the reaction of **1** with Pt(dcpe)(cod) (dcpe = 1,2-bis(dicyclohexylphosphino)ethane; cod = 1,5-cyclooctadiene) has been unambiguously determined (Figure 1).⁶ The absolute configuration at P(O) in **3b** is *S*, conclusively showing that *the oxidative addition of 1 to platinum (0) proceeds with retention of configuration*.



Figure 1. Molecular structure of complex 3b.

On the basis of this finding, the metal-catalyzed stereospecific hydrophosphinylation of **1** with alkynes is successfully developed.⁷ Thus, extensive screening of the reaction procedure has revealed that Me₂Pd(PPhMe₂)₂/Ph₂P(O)OH is the right catalyst⁸ for the addition of **1** to 1-octyne to produce α -adduct **2a** in a high yield and regioselectivity (eq 2).⁹

While 2a' was not found in this particular reaction of 1, a 50/50 mixture of 2a/2a' was generated by using a 50/50 mixture of 1/1'.¹⁰

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Table 1. Stereospecific Hydrophosphinylation of Alkynesa



^{*a*} R = (-)-menthyl. Conditions: equimolar **1** and an alkyne in toluene (0.4 M), 3 mol % Me₂Pd(PPhMe₂)₂, 5 mol % Ph₂P(O)OH, 70 °C, 4.5 h. Regioselectivity to the adduct shown is ca. 95~98%. ^{*b*} The absolute configuration at phosphorus is $R_{\rm P}$. ($R_{\rm P}/S_{\rm P} \ge 99$). ^{*c*} 1 atm acetylene gas, THF, 67 °C, 15 h. ^{*d*} 2.1 equiv of **1** was used. ^{*e*} trans isomer only. ^{*f*} THF, 67 °C, 16 h.

Since **2a** was an oil, we were unable to determine the absolute configuration by X-ray analysis. However, its analogue adduct obtained from the reaction of **1** with 2,4,6-trimethylphenylacetylene afforded a crystalline material, X-ray analysis of which revealed that the configuration was R,¹⁰ showing that *the palladium-catalyzed hydrophospinylation also proceeds with retention of configuration at phosphorus*.

The palladium-catalyzed stereospecific hydrophosphinylation has a wide generality. As shown in Table 1, acetylene gas can also be employed as the substrate and the novel synthetically versatile (R_p)vinylphosphinate² was obtained in 93% yield. With the exception of trimethylsilylacetylene^{3a} which gave the β -trans-adduct, other alkynes of both aliphatic and aromatic ones, including those bearing functionalities such as chloro, cyano, carbonylalkoxy, olefinic, and alkoxy groups were all able to react in a efficient way under similar reaction conditions to afford the corresponding (R_p)-vinylphosphinates in high yields and selectivities. Note that ethynylferrocene was also successfully hydrophosphinylated to give a good yield of the corresponding ferrocene, which can be readily applicable in the synthesis of novel optically active ferreocenyl phosphines of great applications in modern asymmetric catalysis.¹¹ As exemplified by run 14, two phosphinyl groups were easily introduced into diynes such as nona-1,8-diyne. Although a relatively prolonged heating was needed, an internal alkyne tolane was also successfully hydrophosphinylated to give the corresponding *trans*-adduct selectively.

In conclusion, both the oxidative addition of the P(V)-H bond to platinum (0) complexes and the palladium-catalyzed hydrophosphinylation of alkynes proceed stereospecifically with retention of configurations at phosphorus, and the latter provides a convenient and general synthetic route to enantiomerically pure P-chiral alkenylphosphinates.¹² Further studies on the applications of this finding are now in progress.

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Supporting Information Available: Spectral and analytical data of products (PDF) and X-ray crystallographic files (CIF). This material is available free of charge via the Internet at http://pubs.acs.org.

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- (4) Pure (R_p)-1 (1/1' ≥ 99/1) was readily prepared in a large scale by adopting a modified method of Mislow. Farnham, W. B.; Murray, R. K.; Mislow, K. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 1970, 92, 5809. See Supporting Information for its characterization.
- (5) Characteristic signals of **3a** and **3a**' in ¹H and ³¹P NMR spectroscopies: **3a**, δ -5.23 (Pt-H, J_{HPt} = 720.4 Hz); δ 100.1 (P(O), J_{P(O)Pt} = 2803.1 Hz). **3a**', δ -5.53 (Pt-H, J_{HPt} = 714.9 Hz); δ 104.2 (P(O), J_{P(O)Pt} = 2800.4 Hz). See Supporting Information for details.
- (6) Selected bond lengths (Å) and angles (deg) of **3b**: O(1-P(1) = 1.508(5), O(2)-P(1) = 1.628(6), P(1)-Pt = 2.299(2), P(2)-Pt = 2.304(2), P(3)-Pt = 2.286(2); P(1)-Pt-P(2) = 97.29(7), P(1)-Pt-P(3) = 175.31(8), P(2)-Pt-P(3) = 86.94(7). See Supporting Information for details.
- (7) Although metal-catalyzed hydrophosphinylations have been studied with (RO)₂P(O)H and Ph₂P(O)H, which showed different reactivity (ref 3), similar reactions have not been performed with (RO)R'P(O)H yet.
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