

# Regiocontrolled Palladium-Catalyzed Arylative Cyclizations of Alkynols

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**S** Supporting Information

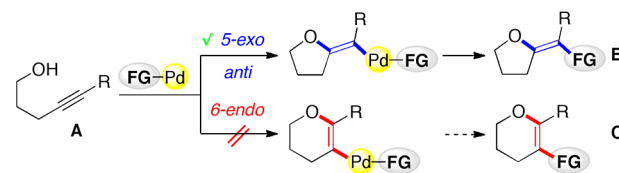
**ABSTRACT:** Tuning the reactivity of arylpalladium intermediates enables control of catalytic arylative 5-*exo* and 6-*endo* cyclizations of alkynols. The two modes of cyclizations represent a rare example of controllable, regioselective difunctionalization of alkynes. The cyclizations are useful in offering a divergent synthesis of oxygen-containing heterocycles, which is of synthetic use for further derivatization. Formal synthesis of an hNK-1 receptor antagonist also showcases the utility of our arylative cyclization.

The prevalence of oxygen heterocycles in bioactive compounds and natural products has led to the development of a number of cyclization reactions. A particularly attractive method to synthesize cyclic ethers is metal-catalyzed intramolecular addition of an O–H nucleophile across an unsaturated carbon–carbon bond.<sup>1</sup> These reactions are regarded as a part of hydrofunctionalization, in which numerous efforts have been devoted to the development of controllable, regioselective reactions by tuning a metal catalyst.<sup>1,2</sup> For instance, W-, Rh-, and Ru-catalyzed cyclizations of 4-alkyn-1-ols bearing a terminal alkyne provide 6-*endo* cyclic products via distinct metal-vinylidene intermediates<sup>3</sup> while other metals usually give kinetically favorable 5-*exo* products. However, both modes of cyclizations commonly resulted in protonation, which lacks the divergence of products.<sup>4</sup>

Palladium catalysts are often employed for difunctionalization of unsaturated bonds due to their remarkable ability to create new carbon–carbon or carbon–heteroatom bonds.<sup>5</sup> Particularly, difunctionalization that involves intramolecular cyclization should offer regio- and stereoselective approaches to complex cyclic skeletons in a single operation.<sup>5–7</sup> However, the regioselectivity of cyclization heavily depends on the substrate structure in most cases, which severely limits the diversity of the products available by this methodology.<sup>6</sup> For instance, palladium-catalyzed cyclization of alcohol **A** proceeds in an *anti*-5-*exo* mode selectively to afford tetrahydrofuran derivative **B** and avoids the formation of dihydropyran **C** in a kinetically disfavored 6-*endo* fashion (Scheme 1).<sup>8</sup>

Recently, our group became interested in developing new palladium-catalyzed arylative cyclization reactions of unsaturated compounds bearing a nucleophilic moiety.<sup>9</sup> Along this line, we disclose herein controllable, regioselective arylative cyclization reactions of alkynols, leading to the divergent formations of *exo* and *endo* cyclic products. Thus, kinetically

Scheme 1. Pd-Catalyzed *anti*-5-*exo*-Selective Cyclization



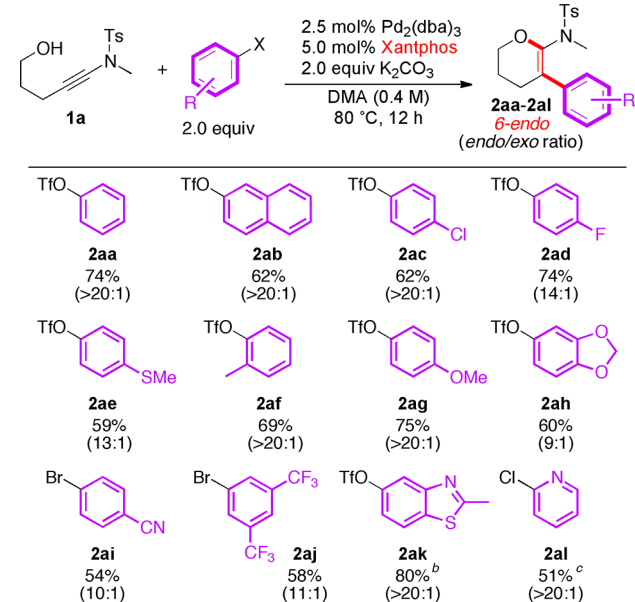
favored 5-*exo* cyclization changed to a 6-*endo* mode, not by substrate structures but largely by catalysts. Therefore, the present synthetic protocols can be regarded as catalyst-controlled oxyarylations of alkyne,<sup>10</sup> leading to highly functionalized tetrasubstituted alkenes in regiocontrolled manners.<sup>11</sup> Such controllable difunctionalizations of alkynes by a metal catalyst are still rare despite persistent interest.<sup>12</sup>

Our attempt began with alcohol **1a** bearing an ynamide moiety since ynamides display attractive reactivities and enable installation of an amino group in products.<sup>13,14</sup> Table S1 shows the effect of ligands on phenylative cyclizations of **1a** with phenyl triflate (see Supporting Information (SI)). Employment of PPh<sub>3</sub>, DPPF, XPhos, and PCy<sub>3</sub> gave *exo* cyclic compound **3aa** as a major product with concomitant formation of *endo* cyclic compound **2aa** (Table S1, entries 1–4).<sup>15</sup> To our surprise, X-ray crystal structure analysis revealed that *exo* cyclic product **3aa** is a *syn* adduct, which represents the first palladium-catalyzed intramolecular *syn*-oxyarylation of alkynes.<sup>6,16</sup> Further ligand screening revealed oxygen-linked bidentate ligands such as DPEphos and Xantphos were exceptionally effective for conventionally unfavorable 6-*endo* cyclization (entries 5 and 6). It is in stark contrast to the fact that ynamides usually react with transition metal complexes, except for gold,<sup>17</sup> to place the metal center at the  $\alpha$ -position owing to the directing effect of the amido group.<sup>18</sup>

The scope of aryl sources in this unusual *endo*-selective cyclization was investigated as shown in Table 1. Chloro, fluoro, and methylthio groups were compatible with the reaction (**2ac**, **2ad**, and **2ae**). The use of bulky *o*-tolyl triflate provided **2af** in good yield. Electron-rich aryl triflates also participated in the cyclization (**2ag** and **2ah**) although 1,3-benzodioxolyl triflate gave slightly lower selectivity. Electron-deficient aryl groups were introduced to 6-*endo* products **2ai** and **2aj** by using the corresponding bromides, since the use of the corresponding triflates resulted in the formation of complex mixtures.

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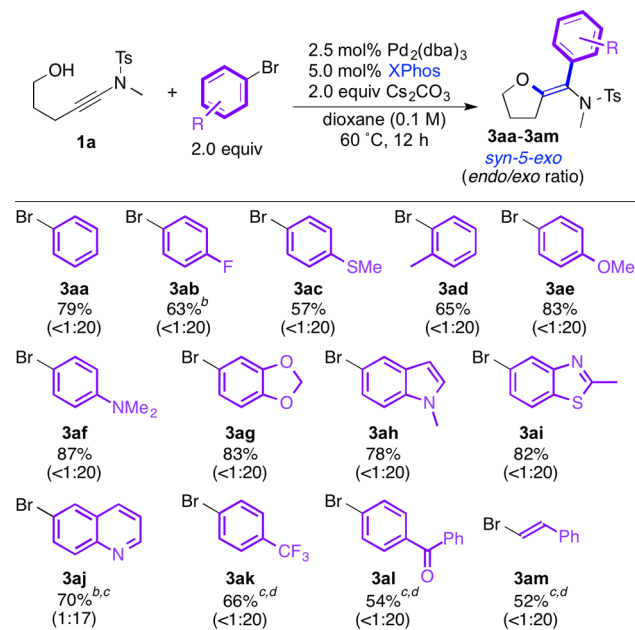
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Table 1. Scope of Aryl Sources for *endo* Cyclization<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Endo/exo ratios were determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR. Isolated yield. <sup>b</sup>Reaction was carried out at 100 °C. <sup>c</sup>5.0 mol % of Pd<sub>2</sub>(dba)<sub>3</sub>, 10 mol % Xantphos, and 3.0 equiv of 2-chloropyridine were used.

Furthermore, heteroaryl groups could be installed into *endo* cyclic products (2ak and 2al).

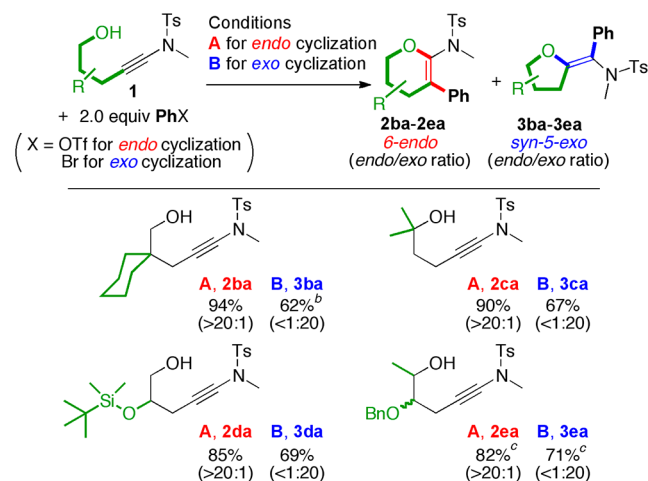
Next, we focused on developing a new *syn-5-exo* cyclization by adjusting the reactivity of palladium catalysts. After extensive screening, conditions employing XPhos as a ligand and aryl bromides as an aryl source realized expected *exo*-selective cyclization (Table 2). The scope of aryl bromides is wide, except for electron-deficient aryl bromides that lead to 6-*endo* cyclization. Further optimization of reaction conditions

Table 2. Scope of Aryl Bromides for *syn-5-exo* Cyclization<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Endo/exo ratios were determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR. Isolated yield. <sup>b</sup>Reaction was carried out at 100 °C. <sup>c</sup>20 mol % of P(2-furyl)<sub>3</sub> was used. <sup>d</sup>2.0 equiv of NaOH were used.

eventually allowed us to use electron-deficient aryl bromides with the aid of Pd<sub>2</sub>(dba)<sub>3</sub>/P(2-furyl)<sub>3</sub>/NaOH, avoiding concomitant formation of the *endo* cyclic products (3ak and 3al). Additionally, alkenyl bromide could be used for *exo* cyclization (3am).

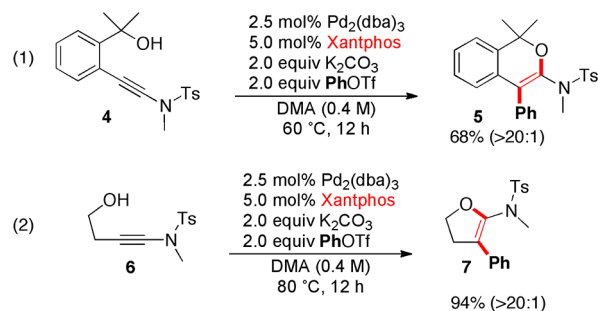
The regioselectivity of cyclization was independent of the substrate structures, which often determined the mode of cyclization (Table 3).<sup>6</sup> An alcohol bearing a bulky cyclohexyl

Table 3. Scope of Alkynols<sup>a</sup>

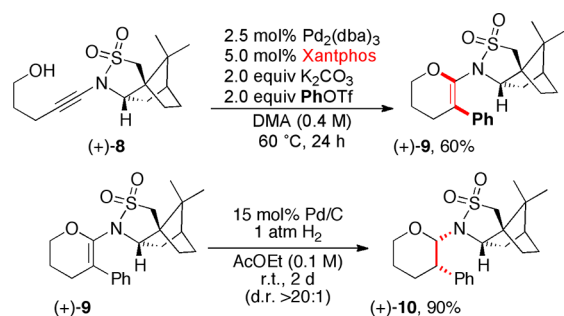
<sup>a</sup>Conditions A and B correspond to the conditions in Tables 1 and 2, respectively. Endo/exo ratios were determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR. Isolated yield. <sup>b</sup>Reaction was carried out at 80 °C. <sup>c</sup>The products as well as the starting material are diastereomeric mixtures (*trans/cis* = 70:30).

group or a dimethyl group gave the corresponding 6-*endo* and *syn-5-exo* products with high regioselectivity depending on the conditions (2ba/3ba and 2ca/3ca). *tert*-Butyldimethylsilyl ether was tolerated under the reaction conditions without conceivable decomposition (2da/3da). Notably, conditions A could be used for the synthesis of amino-substituted glycal<sup>19</sup> derivative 2ea while conditions B afforded *exo* cyclic product 3ea.

Our reaction conditions for *endo* cyclization could be extended to the synthesis of the other frameworks. Benzene-fused substrate 4 was converted to isochromene derivative 5 in good yield (eq 1). We also found 5-*endo* cyclization of 6 afforded amino-substituted dihydrofuran 7 in high yield (eq 2).



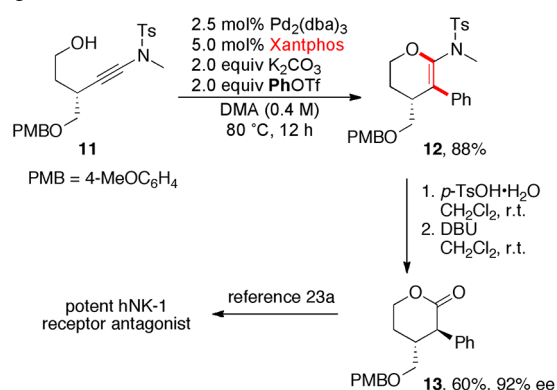
The 6-*endo* cyclization of (+)-8 bearing a camphor sultam chiral auxiliary was successful to afford (+)-9 (Scheme 2). Although hydrogenation of a tetrasubstituted double bond is difficult due to its steric hindrance, we were pleased to accomplish the highly diastereoselective hydrogenation of (+)-9 with Pd/C under atmospheric hydrogen to yield

Scheme 2. Transformation of Optically Active *endo* Cyclic Products

(+)-10.<sup>20,21</sup> The present transformation offers a new route to optically active cyclic *N,O*-acetals, which are often found in a number of bioactive and naturally occurring products.<sup>22</sup>

The *endo*-selective arylation cyclization was also applied to the formal synthesis of a potent hNK-1 receptor antagonist (Scheme 3 and SI).<sup>23</sup> Readily available chiral alkynol **11** was

Scheme 3. Formal Synthesis of Potent hNK-1 Receptor Antagonist

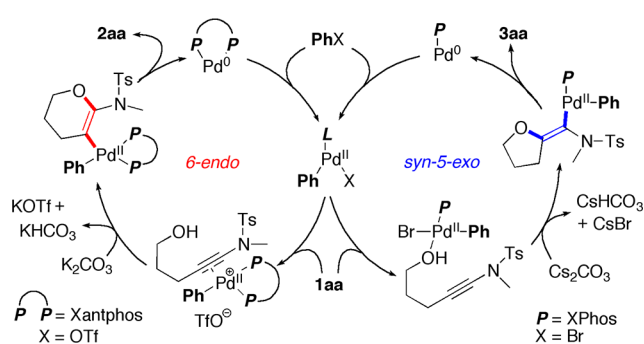


smoothly converted to *endo* cyclic product **12**, which was hydrolyzed into lactone **13**, a key synthetic intermediate of the antagonist.

We also developed some other useful transformations of the ketene *N,O*-acetal product (see SI). Thus, the *endo* cyclic products could be used for a variety of arylated oxacycles.

We performed careful NMR experiments (see SI for details) to account for the selectivity control and propose a plausible mechanism in Scheme 4. According to the implication of the NMR analysis, initially formed oxidative adduct [ArPdBr-

Scheme 4. Plausible Mechanism



(XPhos)] would have a preferential affinity for a hydroxy group whereas the other intermediate [ArPd(Xantphos)]<sup>+</sup>OTf<sup>-24</sup> would not have such an apparent affinity but interacts with an ynamide moiety. Thus, Lewis acidic cationic [ArPd-(Xantphos)]<sup>+</sup>OTf<sup>-</sup> would be coordinated by the ynamide moiety, thereby efficiently activating the triple bond to develop a positive charge at the  $\alpha$ -position ready for the 6-*endo* cyclization. As for the 5-*exo* cyclization, preferential coordination of the hydroxy group to [ArPdBr(XPhos)] followed by base-mediated alkoxide formation might lead to *syn*-insertion of the alkyne moiety to the oxygen–palladium bond.<sup>25</sup>

In conclusion, we have disclosed the first catalyst-dependent 6-*endo*/*syn*-5-*exo* regioselective arylation cyclization of alkynols. Coordination environments around the palladium centers of arylpalladium intermediates, rather than substrate structures, precisely dictate the regioselectivity. The present reactions afford a variety of five- and six-membered heterocycles from simple common substrates. The 6-*endo* products are useful building blocks in organic synthesis, as specially exemplified in the preparation of a key intermediate for the synthesis of an hNK-1 receptor antagonist.

## ■ ASSOCIATED CONTENT

### Supporting Information

Experimental procedure, spectroscopic data, <sup>1</sup>H/<sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra, and X-ray crystallographic analysis. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at <http://pubs.acs.org>.

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### Notes

The authors declare no competing financial interest.

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