

Pd-Catalyzed Stereoselective Carboperfluoroalkylation of Alkynes

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Supporting Information

ABSTRACT: A Pd-catalyzed three component reaction involving terminal alkynes, boronic acids, and perfluoroalkyl iodides is presented here. Trisubstituted perfluoroalkenes can be obtained in a highly regio- and stereocontrolled manner by the simultaneous addition of both aryl and $C_n F_m$ groups across the triple bond in a radical-mediated process. The reaction is operationally simple offering a broad scope and functional group tolerance.

s a result of the unique solubility, cell permeability, and A metabolic stability observed for organofluorine compounds,¹ the efficient introduction of fluoroalkyl motifs in commonly used building blocks has attracted increasing attention.² In contrast to the recent significant progress in the fluoroalkylation of aromatic compounds,³ efficient methods to access fluoroalkylated alkenes are less abundant. Common strategies include transition-metal-mediated cross-coupling reactions of fluoroalkyl species with alkenyl halides as well as fluoroalkyl radical addition and elimination reactions on alkenes (Scheme 1a).⁴ More straightforward approaches enabling additional functionalization have been explored with alkynes as starting materials, and thus the hydro-,⁵ oxy-,⁶ aminotrifluoromethylation⁷ as well as the iodo-perfluoroalkylation⁸ of alkynes have been recently reported.9 Carbotrifluoromethyla-

Scheme 1. Comparison of Methods to Produce Perfluoroalkyl Alkenes

Previous work: a. From alkenes b. From alkynes [Cu] Intramolec _____► Toani/Umemoto CF₃ c. This Work: One-pot, three component reaction, stereoselective + $R_{f}I$ + R'-B(OH)₂

tions to simultaneously construct C-C and $C(sp^2)-C_nF_m$ bonds across the C \equiv C bond have also been explored, but the portfolio of these reactions is still limited to intramolecular settings.^{10,1} Alternatively, multistep processes involving first an alkyne iodoperfluoroalkylation followed by classical Pd-catalyzed cross couplings have also been described to produce trisubstituted perfluoroalkenes (Scheme 1b).^{8a-c} Most of the abovementioned processes either require the preparation of alkenyl halides and/or fluoroalkyl radical precursors, which can be timeconsuming and tedious, or rely on the use of electrophilic CF₃ sources such as Togni or Umemoto reagents,¹² which are expensive or require multistep synthesis. Furthermore, functionalization of alkynes via transition-metal-catalyzed multicomponent reactions has been studied extensively, although, with few exceptions,¹³ multistep protocols using sensitive, highly reactive metal species are required, and thus competitive homo- and/or cross-coupling reactions are present in these transformations.¹⁴ Thus, driven by our interest in radical reactions and fluorine chemistry,¹⁵ we decided to explore the possibility of a one-pot intermolecular carboperfluoroalkylation reaction with alkynes as starting materials. Herein, we disclose a novel Pd-catalyzed three component reaction in which two new C-C bonds are simultaneously formed by addition of perfluoroalkyl halides and boronic acids to alkynes producing trisubstituted perfluoroalkylated alkenes in a highly regio- and stereoselective manner (Scheme 1c).

The addition of *n*-perfluorobutyl iodide and 4-biphenylboronic acid to phenyl acetylene was selected as benchmark reaction (Table 1).¹⁶ In the presence of 4 mol % of $PdCl_2(PPh_3)_2$ and 2 equiv of K₂CO₃ in THF, CH₃CN, 1,4-dioxane, or acetone, only traces of the desired product were formed (Table 1, entry 1). Using dichloromethane as solvent, in the absence as well as in the presence of water, 1a was obtained in moderate yields (Table 1, entries 2-3). Increasing the amount of the *n*-perfluorobutyl iodide resulted in an optimized 81% isolated yield for 1a, which was obtained as a single regio- and stereoisomer (Table 1, entry 4). The replacement of water by other protic solvents as well as the change of base to Cs_2CO_3 or catalyst to $Pd(PPh_3)_4$ did not increase the yield of product 1a either (Table 1, entries 5-8).

With the optimized reaction conditions in hand (Table 1, entry 4), we set out to explore the scope of this transformation.

First, different aryl boronic acids were investigated in combination with phenyl acetylene (Table 2, top). Oxygenbased electron-donating groups in the aromatic ring were well tolerated and produced the corresponding difunctionalized products in excellent yields and complete regio- and stereoselectivity (1a-d). The presence of alkyl groups had also a

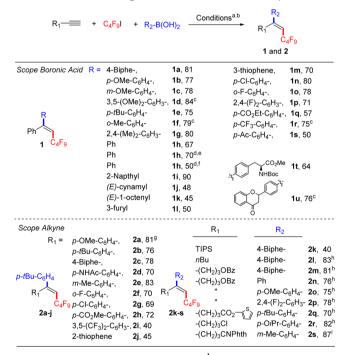
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Table 1. Optimization of the Reaction Conditions

Ph-===	+ B(OH)	² + C ₄ F ₉ I Pd source/Ba Solvent, 50 °C,	<	Ph C ₄ F ₉
entry ^a	catalyst (4 mol %)	solvent	base (2 equiv)	yield of $1a$ $(\%)^d$
1 ^{<i>a</i>}	$PdCl_2(PPh_3)_2$	THF, CH ₃ CN, 1,4- dioxane, Me ₂ CO	K ₂ CO ₃	trace
2 ^{<i>a</i>}	$PdCl_2(PPh_3)_2$	DCM	K_2CO_3	57
3 ^{<i>a</i>}	$PdCl_2(PPh_3)_2$	DCM/H ₂ O	K_2CO_3	62
4 ^b	PdCl ₂ (PPh ₃) ₂	DCM/H ₂ O	K ₂ CO ₃	85(81)
5 ^b	$PdCl_2(PPh_3)_2$	DCM/EtOH	K_2CO_3	50
6 ^b	$PdCl_2(PPh_3)_2$	DCM/H ₂ O	Cs_2CO_3	73
7 ^{b,c}	$PdCl_2(PPh_3)_2$	DCM/H ₂ O	K_2CO_3	70
8 ^b	$Pd(PPh_3)_4$	DCM/H ₂ O	K_2CO_3	70

^{*a*}Conditions: phenyl acetylene (1 equiv), boronic acid (1.3 equiv), *n*-perfluorobutyl iodide (2 equiv), 0.2 M Solvent:H₂O (5:1) if applied. ^{*b*}*n*-Perfluorobutyl iodide (3 equiv). ^{*c*}1 equiv of base. ^{*d*}Yield determined by ¹H NMR with *p*-nitroacetophenone as internal standard. In brackets: isolated yield after column chromatography.



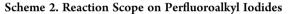


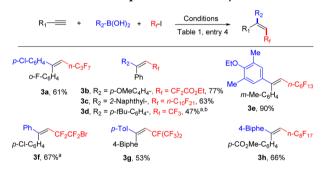
^{*a*}Optimized conditions, Table 1, entry 4. ^{*b*}Isolated yield after column chromatography. ^{*c*}Conditions: alkyne (1.5 equiv), boronic acid (1 equiv), and then as in Table 1, entry 4. ^{*d*1}H NMR yield with *p*-nitroacetophenone as internal standard. ^{*c*}With PhBpin. ^{*f*}With PhBF₃K. ^{*g*}75% yield in 2 mmol scale. ^{*h*}10:1 *E/Z* ratio determined by ¹⁹F NMR. ^{*i*}6:1 *E/Z* ratio: 4-Biphe:4-Biphenyl-.

positive influence in the reaction outcome, even in the case of sterically demanding ortho-substituted substrates, as demonstrated by the high yields obtained for products **1e**–**g**. Not only phenyl boronic acid but also the corresponding pinacol ester and the potassium trifluoroborate proved to be amenable substrates under these conditions (**1h**). Naphthyl, cinnamyl, and octenyl as well as heteroaryl boronic acid could be coupled in moderate to high yields (**1i**–**m**). Halogen groups (**1n**–**p**) were also well tolerated, whereas the presence of electron-withdrawing groups seems to limit the reaction efficiency as demonstrated in **1q–s**. More elaborated boronic acids could also be successfully involved as shown by compounds **1t** and **1u**, respectively. In all studied cases, the products were obtained with perfect regioand stereocontrol as single isomers.

The substitution pattern on the alkyne was explored next (Table 2, bottom). Using *p-tert*-butyl-phenyl boronic acid as partner, aryl alkynes bearing both electron-donating as well as electron-withdrawing groups were submitted to the standard reaction conditions providing the corresponding trisubstituted olefins in high yields and complete stereocontrol in favor of the *E* isomer (2a–k). The structure of 2h could be confirmed by X-ray diffraction analysis.¹⁷ The presence of a 2-thiophene or a bulky triisopropylsilyl group seemed to compromise the reaction efficiency (2j, 2k). Alkyl-substituted alkynes proved to be suitable partners for the present diffunctionalization reaction. Different boronic acids could be incorporated across a set of unactivated alkynes providing the corresponding trisubstituted alkenes in excellent yields and good levels of sterecontrol in favor of the thermodynamically favored *E*-olefin (21–s).

Different perfluoroalkyl halides were also investigated as shown in Scheme 2. Except for trifluoromethyl and bulky

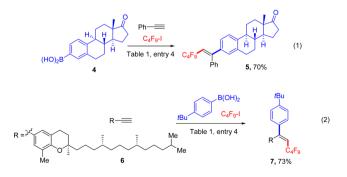




^{*a*}Conditions: alkyne (1.5 equiv), boronic acid (1 equiv), and then as in Table 1, entry 4. ^{*b*}All compounds obtained as single isomers except 3d which was isolated in a 11:1 E/Z ratio (determined by ¹⁹F NMR). 4-Biphe:4-Biphenyl-.

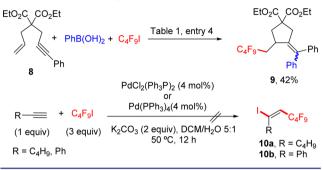
perfluoroisopropyl iodide (3d and 3g), the corresponding arylperfluoroalkylated products (3a-f, 3h) could be obtained in comparable yields to those reported in Table 2.

More elaborate substrates such as estrone-derived boronic acid 4 and alkyne γ -tocopherol-containing alkyne 6 could be successfully transformed into the corresponding carboperfluor-oalkylated products 5 and 7, respectively, in good yields eqs 1 and 2.¹⁸



Control experiments were also designed to interrogate the reaction mechanism. Addition of TEMPO, BHT, or 1,4dinitrobenzene to the reaction mixture suppressed, or substantially compromised, product formation.¹⁶ The reaction of enyne **8** seems to support a radical-mediated process, in which addition of C_4F_9 to the more reactive alkene moiety takes place followed by cyclization and trapping of the resulting vinyl radical to give **9** (Scheme 3, top). In this reaction, vinyl iodides could

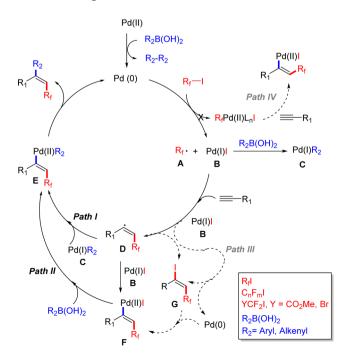
Scheme 3. Control Experiments



also be detected, ¹⁶ prompting us to carry out the reactions of 1hexyne and phenyl acetylene in the absence of boronic acid in order to check whether iodoperfluoroalkylation products **10a**,**b** could be produced under our standard conditions. As shown in the second half of Scheme 3, neither $PdCl_2(PPh_3)_2$ nor $Pd(PPh_3)_4$ as catalysts managed to produce significant amounts of **10**, thus questioning vinyl iodides as effective intermediates in these transformations.¹⁹

Although multiple scenarios can be envisaged, based on these and additional control experiments,¹⁶ we propose the following mechanism for these transformations. Palladium not only is a good cross-coupling catalyst²⁰ but has also been successfully used as a single electron donor.²¹ As depicted in Scheme 4, the electrophilic perfluoroalkyl radical **A** can be formed by reaction of Pd(0) (generated in situ with the aid of boronic acid)²² with Rf-I.^{23,24} The perfluoroalkyl radical could add intermolecularly to the C=C affording vinyl radical **D**. The subsequent recombination with either Pd(I)R₂ (**C**) or Pd(I)I (**B**) (paths I and II,

Scheme 4. Proposed Reaction Mechanism



respectively) would finally give the key palladium species E, which undergoes reductive elimination to produce the corresponding fluoroalkylated alkenes while regenerating Pd(0). Alternatively, a third pathway can be proposed involving the formation of the corresponding iodoperfluoalkyl alkenes G as potential reaction intermediates in these transformations (path III). However, the reactions shown at the bottom of Scheme 3 disfavor this hypothesis. The selectivity in favor of the E isomer also rules out a reaction mechanism involving the direct perfluoroalkyl palladation of the alkyne via putative Rf-Pd(II)-I intermediate (path IV), in line with the highly unreactive nature toward unsaturated moieties reported for these complexes.²³ As such, the high stereoselectivity can be explained based on the less steric demand of a fast-interconverting E/Z vinyl radical \mathbf{D}^{25} for recombination with an external radical from the opposite side to that in which the perfluoroalkyl group has been incorporated.

In summary, a simple, functional-group tolerant, Pd-catalyzed three component reaction of terminal alkynes with boronic acids and perfluoroalkyl iodides is reported. This method, involving the simultaneous addition of both aryl/alkenyl and perfluoroalkyl group across the alkyne, streamlines the access to perfluoroalkylated trisubstituted alkenes in a highly regio- and stereocontrolled manner in what seems to be a radical-mediated process with broad scope and wide synthetic applicability.

ASSOCIATED CONTENT

Supporting Information

The Supporting Information is available free of charge on the ACS Publications website at DOI: 10.1021/jacs.5b07432.

Compound synthesis and characterization (PDF) Crystallographic data (CIF)

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Notes

The authors declare no competing financial interest.

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(16) For additional experiments, see Supporting Information.

(17) X-ray diffraction analysis data for **2h** are available from the CCDC database: CCDC 1411445.

(18) Reaction performed using 1 equiv of boronic acid and 1.5 equiv of alkyne.

(19) Independently prepared perfluoroalkyl iodoalkenes **10a** and **10b** could be efficiently engaged in Pd-cross coupling reactions with boronic acids: as already shown in refs 8a-c; see SI.

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