Palladium-Catalyzed Arylation of *tert*-Cyclobutanols with Aryl Bromide via C–C Bond Cleavage: New Approach for the γ -Arylated Ketones

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Palladium-catalyzed arylation of a wide variety of compounds with aryl halide has been developed in recent years as a powerful method to create an aromatic carbon–carbon bond¹ as well as an aromatic carbon–heteroatom bond.²

Recently, we have reported the palladium(II)-catalyzed oxidative ring cleavage of *tert*-cyclobutanols using oxygen as a reoxidant (Scheme 1),³ in which we postulated that the C–C bond of *tert*-cyclobutanols was easily cleaved via β -carbon elimination from a Pd(II) alcoholate formed in situ to give a less hindered primary alkylpalladium intermediate. In this reaction, we suggested that divalent palladium works as an active species throughout the reaction using oxygen as a reoxidant. On the other hand, aryl halide is a well-known reagent for the oxidative reaction of Pd(0) to Pd(II).¹ Thus, our attention turned to the combination of Pd(0) and aryl halide in the reaction of *tert*-cyclobutanols, in which it is expected that arylation via β -carbon elimination from a Pd(II) alcoholate can proceed. Now we report a novel palladium-catalyzed arylation of *tert*-cyclobutanols involving selective β -carbon elimination from an arylpalladium alcoholate.

Recent advances in palladium-catalyzed arylation of alcohols with aryl halide for diaryl ether or aryl alkyl ether synthesis have been reported by Hartwig et al. and Buchwald et al.⁴ They showed that a Pd(II) alcoholate is a key intermediate in which reductive elimination of C–O bond gives a product ether and also that a bulky or a chelating ligand can accelerate the reductive elimination step and retard β -hydrogen elimination relative to reductive elimination.^{4a,c,5} Thus, our initial attempt to find the efficient catalyst system was done with 3-*tert*-butyl-1-phenyl-1-cyclobutanol (**1a**) as a substrate, using a palladium catalyst and various kinds of chelating phosphine ligands. The choice of ligands seems to be a crucial factor because an alkylpalladium intermediate formed by β -carbon elimination from a Pd(II) alcoholate could undergo both reductive elimination and β -hydrogen elimination.

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Scheme 1

4

5



Table 1. Palladium-Catalyzed Arylation of tert-Cyclobutanols^a



^{*a*} Reaction conditions: alcohol (0.20 mmol), Pd₂(dba)₃·CHCl₃ (0.001 mmol), ligand (0.004 mmol), bromobenzene (0.22 mmol), K₂CO₃ (0.22 mmol), 1,4-dioxane (1 mL), 100 °C, 12 h, under N₂.

dppf

(R)-(+)-BINAP

59

71

tion. Treatment of $1a^6$ with 1.1 equiv of both bromobenzene and K_2CO_3 in the presence of 1 mol % $Pd_2(dba)_3$ ·CHCl₃ and 2 mol % phosphine ligand in 1,4-dioxane at 100 °C for 12 h under N₂ atmosphere afforded 4,4-dimethyl-1-phenyl-3-(phenylmethyl)-1-pentanone (**1b**) (Table 1). Among the ligands examined, (*R*)-(+)-2,2'-bis(diphenylphosphino)-1,1'-binaphthyl (BINAP)⁷ was revealed to be the most efficient for the arylation of *tert*-cyclobutanol **1a** (71% GLC yield, entry 5).⁸ Although a produced ketone **1b** has a chiral carbon center, no asymmetric induction occurred under these conditions.⁹ As a solvent for this reaction, 1,4-dioxane was revealed to be more efficient than 1,2-dimethoxyethane, *N*,*N*-dimethylformamide, and toluene. Potassium carbonate (K₂CO₃) was a base of choice, and other bases, such as Na₂CO₃, NaOAc, Cs₂CO₃, and Et₃N, were less effective.

The arylation of siloxycyclopropanes in hexamethylphosphoric triamide (HMPA) was explored by Nakamura and Kuwajima et al. in 1988, in which a C–C bond of cyclopropane ring is cleaved catalytically by an arylpalladium complex to create an aryl carbon–alkyl carbon bond.¹⁰ This reaction is suggested to occur by direct electrophilic attack of the arylpalladium cationic complex to an electron-rich β -carbon atom of siloxycyclopropanes to give an alkylpalladium intermediate, from which reductive elimination occurs to afford a β -arylated ketone. Their reaction requires a cationic complex produced from [PdCl(C₃H₅)]₂, triphenylphosphine, and aryl triflate, while aryl halide failed to react with

(9) The enantiomeric excess was measured by HPLC.

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⁽⁶⁾ Cyclobutanols are readily accessible from the corresponding cyclobutanones and Grignard reagent. For typical methods for preparing cyclobutanones, see: (a) Krepski, L. R.; Hassner, A. J. Org. Chem. **1978**, *43*, 2879. (b) Greene, A. E.; Luche, M.-J.; Serra, A. A. J. Org. Chem. **1985**, *50*, 3957.

⁽⁷⁾ Racemic BINAP can also be used as a ligand. For the other ligands, dppe, dppp, dppb, and dppf stand for 1,2-bis(diphenylphosphino)ethane, 1,3-bis(diphenylphosphino)propane, 1,4-bis(diphenylphosphino)butane, and 1,1'-bis(diphenylphosphino)ferrocene, respectively.

⁽⁸⁾ Although $Pd(OAc)_2$ can also be used for the arylation of **1a**, the yield of **1b** decreased (58% GLC yield). The reaction can also proceed with Pd-(PPh₃)₄ (65% GLC yield of **1b**).



siloxycyclopropanes. In contrast, in our reaction, the arylation of *tert*-cyclobutanols proceeds with aryl bromide, because the formation of a Pd(II) alcoholate between a neutral palladium species and an alcohol is a crucial step which is followed by β -carbon elimination (vide infra).

The results of arylation of several monocyclic *tert*-cyclobutanols leading to γ -arylated ketone under the optimized conditions described above are listed in Table 2. Using bromobenzene as an arylating reagent, 3-substituted cyclobutanols **1a** and **2a** gave the corresponding γ -arylated ketones **1b** and **2b** in good yields (entries 1 and 3).¹¹ 3,3-Disubstituted cyclobutanols **3a**-**5a** also afforded the corresponding ketones **3b**, **4b**, and **5b** in high yields. The arylation of **1a** and **4a** with 2-bromonaphthalene could also proceed to afford ketones **1c** and **4c** in good yields (entries 2 and 6). Similarly, the reaction of **4a** with *p*-bromotoluene smoothly occurred to give **4d** in high yield (entry 7). *p*-Bromochlorobenzene afforded **4e** selectively without affecting the chloro substituent (entry 8). The reaction could also be applied to bicyclic cyclobutanols **6a**-**8a** (eqs 1 and 2). In contrast to monocyclic cyclobu-



tanols, bicyclic ones have two C-C bonds in the ring that may be cleaved. In these cases, a selective C-C bond cleavage of cyclobutanol, giving a less hindered primary alkylpalladium

Table 2. Palladium-Catalyzed Arylation of tert-Cyclobutanols^a



^{*a*} Reaction conditions: alcohol (0.4 mmol), $Pd_2(dba)_3$ ·CHCl₃ (0.002 mmol), (*R*)-(+)-BINAP (0.008 mmol), aryl bromide (0.44 mmol), K₂CO₃ (0.44 mmol), 1,4-dioxane (2 mL), 100 °C, 12 h, under N₂. ^{*b*} 1.2 equiv of both aryl bromide and K₂CO₃ to alcohol were used. ^{*c*} GLC yield.

complex, occurred to give arylated ketones **6b–8b** in high yields, in which an initial configuration (*cis*-configuration at bridgehead carbons in a substrate) was kept during the reaction.¹²

The formation of a ring-opening arylated ketone can be explained by assuming the reaction sequence shown in Scheme 2. An arylpalladium intermediate, formed by oxidative addition of aryl bromide to a palladium(0) phosphine complex, undergoes a ligand exchange with *tert*-cyclobutanol to afford a palladium alcoholate 9, which gives an alkylpalladium intermediate 10 by β -carbon elimination. The species 10 is prone to eliminate a palladium(0) phosphine complex reductively to give γ -arylated ketones. The fact that no aryl ether formation was observed suggests that β -carbon elimination is much faster than reductive elimination of an aryl C–O bond. Furthermore, the results of the reactions of 1a, 2a, 6a, and 8a clearly show that reductive elimination from 10 is much faster than β -hydrogen elimination to give an alkene.

Supporting Information Available: Experimental procedures and analytical and spectroscopic data of compounds (PDF). This material is available free of charge via the Internet at http://pubs.acs.org. See any current masthead page for ordering information and Web access instructions.

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⁽¹¹⁾ In the case of **1a**, the formation of a small amount of 3,4,4-trimethyl-1-phenyl-2-penten-1-one (<3%) was detected by ¹H NMR analysis of the crude reaction mixture. It may be formed by isomerization from an initially formed β , γ -unsaturated ketone via β -hydrogen elimination from an alkylpaladium intermediate. Similarly, from the reaction of **2a**, 3-methyl-1,3-diphenyl-2-buten-1-one was isolated in 6% yield.

⁽¹²⁾ The stereochemistry of **6b**, **7b**, and **8b** was confirmed by the observation of the different NOE spectra (methine protons for **6b** and **8b**, methyl and methine protons for **7b**, respectively, in these NMR spectra).