UNUSUAL, LINEAR REGIOSELECTIVE HYDROPORMYLATION ON PtL₂C1₂-IRON OR TIN CATALYSTS

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*Summary : PtL*₂*Cl₂-iron or tin catalysts (L₂ = <i>diphenylphosphinobutane, DIOP...) are found to be highly selective into linear aldehydes during olefin hydroformylation, with up to 90% into hydrocinnamaldehyde and 98% into n heptanal from styrene and I -hexene, respectively.*

The olefin hydroformylation reaction has been the subject of numerous studies^{1,2}, and several transition metal complexes are known to catalyze this reaction³. Although the most commonly used catalysts are based on cobalt and rhodium, it has been found that $Pt^{II}-Sn^{II}$ combinations were also efficient for this reaction⁴.

We describe here the synthesis of new platinum based catalytic systems for which a larga enhancement in linear regioselectivity is observed :

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RCH=CH_2 + CO + H_2 \xrightarrow{\text{Fct}_2 \text{C1}_2} RCH=CH_2 + CO + H_2 \xrightarrow{\text{F}_3 T^e} RCH(CHO)CH_3 + RCH_2CH_2CHO
$$

To this end, we have imagined that a possible path for the chloride abstraction in <code>PtL_{2Cl $_2$ -S</code>n system can be provided by the electrochemical reduction of PtL $_2$ Cl $_2$ com-</code>} plexes in an undivided cell according to

Cathode PtL_2Cl_2 + $2e^-$ ------> " PtL_2 " + $2Cl^-$ Anode \sin $\frac{1}{2}$ \cos $\frac{1}{2}$ \cos

instead of the use of the $SnCl₂$ Lewis acid.

This process is performed in a glass electrochemical cell, into which are introduced successively 20 ml of propylene carbonate and 10 ml of benzene. 64 mg $(8.66 \t10^{-2})$ $mmol$) of Pt(DIOP)C 1_2 ⁵ are added and the cylindrical electrodes (platinum gauze as the cathode and tin or iron foils as the anode) are introduced in the solution. 'fhe elec**trolysis** is then performed under controlled cathodic potential (E = -1,75V vs Ag/AgCl) in order to reduce the platinum complex, previously shown to be reducible at -1.6V according to voltamperomatric studies. After consumption of the required amount of electron mole to solubilize the tin or iron cation, the current is stopped⁶. The resulting mixture is then introduced under nitrogen into a stainless steel autoclave, as well as the olefin (either styrene 1. 8.66 mmol, or 1-hexene 2, 43.3 mmol). The reactor is then pressurized under $CO/H₂$ (1:1) at 100atm and heated to 90°C. The results are summarized in table 1.

TABLE 1 : Olefin hydroformylation on Pt(DIOP)C1₂-Sn or Fe catalysts^{*}

*Conditions : see text. $\#$ Time required for a 100 % conversion. @Preatreatment of the electroreduced solution is performed with $CO/H₂$ before introduction of the substrate. ^OSome isomerization into 2-hexene (4.8 %) was found at the end of the reaction.

Although the activity of these systems is lower than that of $PtL_2Cl_2-SnCl_2$ catalysts (entries 1 and 5), it is remarkable that both the chemoselectivity (the hydrogenation is reduced) as well as the regioselectivity into the linear aldehyde are strongly enhanced (entry 6, >98% into n aldehyde). Furthermore, it is also shown that platinum-iron systems are as effective as the known platinum-tin catalysts, at least in terms of regioselectivity during styrene hydroformylation⁷ (runs 3 and 4).

As indicated, the reactions were conducted in a benzene-propylene carbonate mixture in each case. The choice of propylene carbonate as cosolvent was previously made to enhance the conductivity of the solution for the electrolysis, but appears also to be critical. Indeed, with the electrogenerated $Pt(DIOP)Cl₂/Sn/e^-$ catalysts, the selectivities during styrene hydroformylation change drastically with the propylene carbonate/benzene ratio, as shown in table 2.

Propylene Carbonate(vol%)	8	20	40	50	60	92
Conv.7	60	58	67	61	53	17
PhEt $(molZ)$	15	10.5	6	6.5	4	0.2
$Ph(CH_2)_2$ CHO (mo1%)	53	60	76	76.5	81	89

TABLE 2 : Solvent effect during styrene hydroformylation over Pt(DIOP)Cl₂/Sn/e⁻ catalyst^{*}.

 k_{Solvent} = 25ml ; Pt(DIOP)C1₂/Sn/Styrene = 1/2.5/100 ; P_{CO} = P_{H2} = 25atm; $T : 80^{\circ}C : t = 24h.$

The same behaviour is observed with ethylene carbonate, but not with other acyclic alkylcarbonates, whose dielectric constant is much lower.

Furthermore, the activity and selectivity are strongly dependent upon the ligand structure (table 3).

*Solvent = 15ml C_6H_6 + 10ml propylene carbonate; PtL₂Cl₂/Sn/Styrene = 1/2.5/100; $P_{CO} = P_H$ = 50atm; T: 50°C.

These results indicate that the nature of the solvent and ligand are critical in these reactions : most probably, dissociated platinum complexes are responsible for this unexpected regioselectivity, the role of tin or iron being to abstract chloride anions to produce cationic platinium species. The presence of bulky, highly strained chelating ligands is also required, as previously shown on PtL_2Cl_2 -SnCl₂ combinations⁸. Finally, the high regioselectivity observed with iron prompted us to study Pt(DIOP)Cl₂-"Fe" combinations in which the cocatalyst is in a formal +2 or +3 oxidation state. With styrene, the hydrocinnamaldehyde/hydratropaldehyde ratio is enhanced to 12.4 and 13.6 with $Fe₂O₃$ and $Fe₃O₄$ as cocatalysts in a benzene-propylene carbonate mixture (20/5)⁹.

These new results provide further evidence for the usefulness of electrochemistry in its application to the synthesis of unusual homogeneous catalytic species¹⁰, which in this case has allowed to find out new Platinum-Iron systems for unprecedented regioselective hydroformylation of styrene into linear aldehyde.

References

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