Palladium(II)-catalyzed Oxidative Aminocarbonylation of Unsaturated Carbamates

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Summary: N-Tosyl O-2-propenyl carbamates 4 undergo aminocarbonylation to provide N-tosyl-2-oxazolidinone 4-acetic acid esters 5 by the catalysis of PdCl₂ under 1 atm of CO.

In recent papers,¹ we have disclosed that ureas² of types 1 and 2 and carbamates³ of type 3 undergo smooth aminocarbonylations by the use of catalytic amounts of PdCl₂ (Scheme I). At the same time, we reported that carbamate of type 4 was completely indifferent to the aminocarbonylation^{1b} (equation 4, Scheme 1). In view of the higher reactivity of *endo*-urea 2 than *exo*-urea 1 (cf. the reaction conditions shown in equations 1 and 2), the reason for the exceedingly low reactivity of *endo*-carbamate 4, as compared with *exo*-carbamate 3, has been a question of long standing to us.

Scheme 1. Pd(II)-catalyzed Oxidative Aminocarbonylation of Unsaturated Ureas and Carbamates



Here we report the first successful palladium(II)-catalyzed aminocarbonylation of *endo*-carbamates 4, which proceeds in a quite different mechanism from those for 1 - 3. The reaction of *endo*-carbamates 4 highly depends on the kind of the substituents R^1 and R^2 . As for R^1 , the carbamate 4 with $R^1 = Me$ or Ph did not provide aminocarbonylation product 5 in any detectable amounts under the conditions ever examined. The reaction was only successful for the carbamates with $R^1 = tosyl$. As for R^2 , the carbamates 4 with $R^2 = H$, Me, and isobutyl underwent cyclization under acidic buffer conditions (condition A, see footnote 1, Table 2), although being very sluggish and requiring 80 - 90 h at 30 °C for completion (entries 1 - 3, Table 2). Under the similar conditions, however, the carbamates with $R^2 = CH_2CH_2Ph$ (4d) and *tert*-butyl (4e) suffer from either decomposition or low conversion (entries 6 and 9, Table 2).

Table 1. Optimization of Reaction Conditions for the Palladium(II)-catalyzed Oxidative Aminocarbonylation of 4 (\mathbb{R}^1 = toluenesulfonyl).

entry	carbamte 4 (R ²)	conditions ¹)				% isolated yield ²)
		solvent	base	additive	temp., time	(% conversion)
1	4b: Me	MeOH-AcOH	AcONa		30 °C, 87 h	5b : 89 (100)
2	4d: PhCH ₂ CH ₂	MeOH-AcOH	AcONa		30 °C, 72 h	5d: 10 (100)
3	4d: PhCH ₂ CH ₂	MeOH-AcOH	AcONa	MOA	30 °C, 68 h	5d: 44 (100)
4	4d: PhCH ₂ CH ₂	MeOH-AcOH			30 °C, 24h	5d: 0 (0)
5	4d: PhCH ₂ CH ₂	MeOH			30 °C, 75 h	5d: (100) ³)
6	4d: PhCH ₂ CH ₂	MeOH	AcONa		30 °C, 2 h	5d: 43 (48) ⁴)
7	4d: PhCH ₂ CH ₂	MeOH	AcONa	MOA	30 °C, 8 h	5d: 100 (100)

Carbamate 4 (1 mmol), PdCl₂ (0.25 mmol), CuCl₂ (2.3 mmol), CO (1 atm) in MeOH-AcOH (2 mL-5 mL) or in MeOH alone (8 mL) in the presence or absence of AcONa (3 mmol) and MOA (methyl orthoacetate, 18 mmol).

2) Isolated yield based on conversion.

3) Complex mixture of products, containing less than 10% of 4d.

4) No further reaction owing to precipitation of Pd-black.

In order to widen the structural flexibility, a variety of conditions have been screened taking 4d as a probe. The results are summarized in Table 1. As apparent from this Table, basic buffer conditions B (entry 7, Table 1),⁴ which differs from the conditions A (entry 2) in lacking AcOH and containing methyl orthoacetate, was most satisfactory. Methyl orthoacetate,⁵ judging from two pairs of results (entries 2 and 3 and 6 and 7, Table 1), was very effective to improve the yields and seems to serve to suppress such PdCl₂-consuming side reactions as oxidations of methanol to formaldehyde and of carbon monoxide to dimethyl carbonate. Acceleration of reactions by an addition of sodium acetate (entries 6 vs. 5, Table 1) and by a deletion of acetic acid (entries 6 vs. 2 and 7 vs. 3) clearly indicates that the cyclization of N-tosyl carbamates 4 (pKa = 4.2)⁶ proceeds via dissociation of NH proton. This makes sharp contrast to the observations that 1 - 3 undergo cyclization under acidic conditions⁴ via a non-dissociated NH form.¹

entry	substrate 4 or 6	conditions ¹⁾	product 5 or 7	% yield (% conversion) ²⁾ [cis : trans ratio] ³⁾
1		A (88 h)	CO ₂ Me	71 (100)
2	NHTs 0 4b	A (87 h)	N-Ts 5b	89 (100) [1 : 7]
3 4 5	NHTs 4c	A (93 h) B (8 h) B' (44 h)	CO ₂ Me	91 (100) [1 : 10] 95 (100) 87 (100)
6 7 8	Ph NHTs 4d	A (72 h) B (8 h) B' (25 h)	Ph N-Ts 5d	<pre> 10 (100) 100 (100) [1 : 3] 80 (90) </pre>
9 10	NHTs 4e	A (91 h) B (16 h)		e 0 (0) 57 (50) [ca. 1 : 50]
11 12	NHTs 4f	A (94 h) B (18 h)	ON-TS 5f	e 14 (100) 86 (71)
13 14		A (90 h) B (26 h)	$O_{\text{N-Ts}} 5 g$	2 (50) 25 (52)
15 16	NHTs 63	A (88 h) B (26 h)	V $T_{\rm S}$ $7_{\rm a}$	Λe 9 (100) 0 (80)
17	NHTs 6b	A (90 h)	CO_2 O Ts 7b	Me 80 (100)

 Table 2.
 Palladium(II)-catalyzed Oxidative Aminocarbonylation of N-Toluenesulfonyl

 O-Allyl (4) and O-Homoallyl
 Carbamates (6)

1) Conditions A: carbamate 4 or 6 (1 mmol), PdCl₂ (0.25 mmol), CuCl₂ (2.3 mmol), NaOAc (3.0 mmol), CO (1 atm, balloon) in MeOH-AcOH (2 mL-5 mL) at 30 °C; conditions B: carbamate (1 mmol), PdCl₂ (0.25 mmol), CuCl₂ (2.3 mmol), NaOAc (3 mmol), CO (1 atm), methyl orthoacetate (18 mmol) in MeOH (8 mL) at 30 °C; conditions B': the same as the conditions B except for PdCl₂ (0.10 mmol).

- 2) Isolated yield based on conversion.
- 3) cis : trans Ratio determined by ¹H NMR.

The optimum conditions A and B thus decided were applied for the aminocarbonylation of N-tosyl carbamates possessing characteristics in their structural features. Some representative results for O-2-propenyl (4) and O-3-butenyl carbamates (6) are summarized in Table 2. In every case, the reaction was run until Pd-black precipitated.⁷ A reduced amount of PdCl₂ (0.1 equivalents) may be applied (entries 5 and 8, Table 2).

O-(2-Methyl-2-propenyl) carbamate (4g) was very reluctant (entries 13 and 14, Table 2), and O-(3-methyl-2-propenyl) carbamate was unreactive toward cyclization and gave only a mixture of decomposition products (conditions B for 28 h, 79% conversion).

Like many other precedents,^{1b,8} the cyclization giving six-membered nitrogen heterocycles met difficulties. O-(3-Butenyl) (**6a**, entries 15 and 16, Table 2), O-(1-methyl-3butenyl) and O-[1-(2-phenylethyl)-3-butenyl] carbamates gave the expected six-membered products in similarly poor yields. Among these, the reaction of **6b** (entry 17, Table 2) was exceptional, which provided **7b** in good yield.

Although the aminocarbonylation of **4** and **6** could be realized, there still remain problems in its limited scope and low turn-over numbers of the catalyst. Further improvement and application to the syntheses of physiologically interesting γ - and δ -hydroxy β amino acids (e.g., negamycin⁹ and γ -hydroxy β -lysine)¹⁰ and β -lactams are continuing subjects of our concern.¹¹

References and Notes

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- (2) The terms *exo* and *endo* are meant to refer to the relative positions between an olefin and functional groups (urea and carbamate), i.e., *exo*-urea 1, on cyclization, leaves an urea group outside the ring, while *endo*-urea 2 inside.
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- (7) A typical procedure (entry 7, Table 2): a flask containing a mixture of 4d (1 mmol), PdCl₂ (0.25 mmol), CuCl₂ (2.3 mmol), and NaOAc (3 mmol) was purged with CO (a balloon) and into this was added dry methanol (8 mL) and MeC(OMe)₃ (18 mmol) via syringes. Homogeneous green solution was stirred at 30 °C until Pd-black began to precipitate (8 h) and then transferred into ethyl acetate (30 mL). The mixture was washed with 1 : 1 mixture of 10%-NH4 OH and 10%-NH4⁺ Cl⁻ twice and then with water. The organic layer was dried over MgSO₄ and evaporated to leave oil, which was purified by column chromatography over silica gel (benzene-ethyl acetate 70 : 1) to give 5d as a mixture of cis : trans = 1 : 3; 100% isolated yield; mp 125 126°C (benzene); IR (KBr) 1795 (s), 1725 (s) cm⁻¹. Anal. C, H, N, S.
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