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HIGHLY REGIOSELECTIVE PALLADIUM-MEDIATED SUBSTITUTION OF ALLYLIC AND DIENYLIC CYCLIC CARBONATES

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Abstract: Reaction of chiral allylic and dienylic cyclic carbonates with various nucleophiles in the presence of $(PPh_3)_4Pd$ as a catalyst afforded α -, γ -, or ϵ -substituted products with high regio-, (*E*)-stereo-, and diastereoselectivity depending on nucleophiles.

Reaction of allylic compounds with various nucleophiles catalyzed by palladium complexes via π -allylpalladium complexes has been well established as an important synthetic method for C-C, C-N, C-O, and C-S bond formations in inter- and intramolecular reactions.¹ Acyclic allylic carbonates were found to be valuable substrates for palladium-catalyzed nucleophilic substitution by Tsuji.² Recently, we have reported^{3a} neutral alkylation of soft carbon nucleophiles with chiral allylic cyclic carbonates catalyzed by $(PPh_3)_4Pd$.^{3b} We have explored palladium-catalyzed nucleophilic substitution of allylic and dienylic cyclic carbonates with carbon, oxygen, and sulfur nucleophiles, which resulted in high regio- and diastereoselective substitution depending on nucleophiles.

The results of the reactions of allylic and dienylic cyclic carbonates with nucleophiles are summarized in Table 1. The optically active cyclic carbonate **1**⁴ reacted with PhOH in the presence of Et_3N and sodium benzenesulfinate in refluxing THF for 1 h in the presence of $(PPh_3)_4Pd$ (5 mol%) to give the (*E*)-allylic alcohols **4a** and **4b**, respectively, as a sole product (entries 1 and 2).⁵ However, sodium thiophenoxide attacked 'proximal' to oxygen atom with inversion to afford the *threo*- β -hydroxy sulfide **5**⁶ (entry 3) contrasting the regioselectivity associated with palladium-catalyzed *S*-alkylation of acyclic carbonates.⁷ Presumably, in this particular system the substitution was proceeded by internal attack of thiophenoxide to carbon via π -allylpalladium complex with net inversion.⁸ In our control experiment, only deprotected diol and the starting material **1** were isolated from the reaction of **1** with NaSPh (2 equiv) in THF at reflux for 1 h without Pd(0)-catalyst. Thus, the possible non-palladium substitution reaction was eliminated. It is also notable that the problem of catalytic poisoning with thiophenoxide was avoided in this system.⁹ For the (*E*)-dienylic cyclic carbonate **2**¹⁰, dimethyl malonate under neutral conditions in the presence of $(PPh_3)_4Pd$ afforded γ -alkylated product **6**⁶ as a major product with high diastereoselectivity (~98%) along with a minor ϵ -alkylated compound in the ratio of 6 : 1 (entry 4). This is in contrast to the ϵ -alkylation with dienylic acetate and sodium malonate reported by Bäckvall^{11,12} and Trost.¹³ Pd(0)-catalyzed substitution reaction of (*E*)-dienylic cyclic carbonate **2** with PhOH in the presence of Et_3N and $NaSO_2Ph$ provided complete regioselective introduction of these nucleophiles to ϵ -position to afford the (*E*, *E*)-dienylic alcohols **7a** and **7b** (entries 5 and 6). The (*E*, *E*)-dienylic ester **3a** with sodium thiophenoxide yielded **8**⁶ (entry 7). Finally, reaction of **3b** with dimethyl malonate afforded the adduct **9**⁶, which was introduced a quaternary center at γ -position with high diastereoselectivity (~92%) (entry 8). The typical

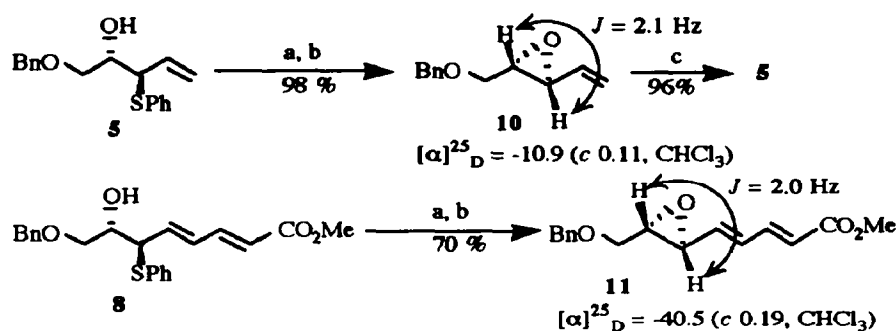
procedure is as follows. To a stirred solution of the allylic cyclic carbonate **1** (258 mg, 1.10 mmol) in dry THF (4 mL) under nitrogen atmosphere was added sodium benzenesulfinate (388 mg, 2.20 mmol) and $(\text{PPh}_3)_4\text{Pd}$ (63 mg, 5 mol%). After stirring for 10 min at reflux, the reaction mixture was cooled and THF was evaporated. The crude product was purified by SiO_2 column chromatography (EtOAc/hexanes 1 : 1, $R_f = 0.19$) to afford **4b** (290 mg, 80%).

Table 1. Regioselective Palladium-Mediated Substitution of Allylic and Dienylic Cyclic Carbonates.

Entry	Substrate	Nucleophile ^a	Product	Yield(%) ^b	$[\alpha]_D^{25}$ in CHCl_3
1		PhOH/Et ₃ N(2)		79	-1.72 (c 0.64)
2	1	NaSO ₂ Ph(2)	4b X = SO ₂ Ph	80	+2.03 (c 0.74)
3	1	NaSPh(2)		74	-4.71 (c 1.50)
4		CH ₂ (CO ₂ Me) ₂ (1)		85	
			6 γ : ϵ = 6 : 1		
5	2	PhOH(2)/Et ₃ N(2)		83	+1.74 (c 0.35)
6	2	NaSO ₂ Ph(2)	7b X = SO ₂ Ph	72	+9.52 (c 0.21)
7		NaSPh(2)		77	-10.27 (c 0.19)
8	3b R ₁ = Me	CH ₂ (CO ₂ Me) ₂ (1)		89	-2.60 (c 0.73)
			9^d R ₁ = Me		

^aWith $(\text{PPh}_3)_4\text{Pd}$ (5 mol%), THF, reflux, 1 h. The molar equivalents are given in parentheses. ^bThe yields are isolated yields. ^cThe diastereoselection has been found to be nearly perfect (>99%) judged by ¹H NMR spectrum and GC-MS analysis of the acetate of **5**. The GLC analysis was performed using Hewlett Packard 5880 GC system (column: Hewlett Packard SE-54, 0.2 mm x 16 mm, oven temp.: 150 → 300 °C, carrier gas: N₂, 1.0 mL/min, injection temperature: 280 °C). The retention time of the acetate of **5** was 7.95 min. ^dThe diastereoselectivity of **9** was determined ~92 % by ¹H NMR analysis with Eu(hfc)₃ and capillary GLC analysis of the acetate of **9**.

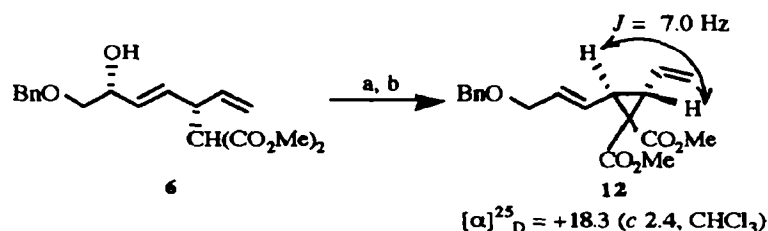
To establish the relative stereochemistry of the newly introduced C-S bonds in **5** and **8**, the β -hydroxy sulfides **5** and **8** were converted¹⁴ to the corresponding vinyl *trans*-epoxides **10⁶** and **11⁶**, respectively, by treating with trimethyloxonium tetrafluoroborate followed by 10% aqueous NaOH. The *trans*-epoxides were inferred from ¹H NMR (200 MHz) coupling constants of the two vicinal protons of the epoxides.¹⁵ Alternatively, the epoxide **10** was returned to the *threo* compound **5** by the reaction¹⁶ with PhSH (Scheme 1).



Reagents: (a) Me_3OBF_4 (1 equiv), CH_2Cl_2 , rt, 2 h (b) 10% NaOH (aq.), rt, 30 min (c) PhSH, Et_3N , MeOH, rt, 1 h.

Scheme 1.

On the other hand, to deduce the relative stereochemistry of C-C bond in **6**, the compound **6** was converted to the carbonate followed by cyclopropanation¹⁷ to afford **12**⁶ of which structure was confirmed from the coupling constant ($J = 7.0$ Hz, *trans* coupling) of ^1H NMR (200 MHz) (Scheme 2).



Reagents: (a) EtOCOC l, DMAP, pyridine, rt, 1 h (97%) (b) $\text{Pd}_2(\text{dba})_3\text{CHCl}_3$, dppe, THF, rt, 6 h (61%).

Scheme 2

In summary, using allylic and dienyl cyclic carbonates as substrates, Pd(0)-catalyzed reaction with nucleophiles afforded α -, γ -, or ϵ -substituted products with high regio- and diastereoselectivity.

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References and Notes

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