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Palladium Catalyzed Arylation of N-Alkyl O-Allyl Carbamates: Synthesis of Cinnamyl Alcohols via Heck Arylation

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Abstract: N-Alkyl O-cinnamyl carbamates (3) were prepared in good yields by palladium catalyzed arylation of N-alkyl O-allyl carbamates (2) with aryl iodides.

Heck type arylation of allylic alcohols with aromatic¹ and heteroaromatic halides² is an efficient entry to the preparation of aromatic-substituted alkyl aldehydes and ketones (eq 1). Jeffery³ recently reported that the similar reaction, in the presence of a stoichiometric amount of silver acetates, altered the course of the reaction, providing cinnamyl alcohols in synthetically useful yields (eq 2, XY = H). Based on the selective formation of $\alpha,\beta,\gamma,\delta$ -unsaturated alcohols by the reaction of allyl alcohols with either vinyl triflates⁴ or vinyl iodide in the presence of a stoichiometric amount of silver salt,⁵ the alteration of the reaction course was rationalized by assuming a four-membered intermediate I (eq 2),^{5,6} where the hydrogen atom (H_{\alpha}) on the hydroxyl-bearing carbon is located unfavorably toward a syn palladium-hydride elimination and only the H_{\alpha} protons can participate in this dehydropalladation. Here the poor coordinating ability of a triflate anion or the sequestration of halide ion by silver cation, both of which may serve to generate an electron-deficient Pd(II) center, seems to promote the formation of a rather strained intermediate I.



Since silver salts are rather expensive and it has been demonstrated that aryl triflate cannot be utilized for the arylation of allylic alcohols,⁴ we examined another route for the cinnamyl alcohol synthesis based on the arylation of allyl alcohols with aryl iodides. Our idea to achieve this is to use such an auxiliary (XY, eq 2) as

being able to coordinate Pd(II) to form a six-membered intermediate II and hence render the $H_{\alpha}Pd$ elimination unfavorable and also being able to be installed and removed⁷ easily before and after the arylation reaction.



By a careful, systematic examination of the influence of a variety of auxiliaries [XY = C(=0)NHR, C(=0)SEt, $^8 C(=S)SMe$, $^9 CH_2SCH_3$, $CH_2OCH_2CH_2OCH_3$, $CH_2NHCO_2CH_2Ph]$, catalysts $[Pd(PPh_3)_4$, $Pd_2(dba)_3$ -CHCl₃, a wide range of ratios of $Pd(OAc)_2$ to ligands (*n*-Bu₃P, (*o*-Tol)₃P, Ph₂PCH₂CH₂CPPh₂, or Ph₂PCH₂CH₂CPh₂)], solvents (DMF, dioxane, acetonitrile, benzene), bases (K₂CO₃, NaHCO₃, Cs_2CO_3 , Et_3N), and temperature (50 - 110°C), we have been able to arrive at optimal conditions for the formation of the desired cinnamyl alcohol derivatives 3 (eq 3): 10 equiv of aryl iodide, 1 equiv of *N*-alkyl *O*-allyl carbamate **2a-c**, 0.1 equiv¹⁰ of Pd(OAc)₂, 0.2 equiv of *n*-Bu₃P, and 1.3 equiv of K₂CO₃ at 80 °C in DMF (5 mL/mmol of 2). Results for the arylation of *O*-allyl carbamates **2a-c** (eq 3) and allyl ethers **5a-c** (eq 4) are summarized in Tables 1 and 2, respectively.



The reaction accommodates important organic functionalities (Table 1) and the presence or absence of electron-donating or withdrawing groups on aryl iodide shows only a little effect on the yield and selectivity (3 vs. 4), except for o- and p-nitrophenyl iodides. These iodides provided mixtures of 3 and 4 only in less than 10% combined yields. Use of 10 equiv of aryl iodide (condition A, Table 1) is important to attain satisfactory yield. With 1.3 equiv of aryl iodide (condition B, Table 1), the reaction goes to completion, but the combined isolated yield of 3 and 4 is reduced generally to less than two third the corresponding one obtained under the condition A.

The yield and product selectivity (3 vs. 4) could be remarkably improved by a slight modification of the N-substituent of 2^{11} (2b vs. 2a; runs 1 and 2 and 6 and 7, Table 1). The R² alkyl derivatives of 2a provided 3 exclusively (runs 15 - 21, Table 1).

The complete absence of products due to $H_{\alpha}Pd$ elimination (e.g., vinyl carbamates, dihydrocinnamaldehydes) may indicate that the carbamate auxiliary has worked nicely to promote the selective $H_{\gamma}Pd$

run	1 (R ¹)	2 (R ²)	c	ondition	Aa)	condition B ^{b)}			
			reaction time (h)	% con- version	% isolated yield 3/4 ^{c)}	reaction time (h)	% con- versior	% isolated yield 3/4 ^{c)} 1	
1	н	2a (H)	3	100	78/6	2	100	55/3	
2	н	2b (H)	7	100	88/0				
3	н	2c (H)	3	100	81/9				
4	₀-OMe	2a (H)	7	100	70/0	26	96	21/5	
5	<i>m</i> -OMe	2a (H)	27	100	65/4	24	90	33/5	
6	<i>p</i> -OMe	2a (H)	24	100	67/12	8	100	44/6	
7	<i>p</i> -OMe	2b (H)	24	100	80/10				
8	<i>o</i> -Me	2a (H)	51	100	56/4	27	100	56/0	
9	<i>m</i> -Me	2a (H)	19	100	64/5	24	95	41/4	
10	<i>p</i> -Me	2a (H)	8	100	70/7	21	100	57/4	
11	<i>m</i> -Cl	2a (H)	10	100	66/3				
12	<i>m</i> -CO₂Me	2a (H)	7	100	64/6	4	100	68/3	
13	<i>p</i> -CO₂Me	2a (H)	7	100	80/6	4	94	46/8	
14	m-NO ₂	2a (H)	27	100	65/6	24	100	48/6	
15	н	2a (Me)	3	100	84/0				
16	<i>m</i> -OMe	2a (Me)	9	100	86/0				
17	o-Me	2a (Me)	7	100	84/0				
18	p-CO₂Me	2a (Me)	27	100	61/0				
19	н	2a (Et)	8	100	72/0				
20	н	2a (<i>i</i> -Pr)	8	100	76/0				
21	н	2a (<i>i</i> -Bu)	8	100	88/0				

Table 1. Palladium Catalyzed Arylation of N-Alkyl O-Allyl Carbamates 2

a) Condition A: any iodide (10 mmol), carbamate 2 (1 mmol), Pd(OAc)₂ (0.1 mmol), *n*-Bu₃P (0.2 mmol), K₂CO₃ (1.3 mmol) in DMF (5 mL) under N₂ at 80 °C.

b) Condition B: anyl iodide (1.3 mmol), carbamate 2 (1 mmol), Pd(OAc)₂ (0.1 mmol), *n*-Bu₃P (0.2 mmol), K₂CO₃ (1.3 mmol) in DMF (5 mL) under N₂ at 80 °C.

c) As a mixture of 3 and 4 after column chromatography over silica gel. The ratio determined by ¹H NMR

elimination from II (eq 2). In this respect, ethereal auxiliaries (5a-c), on the other hand, turned out ineffective and provided vinyl ether derivatives 7 and 8 in substantial quantities (runs 1 - 4, Table 2).¹²

run		allyl ether 5	phosphine	temp.	time	%	% isolated yield			
		(A)	(mmol)	(°C)	(h)	conversion	6	7	8	9
1	5a :	SCH ₃	(<i>n</i> -Bu) ₃ P (0.2)	80	2	100	43	7	12	0
2	5a:	SCH ₃	(<i>o</i> -tol) ₃ P (0.3)	50	3	100	57	9	9	0
3	5b:	OCH ₂ CH ₂ OCH ₃	(<i>n</i> -Bu) ₃ P (0.2)	50	9	100	44 b)	19	9	11
4	5b:	OCH ₂ CH ₂ OCH ₃	(<i>o</i> -tol) ₃ P (0.3)	80	24	81	22b)	15	21	7
5	5c:	NHCO ₂ CH ₂ Ph	(<i>n</i> -Bu) ₃ P (0.2)	80	2	100	32	0	0	8

Table 2. Palladium Catalyzed Reaction of Allyl Ethers 5 with Phenyl Iodidea)

a) Phenyl iodide (1.3 mmol), 5 (1 mmol), Pd(OAc)₂ (0.1 mmol), phosphine (0.2-0.3 mmol), K₂CO₃ (1.3 mmol) in DMF (5 mL).

b) As mixtures of 6 and 9 and 7 and 8 after column chromatography over silica gel. The ratio was determined by ¹H NMR.

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- (7) Allylic carbamates 2 and 3 were formed (R-NCO (1 equiv)/Et₃N (0.5 equiv) or BF₃-OEt₂ (1 equiv), r.t., in ether) and hydrolyzed (KOH (6 equiv), 2 N in MeOH, reflux), respectively, in 75 90% yields.
- (8) Allyl thiocarbonate was unreactive and recovered under the condition of run 1, Table 2.
- (9) Allyl dithiocarbonate decomposed under the condition of run 1, Table 2.
- (10) The amount of Pd(OAc)₂ may be reduced to 0.05 equiv at a slight expense in yield, e.g., a mixture of 3 and 4 (91:9) in 77% isolated yield for 3 h at 80°C (cf. run 1, Table 1).
- (11) 2d ($\mathbb{R}^2 = \mathbb{H}$), under the condition of run 1, Table 1, provided a mixture of 3 and 4 (91:9) in 60% yield together with *N*-*p*-toluenesulfonylcinnamylamine (8%).
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