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A Direct and Convenient Approach Toward 2-Alkenylcarbapenems via the Heck Reaction

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Abstract: Synthesis of 2-alkenylcarbapenems via the Heck reaction of carbapenem-2-yl triflate with mono-substituted alkenes is described. This method enables direct introduction of a variety of functionalized alkenyl substituents into the C-2 position without conversion into alkenylstannanes or alkenylboranes. Copyright © 1996 Elsevier Science Ltd

Carbapenem antibiotics have been of recent interest among β-lactam antibiotics due to their potent and broad-spectrum antibacterial activity¹. Although many successful syntheses of carbapenems have been known², only recently have carbon side chains been directly introduced into the C-2 position of the carbapenem skeleton via carbon-carbon bond formation. 2-Aryl^{3a,b}, alkenyl^{3b,d}, and alkylcarbapenems^{3c} have been synthesized by palladium-catalyzed cross-coupling reactions of organostannanes or organoboranes with carbapenem-2-yl triflates. These methods allow us to synthesize a wide variety of 2-substituted derivatives from a well-known intermediate, but organostannanes or organoboranes are still necessary in these processes. One reaction which can provide alkenyl-alkenyl coupling from alkenes and alkenyl halides or triflates is the Heck reaction⁴ which has been known for more than two decades. Here we report the Heck reaction of carbapenem-2-yl triflate with substituted alkenes and demonstrate its usefulness for the synthesis of 2-alkenylcarbapenems.

The reaction of carbapenem-2-yl triflate $1^{3a,b,c}$ with 4-methoxybenzyl N-allylcarbamate 2a proceeded readily in the presence of 5 mol% of Pd(dba)₂ and K₃PO₄ in DMF at 60°C to give 2-alkenylcarbapenem 3a in 78% yield. The olefin configuration of the product was determined to be of *E*-geometry by ¹H NMR analysis of the vinylic protons (J = 16.4 Hz). None of the Z-olefin product was detected. This reaction could be

carried out using several alkenes having various functional groups, such as ester, acetal, and acetoxy groups. A representative procedure is as follows: To a stirred solution of freshly prepared enol triflate 1 (265 mg, 0.45 mmol)⁵ and 4-methoxybenzyl N-allylcarbamate 2a (198 mg, 0.89 mmol) in DMF (2 ml) were added at r.t. Pd(dba)₂ (13 mg, 0.022 mmol, 5 mol%) and potassium phosphate (114 mg, 0.54 mmol). After being stirred at r.t. for 1 h, the reaction mixture was heated to 60°C for 1 h. The mixture was then cooled to r.t., poured into water, and extracted with EtOAc. The extracts were washed with water and brine, dried over MgSO₄, and evaporated *in vacuo*. Purification of the residue by silica gel column chromatography gave the cross-coupling product 3a (231 mg) in 78% yield as a white powder⁶.

Screening of various palladium catalysts revealed that this Heck reaction proceeds only when $Pd(dba)_2$ or $Pd(OAc)_2$ is used. Use of $Pd(Ph_3P)_4$, $PdCl_2(Ph_3P)_2$, or $PdCl_2(allyl)_2$ resulted in no desired coupling product or only a trace amount under our reaction conditions. Although most of the coupling reactions gave high yields of desired products, one exception was the reaction with allyl alcohol, which gave aldehyde 4^7 (21%) as well as the desired coupling product 3f. One plausible explanation for this result would be the two possible directions of β -hydride elimination during the catalytic cycle.

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References and Notes

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- 5. The substrate 1^{3c} was purified by rapid, short column chromatography just before use.
- 7. Physical data for compound 4: IR (CHCl₃) v 1769, 1717 cm⁻¹; ¹H-NMR(200 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 0.59(q, J = 8.0 Hz, 6 H), 0.94 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 9 H), 1.12 (d, J = 7.4 Hz, 3 H), 1.26 (d, J = 6.0 Hz, 3 H), 2.34-2.80 (m, 3 H), 2.91-3.15 (m, 2 H), 3.18 (dd, J = 6.6 Hz, 2.8 Hz, 1 H), 3.80 (s, 3 H), 4.09 (dd, J = 9.0 Hz, 2.8 Hz, 1 H), 4.20 (quint, J = 6.2 Hz, 1 H), 5.17 and 5.23 (ABq, J = 12.0 Hz, 2 H), 6.88 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2 H), 7.37 (d, J = 8.6 Hz, 2 H), 9.71 (t, J = 1.2 Hz, 1 H); HR-MS Calcd for C₂₇H₃₉NO₆SiNa [M+Na]⁺ 524.2442, Found 524.2442.
- 8. All new compounds were analyzed by IR, ¹H-NMR, MS and/or ¹³C-NMR spectroscopies.