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Pd-mediated synthesis of 2-arylquinolines and tetrahydropyridines from modified Baylis–Hillman adducts

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Abstract

We synthesized 2-arylquinolines and tetrahydropyridines via palladium-mediated Heck type reactions starting from the Baylis– Hillman adducts. 2-Arylquinolines were prepared via the Heck type cyclization followed by concomitant aerobic oxidation. © 2008 Elsevier Ltd. All rights reserved.

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Although palladium-mediated cyclizations have been investigated extensively using various substrates, examples on the synthesis of heterocyclic compounds starting from Baylis–Hillman adducts were somewhat limited.^{[1](#page-3-0)} Trost and co-workers used Pd-mediated synthesis of dihydrobenzofuran from Baylis–Hillman adducts.^{1e,f} Very recently Lamaty and co-workers reported the synthesis of nitrogencontaining seven-membered ring compounds and oxygencontaining five-membered ring compounds (Scheme 1).^{1a-c} In addition, Vasudevan and co-workers reported the

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synthesis of seven-membered cyclic compounds containing sulfonamide linkage ([Scheme 1](#page-0-0)).^{1d}

However, Heck type cyclizations using Baylis–Hillman adducts as starting materials for the synthesis of quinolines has not been reported to the best of our knowledge ([Scheme 1](#page-0-0)). 1^{-3} Syntheses of suitably substituted quinolines have received much attention due to their biological activity and the usefulness of them in organic synthesis for further transformations. $2-4$ In these contexts, we decided to examine the feasibility for the synthesis of quinolines starting from Baylis–Hillman adducts. [Scheme 1](#page-0-0) showed our synthetic rationale, which involved Pd-mediated Heck reaction (6-*endo*) and concomitant aerobic oxidation.^{[5](#page-3-0)}

Thus we synthesized starting material 2a from Baylis– Hillman acetate 1a and 2-bromoaniline by using the wellknown DABCO salt concept (sequential $S_N^2/ - S_N^2$) displacement reaction as in Scheme 2) in the Baylis–Hillman chemistry.^{2c,d,h} However, the introduction of 2-bromoaniline at the secondary position required very long reaction time (7–14 days at room temperature).^{2c,d} When we elevated the reaction temperature the reaction showed the formation of many side products to make the separation of desired product tedious and make the yield eventually low. Actually the best yield of compound $2a(56%)$ was obtained at room temperature after 7 days. With this compound 2a in our hand, we examined a few reaction conditions and we found that the conditions of Lamaty $(Pd(OAc)₂/K₂CO₃/PEG-3400/DMF/80-90 °C)^{1a-c} showed$ the best results.^{[6](#page-3-0)} We obtained desired 2-phenylquinoline-3-carboxylic acid derivative 4a directly in moderate yield (58%) , $^{4d-f,7}$ presumably via the Pd-mediated aerobic oxida-tion^{[5](#page-3-0)} of the intermediate dihydroquinoline $3a$ (Scheme 2). Encouraged by the results, we prepared $2b-g$ (40–71%) from the reactions between the corresponding Baylis– Hillman acetates and 2-bromoanilines. After that, we examined the generality of the novel one-pot reaction of sequential Heck type cyclization and the following aerobic oxidation. The results are summarized in Table 1. Desired quinolines 4b–g were obtained in 53–69% yields in short time in a one-pot reaction.

Table 1

Pd-mediated cyclizations of modified Baylis–Hillman adducts

^a Conditions: (i) Baylis–Hillman acetates 1 (1.0 equiv), aq THF, DABCO (1.1 equiv), rt, 15 min; (ii) 2-bromoanilines (1.0 equiv), rt, 7–14 days (7 days for

2a–c and 14 days 2d–g).
^b Conditions: substrate (1.0 equiv), Pd(OAc)₂ (0.1 equiv), K₂CO₃ (2.0 equiv), PEG-3400, DMF.

As a next step, to synthesize 2,3,5-trisubstituted pyridine derivative such as 7a (vide infra) by using the same protocol of quinolines ([Scheme 2](#page-1-0) and [Table 1](#page-1-0)), we tried the synthesis of 2-bromoprophenylamine $(-NHCH=CCBr)CH₃$ or $-NHCH_2C(Br) = CH_2$) moiety-substituted Baylis–Hillman adducts at the secondary position. However, the synthesis was very difficult, thus we changed our strategy as shown in Scheme 3 involving the use of N-tosyl analog 5a as the starting material instead of N–H analog. We imagined that elimination of p-toluenesulfinic acid and concomitant double bond isomerization process after the Heck cyclization of 5a could provide desired 2,3,5-trisubstituted pyridine 7a (Scheme 4, vide infra). Thus we prepared starting mate-

Table 2 Pd-mediated cyclizations of modified Baylis–Hillman adducts

rials 5a–d as in Scheme 3 and Table 2 by following the process: (i) introduction of tosylamide via the DABCO salt of the corresponding Baylis–Hillman acetates, 2c,d,h (ii) alkylation with 2,3-dibromopropene (for $5a-c$) or with allyl bromide (for 5d). Heck type cyclization of 5a produced exo-methylene tetrahydropyridine 6a in moderate yield (62%) under the conditions of Pd(OAc)₂/K₂CO₃/PEG- $3400/DMF/80-90$ °C (entry 1 in Table 2). However, it was very difficult to convert 6a into the corresponding 2,3,5-trisubstituted pyridine 7a. We obtained only low yield (22%) of **7a** under the influence of 3.0 equiv of Cs_2CO_3 in DMF at elevated temperature (Scheme 4). We synthesized 6b–d under similar conditions in view of the importance of tetrahydropyridines δ and the synthetic applicability of these exo -methylene tetrahydropyridines.^{[8](#page-3-0)} The yield of compound 6d was relatively low (34%) under the same conditions, however, the yield was improved slightly (up to 46%) by using the conditions of Vasudevan $(Pd(OAc))$ $P(o-Tol)₃/Et₃N/100–110 °C$, entry 4).^{1d} The whole results are summarized in Table 2 and further synthetic applications of these compounds are currently underway.

^a Conditions: (i) N-tosyl aza-Baylis–Hillman adducts (1.0 equiv),^{2h} 2.3-dibromopropene (for 5a–c, 1.2 equiv)/allyl bromide (for 5d, 1.2 equiv), K₂CO₃ (1.2 equiv), DMF, rt, 6 h, and the yields refer to the last alkylation step.

^b Compound 6d was obtained in 34% yield under the conditions: Pd(OAc)₂ (0.1 equiv), K₂CO₃ (2.0 equiv), PEG-3400, DMF, 110–120 °C, 4 h.

In summary, we prepared some 2-arylquinoline derivatives via the palladium-mediated sequential cyclization and concomitant aerobic oxidation process in a one-pot reaction from modified Baylis–Hillman adducts. In addition, we prepared some exo-methylene tetrahydropyridine derivatives.

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- 6. We examined a few conditions involving the variation of base (K_2CO_3) , $Cs₂CO₃$, Et₃N) and solvent (CH₃CN, DMF).
- 7. Typical procedure for the synthesis of 2a and 4a: To a stirred solution of the Baylis–Hillman acetate (1a, 234 mg, 1.0 mmol) in aqueous THF

(5 mL, 1:1) was added DABCO (123 mg, 1.1 mmol) at room temperature. After 15 min, 2-bromoaniline (172 mg, 1.0 mmol) was added to the reaction mixture and stirred at room temperature for 7 days. After the usual aqueous workup and column chromatographic purification process (hexanes/ether, 95:5) we obtained 2a (194 mg, 56%) as colorless oil. A stirred mixture of 2a (173 mg, 0.5 mmol), palladium acetate (11 mg, 0.05 mmol, 10 mol %), K_2CO_3 (138 mg, 1.0 mmol) in PEG-3400 (160 mg)/DMF (2 mL) was heated to 80–90 °C for 2 h under N₂. After the usual aqueous workup and column chromatographic purification process (hexanes/EtOAc, 9:1) we obtained $4a$ (77 mg, 58%) as colorless oil. Other compounds were synthesized analogously and some selected spectroscopic data of compounds 2a, 4a, 4e, 5a, 6a, and 6d are as follows: Compound 2a: colorless oil; 56%; IR (film) 3410, 1720, 1593, 1496 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 3.72 (s, 3H), 4.85 (br s, 1H), 5.50 (s, 1H), 5.89 (s, 1H), 6.39 (s, 1H), 6.52–6.61 (m, 2H), 7.09–7.15 (m, 1H), 7.29–7.44 (m, 6H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz) δ 52.02, 58.60, 109.95, 112.52, 118.40, 126.26, 127.43, 127.94, 128.38, 128.85, 132.37, 139.90, 139.97, 143.44, 166.51; ESIMS m/z 346 (M⁺+1).

Compound 4a: colorless oil; 58%; IR (film) 2924, 1730, 1487, 1269, 1232 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 3.74 (s, 3H), 7.42–7.51 (m, 3H), 7.58–7.66 (m, 3H), 7.79–7.85 (m, 1H), 7.92 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 8.20 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 8.66 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz) δ 52.41, 125.06, 125.80, 127.27, 128.21 (2C), 128.55, 128.66, 129.57, 131.62, 139.20, 140.55, 148.45, 158.03, 168.37; ESIMS m/z 264 (M++1). Anal. Calcd for $C_{17}H_{13}NO_2$: C, 77.55; H, 4.98; N, 5.32. Found: C, 77.41; H, 5.12; N, 5.24.

Compound 4e: colorless oil; 60%; IR (film) 2949, 1728, 1437, 1269 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 2.56 (s, 3H), 3.73 (s, 3H), 7.42–7.50 (m, 3H), 7.61–7.65 (m, 4H), 8.07 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 8.55 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz) δ 21.57, 52.33, 124.95, 125.81, 126.91, 128.15, 128.49, 128.50, 129.18, 133.95, 137.28, 138.47, 140.64, 147.06, 157.11, 168.50; ESIMS m/z 278 (M⁺+1). Anal. Calcd for C₁₈H₁₅NO₂: C, 77.96; H, 5.45; N, 5.05. Found: C, 78.04; H, 5.42; N, 4.97.

Compound 5a: sticky oil; 92%; IR (KBr) 2952, 1724, 1630, 1439 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 2.41 (s, 3H), 3.62 (s, 3H), 4.08 (d, $J = 17.7$ Hz, 1H), 4.21 (d, $J = 17.7$ Hz, 1H), 5.29–5.31 (m, 1H), 5.50– 5.52 (m, 1H), 5.59 (d, $J = 1.5$ Hz, 1H), 6.22 (s, 1H), 6.39 (d, $J = 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.06–7.09 (m, 2H), 7.20–7.23 (m, 5H), 7.62 (d, $J = 8.1$ Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz) δ 21.52, 52.08, 53.43, 62.12, 118.79, 127.60, 127.93, 128.01, 128.52, 128.56, 128.68, 129.41, 136.46, 137.25, 138.65, 143.54, 166.19; ESIMS m/z 464 (M⁺+1).

Compound 6a: colorless oil; 62%; IR (film) 2925, 1726, 1342, 1163 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 2.38 (s, 3H), 3.67 (s, 3H), 3.62–3.68 (m, 1H), 4.37 (d, J = 16.8 Hz, 1H), 5.19 (s, 1H), 5.24 (s, 1H), 6.00 (s, 1H), 7.06 $(s, 1H)$, 7.16 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2H), 7.27–7.33 (m, 5H), 7.61 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2H); 13C NMR (CDCl3, 75 MHz) d 21.51, 43.10, 52.11, 55.36, 120.27, 127.46, 128.15, 128.16, 128.53 (2C), 129.26, 135.70, 136.55, 137.37, 137.42, 143.44, 165.43; ESIMS m/z 384 (M⁺+1). Anal. Calcd for $C_{21}H_{21}NO_4S$: C, 65.78; H, 5.52; N, 3.65. Found: C, 65.57; H, 5.76; N, 3.39.

Compound 6d: colorless oil; 46%; IR (film) 2924, 1724, 1599, 1439 cm⁻¹;
¹H NMP (CDCL 300 MHz) $\frac{5}{2}$ 226 (s. 3H) 3.83 (s. 3H) 4.12 (d. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, 300 MHz) δ 2.26 (s, 3H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 4.12 (d, $J = 17.1$ Hz, 1H), 4.42 (d, $J = 17.1$ Hz, 1H), 4.94 (s, 1H), 5.08 (s, 1H), 5.42 $(s, 1H), 6.13 (s, 1H), 6.33 (s, 1H), 6.94 (d, J = 8.4 Hz, 2H), 6.95-7.00 (m,$ 1H), 7.05–7.18 (m, 2H), 7.30–7.34 (m, 1H), 7.45 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 2H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 75 MHz) δ 21.33, 45.34, 52.26, 57.07, 109.44, 123.59, 127.46, 127.69, 127.77, 128.13, 128.73, 129.71, 131.45, 132.00, 135.20, 136.13, 140.50, 142.90, 166.22; ESIMS m/z 384 (M⁺+1). Anal. Calcd for $C_{21}H_{21}NO_4S$: C, 65.78; H, 5.52; N, 3.65. Found: C, 65.63; H, 5.85; N, 3.49.

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