Literature Report VI

Palladium/L-Proline-Catalyzed Enantioselective *α*-Arylative Desymmetrization of Cyclohexanones

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Jia, Y.-X. *et al. J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2016**, *138*, 5198.







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The aforementioned approaches are very limited to the construction of quaternary carbon stereocenters: α -H atom of the tertiary carbon stereocenter is more acidic and prone to racemization under basic conditions.





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Racemic α-Arylation of Cyclohexanones



Solé, D.; Bonjoch, J. et al. Org. Lett. 2000, 2, 2225.



Solé, D. et al. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2003, 125, 1587.

Optimization of Reaction Conditions



^a Method A: Pd(PPh₃)₄ (0.2 eq.), KO^tBu (3 eq.), THF, reflux, 3.5 h.
 Method B: PdCl₂(PPh₃)₂ (0.2 eq.), Cs₂CO₃ (3 eq.), THF, 100-110 °C, 24 h.
 Method C: Pd(PPh₃)₄ (0.2 eq.), K₃PO₄ (3 eq.), THF, 100-110 °C, 24 h.
 ^b The yield refers to pure isolated products. ^c Pd(PPh₃)₄ (0.1 eq.). ^d 48 h.

Optimization of Reaction Conditions



Entry	Substrate	Methoda	Product	
7	3	A		
8	3	В	4	33
9	3	С	4	38
10	5	A	6	48
11	5	Be	6	92
12	5	С	6	35

^a Method A: Pd(PPh₃)₄ (0.2 eq.), KO^fBu (3 eq.), THF, reflux, 3.5 h. Method B: PdCl₂(PPh₃)₂ (0.2 eq.), Cs₂CO₃ (3 eq.), THF, 100-110 °C, 24 h. Method C: Pd(PPh₃)₄ (0.2 eq.), K₃PO₄ (3 eq.), THF, 100-110 °C, 24 h.
^b The yield refers to pure isolated products. ^c Pd(PPh₃)₄ (0.1 eq.). ^d 48 h.
^e PdCl₂(PPh₃)₂ (0.3 eq.), 48 h.







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Asymmetric *α***-Arylation of Cyclohexanones**

Racemic α -Arylation of Cyclohexanones



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a) Proposed α -arylation of ketone via palladium/enamine catalysis



b) *a*-Arylative desymmetrization of cyclohexanone



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Optimization of Reaction Conditions

l 1a	Br N Bn	L-Proline (10 mol O Pd(OAc) ₂ (5 mol% PPh ₃ (12 mol%) Additive (1.5 eq. Base (1.5 eq.) THF, 85 °C	$ \overset{\%)}{}_{)} \qquad \qquad$	O N I Bn
Entry	Base	Additive	Yield (%)	Ee (%)
1	Cs ₂ CO ₃		60	23
2	NaO [#] Bu		71	<10
3	K ₃ PO ₄		60	60
4	K ₂ CO ₃		NR	
5	K ₃ PO ₄	4-NO ₂ C ₆ H ₄ CO ₂ H	60	73
6	K ₃ PO ₄	2-NO ₂ C ₆ H ₄ CO ₂ H	20	70
7	K ₃ PO ₄	2-MeOC ₆ H ₄ CO ₂ H	40	72
8	K ₃ PO ₄	3-CIC ₆ H ₄ CO ₂ H	87	73
9	K ₃ PO ₄	CF ₃ COOH	79	81
10	K ₃ PO ₄	CH₃COOH	95	76

Optimization of Reaction Conditions



Entry ^a	Solvent	[Pd]	T (°C)	Yield (%) ^b	Ee (%) ^c
11	DMSO	Pd(OAc) ₂	85	10	ND
12	Toluene	Pd(OAc) ₂	85	70	20
13	MeOH	Pd(OAc) ₂	85	91	97
14	MeOH	Pd(dba) ₂	85	70	63
15	MeOH	Pd(PPh ₃) ₄	85	50	76
16 ^d	MeOH	Pd(OAc) ₂	70	31	ND

^{*a*} Reaction conditions: **1a** (0.2 mmol), [Pd] (5 mol%), PPh₃ (12 mol%), L-proline (10 mol%), Base (0.3 mmpl), Solvent (2.0 mL), 85 °C, 48 h. ^{*b*} Isolated yield. ^{*c*} Determined by HPLC. ^{*d*} 60 h.





^a With 12 mol% Cy₃P·HBF₄ instead of PPh₃.







Synthetic Transformations



Control Experiments

Ν

Β'n

9



CH₃COOH (1.5 eq.)

K₃PO₄ (1.5 eq.)

MeOH, 85 °C, 10 h



2a

86%, 93% ee Bn

Summary



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Transition-metal-catalyzed enantioselective α -arylation of carbonyls represents one of the most important approaches to optically active α aryl carbonyl compounds. Since the seminal studies from the groups of Buchwald, Hartwig, and Miura, a range of carbonyl compounds have been investigated in enantioselective cross-coupling with aryl halides, including ketones, aldehydes, esters, and amides. However, the aforementioned approaches are very limited to the construction of quaternary carbon stereocenters because the benzylic α -H atom of the tertiary carbon stereocenter is more acidic and prone to racemization under basic conditions.

In addition, the demand of commercially unavailable chiral ligands still remains an issue for these transformations. It is noteworthy that a few other catalytic enantioselective arylation protocols to generate α -carbonyl benzylic tertiary stereocenters have been developed, including (1) cross-coupling of α -halo carbonyls with arylmetal reagents, (2) electrophilic coupling of diaryliodonium salts with silv enolates, or aldehydes, and (3) cross-coupling of aryl triflates with silvl ketene acetals or tin enolates. In comparison, the direct coupling of readily available aryl halides with α -C-H bonds of carbonyl moieties to form the tertiary carbon stereocenters is highly attractive from the viewpoint of atom economy and step efficiency.

In conclusion, we have developed a new strategy for the enantioselective α arylative desymmetrization of cyclohexanones by using palladium/chiral amine catalysis. A series of optically active morphan derivatives bearing α carbonyl tertiary stereocenters were produced in good yields with excellent enantioselectivities. The present protocol offers new opportunities for the development of enantioselective α -arylation of ketones.