

Palladium-Catalyzed Alkene Carbodiamination Reactions of Ureas for the Synthesis of Heterocycles

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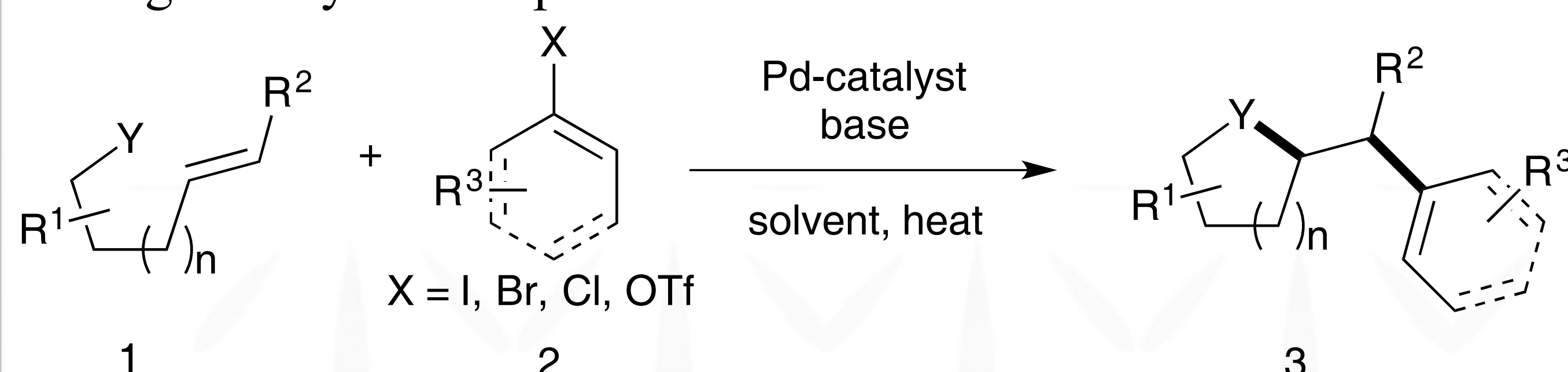
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Abstract: A Pd-catalyzed difunctionalization reaction between *N*-allylureas and *O*-benzoylhydroxylamines which affords cyclic ureas bearing alkylaminomethyl groups is described. The desired products are obtained in good yield and the mechanism of the reaction appears to involve anti-aminopalladation of the alkene followed by a rare sp³C–sp³N bond-forming reductive elimination from a Pd(II) complex with b-hydrogen atoms.

Key words: Pd-catalyzed difunctionalization, anti-aminopalladation

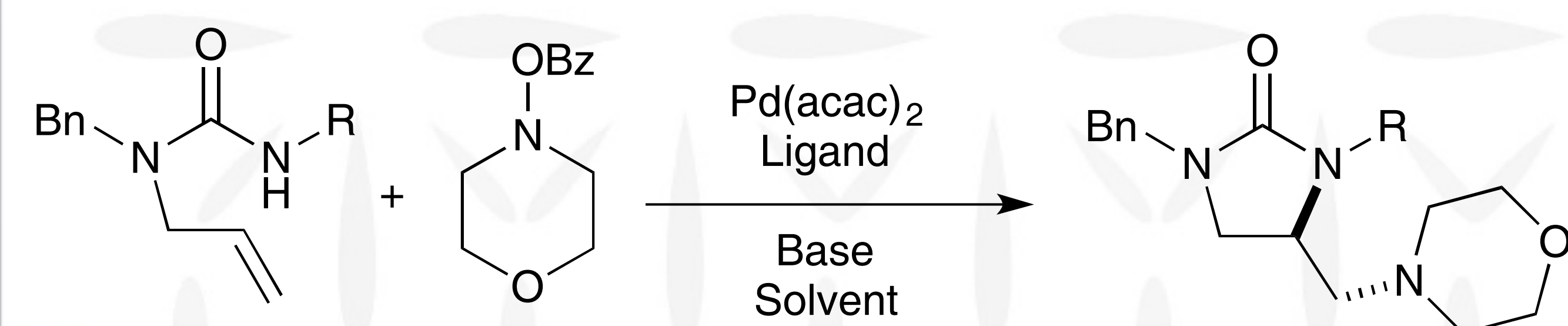
Introduction

Over the past decade, Pd-catalyzed alkene difunctionalization reactions between aryl or alkenyl halides or triflates and alkenes bearing pendant nucleophiles have been proven to be efficient ways to construct heterocycles. For example, treatment of an alkene bearing a pendant heteroatom (1) with an aryl or alkenyl halide or triflate (2) affords heterocyclic product (3) with good yield and high stereoselectivity (Scheme 1). The majority of Pd-catalyzed alkene carbodiamination reactions that have been reported undergoes a syn-heteropalladation of the alkene.



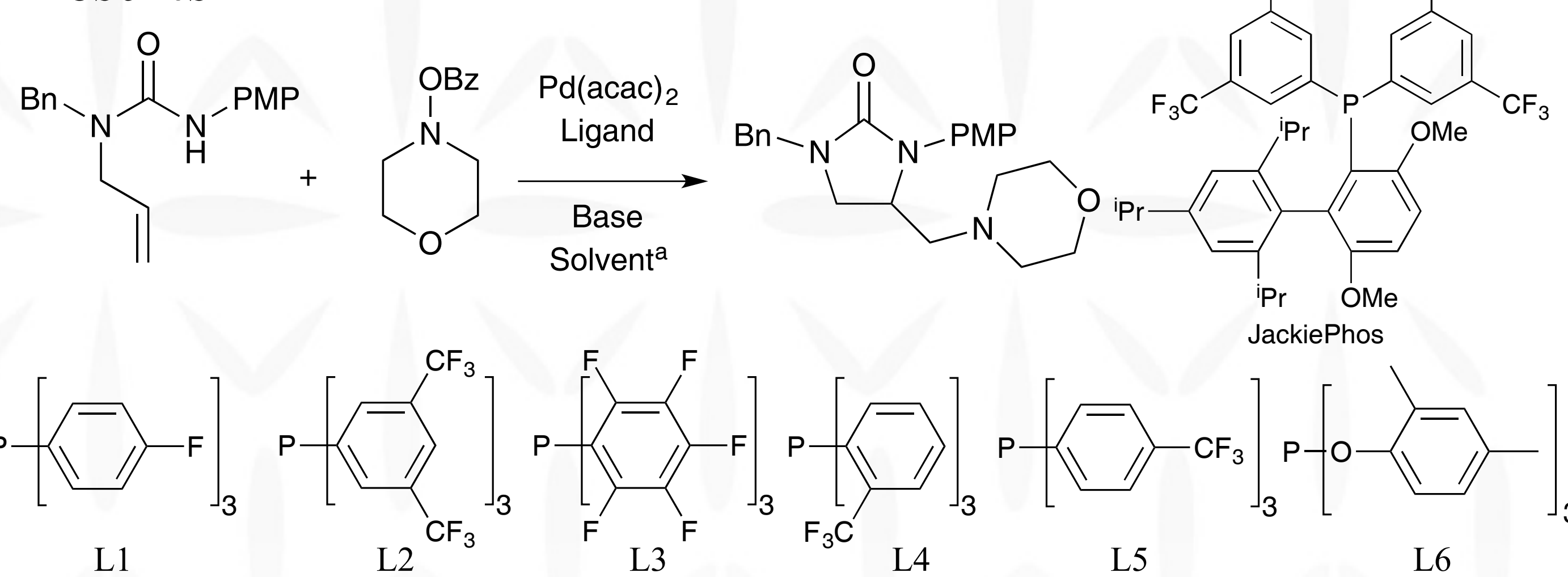
Scheme 1: Pd-Catalyzed Alkene Carbodiamination

In recent years the use of *O*-acylated hydroxylamine derivatives as electrophiles in metal-catalyzed reactions has attracted considerable attention. This work is investigating the utility of these electrophiles in alkene diamination reactions (Scheme 2). According to former work, this reaction is believed to undergo *anti*-palladation and the final step in catalytic cycle would be an sp³C–sp³N bond-forming reductive elimination, which is a very rare organometallic transformation, and was expected to be challenging.



Scheme 2: Pd-Catalyzed Carbodiamination Reaction

Results



Entry	Ligand	Ligand/%	Base	Solvent	Yield/% ^b
1	JackiePhos	6	Cs ₂ CO ₃	dioxane	61
2	JackiePhos	8	Cs ₂ CO ₃	dioxane	63
3	JackiePhos	12	Cs ₂ CO ₃	dioxane	70
4	JackiePhos	16	Cs ₂ CO ₃	dioxane	Trace
5	JackiePhos	6	LiO ^t Bu	dioxane	NP
6	JackiePhos	6	NaO ^t Bu	dioxane	NP
7	JackiePhos	6	K ₃ PO ₄	dioxane	NP
8	JackiePhos	12	Na ₂ CO ₃	dioxane	NP
9	JackiePhos	12	K ₂ CO ₃	dioxane	NP
10	JackiePhos	12	CsF	dioxane	NP
11	JackiePhos	12	Cs ₂ CO ₃	toluene	34
12	JackiePhos	12	Cs ₂ CO ₃	trifluorotoluene	53
13	JackiePhos	12	Cs ₂ CO ₃	xylene	42
14	L1	12	Cs ₂ CO ₃	dioxane	NP
15	L2	12	Cs ₂ CO ₃	dioxane	47
16	L3	12	Cs ₂ CO ₃	dioxane	NP
17	L4	12	Cs ₂ CO ₃	dioxane	NP
18	L5	12	Cs ₂ CO ₃	dioxane	NP
19	L6	12	Cs ₂ CO ₃	dioxane	31

^aConditions: 1.0 equiv. substrate, 3.0 equiv. nucleophile, 4% Palladium salt, 2 equiv. base, dioxane (0.1M), reflux, 24h. Reactions are conducted on 0.2mmol scale. ^bNMR yield.

Conclusion

In conclusion, a new class of Pd-catalyzed alkene diamination reactions that involve the coupling of *O*-benzoyl hydroxylamine derived electrophiles with *N*-allylguanidine or urea derivatives is developed. Ether solvent works better than aromatic ones. The amount of ligand and base can effect the results tremendously. More electron-poor and bulky ligand facilitate the reaction. Base plays an important role rather than simply deprotonating but the exact effect of it remains unknown.

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