

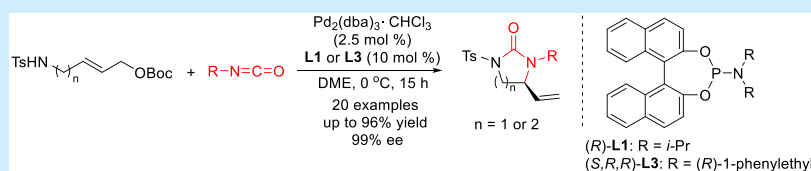
Pd-Catalyzed Asymmetric Allylic Cycloaddition of N-Containing Allylic Carbonates with Isocyanates

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Supporting Information



ABSTRACT: An efficient method for the enantioselective synthesis of cyclic ureas has been developed through Pd-catalyzed asymmetric allylic cycloaddition of readily accessible nitrogen-containing allylic carbonates with isocyanates. By using a palladium complex in situ generated from $\text{Pd}_2(\text{dba})_3 \cdot \text{CHCl}_3$ and phosphoramidite **L1** or **L3** as a ligand under mild reaction conditions, the process afforded imidazolidinones and tetrahydropyrimidinones with high yields and high levels of enantioselectivities.

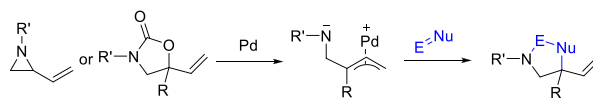
The Pd-catalyzed allylic cycloaddition via zwitterionic allylpalladium intermediates has been extensively studied for the preparation of a variety of cyclic frameworks.¹ Various allylic donors have been productively applied in the transformations with diverse unsaturated electrophiles. Since the pioneering work of Ohfuné on the Pd-catalyzed allylic cycloaddition of vinylaziridines with carbon monoxide in 1991,² vinylaziridines have served as efficient 1,3-*C,N*-dipoles in the Pd-catalyzed allylic cycloaddition with various unsaturated electrophiles to afford functionalized aza-heterocycles,³ and the asymmetric variants have also been documented recently (Scheme 1a).⁴ 5-Vinylloxazolidin-2-ones as the vinylaziridine equivalent have recently been applied to Pd-catalyzed decarboxylative allylic cycloadditions with unsaturated electrophiles with high efficiency (Scheme 1a).⁵ Most recently, Tunge and Wang reported Pd-catalyzed asymmetric allylic cycloaddition of vinyl benzoxazinanes with Michael acceptors to provide hydroquinolines with high enantio- and diastereoselectivities.⁶ Subsequently, vinyl benzoxazinanes have served as useful 1,4-*C,N*-dipoles in Pd-catalyzed decarboxylative allylic cycloadditions with a variety of reaction partners to form aza-heterocycles with diverse functionalities (Scheme 1b).⁷

Even though these three types of nitrogen-containing allylic donors have successfully been applied in the Pd-catalyzed allylic cycloaddition, some limitations have emerged, such as limited structural diversity and/or multistep preparation for the allylic substrates.

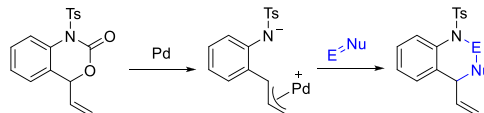
Most recently, our group developed vinyl ethylene carbonates (VECs) as stable and readily accessible *C,O*-dipoles and achieved the Pd-catalyzed asymmetric decarboxylative allylic cycloaddition of VECs with various unsaturated electrophiles to

Scheme 1. Pd-Catalyzed Allylic Cycloaddition of *C,N*-Dipoles

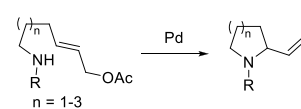
a) Allylic Cycloaddition of Vinylaziridines or Vinylloxazolidinones



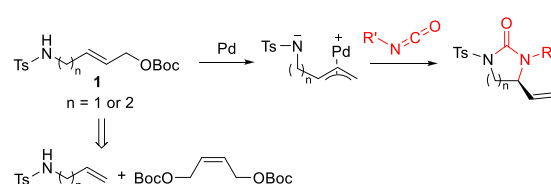
b) Allylic Cycloaddition of Vinyl Benzoxazinanes



c) Intramolecular Allylic Cycloaddition of N-Containing Allylic Donors



d) Allylic Cycloaddition of N-Containing Allylic Donors with Isocyanate (This Work)



afford diverse oxo-heterocycles in high efficiencies.⁸ Based on these research results, we are interested in the development of readily accessible nitrogen-containing allylic donors and their

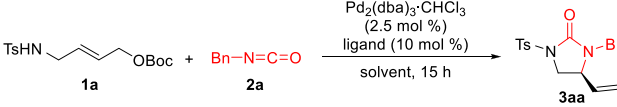
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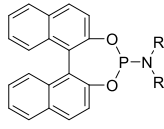
applications in the Pd-catalyzed allylic cycloaddition to afford aza-heterocycles. In 1996, Trost reported intramolecular allylic cycloaddition of nitrogen-containing linear allylic donors to form five- to seven-membered N-heterocycles (Scheme 1c).⁹ In contrast with this report, we envisioned that the N-containing allylic carbonates **1** ($n = 1$ or 2) could afford stable zwitterionic allylpalladium intermediates (Scheme 1d). The intermediates could be intercepted by unsaturated electrophiles to form five- or six-membered aza-heterocycles. Allylic carbonates **1** can be readily synthesized by cross-metathesis of allylic or homoallylic amines with Boc-protected 2-butene-1,4-diol. However, to the best of our knowledge, there have been no reports for the allylic cycloaddition using this type of readily accessible allylic donors. Herein, we report Pd-catalyzed asymmetric allylic cycloaddition of nitrogen-containing allylic carbonates with isocyanates, a practical and efficient approach which allows rapid access to imidazolidinones and tetrahydropyrimidinones as useful chiral building blocks¹⁰ in high yields with high levels of enantioselectivities.

Initial studies were focused on the investigation of the allylic cycloaddition of nitrogen-containing allylic carbonate **1a**¹¹ with commercially available benzyl isocyanate **2a** as typical reaction partners using palladium(0) catalyst bearing different chiral phosphoramidite ligands (Table 1). To our delight, the reaction proceeded smoothly with phosphoramidite-derived Binol ligand (*R*)-**L1** at 20 °C in THF for 15 h, affording imidazolidinone **3aa** with 80% yield and 87% ee (entry 1). It is observed that the enantioselectivity could be enhanced using the ligand (*S,R,R*)-**L3** (93% ee, entry 3). However, Zhou's spiro-type phosphoramidite,¹³ Phox-type **L7**, and Segphos ligands showed no reactivity under the reaction conditions (entries 4–8). Lower yields and enantioselectivities were observed using Binap or the Trost ligand for the reaction (entries 9 and 10). By further screening of solvent (entries 11–18), we found that the reaction was very sensitive to the reaction solvent. When the reaction proceeded in 1,2-dimethoxyethane (DME), the yield was improved to 94% without the deterioration of enantioselectivity (entry 18). The enantioselectivity could be further improved when the reaction was performed at 0 °C (93% yield, 96% ee, entry 19). The enantioselectivities were remarkably decreased when the reaction proceeded at higher temperature (entries 20 and 21).

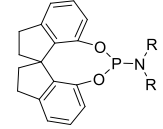
With optimal conditions in hand, we evaluated the generality of this process by the reaction of nitrogen-containing allylic carbonate **1a** with various substituted isocyanates (Scheme 2). The reaction proceeded smoothly with 2-phenylethylisocyanate **2b** to afford imidazolidinone **3ab** in 85% yield with 93% ee. The functional group of chloride **3ac** and allylic group **3ad** could also be introduced with high yields with good to high enantioselectivities. A wide range of phenyl-substituted isocyanates bearing different electronic and steric properties was tolerated under the reaction conditions, affording the corresponding imidazolidinones **3ae–3al** in high yields with good to excellent enantioselectivities.

Next, we investigated the allylic cycloaddition of N-containing allylic carbonate **1b**¹¹ with isocyanates. Under the optimal conditions (Table 1, entries 19), the cycloaddition of **1b** with benzyl isocyanate **2a** proceeded smoothly to afford tetrahydropyrimidinone **3ba** in 83% yield, albeit with moderate enantioselectivities (65% ee). After further condition optimizations (see Supporting Information), we found that the reaction with phosphoramidite (*R*)-**L1** as the ligand under otherwise identical conditions with Scheme 2 gave the cycloadduct **3ba** in

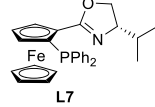
Table 1. Condition Optimization^a




(*R*)-**L1**: R = *i*-Pr
(*S,S,S*)-**L2**: R = (*S*)-1-phenylethyl
(*S,R,R*)-**L3**: R = (*R*)-1-phenylethyl



(*R*)-**L4**: R = *i*-Pr
(*R,R,R*)-**L5**: R = (*R*)-1-phenylethyl
(*S,R,R*)-**L6**: R = (*R*)-1-phenylethyl



L7

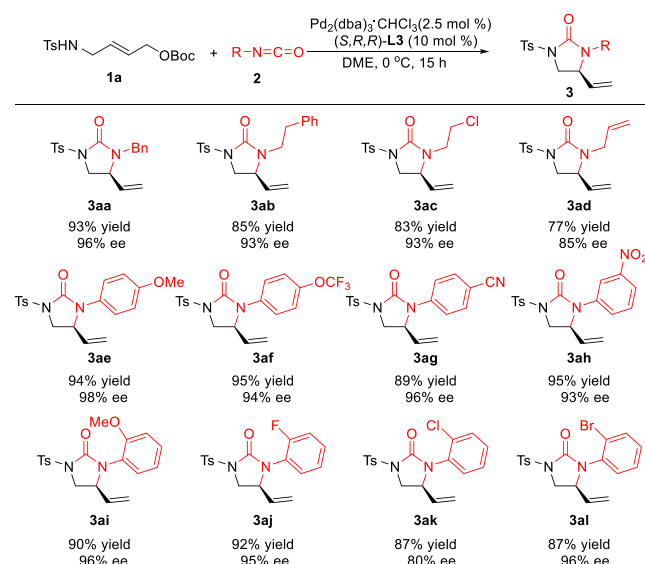
entry	ligands	solvents	T (°C)	yield (%) ^b	ee (%) ^c
1	(<i>R</i>)- L1	THF	20	80	–87
2	(<i>S,S,S</i>)- L2	THF	20	trace	
3	(<i>S,R,R</i>)- L3	THF	20	77	93
4	(<i>R</i>)- L4	THF	20	trace	
5	(<i>R,R,R</i>)- L5	THF	20		
6	(<i>S,R,R</i>)- L6	THF	20		
7	L7	THF	20		
8	(<i>R</i>)-Segphos	THF	20	trace	
9	(<i>R</i>)-Binap	THF	20	35	–20
10	Ph-Trost	THF	20	52	–26
11	(<i>S,R,R</i>)- L3	toluene	20	34	60
12	(<i>S,R,R</i>)- L3	DCM	20	60	78
13	(<i>S,R,R</i>)- L3	Et ₂ O	20	12	49
14	(<i>S,R,R</i>)- L3	CyH	20		
15	(<i>S,R,R</i>)- L3	dioxane	20	trace	
16	(<i>S,R,R</i>)- L3	CH ₃ CN	20	83	90
17	(<i>S,R,R</i>)- L3	MTBE	20	60	23
18	(<i>S,R,R</i>)- L3	DME	20	94	93
19	(<i>S,R,R</i>)- L3	DME	0	93	96
20	(<i>S,R,R</i>)- L3	DME	40	95	53
21	(<i>S,R,R</i>)- L3	DME	60	95	43

^aReaction conditions: Pd₂(dba)₃·CHCl₃ (2.5 mol %), ligand (10 mol %), **1a** (0.2 mmol), **2a** (0.2 mmol), solvent (1.0 mL), 15 h. ^bIsolated yields. ^cDetermined by HPLC using a chiral stationary phase. The minus sign means the obtained product with opposite configuration.

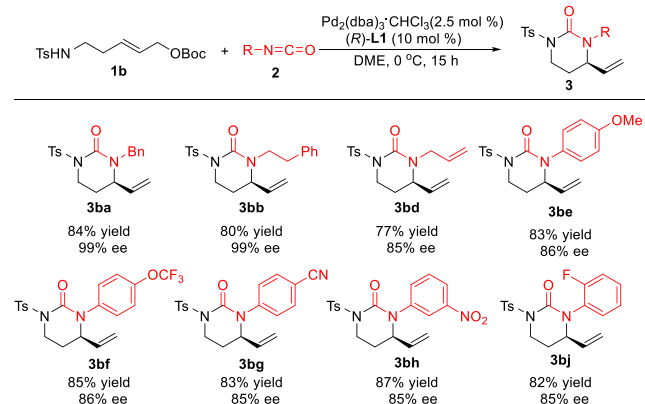
84% yield with excellent enantioselectivity (99% ee, Scheme 3). The allylic cycloaddition of **1b** with various isocyanates was examined with (*R*)-**L1** as ligand (Scheme 3). The reaction of **1b** with alkyl-substituted isocyanates gave cycloadducts **3bb** and **3bd** with high yields with good to excellent enantioselectivities. The allylic cycloaddition of **1b** with phenyl-substituted isocyanates bearing different electronic and steric properties performed smoothly to afford the corresponding tetrahydropyrimidinones **3be–3bj** in high yields with good enantioselectivities. Interestingly, the opposite stereochemistry was observed for the allylic cycloaddition of **1b** in comparison to that of **1a**.

We next investigated the allylic cycloaddition of N-containing allylic carbonate **1c**¹¹ with benzyl isocyanate **2a** under optimal conditions, as described in Table 1 (entry 19). However, the reaction provided pyrrolidine **4** in 72% yield with 43% ee. The desired cycloadduct **3ca** was not observed (Scheme 4). This result implied that the allylic carbonate **1c** ($n = 3$) underwent zwitterionic allylpalladium intermediate, which occurs intramolecular cycloaddition to afford favored pyrrolidine rather than intercepted by isocyanate **2a**.

The synthetic utility of the protocol has been demonstrated by the gram-scale transformation and product elaboration (Scheme 5). Under the standard conditions, the allylic

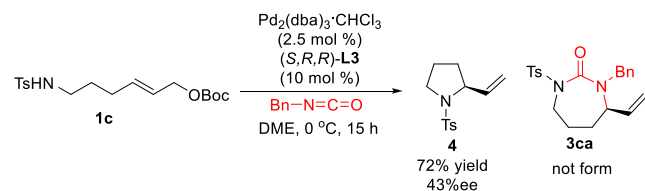
Scheme 2. Pd-Catalyzed Asymmetric Allylic Cycloaddition of 1a with Isocyanates 2^a

^aReaction conditions: $\text{Pd}_2(\text{dba})_3 \cdot \text{CHCl}_3$ (2.5 mol %), (S,R,R)-L3 (10 mol %), 1a (0.2 mmol), 2 (0.2 mmol), DME (1.0 mL), 0 °C, 15 h. The enantiomeric excesses were determined by HPLC using a chiral stationary phase. The absolute configuration of 3ae was confirmed by X-ray crystallography (see Supporting Information). Those of the other products were assigned by analogy.

Scheme 3. Pd-Catalyzed Asymmetric Allylic Cycloaddition of 1b with Isocyanates 2^a

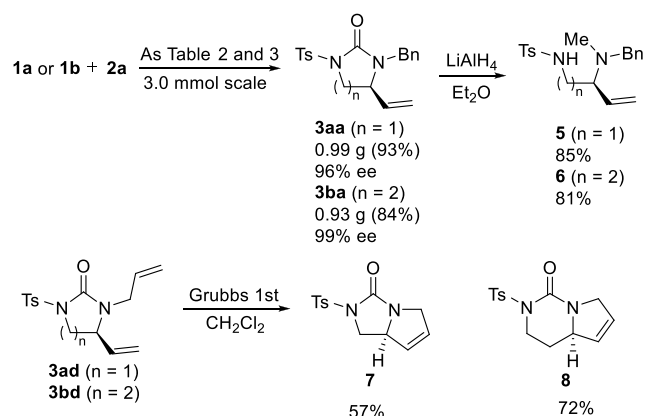
^aReaction conditions: $\text{Pd}_2(\text{dba})_3 \cdot \text{CHCl}_3$ (2.5 mol %), (R)-L1 (10 mol %), 1a (0.2 mmol), 2 (0.2 mmol), DME (1.0 mL), 0 °C, 15 h. The enantiomeric excesses were determined by HPLC using a chiral stationary phase. The absolute configuration of 3bj was confirmed by X-ray crystallography (see Supporting Information). Those of the other products were assigned by analogy.

Scheme 4. Pd-Catalyzed Allylic Cycloaddition of 1c with 2a



cycloaddition of 1a or 1b with benzyl isocyanate 2a at the 3.0 mmol scale performed smoothly to furnish corresponding

Scheme 5. Gram-Scale Transformation and Product Elaboration



cycloadducts 3aa and 3ba in high yields with excellent enantioselectivities. Reduction of 3aa and 3ba in the presence of LiAlH_4 gave diamines 5 and 6, respectively, in high yields.¹⁴ N-Allylic-substituted cycloadducts 3ad and 3bd could convert into the bicyclic heterocycles 7 and 8, respectively, through ring-closing metathesis using Grubbs first generation catalyst.

In conclusion, we have developed an efficient method for the enantioselective synthesis of imidazolidinones and tetrahydropyrimidinones via Pd-catalyzed allylic cycloaddition of readily accessible N-containing allylic carbonates with isocyanates. By using a palladium complex generated in situ from $\text{Pd}_2(\text{dba})_3 \cdot \text{CHCl}_3$ and phosphoramidite L3 or L1 as a catalyst under mild conditions, the process afforded formal [3 + 2] and [4 + 2] cycloadducts in high yields with good to excellent enantioselectivities. The synthetic utility of the protocol has been demonstrated by the gram-scale transformation and the product derivatizations. Further studies on extending the scope of the cycloaddition of nitrogen-containing allylic carbonates with other unsaturated electrophiles are currently underway and will be reported in due course.

■ ASSOCIATED CONTENT

S Supporting Information

The Supporting Information is available free of charge on the ACS Publications website at DOI: 10.1021/acs.orglett.9b03662.

Detailed experimental procedures; characterization data of all the new compounds; copies of HPLC chromatography, ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra of the products (PDF)

Accession Codes

CCDC 1879205–1879206 contain the supplementary crystallographic data for this paper. These data can be obtained free of charge via www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data_request/cif, or by emailing data_request@ccdc.cam.ac.uk, or by contacting The Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre, 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB2 1EZ, UK; fax: +44 1223 336033.

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Notes

The authors declare no competing financial interest.

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