

# Nickel-Catalyzed Cross-Coupling of Diphenylphosphine with Vinyl Bromides and Chlorides as a Route to Diphenylvinylphosphines

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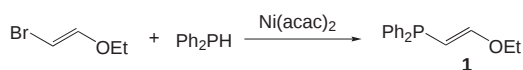
**Abstract:** An efficient nickel-catalyzed reaction for the phosphination of vinyl bromides and chlorides was developed. The procedure uses a combination of up to 1 mol% of nickel acetylacetonate, triethylamine and dimethylformamide as a solvent. The double bond geometry of the vinyl halides was retained under the reaction conditions.

**Key words:** cross-coupling, phosphorus, nickel, alkenylphosphines

Tertiary alkenylphosphines play an important role in organophosphorus synthesis<sup>1</sup> (preparation of polyphosphines), polymer chemistry<sup>2</sup> and coordination chemistry.<sup>3</sup> There are three main approaches to the synthesis of these compounds: hydrophosphination of alkynes,<sup>4</sup> coupling of chlorophosphines with vinylmagnesium or lithium reagents,<sup>5</sup> or the reaction of phosphide anion with vinyl halides.<sup>6</sup>

Recently, a new general method of P-C bond formation was developed via cross-coupling of secondary phosphines with aryl iodides, bromides and triflates using complexes of Pd, Ni or Cu as catalyst.<sup>7</sup> These conditions can be applied to the synthesis of alkenylphosphines from vinyl triflates,<sup>8</sup> iodides<sup>9</sup> and activated vinyl bromides.<sup>10</sup> However, some types of alkenyl bromides were unactive under reported conditions and there were no reports about coupling of vinyl chlorides with secondary phosphines. In this communication we wish to report a protocol for nickel-catalyzed synthesis of tertiary alkenylphosphines from alkenyl bromides and vinylidene chlorides.

1-Bromo-2-ethoxy-ethene and diphenylphosphine were chosen as reaction partners for the discovery of appropriate reaction conditions (Equation 1).



**Equation 1** Nickel-catalyzed phosphination of 1-bromo-2-ethoxy-ethene

We were pleased to find (Table 1, entry 1) that using ligand-free nickel acetylacetonate as the catalyst precursor,<sup>11</sup> triethylamine as the base and dimethylformamide as

the solvent, the cross-coupling took place and the product was isolated in high yield. The reaction was stereospecific. Pure *E*-isomer of 2-ethoxyethenyldiphenylphosphine was received from the pure *E*-isomer of 1-bromo-2-ethoxy-ethene according to <sup>1</sup>H NMR, <sup>13</sup>C NMR and <sup>31</sup>P NMR spectra. The choice of the solvent was crucial for the success. HMPA was good for the reaction as well as DMF (entry 2), the yield of **1** dropped dramatically in the case of HMPA-toluene mixture and the reaction did not proceed totally in the toluene or THF media (entries 4 and 5).

**Table 1** Cross-Coupling of 1-Bromo-2-ethoxy-ethene with Diphenylphosphine<sup>a</sup>

| Entry | Solvent            | Temp (°C) | Time (h) | Isolated yield |
|-------|--------------------|-----------|----------|----------------|
| 1     | DMF                | 120       | 1        | 90             |
| 2     | HMPA               | 120       | 1        | 80             |
| 3     | HMPA/toluene (1:1) | 120       | 1        | 58             |
| 4     | Toluene            | 120       | 50       | 3 <sup>b</sup> |
| 5     | THF                | 120       | 50       | 2 <sup>b</sup> |

<sup>a</sup> Reaction conditions: diphenylphosphine (1.5 mmol), 1-bromo-2-ethoxy-ethene (1.5 mmol), Et<sub>3</sub>N (1.5 mmol), solvent (2 mL), catalyst (5 mol%).

<sup>b</sup> Conversion according to <sup>31</sup>P NMR.

Under the indicated optimized conditions, cross-coupling of several substituted alkenyl halides was carried out. It should be pointed out that the reaction is more efficient in DMF rather than in HMPA (Table 2, compare entries 2 and 3). Moreover, for the scaled-up preparative experiments the quantity of the catalyst can be reduced to 1 mol% and reaction time to 30 minutes without prejudice to the yield.

Vinylidene tertiary phosphines are used as bidentate ligands in coordination chemistry because the 'bite-angle' of these chelated ligands is sufficiently changed by the sp<sup>2</sup>-hybridized carbon.<sup>12</sup> 1,1-Bis(diphenylphosphino)ethene is a precursor for synthesis of other polydentate ligands.<sup>13</sup> The challenge was to synthesize 1,1-bis(diphenylphosphino)ethene using the cross-coupling reaction of 1,1-dichloroethene and diphenylphosphine (Scheme 1).

As can be seen from Table 3, complexes of Ni were able to catalyze the cross-coupling reaction (entries 1–4) but under these conditions the side reaction – oxidative

**Table 2** Nickel Acetylacetonate-Catalyzed Phosphination of Alkenyl Halides<sup>a</sup>

| Entry          | Vinyl-Br | Product | Time (h) | Yield (%) <sup>b</sup> |
|----------------|----------|---------|----------|------------------------|
| 1              |          |         | 0.5      | 90                     |
| 2              |          |         | 0.5      | 90                     |
| 3 <sup>c</sup> |          |         | 0.5      | 75                     |
| 4              |          |         | 0.5      | 93                     |
| 5              |          |         | 0.5      | 96                     |
| 6              |          |         | 0.5      | 90                     |

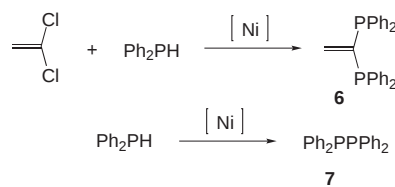
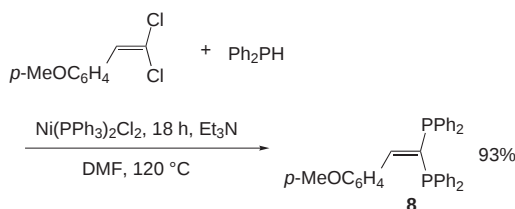
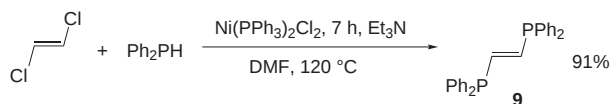
<sup>a</sup> Reaction conditions: diphenylphosphine (5 mmol), alkenyl bromide (5 mmol), Et<sub>3</sub>N (5 mmol), Ni(acac)<sub>2</sub> (1 mol%), 120 °C, DMF (5 mL).<sup>b</sup> Isolated yield.<sup>c</sup> HMPA was used as a solvent.**Table 3** Cross-Coupling of 1,1-Dichloroethene with Diphenylphosphine<sup>a</sup>

| Entry          | Catalyst                                           | Solvent/additive      | Temp (°C) | Time (h) | Ratio of <b>6:7</b> <sup>b</sup> |
|----------------|----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------|----------|----------------------------------|
| 1              | Ni(acac) <sub>2</sub>                              | PhMe                  | 120       | 7        | 34:66                            |
| 2              | Ni(acac) <sub>2</sub>                              | DMF                   | 120       | 1        | 40:60                            |
| 3              | NiCl <sub>2</sub> (PPh <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> | PhMe                  | 120       | 7        | 38:62                            |
| 4              | NiCl <sub>2</sub> (PPh <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> | DMF                   | 120       | 1        | 45:55                            |
| 5 <sup>c</sup> | NiCl <sub>2</sub> (PPh <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> | DMF/Et <sub>3</sub> N | 120       | 3        | 100:0 (94)                       |
| 6 <sup>c</sup> | Ni(acac) <sub>2</sub>                              | DMF/Et <sub>3</sub> N | 120       | 3        | 100:0 (81)                       |

<sup>a</sup> Reaction conditions: diphenylphosphine (2 mmol), 1,1-dichloroethene (2.5 mmol), Et<sub>3</sub>N (4 mmol), solvent (3 mL), catalyst (2 mol%).<sup>b</sup> According to <sup>31</sup>P NMR, isolated yield of **6** in parentheses.<sup>c</sup> 8 mmol of Et<sub>3</sub>N were used.

dimerization of diphenylphosphine to form tetraphenyl-diphosphine – took place. We found that, in the presence of a double molar excess of triethylamine, this side reaction was completely suppressed (entry 5, 6).

The reactivity of substituted 1,1-dichloroethenes was much less, for example in the case of 1-(*p*-methoxyphenyl)-2,2-dichloroethene 18 hours of heating was

**Scheme 1****Equation 2** Nickel-catalyzed phosphination of 1-(*p*-methoxyphenyl)-2,2-dichloroethene**Equation 3** Nickel-catalyzed phosphination of *trans*-1,2-dichloroethene

necessary for the completion of the reaction (Equation 2) and 1-cyclohexyl-2,2-dichloroethene did not react at all for 40 hours at 120 °C.

The same method was applicable for the reaction of *trans*-1,2-dichloroethene with diphenylphosphine to form *trans*-1,2-diphenylphosphinoethene (according to <sup>31</sup>P NMR) in 91% yield (Equation 3). The latter compound is used as a ligand for synthesis of organometallic macrocycles,<sup>14</sup> metal complexes<sup>15</sup> and as a precursor to synthesis of chiral ligands.<sup>16</sup>

In conclusion, we have developed an efficient nickel-catalyzed carbon-phosphorus bond-forming protocol<sup>17</sup> for vinyl bromides and chlorides, which leads to corresponding phosphines with high yield and has some advantages over known organometallic methods of synthesis.

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- (17) **General Procedure (for Compounds 1–5).**  
A Schlenk flask was charged with 5 mmol of alkenyl bromide, 5 mmol of Et<sub>3</sub>N, 5 mmol of diphenylphosphine, 5 mL of DMF and 1 mol% of Ni(acac)<sub>2</sub>. The reaction mixture was stirred for specified period at maintained temperature (Table 2). To this mixture 20 mL of H<sub>2</sub>O and 20 mL of benzene were added after cooling. The benzene phase was separated, washed with 10 mL of H<sub>2</sub>O, and dried under MgSO<sub>4</sub>. Then, 20 mg of dimethylglyoxime were added to the benzene solution. After 1 h the solution was passed through short layer of silica gel and evaporated in vacuum. The crude product was then distilled under reduced pressure.  
**E-(2-Ethoxyvinyl)diphenylphosphine (1):** yield 90%, colorless oil, bp 120–124 °C/4 Torr. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 1.25–1.28 (t, 3), 3.82–3.88 (q, 2), 5.32–5.35 (d, 1, J<sub>HH</sub> = 14 Hz), 6.86–6.92 (dd, 1, J<sub>HH</sub> = 14 Hz, J<sub>PH</sub> = 9 Hz), 7.21–7.40 (m, 10). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 14.51 (-H<sub>3</sub>), 65.24 (-O-CH<sub>2</sub>), 97.63, 128.01, 128.21, 132.20, 159. <sup>31</sup>P{H} NMR (162.6 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = -18.0. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>17</sub>OP (%): C, 74.99; H, 6.69. Found: C, 75.02; H, 6.52.  
**Z-(1-Methylpropenyl)diphenylphosphine (2):** yield 90%, colorless oil, bp 110 °C/3 Torr. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 1.72 (dt, 3 H, =P)CH<sub>3</sub>, J<sub>PH</sub> = 1.0 Hz, J<sub>HH</sub> = 7.4 Hz), 1.77 (d, 3 H, =P)CH<sub>3</sub>, J<sub>PH</sub> = 6.7 Hz), 5.95 (m, -H), 7.32 (m, 10 H, C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 137.09 (d, =C-P, J<sub>p</sub> = 32.1 Hz), 133.22 (d, C=C-P, J<sub>p</sub> = 19.8 Hz), 136.51 (d, J<sub>p</sub> = 10.7 Hz, ipso), 128.65 (m, <sup>6</sup>H<sub>5</sub>), 15.00 (d, CH<sub>3</sub>-C=C-P, J<sub>p</sub> = 15.2 Hz), 15.00 [d, C=C(PPh<sub>2</sub>)CH<sub>3</sub>, J<sub>p</sub> = 39.6 Hz]. <sup>31</sup>P{H} NMR (162.6 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 5.9. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>17</sub>P (%): C, 79.98; H, 7.13; P, 12.89. Found: C, 79.35; H, 6.96; P, 12.83.  
**General Procedure (for Compounds 6, 8, 9).**  
A Schlenk flask was charged with 2.5 mmol of alkenyl chloride, 8 mmol of Et<sub>3</sub>N, 2 mmol of diphenylphosphine, 3 mL of DMF, and 2 mol% of Ni(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The solution was stirred for specified period at maintained temperature. To this solution 20 mL of H<sub>2</sub>O and 20 mL of benzene were added after cooling. The benzene phase was separated, washed with 10 mL of H<sub>2</sub>O and dried under MgSO<sub>4</sub>. Then, 20 mg of dimethylglyoxime were added to benzene solution and after 1 h the solution was passed through short layer of silica gel and evaporated in vacuum. The crude product was then purified by column chromatography (Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>, THF).  
**1,1-Bis(diphenylphosphino)-2-(p-methoxyphenyl)ethane (8):** yield 93%, mp 127 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 3.68 (s, 3), 6.74 (d, 1 H), 7.03–7.39 (m, 25). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = 55.10 (d, O-CH<sub>3</sub>, J = 9.0 Hz), 113.25 (d, J = 4.5 Hz), 127.68, 128.27 (dd), 130.0 (t), 131.29 (t), 132.39 [dd, Ph<sub>2</sub>P-C(PPh<sub>2</sub>)=C, J = 33.6 Hz, J = 48.8 Hz], 133.83 (d, J = 21.4 Hz), 134.27 (d, J = 19.8 Hz), 135.84 (dd, J = 6.1 Hz, J = 9.2 Hz), 136.47 (d, J = 15.0 Hz), 152.79 (dd, J = 9.0 Hz, J = 23.0 Hz), 159.48. <sup>31</sup>P{H} NMR (162.6 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ = -3.8 (d, J = 1.5 Hz), -12.0 (d, J = 1.5 Hz). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>33</sub>H<sub>28</sub>P<sub>2</sub>O (%): C, 78.80; H, 5.62. Found: C, 77.49; H, 5.79.