

# Palladium-Catalyzed Amide N–C Hiyama Cross-Coupling: Synthesis of Ketones

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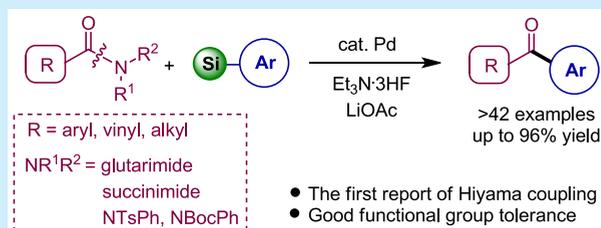


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**ABSTRACT:** *N*-Acylglutarimides and arylsiloxanes reacted in the presence of Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub>/PCy<sub>3</sub>, Et<sub>3</sub>N·3HF, and LiOAc to provide the corresponding arylketones in good yields. Aryl-, vinyl-, and alkyl-substituted *N*-acylglutarimides showed good activity in the coupling reactions of arylsiloxanes. The reaction had a broad substrate scope and showed good functional group tolerance. *N*-Benzoylsuccinimide and *N*-protected *N*-phenylbenzamides showed good activities in coupling reactions with phenylsiloxane. The employment of CuF<sub>2</sub> as an activator afforded the decarbonylative products at 160 °C.



The amide functionality is one of the most important structures in nature because peptides, the key components of proteins and enzymes, consist of an amide backbone.<sup>1</sup> In addition, amide moieties have been widely utilized as building blocks for various materials owing to the robust nature of the amide C–N bond. In recent years, amide C–N bond cleavage has received considerable attention for the transformation of amides to carbonyl compounds, including other amides.

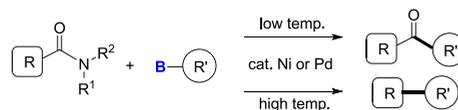
Transamidation, which is the transformation of one amide to another, has been reported by numerous groups. Stahl reported that amides reacted with amines in the presence of Lewis acids such as Zr, Al, and Sc to provide thermodynamic equilibrium mixtures.<sup>2</sup> The use of palladium or nickel catalysts afforded the desired transamidated products as the major products in reactions between amides and amines.<sup>3</sup> Transition-metal-catalyst-free transamidations were also reported by several groups.<sup>4</sup> Very recently, the Szostak group demonstrated that a variety of unactivated tertiary amides could be transformed to other amides in the presence of LiHMDS.<sup>5</sup>

Amide C–N activation has likewise been employed for reactions with oxygen and carbon nucleophiles. Amide to ester transformations employing transition-metal catalysts such as nickel and zinc, as well those proceeding under metal-free conditions, have been reported by several groups.<sup>6</sup>

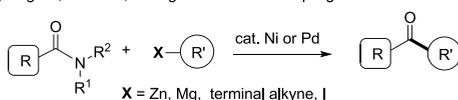
The reaction of amides and carbon nucleophiles in the presence of transition-metal catalysts provides ketones. Various carbon nucleophiles can be employed for this purpose. Suzuki cross-coupling between amides and arylboron compounds has been independently reported by Garg, Huang, Jian, Rueping, Szostak, Zeng, and Zou (Scheme 1a).<sup>7</sup> It has been reported that Suzuki decarbonylative coupling products were formed when the reaction was conducted at high temperature.<sup>8</sup> Arylzinc compounds, which are coupling partners in Negishi cross-coupling, have also been employed in reactions with

## Scheme 1. Coupling of Amides and Carbon Nucleophiles

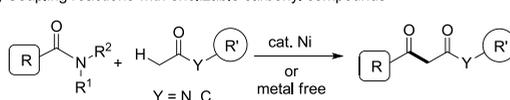
a) Amide–Suzuki cross coupling reactions : > 29 reports  
Suzuki decarbonylative coupling reactions: > 4 reports



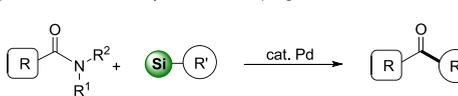
b) Negishi, Kumada, Sonogashira and ArI coupling reactions



c) Coupling reactions with enolizable carbonyl compounds



d) This work: Amide–Hiyama cross coupling reaction



amides for the synthesis of ketones, as reported by Garg and Szostak.<sup>9</sup> Grignard reagents have been utilized for coupling reactions with amides by the Kandasamy group to generate ketones. Very recently, the Szostak group also reported the coupling with amide and Grignard reagents.<sup>10</sup> Zheng reported that palladium-catalyzed Sonogashira coupling of amides

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provided alkynyl ketones.<sup>11</sup> Han reported that nickel-catalyzed reductive N–C coupling of amides and aryl iodides provides diarylketones<sup>12</sup> (Scheme 1b). Recently, we reported a nickel-catalyzed Claisen condensation-type coupling reaction between two different amides for the construction of new C–C bonds.<sup>13</sup> In addition, we demonstrated that an enolizable ketone functions as a carbon nucleophile, reacting with amides under transition-metal-free conditions to provide 1,3-diketones in good yields<sup>14</sup> (Scheme 1c).

However, to the best of our knowledge, there are no reports on the use of arylsilanes as nucleophiles in coupling reactions with amides. Numerous methods for the synthesis of arylsilanes have recently been developed.<sup>15</sup> Therefore, arylsilanes would be favorable coupling partners for the formation of ketones via C–N activation of amides. Herein, we report palladium-catalyzed Hiyama-type amide coupling reactions for the synthesis of the corresponding ketones (Scheme 1d).

*N*-4-Methylbenzoylglutarimide and triethoxyphenylsilane were chosen as model substrates to determine the optimal cross-coupling conditions (Table 1). After an intensive

**Table 1. Optimization of Conditions for the Hiyama Coupling of 1a and 2a<sup>a</sup>**



entry	deviation from the standard conditions	yield <sup>b</sup> (%)
1	none	87
2	no Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub> /PCy <sub>3</sub>	0
3	PPh <sub>3</sub> instead of PCy <sub>3</sub>	30
4	dppb instead of PCy <sub>3</sub>	45
5	dppf instead of PCy <sub>3</sub>	40
6	Xantphos instead of PCy <sub>3</sub>	35
7	Pd(dba) <sub>2</sub> instead of Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub>	15
8	Pd(CH <sub>3</sub> CN) <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> instead of Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub>	68
9	Pd(PCy <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub> instead of Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub> /PCy <sub>3</sub>	85
10	no H <sub>2</sub> O	40
11	THF instead of 1,4-dioxane/H <sub>2</sub> O	35
12	toluene instead of 1,4-dioxane/H <sub>2</sub> O	50
13	TBAF instead of Et <sub>3</sub> N·3HF	trace
14	Py·HF instead of Et <sub>3</sub> N·3HF	20
15	KOAc instead of LiOAc	72
16	NaOAc instead of LiOAc	55
17	1 mol % Pd and L instead of 2 mol %	65
18	50 °C instead of 90 °C	58
19	3 h instead of 6 h	70
20	160 °C instead of 90 °C	84

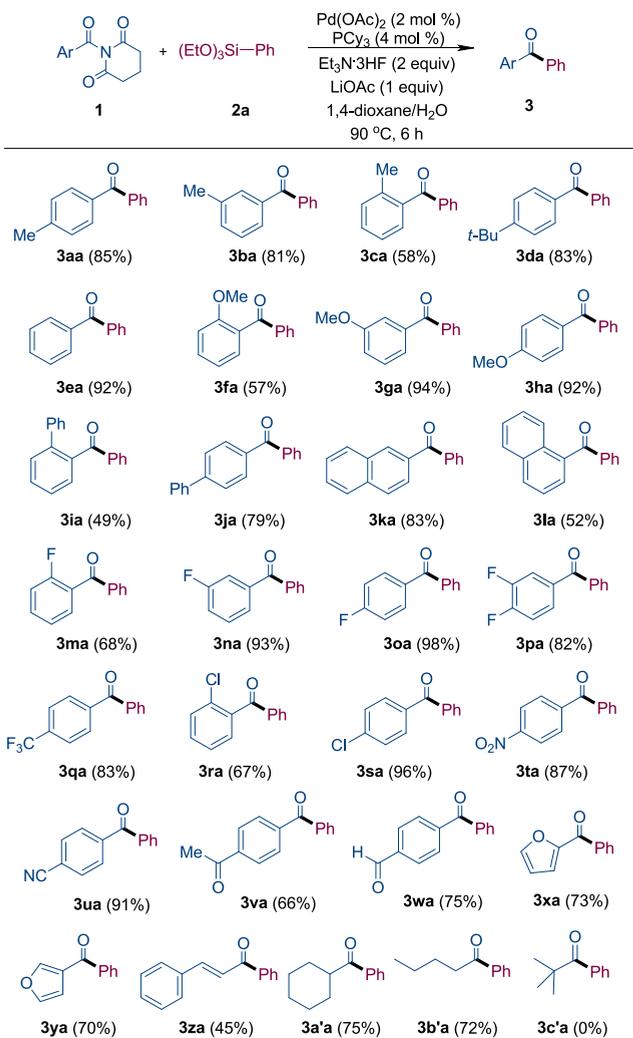
<sup>a</sup>Reaction conditions: 1a (0.3 mmol), 2a (0.45 mmol), Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (0.006 mmol), PCy<sub>3</sub> (0.012 mmol), Et<sub>3</sub>N·3HF (0.6 mmol), and LiOAc (0.3 mmol) were reacted in 1,4-dioxane/H<sub>2</sub>O (0.5 mL/0.5 mL) at 90 °C for 6 h. <sup>b</sup>Determined by gas chromatography and <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectroscopy with an internal standard.

evaluation of various reaction conditions, we established that Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> and PCy<sub>3</sub> in 1,4-dioxane/H<sub>2</sub>O afforded the desired product 3aa in 87% yield in the presence of Et<sub>3</sub>N·3HF and LiOAc (entry 1). When the reaction was performed in the absence of Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub>, the coupling product was not obtained (entry 2). Reactions with phosphine ligands such as PPh<sub>3</sub>,

dppb, dppf, and Xantphos provided 3aa in 30%, 45%, 40%, and 35% yields, respectively (entries 3–6). When the reactions were conducted with Pd(dba)<sub>2</sub> and Pd(CH<sub>3</sub>CN)<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 3aa was formed in 15% and 68% yields, respectively (entries 7 and 8). The use of Pd(PCy<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> resulted in 85% yield, comparable to the result of the Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub>/PCy<sub>3</sub> reaction (entry 9). Reactions performed in the absence of H<sub>2</sub>O led to a low yield of 3aa (entry 10). When the reactions were performed in THF and toluene, 3aa was obtained in 35% and 50% yields, respectively (entries 11 and 12). Reactions carried employing TBAF and Py·HF as activators provided 3aa in 2% and 20% yields, respectively (entries 13 and 14). Reactions with KOAc or NaOAc delivered lower yields than did the reactions with LiOAc (entries 15 and 16). Reducing the amount of Pd/L to 1 mol %, decreasing the reaction temperature to 50 °C, and shortening the reaction time to 3 h resulted in the formation of 3aa in 65%, 58%, and 70% yields, respectively (entries 17–19). When the reaction was conducted at 160 °C in the sealed tube reactor, 3aa was formed in 84%, however, the decarbonylative product was not detected in the reaction mixture (entry 20).

With the optimized conditions in hand, as shown in Scheme 2, we evaluated a variety of substituted *N*-benzoylglutarimides in the coupling reaction with phenyltriethoxysilane. *N*-Benzoylglutarimides bearing alkyl groups such as methyl and *tert*-butyl afforded the corresponding ketones 3aa, 3ba, and 3da in good yields. However, *o*-methyl-substituted *N*-benzoylglutarimide 1c gave a relatively low product yield due to increased steric hindrance in the substrate. *N*-Benzoylglutarimide provided benzophenone in 92% yield. Methoxy-substituted *N*-benzoylglutarimides provided the corresponding ketones 3fa, 3ga, and 3ha in 57%, 94%, and 92% yields, respectively. *N*-Acylglutarimides bearing biphenyl and naphthyl groups provided the desired ketones, with *ortho*-substituted products (3ia and 3la) being formed in lower yields than their counterparts. Monofluoro- and difluoro-substituted *N*-benzoylglutarimides afforded the corresponding fluorinated benzophenones in moderate to good yields. 4-Trifluoromethyl-, 4-chloro-, and 2-chloro-*N*-benzoylglutarimides provided 3qa, 3ra, and 3sa in 83%, 67%, and 96% yields, respectively. *N*-Benzoylglutarimides bearing electron-withdrawing substituents such as nitro, cyano, ketone, and aldehyde afforded the corresponding ketones in moderate to good yields. 2- and 3-furanyl-substituted *N*-acylglutarimides furnished 3xa and 3ya in 73% and 70% yields, respectively. *N*-Acylglutarimides with  $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated, cyclic, and straight-chain alkyl groups provided the corresponding ketones 3za, 3a'a, and 3b'a in 45%, 75%, and 72% yields, respectively. However, *N*-acylglutarimide having a sterically bulky alkyl group such as *tert*-butyl did not give the desired coupling product 3c'a.

Next, 4-methylphenyl-, 4-methoxyphenyl-, 4-chlorophenyl-, and 2-thiophenyltriethoxysilanes (2b, 2c, 2d, and 2e) were evaluated in the coupling reaction with *N*-4-methylbenzoylglutarimide, *N*-benzoylglutarimide, *N*-4-methoxybenzoylglutarimide, and *N*-4-fluorobenzoylglutarimide (1a, 1e, 1h, and 1o) under the optimized conditions. In addition, the synthesis and the late-stage modification of biologically active compounds were conducted by using this methodology. The results are summarized in Scheme 3. All reactions afforded the corresponding ketones in good yields. When alkyl-substituted triethoxysilanes such as *n*-octyltriethoxysilane (2f) and cyclopentyltriethoxysilane (2g) were allowed to react with *N*-4-nitrobenzoylglutarimide (1t), no coupled products were found.

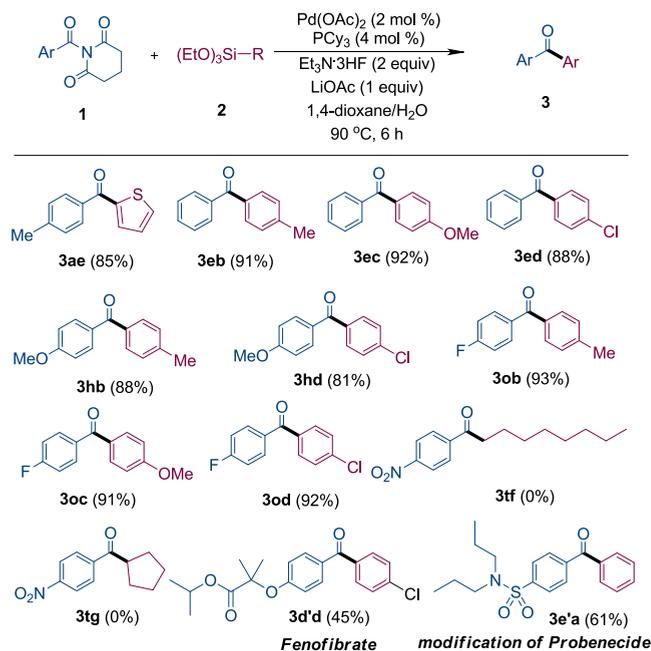
Scheme 2. Hiyama Coupling of Various Substituted *N*-Acylglutarimides and **2a**<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Reaction conditions: **1** (1.0 mmol), **2a** (1.5 mmol), Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (0.02 mmol), PCy<sub>3</sub> (0.04 mmol), Et<sub>3</sub>N·3HF (2.0 mmol), and LiOAc (1.0 mmol) were reacted in 1,4-dioxane/H<sub>2</sub>O (1.5 mL/1.5 mL) at 90 °C for 6 h. The numbers in parentheses represent isolated yields.

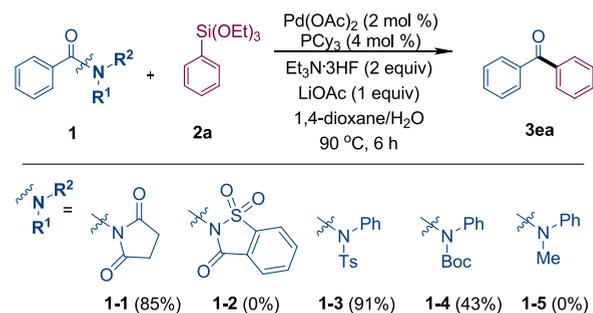
Fenofibrate (**3d'**),<sup>16</sup> which is used to treat primary hypercholesterolemia, was formed in 45% yield. In addition, probenecide was employed for the last-stage modification.<sup>17</sup> It was converted to the corresponding 4-*N,N*-dipropylsulfonamidobenzoylglutarimide and coupled with **1a** to give the **3e'a** in 61% yield.

To study the influence of the amide structural properties on the reaction, various benzamides were reacted with phenyltriethoxysilane under the optimized conditions (Scheme 4). *N*-Benzoylsuccinimide reacted with **2a** smoothly to give **3ea** in 85% yield. However, *N*-benzoylsaccharin did not produce the desired product. *N*-Tosyl- and *N*-Boc-protected *N*-phenylbenzamides provided **3ea** in 91% and 43% yields, respectively. Unfortunately, unactivated tertiary amides such as *N*-methyl-*N*-phenylbenzamide were not active in this coupling reaction. It was found that **1–2** and **1–5** did not give the desired product even at 150 °C with 10 mol % catalyst.

It was noteworthy that we found that the Hiyama decarbonylative coupling products were formed when CuF<sub>2</sub>

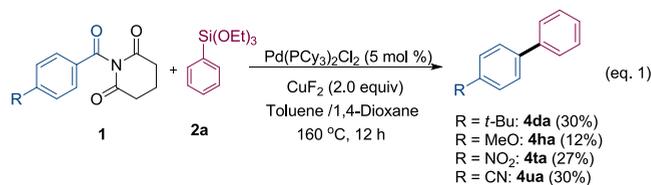
Scheme 3. Hiyama Coupling of Substituted *N*-Acylglutarimides and Arylsiloxanes<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Reaction conditions: **1** (1.0 mmol), **2** (1.5 mmol), Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (0.02 mmol), PCy<sub>3</sub> (0.04 mmol), Et<sub>3</sub>N·3HF (2.0 mmol), and LiOAc (1.0 mmol) were reacted in 1,4-dioxane/H<sub>2</sub>O (1.5 mL/1.5 mL) at 90 °C for 6 h. Numbers in parentheses represent isolated yields.

Scheme 4. Hiyama Coupling of Various Amides and **2a**<sup>a</sup>

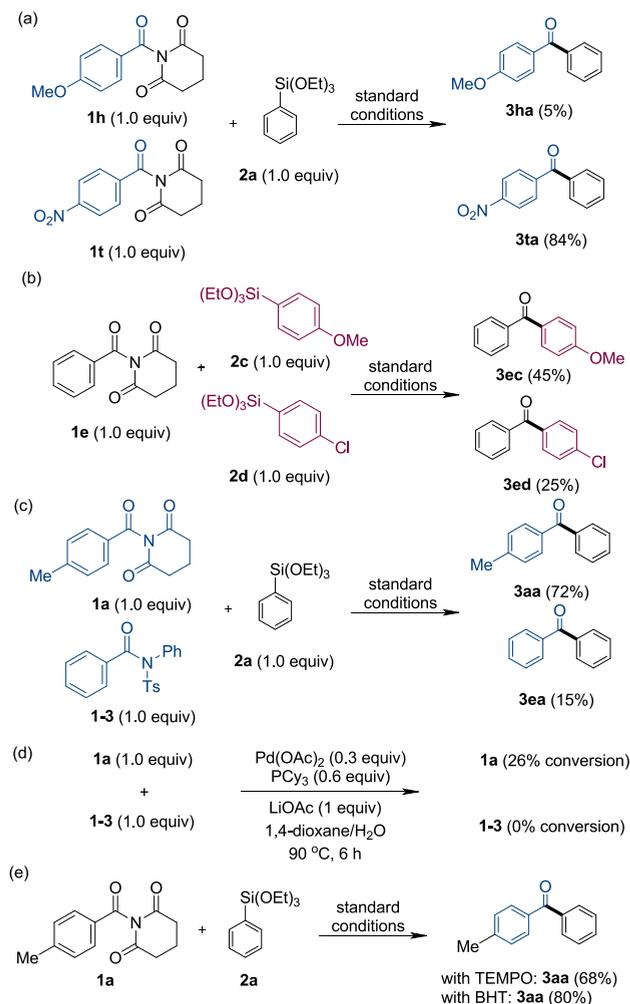
<sup>a</sup>Reaction conditions: **1** (1.0 mmol), **2a** (1.5 mmol), Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (0.02 mmol), PCy<sub>3</sub> (0.04 mmol), Et<sub>3</sub>N·3HF (2.0 mmol), and LiOAc (1.0 mmol) were reacted in 1,4-dioxane/H<sub>2</sub>O (1.5 mL/1.5 mL) at 90 °C for 6 h. Numbers in parentheses represent isolated yields.

was employed at 160 °C. However, as shown in eq 1, the maximum yield was 30%.



To elucidate the electronic effects of the substituents and reaction pathways, several control experiments were conducted (Scheme 5). When equal amounts of **1h** and **1t** were reacted with **2a** under standard conditions, the corresponding ketones **3ha** and **3ta** were formed in 5% and 84% yields, respectively. Equal amounts of **2c** and **2d** were treated with **1e** under standard conditions to deliver **3ec** and **3ed** in 45% and 25%

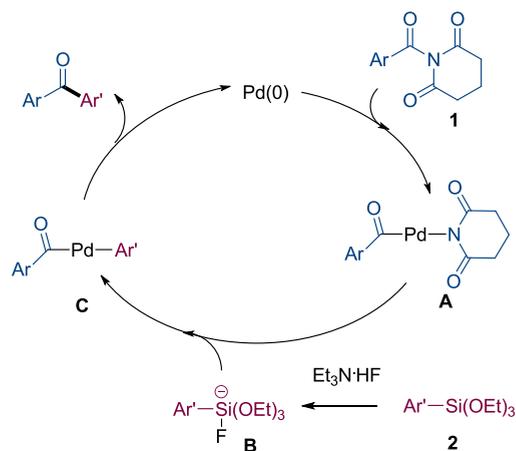
## Scheme 5. Control Experiments



yields, respectively. These results imply that *N*-benzoylglutarimides with electron-withdrawing substituents provided higher activities than those with electron-donating substituents. In contrast, electron-donating substituents in triethoxylphenyl silanes led to higher yields than those obtained with electron-withdrawing substituents. The competitive reaction between **1a** and **1–3** provided **3aa** and **3ea** in 72% and 15% yields, respectively. This result implies that *N*-benzoylglutarimide is higher reactive than *N*-phenyl-*N*-tosylbenzamide. When two amides **1a** and **1–3** were treated with Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub>/PCy<sub>3</sub> and LiOAc in the absence of Et<sub>3</sub>N·3HF and PhSi(OEt)<sub>3</sub>, only **1a** was converted to the palladium complex. This result supports that the oxidative addition step of **1a** might be faster than that of **1–3**. When the reaction of **1e** and **2a** was conducted in the presence of 2 equiv of BHT or TEMPO, the desired product was formed in 68% and 80% yields, respectively. These results indicate that the reaction proceeds via an ionic mechanism.

Based on our experimental results and previous reports on amide coupling reactions, we propose a plausible reaction mechanism, as shown in Scheme 6. Pd(0) is oxidatively added to the amide C–N bond to provide palladium complex **A**. Arylsiloxane is activated by the fluoride anion of Et<sub>3</sub>N·3HF to give activated arylsiloxane **B**, followed by the exchange of aryl and glutarimide to afford palladium complex **C**. Reductive elimination of **C** finally produces the desired ketone and regenerates Pd(0).

## Scheme 6. Proposed Mechanism



In summary, *N*-acylglutarimides reacted with arylsiloxanes to provide the corresponding arylketones via amide C–N bond cleavage. It was established that Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub>/PCy<sub>3</sub> showed the highest activity in the presence of Et<sub>3</sub>N·3HF and LiOAc. The reaction featured broad functional group tolerance, with a variety of substituted *N*-benzoylglutarimides and *N*-alkylacylglutarimides providing the corresponding ketones in good yields. *N*-Benzoylsuccinimide and *N*-protected *N*-phenylbenzamide reacted with phenylsiloxane to give arylketone products in good yields. This is the first example of a Hiyama-type coupling reaction involving amides, which proceeds via an ionic reaction pathway. Further studies to elucidate the detailed reaction mechanisms are underway in our laboratory.

## ■ ASSOCIATED CONTENT

## Supporting Information

The Supporting Information is available free of charge at <https://pubs.acs.org/doi/10.1021/acs.orglett.0c03260>.

Experimental procedures and spectral data for the products (PDF)

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## Notes

The authors declare no competing financial interest.

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