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# Aryldiazonium silica sulfates as efficient reagents for Heck-type arylation reactions under mild conditions

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## ABSTRACT

An efficient and straightforward procedure for Heck-type arylation reactions was studied using aryldiazonium silica sulfates and olefins in the presence of a catalytic amount of Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub>. These reactions were carried out in water at room temperature without using a base or additional ligands. The use of a non-toxic solvent, a simple and clean work-up, short reaction times, and good yields are advantages of this method.

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Palladium-catalyzed Heck coupling reactions using aryl halides or aryl triflates and olefins are important and valuable reactions for carbon-carbon bond formation in modern organic synthesis.<sup>1,2</sup> Although some of these methods have convenient protocols and afford good to high yields of products, the majority suffer from at least one of the following disadvantages: high temperature with an additional base, the use of an appropriate ligand to accelerate the reaction, long reaction times, and the use of organic solvents. Moreover, the use of high-cost aryl iodides or aryl triflates is a drawback of these reactions. Aryldiazonium salts have several advantages over aryl halides including the availability of aryl amines as the arenediazonium salt precursors, and superior reactivity as a better leaving group than halides or aryl triflates. In comparison with conventional Heck couplings, these reactions with aryldiazonium salts are carried out under mild conditions, with shorter times and higher yields of products.<sup>3-17</sup> It is notable that some of these reactions are carried out without using a base or additional ligands. In continuation of our studies on the stabilization of diazonium salts on silica sulfuric acid and their application in organic synthesis,<sup>18</sup> we report herein an efficient and convenient procedure for Heck-type coupling reactions employing aryldiazonium silica sulfates with methyl acrylate, styrene, and acrylic acid in the presence of a catalytic amount of  $Pd(OAc)_2$  (Scheme 1). Unlike traditional methods, these reactions were carried out in water at room temperature without using a base or additional ligands.

Aryldiazonium salts have been prepared and studied as useful intermediates in classical and modern organic synthesis due to their ready availability and high reactivity.<sup>10,19</sup> These salts, however, have a serious drawback in their intrinsic instability. They are usually synthesized at around 10 °C and, to avoid their decomposition, they are handled below 0 °C. Moreover, because of this instability, subsequent reactions with diazonium salts must be carried out under the same conditions. Thus, diazonium salts with higher stability and versatility that can be easily made and stored under solid state conditions with explosion-proof properties are desired and necessary.<sup>11,17,20</sup> For example, many diazonium tetrafluoroborates are relatively stable and can be stored over extended periods of time without decomposition.<sup>17</sup> Recently, we reported an efficient, fast, and convenient method for the preparation of aryldiazonium salts supported on the surface of silica sulfuric acid (aryldiazonium silica sulfates).<sup>18</sup> We found that these new aryldiazonium salts,  $ArN_2^{+-}OSO_3$ -SiO<sub>2</sub>, could be kept at room

$$\operatorname{ArN}_{2}^{\dagger} \overline{OSO}_{3} \operatorname{-SiO}_{2} + X \xrightarrow{\operatorname{Pd}(OAc)_{2}, 4 \operatorname{mol}\%}_{\operatorname{H}_{2}O, r.t.} \operatorname{Ar}_{X}$$
$$X = \operatorname{CO}_{2}\operatorname{CH}_{3}, \operatorname{Ph}, \operatorname{COOH}$$







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# Table 1

Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub>-catalyzed vinylation of aryldiazonium silica sulfates with olefins at room temperature <sup>a</sup>

Entry	Olefin	Olefin Diazonium salt Product		Time (min)	Yield (%)	
1	Methyl acrylate	PhN <sub>2</sub> <sup>+-</sup> OSO <sub>3</sub> -SiO <sub>2</sub>	OMe	25	86	
2	Methyl acrylate	$4 \text{-} \text{MeC}_{6}\text{H}_{4}\text{N}_{2}{}^{+-}\text{OSO}_{3}\text{-} \text{SiO}_{2}$	Me OMe	30	85	
3	Methyl acrylate	$2\text{-}MeC_{6}H_{4}N_{2}{}^{+-}OSO_{3}\text{-}SiO_{2}$	Me O OMe	35	81	
4	Methyl acrylate	$4\text{-}\text{MeOC}_6\text{H}_4\text{N}_2^{+-}\text{OSO}_3\text{-}\text{SiO}_2$	MeO	35	80	
5	Methyl acrylate	$4\text{-}\text{BrC}_6\text{H}_4\text{N}_2^{+-}\text{OSO}_3\text{-}\text{SiO}_2$	Br	30	87	
6	Methyl acrylate	$4\text{-}\mathrm{ClC}_{6}\mathrm{H}_{4}\mathrm{N}_{2}^{+-}\mathrm{OSO}_{3}\mathrm{-}\mathrm{SiO}_{2}$	Cl	30	85	
7	Methyl acrylate	$3-ClC_{6}H_{4}N_{2}^{+-}OSO_{3}-SiO_{2}$	Cl	30	83	
8	Methyl acrylate	$2\text{-}\mathrm{ClC}_{6}\mathrm{H}_{4}N_{2}^{+-}\mathrm{OSO}_{3}\mathrm{-}\mathrm{SiO}_{2}$	Cl O OMe	35	82	
9	Methyl acrylate	4-NCC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> N <sub>2</sub> <sup>+-</sup> OSO <sub>3</sub> -SiO <sub>2</sub>	NC	30	84	
11	Methyl acrylate	$4\text{-}\text{MeCOC}_6\text{H}_4\text{N}_2^{+-}\text{OSO}_3\text{-}\text{SiO}_2$	Me OMe	30	83	
12	Methyl acrylate	$4\text{-PhC}_6\text{H}_4\text{N}_2{}^{+-}\text{OSO}_3\text{SiO}_2$	Ph	35	81	
13	Methyl acrylate	$4 \text{-} O_2 N C_6 H_4 N_2{}^{+-} O S O_3 \text{-} S i O_2$	O <sub>2</sub> N OMe	30	87	
14	Methyl acrylate	$3-O_2NC_6H_4N_2^{+-}OSO_3-SiO_2$	O <sub>2</sub> N OMe	30	84	
15	Methyl acrylate	$2-O_2NC_6H_4N_2^{+-}OSO_3-SiO_2$	NO <sub>2</sub> O OMe	30	83	
16	Methyl acrylate	$2\text{-}\text{HOCOC}_6\text{H}_4\text{N}_2^{+-}\text{OSO}_3\text{-}\text{SiO}_2$	COOH O OMe	35	81	
17	Styrene	$PhN_2{}^{+-}OSO_3-SiO_2$	Ph	45	85	
18	Styrene	$4 \text{-} \text{MeC}_6 \text{H}_4 \text{N}_2{}^{+-} \text{OSO}_3 \text{-} \text{SiO}_2$	Me	80	88	
19	Styrene	$2\text{-MeC}_{6}\text{H}_{4}\text{N}_{2}^{+-}\text{OSO}_{3}\text{SiO}_{2}$	Me Ph	90	80	
20	Styrene	$4-BrC_6H_4N_2^{+-}OSO_3-SiO_2$	Br	100	87	
21	Styrene	$3\text{-}ClC_6H_4N_2{}^{+-}OSO_3SiO_2$	Cl Ph	90	82	

(continued on next page)

Entry	Olefin	Diazonium salt Product		Time (min)	Yield (%)
22	Styrene	$4\text{-PhCOC}_{6}\text{H}_{4}\text{N}_{2}^{+-}\text{OSO}_{3}\text{SiO}_{2}$	Ph Ph	100	81
23	Styrene	4-MeCOC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub> N <sub>2</sub> <sup>+-</sup> OSO <sub>3</sub> -SiO <sub>2</sub>	Me Ph	75	83
24	Styrene	$4 \text{-} O_2 N C_6 H_4 N_2{}^{+-} O S O_3 - S i O_2$	O <sub>2</sub> N Ph	70	85
25	Styrene	$2 \text{-} O_2 N C_6 H_4 N_2^{+-} O S O_3 \text{-} S i O_2$	NO <sub>2</sub> Ph	60	82
26	Styrene	$2\text{-}\text{HOCOC}_6\text{H}_4\text{N}_2{}^{+-}\text{OSO}_3\text{SiO}_2$	COOH Ph	70	84
27	Acrylic acid	PhN <sub>2</sub> <sup>+-</sup> OSO <sub>3</sub> -SiO <sub>2</sub>	СООН	45	84
28	Acrylic acid	$2\text{-}MeC_{6}H_{4}N_{2}{}^{+-}OSO_{3}\text{-}SiO_{2}$	Ме СООН	50	82
29	Acrylic acid	$4\text{-}\text{MeC}_{6}\text{H}_{4}\text{N}_{2}^{+-}\text{OSO}_{3}\text{-}\text{SiO}_{2}$	Ме	50	85
30	Acrylic acid	$3-CIC_{6}H_{4}N_{2}^{+-}OSO_{3}-SiO_{2}$	Cl COOH	50	82
31	Acrylic acid	$4 \text{-} O_2 N C_6 H_4 N_2^{+-} O S O_3  S i O_2$	O <sub>2</sub> N COOH	45	83

<sup>a</sup> The yield refers to isolated pure products which were characterized from their spectral data and by comparison with authentic samples.

## Table 2

Comparison of aryldiazonium silica sulfates with other aryldiazonium salts in Heck-type coupling reactions under different conditions

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Ar-N <sub>2</sub> N	$Ar = N_2BF_4$	$Ar = N_2OTs$	$Ar - N_2OSO_3 - SiO_2$
	2	3	4

Diazonium salt	Ar	Olefin	Catalyst/Base/Solvent/ Temp.	Time	Yield (%)	Ref.
1	4-MeC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	Styrene	Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub> (1 mol %)/-/EtOH/70 °C	14 h	60	9
4	4-MeC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	Styrene	Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub> (4 mol %)/–/EtOH/rt	80 min	88	_
2	4-MeC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	Styrene	Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub> (10 mol %)/–/bmimPF <sub>6</sub> /70–80 °C	5 h	83	16
2	Ph	Styrene	Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub> (5 mol %)+ligand/-/EtOH/rt	4.25 h	97	7
4	Ph	Styrene	Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub> (4 mol %)/–/EtOH/rt	45 min	85	_
2	Ph	Styrene	Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub> (10 mol %)/–/bmimPF <sub>6</sub> /70–80 °C	6.5 h	88	16
2	2-MeC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	Styrene	Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub> (5 mol %)+ligand/-/EtOH/rt	4 h	38	7
2	2-MeC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	Styrene	Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub> (2 mol %)+ligand/-/THF/rt	5 h	75	5
4	2-MeC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	Styrene	Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub> (4 mol %)/–/EtOH/rt	90 min	80	_
2	4-BrC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	Styrene	Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub> (2 mol %)+ligand/-/THF/rt	4 h	91	5
4	4-BrC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	Styrene	Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub> (4 mol %)/-/EtOH/rt	100 min	87	_
3	$4-O_2NC_6H_4$	Styrene	Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub> (1.2 mol %)/–/EtOH/70 °C	20 min	75	11
4	$4-O_2NC_6H_4$	Styrene	Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub> (4 mol %)/-/EtOH/rt	70 min	85	_
3	2-HCO <sub>2</sub> C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	Styrene	Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub> (1.2 mol %)/-/ EtOH/70 °C	20 min	65	11
4	2-HCO <sub>2</sub> C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	Styrene	Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub> (4 mol %)/–/EtOH/rt	70 min	84	_
2	Ph	Methyl acrylate	$Pd(OAc)_2$ (2 mol %)/–/bmimPF <sub>6</sub> /rt	3 h	76	8
4	Ph	Methyl acrylate	$Pd(OAc)_2 (4 mol \%)/-/H_2O/rt$	25 min	86	_
2	$4-BrC_6H_4$	Methyl acrylate	Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub> (2 mol %)/–/bmimPF <sub>6</sub> /rt	3 h	82	8
4	4-BrC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	Methyl acrylate	$Pd(OAc)_2 (4 \text{ mol } \%)/-/H_2O/rt$	30 min	87	_
2	4-NCC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	Methyl acrylate	$Pd(OAc)_2$ (2 mol %)/–/bmimPF <sub>6</sub> /rt	2 h	80	8
4	4-NCC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	Methyl acrylate	$Pd(OAc)_2 (4 \text{ mol } \%)/-/H_2O/rt$	30 min	84	_
2	$4-O_2NC_6H_4$	Methyl acrylate	Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub> (10 mol %)/-/AcOH, DMF/0-5 °C	27 min	64	13
4	$4-O_2NC_6H_4$	Methyl acrylate	$Pd(OAc)_2 (4 mol \%)/-/H_2O/rt$	30 min	87	_
1	4-MeC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	Acrylic acid	Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub> (1 mol %)/CaCO <sub>3</sub> /THF /60 °C	12 h	93	9
4	4-MeC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	Acrylic acid	$Pd(OAc)_2 (4 \text{ mol } \%)/-/H_2O/rt$	50 min	85	_
1	$4-O_2NC_6H_4$	Acrylic acid	Pd(OAc) <sub>2</sub> (1 mol %)/CaCO <sub>3</sub> /THF /40 °C	3.5 h	55	9
4	$4-O_2NC_6H_4$	Acrylic acid	$Pd(OAc)_2 (4 \text{ mol } \%)/-/H_2O/rt$	45 min	83	_

temperature under anhydrous conditions. Moreover, these new aryldiazonium salts are explosion-proof and can be used under different conditions<sup>18</sup> because of their stability. In the present work, different aryldiazonium silica sulfates, as electrophiles, were exposed to Heck-type coupling reactions using methyl acrylate, styrene, and acrylic acid as the olefins, under mild conditions. The vinylation of these diazonium salts was catalyzed using Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> at room temperature without using a base or additional ligands (Table 1). Methyl acrylate, and acrylic acid reacted with the aryldiazonium silica sulfates in water and the products were obtained in good yields and short reaction times. We studied the reaction of styrene with phenyldiazonium silica sulfate under these conditions. As styrene is not miscible with water, the product was obtained in 40% yield after a prolonged reaction time (5 h). By changing the solvent to ethanol, the corresponding stilbenes were obtained in good vields and short reaction times (Table 1, entries 17–26). Aryldiazonium silica sulfates with electron-withdrawing groups or electron-donating groups also reacted effectively. The steric effects of ortho substituents and the electronic effects of functional groups on the aryl rings of the aryldiazonium silica sulfates had relatively little influence on the yields and reaction times. The products were trans-isomers. The corresponding phenol derivatives were formed in trace amounts as by-products. We also studied the effect of temperature on these reactions and it was found that on increasing the temperature phenol formation increased. The optimum temperature for these reactions was room temperature. It was notable that a bromide or chloride on the aromatic ring of the aryldiazonium silica sulfates remained intact during the course of the reaction. Another advantage of this method was the easy work-up since the crude products were extracted with ethyl acetate and, if necessary, were purified by short column chromatography.<sup>21,22</sup>

To show the merit of the present work in comparison with that reported recently, we compared our results with the results obtained from Heck-type reactions using arenediazonium tetra-fluoroborates,<sup>5,7,8,13,16</sup> arenediazonium *o*-benzenedisulfonimides,<sup>9</sup> and arenediazonium tosylates.<sup>11</sup> The results show that the reaction yields were comparable with those reported, and in many cases, the results using the aryldiazonium silica sulfates were superior (Table 2). By supporting the aryldiazonium salt on silica sulfuric acid, the surface area of the reaction increases lowering the reaction time.<sup>18,23</sup>

To summarize, we have reported an efficient, rapid, and experimentally simple method for Heck-type reactions of aryldiazonium silica sulfates with methyl acrylate, styrene, and acrylic acid to form the corresponding cinnamates, stilbenes and cinnamic acids with *trans*-configuration.

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- 21. General procedure for Heck-type reactions of arydiazonium silica sulfate with methyl acrylate or acrylic acid: To a solution of  $Pd(OAc)_2$  (0.009 g, 4 mol %) in  $H_2O$  (10 mL), methyl acrylate or acrylic acid (2 mmol) was added and the mixture was stirred for few minutes. Next, freshly prepared aryldiazonium silica sulfate (1 mmol)<sup>17</sup> was added gradually and the mixture was stirred vigorously at room temperature for the time specified in Table 1. The reaction progress was monitored by TLC (hexane/EtOAc, 75:25). After completion of the reaction (absence of azo coupling with 2-naphthol), the mixture was diluted with EtOAc (15 mL) and filtered after vigorous stirring. The residue was extracted with H2O and dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure to afford the corresponding product and if necessary, the crude product was purified by short column chromatography.
- 22. General procedure for Heck-type reactions of arydiazonium silica sulfate with styrene: To a solution of Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (0.009 g, 4 mol %) in 95% aqueous EtOH (10 mL), styrene (2 mmol) was added and the mixture was stirred for a few minutes. Next, freshly prepared aryldiazonium silica sulfate (1 mm0)<sup>17</sup> was added gradually and the mixture was stirred vigorously at room temperature for the time specified in (Table 1, entries 17–26). The reaction progress was monitored by TLC (hexane/EtOAc, 75:25). After completion of the reaction (absence of azo coupling with 2-naphthol), the mixture was diluted with EtOAc (15 mL) and filtered. The residue was extracted with EtOAc (3 × 10 mL) and the combined organic layer washed with H<sub>2</sub>O and then dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was evaporated under reduced pressure to afford the corresponding product and if necessary, the crude product was purified by short column chromatography.
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