π -Allylic Sulfonylation in Water with Amphiphilic Resin-Supported Palladium–Phosphine Complexes

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Abstract: π -Allylic substitution of allyl esters with sodium arylsulfinate was performed with an amphiphilic polystyrene-poly(ethylene glycol) (PS-PEG) resin-supported phosphine-palladium complex in water as a single reaction medium under heterogeneous conditions to give allyl sulfones in good to high yields. Catalytic asymmetric allylic substitution of cycloalkenyl esters also took place in water using a PS-PEG resin-supported chiral imidazoindolephosphine-palladium complex to give cycloalkenyl sulfones with up to 81% ee.

Key words: π-allylpalladium, sulfone, aqueous media, polymer support, palladium catalyst

The palladium-catalyzed allylic substitution reaction, the Tsuji–Trost reaction, has been recognized as one of the most powerful carbon-carbon and carbon-nitrogen bondforming reactions in use today. However, in spite of the widespread synthetic utility of allyl sulfones,^{1,2} the welldeveloped research on π -allylic sulfonylation has been limited to isolated reports.^{3–5} One of the major problems associated with the π -allylic sulforvation lies in the low solubility of the sulfone nucleophiles, for example, sodium sulfinates, in organic solvents. We have recently developed amphiphilic polystyrene-poly(ethylene glycol) (PS-PEG) resin-supported phosphine-palladium complexes which promote various catalytic transformations,⁶ including allylic substitution,⁷ smoothly in water⁸ under heterogeneous conditions9,10 to meet the requirements of safe, green, and high-throughput chemical processes. Our continuing interest in the aquacatalytic utility of PS-PEG resin-supported palladium complexes led us to examine the π -allylic sulforylation in water with the PS-PEG-Pd complexes.¹¹ We report herein a heterogeneous aquacatalytic π -allylic substitution of various allyl esters with sodium arylsulfinate (Scheme 1), and also describe our preliminary studies on the asymmetric π -allylic sulfonylation of cycloalkenyl esters (up to 81% ee) (Scheme 2).¹²

The reaction of methyl cinnamyl carbonate (**2a**) with sodium benzenesulfinate was carried out in water at 25 °C for 12 hours in the presence of 5 mol% palladium of the PS-PEG (TentaGel)¹³ resin-supported π -allylpalladium– triarylphosphine complex **1**.

The catalyst resin beads were filtered off and extracted with a small portion of ethyl acetate to give 86% yield of

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Scheme 1 π -Allylic sulfonylation



Scheme 2 Asymmetric π -allylic sulforylation

cinnamyl phenyl sulfone (**3a**) (Table 1, entry 1). A range of acyclic and cyclic carbonates of the corresponding primary, secondary, and tertiary allylic alcohols were readily sulfonylated under similar conditions. Representative results are summarized in Table 1. The carbonate ester **2b**, the allylic isomer of cinnamyl carbonate **2a**, gave exclusively cinnamyl phenyl sulfone **3a** (entry 2), when the same procedure for entry 1 was employed, in which the isomeric sulfone **3b** (Figure 1) was not detected on GC. The sulfonylation of the aryl vinyl carbinol esters **2c** and **2d** bearing electron-donating and -withdrawing substituents at their para positions gave the cinnamyl sulfones **3c** and **3d** in 84 and 83% yield, respectively (entries 3 and 4).

The diphenylpropenyl ester **2e** also underwent sulfonylation to give **3e** in 90% yield (entry 5). Geranyl, neryl, and linalyl carbonates **2f**, **2g**, and **2h** reacted with sodium sulfinate under similar conditions to give 62, 78, and 89% yield, respectively, of a mixture of regioisomeric sulfonylation products **3f** and **3h** (entries 6, 7, and 8). The ratios of the geranyl sulfone **3f** and the linalyl sulfone **3h** obtained from the reactions of **2f**, **2g**, and **2h** were almost the

Table 1 π -Allylic Sulfonylation of Allyl Carbonates 2 in H₂O^a



^a All reactions were carried out in H_2O at 25 °C for 12 h. The ratio of 2 (mol)/NaSO₂Ph (mol)/Pd (mol)/H₂O (L) = 1:1.5:0.05:2.

same (3f/3h = 1:9); the nerve sulfone 3g (Figure 1) was not observed at all. These results demonstrate that the reactions of 2f-h proceeded by way of the same π -allylpalladium intermediate. The cyclic substrates 2i, 2j, and 2k also underwent π -allylic sulfonylation to afford the corresponding sulfones 3i, 3j, and 3k in 80, 84, and 86% isolated yield, respectively. The sulfonylation of cis-5methoxycarbonylcyclohex-2-enyl methyl carbonate (4) was also catalyzed by the PS-PEG palladium 1 in water at 25 °C to afford the cis-5-methoxycarbonylcyclohex-2envl phenvl sulfone (5) in 87% yield (Scheme 3). The exclusive formation of the cycloalkenyl sulfone 5 having the cis-configuration from the cis-allylic ester 4 revealed that this π -allylic sulforylation proceeds via a double-inversion pathway (π -allylpalladium formation and nucleophilic attack with a sulfinate anion) in water under these conditions.









Recycling experiments were examined for sulfonylation of the diphenylpropenyl ester **2e**. After the first use of the polymeric palladium catalyst **1** (Table 1, entry 5) to give 87% yield of the adduct **3e**, the recovered catalyst beads were taken on to two reuses and exhibited stable catalytic activity (Scheme 4).



Scheme 4 Recycling experiments

Using this π -allylic sulfonylation protocol, we examined next the catalytic asymmetric sulfonylation in water with an amphiphilic PS-PEG resin-supported chiral palladium complex.^{14,15} We previously reported the heterogeneous

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Scheme 5 Asymmetric substitution in H₂O

aquacatalytic chiral process by catalytic asymmetric π -allylic alkylation and amination of cycloalkenyl esters using a palladium catalyst coordinated with a novel optically active ligand, (3R,9aS)-[2-aryl-3-(2-diphenylphosphino)phenyl]tetrahydro-1H-imidazo[1,5-a]indol-1-one, anchored onto PS-PEG resin (Scheme 2, polymeric ligand 6). Preliminary studies on the aquacatalytic asymmetric allylic sulfonylation of cycloalkenyl esters was examined with cycloheptenyl methyl carbonate 2k (Scheme 5). When a mixture of the cycloheptenyl carbonate 2k and 1.5 equivalents of sodium sulfinate in water was shaken at 25 °C for 1 hour in the presence of the PS-PEG resin-supported chiral palladium-imidazoindole phosphine 6 (5 mol% palladium), the 3-(phenylsulfonyl)cyclohept-1-ene (3k) was obtained in 84% yield. The enantiomeric purity of 3k was determined by HPLC analysis [Chiralcel OD-H (500 mm), n-hexane-i-PrOH, 9:1] to be 71% ee, and the absolute configuration was determined to be S by measurement of the specific rotation ($[\alpha]_D^{25}$ –145 (*c* 1.0, CH₂Cl₂)). The cyclohexenyl and cyclopentenyl carbonates 2j and 2i gave the corresponding cycloalkenyl sulfones 3j and 3i in 33 and 45% ee, respectively. The enantiomeric purity of the sulfonylated product 3k decreased as the reaction time was prolonged. Thus, the sulfonylation of 2k for 12 hours gave only 10% ee of the product 3k under otherwise similar reaction conditions, whereas 71% ee of 3k was obtained in one hour. It has been reported that allyl sulfones can react with dialkyl malonate derivatives under basic conditions in the presence of a palladium(0) catalyst via π allylpalladium intermediates.¹⁶ During the asymmetric sulfonylation of 2k, the enantiomerically enriched 3k generated in situ should undergo the π -allylpalladium formation and subsequent (nonproductive) sulfonylation to result in the racemization of 3k. The highly enantiomerically enriched 3k of 81% ee was obtained when the asymmetric sulfonylation of the cycloheptenyl carbonate 2k was carried out at 0 °C for 30 minutes.

In summary, the palladium-catalyzed π -allylic sulfonylation was achieved with sodium benzenesulfinate in water with polymeric palladium complexes to meet safe and green chemical requirements. Asymmetric π -allylic sulfonylation of cycloalkenyl carbonates was also carried out in water without any organic solvent to give up to 81% ee.

All manipulations were carried out under a nitrogen atmosphere. Nitrogen gas was dried by passage through P₂O₅. Water was deion-

ized with a Millipore system as Milli-Q grade. NMR spectra were recorded on a JEOL JNM-AL400 spectrometer (400 MHz for ¹H, 100 MHz for ¹³C) or a JEOL JNM-LA500 spectrometer (500 MHz for ¹H, 125 MHz for ¹³C). ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded in CDCl₃ at 25 °C. Chemical shifts were reported in ppm referenced to an internal tetramethylsilane standard for ¹H NMR. Chemical shifts of ¹³C NMR were given relative to CDCl₃ as an internal standard (δ = 77.0 ppm). The mass spectral data were measured on an Agilent 6890 GC/5973N MS detector (GC-MS) and JEOL JMS-700 (EI-MS); the abbreviation 'bp' is used to denote the base peak. IR analysis was performed on a JASCO FTIR-460. Optical rotations were measured on a JASCO P-1020 polarimeter. HPLC analysis was performed on a JASCO PU-1580 liquid chromatograph system. PS-PEG-supported catalysts were prepared from PS-PEG amino-resin (TentaGelS NH2, average diameter 0.90 µm, 1% divinylbenzene cross-linked, loading value of amino residue 0.31 mmol/g; purchased from RAPP POLYMERETM) according to the reported procedure.7b,12c

CAS Registry No.: **3a**, 16212-07-0; **3d**, 863310-91-2; **3e**, 191542-63-9; **3f**, 56691-80-6; **3h**, 91940-11-3; **3i**, 140396-96-9; **3j**, 87413-32-9; **3k**, 131179-47-0; **5**, 74866-39-0.

Palladium-Catalyzed Allylic Substitution of Allyl Esters with Sodium Benzenesulfinate; 3-(Phenylsulfonyl)-1-phenylpropene (3a); Typical Procedure

To a mixture of the catalyst **1** (92 mg, 0.025 mmol) and cinnamyl carbonate (**2a**; 96.0 mg, 0.5 mmol) in H_2O (2.0 mL) was added sodium benzenesulfinate (150 mg, 0.75 mmol) and the mixture was stirred at 25 °C for 12 h. The mixture was filtered and the recovered resin beads were rinsed with EtOAc (3 mL). The EtOAc layer was separated and the aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc (5 mL). The combined EtOAc extracts were washed with brine (2 mL) and dried (MgSO₄). The solvent was evaporated and the residue was chromatographed on silica gel (hexane–EtOAc, 1:1) to give 110.8 mg (86%) of **3a** (Table 1).

IR (ATR): 2982, 1237, 1086 cm⁻¹.

¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ = 7.88 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2 H), 7.63 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1 H), 7.54 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2 H), 7.32–7.25 (m, 5 H), 6.36 (d, *J* = 15.8 Hz 1 H), 6.09 (td, *J* = 7.9, 15.8 Hz, 1 H), 3.95 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2 H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ = 139.1 (2 C), 138.3, 135.6, 133.7, 129.0, 128.6 (4 C), 126.5, 115.0, 60.4.

MS (EI): *m*/*z* (%) = 258 (2, M⁺), 198 (7), 117 (bp), 77 (75).

3-(Phenylsulfonyl)-1-(4-trifluoromethylphenyl)propene (3c) IR (ATR): 2925, 1302, 1084, 892 $\rm cm^{-1}.$

¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ = 7.88 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2 H), 7.66 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1 H), 7.55 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2 H), 7.54 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2 H), 7.38 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2 H), 6.42 (d, *J* = 16.1 Hz, 1 H), 6.21 (td, *J* = 7.3, 16.1 Hz 1 H), 3.97 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2 H).

¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ = 139.0, 138.3, 137.7, 133.9, 130.3 (q, J = 36.4 Hz), 129.1, 128.4, 126.7, 125.6 (q, J = 4.1 Hz), 123.9 (q, J = 267.8 Hz), 117.9, 60.2.

MS (EI): m/z (%) = 307 (1, M⁺ – F), 165 (51), 115 (67), 77 (bp), 51 (58).

Anal. Calcd for $C_{16}H_{13}F_3O_2S$: C, 58.89; H, 4.02. Found: C, 58.44; H, 4.11.

3-(Phenylsulfonyl)-1-(4-methoxyphenyl)propene (3d) IR (ATR): 2983, 1606, 1509, 1249, 1135 cm⁻¹.

¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ = 7.87 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2 H), 7.63 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1 H), 7.53 (t, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1 H), 7.21 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 2 H), 6.84 (d, *J* = 9.1 Hz, 2 H), 6.30 (d, *J* = 15.8 Hz, 1 H), 5.95 (td, *J* = 7.3, 15.8 Hz 1 H), 3.56 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2 H), 3.80 (s, 3 H).

¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ = 159.8, 138.6, 133.6, 130.9, 129.0, 128.5, 127.8, 127.6, 114.0, 112.5, 60.5, 55.2.

MS (EI): *m*/*z* (%) = 288 (10, M⁺), 197 (9), 115 (bp), 51 (67).

3-(Phenylsulfonyl)-1,3-diphenylprop-2-ene (3e)

IR (ATR): 3060, 1142, 1082 cm⁻¹.

¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ = 7.65 (d, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2 H), 7.54 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 1 H), 7.39 (t, *J* = 7.3 Hz, 2 H), 7.35–7.25 (m, 10 H), 6.56 (dd, *J* = 15.6, 8.7 Hz, 1 H), 6.49 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 1 H), 4.81 (d, *J* = 8.7 Hz, 1 H).

 ^{13}C NMR (CDCl₃): δ = 156.4, 155.6, 154.1, 150.5, 148.0, 147.6, 147.2, 147.0, 146.9, 146.9, 146.8, 145.0, 138.2, 93.7.

MS (EI): *m*/*z* (%) = 334 (0.5, M⁺), 191 (42), 115 (bp), 91 (41).

Geranyl Phenyl Sulfone (3f)

IR (ATR): 2918, 1446, 1294, 1144, 1085 cm⁻¹.

¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ = 7.88–7.85 (m, 2 H), 7.65–7.61 (m, 1 H), 7.55–7.51 (m, 2 H), 5.18 (t, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1 H), 5.02 (m, 1 H), 3.80 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2 H), 2.18–1.94 (m, 4 H), 1.68 (s, 3 H), 1.58 (s, 3 H), 1.31 (s, 3 H).

¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ = 146.3, 138.6, 133.4, 132.0, 128.9, 128.5, 123.4, 110.2, 56.0, 39.6, 26.1, 25.6, 17.6, 16.1.

MS (EI): m/z (%) = 169 (1, M⁺ – O₂Ph), 141 (10), 77 (91), 41 (bp).

Linalyl Phenyl Sulfone (3h)

IR (ATR): 2918, 1446, 1294, 1144, 1085 cm⁻¹.

¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ = 7.77 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2 H), 7.59 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1 H), 7.48 (t, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 2 H), 5.89 (dd, *J* = 17.5, 10.7 Hz, 1 H), 5.33 (d, *J* = 10.7 Hz, 1 H), 5.03 (d, *J* = 17.5 Hz, 1 H), 5.01 (m, 1 H), 1.96–1.83 (m, 4 H), 1.63 (s, 3 H), 1.52 (s, 3 H), 1.34 (s, 3 H).

¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ = 135.1, 133.4, 130.7, 128.8, 128.2, 123.0, 120.4, 110.2, 68.2, 32.7, 25.5, 22.4, 17.6, 16.1.

MS (EI): m/z (%) = 169 (1, M⁺ – O₂Ph), 141 (10), 77 (91), 41 (bp).

3-(Phenylsulfonyl)cyclopent-1-ene (3i)

IR (ATR): 2936, 1302, 1138, 1084 cm⁻¹.

¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ = 7.88 (d, J = 7.3 Hz, 2 H), 7.65 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 1 H), 7.54 (t, J = 7.3 Hz, 2 H), 6.12–6.10 (m, 1 H), 5.68–5.66 (m, 1 H), 4.29–4.27 (m, 1 H), 2.39–2.13 (m, 4 H).

¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ = 140.2, 137.5, 133.5, 129.0, 128.8, 123.7, 72.3, 31.8, 24.4.

MS (EI): m/z (%) = 209 (0.1, M⁺ + H), 143 (6), 67 (bp).

3-(Phenylsulfonyl)cyclohex-1-ene (3j)

IR (ATR): 2938, 1302, 1084 cm⁻¹.

¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ = 7.88 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2 H), 7.65 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1 H), 7.55 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2 H), 6.10–6.07 (m, 1 H), 5.79–5.77 (m, 1 H), 3.77–3.75 (m, 1 H), 2.01–1.73 (m, 5 H), 1.53–1.46 (m, 1 H).

¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ = 137.3, 135.2, 133.5, 129.1, 128.9, 118.4, 61.7, 24.3, 22.6, 19.4.

MS (EI): m/z (%) = 223 (33, M⁺ + H), 143 (99), 77 (bp).

3-(Phenylsulfonyl)cyclohept-1-ene (3k)

IR (ATR): 2926, 1303, 1084 cm⁻¹.

¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ = 7.91 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2 H), 7.65 (t, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1 H), 7.56 (t, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 2 H), 6.04–5.99 (m, 1 H), 5.82–5.79 (m, 1 H), 3.86–3.83 (m, 1 H), 2.23–2.19 (m, 2 H), 2.08–2.20 (m, 2 H), 1.72–1.58 (m, 3 H), 1.46–1.44 (m, 1 H).

¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ = 137.8, 136.8, 133.5, 129.0, 128.9, 123.7, 66.2, 27.9, 27.8, 26.8, 25.9.

MS (EI): m/z (%) = 237 (3, M⁺ + H), 143 (99), 95 (bp).

cis-5-Methoxycarbonylcyclohex-2-enyl Phenyl Sulfone (5) IR (ATR): 2979, 1731, 1085 cm⁻¹.

¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ = 7.87 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2 H), 7.67 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1 H), 7.57 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2 H), 6.05–6.02 (m, 1 H), 5.90 (d, *J* = 10.2 Hz, 1 H), 3.92–3.89 (m, 1 H), 3.69 (s, 3 H), 2.57–2.53 (m, 1 H), 2.40–2.38 (m, 1 H), 2.33–2.25 (m, 1 H), 2.10–2.02 (m, 1 H), 5.67 (d, *J* = 10.3 Hz, 1 H), 3.99 (br s, 1 H), 3.72 (s, 3 H), 2.67 (dddd, *J* = 12.2, 9.7, 6.4, 2.4 Hz, 1 H), 2.42–2.24 (m, 3 H), 1.72 (ddd, *J* = 12.3, 12.3, 12.3 Hz, 1 H).

¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ = 174.1, 136.3, 133.8, 132.5, 129.1, 129.0, 118.9, 62.7, 52.1, 38.1, 27.2, 25.5.

MS (EI): m/z (%) = 280 (0.3, M⁺), 139 (16), 79 (bp), 51 (30).

Palladium-Catalyzed Asymmetric Allylic Substitution of Cyclic Allyl Esters with Sodium Benzenesulfinate; (S)-3-(Phenylsulfonyl)cyclohept-1-ene [(S)-3k]; Typical Procedure

To a mixture of the catalyst **6** (89 mg, 0.025 mmol) and methyl cycloheptenyl carbonate (**2k**; 85.0 mg, 0.5 mmol) in H₂O (2.0 mL) was added sodium benzenesulfinate (150 mg, 0.75 mmol) and the mixture was stirred at 25 °C for 1 h. The mixture was filtered and the recovered resin beads were rinsed with EtOAc (3 mL). The EtOAc layer was separated and the aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc (5 mL). The combined EtOAc extracts were washed with brine (2 mL) and dried (MgSO₄). The solvent was evaporated and the residue was chromatographed on silica gel (hexane– EtOAc, 2:1) to give 65 mg (84%) of (*S*)-**3k**; $[\alpha]_D^{19}$ –145 (*c* 1.0, CH₂Cl₂); ee 71% {Lit.¹⁵ $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ –89.6 (*c* 3.84, CH₂Cl₂) for (*S*)-**3k** of 94% ee}. The enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC analysis using a chiral stationary phase column [Chiralcel OD-H (500 mm); eluent: *n*-hexane–*i*-PrOH, 9:1; flow rate: 0.5 mL/min; *t*_R: major isomer 59 min and minor isomer 62 min].

Spectral data of (S)-3k were identical with that of 3k given above.

(S)-3i

 $[\alpha]_{\rm D}^{20}$ –179.9 (*c* 0.45, CH₂Cl₂); ee 45% {Lit.¹⁵ $[\alpha]_{\rm D}^{20}$ –216.6 (*c* 1.56, CH₂Cl₂) for (*S*)-**3i** of 98% ee}. The enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC analysis using a chiral stationary phase column [Chiralcel OD-H (500 mm); eluent: *n*-hexane–*i*-PrOH, 9:1; flow rate: 0.5 mL/min; *t*_R: major isomer 77 min and minor isomer 82 min].

Spectral data of (*S*)-**3i** were identical with that of **3i** given above.

(S)-3j

 $[\alpha]_{\rm D}^{2\bar{0}}$ -60.0 (*c* 0.4, CH₂Cl₂); ee 33% {Lit.¹⁵ $[\alpha]_{\rm D}^{20}$ -136.8 (*c* 3.84, CH₂Cl₂) for (*S*)-**3j** of 98% ee}. The enantiomeric excess was determined by HPLC analysis using a chiral stationary phase column [Chiralcel AD-H (500 mm); eluent: *n*-hexane–*i*-PrOH, 9:1; flow rate: 0.5 mL/min; *t*_R: major isomer 68 min and minor isomer 71 min].

Spectral data of (*S*)-**3j** were identical with that of **3j** given above.

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