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## Application of Amberlite IRA-400 (Basic) as a Base in Heck Reaction<sup>†</sup>

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### ABSTRACT

Amberlite IRA-400 (basic) has been used as a base in the Heck reaction and the generated quarternary ammonium salt might also be assisting in the reaction. The reaction is clean, simple and yields are high. The resin can be regenerated, recycled and the work-up procedure becomes simple compared to other bases used.

Palladium catalyzed olefin arylation/alkenylation developed primarily by Heck,<sup>[1]</sup> is a well established method for the coupling of activated olefins with aromatic/vinylic halides.<sup>[2]</sup> A base is generally added to the Heck reaction<sup>[3]</sup> to regenerate Pd(o) from 'HPdx' by neutralization of Hx.

<sup>†</sup>Dedicated to the memory of Late Dr. Nitiraj R. Mane.

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In the Heck reaction cycle, after the migratory insertion comes the step in which Pd(o) is released by PdH elimination to give alkene.

The termination occurs by nucleophilic attack at Pd, which either by nucleophilic substitution or by reductive elimination of co-ordinated nucleophile leads to the release of Pd(o). If PdH is not scavenged fast by base, the readdition to the double bond may occur.

Trialkyl amines, carbonates, bicarbonates, acetates, potassium phosphate, alkoxides, hydroxides have been used as bases in Heck reaction.<sup>[4]</sup> We report here the application of amberlite IRA-400 (basic) as a base in the Heck reaction.

The reactions of aryl halides with olefins using palladium acetate, amberlite IRA-400 (basic) resin in DMF have been carried out in high yields and purity (Table 1). The products at 2, 3 and 6 are important intermediates for the synthesis of natural products prepared earlier by multistep sequences. The Heck reaction with sorbic acid is interesting and yields  $\delta$ -substitution product. The amberlite resin acts as a base and is converted into the quaternary ammonium iodide which might also be assisting the Heck reaction. There are reports in the literature<sup>[4,5]</sup> that quaternary ammonium salts can effect the reduction of Pd(II) to Pd(o) and thus stabilize palladium catalyst, leading to acceleration of the Heck reaction. Thus the use of amberlite IRA-400 (basic) serves dual purpose in assisting the Heck reaction.

The reaction is clean, simple and the resin can be regenerated and recycled. The work-up procedure becomes simple compared to other bases used.

### GENERAL PROCEDURE

A mixture of palladium acetate (45 mg, 0.2 mmol), aryl halide (*p*-iodotoluene/*p*-iodo anisole, 20 mmol), olefinic compound (25 mmol) and amberlite IRA-400 (basic) 2 g in dry DMF (6 mL) was stirred at 80°C for 2 to 8 h. It was cooled and filtered to remove resin which was washed with ether. The organic layer was diluted with water and extracted with ether. The ether layer was washed with water and dried over anhydrous sodium sulphate. Removal of ether furnished the solid products which were purified by recrystallization using suitable solvent and liquids were purified by passing through chromatography column (silica gel, pet. ether).



## Amberlite IRA-400 as Base in Heck Reaction

363

Table 1. Heck reaction of *p*-iodo toluene/*p*-iodoanisole.

Entry	Olefin	Product	Reaction Time (h)	Yield (%)	Physical constants	
					Obs. (°C)	Lit. (°C)
1			5	86.4	196–198	198–199 <sup>[6a]</sup>
2			5	79.5	128–130	—
3			8	52	168–170	172 <sup>[6b]</sup>
4			2	92.8	118–120	120 <sup>[6a]</sup>
5			2	90.4	134–136	135–136 <sup>[6c]</sup>
6			5	84.3	275(l) <sup>a</sup>	—
7			5	86.5	220–224(l) <sup>a</sup>	220–230(l) <sup>a</sup> [6a]
8			8	90.0	260(l) <sup>a</sup>	—

(l)<sup>a</sup>Liquid, yields refer to pure isolated products.



## Spectral Data for the Unknown Compounds

**3-(4-Methyl-phenyl) 2-butenic acid (2):** IR:  $1674\text{ cm}^{-1}$ . PMR [ $\text{CDCl}_3$ ]:  $\delta$  2.35 (3H, s, Ar- $\text{CH}_3$ ), 2.59 (3H, s, vinylic- $\text{CH}_3$ ), 6.17 (1H, s, vinylic-H), 7.20 (2H, d,  $J = 8\text{ Hz}$ , Ar-H), 7.41 (2H, d,  $J = 8\text{ Hz}$ , Ar-H). MS (70 eV)  $m/e$  176 ( $\text{M}^+$ ).

**Methyl-3-(4-methyl-phenyl crotonate (6):** IR:  $1716\text{ cm}^{-1}$ . PMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  2.35 (3H, s, Ar- $\text{CH}_3$ ), 2.56 (3H, s, vinylic- $\text{CH}_3$ ), 3.74 (3H, s,  $\text{OCH}_3$ ), 6.13 (1H, s, vinylic-H), 7.14 (2H, d,  $J = 8\text{ Hz}$ , Ar-H), 7.39 (2H, d,  $J = 8\text{ Hz}$ , Ar-H). MS (70 eV)  $m/e$  190 ( $\text{M}^+$ ).

**Methyl-3-(4-methyl-phenyl) isobutyl crotonate (8):** IR:  $1713, 1628\text{ cm}^{-1}$ . PMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  0.99 (6H, d,  $J = 7\text{ Hz}$ , gem-dimethyl), 2.00 (1H, m,  $J = 7\text{ Hz}$ , methine-H), 2.38 (3H, s, Ar- $\text{CH}_3$ ), 2.58 (3H, s, vinylic- $\text{CH}_3$ ), 3.95 (2H, d,  $J = 7\text{ Hz}$ ,  $-\text{O}-\text{CH}_2-$ ), 6.16 (1H, bs, vinylic-H), 7.20 (2H, d,  $J = 8\text{ Hz}$ , Ar-H, ortho to methyl), 7.41 (2H, d,  $J = 8\text{ Hz}$ , Ar-H, meta to methyl). MS (70 eV)  $m/e$  232 ( $\text{M}^+$ ).

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**Amberlite IRA-400 as Base in Heck Reaction**

**365**

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