

Well-Defined Air-Stable Palladium HASPO Complexes for Efficient Kumada–Corriu Cross-Couplings of (Hetero)Aryl or Alkenyl Tosylates

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Abstract: Palladium complexes of representative *heteroatom*-substituted secondary phosphine oxide (HASPO) preligands were synthesized and fully characterized, including X-ray crystal structure analysis. Importantly, these well-defined complexes served as highly ef-

ficient catalysts for Kumada–Corriu cross-coupling reactions of aryl, alkenyl, and even heteroaryl tosylates. Par-

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ticularly, an air-stable catalyst derived from inexpensive PinP(O)H displayed a remarkably high catalytic efficacy, which resulted in cross-couplings at low catalyst loadings under exceedingly mild reaction conditions with ample scope.

Introduction

Transition-metal-catalyzed cross-coupling reactions between organic halides and organometallic or main-group-element nucleophiles are among the most valuable tools for regioselective C–C bond formations.^[1,2] Due to their mild reaction conditions, these transformations found widespread applications in various research areas, such as crop protection, material sciences, or medicinal chemistry. Traditionally, aryl iodides, triflates, bromides, and more recently chlorides^[3,4] served as organic electrophiles for the regioselective synthesis of substituted (hetero)arenes.^[3,5] On the contrary, the use of aryl or alkenyl tosylates in cross-coupling chemistry is highly desirable, since they can be prepared from readily available phenols or ketones using inexpensive reagents, and because they are usually highly crystalline as well as stable towards hydrolysis.^[3] Unfortunately, the remarkable stability of these user-friendly electrophiles translates into a significantly diminished reactivity in metal-catalyzed coupling reactions. As a result, palladium-catalyzed functionalizations of electronically unactivated aryl tosylates usually required the use of specifically designed stabilizing ligands.^[3,6] Thus far, this ligand design mainly focused on electron-rich tertiary phosphines, which can be prone to undergo oxidation. Specifically, generally applicable palladium-catalyzed cross-

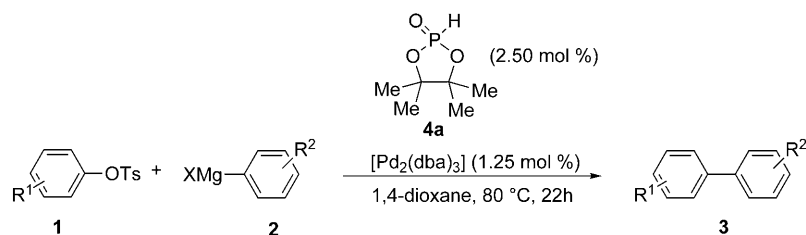
coupling reactions between organomagnesium reagents and unactivated aryl tosylates were elegantly accomplished with a palladium complex derived from an electron-rich analogue of the Josiphos ligand.^[7–9] Unfortunately, heterocyclic^[10] tosylates bearing Lewis-basic nitrogen-containing functionalities proved to be detrimental to the catalytic activity of the Josiphos-based palladium complex.^[7,8] We, on the contrary, devised an in situ generated catalyst of air-stable *heteroatom*-substituted^[11] secondary phosphine oxide (HASPO)^[12] preligands for challenging arylations of inter alia aryl bromides, chlorides, and fluorides,^[13] which notably proved to be amenable to Kumada–Corriu coupling reactions of unactivated aryl tosylates as well.^[14] Thus, particularly complexes generated from inexpensive PinP(O)H (**4a**) displayed a high catalytic activity (Scheme 1), even when using more demanding Lewis-basic N-heteroaromatic tosylates.

Despite this remarkable recent progress in the use of HASPO preligands for catalytic cross-coupling reactions,^[12–14] the coordination chemistry of catalytically relevant HASPOs has thus far not been explored. Moreover, structurally characterized HASPO complexes have, to the best of our knowledge, previously not been employed as well-defined catalysts for cross-coupling reactions.^[12] Therefore, we became interested in preparing novel isolated HASPO transition-metal complexes and in probing their performance in catalytic arylation reactions. As a result of our efforts, we disclose herein the synthesis of fully characterized palladium complexes of representative HASPO preligands and their use as catalysts in challenging Kumada–Corriu cross-coupling reactions of unactivated aryl and heteroaryl tosylates. Importantly, these studies also represent a first application of secondary phosphine oxides as preligands for cross-couplings of alkenyl tosylates.

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Scheme 1. Kumada–Corriu cross-coupling of aryl tosylates **1** with an in situ generated complex of HASPO preligand **4a**.

Results and Discussion

Cross-couplings of alkenyl tosylates with an in situ generated catalytic system:

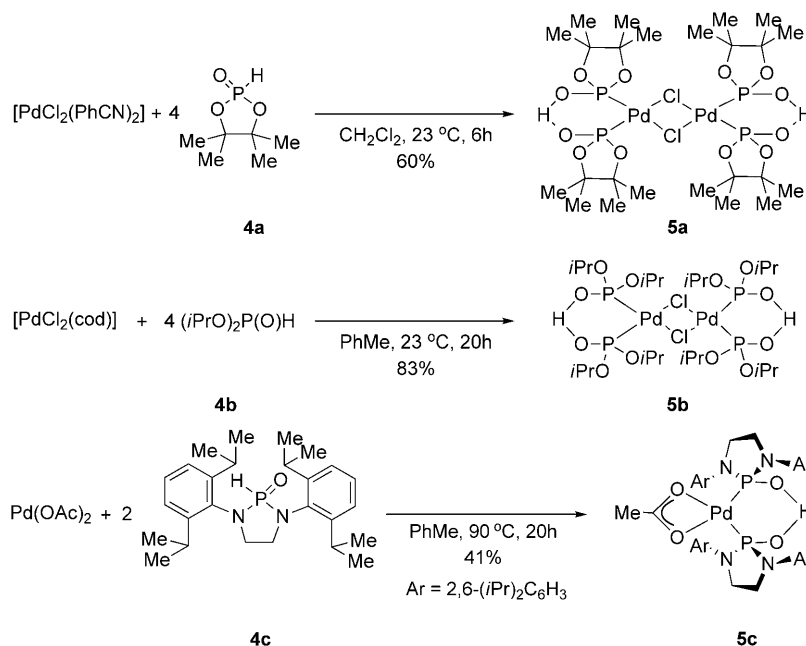
In situ generated transition-metal complexes of air-stable (HA)SPO preligands were thus far solely employed for cross-coupling reactions of *aryl* sulfonates.^[12] Therefore, we probed at the outset of our studies the application of the in situ generated catalytic system of PinP(O)H (**4a**) for the diastereoselective synthesis of tri- and tetrasubstituted alkenes **3** (Table 1). Thereby, a variety of differently substituted alkenes **3** was accessed with excellent chemoselectivities (Table 1, entries 1–12). Importantly, the catalytic system turned out not to be limited to cyclic alkenyl tosylates **1**, but also enabled the efficient and selective synthesis of acyclic olefins **3am** and **3an** (Table 1, entries 13, and 14).

Synthesis of well-defined palladium complexes: Despite the outstanding catalytic activity and wide applicability exerted by in situ generated HASPO complexes, the coordination chemistry of catalytically relevant derivatives has thus far not been explored.^[12] Therefore, we set out to prepare well-defined palladium complexes **5a–5c** by employing representative air-stable preligands **4a–4c** (Scheme 2).

Importantly, the molecular structures of homobimetallic complex **5b** and monometallic complex **5c** revealed the hydrogen-bond stabilized nature of the quasi-bidentate ligand (Figure 1 and 2, respectively).^[15] Furthermore, it is noteworthy that novel palladium complex **5c** displays a monomeric κ -acetato-ligand.^[16]

Well-defined isolated catalysts for cross-couplings with aryl tosylates: With well-defined palladium complexes **5a–5c** in hand, we tested their catalytic efficacy in the Kumada–Corriu cross-coupling of electron-rich aryl tosylates **1a** and

1b (Scheme 3). Notably, the isolated complex **5a** displayed an activity that was significantly improved over the one of the in situ generated catalytic system. Furthermore, palladium complexes **5b** and **5c** required a higher catalyst loading to ensure satisfactory yields of products **3ao** and **3ap**.



Scheme 2. Synthesis of novel HASPO palladium complexes **5a–5c**.

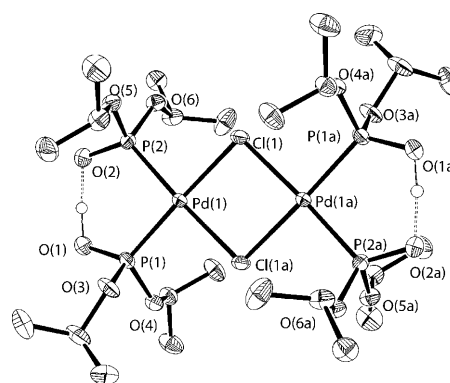
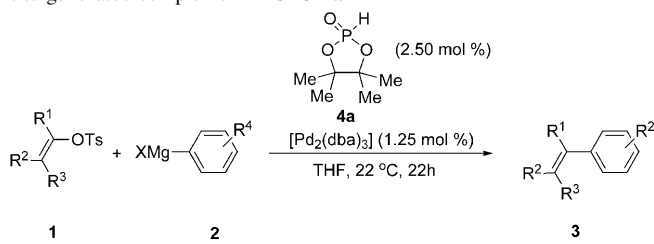


Figure 1. Molecular structure of $[(\mu\text{-ClPd}\{(i\text{PrO})_2\text{POH}\}\{(i\text{PrO})_2\text{PO})\}_2]$ (**5b**). Thermal ellipsoids are shown at 50% probability. H atoms are omitted for clarity except for H1O, which was found and refined freely.

Subsequently, we explored the scope of the optimal catalyst **5a** in Kumada–Corriu cross-coupling reactions of substituted aryl tosylates (Table 2). Thus, diversely decorated aryl tosylates were efficiently functionalized, even when being

Table 1. Kumada–Corriu cross-coupling of alkenyl tosylates **1** with an in situ generated complex of HASPO **4a**.^[a]


Entry	1	3	Yield [%]
1			3aa 65
2			3ab 77 ^[b]
3			3ac 78 ^[b]
4			3ad 72
5			3ae 73
6			3af 72
7			3ag 80 ^[b]
8			3ah 82 ^[b]
9			3ai 65
10			3aj 82
11			3ak 62 ^[b]
12			3al 78 ^[b]
13			3am 54
14			3an 70

[a] Reaction conditions: **1** (1.0 equiv), **2** (1.5 equiv), [Pd₂(dba)₃] (1.25 mol %), **4a** (2.50 mol %), THF (2.0 mL), 22 h, 22 °C. [b] 60 °C.

electron-rich, hence for an oxidative addition electronically deactivated. Interestingly, the general synthesis of more sterically congested *ortho*-substituted biaryls proved also viable at a low catalyst loading.

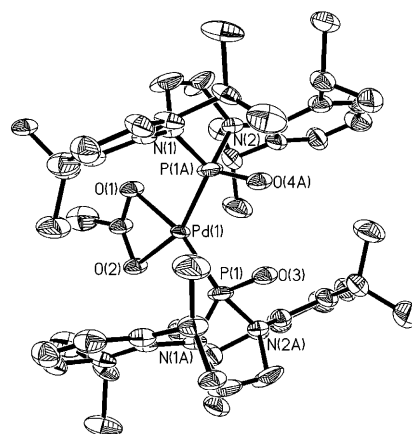
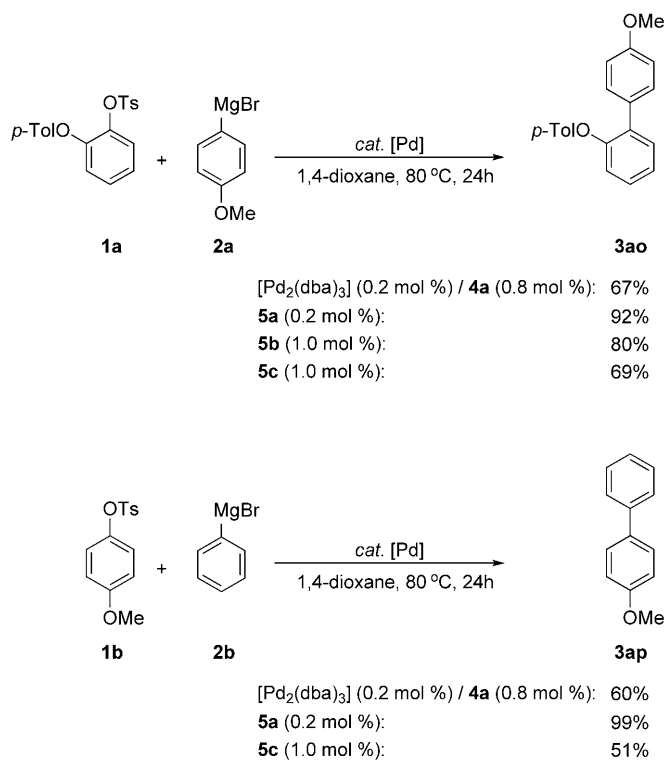


Figure 2. Molecular structure of κ^2 -acetato palladium complex **5c**. Thermal ellipsoids are shown at 50% probability. H atoms and solvent are omitted for clarity. Only one of two orientations of the disordered molecule is shown.



Scheme 3. Catalytic activity of isolated complexes **5** versus in situ generated catalyst.

Cross-couplings of N-heteroaryl tosylates: Regioselectively substituted N-heteroarenes are omnipresent structural motifs of biologically active compounds, and their syntheses by cross-coupling chemistry have received increased attention in recent years.^[17] We, therefore, tested the use of air-stable complex **5a** in the Kumada–Corriu cross-coupling of nitrogen-containing heterocyclic tosylates. Contrary to the results obtained with a previously reported palladium cata-

Table 2. Scope of Kumada-Corriu cross-coupling of aryl tosylates **1** with catalyst **5a**.^[a]

$\text{R}^1\text{-C}_6\text{H}_4\text{-OTs} + \text{XMg-C}_6\text{H}_4\text{-R}^2 \xrightarrow[1,4\text{-dioxane, } 80^\circ\text{C, 24h}]{\text{5a (0.2 mol \%)}} \text{R}^1\text{-C}_6\text{H}_4\text{-C}_6\text{H}_4\text{-R}^2$							
Entry	1	3	Yield [%]	Entry	1	3	Yield [%]
1			3ap 99	12			3ba 94
2			3aq 89	13			3bb 97
3			3ar 94	14			3bc 98
4			3as 74	15			3bd 74
5			3at 91	16			3be 79
6			3au 98	17			3bf 94
7			3av 97	18			3ao 92 94 ^[c]
8			3aw 83 ^[b]	19			3bg 84
9			3ax 71 ^[b]	20			3bh 94 88 ^[c]
10			3ay 71 ^[b]	21			3bi 97
11			3az 84	22			3bj 93

[a] Reaction conditions: **1** (1.0 equiv), **2** (1.5 equiv), **5a** (0.2 mol %) 1,4-dioxane (4.0 mL), 24 h, 80 °C. [b] **5c** (2.0 mol %), 110 °C. [c] **5c** (2.0 mol %), 22 °C.

lyst,^[8] excellent yields were generally obtained with HASPO-derived catalyst **5a** (Table 3), thereby furnishing regioselectively decorated pyridines (Table 3, entries 1–5) and quinolines (Table 3, entries 6–10), again at remarkably low catalyst loading.

Alkenyl tosylates: Alkenyl tosylates are useful, yet challenging starting materials for the diastereoselective synthesis of substituted alkenes. Hence, we were delighted to observe that the well-defined palladium complex **5a** also allowed highly efficient cross-coupling reactions of electronically un-

Table 3. Kumada–Corriu cross-coupling of heteroaryl tosylates **1** with isolated complex **5a**.^[a]

$\text{R}^1\text{-Y-OTs} + \text{XMg-Ph-R}^2 \xrightarrow[1,4\text{-dioxane, } 80^\circ\text{C, 24h}]{\text{5a (0.2 mol \%)}} \text{R}^1\text{-Y-Ph-R}^2$				
Entry	1	3		Yield [%]
1			3bk	83
2			3bl	98
3			3bm	92
4			3bn	71
5			3bo	72
6			3bp	91
7			3bq	92
8			3br	94
9			3bs	98
10			3bt	97

[a] Reaction conditions: **1** (1.0 equiv), **2** (1.5 equiv), **5a** (0.2 mol %), 1,4-dioxane (4.0 mL), 24 h, 80 °C.

activated alkenyl tosylates **1** (Table 4). Notably these transformations proceeded with excellent stereocontrol, thereby delivering the desired alkenes **3** as the sole products.

Hydroxyl-substituted electrophiles: Subsequently, we were interested in the site-selective cross-coupling of dihalo-substituted arenes.^[18–20] Consequently, we explored the use of air-stable complex **5a** for the functionalization of electrophiles **1** bearing free acidic hydroxyl substituents^[19,21–23] as potential directing groups (Table 5). Notably, both aryl chlorides as well as aryl tosylates displaying free hydroxyl groups were converted to the desired products **3** with high chemoselectivities (Table 5, entries 1–5). Moreover, benzyl

Table 4. Kumada–Corriu cross-coupling of alkenyl tosylates **1** with complex **5a**.^[a]

$\text{R}^1\text{-R}^2\text{-C(OTs)=R}^3 + \text{XMg-Ph-R}^4 \xrightarrow[1,4\text{-dioxane, } 80^\circ\text{C, 24h}]{\text{5a (0.2 mol \%)}} \text{R}^1\text{-R}^2\text{-C(Ph)=R}^3\text{-R}^4$				
Entry	1	2	3	Yield [%]
1			3bu	83
2			3ae	92
3			3ag	62
4			3bv	90
5			3bw	94
6			3bx	96
7			3by	98
8			3bz	97
9			3ca	97

[a] Reaction conditions: **1** (1.0 equiv), **2** (1.5 equiv), **5a** (0.2 mol %), 1,4-dioxane (4.0 mL), 24 h, 80 °C.

alcohols **1** were well tolerated by homobimetallic complex **5a** as well (Table 5, entries 6 and 7). Importantly, these findings finally set the stage for site-selective Kumada–Corriu cross-couplings of dichloroarenes (Table 5, entries 8–10).

Conclusion

In summary, we have reported on the synthesis of novel well-defined palladium complexes derived from HASPO preligands, which were fully characterized, including their X-ray crystal structure analysis. Importantly, an air-stable complex of PinP(O)H (**4a**) displayed a significantly improved catalytic activity in the challenging cross-coupling of unactivated aryl tosylates, when compared with the in situ generated catalytic system. The optimized catalysts remarkably broad substrate scope was reflected by high-yielding cross-couplings of alkenyl and heteroaryl tosylates at low catalyst loadings, as well as chemo- and site-selective functionalizations of hydroxyl-substituted electrophiles. More generally, the unprecedented use of isolated HASPO complexes for cross-coupling reactions has shed light on the working mode of thus far in situ generated HASPO-based catalytic systems.

Table 5. Kumada–Corriu cross-coupling of hydroxyl-substituted electrophiles **1**.^[a]

Entry	1	3		Yield [%]
1			3cb	75
2			3cc	73
3			3cd	82
4			3cb	84
5			3cc	80
6			3ce	77
7			3cf	93
8			3cg	86
9			3ch	73
10			3ci	75

[a] Reaction conditions: **1** (1.0 equiv), **2** (3.0 equiv), **5a** (2.0 mol %), 1,4-dioxane (4.0 mL), 24 h, 110 °C.

Experimental Section

General remarks: Catalytic reactions were carried out under a N₂ atmosphere using pre-dried glassware. Chemicals were obtained from commercial sources, and were used without further purification. Aryl^[14] and alkenyl^[24] tosylates were prepared as previously described. 1,4-Dioxane and THF were freshly distilled from sodium/benzophenone under N₂. Yields refer to isolated compounds, estimated to be >95 % pure as determined by ¹H NMR and GC analysis. Flash chromatography: Macherey–Nagel silica gel 60 (70–230 mesh). NMR: Spectra were recorded on a Varian-NMR 300 instrument in the solvent indicated; chemical shifts (δ) are given in ppm.

Representative procedure for Kumada–Corriu cross-coupling reactions of alkenyl tosylates **1 with the in situ generated catalyst: Synthesis of **3ae** (Table 1, entry 5):** A solution of [Pd₂(dba)₃] (5.80 mg, 0.006 mmol, 1.2 mol %) and PinP(O)H (**4a**) (2.10 mg, 0.013 mmol, 2.5 mol %) in dry THF (2.00 mL) was stirred under N₂ for 5 min at ambient temperature. Then **2a** (1.50 mL, 0.5 M in THF, 0.75 mmol) was added by using a syringe and the solution was stirred for an additional 5 min at ambient temperature. Thereafter, 4-*tert*-butylcyclohexen-1-yltosylate (160 mg, 0.519 mmol) was added, and the resulting suspension was stirred for 22 h at ambient temperature. Saturated, aqueous NH₄Cl solution (50 mL) and EtOAc (50 mL) were added, and the separated aqueous phase was extracted with EtOAc (3 × 50 mL). The combined organic layers were concentrated in vacuo and the remaining residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-pentane) to yield **3ae** (90 mg, 73 %) as a colorless solid (m.p. 77–78 °C).

Representative procedure for the palladium-catalyzed Kumada–Corriu cross-coupling reactions of aryl tosylates with palladium complex **5a: Synthesis of **3ap** (Scheme 3):** A solution of **5a** (1.8 mg, 0.002 mmol, 0.2 mol %) in dry 1,4-dioxane (4.00 mL) was stirred under N₂ for 5 min at ambient temperature. Then **2b** (0.68 mL, 2.2 M in THF, 1.50 mmol) was added by using a syringe and the solution was stirred for an additional 5 min. Thereafter **1b** (278 mg, 1.00 mmol) was added, and the resulting suspension was stirred for 24 h at 80 °C. At ambient temperature, aqueous HCl (2.0 mL, 2.0 M), EtOAc (10 mL), and H₂O (10 mL) were added, and the separated aqueous phase was extracted with EtOAc (2 × 20 mL). The combined organic layers were concentrated in vacuo and the remaining residue was purified by column chromatography (*n*-hexane/EtOAc: 200/1) to yield **3ap** (182 mg, 99 %) as a colorless solid (m.p. 88–89 °C).

Acknowledgements

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