

Synthesis of 2-Substituted Indoles and Indolines via Suzuki-Miyaura Coupling/5-endo-trig Cyclization Strategies

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Received September 9, 2008

New strategies for the synthesis of 2-substituted indoles and indolines using acyclic, imide-derived enol phosphates, which were readily prepared from o-haloanilides, have been developed based on Suzuki—Miyaura coupling—cyclization sequences. A highly chemoselective cross-coupling of imide-derived enol phosphates with boron nucleophiles under Suzuki—Miyaura conditions allowed for the efficient preparation of various N-(o-halophenyl)enecarbamates that served as useful precursors for subsequent 5-endo-trig Heck or 5-endo-trig aryl radical cyclizations to furnish 2-substituted indoles or indolines, respectively. Furthermore, a one-pot Suzuki—Miyaura coupling—cyclization cascade starting from enol phosphates has been developed, which was successfully applied to the efficient synthesis of an indol-2-yl-1H-quinolin-2-one KDR inhibitor.

1981, 1001.

Introduction

Over the past two decades, palladium-catalyzed reactions have played a significant role in organic synthesis because of their tolerance of virtually all functional groups, the mild reaction conditions, and their anomalous ability to build up complex molecular architectures.1 Enol triflates are widely used as substrates for palladium-catalyzed reactions because of their high reactivity as well as their availability from the corresponding carbonyl precursors. However, two major drawbacks of enol triflates are the need for expensive triflating reagents such as Tf₂O and PhNTf₂ for their preparation and the inherent instability problems. In this regard, enol phosphates are an attractive alternative to the corresponding triflates due to their sufficient stability and their low cost of preparation. Nonetheless, utilization of enol phosphates as electrophilic components in palladium chemistry has been less explored, and little is known about their reactivity profile and applicability in palladiumcatalyzed reactions. Pioneering reports by Oshima and coworkers in the 1980s focused on the palladium-catalyzed crosscoupling of enol phosphates with trialkylaluminums as nucleophiles.² In addition, Kumada and his colleagues reported a palladium-catalyzed cross-coupling of enol phosphates with Me₃SiCH₂MgCl.³ Later, the synthesis of functionalized, mediumsized heterocycles from lactone- or lactam-derived enol phosphates, which are known to readily participate in an oxidative addition to a triarylphosphane-ligated Pd(0) complex, was reported by the Nicolaou group. Thereafter, a number of reports regarding the use of lactone- or lactam-derived enol phosphates in palladium-catalyzed reactions appeared. Meanwhile, recent advances in this area have made it possible to employ ketone-derived, nonactivated enol phosphates in palladium-catalyzed reactions such as Heck, Suzuki—Miyaura, and Negishi. Begtrup

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and co-workers have reported a palladium-catalyzed Suzuki-Miyaura coupling of an enol phosphate derived from N-(tertbutoxycarbonyl)-4-piperidone with arylboronic acids.⁶ Very recently, Skrydstrup et al. described palladium-catalyzed Heck and Negishi couplings of nonactivated enol phosphates.^{7,8}

We have independently reported the use of Suzuki-Miyaura coupling of lactone-derived enol phosphates for convergent synthesis of marine polycyclic ether natural products.^{9,10} Our continuous efforts toward expanding the scope of palladiumcatalyzed reactions of α -heteroatom-substituted enol phosphates have culminated in the development of some novel strategies for the synthesis of important heterocycles such as dihydropyrans and indoles. 11,12 We now report in detail our recently developed strategies for the synthesis of 2-substituted indoles and indolines starting from imide-derived enol phosphates, exploiting their unique reactivity profile in palladium-catalyzed reactions. 13,14 The most salient features of our strategies include (1) a highly chemoselective cross-coupling of imide-derived enol phosphates, readily prepared from o-haloanilides, with boron nucleophiles, and (2) generally disfavored 5-endo-trig Heck and 5-endo-trig aryl radical cyclizations. In addition, an efficient synthesis of an indol-2-yl-1H-quinolin-2-one KDR inhibitor based on our developed strategy is described.

Results and Discussion

Synthetic Strategies toward 2-Substituted Indoles and Indolines. Indole is a privileged structural motif that is widely found in biologically active natural products and pharmaceuticals. 15 2-Substituted indoles, especially 2-aryl and 2-heteroaryl indoles, have frequently been utilized as a potential scaffold in the search for novel, biologically active small molecules. 16 Classical methods such as Fischer, 17 Reissert, 18 Madelung, 19

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SCHEME 1. Strategies for the Synthesis of 2-Substituted **Indoles 4 and Indolines 5**

and Bischler-Möhlau²⁰ indole syntheses have commonly been adopted for the synthesis of 2-substituted indole derivatives. However, these synthetic methods often suffer from harsh reaction conditions and are of limited scope with regard to functional group compatibility. In contrast, palladium-catalyzed reactions have recently gained much attention due to their powerful ability to form C-C and C-N bonds as well as their mild reaction conditions that tolerate a wide range of functional groups.21,22

Our strategies for the synthesis of 2-substituted indoles and indolines starting from imide-derived enol phosphates are depicted in Scheme 1. Thus, a highly chemoselective crosscoupling of enol phosphates 2a-c, which are readily derived from the corresponding imides 1a-c by treatment with KHMDS and (PhO)₂P(O)Cl, would give enecarbamates 3a-c. The palladium-catalyzed cyclization of 3a-c would afford 2-substituted indole derivatives 4. In contrast, 5-endo-trig aryl radical cyclization of 3a-c would furnish 2-substituted indolines 5, although this type of cyclization is generally disfavored according to Baldwin's rules.²³

Synthesis of Imide-Derived Enol Phosphates. Imide-derived enol phosphates were synthesized starting from commercially available o-haloanilides (Scheme 2). Thus, anilides 6a-c were reacted with Boc₂O/DMAP in THF at rt to deliver imides 1a-c.24 Treatment of 1a-c with KHMDS in the presence of (PhO)₂P(O)Cl afforded enol phosphates **2a**–**c**. These phosphates were stable enough to be isolated and purified by rapid flash

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SCHEME 2. Preparation of Enol Phosphates 2a-e

chromatography on silica gel. However, in practice, the following Suzuki—Miyaura coupling reaction was performed without chromatographic purification of these phosphates. The enol phosphates **2d**,**e** were prepared from commercially available *o*-haloanilides **6d**,**e**. Thus, Boc protection of the amide moieties of **6d**,**e** gave the respective imides **1d**,**e**, which, upon treatment with LDA, followed by quenching with (PhO)₂P(O)Cl in the presence of HMPA, afforded **2d**,**e**. The geometry of the double bond of **2d**,**e** was assumed to be *Z* since it is known that lithium enolates generated from acyclic amides by treatment with LDA generally exist as (*Z*)-enolates.²⁵

Highly Chemoselective Cross-Coupling of Imide-Derived Enol Phosphates with Boron Nucleophiles. We first examined a chemoselective Suzuki-Miyaura coupling²⁶ of enol phosphates **2a**-**c** with 1.1 equiv of phenylboronic acid under various conditions (Table 1). When the reaction was performed using **2a**, PhB(OH)₂, 10 mol % of Pd(PPh₃)₄, and Cs₂CO₃ in 1,4-dioxane at 60 °C, the desired enecarbamate **7a** was isolated in 47% yield from **1a**, along with a considerable amount of indole

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TABLE 1. Screening of Reaction Conditions^a

				% yield	
entry	substrate	solvent	temp (°C)	7	8
1	2a	1,4-dioxane	60	7a : 47	24
2	2a	1,4-dioxane/H ₂ O	50	7a : 72	0
3	2a	THF/H ₂ O	50	7a : 85	0
4	2a	DMF/H ₂ O	50	7a : 90	0
5^b	2a	DMF/H ₂ O	rt	7a : 52	0
6	2b	DMF/H ₂ O	50	7b : 100	0
7	2c	DMF/H ₂ O	50	7c : 0	0

^a All reactions were performed using 10 mol % of Pd(PPh₃)₄, 1.1 equiv of PhB(OH)₂, and 3 equiv of Cs₂CO₃ for 1−7 h. Yields are overall from **1a**,**b**. ^b Na₂CO₃ was used as base.

8 (entry 1). To suppress the formation of **8**, we surveyed a series of reaction conditions and found that the addition of H₂O as a co-solvent dramatically increased the yield of 7a. Thus, when we employed Pd(PPh₃)₄ as a catalyst and Cs₂CO₃ as a base in 1,4-dioxane/H₂O at 50 °C, the cross-coupling proceeded smoothly, giving 7a in 72% overall yield from 1a (entry 2). The yield of 7a was improved when the reaction was carried out in THF/ H₂O (entry 3). Further examination revealed that DMF/H₂O is the solvent of choice for the cross-coupling; a remarkable chemoselectivity was attained under these conditions, giving 7a in 90% yield (entry 4). When the reaction was performed at rt, the yield of 7a was moderate, indicating the necessity of mild heating (entry 5). In each case, a trace amount (<5%) of debrominated byproduct 7d was also detected in the reaction mixture (entries 1-5). The aryl chloride **2b** was also successfully cross-coupled with phenylboronic acid under the optimized conditions, giving 7b in quantitative yield (entry 6). The possible aryl-aryl, Suzuki-Miyaura coupling product was not observed in all the above cases.²⁷ On the other hand, the aryl iodide 2c failed to undergo cross-coupling; it was observed that the Pd(PPh₃)₄ catalyst began to decompose within 30 min, and the desired product was not observed even after prolonged reaction times, giving instead a complex mixture of unidentified products (entry 7). Running the reaction at rt or at 80 °C did not lead to any improvement.

Palladium-Catalyzed Cyclization of *o***-Haloanilide-Derived Enecarbamates.** We then investigated the palladium-catalyzed cyclization of **7a**, as summarized in Table 2. Although there are many examples of palladium-catalyzed cyclization of related enamines and enaminones, ^{28,29} the synthesis of 2-aryl and 2-heteroaryl indoles based on this strategy have been explored less thoroughly, and, to the best of our knowledge, the use of *N*-alkoxycarbonyl derivatives has not been reported. We initially performed the cyclization of **7a** using 10 mol % of Pd(PPh₃)₄

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TABLE 2. Screening of Reaction Conditions

7a: X = Br 7d: X = H

8: P = Boc

entry	base (equiv)	solvent	temp (°C)	yield (%)
1	K ₂ CO ₃ (3)	DMF	100	48
$2^{b,c}$	K_2CO_3 (3)	CH ₃ CN	80	71
$3^{b,c}$	Et_3N (10)	DMF	100	76
4^b	Et_3N (10)	DMF	100	94
5^b	<i>i</i> -Pr ₂ NEt (10)	DMF	100	38
6	PMP (5)	DMF	100	18

^a All reactions were carried out for 20-24 h, unless otherwise noted. ^b Reactions performed in a sealed tube. ^c n-Bu₄NCl (1 equiv) was used as an additive.

and K₂CO₃ as a base in DMF at 100 °C (Table 2, entry 1). The desired N-Boc-2-phenylindole 8^{21b} was isolated in 48% yield, and the major byproduct was the dehalogenated 7d (22%). In contrast, under the Jeffery conditions using n-Bu₄NCl,³⁰ the desired product 8 was cleanly obtained in an improved 71% yield, and the formation of 7d was completely suppressed (entry 2). When employing Et_3N instead of K_2CO_3 as a base, further improvement of the yield was attained (entries 3 and 4). Thus, exposure of 7a to 10 mol % of Pd(PPh₃)₄ and Et₃N in DMF at 100 °C afforded 8 in 94% yield, with no detectable amount of 7d. Changing the base to disopropylethylamine (i-Pr₂NEt) or 1,2,2,6,6-pentamethylpiperidine (PMP) was found to be detrimental due to the significant dehalogenation (entries 5 and 6).

Utilization of aryl chloride 7b in the palladium-catalyzed cyclization was next explored (Table 3). Recent reports have described the use of a Pd_2dba_3/X - $Phos^{31}$ (X-Phos = 2-dicyclohexylphosphino-2',4',6'-triisopropylbiphenyl) catalyst system for the related cyclizations of o-chloroaniline-derived enamines. ^{29a,c} We, therefore, decided to employ a Pd₂dba₃/X-Phos catalyst system and screened bases and solvents. Upon treatment of 7b with NaOt-Bu or KOt-Bu in toluene at 110 °C, the cyclization took place smoothly, but with complete loss of the Boc group, affording 2-phenylindole 9 (entries 1 and 2). Although the use of polar solvents such as DMF or DMA at an elevated temperature (>110 °C) gave unsatisfactory results, when the reaction was carried out using a Pd₂dba₃/X-Phos or Pd(OAc)₂/ X-Phos catalyst system and K₂CO₃ as a base in 1,4-dioxane at 100 °C, the cyclization proceeded cleanly to give only the desired 8 in good yields (entries 3 and 4). However, high catalyst loading (30 mol % of Pd) and a prolonged reaction time (72 h) were necessary under these conditions. Although a combination of Pd₂dba₃/X-Phos and Cs₂CO₃ did not lead to any improvement (entry 5), the use of Pd(OAc)₂/X-Phos coupled with Cs₂CO₃ greatly enhanced the efficiency of the cyclization, giving 8 in nearly quantitative yield in a reasonable reaction time (24 h) with a practical level of catalyst loading (10 mol % of Pd) (entry 6). The results of entries 3–6 suggested the possibility that in situ formed CsOAc might accelerate the cyclization. However, a control experiment using a Pd2dba3/X-Phos catalyst system (10 mol % of Pd), Cs₂CO₃ (3 equiv) as a base, and CsOAc (80 mol %) as an additive in 1,4-dioxane at 100 °C resulted in only ca. 62% conversion after 24 h, indicating that CsOAc has no significant effect on the reaction rate. We also found that the reaction rate of the cyclization of 7b using Pd(OAc)₂/X-Phos and Cs₂CO₃ in 1,4-dioxane could be significantly enhanced under microwave heating conditions (160 °C for 30 min), affording 8 in 87% yield (entry 7). Overall, the cyclization of aryl chloride 7b was found to be best carried out using Pd(OAc)₂/X-Phos as a catalyst system and Cs₂CO₃ as a base in 1,4-dioxane at 100 °C (thermal heating) for 24 h or at 160 °C (microwave heating) for 30 min.³²

Having secured reliable conditions for the cross-coupling and cyclization processes, the present strategy was applied to a variety of substrates, and the results are summarized in Table 4 and Scheme 3. Suzuki-Miyaura coupling of 2a-d with a range of aryl and heteroaryl boronic acids proceeded without incident to give enecarbamates 10-18. Compounds 17 and 18 existed as a complex mixture of isomers in C₆D₆ solution at rt (600 MHz ¹H NMR) due to the presence of the sterically restricted rotations around the nitrogen atom. Under the established conditions [Pd(PPh₃)₄, Et₃N, and DMF at 100 °C], cyclization reactions of aryl bromides 10a, 11, 12a, 13, and 14 were efficiently achieved, affording 2-aryl and 2-heteroaryl indoles 19–23 in good to excellent yields (entries 1–5). Aryl chlorides 10b, 12b, 15, and 16 were also cleanly cyclized under the optimized conditions $[Pd(OAc)_2/X-Phos (Pd/L = 1/2)]$ and Cs₂CO₃ in 1,4-dioxane at 100 °C (thermal heating) or at 160 °C (microwave heating)] to provide 2-aryl indoles 19, 21, 24, and 25, respectively (entries 6–9). Thus, our strategy should be generally applicable to the synthesis of 2-aryl and 2-heteroaryl indole derivatives.

In contrast, our efforts to extend the strategy to the synthesis of 2,3-disubstituted indoles met with limited success. Upon exposure of aryl bromide 17 to Pd(PPh₃)₄ and Et₃N in DMF at 100 °C, the desired 2,3-disubstituted indole 26 was isolated in only 7% yield, along with several unidentified byproducts (Scheme 3). Interestingly, cyclization of 17 under the Jeffery conditions [Pd(PPh₃)₄, K₂CO₃, and nBu₄NCl in CH₃CN at 80 °C] delivered dihydroquinoline 27 in high yield as the sole isolable product. Using a Pd(OAc)₂/X-Phos (10 mol %, Pd/L = 1/2) catalyst system and Cs₂CO₃ in 1,4-dioxane at 100 °C, indole **26** was obtained in only 5% yield, with dihydroquinoline 27 again being the major product (84% yield). A similar result was obtained for aryl chloride 18. Thus, upon treatment of 18 with $Pd(OAc)_2/X$ -Phos (30 mol %, Pd/L = 1/2) and Cs_2CO_3 in 1,4-dioxane at 100 °C for 96 h, indole 28 was not obtained at all, and dihydroquinoline **29** was instead isolated in 52% yield.

Development of a One-Pot Suzuki-Miyaura Coupling-Cyclization Cascade. We next investigated a one-pot Suzuki-Miyaura coupling—cyclization cascade starting from enol phosphate 2a, exploiting its unique reactivity profile. In the previous experiment, we unexpectedly isolated indole 8 as a byproduct in 24%

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TABLE 3. Screening of Reaction Conditions^a

			solvent		time (h)	yield (%)	
entry	catalyst (equiv)	base (equiv)		temp (°C)		8	9
1	Pd ₂ dba ₃ /X-Phos (0.05/0.20)	NaOtBu (3)	toluene	110	48	0	61
2	Pd ₂ dba ₃ /X-Phos (0.05/0.20)	KOtBu (3)	toluene	110	48	0	85
3	Pd ₂ dba ₃ /X-Phos (0.15/0.60)	K_2CO_3 (3)	1,4-dioxane	100	72	86	0
4	Pd(OAc) ₂ /X-Phos (0.30/0.60)	K_2CO_3 (3)	1,4-dioxane	100	96	70 (9)	0
5	Pd ₂ dba ₃ /X-Phos (0.15/0.60)	Cs_2CO_3 (3)	1,4-dioxane	100	72	84	0
6	Pd(OAc) ₂ /X-Phos (0.10/0.20)	Cs_2CO_3 (3)	1,4-dioxane	100	24	96	0
7^b	Pd(OAc) ₂ /X-Phos (0.10/0.20)	Cs_2CO_3 (3)	1,4-dioxane	160	0.5	87	0

^a Yields are from **7b**. Yield in parentheses is recovered **7b**. ^b Microwave heating was applied.

yield when the cross-coupling of 2a with phenylboronic acid was performed in 1,4-dioxane at 60 °C (see Table 1, entry 1). Under these conditions, however, further conversion of enecarbamate 2a to indole 8 stalled after ca. 24 h. Elevated temperature (100 °C) and/or prolonged reaction time proved to be ineffective. We, therefore, examined several reaction conditions, and the results are summarized in Table 5. Upon exposure of 2a to 1.1 equiv of phenylboronic acid, Et₃N, and Pd(PPh₃)₄ catalyst in DMF directly afforded 8 in moderate yield (entry 1). Utilization of Cs₂CO₃ as a base in combination with *n*-Bu₄NCl (1 equiv) in DMF/H₂O at 50–100 °C gave a comparable result (entry 2). Finally, we found that the cross-coupling-cyclization cascade could be best realized using 10 mol % of Pd(PPh₃)₄, Cs₂CO₃ (3 equiv), arylboronic acid (1.1 equiv), and n-Bu₄NBr (1 equiv)²⁹ in DMF/H₂O at 50-70 °C. Under these conditions, we isolated N-Boc-2-substituted indole derivatives 8, 19, and 20 in moderate to good yields (entries 3-5). Thus, fine-tuning of the reaction conditions realized a highly efficient synthesis of 2-substituted indole derivatives from imide-derived enol phosphates in a onepot manner.

Mechanistic Consideration of the Palladium-Catalyzed Cyclization of o-Haloaniline-Derived Enecarbamates. Several plausible mechanisms have been discussed for the palladiumcatalyzed cyclization of o-haloaniline-derived enamines. This cyclization is often classified as an intramolecular Heck reaction, 11b,c,33 although a pathway that involves a six-membered palladacycle intermediate has also been proposed^{34,35} (Scheme 4). The catalytic cycle is composed of (i) oxidative addition to a palladium(0) complex $(30 \rightarrow 31)$, (ii) migratory insertion into the enamine double bond (31 \rightarrow 32), and (iii) syn-specific β -hydride elimination (32 \rightarrow 33). Although it is widely accepted that 5-endo cyclization is generally disfavored due to geometric constraints according to Baldwin's rules,23 an intramolecular Heck reaction pathway well accounts for the smooth cyclization of enecarbamates represented by 30 and the difficulties in the cyclization of enecarbamates 17 and 18 since anti- β -hydride elimination is required for the latter substrates (i.e., $34 \rightarrow 26$ and $35 \rightarrow 28$). Moreover, the formation of dihydroquinolines 27 and 29 from 17 and 18, respectively, could be rationally explained by an intramolecular C-H activation of the intermediates 34 and 35, which is followed by reductive elimination $(36 \rightarrow 38 \text{ and } 37 \rightarrow 39)$ and subsequent ring expansion $(38 \rightarrow 27 \text{ and } 39 \rightarrow 29)$. Additionally, our observation that enecarbamates 7a, 10a, 11, 12a, and 13 undergo smooth 5-endo-trig aryl radical cyclization to yield *N*-Boc-2-arylindolines (vide infra) suggests that 5-endo-trig Heck cyclization may also be feasible for these enecarbamates.

Synthesis of an Indol-2-yl-1*H*-quinolin-2-one KDR Inhibitor Based on the Suzuki-Miyaura Coupling-Cyclization Strategy. Protein tyrosine kinases are involved in cellular signal transduction pathways and many other important biological functions. Impairment of tyrosine kinases is responsible for diseases such as angiogenesis, cancer, and tumor growth.³⁷ Kinase insert domain receptor (KDR), one of the human tyrosine kinases, is expressed on activated endothelial cells and exhibits a high affinity for vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF). Since VEGF is believed to be one of the prime mediators of tumor-induced angiogenesis, the inhibition or modulation of KDR by small organic molecules is predicted to be effective for its prevention and treatment.^{38,39} Recently, researchers from Merck have reported the synthesis of a series of 5-substituted 1H-indol-2-yl-1H-quinolin-2-ones (40-43), a novel class of potent and selective KDR inhibitors (Figure 1).40 Lautens and co-workers have reported an efficient synthesis of these inhibitors by means of their palladium(0)-catalyzed tandem C-N/ Suzuki-Miyaura coupling methodology. 41 Another report on the synthesis of KDR inhibitor 41 utilizing a Sonogashira coupling-cyclization strategy has also appeared in the literature. 42 We envisioned that KDR inhibitor 40 could be derived from enol phosphate 44 and the known boronic acid 45, 41 based on our strategy.

The synthesis started with alkylation of the known phenol **46**, prepared from 3-bromophenol by nitration under standard conditions (H₂SO₄, NaNO₃, and H₂O, 32% yield),⁴³ by treatment with 2-bromoethyl methyl ether/K₂CO₃, to give compound **47** in 100% yield (Scheme 5). Reduction of the nitro group of **47** with tin(II) chloride gave aromatic amine **48** (90% yield).

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TABLE 4. Synthesis of 2-Substituted Indoles^a

entry	phosphate	boronic acid	enecarbamate	cyclization conditions ^b	product
1	2a	(HO) ₂ B OMe	Br N Boc OMe	A	N Boc OMe
2	2a	(HO) ₂ B	10a: 95% Br Boc 11: 89%	A	19: 71% N Boc CI 20: 59%
3	2a	(HO) ₂ B	Br Me	Α	Me N Boc
4	2a	(HO)₂B O	12a: 86% Br N Boc O	А	21: 91%
5	2a	(HO) ₂ B S	13: 100% Br S Boc 14: 97%	Α	22: 54% (44%) ^c
6	2 b	(HO) ₂ B OMe	CI N Boc 10b: 98%	B e	23: 63% (31%)° 19: 100%
7	2 b	(HO) ₂ B	CI Me N Boc 12b: 89%	B C	21 : 100% 21 : 86%
8	2b	(HO) ₂ B	Cl N Boc O	С	N O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O O
9	2b	(HO) ₂ B NO ₂	CI N Boc NO	₂ В	NO Boc NO
			16 : 95%		25 : 81%

^a All cross-coupling reactions were carried out using Pd(PPh₃)₄ (0.1 equiv), Cs₂CO₃ (3 equiv), and boron nucleophile (1.1-1.5 equiv) in DMF/H₂O at 50 °C for 1-2 h. b Cyclization conditions A: Pd(PPh₃)₄ (0.1 equiv) and Et₃N (10 equiv) in DMF at 100 °C for 20-24 h. Cyclization conditions B: Pd(OAc)₂ (0.1 equiv), X-Phos (0.2 equiv), and Cs₂CO₃ (3 equiv) in 1,4-dioxane at 100 °C for 12-24 h. Cyclization conditions C: Pd(OAc)₂ (0.1 equiv), X-Phos (0.2 equiv), and Cs₂CO₃ (3 equiv) in 1,4-dioxane at 160 °C for 30 min under microwave heating. ^c Yields in parentheses are the corresponding N-deprotected indole.

Acylation of 48 with acetic anhydride and subsequent protection of the resultant anilide with Boc₂O afforded imide 49 in 68% yield for the two steps. Enolization of 49 with KHMDS in the presence of (PhO)₂P(O)Cl gave enol phosphate 44 that, without purification, was reacted with the known boronic acid 45⁴¹ (1.1 equiv) in the presence of 10 mol % of Pd(PPh₃)₄ and 3 equiv of Cs₂CO₃ as a base in DMF/H₂O at 50 °C, giving rise to enecarbamate 50 in 96% yield from 49. The subsequent palladium-catalyzed cyclization using 10 mol % of Pd(PPh₃)₄ and excess Et₃N in DMF at 100 °C afforded indole **51** in 90% yield. As noted above, the transformation of 44 to 51 could also be achieved in a one-pot process. Thus, treatment of 44 with 1.1 equiv of 45, 10 mol % of Pd(PPh₃)₄, 3 equiv of Cs₂CO₃, and 1 equiv of n-Bu₄NBr in DMF/H₂O at 50-70 °C directly afforded indole 51 in 81% overall yield from 49. Finally, hydrolysis under acidic conditions delivered Merck KDR inhibitor 40 in 79% yield, with spectroscopic data matching those reported previously.40 The present synthesis clearly 1,4-dioxane, 100 °C

SCHEME 3. Synthesis and Cyclization of Enecarbamates 17 and 18

demonstrates the feasibility of our strategy for the synthesis of structurally complex 2-aryl indole derivatives.

Boc

28

Вос

29: 52%

5-endo-trig Aryl Radical Cyclization of o-Bromoaniline-Derived Enecarbamates Leading to 2-Substituted Indolines. It is well-known that 5-exo-trig radical cyclization is a powerful strategy for the construction of 3-substituted indoline derivatives. 44 To the best of our knowledge, however, application of 5-endo-trig radical cyclization for the synthesis of an indoline system has not been reported. 45-47 Nonetheless, we examined the 5-endo-trig aryl radical cyclization of enecarbamates 7a, 10a, 11, 12a, and 13. To our delight, treatment of 7a, 10a, 11, 12a, and 13 with n-Bu₃SnH in the presence of catalytic AIBN in toluene at 100 °C (method A) gave a series of 2-substituted indolines 52⁴⁸ and 53-56 in moderate to good yields (Table 6). Furthermore, we found that radical cyclization could also

be performed under mild conditions using SmI_2 in the presence of *t*-BuOH in THF/HMPA⁴⁹ at rt (method B). The latter method afforded 2-substituted indolines in somewhat better yields and eliminated the need for tedious chromatographic separation of tin byproducts.

Conclusion

The present study demonstrates the synthetic utility of acyclic imide-derived enol phosphates as novel versatile precursors for the synthesis of 2-substituted indoles and indolines by means of palladium chemistry. Noteworthy is the remarkable chemoselectivity of Suzuki-Miyaura coupling; Suzuki-Miyaura coupling using Pd(PPh₃)₄ catalyst and Cs₂CO₃ in aqueous DMF allowed for a highly chemoselective cross-coupling of imidederived enol phosphates with aryl and heteroarylboronic acids, leading to N-(o-halophenyl)enecarbamates in excellent yields. Cyclization of the enecarbamates derived from o-bromoaniline was efficiently performed using Pd(PPh₃)₄ catalyst and Et₃N in DMF at 100 °C, while that of o-chloroaniline-derived enecarbamates was best accomplished under the influence of a $Pd(OAc)_2/X$ -Phos (Pd/L = 1/2) catalyst system and Cs_2CO_3 in 1,4-dioxane at 100 °C (thermal heating) or at 160 °C (microwave heating). Application of microwave heating to the palladium cyclization significantly enhanced the reaction rate. Furthermore, a one-pot Suzuki-Miyaura coupling-cyclization cascade has been developed, and it was applied to an efficient synthesis of an indol-2-yl-1H-quinolin-2-one KDR inhibitor. On the basis of experimental evidence, we propose that the palladiumcatalyzed cyclization of o-haloaniline-derived enecarbamates proceeds via a generally disfavored 5-endo-trig Heck cyclization pathway. We have also succeeded in carrying out the 5-endotrig aryl radical cyclization of o-bromoaniline-derived enecarbamates, which constitutes an unprecedented example of a successful application of a generally disfavored 5-endo-trig cyclization for the synthesis of indoline derivatives. We believe that our chemistry, described herein, significantly broadens the scope and utility of enol phosphates in palladium-catalyzed synthesis of nitrogen heterocycles. Further studies on the development of new synthetic methodologies utilizing enol phosphates and their application in the synthesis of complex biologically active substances are currently underway and will be reported in due course.

Experimental Section

General Procedure for the Synthesis of Imides 1a,b,d,e. The synthesis of 1a is representative. To a solution of *N*-(2-bromophenyl) acetanilide (1.01 g, 4.72 mmol) in THF (30 mL) were added DMAP (0.75 g, 6.14 mmol) and Boc₂O (1.41 mL, 6.14 mmol). After being stirred at rt for 50 min, the reaction mixture was diluted with EtOAc, washed with 1 M aqueous HCl, saturated aqueous NaHCO₃, and brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. Purification of the residue by flash chromatography (silica gel, 10% EtOAc/hexanes) gave 1a (1.47 g, 99%).

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TABLE 5. One-Pot Suzuki-Miyaura Coupling-Cyclization Cascade

entry	Ar	base (equiv)	additive (equiv)	conditions	yield (%)
1	Ph	Et ₃ N (10)	none	DMF, 100 °C	8 : 50
2	Ph	Cs_2CO_3 (3)	n-Bu ₄ NCl (1)	DMF/H ₂ O, 50-100 °C	8 : 50
3	Ph	Cs_2CO_3 (3)	n-Bu ₄ NBr (1)	DMF/H ₂ O, 50-70 °C	8 : 74
4	$4-MeOC_6H_4$	Cs_2CO_3 (3)	n-Bu ₄ NBr (1)	DMF/H ₂ O, 50-70 °C	19 : 77
5	4-ClC ₆ H ₄	Cs_2CO_3 (3)	n-Bu ₄ NBr (1)	DMF/H ₂ O, 50-70 °C	20 : 55

SCHEME 4. Intramolecular Heck Cyclization Pathway

1a: Colorless crystals; mp 81–82 °C; IR (neat) ν_{max} /cm⁻¹ 2979, 1742, 1712, 1474, 1370, 1279, 1157, 1104, 759; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.61 (dd, J = 7.6, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.33 (ddd, J = 7.6, 7.6, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.19 (ddd, J = 7.6, 7.6, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 7.15 (dd, J = 7.6, 1.2 Hz, 1H), 2.61 (s, 3H), 1.35 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 172.3, 151.6, 138.1, 132.9, 129.9, 129.4, 128.1, 123.0, 83.3, 27.7 (×3), 26.3; HRMS (FAB) calcd for C₁₃H₁₇⁷⁹BrNO₃ [(M + H)⁺] 314.0392, found 314.0388.

General Procedure for the Suzuki-Miyaura Cross-Coupling of 1a,b,d,e. The synthesis of enecarbamate 7a is representative.

FIGURE 1. Structures of the Merck KDR inhibitors (40-43) and our synthetic strategy toward 40.

To a solution of imide 1a (131.9 mg, 0.4201 mmol) in THF (6 mL) were added HMPA (0.220 mL, 1.26 mmol) and diphenylphosphoryl chloride (0.105 mL, 0.507 mmol). The mixture was cooled to -78 °C and treated with potassium bis(trimethylsilyl)amide (0.5 M solution in toluene, 1.0 mL, 0.5 mmol). After being stirred at -78 °C for 30 min, the reaction mixture was treated with 3% ammonium hydroxide and diluted with diethyl ether. The resultant mixture was allowed to warm to rt over 20 min. The aqueous layer was extracted with EtOAc, and the organic layer was washed with brine, dried (Na₂SO₄), filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The crude enol phosphate 2a thus prepared was used immediately without further purification.

To a solution of the above material in DMF (5 mL) were added cesium carbonate (3 M aqueous solution, 0.420 mL, 1.26 mmol), phenylboronic acid (56.4 mg, 0.463 mmol), and Pd(PPh₃)₄ (48.5 mg, 0.0420 mmol). The resultant mixture was heated at 50 °C for 7 h. After cooling, the reaction mixture was diluted with EtOAc, washed with H₂O and brine, dried (Na₂SO₄), filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. Purification of the residue by flash chromatography (silica gel, 10% diethyl ether/hexanes) gave enecarbamate **7a** (140.9 mg, 90%).

7a: Colorless oil; IR (neat) $\nu_{\rm max}/{\rm cm}^{-1}$ 2977, 1715, 1622, 1475, 1299, 1164, 1088, 768, 696; $^{1}{\rm H}$ NMR (500 MHz, ${\rm C_6D_6}$) δ 7.59 (d, J=7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.37 (d, J=8.5 Hz, 1H), 7.21 (d, J=8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.15—7.12 (m, 2H), 7.08 (dd, J=7.5, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 6.82 (dd, J=8.5, 8.0 Hz, 1H), 6.58 (dd, J=7.5, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 4.97 (s, 1H), 4.83 (s, 1H), 1.22 (s, 9H); $^{13}{\rm C}$ NMR (125 MHz, ${\rm C_6D_6}$) δ 152.4,

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SCHEME 5. Synthesis of the Merck KDR Inhibitor 40

81% (from 49)

TABLE 6. 5-endo-trig Aryl Radical Cyclization of Enecarbamates
A: n-Bu₃SnH, AlBN

		yiek	yield (%)	
entry	ene carb am ate	indoline	Aª	B^a
1	Br N Boc 7a	N Boc 52	82	65 ^b 90
2	Br N Boc 10a	Ne 53 OM	85 e	86
3	Br N Boc 11	N Boc CI	62	80
4	Boc Me	Me Boc 55	72	63
5	Br Noc O	N 0 0 0 56	51	54

^a Method A: n-Bu₃SnH, AIBN, toluene, 100 °C. Method B: SmI₂, t-BuOH, THF/HMPA, rt. ^b Reaction performed in the absence of t-BuOH.

149.3, 143.4, 133.6, 129.8, 129.0, 128.5, 128.4 (\times 2), 128.3, 128.2, 126.5 (\times 2), 124.2, 108.1, 80.8, 27.8 (\times 3); HRMS (FAB) calcd for $C_{19}H_{21}NO_2^{79}Br$ [(M + H)⁺] 374.0756, found 374.0756.

General Procedure for the Heck-Type Cyclization of 7a, 10a, 11, 12a, 13, and 14. The synthesis of compound 19 is representative. In a heavy-walled Pyrex bottle was placed a solution of 10a (122.2 mg, 0.3032 mmol) in DMF (5 mL). To this solution were added Et₃N (0.420 mL, 3.01 mmol) and Pd(PPh₃)₄ (35.0 mg, 0.0303 mmol). The Pyrex bottle was purged with argon, capped, and put into a preheated oil bath (100 °C) for 20 h. After cooling to rt, the reaction mixture was diluted with EtOAc, washed with

 $\rm H_2O$ and brine, dried ($\rm Na_2SO_4$), filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. Purification of the residue by flash chromatography (silica gel, 10% diethyl ether/hexanes) gave indole **19** (69.5 mg, 71%).

19: Colorless oil; IR (neat) $\nu_{\rm max}/{\rm cm}^{-1}$ 2978, 1730, 1504, 1453, 1328, 1247, 1161, 1038, 811, 747; $^{\rm l}{\rm H}$ NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.20 (d, J=8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.54 (d, J=7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.35 (d, J=9.0 Hz, 2H), 7.31 (dd, J=8.0, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.24 (m, 1H), 6.95 (d, J=9.0 Hz, 2H), 6.51 (s, 1H), 3.85 (s, 3H), 1.36 (s, 9H); $^{\rm l}{\rm ^3C}$ NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 159.2, 150.3, 140.4, 137.3, 129.9 (×2), 129.2, 127.4, 124.0, 122.8, 120.2, 115.2, 113.2 (×2), 109.4, 83.3, 55.3, 27.6 (×3); HRMS (EI) calcd for C₂₀H₂₁NO₃ (M⁺) 323.1521, found 323.1529.

General Procedure for the Heck-Type Cyclization of 7b, 10b, 12b, and 16 (Thermal Heating). The synthesis of N-Boc-2-phenylindole 8 is representative. To a solution of 7b (78.4 mg, 0.238 mmol) in 1,4-dioxane (2.5 mL) were added Cs_2CO_3 (232.9 mg, 0.7148 mmol), $Pd(OAc)_2$ (5.4 mg, 0.024 mmol), and X-Phos (22.7 mg, 0.0476 mmol). The resultant mixture was put into a preheated oil bath (100 °C) for 24 h. After cooling to rt, the reaction mixture was filtered through Celite and concentrated under reduced pressure. Purification of the residue by flash chromatography (silica gel, 5% diethyl ether/hexanes) gave indole 8^{21b} (67.0 mg, 96%).

General Procedure for the Heck-Type Cyclization of 7b, 10b, 12b, and 15 (Microwave Heating). The synthesis of *N*-Boc-2-phenylindole 8 is representative. A 5 mL vial was charged with 7b (47.6 mg, 0.145 mmol), Cs₂CO₃ (141.4 mg, 0.434 mmol), Pd(OAc)₂ (3.2 mg, 0.014 mmol), X-Phos (13.8 mg, 0.0289 mmol), and 1,4-dioxane (1.5 mL). The vial was flushed with argon, sealed, and heated at 160 °C for 30 min under microwave irradiation. After cooling to rt, the reaction mixture was filtered through Celite and concentrated under reduced pressure. Purification of the residue by flash chromatography (silica gel, 5% diethyl ether/hexanes) gave indole 8^{21b} (36.9 mg, 87%).

General Procedure for the Suzuki—Miyaura Coupling—Cyclization Cascade. The synthesis of **8** is representative. To a solution of **2a**, prepared from **1a** (131.5 mg, 0.4188 mmol) as desribed above, in DMF (6 mL) were added cesium carbonate (3 M solution in H₂O, 0.420 mL, 1.26 mmol), phenylboronic acid (56.2 mg, 0.461 mmol), and Pd(PPh₃)₄ (48.4 mg, 0.0419 mmol). After being stirred at 50 °C for 1 h, tetra-*n*-butylammonium bromide (135.0 mg, 0.4188 mmol) was added to the reaction mixture, which was further heated at 70 °C for 20 h. After cooling to rt, the reaction mixture was diluted with EtOAc, washed with H₂O and brine, dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. Purification of the residue by flash chromatography (silica gel, 5% diethyl ether/hexanes) gave **8**^{21b} (91.4 mg, 74%).

General Procedure for 5-endo-trig Aryl Radical Cyclization (Method A). The synthesis of 53 is representative. To a solution of 10a (119.9 mg, 0.2975 mmol) in toluene (4 mL) were added

n-Bu₃SnH (0.096 mL, 0.36 mmol) and AIBN (9.8 mg, 0.060 mmol). The reaction mixture was heated at 100 °C for 1 h. After cooling to rt, the reaction mixture was concentrated under reduced pressure. Purification of the residue by flash chromatography (silica gel, 10% diethyl ether/hexanes) gave indoline 53 (82.1 mg, 85%).

General Procedure for 5-endo-trig Aryl Radical Cyclization (Method B). The synthesis of 53 is representative. To a solution of SmI₂ (0.1 M solution in THF, 15.5 mL, 1.55 mmol) and HMPA (1.08 mL) at rt was added a solution of 10a (104.4 mg, 0.2591 mmol) and t-BuOH (0.150 mL) in THF (3 mL + 1 mL rinse). After being stirred at rt for 6 h, the reaction mixture was treated with saturated aqueous NH₄Cl. The resultant mixture was extracted with EtOAc. The organic layer was washed with H2O, saturated aqueous Na₂SO₃, and brine. The organic layer was dried (Na₂SO₄), filtered, and concentrated under reduced pressure. Purification of the residue by flash chromatography (silica gel, 5% EtOAc/hexanes) gave indoline 53 (72.5 mg, 86%).

53: Colorless oil; IR (neat) $\nu_{\text{max}}/\text{cm}^{-1}$ 2975, 1702, 1608, 1483, 1388, 1248, 1171, 1036, 831, 752; 1 H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.89 (br, 1H), 7.20 (dd, J = 7.5, 7.5 Hz, 1H), 7.11–7.09 (m, 3H), 6.96 (dd, J = 7.5, 7.0 Hz, 1H), 6.80 - 6.77 (m, 2H), 5.30 (br, 1H),3.76 (s, 3H), 3.63 (dd, J = 16.0, 11.0 Hz, 1H), 2.93 (dd, J = 16.0, 3.0 Hz, 1H), 1.34 (br, 9H); 13 C NMR (125 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 158.6, 152.4, 143.0, 137.0, 129.4, 127.5, 126.5 (×2), 124.8, 122.5 (×2), 114.7, 113.7, 80.6, 62.0, 55.2, 37.8, 28.2 (×3); HRMS (EI) calcd for C₂₀H₂₃NO₃ (M⁺) 325.1675, found 325.1680.

Acknowledgment. This work was supported in part by a Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research for Young Scientists (B) by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, Japan (MEXT).

Supporting Information Available: Detailed experimental procedures and characterization data not included in the Experimental Section. Copies of ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra for all new compounds. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at http://pubs.acs.org.

JO801985A