Construction of Benzosiloles, Six- and Eight-Membered Silacyclic Skeletons, via a Pd-Catalyzed Intramolecular Mizoroki—Heck Reaction of Vinylsilanes

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A variety of silacycles including benzosiloles, six- and eight-membered silacyclic skeletons, were efficiently synthesized via a Pd-catalyzed intramolecular Mizoroki–Heck reaction of vinylsilanes.

ABSTRACT

75% isolated yield

cat. [Pd(π-allyl)Cl]₂

Silicon possesses some crucial differences from carbon (e.g., covalent radius and electronegativity). Thus, when a carbon atom is replaced by a silicon atom (the C/Si switch), the chemical and physicochemical properties of an organic compound may be changed dramatically.^{1–7} For example, silacyclopentadiene (often named silole) as organic material

of electronic and opto-electronic devices demonstrates greater superiority compared to its carbon-analogue, cyclopentadiene.^{3,4} In particular, the C/Si switch strategy has been applied successfully for odorant design^{5,6} and pharmaceutical applications.⁷ Furthermore, specific properties can be expected from totally new silicon-containing

SiMe

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compounds, of which the carbon analogues cannot be synthesized or are very difficult to make. Thus, as a consequence, the development of synthetic methods for silacyclic compounds remains one of the most important frontiers in synthetic chemistry.^{1–7}

Vinyl silane is an important building block for constructing C–C bonds along with desilylation of the remaining silyl moiety.^{8–10} As shown in Scheme 1, vinylsilanes have been used in the Hiyama cross-coupling reaction to make C–C bonds using the silyl group as a leaving group.⁸

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Conceptually, the Mizoroki–Heck reaction is a good choice to make C–C bonds while the silyl group remains in the product.^{8a,9,10} Thus, silacyclic skeletons can be constructed via an intramolecular Mizoroki–Heck reaction of vinylsilanes (Scheme 1).⁹ However, it is rarely reported that vinylsilane participates in the Mizoroki–Heck reaction.^{9,10} Among all those examples reported on intermolecular Mizoroki–Heck reactions, formation of new C–C bonds at the β -position of vinylsilane is predominate.¹⁰ To the best of our knowledge, there is only one example of the formation of a C–C bond at the α -position of vinylsilane.⁹ Meanwhile, this is also the only report of an intramolecular Mizoroki–Heck reaction leading to a five-membered silacyclic ring as a byproduct in < 30% yield.⁹





We have recently reported the synthesis of silole derivatives via Pd-catalyzed cleavage of the Si-Me bond and the formation of six-membered silacycles via Pd-catalyzed cleavage of the silyl $C_{(sp^3)}$ -H bond (Scheme 2).^{4a,b,11} As a continuation of our interest in this transition-metal catalyzed cleavage of the $Si-C_{(sp^3)}$ bond and the silyl $C_{(sp^3)}-H$ bond, we investigated silyl compounds of different substituents on the silicon center. Interestingly, as given in Scheme 2, when compound 1a substituted with a SiMe₃ group was changed to compound 1b substituted with a $SiMe_2(CH=CH_2)$ group, neither product 2 nor product 4 was obtained under the same reaction conditions. Instead, a new compound 3 obviously formed via the intramolecular Mizoroki–Heck reaction, which was obtained in 28% and 50% yields, respectively. This new finding prompted us to study this intramolecular Mizoroki-Heck reaction. Here, we report our results on the synthesis of various silacycles including benzosiloles, six- and eight-membered silacyclic skeletons, via a Pd-catalyzed intramolecular Mizoroki-Heck reaction. Either the α - or β -positioned C–C bond

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forming reaction proceeded highly selectively depending on the structures of the products.

Scheme 2. Different Reactions around a Silyl Group



 Table 1. Optimization of Reaction Conditions (see Supporting Information for details)

Br Me ₂ Si	<i>cat.</i> [Pd] (5 mol %) ligand (10 mol %)	
	base (3 equiv) solvent, 120 ºC, 12 h	Me ₂ Si
1b		3

entry	[Pd]	ligand	base	solvent	yield of $3 (\%)^a$
1	$PdCl_2$	t-Bu ₃ P	LiOt-Bu	toluene	42
2	$PdCl_2$	XPhos	LiOt-Bu	toluene	57
3	$Pd_2(dba)_3$	t -Bu $_3$ P	LiOt-Bu	toluene	30
4	$Pd_2(dba)_3$	XPhos	LiOt-Bu	toluene	73
5	$Pd(PPh_3)_4$	t -Bu $_3$ P	LiOt-Bu	toluene	28
6	$Pd(PPh_3)_4$	XPhos	LiOt-Bu	toluene	26
7	A^b	t-Bu₃P	LiOt-Bu	toluene	(69)
8	Α	XPhos	LiOt-Bu	toluene	92(90)
9	Α	PCy_3	LiOt-Bu	toluene	58
10	Α	DPEPhos	LiOt-Bu	toluene	46
11	Α	none	LiOt-Bu	toluene	44
12	Α	XPhos	NaOt-Bu	toluene	23
13	Α	XPhos	KOt-Bu	toluene	trace
14	Α	XPhos	NEt_3	toluene	trace
15	Α	XPhos	LiOt-Bu	CH_2Cl_2	61
16	А	XPhos	LiOt-Bu	CH_3CN	59
17	А	XPhos	LiOt-Bu	DMF	48

^{*a*}GC yield ($C_{12}H_{26}$ as internal standard), isolated yields are in parentheses. ^{*b*}A: [PdCl(π -allyl)]₂.

First, various reaction conditions were screened (see Table 1 and Supporting Information for details). Optimal reaction conditions were realized as follows: $[PdCl(\pi-allyl)]_2$

(2.5 mol %), XPhos (10 mol %), LiOt-Bu (3 equiv), toluene, 120 °C, 12 h. Under these optimized conditions, the sixmembered silacyclic compound **3** was obtained in 90% isolated yield (entry 8). Obviously, this compound **3** is formed via the intramolecular Mizoroki–Heck reaction at the α -position of the vinylsilane moiety. No β -positioned C–C coupling product was observed. This perfect α -positioned selectivity is probably due to the higher stability of the six-membered silacyclic ring.

With the above optimized reaction conditions in hand, we tested various bromides containing vinylsilane moieties, such as 2-bromo(vinylsilyl)benzenes 1c-e. As given in Scheme 3, benzosilole derivatives 5 and 6 could be obtained in good ioslated yields. A ladder-type π -conjugated molecule 7 could also be prepared in 75% isolated yield by this reaction from 1e. Benzosiloles are important compounds in materials chemistry.^{3,4} This method provides an efficient alternative route to such compounds. It is obvious that in these cases the intramolecular Mizoroki–Heck reaction takes place at the β -position of the vinyl-silane moiety. No α -positioned C–C coupling product was obtained. This perfect β -positioned selectivity is probably due to the stable silole rings.





In contrast to the substrates 1c-1e which underwent the intramolecular Mizoroki–Heck reaction at the β -position of the vinylsilane moiety, substrates 1f-1l afforded their α -positioned C–C coupling products containing a six- or eight-membered silacyclic ring (Scheme 4), which are similar to the reaction of 1b. As shown in Scheme 4, compound 1f, which contains a silyl group substituted with a methyl, phenyl, and vinyl, undergoes a similar intramolecular Mizoroki–Heck reaction, affording its corresponding six-membered silacyclic product 8 in 87% Scheme 4. Formation of Six- and Eight-Membered Silacyclic Rings via the Intramolecular Mizoroki–Heck Reaction at the α -Position of the Vinylsilane Moiety



isolated yield. The biphenyl derivatives 1g and 1h and the binaphthal derivative 1i could all be used to give their corresponding six-membered silacyclic products 9-11, respectively. Notably, the eight-membered silacyclic compounds 12-14 could be also obtained highly efficiently via the above reaction. For all these cases, the α -positioned selectivity was exclusive.

Oxasilacycles are compounds of synthetic interest.^{1b,c,2a,c,d,f} As given in Scheme 5, under the above Scheme 5. Formation of Six-Membered Oxasilacyclic Rings via the Intramolecular Mizoroki–Heck Reaction at the α - or β -Position of the Vinylsilane Moiety



optimized reaction conditions, compound 1m afforded the six-membered oxasilacycle 15 in 84% isolated yield as the sole product. Interestingly, compound 1n also gave a six-membered oxasilacycle 16 as the sole product. Obviously, these two substrates 1m and 1n reacted at different positions of the vinylsilane moiety, which could be attributed to the stability of the six-membered rings.

In summary, we developed an efficient Pd-catalyzed intramolecular Mizoroki–Heck reaction of vinylsilanes to construct benzosiloles, six- and eight-membered silacyclic skeletons. The stability of the formed silacyclic rings controlled the reaction sites (α - or β -position) of the vinylsilane moieties. This method provides an efficient route to benzosilole derivatives, six- and eight-membered silacyclic compounds.

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Supporting Information Available. Experimental details and scanned NMR spectra of all new products. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at http://pubs.acs.org.

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