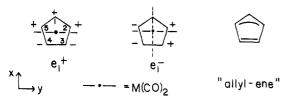
$(C_5Ph_5)M(CO)_2^-$. Crystal structures of $(C_5Me_5)Co(CO)_2$ and (C₅Me₅)Rh(CO)₂ show a significant departure of the rings from regular pentagons and reduction of molecular symmetry from pseudo- C_{2v} to C_s . ^{26,27} There are several reasons why this effect, if present in the radical anions, is unrelated to the ESR results. The plane of symmetry shown in the crystal structure is the xz-plane, bisecting the OC-M-CO angle. With this symmetry element, only d_{xy} can mix with d_{yz} . On MO theory grounds, it is difficult to see how such mixing could lead to lower energy. More significantly, however, $d_{vz}-d_{xv}$ hybrids retain an axial dipolar hyperfine tensor, regardless of the degree of mixing, but the xand z-axes are no longer principal axes of the resulting tensor. Since we are confident that the experimental g_x and A_x axes are coincident for (1), this is good evidence against $d_{\nu z} - d_{x\nu}$ mixing. From the most conservative viewpoint, there is reason to suspect Cp ring distortion to be less pronounced in the radical anions than in the neutral parents.

Lichtenberger et al.²⁷ argue that the loss of ring symmetry is due to the antibonding effect of the $2b_1(d_{xz})$ orbital. This effect may be visualized qualitatively in the following way. The highest energy ligand (Cp) orbitals taking part in the M-Cp bonding are the e_1^+ and e_1^- orbitals depicted below: In the e_1^+ orbital, which



interacts with M d_{xz} to form the HOMO in neutral CpM(CO)₂, the node is parallel to the OC-M-CO vector. The e_1^- , with a node perpendicular to the OC-M-CO vector, is of correct symmetry to interact with M d_{yz} , which is empty in the neutral 18-electron complex. To the extent that the e_1^- , d_{yz} interaction mixes into the ground state, electron withdrawal takes place from e_1^- , decreasing its contribution to the M-Cp bonding and leading to lengthening of the C_2 - C_3 and C_4 - C_5 bonds. This suggests the limiting "allyl-ene" structure shown, in which the "single" bonds average 1.447 Å.²⁷ It would be expected that partial population of the $2b_2(d_{yz})$ orbital in the 19-electron anion would attenuate this antibonding interaction, weakening the metal-Cp bonds, of course, but reducing the distortion of the ring.

Conclusions

- 1. The pentaphenylcyclopentadienyl ligand stabilizes the 19-electron anion radicals $(\eta^5-C_5Ph_5)M(CO)_2^-$ (M = Co, Rh) compared to their unsubstituted cyclopentadienyl analogues. As observed previously for isoelectronic Pd π -complexes, the thermodynamic stabilization (E° potentials) is mild (a few hundred millivolts) but the kinetic stabilization is very high. The reduced Rh complex appears to be the best-characterized d⁹ Rh(0) π -complex reported to date.
- 2. $(\eta^5-C_5Ph_5)C_0(CO)_2^-$ shows no tendency to react with PPh₃, implying that the carbonyl ligands are strongly held in the 19-electron cobalt complex.
- 3. The 19-electron radical anions appear to have pseudo- $C_{2\nu}$ symmetry, implying symmetrical bonding of the cyclopentadienyl ring to the metal. Half-occupation of the $2b_2(d_{\nu z})$ molecular orbital in the anion appears to relax the "allyl-ene" Cp distortion found in the neutral 18-electron complexes. McKinney and co-workers have shown⁴⁸ that the "allyl-ene" distortion is also absent in $[CpCo(PEt_3)_2]^+$. Thus, a relatively complete picture of the influence of electron count on metal-cyclopentadienyl bonding is now available for this class of compounds, with unsymmetrical metal-Cp interactions being found in the 18-electron complex but not in the 17- or 19-electron complexes.
- 4. There appears to be sufficient $(n+1)p_y$ admixture in the SOMO to significantly perturb the anisotropy of the g tensors for both the Co and Rh radical anions. While the effect of p_y admixture on the hyperfine tensor is probably small for the Co radical anion, it may be quite significant for the Rh species. Thus, our estimate of the 4d spin density for this species, $a^2 = 0.45$, is subject to considerable uncertaintly.

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Pd(CH₃CN)₄(BF₄)₂-Assisted Attack of Nitriles on Olefins. A Pd Analogue of the Ritter Reaction

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Abstract: The strongly electrophilic complex $Pd(CH_3CN)_4(BF_4)_2$ (1) activates a variety of olefins to undergo nucleophilic attack by nitriles to give nitrilium salts. These nitrilium salts undergo reaction with a variety of nucleophiles including electron-rich aromatics, alcohols, and amines, ultimately producing a variety of heterocyclic ring systems.

Palladium(II) salts are electrophilic and interact strongly with unsaturated electron-rich organic compounds. Thus, arenes, indoles, and other electron-rich heterocycles undergo direct palladation by palladium(II) acetate or trifluoroacetate.¹ In contrast,

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highly electrophilic $Pd(CH_3CN)_4(BF_4)_2^2$ (1) interacts strongly with olefins, with the proposed formation of incipient carbonium ions as intermediates, in its catalysis of the polymerization of ethylene and styrene,³ its Friedel-Crafts alkylation of benzene with propene,³ its rearrangements of *tert*-butylethylene and 1,1,2-trimethylcyclopropane to tetramethylethylene,³ and its po-

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Scheme I

lymerization of acetylenes.⁴ This complex also catalyzes the copolymerization of carbon monoxide with ethylene.⁵ Related complexes, generated in situ by treatment of PdCl₂ with AgBF₄ in acetonitrile, efficiently cyclize the 2-position of 3-substituted indoles with remote olefin functionality to give polycyclic indole alkaloid ring systems.⁶ We have recently reported an efficient palladium(0)-catalyzed route to N-allylindoloquinones.⁷ Herein is described studies directed toward the cyclization of these species to pyrroloindoloquinones using Pd(CH₃CN)₄(BF₄)₂ (1) as the cyclizing reagent.

Results and Discussion

N-Allylskatole (2) was chosen as a model substrate with which to study the proposed cyclization. The results of the reaction of 2 with a stoichiometric amount of Pd(CH₃CN)₄(BF₄)₂ (1) under a variety of conditions are summaried in Scheme I. Under no conditions was the desired cyclization observed. When the reaction was carried out in nitromethane, mixtures of olefin dimerization products were obtained in low yield after reduction. In nitrile solvents a remarkable reaction occurred. A relatively stable (in solution) palladium complex, presumed to be 3, was formed. Removal of solvent led to deposition of metallic palladium, preventing direct characterization of 3. Reduction of 3 with sodium borohydride gave 1,2,3,4-tetrahydropyrazino[1,2-a]indoles 4-6 in fair yield. The stereochemistry was assigned as syn (containing a 1,3-pseudodiaxial proton configuration at the chiral C₁ and C₃ positions) by Nuclear Overhauser Enhancement (NOE) studies (see Experimental Section). When complex 3 was treated with triphenylphosphine prior to reduction, both syn and anti isomers were obtained (1:1.4 ratio). Thus, reduction of 3 probably occurred from the face opposite the Pd in the relatively rigid chelate system. Addition of phosphine would displace the chelated nitrogen, allowing rotation of the ring system and permitting reduction from both faces of the molecule.

Treatment of 3 with an excess of benzylamine resulted in β-hydride elimination and rearrangement to give pyrazinoindole 7 in low yield. This material was relatively unstable and difficult to purify, hence the low yield. Although most σ -alkylpalladium(II) complexes undergo facile insertion reactions with a variety of olefins,8 complex 3 did not react with either electron-poor (methyl

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acrylate) or electron-rich (N-vinylacetamide) olefins under a variety of conditions. Carbon monoxide, however, readily inserted to produce a new acylpalladium complex 8, having an appropriate infrared absorption (γ_{CO} 1720 cm⁻¹) for a cationic σ -acylpalladium(II) complex. This complex was stable in acetonitrile This complex was stable in acetonitrile solution but decomposed upon solvent removal or precipitation. Cleavage of these complexes with methanol produced esters 9-11 in modest yield.

A reasonable mechanism for the formation of 2 is shown in eq 1. Palladation of the N-allyl group with the highly electrophilic 1 produces an intermediate having (at least) incipient carbonium ion character.3 Attack of this cation by nitrile followed by

alkylation of the nitrilium salt by the nucleophilic 2-position of the indole¹⁰ generates 3, a σ -alkylpalladium(II) complex stabilized by chelation. 11 This process bears a striking resemblance to the classic Ritter reaction, 12 with the fundamental difference that Pd2+ is used in place of a strong acid, and remains in the ultimate condensation product, permitting the subsequent introduction of further functionality.

Electron-rich allylbenzene derivatives such as methyleugenol have been converted to isoquinoline derivatives via the Ritter reaction. 12c Similarly, 1 effected this cyclization (eq 2). In this

case, the intermediate σ -alkylpalladium species underwent slow, spontaneous β -hydride elimination and olefin migration to produce the isoquinoline derivatives 12, as well as carbon monoxide insertion to produce the dihydroisoquinoline ester 13. Allylbenzene itself did not condense with acetonitrile under these conditions but was converted to phenylacetone and its dimethyl ketal by Wacker-type chemistry (nucleophilic attack of methanol on the Pd-complexed olefin). 13 1-Methyl-3-allyl-5-methoxyindole gave yet a different type of product, imidate 14, from attack of the nitrile on the olefin and subsequent reaction of the nitrilium salt with methanol rather than with the electron-rich aromatic system (eq 3).

These examples indicate that the ultimate fate of the nitrilium ion is strongly dependent on the nature of the nucleophilic species

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present, and nucleophiles other than electron-rich arenes may preferentially attack. Indeed, with unsaturated alcohols as substrates intramolecular trapping of the nitrilium ion by alkoxide was observed (eq 4-6). Again, the process was very sensitive to

OH
$$\frac{1) \ \underline{1}, \ \text{MeCN}}{2) \ \text{CO/MeOH}}$$
 $0 \ \underline{N} \ \text{CO}_2\text{Me}$ (6)

the structure of the substrate. Methallyl alcohol, cinnamyl alcohol, and cyclohexen-3-ol led to intractable mixtures of products, and o-allylphenol produced 2-methylbenzofuran¹⁴ under the same conditions.

N-Allylanilines are electron-rich aromatic compounds which potentially may react with the intermediate nitrilium species either at nitrogen or on the aromatic ring. However, only the former mode was observed even with very electron-rich systems (eq 7).

When attack by nitrogen was prevented by N-alkylation (e.g., N-methyl-N-allylaniline), no nitrile incorporation was observed. Rather a mixture of starting material (10%), N-methylaniline (38%—from deallylation of the amine), and N-acetonylaniline (11%—from Wacker oxidation of the allyl group) was obtained.

Thus, $Pd(CH_3CN)_4(BF_4)_2$ activates olefins to undergo attack by (solvent) nitriles to generate unstable nitrilium salts. These undergo intramoleuclar attack by some electron-rich arenes, and either intermolecular or intramolecular attack by alcohols and amines to generate relatively stable σ -alkylpalladium(II) complexes (e.g., eq 1), which undergo facile CO insertion and/or β -hydride elimination reactions.

Experimental Section

General. Melting points were taken with a Mel-Temp apparatus and are uncorrected. Infrared spectra were recorded on a Beckman 4240 spectrometer. ¹H NMR spectra were recorded with a Varian T-60 (60 MHz), and IBM-Bruker WP270SY (270 MHz), or a Nicolet NTCFT 1180 (360 MHz) spectrometer with tetramethylsilane (Me₄Si) as an internal standard. Routine mass spectra were taken on Vacuum Generators MM16 spectrometer with a Systems Industries interface and disk drive with a Digital PDP8A computer at 70 eV. Liquid chromatography was carried out under moderate pressures (20–60 psi) either by using columns of appropriate size packed with Merck silica gel 60 (40–60 mesh) or by using a Chromatotron (Harrison Research) radial-layer chromatographic device with plates of Kieselgel 60 PF 254 silica gel. Unless otherwise stated all reactions were run under an argon atmosphere. Elemental analyses were performed by M-H-W Laboratories, Phoenix, AZ.

Materials. Acetonitrile was distilled over CaH₂ after treatment with silica gel and was stored under argon with molecular sieves. Methanol was distilled over Mg-I₂ after heating at reflux and was stored with anhydrous CaSO₄. All substrates and solvents were distilled prior to use.

Pd(CH₃CN)₄(BF₄)₂ (1) was prepared by literature methods.^{2,5}

General Method for Palladium(II)-Mediated Addition of Nitriles to Olefins. A flame-dried 50-mL two-necked flask fitted with a magnetic stirring bar, a rubber serum cap, and a vacuum adapter was charged with $Pd(MeCN)_4(BF_4)_2$ (1) (0.22 g, 0.50 mmol) and placed under an argon atmosphere. The dry degassed nitrile (2 mL) was added to the Pd^{2+} salt via syringe, and the mixture was stirred for 2-3 min at room temperature. A solution of the olefin (0.50 mmol) dissolved in 8-10 mL of the nitrile was added to the Pd^{2+} complex via syringe using a syringe pump to control the rate of addition. Depending on the substrate, the addition time was varied from 2 to 20 h. The resulting complex was then treated in one of several ways.

Method A. The flask was cooled in an ice bath, and 5 mL absolute ethanol was added via syringe. After 5 min, NaBH₄ (0.5–2.0 mmol) was slowly added as a solid and the resulting mixture stirred under positive argon pressure for 1 h. Saturated aqueous NH₄Cl was then added to quench the reaction, and the mixture was stirred for an additional 5 min. The resulting black suspension was filtered through Celite to remove Pd(0). The Celite was washed with ether, and the filtrate was transferred to a separatory funnel. The phases were separated and the aqueous phase was extracted with ether (3X). The combined organic phase was washed with 5% aqueous HCl (3X). The combined acidic phase was made basic (pH ~10) with 2 N NaOH and extracted with ether (3X). The resulting ether phase was washed with brine (1X) and dried (MgSO₄). Filtration followed by concentration of the filtrate in vacuo afforded the purified product as the free base.

Method B. The flask was evacuated and then filled with carbon monoxide from a rubber balloon. The mixture was stirred vigorously at room temperature for 3 h. Methanol (5 mL) was then added via syringe, and the resulting mixture was allowed to stir at room temperature for 12–24 h. The resulting black suspension was filtered through Celite to remove Pd(0). The Celite was washed with fresh methanol, and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo to afford the crude ester as its HBF₄ salt. Alternatively, the acid salt slurried in 5 mL of methanol was shaken with saturated NaHCO₃ in a separatory funnel. The basic mixture was extracted with ether (3X). The combined ether layer was washed with brine (1X), dried (MgSO₄), and suction filtered. The filtrate was concentrated in vacuo to afford the crude methyl ester as a free base.

Preparation of cis-1,2,3,4-Tetrahydro-1,3,1-trimethylpyrazino[1,2-a]indole (4). A solution of N-allylskatole (2)¹⁵ (0.10 g, 0.58 mmol) in 10 mL of CH₃CN was added to complex 1 (0.25 g, 0.57 mmol) in 2 mL of CH₃CN over the course of 10 h as described in the General section. After stirring an additional 3 h, the mixture was diluted with 5 mL of EtOH, reduced with NaBH₄ (0.04 g, 1.1 mmol), and isolated as described in the General section, method A, to give 4 (0.071 g, 58%) as an air-sensitive bright-yellow oil suitably pure for further use. An analytical sample was obtained as the HCl salt, recrystallized from EtOH to give a gold powder: mp 258 °C (d); IR (KBr) 3400, 2920, 2830, 2770, 2460, 2320, 1570, 1540, 1452, 1371, 1346, 1322, 1295, 1230, 1210, 1196, 1140, 1095, 1005, 750 cm⁻¹. Anal. (C₁₄H₁₉N₂Cl) C, H, N.

Free Base 4. Peak assignments were made with the aid of homonuclear decoupling: 1H NMR (360 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.34 (d, J = 6.3 Hz, 3, C₃–CH₃), 1.63 (d, J = 6.5 Hz, 3, C₁–CH₃), 2.33 (s, 3, C₁₀–CH₃), 3.25 (m, 1, NCH₂CH(Me)NHCH(Me)), 3.51 (t, J = 11.2 Hz, 1, NCH₄H₅CH(Me)NHCH(Me)), 4.13 (dd, J = 3.7, 11.2 Hz, 1, NCH₄H₅CH(Me)NHCH(Me)), 4.40 (q, J = 6.5 Hz, 1, NCH₂CH-(Me)NHCH(Me)), 7.08–7.35 (m, 3, aromatic), 7.52 (d, J = 7.7 Hz, 1, C₉–H); IR (CCl₄) 3300 (NH), 3050, 2960, 2920, 2860, 1596, 1540, 1458, 1380, 1366, 1325, 1310, 1295, 1245, 1220, 1198, 1150, 1120, 1005 cm⁻¹; mass spectrum, m/e (relative intensity) 214 (29, parent), 213 (17, P⁺ – H), 212 (68, P⁺ – 2H), 100 (100, P⁺ – H – Me), 197 (63, P⁺ – 2H – Me), 170 (30, P⁺ – C₂H₆N).

trans-1,2,3,4-Tetrahydro-1,3,10-trimethylpyrazino[1,2-a]indole (4'). A solution of indole 2 (0.11 g, 0.63 mmol) in 10 mL of CH₃CN was added to complex 1 (0.28 g, 0.63 mmol) in 2 mL of CH₃CN over the course of 2.5 h as described in the General section. The mixture was stirred for a total of 18 h at room temperature. A solution of triphenylphosphine (0.17 g, 0.63 mmol) in 4 mL of CH₃CN was then added via syringe, and the mixture was stirred an additional 10 min. The resulting mixture was cooled in an ice bath, diluted with 5 mL EtOH, and treated with NaBH₄ (0.05 g, 1.24 mmol) as described in the General section (method A). Product isolation in the usual way afforded 4' (0.08 g, 58%) as an air-sensitive mixture of diastereoisomers which was used for NOE experiments without further purification. The NMR spectral data showed that the mixture consisted of trans- and cis-4 in a ratio of 1.4:1 (ca. 17% de). Attempted separation (SiO₂: hexanes-ethyl acetate mixtures) was unsuccessful. Due to the air-sensitive nature of these products, no further efforts were made to effect separation. NMR

Table I.

irradiate	observe	NOE %	
		cis ^a	trans ^b
C ₁ -H	C ₁ -H	6.0	0.0
C ₃ -H	C ₁ -H	6.9	0.0
C ₁ -Me	C ₃ -H	0.0	5.9
C ₃ -Me	C ₁ -H	0.0	0.0

^aObtained from a pure sample of cis-4. ^bObtained from a 1.4:1^c mixture of trans:cis. Determined by NMR.

spectral data for trans-4 were obtained from this mixture of diastereoisomers. Peak assignments were made with the aid of homonuclear decoupling and by comparison of coupling constants and chemical shifts obtained from the mixture with those obtained from pure cis-4.

Compound 4: ¹H NMR (360 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (d, J = 6.3 Hz, 3, C₃CH₃), 1.46 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 3, C₁-CH₃), 2.21 (s, 3, C₁₀-CH₃), 3.25 (t, J = 10.9 Hz, 1, NCH_aH_bCH(Me)NHCH(Me)), 4.08 (m, 1, $NCH_aH_bCH(Me)NHCH(Me)$), 4.47 (q, J = 7.0 Hz, $NCH_2CH(Me)$ -NHCH(Me)), 7.00-7.20 (m, 3, aromatic), 7.44 (m, 1, C_9 -H).

The results of the NOE measurements are shown in Table I.

1,2,3,4-Tetrahydro-1-phenyl-3,10-dimethylpyrazino[1,2-a]indole (5). The reaction was run as above, except benzonitrile was used as solvent rather than acetonitrile. Thus, when 0.12 g (0.70 mmol) of 2 was used, 0.31~g~(0.70~mmol)~of~1~in~6~mL~of~benzonitrile~with~addition~over~11.5h gave 0.07 g (37%) of 5: ¹H NMR (360 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.34 (d, J =6.3 Hz, 3, C₃–CH₃), 1.63 (s, 3, C₁₀–CH₃); AMX pattern, δ_A 3.43, δ_M 3.66, δ_X 4.22 (3, J_{AX} = 3.6, J_{AM} = 10.8, J_{MX} = 10.9 Hz, CH_2CHN), 7.2–8.0 (m, 10, ArH); mass spectrum, m/e 276 (parent). This material was never completely separated from benzylamine (from reduction of benzonitrile). Hence, acceptable analytical data were not obtained, and its structure was inferred from NMR and mass spectra, and by analogy with 11, which was fully characterized.

3,10-Dimethyl-1-ethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydropyrazino[1,2-a]indole (6). A solution of indole 2 (0.09 g, 0.53 mmol) in 8 mL of propionitrile was added to complex 1 (0.22 g, 0.51 mmol) in 2 mL of propionitrile over the course of 2.75 h as described in the General section. After a total reaction time of 8.3 h, the resulting complex was diluted with 5 mL of EtOH, reduced with NaBH₄ (0.04 g, 1.0 mmol), and isolated as described in method A to give 6 (0.056 g, 48%) as a bright-yellow airsensitive oil suitably pure for further use. For elemental analysis, 6 was converted to its HCl salt. The crude salt was recrystallized from ethanol to give an analytical sample as a mustard-yellow solid. mp 233 °C dec; IR (KBr) 3400, 2910, 2870, 2800-2700, 2355, 2330, 1596, 1541, 1521, 1460, 1340, 1330, 1309, 1239 cm⁻¹. Anal. $(C_{15}H_{21}N_2Cl)$ C, H, N.

Free Base: ¹H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 0.97 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 3, $ArCHCH_2CH_3$), 1.30 (d, J = 6.3 Hz, 3, $NCH_2CH(CH_3)NH$), 1.96 (m, 1, $ArCHCH_aH_bCH_3$), 2.10 (m, 1, $ArCHCH_aH_bCH_3$), 2.29 (s, 3, C_{10} – CH_3), 3.12 (m, 1, $NCH_2CH(CH_3)NH$), 3.48 (t, J=11.0, 1, $NCH_aH_bCH(CH_3)NH$), 4.10 (dd, J=3.4, J=11.0 Hz, NCH_aH_bCH (CH₃)NH), 4.34 (m, 1, ArCHCH₂CH₃), 7.09-7.23 (m, 3, aromatic), 7.52 (m, 1, C₉-H); IR (CDCl₃) 3300, 3055, 2965, 2925, 2870, 1593, 1470, 1460, 1419, 1381, 1370, 1359, 1324, 1308, 1238, 1216, 1194, 1150, 1120, 1098, 1050, 1010 cm⁻¹; mass spectrum, m/e (relative intensity) 228 (11, parent), 227 (18, P⁺ – H), 226 (94, P⁺ – 2H), 211 (71, P⁺ – 2H – Me), 199 (100, P⁺ – Et).

1,3,10-Trimethylpyrazino[1,2-a]indole (7). A solution of 2 (0.14 g, 0.81 mmol) in 9 mL of CH₃CN was added to a solution of 1 (0.33 g, 0.75 mmol) in 3 mL of CH₃CN over the course of 2.5 h as described in the General section. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for a total of 20 h, and benzylamine (0.82 mL, 7.5 mmol) was then added via syringe. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 168 h and was then chromatographed on a short column of neutral alumina (approximately 2 g), eluting with ethyl acetate. The eluent was concentrated in vacuo to give an amber oil (0.810 g). Purification by liquid chromatography (neutral Al₂O₃; 3:1, hexanes:ethyl acetate, gradient) gave 7 (0.083 g, 52%) as a yellow solid: mp 99-100 °C; ¹H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 2.40 (d, J = 0.7 Hz, C₁₀-CH₃), 2.76 (s, 3, C₁-CH₃ or C₃-CH₃), 2.86 (s, 3, C₃-CH₃ or C₁-CH₃), 7.35 (m, 2 or 3, aromatic), 7.77 (m, 3 or 2, aromatic); IR (KBr) 3040, 2960, 2915, 1850, 1617, 1603, 1455, 1428, 1394, 1372, 1330, 1309, 1286, 1236, 1190, 1160, 1113, 1016, 970, 945, 800, 731, 710, 683 cm⁻¹; mass spectrum, m/e (relative intensity) 210 (75, parent), 209 (100, P⁺ – H). Anal. $(C_{14}H_{14}N_2)$ C, H, N.

3-(Carbomethoxymethyl)-3,4-dihydro-1,10-dimethylpyrazino[1,2-a]indole (9). A solution of indole 2 (0.11 g, 0.64 mmol) in 8 mL of CH₃CN was added to a solution of complex 1 (0.27 g, 0.61 mmol) in 2 mL of CH₃CN over the course of 2.5 h as described in the General section. After a total of 5.3 h, the mixture was placed under a CO atmosphere (2 h) and treated with 5 mL of MeOH (14 h), and the crude product was

isolated as described in method B. Purification by liquid chromatography (neutral Al₂O₃; 3:1, hexanes:ethyl acetate) gave 7 (0.01 g, 7%, R_f 0.52) as a yellow oil and 9 (0.06 g, 34%, R_f 0.16) as pale-yellow needles: mp 116-117 °C; ¹H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 2.50 (d, J = 1.4 Hz, 3, C_1 -CH₃ or C_{10} -CH₃), 2.54 (s, 3, C_{10} -CH₃ or C_1 -CH₃), 2.60 (dd, J = 8.4, 16.0 Hz, 1, NCH₂CHCH_aH_bCO₂Me), 2.91 (dd, J = 5.5, 16.0 Hz, 1, NCH₂CHCH_aH_bCO₂Me), 3.68 (m, 1, NCH_aH_bCHCH₂CO₂Me), 3.73 (s, 3, OCH₃), 4.25 (m, 2, NCH_a H_b CHCH₂CO₂Me), 7.11 (m, 1, aromatic), 7.28 (m, 2, aromatic), 7.62 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1, C_9 -H); IR (KBr) 3055, 3025, 2985, 2910, 2860, 1730 (C=O), 1593, 1530, 1488, 1467, 1439, 1418, 1390, 1352, 1341, 1321, 1280, 1251, 1238, 1228, 1186, 1170, 1125, 1105, 1072 cm⁻¹. Anal. $(C_{16}H_{18}N_2O_2)$ C, H, N.

Spectral Data for Intermediate Acylpalladium Complex 8: IR (CH₃-CN) 3150, 2975, 2925, 2275 (CN), 2235 (CN), 1950 (Pd-CO), 1720 (CH₂C(O)Pd), 1600, 1540, 1360, 1090 (BF₄), 1024 (BF₄) cm⁻¹

3-(Carbomethoxymethyl)-3,4-dihydro-1-ethyl-10-methylpyrazino[1,2a lindole (10). A solution of indole 2 (0.13 g, 0.75 mmol) in 8 mL of CH₃CN was added to 1 (0.32 g, 0.72 mmol) in 2 mL of CH₃CN over the course of 2.5 h as described in the General section. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for a total of 10 h and then placed under a CO atmosphere (2.5 h) and treated with 5 mL of MeOH (8.5 h) and the crude product isolated as described in method B. Purification by liquid chromatography (neutral Al₂O₃; 5:1-3:1, hexanes:ethyl acetate, gradient), collecting the band at R_f 0.22 (Al₂O₃ type E: 5:1, hexanes:ethyl acetate), gave 10 (0.096 g, 47%) as an off-white flaky solid: mp 69.5-70 °C; ¹H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.24 (t, J = 7.5 Hz, 3, CH₂CH₃) 2.54 (s, 3, C₁₀-CH₃), 2.58 (m, 1, NCH₂CHCH_aH_bCO₂Me), 2.81 (m, 3, $NCH_2CHCH_aH_bCO_2Me$ and CH_2CH_3), 3.70 (m, $NCH_aH_bCHCH_2CO_2Me)$, 3.71 (s, 3, OCH_3), 4.22 (m, 2, $NCH_aH_bCHCH_2CO_2Me)$, 7.13 (m, 1, aromatic), 7.26 (m, 2, aromatic), 7.62 (d, J = 7.9 Hz, 1, C₉-H); IR (KBr) 3045, 2965, 2950, 2905, 2895, 2860, 1734 (C=O), 1599, 1468, 1447, 1432, 1418, 1386, 1354, 1322, 1316, 1268, 1220, 1181, 1165, 985, 725 cm⁻¹. Anal. $(C_{17}H_{20}N_2O_2)$ C, H, N

3-(Carbomethoxymethyl)-3,4-dihydro-10-methyl-1-phenylpyrazino-[1,2-a]indole (11). A solution of indole 2 (0.13 g, 0.75 mmol) in 8 mL of benzonitrile was added to a solution of complex 1 (0.32 g, 0.71 mmol) over the course of 3 h as described in the General section. After stirring at room temperature for an additional 11 h, the mixture as placed under a CO atmosphere (1 h), treated with 5 mL of methanol, and stirred for 12 h as described in method B. Product isolation as in method B followed by removal of excess benzonitrile by evaporative distillation gave the crude free base 11. Liquid chromatography (neutral Al₂O₃, type E: 7:1-1:1, hexanes:ethyl acetate, gradient) followed by precipitation from hexanes afforded 11 (0.082 g, 35%) as a pale-yellow powder: mp 110-111 °C; ¹H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.95 (s, 3, C₁₀-CH₃), 2.64 $(dd, J = 8.5, 16.0 \text{ Hz}, 1, \text{NCH}_2\text{CHC}H_aH_b\text{CO}_2\text{Me}), 3.03 (dd, J = 5.0,$ 16.0 Hz, 1, NCH₂CHCH_aH_bCO₂Me), 3.73 (s, 3, OCH₃), 3.84 (m, 1, $NCH_aH_bCHCH_2CO_2Me$), 4.26 (m, 2, $NCH_aH_bCHCH_2CO_2Me$), 7.12 (m, 1, aromatic), 7.33 (m, 2, aromatic), 7.44 (m, 3, aromatic), 7.59 (m, 3, aromatic); IR (KBr) 3055, 3025, 2985, 2965, 2945, 2915, 2890, 2860, 1736 (C=O), 1585, 1564, 1468, 1431, 1419, 1389, 1370, 1343, 1327, 1317, 1300, 1290, 1260, 1240, 1228, 1161, 1000, 990, 770, 738, 722, 695 cm^{-1} . Anal. $(C_{21}H_{20}N_2O_2)$ C, H, N.

6,7-Dimethoxy-1,3-dimethylisoquinoline (12). A solution of methyleugenol¹⁶ (0.11 g, 0.63 mmol) in 15 mL of CH₃CN was added to complex 1 (0.28 g, 0.63 mmol) in 2 mL of CH₃CN over the course of 10 h in the previously described way. After a total of 35.5 h the mixture was cooled in an ice bath, diluted with 5 mL of EtOH, and subsequently reduced with NaBH₄ (0.024 g, 0.63 mmol) for 0.75 h. The mixture was diluted with Et₂O and stirred for 2.5 h at room temperature. The resulting black suspension was filtered through Celite. The Celite was washed with additional ether, and the filtrate was subjected to the acid-base extraction and isolation sequence described in method A. Recrystallization from ether/hexanes gave 12 (0.043 g, 31%) as a white solid: mp 120–121 °C [lit.¹⁷ mp 121.5 °C]; ¹H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 2.61 (s, 3, Ar-CH₃), 2.87 (s, 3, Ar-CH₃), 4.00 (s, 3, OCH₃), 4.02 (s, 3, OCH₃), 6.96 (s, 1, aromatic), 7.22 (s, 1, aromatic), 7.23 (s,

Reaction of Methyleugenol with 1 Followed by CO To Give 13. Complex 1 (133.2 mg, 0.30 mmol) in CH₃CN (2 mL) and methyleugenol (59 mg, 0.33 mmol) in CH₃CN (8 mL) were stirred at room temperature under Ar for 10 h and then with MeOH (3 mL) under CO for 18 h as shown in the General procedure. The normal isolation of the resulting mixture gave a yellow oil, which was purified by an alumina column (hexane:EtOAc = $4:1 \sim 2:1 \sim EtOAc$) to yield 6,7-dimethoxy-1,3-di-

⁽¹⁶⁾ Johnstone, R. A. W.; Rose, M. E. Tetrahedron 1979, 35, 2169. (17) Bruckner, V.; Kardos, V. Ann. 1935, 518, 226.

methylisoquinoline (12) (20 mg, 30%) as a white solid and 3,4-dihydro-6,7-dimethoxy-3-[(methoxycarbonyl)methyl]-1-methylisoquinoline (13) (10 mg, 12%) as a yellow oil.

Compound 13: ¹H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 2.37 (d, 3, 1-Me, J = 1.6 Hz), 2.45–2.65 (m, 2, CH₂ in the ring), 2.78 (dd, 1, one of CH₂COOMe, J_1 = 15.6, J_2 = 5.3 Hz), 2.89 (dd, 1, one of CH₂COOMe, J_1 = 15.6, J_2 = 5.9 Hz), 3.72 (s, 3, COOCH₃), 3.88 (m, 1, CH–N), 3.91 (s, 6, 6,7-CH₃O), 6.69 (s, 1), 6.99 (s, 1); IR (CDCl₃) 2950, 1733 (C=O), 1625, 1603, 1570, 1505 cm⁻¹. Anal. (C₁₃H₁₅NO₂) C, H, N. Similarly, **1** (400 mg, 0.90 mmol) in CH₃CN (10 mL) and methyl-

Similarly, 1 (400 mg, 0.90 mmol) in CH_3CN (10 mL) and methyleugenol (174 mg, 0.97 mmol) in CH_3CN (10 mL) were stirred at room temperature under Ar for 5 h and then with MeOH under CO for 16 h. The normal isolation of the resulting mixture gave a brown oil (197 mg), which was then separated by an alumina column (hexane:EtOAc = 4:1 $\sim 1:1 \sim EtOAc$) to yield 12 (18 mg, 9%) as a white solid and 13 (74 mg, 30%) as a yellow oil.

Reaction of 3-Allyl-5-methoxy-1-methylindole¹⁵ with 1. Complex 11 (133.2 mg, 0.30 mmol) and the indole (65 mg, 0.32 mmol) were stirred under Ar for 6 h and with MeOH (3 mL) under CO for 16 h. Isolation gave a dark-brown oil, which was purified by the column chromatography (alumina, hexane:ethyl acetate = $4:1 \sim 1:1$) to give 57 mg (\sim 50%) of a yellow oil, which hydrolyzed readily: ¹H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.64 (s, 3, CH₃C=N), 2.58 (m, 2, CH₂CH—CH₂COOMe), 2.7-3.0 (2 sets of dd, 2, CH₂COOMe), 3.58 (s, 3, CH₃OC=N or COOCH₃), 3.61 (s, 3, CH₃OC=N or COOCH₃), 3.71 (s, 3, N—CH₃), 3.86 (s, 3, OCH₃), 4.00 (m, 1, CH—N), 6.79 (s, 1, 2-H), 6.86 (m, 1, 6-H), 7.14 (d, 1, 4-H), 7.16 (d, 1, 7-H, J = 8.8 Hz); IR (CDCl₃) 2950, 1740 (C=O), 1685 (C=N), 1495; mass spectrum (chemical ionization) M⁺ + 1 = 333. This material decomposed on standing and was not further characterized.

General Reaction Procedure for Allyl Alcohols and Allylamines. To $Pd(CH_3CN)_4(BF_4)_2$ (133.2 mg, 0.30 mmol) placed under Ar atmosphere was added dry degassed acetonitrile (2 mL), and the mixture was stirred for a few minutes. Then olefin $(0.31 \sim 0.33 \text{ mmol})$ in the dry degassed acetonitrile (8 mL) was added to the stirred slightly yellow 1 in acetonitrile over 2 h by using a syringe pump. The mixture was stirred for a proper period at 25 °C. The reaction system was then evacuated, and CO gas was introduced with a balloon followed by the addition of dried methanol (3 mL). The resulting mixture was stirred for 16-18 h at 25 °C and then filtered through Celite to separate palladium black. The filtrate was washed with aqueous NaHCO₃, extracted with ether, washed with brine, dried over MgSO₄, filtered, and concentrated in vacuo to give a crude product, which was then purified.

Reaction of Allyl Alcohol with Acetonitrile To Form 15. The mixture of 1 in CH₃CN (2 mL) and allyl alcohol (18 mg, 0.31 mmol) in CH₃CN (8 mL) was stirred at 25 °C under Ar for a total of 5.5 h and then under CO for 2.5 h and with MeOH (3 mL) under CO for 16 h. Filtration through Celite gave a colorless solution, which was then isolated in the general way to give a brownish yellow oil. This oil was bulb-to-bulb distilled in vacuo (0.025 mmHg) to give 18 mg (38%) of 4-[(methoxy-carbonyl)methyl]-2-methyl-2-oxazoline (15) as a colorless oil: ¹H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.98 (s, 3, OCH₃), 2.44 (dd, 1, one of CH₂COO-CH₃, J_1 = 16.3, J_2 = 8.4 Hz), 2.79 (dd, 1, one of CH₂COO-CH₃, J_1 = 16.3, J_2 = 5.1 Hz), 3.70 (s, 3, OCH₃), 3.93 (m, 1, N—CH), 4.43 (m, 2, OCH₂—CH); IR (CDCl₃) 2955, 1737 (C=O), 1675 (C=N), 1440, 1390, 1236 cm⁻¹. Anal. (C₇H₁₁NO₃) C, H, N.

Reaction of Allyl Alcohol with Benzonitrile To Form 16. The mixture of 1 (133.2 mg, 0.30 mmol) in benzonitrile (2 mL) and allyl alcohol (18 mg, 0.31 mmol) in benzonitrile (3 mL) was stirred at 25 °C under Ar for 6 h and then with MeOH (3 mL) under CO for 18 h. The resulting mixture was filtered through Celite to give a slightly yellow solution. The normal isolation gave a colorless benzonitrile solution, which was purified by column chromatography (alumina, 20 mm × 20 cm, hexane (for benzonitrile) and then EtOAc/MeOH) to give 16 as a colorless oil (21 mg, 30%): ¹H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 2.50 (dd, 1, one of CH₂COOMe, J_1 = 16.5, J_2 = 9.0 Hz), 2.94 (dd, 1, one of CH₂COOMe, J_1 = 16.5, J_2 = 4.7 Hz), 3.70 (s, 3, OCH₃), 4.12 (m, 1, N—CH), 4.60–4.64 (m, 2, OCH₂), 7.35–7.45 (m, 3), 7.91 (m, 2); IR (CDCl₃) 2955, 1738 (C=O), 1648 (C=N), 1438, 1168 cm⁻¹. Anal. (C₁₂H₁₃N-O₃) C, H, N.

Reaction of 1-Buten-3-ol with Acetonitrile To Give 17. The mixture of 1 (133.2 mg, 0.30 mmol), in CH₃CN (2 mL) and substrate (25 mg, 0.34 mmol) was stirred at room temperature under Ar for 5.5 h and then under CO for 3.5 h and with MeOH (3 mL) under CO for 16 h. Filtration through Celite gave a colorless solution, which was then worked up in the general way to give a slightly yellow liquid. This crude liquid, almost pure by ¹H NMR, was bulb-to-bulb distilled in vacuo (0.025

mmHg) to give 22 mg (43%) of 4-[(methoxycarbonyl)methyl]-2,5-dimethyl-2-oxazoline (17) as a colorless liquid in the dry ice trap: 1 H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.36 (d, 3, CHC H_3 , J = 6.2 Hz), 1.96 (s, 3, CH₃C=N), 2.40 (dd, 1, one of C H_2 COOCH₃, J_1 = 16.1, J_2 = 8.7 Hz), 2.70 (dd, 1, one of C H_2 COOCH₃, J_1 = 16.1, J_2 = 5.5 Hz), 3.70 (s, 3, OCH₃), 3.95 (m, 1, N—CH), 4.30 (p, 1, CH₃CHO, J = 6.2 Hz) (The above NMR is of the major isomer; ratio of major/minor = 4); NMR is of minor isomer: 1.20 (s, CHC H_3 , J = 6.4 Hz), 2.48 (dd, C H_2 COOCH₃, J = 8.3 Hz), 2.63 (dd, C H_2 COOCH₃, J = 6.7 Hz), 4.45 (m, CH—N), 4.80 (m, OCH—CH₃); IR (CDCl₃) 2950, 1735, (C—O), 1662 (C—N), 1436, 1231 cm⁻¹. Anal. (C₈H₁₃NO₃) C, H, N.

Reaction of 1-Buten-4-ol with Acetonitrile To Give 18. The mixture of 1 (133.2 mg, 0.30 mmol) in CH₃CN (2 mL) and the alcohol (23 mg, 0.31 mmol) in CH₃CN (8 mL) was stirred at 25 °C under Ar for 9 h and then with MeOH under CO for 19 h. Filtration of the resulting mixture gave a colorless solution, which was isolated as usual to give a yellow oil. This oil was bulb-to-bulb distilled in vacuo (0.025 mmHg) to give 18 (25 mg, 49%) as a colorless liquid: ¹H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.4–1.7 (m, 2, OCH₂CH₂CH), 1.88 (s, 3, CH₃C=N), 1.95–2.05 (m, 1, NCH), 2.34 (dd, 1, one of CH₂COOCH₃, J_1 = 15.5, J_2 = 8.5 Hz), 2.66 (dd, 1, one of CH₂COOCH₃, J_1 = 15.5, J_2 = 6.3 Hz), 3.70 (s, 3, OCH₃), 4.05–4.25 (m, 2, OCH₂); IR (CDCl₃) 2955, 1735 (C=O), 1669 (C=N), 1438, 1245 cm⁻¹. Anal. (C₈H₁₃NO₃) C, H, N.

Reaction of N-Allylaniline with Acetonitrile To Give 19 and 20. The mixture of 1 (133.2 mg, 0.30 mmol) and substrate (42 mg, 0.31 mmol) in acetonitrile was stirred at 25 °C under Ar for 6 h as shown in the General procedure. The resulting amber homogeneous solution was stirred with MeOH (3 mL) under CO for 18 h. The normal isolation gave a yellow oil. Purification (column chromatography alumina, 10 mm \times 15 cm, hexane:EtOAc = 8:1 \sim 4:1 \sim EtOAc \sim EtOAc/MeOH) gave 13 mg (26%) of 20 as a colorless oil and 28 mg (39%) of 19 as a yellow oil.

19: R_f 0 (alumina, hexane:EtOAc = 4:1), R_f 0.15 (alumina, EtOAc); ¹H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 2.03 (s, 3, CH₃—C=N), 2.52 (dd, 1, CH₂COOCH₃, J_1 = 16.0, J_2 = 8.9 Hz), 2.83 (dd, 1, CH₂COOCH₃, J_1 = 16.0, J_2 = 5.3 Hz), 3.58 (t, 1, NCH₂CH, J = 9 Hz), 3.70 (s, 3, OCH₃), 4.05 (t, 1, one of NCH₂CH, J = 9 Hz), 4.38 (m, 1, =NCH), 7.05-7.40 (m, 5); IR (CDCl₃) 2955, 1738 (C=O), 1600 (C=N), 1500, 1400 cm⁻¹. Anal. (C₁₃H₁₆N₂O₂) C, H, N.

20. R_f 0.15 (alumina, hexane:EtOAc = 4:1) ¹H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 2.24 (s, 3, CH₃), 2.33 (s, 3, CH₃), 6.72 (s, 1, imidazole ring-H), 7.25–7.28 (m, 2, ArH), 7.38–7.49 (m, 3, ArH); IR (CDCl₃) 2945, 1605, (C=N), 1510, 1420 cm⁻¹. Anal. (C₁₁H₁₂N₂) C, H, N.

By increasing the time of reaction prior to CO exposure, the yield of 19 could be increased at the expense of 20.

Reaction of N-Allyl-2,5-dimethoxyaniline 19 with Acetonitrile To Give 21 and 22. The mixture of 1 (133.2 mg, 0.30 mmol) and substrate (63 mg, 0.32 mmol) was stirred at room temperature under Ar for 8 h. The resulting reddish amber solution was stirred with MeOH (3 mL) under CO for 16 h. The filtration of the mixture through Celite gave a reddish purple solution. Isolation gave a yellow oil, which was separated by the alumina column (hexane:EtOAc = $8:1 \sim 4:1 \sim 1:1 \sim \text{EtOAc} \sim \text{Et-OAc/MeOH}$) to give 21 mg (24%) of 22 as a yellow oil and 15 mg (22%) of 21 as a yellow oil, as well as 6 mg (13%) of dimethoxyaniline a colorless crystal.

21: R_f 0.13 (alumina, hexane:EtOAc = 4:1), R_f 0.51 (alumina, EtOAc); ¹H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 2.18 (s, 3, CH₃CN=N), 2.22 (d, 3, CH=C-CH₃, J = 1 Hz), 3.72 (s, 3, OCH₃), 3.76 (s, 3, OCH₃), 6.60 (d, 1, N-CH=C, J = 1 Hz), 6.75 (d, 1, ArH, J = 2 Hz), 6.91-6.93 (m, 2, ArH); IR (neat) 2938, 2841, 1701, 1623, 1598, 1510, 1399, 1277, 1045 cm⁻¹. Anal. (C₁₃H₁₆N₂O₂) C, H, N.

22: R_f 0 (alumina, hexane:EtOAc = 4:1), R_f 0.18 (alumina, EtOAc); ¹H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.76 (s, 3, CH₃—C=N), 2.49 (dd, 1, CH₂COOMe, J_1 = 15.9, J_2 = 8.9 Hz), 2.82 (dd, 1, CH₂COOMe, J_1 = 15.9, J_2 = 8.5 Hz), 3.37 (t, 1, N—CH₂, J = 9 Hz), 3.67 (s, 3, COOCH₃), 3.74 (s, 3, OCH₃), 3.75 (s, 3, OCH₃), 3.89 (t, 1, N—CH₂, J = 9 Hz), 4.38 (m, 1, =N—CHCH₂), 6.68-6.84 (m, 3, aromatic-H); IR (neat) 2960, 2842, 1742 (C=O), 1612, 1512, 1270, 1215, 1045 cm⁻¹. Anal. (C₁₅H₂₀N₂O₄) C, H, N.

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