Palladium-Catalyzed Heck Coupling of Arylhydrazines via C–NHNH₂

Bond Activation

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1. General procedures

The solvents were distilled from standard drying agents. Unless otherwise stated, commercial reagents purchased from Alfa Aesar, Acros and Aldrich chemical companies were used without further purification. Purification of reaction products was carried out by flash chromatography using Qing Dao Sea Chemical Reagent silica gel (200–300 mesh). ¹H NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker Avance III 400 (400 MHz) spectrometer and referenced internally to the residual proton resonance in CDCl₃ (δ = 7.26 ppm), or with tetramethylsilane (TMS, δ = 0.00 ppm) as the internal standard. Chemical shifts were reported as parts per million (ppm) in the δ scale downfield from TMS. Multiplicity is indicated as follows: s (singlet), d (doublet), t (triplet), q (quartet), quint (quintet), m (multiplet), dd (doublet of doublet), bs (broad singlet). Analytical TLC was performed using EM separations percolated silica gel 0.2 mm layer UV 254 fluorescent sheets.

2. Typical procedure for the palladium-catalyzed Heck coupling of arylhydrazine

A mixture of arylhydrazine **1** (0.36 mmol), acrylate **2** (0.3 mmol), TsCl (0.36 mmol), Pd(OAc)₂ (0.015 mmol, 5 mol %), and Et₃N (0.66 mmol, 2.2 equiv) was stirred at 40 $^{\circ}$ C in MeOH (2 mL) for 4-12 h. After completion of the reaction (indicated by TLC), the mixture was quenched with saturated NaCl solution, extracted with EtOAc, and dried over Na₂SO₄. The crude product was purified by flash column chromatography to provide the corresponding product **3**.

3. Characterization of the products

tert-Butyl cinnamate (3a)¹

Yellow oil; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.59 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 7.51 (dd, *J* = 6.7, 2.8 Hz, 2H), 7.37 – 7.36 (m, 3H), 6.37 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 1.54 (s, 9H).

(E)-tert-Butyl 3-p-tolylacrylate (3b)¹



Yellow oil; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.56 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 7.40 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.17 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 6.32 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 2.36 (s, 3H), 1.53 (s, 9H).

(E)-tert-Butyl 3-m-tolylacrylate (3c)¹



Yellow oil; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.56 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.25 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.35 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 2.36 (s, 3H), 1.53 (s, 9H). (*E*)-tert-Butyl 3-o-tolylacrylate (3d)¹



Yellow oil; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.89 (d, *J* = 15.9 Hz, 1H), 7.55– 7.53 (m, 1H), 7.24 (dd, *J* = 8.5, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.18 (dd, *J* = 11.5, 5.9 Hz, 2H), 6.29 (d, *J* = 15.9 Hz, 1H), 2.43 (s, 3H), 1.54 (s, 9H). (*E*)-tert-Butyl 3-(2-methoxyphenyl)acrylate (3e)²



Yellow oil; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.91 (d, *J* = 16.2 Hz, 1H), 7.49 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.32 (t, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 6.93 (dd, *J* = 20.0, 7.9 Hz, 2H), 6.44 (d, *J* = 16.1 Hz, 1H), 3.88 (s, 3H), 1.53 (s, 9H). (*E*)-tert-Butyl 3-(4-methoxyphenyl)acrylate (3f)¹

Yellow oil; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.54 (d, *J* = 15.9 Hz, 1H), 7.46 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 6.89 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 2H), 6.24 (d, *J* = 15.9 Hz, 1H), 3.83 (s, 3H), 1.53 (s, 9H).

(E)-tert-Butyl 3-(3,5-dimethylphenyl)acrylate (3g)³



Yellow oil; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ: 7.53 (d, *J* = 15.9 Hz,, 1H), 7.13 (s, 2H), 7.00 (s, 1H), 6.34 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 2.32 (s, 6H), 1.53 (s, 9H).

(E)-tert-Butyl 3-(4-chlorophenyl)acrylate (3h)¹



Yellow oil; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.56 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.25 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.17 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 6.35 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 2.36 (s, 3H), 1.53 (s, 9H).

(E)-tert-Butyl 3-(3-chlorophenyl)acrylate (3i)³



Yellow oil; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.51 (d, *J* = 15.6 Hz, 2H), 7.37 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.35 – 7.28 (m, 2H), 6.36 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 1.53 (s, 9H). (*E*)-tert-Butyl 3-(4-bromophenyl)acrylate (3j)¹



Yellow oil; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.52 (d, *J* = 7.7 Hz, 1H), 7.49 (s, 2H), 7.36 (d, *J* = 8.5 Hz, 2H), 6.35 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 1.53 (s, 9H).

(E)-tert-Butyl 3-(4-fluorophenyl)acrylate (3k)⁴

Yellow solid; mp: 47-49 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.50 (m, 3H), 7.06 (m, 2H), 6.29 (d, *J*=16.0 Hz, 1H), 1.53 (s, 9H).

Butyl cinnamate (3I)⁴

Yellow oil; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.66 (s, 1H), 7.53 (m, 2H), 7.38 (m, 3H), 6.42 (dd, *J* = 19.7 Hz, 16.1 Hz, 1H), 4.21 (t, *J* = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 1.70 (dt, *J* = 14.6 Hz, 6.8 Hz, 2H), 1.44 (td, *J* = 14.9 Hz, 7.4 Hz, 2H), 0.97 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 3H).

Ethyl cinnamate (3m)⁵

Colorless oil; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.69 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 7.53 – 7.51 (m, 2H), 7.39 – 7.37 (m, 3H), 6.44 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 4.27 (q, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 1.34 (t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H). **Methyl cinnamate (3n)**⁶



Colorless oil; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.70 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 7.53 (m, 2H), 7.39 (m, 3H), 6.45 (d, *J* = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 3.81 (s, 3H).

(E)-Ethyl 3-(4-(trifluoromethoxy)phenyl)acrylate (30)⁷



Colorless oil; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ : 7.65 (d, J = 16.0 Hz, 1H), 7.55 (d, J = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.23 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 6.40 (d, J = 16.1 Hz, 1H), 4.27 (q, J = 6.7 Hz, 2H), 1.34 (t, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H).

(E)-1-Methyl-4-styrylbenzene (3s)⁸



White solid; mp: 117-119 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) *δ*: 7.50 (d, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.41 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.35 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 2H), 7.24 (s, 1H), 7.17 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.07 (d, *J* = 2.3 Hz, 2H), 2.36 (s, 3H).

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4. NMR spectra of the products







11.0 10.5 10.0 9.5 9.0 8.5 8.0 7.5 7.0 6.5 6.0













