Nichekl-catalyzed Tishchenko Reaction via Hetero-nickelacycles by Oxidative Cyclization of Aldehydes with Nickel(0) Complex

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Supporting Information

[General]

All manipulations were conducted under a nitrogen atmosphere using standard Schlenk or dry box techniques. ¹H, ³¹P, and ¹³C nuclear magnetic resonance spectra were recorded on JEOL GSX–270S, JEOL AL–400, Brucker DPX 400, Brucker AVANCE 400 and Varian UNITY INOVA 600 spectrometers at 25 °C unless otherwise stated. The chemical shifts in ¹H nuclear magnetic resonance spectra were recorded relative to Me₄Si or residual protiated solvent (C₆D₅H (δ 7.16) or C₇D₇H (δ 7.02 or 7.13)). The chemical shifts in the ¹³C spectra were recorded relative to Me₄Si. Assignment of the resonances in ¹H and ¹³C NMR spectra was based on ¹H–¹H COSY, HMQC, and HMBC experiments. High resolution mass spectrometer (HRMS) and elemental analyses were performed at Instrumental Analysis Center, Faculty of Engineering, Osaka University. X–ray crystal data were collected by a Rigaku RAXIS–RAPID Imaging Plate diffractometer.

[Materials]

Toluene, C_6D_6 , and toluene– d_8 were distilled from sodium benzophenone ketyl. All commercially available reagents were distilled and degassed prior to use. IPr (1,3–bis–(2,6–diisopropylphenyl)imidazol–2–ylidene), IPrCl (1,3–bis– (2,6–diisopropylphenyl) – 4,5–dichloroimidazol–2–ylidene) and 2-naphthaldehyde– d_1 were furnished by known procedures.^{1,2}

[NMR-scale experiments (Table 1)]



To a solution of Ni(cod)₂ (5.5 mg, 0.020 mmol) and PCy₃ (11.2 mg, 0.040 mmol) in 0.50 mL of toluene- d_8 was added benzaldehyde (20.4 mg, 0.20 mmol) at 23 °C. The reaction mixture was heated at 100 °C for 24 h. The solution changed from red to orange. The reaction was monitored by ¹H and ³¹P NMR. Benzyl benzoate and C1 (³¹P NMR: δ 41.7) were generated as red crystals (100% conversion vs Ni). Anal Calcd for C₇₂H₁₃₂NiOP (C1): C, 60.88; H, 9.38. Found: C, 61.34; H, 8.66.



To a solution of Ni(cod)₂ (5.5 mg, 0.020 mmol) and PCy₃ (5.6 mg, 0.020 mmol) in 0.50 mL of C_6D_6 was added benzyl benzoate (42.4 mg, 0.20 mmol) at 23 °C. The reaction mixture was heated at 80 °C for 60 h. The reaction was monitored by ¹H and ³¹P NMR. C1 (³¹P NMR: δ 41.7) was not formed at all, but unidentified new peaks were observed in ¹H and ³¹P NMR spectra of the crude reaction mixture



To a solution of Ni(cod)₂ (11.0 mg, 0.040 mmol) and Ligand (0.040 mmol; IPr 15.5 mg or IPrCl 18.3 mg) in 0.50 mL of toluene- d_8 was added benzaldehyde (212.4 mg, 2.0 mmol or 414.8 mg, 4.0 mmol) at 23 °C. The reaction mixture was heated at 60 °C. The reaction was monitored by ¹H NMR. Benzyl benzoate was obtained quantitatively.

[General experimental procedures of Ni(0)/IPrCl-catalyzed Tishchenko reaction (Table 2)]

To a solution of Ni(cod)₂ (11.0 mg, 0.040 mmol) and IPrCl (18.3 mg, 0.040 mmol) in 2 mL of toluene was added the aldehyde under inert atmosphere at 23 °C. The reaction mixture was heated at 60 °C or 80 °C for 1–24 h. The reaction was monitored by GC analysis. GC yields were determined using pentadecane as an internal standard. The product was isolated by a silica gel chromatography (eluted with EtOAc, unless otherwise noted). Spectroscopic data of the products (1, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13 and 14) were identical to that previously reported.³

[Spectroscopic data for preparated esters]



The general procedure was followed with benzaldehyde (429.0 mg, 4.04 mmol) and reaction mixture was stired at 60 °C for 3 h. Purification by column chromatography gave **1** (429.5 mg, 2.02 mmol, > 99%) as pale yellow oil.

2,4-Dimethylbenzyl 2,4-dimethylbenzoate (2):



The general procedure was followed with 2,4-dimethylbenzaldehyde (536.4 mg, 4.00 mmol) and reaction mixture was stired at 60 °C for 3 h. Purification by column chromatography gave **2** (532.8 mg, 1.99 mmol, > 99%) as colorless oil. <u>¹H NMR</u> (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.85 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H, Ar*H*), 7.31 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H, Ar*H*), 7.04 (m, 4H, Ar*H*), 5.31 (s, 2H, OC*H*₂Ar), 2.59 (s, 3H, C*H*₃), 2.39 (s, 3H, C*H*₃), 2.35 (s, 3H, C*H*₃), 2.34 (s, 3H, C*H*₃). <u>¹³C NMR</u> (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 167.5, 142.7, 140.7, 138.4, 137.1, 132.7, 131.4, 131.3, 131.1, 129.7, 126.8, 126.7, 126.6, 64.8, 22.0, 21.5, 21.2, 19.1. <u>HRMS</u>: Calcd. for C₁₈H₂₀O₂ 268.1463, Found 268.1465.

3,5-Dimethylbenzyl 3,5-dimethylbenzoate (3):



The general procedure was followed with 3,5-dimethylbenzaldehyde (542.8 mg, 4.05 mmol) and reaction mixture was stired at 60 °C for 3 h. Purification by column chromatography gave **3** (531.5 mg, 1.98 mmol, > 99%) as colorless oil. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 7.75 (s, 2H, Ar*H*), 7.22 (s, 1H, Ar*H*), 7.11 (s, 2H, Ar*H*), 7.02 (s, 1H, Ar*H*), 5.33 (s, 2H, OC*H*₂Ar), 2.39 (s, 6H, C*H*₃), 2.38 (s, 6H, C*H*₃). ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 166.9, 138.2, 138.0, 136.1, 134.7, 130.2, 130.0, 127.5, 126.2, 66.8, 21.3, 21.2. HRMS: Calcd. for C₁₈H₂₀O₂ 268.1463, Found 268.1458.

2,4,6-Trimethylbenzyl 2,4,6-trimethylbenzoate (4):



The general procedure was followed with 2,4,6-trimethylbenzaldehyde (202.1 mg, 1.36 mmol) and reaction mixture was stired at 60 °C for 24 h. Purification by column chromatography gave **4** (170.3 mg, 0.57 mmol, 84%) as yellow oil.¹<u>H NMR</u> (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 6.88 (s, 2H, Ar*H*), 6.82 (s, 2H, Ar*H*), 5.40 (s, 2H, OCH₂Ar), 2.40 (s, 6H, CH₃), 2.27 (s, 6H, CH₃), 2.26 (s, 6H, CH₃). ¹³<u>C NMR</u> (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 170.4, 139.1, 138.5, 138.2, 134.9, 131.3, 129.1, 128.8, 128.3, 61.4, 21.1, 21.0, 19.7, 19.6. <u>HRMS</u>: Calcd. for C₂₀H₂₄O₂ 296.1776, Found 296.1774.

3,5-Di-tert-butylbenzyl 3,5-di-tert-butylbenzoate (5):



The general procedure was followed with 3,5-di-*tert*-butylbenzaldehyde (439.1 mg, 2.01 mmol) and reaction mixture was stired at 80 °C for 2 h. Purification by column chromatography gave **5** (441.2 mg, 2.01 mmol, > 99%) as yellow oil.¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 8.22 (s, 2H, Ar*H*), 7.85 (s, 1H, Ar*H*), 7.62 (s, 1H, Ar*H*), 7.55 (s, 2H, Ar*H*), 5.63 (s, 2H, OC*H*₂Ar), 1.55 (s, 36H, C*H*₃).¹³C NMR (100 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 167.0, 151.0, 150.9, 135.7, 129.9, 127.1, 124.0, 122.0, 121.9, 67.0, 34.9, 34.8, 31.6, 31.5. HRMS: Calcd. for C₃₀H₄₄O₂ 436.3341, Found 436.3344.

4-Methoxybenzyl 4-methoxybenzoate (6):



The general procedure was followed with 4-methoxybenzaldehyde (274.3 mg, 2.01 mmol) and reaction mixture was stired at 60 °C for 2 h. Purification by column chromatography gave **6** (260.8 mg, 1.92 mmol, 95%) as yellow oil.

4-(Trifluoromethyl)benzyl 4-(trifluoromethyl)benzoate (7):



The general procedure was followed with 4-trifuluoromethylbenzaldehyde (69.8 mg, 0.40 mmol) and reaction mixture was stired at 60 °C for 4 h. Purification by column chromatography gave 7 (61.4 mg, 0.18 mmol, 88% as crude yield). Futher purification by recrystalization gave 7 (57.2 mg, 0.17 mmol, 82%) as colorless solid.

4-(Methoxycarbonyl)benzyl methyl terephthalate (8):



The general procedure was followed with 4-methoxycarbonylbenzaldehyde (329.6 mg, 2.01 mmol) and reaction mixture was stired at 80 °C for 4 h. Purification by column chromatography gave **8** (324.7 mg, 0.99 mmol, 99%). Futher purification by recrystalization gave **8** as colorless solid.

Naphthalen-2-ylmethyl 2-naphthoate (9):



The general procedure was followed with 2-naphthadehyde (208.6 mg, 1.34 mmol) and reaction mixture was stired at 60 °C for 3 h. Purification by column chromatography gave **9** (195.8 mg, 0.63

mmol, 94% as crude yield). Futher purification by recrystalization gave **8** (170.8 mg, 0.55 mmol, 82%) as colorless solid. NMR scale experiment was conducted followed by procedure noted in p S12.

Furfuryl furoate (10):



The general procedure was followed with furfral (192.2 mg, 2.00 mmol) and reaction mixture was stired at 60 $^{\circ}$ C for 3 h. Purification by column chromatography gave **10** (118.6 mg, 0.62 mmol, 62%) as yellow oil. The yellow solid was produced as unidentified byproduct.

3,5,5-Trimethylhexyl 3,5,5-trimethylhexanoate (11):



The general procedure was followed with 3,5,5-trimethylhexanal (569.9 mg, 4.01 mmol) and reaction mixture was stired at 60 °C for 1 h. Purification by column chromatography gave **11** (543.3 mg, 1.91 mmol, 96%) as colorless oil. This product was obtained as a diasteremer mixture **11/11'** (60/40, estimated by ¹H NMR). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃): δ 4.09–4.05 (m, 2H of **11** and **11'**, 0CH₂CH₂), 2.31–2.29 (m, 1H of **11'** ¹BuCH₂CH(Me)CH₂), 2.28–2.26 (m, 1H of **11**, ¹BuCH₂CH(Me)CH₂), 2.13-2.03 (m, 2H), 1.63–1.59 (m, 2H), 1.44-1.42 (m, 1H), 1.25 (t, J = 4.0 Hz, 2H of **11'**, ¹BuCH₂CH(Me)CH₂), 1.21 (t, J = 4 Hz, 2H of **11**, ¹BuCH₂CH(Me)CH₂), 1.13–1.01 (ddd, 2H), 0.97 (d, J = 4.0 Hz, 3H of **11'**, Me-*H*), 0.95 (d, J = 4.0 Hz, 3H of **11'**, Me-*H*), 0.89 (s, 9H of **11** and **11'**, ¹Bu-H). ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 67 MHz): δ 173.4, 62.8, 51.1 (**11'**), 51.1 (**11**), 50.7, 44.3, 38.0, 31.2, 30.2 (**11'**), 30.1 (**11**), 27.1 (**11**), 26.9 (**11'**), 26.3, 22.8 (**11'**), 22.8 (**11**), 22.7 (**11**), 22.6(**11'**). HRMS: Calcd. for C₁₈H₃₆O₂ 284.2715, Found 284.2713.

2-Ethylhexyl 2-ethylhexanoate (12):

The general procedure was followed with 2-ethylhexanal (519.3 mg, 4.05 mmol) and reaction mixture was stired at 60 $^{\circ}$ C for 1 h. Purification by column chromatography gave **12** (483.3 mg, 1.88 mmol, 94%) as colorless oil.

Cyclohexylmethyl cyclohexanecarboxylate (13):



The general procedure was followed with cyclohexanecarbaldehyde (450.2 mg, 4.01 mmol) and reaction mixture was stired at 60 $^{\circ}$ C for 1 h. Purification by column chromatography gave **13** (451.5 mg, 2.01 mmol, 99%) as colorless oil.

Neopentyl pivalate (Scheme 2, Entry 14):

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The general procedure was followed with pivalaldehyde (442 uL, 344.8 mg, 4.00 mmol) and reaction mixture was stired at 60 $^{\circ}$ C for 1 h. Neopentyl pivalate (14) is difficult to isolate because of its low boiling point. Therefore, product yield was determined by GC.

[Mechanistic investigations]

NMR Monitering of the Tishchenko reaction of 2-naphthaldehyde:



To a solution of Ni(cod)₂ (110.0 mg, 0.40 mmol) and IPrCl (183.2 mg, 0.40 mmol) in 2 mL of toluene- d_8 was added 2-naphthaldehyde (312.4 mg, 2.00 mmol) at 23 °C and the sample was transferred to an NMR tube equipped with a sealable teflon cap. The tube was sealed and inserted in a NMR spectrometer. The ¹H NMR analysis was conducted at 25 °C (NMR S1) and then the sample was cooled to -60 °C. After the measurement of ¹H NMR (NMR S2), ¹³C NMR (NMR S3) and HMBC (NMR S4) at -60 °C, the sample was allowed to warm to 25 °C. Then, ¹H NMR analysis was conducted at 25 °C again to verify that the reaction is not proceeded from when the first ¹H NMR analysis had been conducted at 25 °C. The reaction at room temrature was monitored by ¹H NMR for 1 d and the 2-naphthaldehyde was consumed to the give corresponding ester quantitatively. Spectrul data for C2: ¹H NMR (600 MHz, toluene- d_8 , -60 °C): δ 4.70 (brs, 2H, ArCHO), 3.12 (br, 2H, ⁱPr-H), 2.97 (br, 2H, ⁱPr-H), 1.61 (br, 6H, ⁱPr-H), 1.17 (br, 6H, ⁱPr-H), 1.07 (br, 6H, ⁱPr-H), 1.02 (br, 6H, ⁱPr-H). ¹³C NMR (150 MHz, toluene- d_8): δ 196.0, 109.3, 29.6, 28.8, 24.8, 24.3, 24.0, 23.6.







NMR Monitering of the Tishchenko reaction of 2-naphthaldehyde-d₁:



To a solution of Ni(cod)₂ (110.0 mg, 0.40 mmol) and IPrCl (183.2 mg, 0.40 mmol) in 2 mL of toluene- d_8 was added 2-naphthaldehyde- d_1 (314.4 mg, 2.00 mmol) at 23 °C and the sample was transferred to an NMR tube equipped with a sealeable teflon cap. The tube was sealed and inserted in a NMR spectrometer. The ¹H NMR analysis was conducted at 25 °C and then the sample was cooled to -60 °C. After the measurement of ¹H NMR (NMR S5) and ¹³C NMR (NMR S6) at -60 °C, the sample was allowed to warm to 25 °C. Then, ¹H NMR analysis was conducted at 25 °C again to verify that the reaction is not proceeded from when the first ¹H NMR analysis had been conducted at 25 °C.



[Detrmination of reaction rate constant and KIE]

For all kinetic analyses, each measurement was repeated at least twice.

Reaction rate constant of the Tishchenko reaction of 2-naphthaldehyde, $k_{\rm H}$:



94% NMR yield, d[C₁₀H₇CHO]/dt = $k_{\rm H}$ = 3.55(3)×10⁻⁴ [mol·m⁻³·sec⁻¹]

To a solution of Ni(cod)₂ (11.0 mg, 0.040 mmol) and IPrCl (18.3 mg, 0.040 mmol) in 0.5 mL of C₆D₆ was added 2-naphthaldehyde (206.2 mg, 1.32 mmol) and 1,4-dioxane (39.5 mg, 0. 45 mmol) as an internal standerd at 25 °C. The reaction mixture was thermostated at 60 °C, and then the integral values at $\delta_{\rm H}$ 8.12 ppm and 3.32 ppm, the resonances attributable to the aromatic protone in 9 and to 1,4-dioxane, respectively, were monitored periodically (every 5 minutes) by means of ¹H NMR spectroscopy (Table S1). The rate constant of disappearance of $C_{10}H_7CHO(k_H)$ was evaluated by least-squares fitting of the conversion-time profiles to a zero-order rate equation (eq. S1).

$$-d[C_{10}H_7CHO]/dt = k_H$$
(S1)
where $[C_{10}H_7CHO] = [C_{10}H_7CHO]_0 - 2[9]$, $[C_{10}H_7CHO]_0 = 1.169(5)$ [mol m⁻³]
($[C_{10}H_7CHO]_0$ means the consentration of $[C_{10}H_7CHO]$ at t = 0.)

Reaction rate constant of the Tishchenko reaction of 2-naphthaldehyde- d_1 , k_D :



95% NMR yield, d[C₁₀H₇CDO]/dt = $k_{\rm D}$ = 1.87(1)×10⁻⁴ [mol·m⁻³·sec⁻¹]

To a solution of Ni(cod)₂ (11.0 mg, 0.040 mmol) and IPrCl (18.3 mg, 0.040 mmol) in 0.5 mL of C_6D_6 was added 2-naphthaldehyde- d_1 (207.5 mg, 1.32 mmol) and 1.4-dioxane (40.5 mg, 0.46 mmol) as an internal standerd at 25 °C. The reaction mixture was thermostated at 60 °C, and then the integral values at $\delta_{\rm H}$ 8.12 ppm and 3.32 ppm, the resonances attributable to the aromatic protone in $9-d_2$ and to 1,4-dioxane, respectively, were monitored periodically (every 5 minutes) by means of ¹H NMR spectroscopy (Table S2). The rate constant of disappearance of $C_{10}H_7CDO$ (k_D) was evaluated by least-squares fitting of the conversion-time profiles to a zero-order rate equation (eq. S2).

$$-d[C_{10}H_7CDO]/dt = k_D$$
(S2)

where
$$[C_{10}H_7CDO] = [C_{10}H_7CDO]_0 - 2[9-d_2], [C_{10}H_7CDO]_0 = 1.180(4) \text{ [mol m}^{-3}]$$

($[C_{10}H_7CDO]_0$ means the consentration of $[C_{10}H_7CDO]$ at t = 0.)

These two experiments show a KIE value of reaction rate ($k_{\rm H}/k_{\rm D} = 3.55 \times 10^{-4}/1.87 \times 10^{-4} = 1.9$).





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