Indium(I)-catalyzed alkyl-allyl coupling between ethers and an allylborane

Hai Thanh Dao, Uwe Schneider and Shu Kobayashi*

Department of Chemistry, School of Science and Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, The University of Tokyo, Hongo, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo 113-0033, Japan

Electronic Supplementary Information (ESI)

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1 General

Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) spectra were recorded on a JEOL ECX-400, a JEOL ECA-500, or a JEOL ECX-600 spectrometer, operating at 400 MHz, 500 MHz, or 600 MHz for ¹H NMR, and 100 MHz, 125 MHz, or 150 MHz for ¹³C NMR (128 MHz for ¹¹B NMR). Chemical shifts were reported downfield from tetramethylsilane (TMS). Infra Red (IR) spectra were measured using a JASSO FT/IR-610 spectrometer. High Resolution Mass Spectra (HRMS) were recorded using a JEOL JMS T100TD (DART) spectrometer. Preparative thin-layer chromatography (PTLC) was carried out using Wakogel B-5F from WAKO. All solvents used were commercially available dry solvents that were further dried and degassed appropriately under an argon atmosphere, and stored over activated molecular sieves in an argon box prior to use.

InOTf was prepared according to a reported procedure, and stored in an argon box at -30 °C.¹ All other metal salts were purchased from ALDRICH, and stored in an argon box at room temperature. All reactions were carried out under an argon atmosphere in flame-dried glassware. 9-BBN-derived allylborane **2b** was synthesized according to a reported method.²

2 Starting materials

2.1 Procedure for synthesis of starting materials

To a stirred solution of an alcohol (20 mmol) in dry THF (20 mL) at 0 °C was slowly added NaH (2 equiv). The reaction mixture was further stirred at 0 °C for 1 h before slow addition of MeI (1.5 equiv). The mixture was then allowed to reach to room temperature overnight. Quenching with water followed by extraction (Et₂O, 3×10 mL) and evaporation afforded the corresponding crude ether product, which was then purified by column chromatography to provide substrates **1a–u**.

2.2 Analytical data for unknown ethers

1-Bromo-3-(1-methoxyethyl)-benzene (1f):

¹**H NMR** (CDCl₃, 600 Hz): δ = 1.42 (s, 3H), 3.23 (s, 3H), 4.23–4.27 (q, *J* = 7.2, 1H), 7.20–7.26 (m, 2H), 7.40–7.46 (m, 2H) ppm.

¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 150 Hz): δ = 23.8, 56.6, 79.0, 122.6, 124.8, 129.2, 130.1, 130.5, 146.0 ppm.

IR (neat): $v = 2977, 2930, 2320, 1117, 1068, 998, 871, 668 \text{ cm}^{-1}$.

HRMS (DART): calculated for $C_8H_8^{79}Br^+ = [M-OMe]^+$: m/z = 182.98094, found: m/z = 182.98041.

1-Methoxy-1-(2-thienyl)-ethane (1k):

¹**H NMR** (CDCl₃, 600 Hz): δ = 1.56 (s, 3H), 3.27 (s, 3H), 4.56–4.58 (q, *J* = 6.9, 1H), 6.95–6.97 (m, 2H), 7.25–7.26 (m, 1H), ppm.

¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 150 Hz): $\delta = 23.8$, 56.2, 74.9, 124.5, 124.7, 126.3, 147.2 ppm. IR (neat): $\nu = 2978$, 2930, 2820, 1113, 1086, 996, 858, 830, 701 cm⁻¹. HRMS (DART): calculated for C₆H₇³²S⁺ = [M-OMe]⁺: m/z = 111.02685, found: m/z = 182.02728.

3 In(I)-catalyzed coupling reactions

3.1 Procedure for In(I)-catalyzed C-C bond formation

To a flame-dried 5 ml-screw-vial with magnetic stirring bar in an argon box were added successively InOTf (1–5 mol%), dry toluene or DCM (0.5 M), the corresponding ether **1a–u** (0.4 mmol), and allylborane **2b** (1.2–2.0 equiv). The reaction mixture was stirred at the indicated temperature for the indicated time until complete consumption of the corresponding electrophile **1** (detected by TLC or ¹H NMR analyses of an aliquot of the reaction mixture). The crude reaction mixtures were purified -without further treatment- by preparative thin layer chromatography (PTLC; eluant: hexane \rightarrow hexane/Et₂O = 95:5) or column chromatography (eluant: hexane) to afford the corresponding products **3a–u**.

3.2 Analytical data for products

2-(1-Methyl-3-buten-1-yl)-naphthalene (3a):

Prepared from ether **1a** and allylborane **2b** (1.2 equiv) according to the general procedure with InOTf (1 mol%) in DCM (0.5 M) at 25 °C for 90 min. *The obtained analytical data of 3a fit accurately with the reported data.³*

Colorless liquid. Yield: 86%.

4-Benzyl-1-butene (3b):

Prepared from ether **1b** and allylborane **2b** (1.5 equiv) according to the general procedure with InOTf (5 mol%) in DCM (0.5 M) at 25 °C for 14 h. *The obtained analytical data of 3b fit accurately with the reported data.⁴*

Colorless liquid.

Yield 25%.

4-(4-Methoxyphenyl)-1-butene (3c):

Prepared from ether **1c** and allylborane **2b** (1.2 equiv) according to the general procedure with InOTf (2 mol%) in toluene (0.5 M) at a temperature range from -20 °C to room temperature for 14 h. *The obtained analytical data of 3c fit accurately with the reported data.*⁵

Colorless liquid.

Yield: 80%.

2-(3-Buten-1-yl)-naphthalene (3d):

Prepared from ether 1d and allylborane 2b (1.5 equiv) according to the general procedure with InOTf (5

mol%) in DCM (0.5 M) at 25 °C for 14 h. *The obtained analytical data of 3d fit accurately with the reported data.*⁵ Colorless liquid. Yield 25%.

(1-Methyl-3-buten-1-yl)-benzene (3e):

Prepared from ether **1e** and allylborane **2b** (1.2 equiv) according to the general procedure with InOTf (2 mol%) in DCM (0.5 M) at 25 °C for 30 min. *The obtained analytical data of 3e fit accurately with the reported data.⁴* Colorless liquid. Yield: 73%.

1-Bromo-3-(1-methyl-3-buten-1-yl)-benzene (3f):

Prepared from ether **1f** and allylborane **2b** (1.2 equiv) according to the general procedure with InOTf (2 mol%) in DCM (0.5 M) at 25 °C for 5 h.

Colorless liquid.

Yield 55%.

¹**H NMR** (CDCl₃, 600 Hz): $\delta = 1.22-1.24$ (d, J = 6.9, 3H), 2.24–2.29 (m, 1H), 2.33–2.37 (m, 1H), 2.74–2.77 (m, 1H), 4.96–5.00 (m, 2H), 5.64–5.71 (m, 1H), 7.11–7.17 (m, 2H), 7.31–7.34 (m, 2H) ppm. ¹³**C NMR** (CDCl₃, 150 Hz): $\delta = 21.3$, 39. 6, 42.4, 116.3, 122.4, 125.7, 129.0, 129.9, 130.1, 136.5, 149.4 ppm

IR (neat): v = 2961, 1558, 1540, 1260, 1072, 668 cm⁻¹. **HRMS** (DART): calculated for C₁₁H₁₄⁸¹Br⁺ = [M+H]⁺: m/z = 227.02584, found: m/z = 227.02524.

(1-(2-Chloroethyl)-3-buten-1-yl)-benzene (3g):

Prepared from ether **1g** and allylborane **2b** (1.2 equiv) according to the general procedure with InOTf (5 mol%) in DCM (0.5 M) at 25 °C for 30 min. *The obtained analytical data of 3g fit accurately with the reported data.⁶*

Colorless liquid.

Yield: 62%.

1-Allyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydronaphthalene (3h):

Prepared from ether **1h** and allylborane **2b** (1.2 equiv) according to the general procedure with InOTf (2 mol%) in DCM (0.5 M) at 25 °C for 30 min. *The obtained analytical data of 3h fit accurately with the reported data.⁷*

Colorless liquid.

Yield: 83%.

4,4-Diphenyl-1-butene (3i):

Prepared from ether 1i and allylborane 2b (1.2 equiv) according to the general procedure with InOTf (2

mol%) in DCM (0.5 M) at 25 °C for 30 min. *The obtained analytical data of 3i fit accurately with the reported data.*⁷ Colorless liquid. Yield: 98%.

4- (p-Metoxyphenyl)-4-phenyl-1-butene (3j):

Prepared from ether **1j** and allylborane **2b** (1.2 equiv) according to the general procedure with InOTf (2 mol%) in DCM (0.5 M) at 25 °C for 30 min. *The obtained analytical data of 3j fit accurately with the reported data.⁶* Colorless liquid.

Yield: 94%.

4-(2-Thienyl)-1-pentene (3k):

Prepared from ether **1k** and allylborane **2b** (1.2 equiv) according to the general procedure with InOTf (5 mol%) in DCM (0.5 M) at 25 $^{\circ}$ C for 30 min.

Colorless liquid.

Yield 45%.

¹**H** NMR (CDCl₃, 600 Hz): $\delta = 1.32-1.33$ (d, J = 7.6, 3H), 2.30–2.35 (m, 1H), 2.43–2.47 (m, 1H), 3.10–3.13 (m, 1H), 5.00–5.06 (m, 2H), 5.73–5.79 (m, 1H), 6.80–6.81 (d, J = 3.48, 1H), 6.91–6.93 (m, 1H), 7.12–7.13 (d, J = 4.8, 1H) ppm.

¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 150 Hz): δ = 22.3, 35.1, 43.5, 116.5, 122.5, 122.6, 126.4, 136.4, 151.2 ppm.

IR (neat): $v = 3075, 2964, 2925, 1235, 993, 915, 847, 822, 692 \text{ cm}^{-1}$.

HRMS (DART): calculated for $C_9H_{13}^{32}S^+ = [M+H]^+$: m/z = 153.07380, found: m/z = 153.07387.

(1,1-Dimethyl-3-buten-1-yl)-benzene (3l):

Prepared from ether **11** and allylborane **2b** (1.2 equiv) according to the general procedure with InOTf (2 mol%) in DCM (0.5 M) at -20 °C for 14 h. *The obtained analytical data of 31 fit accurately with the reported data.*⁶

Colorless liquid.

Yield: 40%.

1-(1,1-Dimethyl-3-buten-1-yl)-4-methoxy-benzene (3m):

Prepared from ether **1m** and allylborane **2b** (1.2 equiv) according to the general procedure with InOTf (2 mol%) in DCM (0.5 M) at -20 °C for 5 h.

Colorless liquid.

Yield: 78%.

¹**H** NMR (CDCl₃, 600 Hz): $\delta = 1.28$ (s, 6H), 2.33–2.34 (d, J = 6.9, 2H), 3.79 (s, 3H), 4.93–4.97 (m, 2H), 5.52–5.59 (m, 1H), 6.84–6.65 (d, J = 8.9, 2H), 7.25–7.47 (d, J = 8.9, 2H) ppm.

¹³**C NMR** (CDCl₃, 150 Hz): δ = 28.7, 36.9, 48.9, 55.2, 113.3, 116.8, 126.8, 135.7, 141.3, 157.3 ppm.

IR (neat): $v = 3077, 2962, 1515, 1249, 1184, 1038, 911, 808 \text{ cm}^{-1}$.

HRMS (DART): calculated for $C_{13}H_{19}O^+ = [M+H]^+$: m/z = 191.14359, found: m/z = 191.14370.

4-(4,4,4-Triphenyl)-1-butane (3n):

Prepared from ether **1n** and allylborane **2b** (1.2 equiv) according to the general procedure with InOTf (2 mol%) in DCM (0.5 M) at 25 °C for 30 min. *The obtained analytical data of 3n fit accurately with the reported data.⁷*

White solid.

Yield 95%.

(3-Methyl-1,5-hexadien-1-yl)-benzene (3o-L):



Prepared from ether **1o** and allylborane **2b** (1.2 equiv) according to the general procedure with InOTf (2 mol%) in DCM (0.5 M) at 25 °C for 30 min. *The obtained analytical data of 3o fit accurately with the reported data.^{\delta}</sup>*

Colorless liquid.

Yield 93%, L:B = 1:1.

1,5-Hexadien-1-yl-benzene (3p-L):



Prepared from ether **1p** and allylborane **2b** (1.2 equiv) according to the general procedure with InOTf (5 mol%) in DCM (0.5 M) at 25 °C for 14 h. *The obtained analytical data of 3p fit accurately with the reported data.⁹*

Colorless liquid.

Yield: 30%, L:B = 6:1.

(3-Methyl-5-hexen-1-ynyl)benzene (3q-L):



Prepared from ether 1q and allylborane 2b (1.2 equiv) according to the general procedure with InOTf (5 mol%) in DCM (0.5 M) at 25 °C for 5h. *The obtained analytical data of 3q fit accurately with the*

*reported data.*¹⁰ Colorless liquid. Yield: 60%, L:B=12:1.

1-Methyl-4-(1-methylethenyl)-6-(2-propenyl)-cyclohexene (3r):



Prepared from ether **1r** and allylborane **2b** (1.2 equiv) according to the general procedure with InOTf (2 mol%) in DCM (0.5 M) at 25 °C for 14 h. *The obtained analytical data of 3r fit accurately with the reported data.¹¹*

Colorless liquid.

Yield: 85%, *syn:anti* = 4:1.

p-4-Pentenylanisole (3t):

Prepared from ether **1t** and allylborane **2b** (2.0 equiv) according to the general procedure with InOTf (5 mol%) under neat conditions at 60 °C for 48 h.

Colorless liquid.

Yield 58%.

¹**H** NMR (CDCl₃, 400 Hz): $\delta = 1.57 - 1.65$ (m, 2H), 1.98–2.03 (m, 2H), 2.47–2.51 (t, J = 7.7, 2H), 3.70 (s, 3H), 4.88–4.97 (m, 2H), 5.70–5.80 (m, 1H), 6.73–6.76 (d, J = 8.7, 2H), 7.00–7.03 (d, J = 8.7, 2H) ppm.

¹³C NMR (CDCl₃, 100 Hz): δ = 30.8, 33.2, 34.4, 55.2, 113.7, 114.6, 129.3, 134.5, 138.7, 157.7 ppm. IR (neat): ν = 3073, 2962, 2834, 1244, 1038, 911, 828 cm⁻¹.

HRMS (DART): calculated for $C_{12}H_{17}O^+ = [M+H]^+$: m/z = 177.12794, found: m/z = 177.12837.

1-Allyladamantane (3u):

Prepared from ether **1u** and allylborane **2b** (1.2 equiv) according to the general procedure with InOTf (5 mol%) in DCM (0.5 M) at 25 °C for 14 h. *The obtained analytical data of 3u fit accurately with the reported data.⁴*

Colorless liquid. Yield 73%.

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