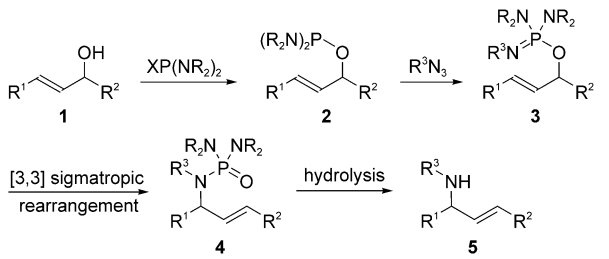
Sigmatropic Rearrangement

Palladium-Catalyzed [3,3] Sigmatropic Rearrangement of (Allyloxy)iminodiazaphospholidines: Allylic Transposition of C–O and C–N Functionality**

*Ernest E. Lee and Robert A. Batey**

The principle of driving reactions thermodynamically through the conversion of P^{III} reagents into P^{V}=O products is well established, as exemplified by the Wittig and Mitsunobu reactions, and the [2,3] sigmatropic rearrangement of allyl phosphites into allyl phosphonates.[1] Herein we describe a novel [3,3] sigmatropic rearrangement in which allylic transposition is driven by a P^{V}=N to P^{V}=O interconversion (Scheme 1). We envisaged a process whereby conversion of



Scheme 1. Proposed route to allylic amines based on the [3,3] sigmatropic rearrangement of phospholidines **3**.

an allylic alcohol **1** into a phosphoramidite **2**, followed by a Staudinger reaction[2] would generate a phospholidine **3**. A [3,3] sigmatropic 3-aza-2-phospha-1-oxa-Cope[3] rearrangement of **3** would then generate a phosphoramide **4**, which on deprotection would lead to the transposed allylic amine **5**.[4] The overall process is analogous to the aza variants of the Cope [3,3] sigmatropic rearrangement,[5] the most important example of which is the well-known Overman rearrangement of allylic imidates into allylic amides.[6] The estimated thermodynamic driving force for a phospholidine–phosphoramide interconversion,[7] such as would occur in a sigmatropic rearrangement, is approximately 25 kcal mol^{-1}.[8]

The feasibility of this approach was tested by using (allyloxy)iminodiazaphospholidines **6** and **7** as substrates.

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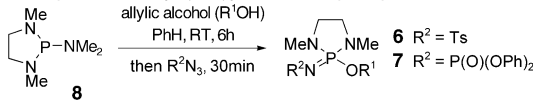
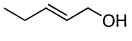
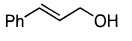
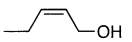
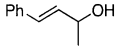
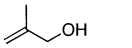
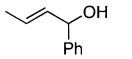
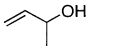
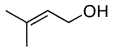
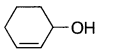
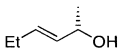
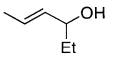
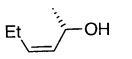
These compounds were cleanly prepared in a one-pot process by the sequential treatment of the corresponding allylic alcohols with the phospholidine **8**,[9] as described by Alexakis et al.,[10] followed by tosyl azide and diphenylphosphoryl azide (DPPA),[11] respectively (Table 1).[12] The reaction was monitored by ^{31}P NMR spectroscopy to ensure complete conversion of the intermediate phosphoramidite ($\delta \approx 130$ ppm for **2**, whereas $\delta \approx 24$ ppm for **6** and $\delta \approx 24$ and -10 ppm for **7**). The iminodiazaphospholidines were then purified by chromatography on silica gel, with Et_3N as an additive to prevent acid-promoted decomposition.

Initial attempts at the thermal rearrangement of compounds **6** were unsatisfactory and led to products arising from pathways of both the desired [3,3] and formal [1,3] sigmatropic rearrangement. As Pd^{II} and Hg^{II} catalysts are known to catalyze the [3,3] sigmatropic rearrangement of allylic imidates,[6] a variety of Pd^{II} catalysts were screened for the rearrangement of **6a** into **9a**, but only $[PdCl_2(MeCN)_2]$ was found to be an active catalyst.[13] In the presence of $[PdCl_2(MeCN)_2]$ (5 mol%), the rearrangement of both **6** and **7** proceeded smoothly at room temperature to yield only the products of [3,3] rearrangement **9** and **10**, respectively (Table 2). In the reactions of the DPPA-derived substrates **7**, the addition of 4-Å molecular sieves was required to ensure complete conversion into **10**. The rearrangements were conveniently monitored by ^{31}P NMR spectroscopy ($\delta \approx 20$ ppm for **9**, and $\delta \approx 20$ and -4 ppm for **10**). The phosphoramides **9** and **10** were cleaved under acidic conditions to yield the allylic tosylamines **11** and free allylic amines **12**, respectively.[14] As mild, acidic conditions are used for the final hydrolysis, this overall process complements the Overman rearrangement of allylic imidates. Strongly basic conditions (3–5 M NaOH) are employed for the hydrolysis of the intermediate trichloroacetamides in the Overman protocol.

A variety of substitution patterns are tolerated on the allylic substrates **6** and **7**, including substitution in the allylic group α, β, and γ to the oxygen atom. Notably, the reaction worked well for substrates substituted at the β position (**6c** and **7c**), as previous attempts at metal-catalyzed rearrangements of the corresponding allylic imidates have had mixed success.[15] Substrates **6f** and **7f** both underwent rearrangement in good yield to afford only the *E* isomers **9f** and **10f**. The reaction of the substrates **6d** and **7d**, derived from a simple secondary allylic alcohol, to give

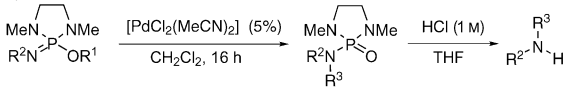
Table 1: Preparation of (allyloxy)iminodiazaphospholidines.

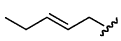
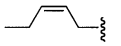
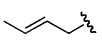
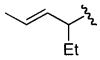
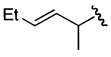
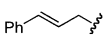
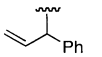
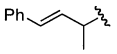
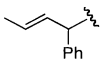
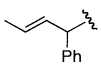
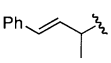
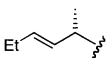
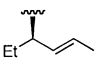
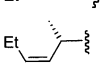
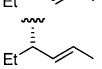


R^1OH		Yield [%][a]	R^1OH		Yield [%][a]
	**6a**	92		**6g**	94
	7a	87		**7g**	91
	**6b**	93		**6h**	92
	7b	90		**7h**	84
	**6c**	95		**6i**	–[b,c]
	7c	92		**7i**	–[b,c]
	**6d**	91		**6j**	92
	7d	89		**7j**	87
	**6e**	89		**6k**	86
	7e	89		**7k**	78
	**6f**	93		**6l**	87
	7f	86		**7l**	80

[a] Yield of isolated product, 0.6-mmol scale. [b] These compounds could not be purified by column chromatography on silica gel and were used crude in subsequent transformations. [c] Reaction conducted in $[D_6]$benzene. Ts = *p*-toluenesulfonyl.

Table 2: Pd-catalyzed [3,3] sigmatropic rearrangement of (allyloxy)iminodiazaphospholidines and subsequent hydrolysis.

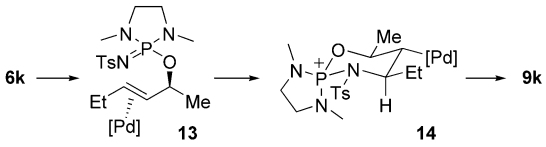


	R^1	R^3		Yield [%][a]		Yield [%][a]
6a			**9a**	95	**11a**	88
7a			**10a**[b]	90	**12a**[f]	81
6b			**9a**	93	**11a**	88
7b			**10a**[b]	89	**12a**[f]	81
6c			**9c**	95	**11c**	97
7c			**10c**[b]	91	**12c**[f]	87
6d			**9d**	91	**11d**	93
7d			**10d**[b]	86	**12d**[f]	85
6e			**9e**[c,d]	88	**11e**	90
7e			**10e**[b]	trace	**12e**[f]	–
6f			**9f**[c]	90	**11f**	83
7f			**10f**[b]	93	**12f**[f]	79
6g			**9g**[c,d]	75	**11g**	85
7g			**10g**[b]	n.r.[e]	**12g**[f]	–
6h			**9h**[c,d]	76	**11h**	80
7h			**10h**[b]	n.r.[e]	**12h**[f]	–
6i			**9i**[c]	80	**11i**	78
7i			**10i**[b]	n.r.[e]	**12i**[f]	–
6j			**9j**	n.r.[e]	–	–
7j			**10j**[b]	n.r.[e]	–	–
6k			**9k**	90	**11k**	82
7k			**10k**[b]	84	**12k**[f]	78
6l			**9l**	88	**11l**	90
7l			**10l**[b]	83	**12l**[f]	79

[a] Yield of isolated product, 0.6-mmol scale. [b] Reaction conducted in the presence of 4-Å molecular sieves. [c] Reaction conducted in toluene. [d] Reaction conducted at 45 °C. [e] Only starting material was observed by ^{31}P NMR spectroscopy. [f] Reaction conducted with HCl (1 M) in MeOH.

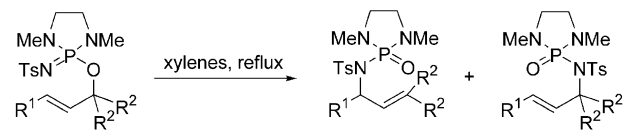
the corresponding primary allylic phosphoramides occurred in excellent yields at room temperature. However, reactions of the 2-cyclohexenyl substrates were far more sluggish, with **6e** requiring heating at 45 °C and **7e** yielding only trace amounts of products after 48 h at 80 °C. A similar trend was observed with substrates **6g–i** and **7g–i**. It is apparent that substrates with sterically demanding substituents react more slowly in the case of tosyl-derived, and are unreactive in the case of DPPA-derived substrates. The steric limitations of this reaction are further emphasized by the lack of reactivity of the substrates **6j** and **7j**, which are derived from a γ,γ-disubstituted allylic alcohol.

The transposition of the enantioenriched *E* substrates **6k** and **7k** produced only the *E* phosphoramides **9k** and **10k** with clean transfer of chirality. The *Z* substrates **6l** and **7l** underwent rearrangement to the *E* products **9l** and **10l**, albeit with diminished enantiomeric excess.[16] The [3,3] sigmatropic rearrangement presumably proceeds through intramolecular attack on the palladium-coordinated double bond by the lone pair of electrons on the nitrogen atom of P^{V}=N, followed by rearrangement of the resulting phosphonium intermediate. For example, in the case of **6k** the reaction proceeds via the π complex **13** and phosphonium ion **14** in a fashion analogous to that proposed for the rearrangement of allylic imidates (Scheme 2).[6a,d] The absolute configuration[17] and olefin geometry of the products in both cases are consistent with this mechanism.



Scheme 2. Proposed mechanism for the Pd-catalyzed reaction, as exemplified by the conversion of **6k** into **9k**.

Comparison of the results of the Pd^{II}-catalyzed [3,3] sigmatropic rearrangement at ambient temperatures with the thermal rearrangement of substrates **6** clearly demonstrates the advantages of metal catalysis to facilitate clean rearrangements. For example, the thermal rearrangement of the diazaphospholidine **6a** at 130 °C led to the [3,3] product **9a** and [1,3] product **15a** in a ratio of 3.5:1 (Scheme 3). Furthermore, the thermal rearrangement of **6g** only yielded the [1,3] product **15g**, whereas that of **6m** only yielded the [3,3] product **9m**. In the last two examples, only the thermodynamically more stable allylic phosphoramide was formed. These results suggest that ionization and subsequent recombination is competitive with the [3,3] sigmatropic rearrangement under thermal conditions.



Scheme 3. Thermal rearrangements of phospholidines **6**.

In conclusion, a novel palladium(II)-catalyzed rearrangement of (allyloxy)iminodiazaphospholidines has been developed for the synthesis of allylic amines and tosylamines. Investigations into diastereo- and enantioselective variants are currently underway in our laboratory.

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Keywords: allylic amines · azides · homogeneous catalysis · palladium · sigmatropic rearrangement

[1] T. Janecki, R. Bodalski, *Synthesis* **1990**, 799–801, and references therein.
[2] Y. G. Gololobov, L. F. Kasukhin, *Tetrahedron* **1992**, *48*, 1353–1406.
[3] Classification based on the allylic imidate rearrangement described in: F. Vögtle, E. Goldschmitt, *Chem. Ber.* **1976**, *109*, 1–40.
[4] Allylic amines are important synthetic intermediates as well as targets. For a review of their synthesis, see: M. Johannsen, K. A. Jørgensen, *Chem. Rev.* **1998**, *98*, 1689–1708.
[5] a) K. Ritter in *Houben-Weyl. Stereoselective Synthesis*, *Vol. E 21e* (Eds.: G. Helmchen, R. W. Hoffmann, J. Mulzer, E. Schaumann), Thieme, Stuttgart, **1996**, pp. 5677–5699; b) R. P. Lutz, *Chem. Rev.* **1984**, *84*, 206–247.
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[17] The optical rotation of the methyl ester prepared by the ozonolysis of **11k** was compared to that of a previously reported authentic sample; see Supporting Information for details.

