

Trifluoromethylation

Alkene Trifluoromethylation Coupled with C–C Bond Formation: Construction of Trifluoromethylated Carbocycles and Heterocycles**

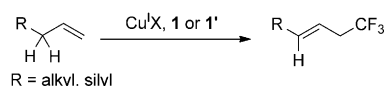
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The trifluoromethyl group is of great interest in pharmaceutical chemistry, agrochemistry, and materials science because of its unique properties,^[1] and great efforts have been made to develop reactions for its introduction into organic molecules.^[2] Indeed, many methods for formation of not only C_{sp}²–CF₃, but also C_{sp}³–CF₃ bonds have been developed.^[3,4] Nevertheless, new synthetic methods to form C–CF₃ bonds, especially C_{sp}³–CF₃ bonds, in a wider range of molecular contexts are still needed.

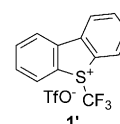
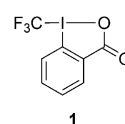
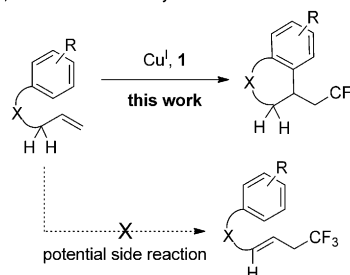
Regarding trifluoromethylation of the C=C bond,^[5] a notable development has been the deprotonative trifluoromethylation of simple alkenes, a method reported in 2011 (Scheme 1a).^[5a–c] In contrast, we recently reported^[6] the trifluoromethylation of allylsilanes using the CuI/Togni's reagent (**1**)^[7] system. Based on the resulting mechanistic insight, oxytrifluoromethylation of styrene derivatives was achieved under mild reaction conditions and direct synthesis of β-trifluoromethylstyrene derivatives from styrenes was demonstrated.^[8] Szabó and co-workers also independently studied the oxytrifluoromethylation of multiple bonds with the CuI/**1** system,^[9a] and Zhu and Buchwald developed an intramolecular reaction of simple alkenes^[9b] in the wake of their deprotonative trifluoromethylation.^[5a]

Following from our previous studies, we investigated difunctionalization-type trifluoromethylation of the C=C bond,^[10] thus focusing on the use of carbon nucleophiles. In 2012, Liu and co-workers reported the palladium/ytterbium-catalyzed oxidative aryl trifluoromethylation of activated alkenes using a combination of TMSCF₃/CsF/PhI(OAc)₂.^[11] Although Liu's method provided structures bearing a trifluoromethyl group, only oxindole synthesis from α,β-unsaturated amide derivatives was demonstrated. Other types of carbocycles and heterocycles, such as indane, tetralin, indoline, and

a) Reported electrophilic trifluoromethylation^[5, 6]



b) Carbotrifluoromethylation of alkene



Scheme 1. a) Reported electrophilic trifluoromethylation.^[5, 6]

b) Trifluoromethylation coupled with construction of carbocycles and heterocycles.

tetrahydroquinoline, are also found in many bioactive compounds, and their trifluoromethylated derivatives may exhibit altered potency. It is well known that treatment of an alkene bearing allylic protons under trifluoromethylation conditions provides the deprotonative trifluoromethylation product (Scheme 1a).^[5, 6] Difunctionalization-type trifluoromethylation of unactivated alkenes, especially those having allylic protons, is still challenging (Scheme 1b). Based on our previous mechanistic insights,^[6, 8] we considered that the acceleration of the reaction by orbital interactions between the alkene and aryl group would favor the desired trifluoromethylation reaction coupled with intramolecular C–C bond formation. Herein we report the copper-catalyzed carbotrifluoromethylation of simple C=C bonds, using the CuI/**1** system, as well as a unique 1,6-oxytrifluoromethylation reaction.

To achieve carbotrifluoromethylation of a simple alkene bearing allylic protons, it is important to prevent competitive deprotonative trifluoromethylation of the alkene.^[5, 6] Compound **2a** was used as a test substrate for the screening of reaction conditions (Table 1). Use of [(MeCN)₄Cu]PF₆ in CH₂Cl₂ at room temperature selectively afforded the deprotonative trifluoromethylation product **4a** in low yield (entry 1). The carbotrifluoromethylation product **3a** was obtained in 18% yield in 1,2-dichloroethane (DCE) at 80 °C, but **4a** was again the major product (entry 2). Surpris-

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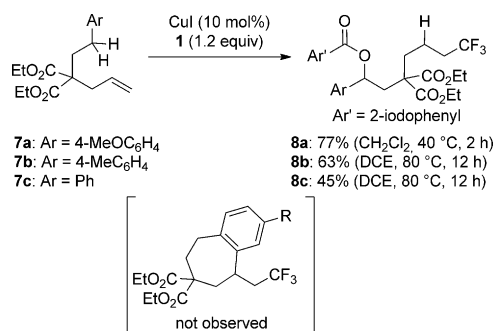
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Table 3: Carbotrifluoromethylation of N-protected allylanilines and homoallylaniline.^[a]

 6a: P = Boc, 85% 6b: P = TBS, 67%	 6c: R = OMe, 84% 6d: R = I, 82% 6e: R = F, 86%	 6f: 93% ^[b]

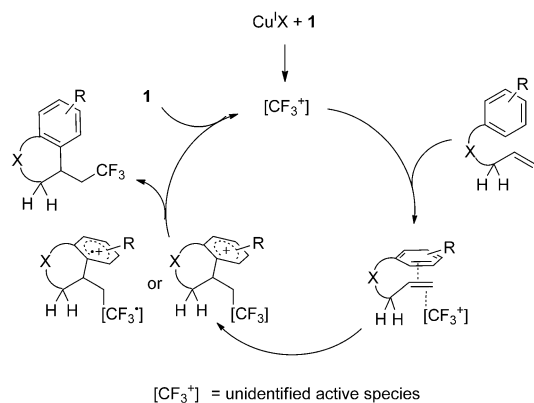
[a] The reactions were carried out with CuI (10 mol%) and **1** (2 equiv) in degassed 1,4-dioxane at 80 °C, unless otherwise mentioned. [b] Run for 1 h.

yield, and no carbocyclic product was observed (Scheme 2). Similar results were obtained in the reactions of **7b** and **7c**. In these reactions, deprotonative trifluoromethylation products were isolated in 7 %, 8 %, and 25 % yield from **7a**, **7b**, and **7c**, respectively. We suppose that this reaction proceeds by a 1,5-hydride shift and trapping of an intermediate by 2-iodobenzoate generated from **1**.



Scheme 2. 1,6-Oxytrifluoromethylation of alkenes.

The proposed mechanism is illustrated in Scheme 3. Although the true active species is not clear, we speculate that an electrophilic active species would be generated by the



Scheme 3. Proposed mechanism.

reaction of copper iodide with **1**. The alkene moiety is first activated by an electrophilic active species, then electron transfer from the aryl ring through the C=C bond and C–C bond formation would occur. Based on the fact that the reaction of the six-membered ring was faster than that of the five-membered ring, we believe that acceleration by orbital interaction of aryl ring and alkene is crucial for this carbotrifluoromethylation.

In summary, we have achieved copper-catalyzed trifluoromethylation of simple alkenes bearing allylic protons, coupled with C_{sp}³–C_{Ar} bond formation. These reactions provide trifluoromethylated carbocycles and heterocycles in good to high yields. We propose that orbital interactions between the alkene and aryl ring promotes the desired reaction. In addition, our finding of 1,6-oxytrifluoromethylation through a 1,5-hydride shift raises the interesting possibility of trifluoromethylation-initiated remote functionalization. Further investigations of this reaction system and mechanistic studies are under way in our laboratory.

Experimental Section

General procedure for trifluoromethylation of simple alkenes coupled with construction of carbocycles: CuI (3.8 mg, 10 mol%) and Togni's reagent (**1**; 76 mg, 1.2 equiv) were weighed and added to a Schlenk flask, which was flame-dried under vacuum. The flask was evacuated and back filled with nitrogen. Degassed 1,4-dioxane (1 mL) and **2a** (55.3 mg, 0.2 mmol) were then added. The reaction mixture was stirred for 12 h at 80 °C and diluted with ethyl acetate (5 mL). The solution was washed with aqueous NaHCO₃ and brine. The organic layer was dried over MgSO₄. After filtration, the organic solvent was evaporated and the residue was subjected to column chromatography on silica gel (*n*-hexane/ethyl acetate 20:1) to give the trifluoromethylated product **3a** (53.9 mg, 78 %) as a colorless oil.

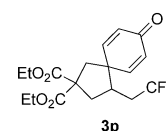
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