

Utilization of Industrially Available 2,3-Dichloro-1,3-butadiene for Direct Synthesis of 2,3-Diaryl-1,3-butadienes

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It is shown that industrially available 2,3-dichloro-1,3-butadiene is a useful starting material for the synthesis of 2,3-diaryl-1,3-butadienes. Ni(II)-catalyzed cross-coupling reaction of 2,3-dichloro-1,3-butadiene with ArMgBr (Ar = 2-thienyl, phenyl, 4-dodecyloxyphenyl, and 4-fluorophenyl) gives the corresponding 2,3-diaryl-1,3-butadienes in good yields.

1,3-Butadiene derivatives are useful materials for organic synthesis as monomers for poly(butadiene)s and as building blocks for natural product syntheses.¹ Especially, 2,3-diaryl-1,3-butadienes have a so-called cross-conjugated system, and much attention has been paid to their molecular structures and electronic properties.² There have been several reports on synthetic methods for 2,3-diaryl-1,3-butadienes. For example, dehydration of pinacol derivatives,³ 1,4-debromination of 1,4-dibromo-2-olefins,⁴ coupling of alkenyl halides catalyzed by Pd–C in the presence of LiCl,⁵ Pd-catalyzed coupling of propynyl carbonates with organoborons and -tins,⁶ Pd-catalyzed reaction of 2,3-bis(boryl)-1,3-butadiene with aryl halides,⁷ Zr-mediated coupling of alkynes with vinyl bromide with skeletal rearrangement,⁸ conversion of α,α' -diketo sulfides,⁹ and Cu-catalyzed coupling reaction of 1,4-dimethoxy-2-butyne with aryl Grignard reagents¹⁰ have been developed. However, these synthetic methods have problems such as low yields, necessity of multistep routes to synthesize the precursor, and complicated synthetic conditions. Incidentally, 2,3-dichloro-1,3-butadiene has been used industrially as a comonomer of chloroprene to produce chloroprene rubber.¹¹ Because nickel(II)-catalyzed coupling of vinyl halides with Grignard reagents^{12,13} is useful to produce C–C coupling products, direct reaction of industrially produced 2,3-dichloro-1,3-butadiene

with aryl Grignard reagents is considered to provide a new industrially profitable route to 2,3-diaryl-1,3-butadienes.

However, the usability of this route has not been examined. The high tendency of 2,3-dichloro-1,3-butadiene to be polymerized and synthetic chemists being unaware of this route seem to be the reasons. We now report that 2,3-dichloro-1,3-butadiene containing inhibitors of radical polymerization (e.g., 4-*t*-butylcatechol) can be handled normally as the starting material of 2,3-diaryl-1,3-butadienes.

The coupling reactions of 2,3-dichloro-1,3-butadiene were carried out with ArMgBr, where Ar = 2-thienyl, phenyl, 4-dodecyloxyphenyl, or 4-fluorophenyl, by using [NiCl₂(dppp)] (dppp = 1,3-bis(diphenylphosphino)propane) as the catalyst (Eq. 1). Details of the synthetic procedure are described in the Experimental section.

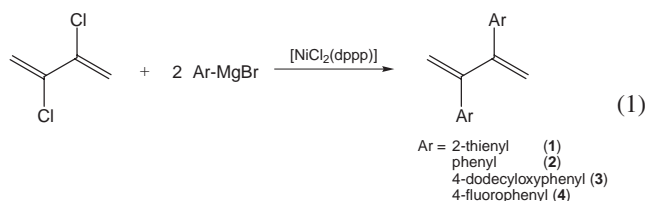


Table 1 shows the results of the coupling reactions. As shown in Table 1, the reaction gave the expected products in good yields. In this reaction, electron-withdrawing group-

Table 1. Synthesis of 2,3-Diaryl-1,3-butadienes

Entry	Ar	Product	Yield/%
1			65
2			52
3			64
4			56

and electron-donating group-substituted aromatic rings can be introduced to the 2,3-position of 1,3-butadiene. **1**, **2**, and **4** have been prepared via different routes, whereas **3** is a new compound. The electronic spectrum of **3** in CHCl_3 showed one absorption band at $\lambda_{\text{max}} = 262 \text{ nm}$ ($\epsilon = 17900$), which is shifted to a longer wavelength by 17 nm from that of **2** ($\lambda_{\text{max}} = 245 \text{ nm}$ in CHCl_3) due to the substitution of the long alkoxy chain on the phenyl group. **3** exhibited photoluminescence at $\lambda_{\text{max}} = 363 \text{ nm}$ ($\lambda_{\text{max}}(\text{Ex}) = 260 \text{ nm}$), though the intensity was very weak (quantum yield = 1.75%).

Long alkyl- and alkoxy-group substituted aromatic compounds often display interesting chemical properties and reactivities,¹⁴ and **3** is expected to be the building block for such materials. Compound **3** is the first example of 2,3-diaryl-1,3-butadienes having a long alkoxy chain, and the convenient one-step synthesis of **3** will expand the scope of such kinds of compounds.

As described above, it has been shown that industrially available 2,3-dichloro-1,3-butadiene can be an important and key compound for the synthesis of 2,3-diaryl-1,3-butadienes.

Experimental

General and Materials. ¹H NMR spectra were recorded on a JEOL EX-400 spectrometer. IR spectra were recorded on a JASCO IR 810 spectrophotometer. UV-vis and photoluminescence spectra were measured with a Shimadzu UV-2550 UV-visible spectrophotometer and a Hitachi F-4500 fluorescence spectrophotometer, respectively. Thermal analysis was performed with a Shimadzu TA-50 WS thermal analyzer equipped with a Shimadzu DSC-50 differential scanning calorimeter and a Shimadzu TGA-50 thermogravimetric analyzer. An optical microscopy observation of the morphology of **3** was carried out using a BX-60 optical microscope (Olympus). 2,3-Dichloro-1,3-butadiene¹⁵ produced industrially by Denki Kagaku Kogyo K. K. was obtained from a production line for chloroprene rubber, and 4-*t*-butylcatechol (TBC, 200 ppm by wt/wt) was added to 2,3-dichloro-1,3-butadiene. With TBC, 2,3-dichloro-1,3-butadiene was able to be kept for 7 days without apparent polymerization at low temperature (at about -30°C). 4-Dodecyloxyphenyl bromide was prepared from 4-bromophenol and dodecyl bromide. $[\text{NiCl}_2(\text{dppp})]$ was purchased from Aldrich and other reagents were purchased from Tokyo Kasei Kogyo Co., Ltd.

Preparation of 2,3-Di(2-thienyl)-1,3-butadiene (1). To a suspension of activated Mg (2.78 g, 115 mmol) in dry THF (20 cm^3) was added slowly a solution of 2-bromothiophene (17.2 g, 106 mmol) in dry THF (50 cm^3) under N_2 at 60°C for 12 h. The resulting solution was transferred slowly to a 1:1 (v/v) solution of 2,3-dichloro-1,3-butadiene (40.0 mmol) in THF under N_2 at 0°C . $[\text{NiCl}_2(\text{dppp})]$ (0.51 g, 1.00 mmol) was added to the mixture and the mixture was stirred for 30 min at room temperature. After additional stirring at 50°C for 24 h, the mixture was added to water, and the product was then extracted with hexane. The extract was washed with water and dried with Na_2SO_4 . Evaporation of the solvent and purification by column chromatography (SiO_2 , hexane) afforded **1** in 65% yield as a light yellow oil. The identification of the compound was performed according to the literature.⁹

Preparation of 2,3-Diphenyl-1,3-butadiene (2). Preparation was carried out analogously by using activated Mg (2.78 g, 115 mmol), bromobenzene (15.7 g, 100 mmol), and a 1:1 (v/v) solution of 2,3-dichloro-1,3-butadiene (40.0 mmol) in THF. **2** was

obtained in 52% yield as a white solid after purification. Identification of the compound was performed by comparing its ¹H NMR data with those of commercially available **2**. Use of a smaller amount of the Grignard reagent ($\text{PhMgBr}/2,3\text{-dichloro-1,3-butadiene} = 1:1$) gave **2** in 23% yield, and the intermediate 2-phenyl-3-chloro-1,3-butadiene was not detected in the ¹H NMR spectrum of the reaction product. This indicated that the intermediate species had high reactivity toward PhMgBr .

Preparation of 2,3-Bis(4-dodecyloxyphenyl)-1,3-butadiene (3). Preparation was carried out analogously by using activated Mg (2.78 g, 115 mmol), 1-bromo-4-dodecyloxybenzene (36.0 g, 106 mmol), and a 1:1 (v/v) solution of 2,3-dichloro-1,3-butadiene (40.0 mmol) in THF. **3** was obtained in 64% yield as a pale yellow solid after purification. Found: C, 83.38; H, 10.66; O, 5.79%. Calcd for $\text{C}_{40}\text{H}_{62}\text{O}_2$: C, 83.56; H, 10.87; O, 5.57%. ¹H NMR (CDCl_3) δ 7.30 (d, 4H, $J = 8.8 \text{ Hz}$), 6.77 (d, 4H, $J = 8.8 \text{ Hz}$), 5.45 (d, 2H, $J = 1.6 \text{ Hz}$), 5.21 (d, 2H, $J = 1.6 \text{ Hz}$), 3.90 (t, 4H, $J = 6.4 \text{ Hz}$), 1.74 (m, 4H), 1.42 (m, 4H), 1.38–1.29 (m, 32H), 0.87 (t, 6H, $J = 6.8 \text{ Hz}$); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (CDCl_3) δ 158.6, 149.4, 132.4, 128.4, 114.1, 67.9, 32.0, 29.7, 29.7, 29.6, 29.6, 29.4, 29.4, 29.3, 26.1, 22.8, 14.2; IR (KBr disk, cm^{-1}) 2953, 2920, 2851, 1607, 1511, 1469, 1293, 1249, 1177, 1031, 902, 832, 720, 506.

Preparation of 2,3-Bis(4-fluorophenyl)-1,3-butadiene (4). Preparation was carried out analogously by using activated Mg (0.70 g, 28.8 mmol), 1-bromo-4-fluorobenzene (3.0 mL, 27.3 mmol), and a 1:1 (v/v) solution of 2,3-dichloro-1,3-butadiene (10.4 mmol) in THF. **4** was obtained in 56% yield as a colorless solid after purification. **4** had been previously prepared by other method.^{10,16} ¹H NMR (CDCl_3) δ 7.31 (m, 4H), 6.94 (m, 4H), 5.48 (d, 2H, $J = 1.2 \text{ Hz}$), 5.29 (d, 2H, $J = 1.2 \text{ Hz}$); ¹³C{¹H} NMR (CDCl_3) δ 162.3 ($J(\text{C-F}) = 247 \text{ Hz}$), 148.6, 135.9 ($J(\text{C-F}) = 2.7 \text{ Hz}$), 128.5 ($J(\text{C-F}) = 8.0 \text{ Hz}$), 115.1 ($J(\text{C-F}) = 21 \text{ Hz}$); IR (KBr disk, cm^{-1}) 3051, 1601, 1506, 1227, 1161, 1106, 1013, 905, 842, 751, 541, 502, 492.

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