

# Palladium-Catalyzed Formal Hydroacylation of Allenes Employing Acid Chlorides and Hydrosilanes

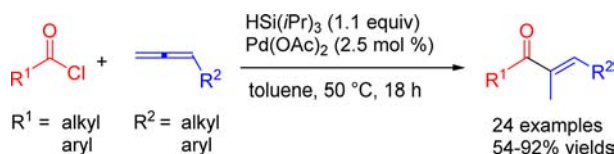
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## ABSTRACT



The palladium-catalyzed formal hydroacylation of allenes employing acid chlorides and hydrosilanes has been achieved. The reactions proceed with commercially available Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> as a catalyst and HSi(*i*Pr)<sub>3</sub> as a reducing reagent, giving the corresponding α,β-unsaturated ketones regio- and stereoselectively.

The addition of aldehydes to carbon–carbon multiple bonds, namely hydroacylation, is a useful synthetic method to produce unsymmetrical ketones.<sup>1</sup> However, intermolecular

additions of aldehydes to carbon–carbon multiple bonds such as alkenes or alkynes often suffer from low selectivity and low yields. To ensure high efficiency, (i) intramolecular addition,<sup>2</sup> (ii) carbon monoxide pressure,<sup>3</sup> (iii) substrates having proper directing groups,<sup>1c,d,4</sup> and (iv) oxidative or reductive formal hydroacylation employing alcohols<sup>1b,5</sup> or anhydrides<sup>6</sup> as acyl donors were often indispensable.

Meanwhile, oxidative addition of acid chlorides to a metal center is a more facile step than that of aldehydes.<sup>7</sup> Thus, acid chlorides were utilized as promising substrates

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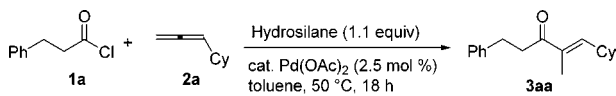
in various reactions. Cheng and co-workers reported the reactions of acid chlorides with allenes in the presence of a diboron, a disilane, or a distannane.<sup>8</sup> Recently, we found that the iridium-catalyzed addition of acid chlorides to terminal alkynes gives  $\beta$ -chloro- $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated ketones regio- and stereoselectively.<sup>9</sup> We also reported a palladium complex catalyzed reduction of acid chlorides with hydrosilanes to the corresponding aldehydes.<sup>10</sup>

Herein, we report palladium-catalyzed reactions of acid chlorides with hydrosilanes in the presence of allenes. The present reaction is regarded as a formal intermolecular hydroacylation of allenes. As for the hydroacylation of allenes using aldehydes,<sup>11,12</sup> there have been only two precedents to date, in which the aldehydes must bear hydroxyl<sup>11a</sup> or thioether<sup>11b</sup> functional groups as directing groups.<sup>12</sup> These reactions employing aldehydes as acyl sources afforded  $\beta,\gamma$ -unsaturated ketones while  $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated ketones were obtained regio- and stereoselectively in the present reaction. Noteworthy is that no directing groups are necessary in the present reaction.

First, a reaction of 3-phenylpropionyl chloride (**1a**) with cyclohexylallene (**2a**) was carried out employing various hydrosilanes in the presence of a catalytic amount of Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> at 50 °C (Table 1). Employing HSi(*i*Pr)<sub>3</sub> as a hydrosilane, a mixture of  $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated ketones (**3aa**) was obtained in 96% total yield with high (*E*)-**3aa** selectivity ((*E*)-**3aa**/other isomers = 96/4, entry 1). Here, neither the reduction of **1a** to 3-phenylpropanal nor hydrosilylation of **2a** proceeded at all. Furthermore, there was no indication of styrene formation via decarbonylation of **1a** followed by the  $\beta$ -hydrogen elimination. By silica gel column chromatography, pure (*E*)-**3aa** was isolated in 92% yield (entry 1). Employing HSiEt<sub>3</sub>, HSiPh<sub>3</sub>, HSi(OEt)<sub>3</sub>, or polymethylhydrosiloxane (PMHS) as the hydrosilane, the yield of **3aa** decreased considerably (entries 2–5). With H<sub>2</sub>SiPh<sub>2</sub> or H<sub>3</sub>SiPh<sub>3</sub> (entries 6 and 7), yields of **3aa** were low and the reduction of **1a** to 3-phenylpropanal occurred to some extent. Under the reaction conditions of entry 1, other Pd catalysts such as PdCl<sub>2</sub>(PhCN)<sub>2</sub> and Pd(dba)<sub>2</sub> similarly afforded **3aa** in 96% yields. However, with the addition of PPh<sub>3</sub> or PCy<sub>3</sub> to the entry 1 conditions, the reaction ceased completely (entries 8 and 9). 1,4-Dioxane, 1,2-dichloroethane, and acetonitrile were as effective as toluene as a solvent, and **3aa** was afforded in 84%, 83%, and 93% yields, respectively, with high selectivity ((*E*)-**3aa**/isomers = 96/4). DMF as a solvent gave the products only in 28% yield with low selectivity ((*E*)-**3aa**/isomers = 70/30). When the corresponding aldehyde, 3-phenylpropanal, was used instead of a mixture of **1a**

and HSi(*i*Pr)<sub>3</sub>, **3aa** was not obtained at all. Under otherwise the same conditions as those for entry 1, HSnBu<sub>3</sub> instead of HSi(*i*Pr)<sub>3</sub> provided **3aa** in 13% yield. Other reducing reagents such as molecular hydrogen and pinacolborane in place of the hydrosilane did not afford **3aa** at all. Thus, the combination of acid chlorides and easy-to-handle hydrosilanes was most suitable to realize the intermolecular hydroacylation reaction of allenes.

**Table 1.** Effect of Hydrosilanes on the Palladium-Catalyzed Formal Hydroacylation of Cyclohexylallene (**1a**) Employing 3-Phenylpropionyl Chloride (**2a**)<sup>a</sup>



entry	hydrosilanes	total yield of <b>3aa</b> (%) <sup>b</sup>	( <i>E</i> )- <b>3aa</b> /isomers <sup>c</sup>
1	HSi( <i>i</i> Pr) <sub>3</sub>	96 (92) <sup>d</sup>	96/4
2	HSiEt <sub>3</sub>	76	94/6
3	HSiPh <sub>3</sub>	69	94/6
4	HSi(OEt) <sub>3</sub>	68	94/6
5	PMHS <sup>e</sup>	46	90/10
6	H <sub>2</sub> SiPh <sub>2</sub>	28	93/7
7	H <sub>3</sub> SiPh	12	74/26
8 <sup>f</sup>	HSi( <i>i</i> Pr) <sub>3</sub>	0	—
9 <sup>g</sup>	HSi( <i>i</i> Pr) <sub>3</sub>	0	—

<sup>a</sup> Reaction conditions: 3-phenylpropionyl chloride (**1a**, 0.20 mmol), cyclohexylallene (**2a**, 0.22 mmol), hydrosilane (0.22 mmol), Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (0.0050 mmol, 2.5 mol %), in toluene (0.40 mL), at 50 °C, for 18 h. <sup>b</sup> Yield by the GC internal standard method. <sup>c</sup> Selectivity of (*E*)-**3aa**. The isomers consist of (*Z*)-**3aa** and another isomeric product (GCMS and NMR). <sup>d</sup> Isolated yield of (*E*)-**3aa** with 0.40 mmol of **1a** scale. <sup>e</sup> Polymethylhydrosiloxane. <sup>f</sup> A mixture of Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (0.0050 mmol) and PPh<sub>3</sub> (0.010 mmol) was used as the catalyst. <sup>g</sup> A mixture of Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (0.0050 mmol) and PCy<sub>3</sub> (0.010 mmol) was used as the catalyst.

Under the optimum conditions of entry 1 in Table 1, various acid chlorides (**1b–m**) afforded the corresponding (*E*)- $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated ketones ((*E*)-**3ba–ma**) in good to high isolated yields (Table 2). The regio- and stereochemistry of all the isolated products were unambiguously determined utilizing 2D NMR. The structure of **3la** was also confirmed by a single-crystal X-ray diffraction study (see Supporting Information for details). Aliphatic acid chlorides (**1b–f**) gave the corresponding products (**3ba–fa**) in good to high yields. Ester functional groups were tolerated in the reaction (entry 3). With pivaloyl chloride (**1e**) as a substrate, an *E/Z* mixture of **3ea** was obtained in 82% crude yield with a ratio of *E/Z* = 81/19. From the mixture, (*E*)-**3ea** was isolated in 54% yield (entry 4). Phenylacetyl chloride (**1f**) afforded the corresponding adduct in 84% yield (entry 5). Various benzoyl chloride derivatives (**1g–k**) having electron-donating (**1h**) and electron-withdrawing substituents (**1i–k**) afforded **3ga–ka** in good to high yields (entries 6–10). Under the reaction conditions, bromo as well as chloro functional groups on phenyl rings remained intact (entries 9 and 10). 2-Naphthoyl chloride (**1l**) and 2-thienoyl chloride

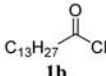
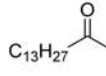
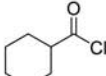
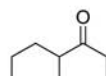
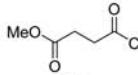
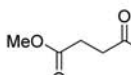


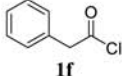
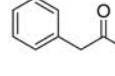
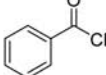

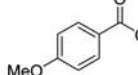
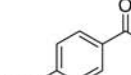
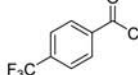
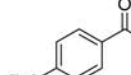
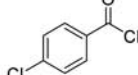
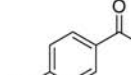
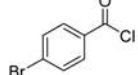
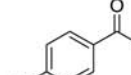
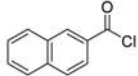
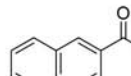
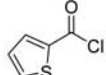
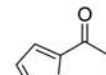
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**Table 2.** Palladium-Catalyzed Formal Hydroacylation of **2a** Employing Various Acid Chlorides (**1**) and  $\text{HSi}(i\text{Pr})_3$ <sup>a</sup>

entry	acid chloride <b>1</b>	product ( <i>E</i> )- <b>3</b>	yield (%) <sup>b</sup>
1	 <b>1b</b>	 <b>3ba</b>	90
2	 <b>1c</b>	 <b>3ca</b>	81
3	 <b>1d</b>	 <b>3da</b>	65
4	 <b>1e</b>	 <b>3ea</b>	54
5	 <b>1f</b>	 <b>3fa</b>	84
6	 <b>1g</b>	 <b>3ga</b>	74
7	 <b>1h</b>	 <b>3ha</b>	56
8	 <b>1i</b>	 <b>3ia</b>	86
9	 <b>1j</b>	 <b>3ja</b>	78
10	 <b>1k</b>	 <b>3ka</b>	81
11	 <b>1l</b>	 <b>3la</b>	75
12	 <b>1m</b>	 <b>3ma</b>	59

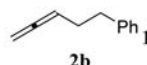
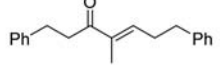
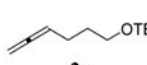
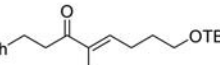
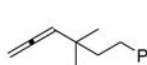
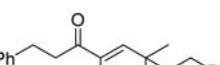
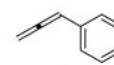
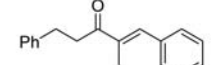
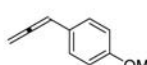
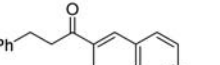
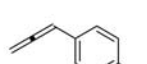
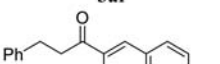
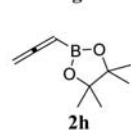
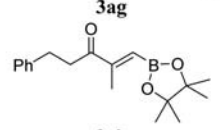
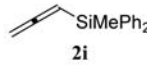
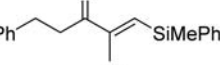
<sup>a</sup> Reaction conditions: acid chloride (**1**, 0.50 mmol), **2a** (0.55 mmol),  $\text{HSi}(i\text{Pr})_3$  (0.55 mmol),  $\text{Pd}(\text{OAc})_2$  (0.0125 mmol, 2.5 mol %), toluene (1.0 mL) at 50 °C for 18 h. <sup>b</sup> Isolated yield of (*E*)-**3ba–ma**.

(**1m**) gave the corresponding products (**3la** and **3ma**) in good yields (entries 11 and 12).

Various monosubstituted allenes (**2b–i**) were smoothly converted to the corresponding  $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated ketones (**3ab–3ai**) in good to high yields with high (*E*)-selectivity (entries 1–8, Table 3). An allene bearing a tertiary alkyl moiety (**2d**) gave the product smoothly (entry 3).

Phenylallene derivatives (**2e–g**) also gave the adducts efficiently (entries 4–6). Boryl- and silyl-substituted allenes (**2h** and **2i**) afforded the corresponding  $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated ketones (**3ah** and **3ai**) in good isolated yields (entries 7 and 8).

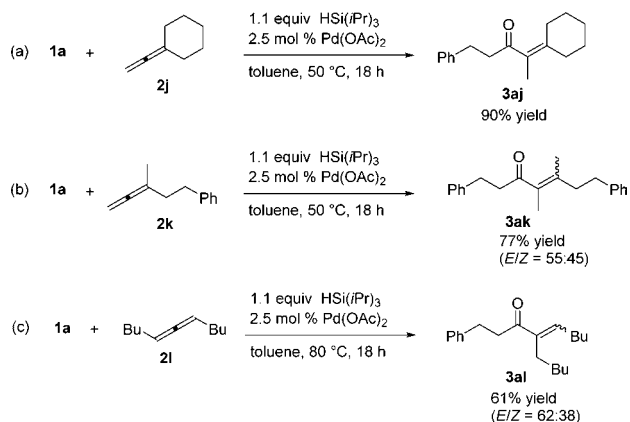
**Table 3.** Palladium-Catalyzed Formal Hydroacylation of Various Allenes (**2**) Employing **1a** and  $\text{HSi}(i\text{Pr})_3$ <sup>a</sup>

entry	allene <b>2</b>	product ( <i>E</i> )- <b>3</b>	yield (%) <sup>b</sup>
1	 <b>2b</b>	 <b>3ab</b>	79
2	 <b>2c</b>	 <b>3ac</b>	92
3	 <b>2d</b>	 <b>3ad</b>	77
4	 <b>2e</b>	 <b>3ae</b>	68
5	 <b>2f</b>	 <b>3af</b>	79
6	 <b>2g</b>	 <b>3ag</b>	64
7	 <b>2h</b>	 <b>3ah</b>	67
8 <sup>c</sup>	 <b>2i</b>	 <b>3ai</b>	81

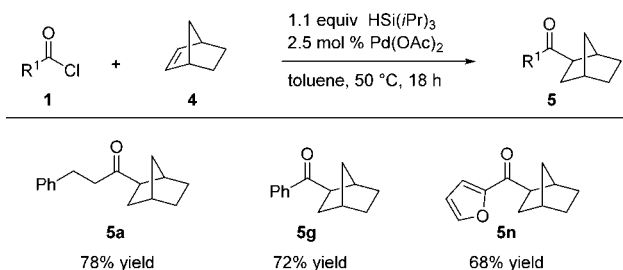
<sup>a</sup> Reaction conditions: **1a** (0.50 mmol), allene (**2**, 0.55 mmol),  $\text{HSi}(i\text{Pr})_3$  (0.55 mmol),  $\text{Pd}(\text{OAc})_2$  (0.0125 mmol, 2.5 mol %), toluene (1.0 mL) at 50 °C for 18 h. <sup>b</sup> Isolated yield of (*E*)-**3ab–ai**. <sup>c</sup> At 60 °C.

Besides monosubstituted allenes, disubstituted allenes afforded the corresponding  $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated ketones (Scheme 1). The reaction employing a symmetrical 1,1-disubstituted allene (**2j**) afforded the corresponding adduct (**3aj**) in high isolated yield (Scheme 1a). An unsymmetrical 1,1-disubstituted allene (**2k**) gave an *E/Z* mixture of the adducts in 77% total yield (Scheme 1b). A 1,3-disubstituted allene (**2l**) reacted with **1a** at 80 °C and gave the products in moderate yield with poor stereoselectivity (63:38) (Scheme 1c). Gratifyingly, norbornene (**4**) could be employed in the reaction (Scheme 2). With **1a**, **1g**, and **1n**, the reaction afforded **5a**, **5g**, and **5n** in 78%, 72%, and 68% yields in a highly *exo*-selective manner.

**Scheme 1.** Reactions of **1a** with 1,1- or 1,3-Disubstituted Allenes



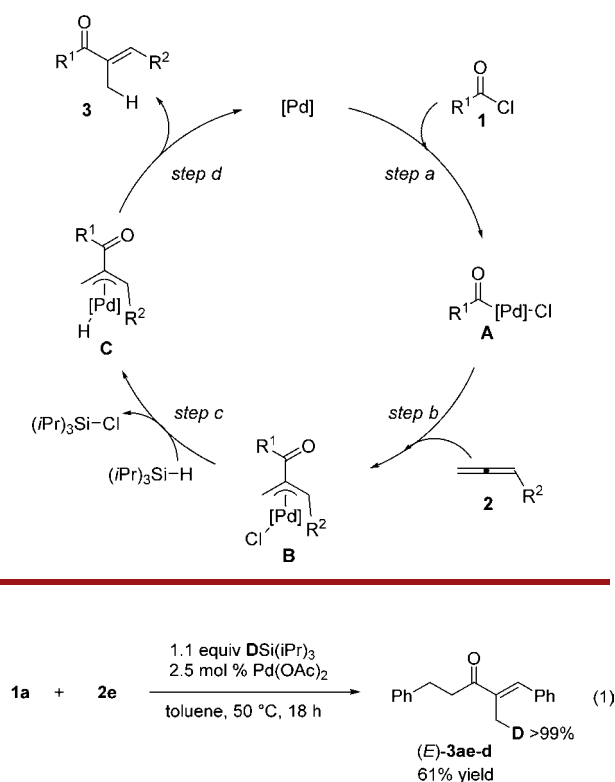
**Scheme 2.** Reactions with Norbornene (**4**)



A possible catalytic cycle is shown in Scheme 3. First, the oxidative addition of acid chlorides (**1**) to an active palladium(0) species affords an acylpalladium species **A** (step a). Successful insertion of an allene (**2**) before the decarbonylation gives a  $\pi$ -allylpalladium intermediate **B** (step b). Then, reaction of **B** with a hydrosilane gives a hydridopalladium intermediate (**C**) (step c). Finally, reductive elimination provides an  $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated ketone (**3**) and the palladium(0) species regenerates (step d). Consistent with the mechanism, the reaction of **1a** with **2e** in the presence of  $\text{DSi}(i\text{Pr})_3$ <sup>13</sup> afforded the adduct (*E*)-**3ae-d** in 61% isolated yield with 99% D incorporation at the methyl position (eq 1).

(13) Ogata, K.; Atsuumi, Y.; Fukuzawa, S. *Org. Lett.* **2010**, *12*, 4536–4539.

**Scheme 3.** A Plausible Catalytic Cycle



In conclusion, we have developed the palladium-catalyzed formal hydroacylation of allenes employing acid chlorides and hydrosilanes. The reactions afforded  $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated ketones regio- and stereoselectively without any directing group on the acid chlorides. Further studies on applications and the reaction mechanism are now in progress.

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**Supporting Information Available.** Experimental procedures and characterization of the products. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at <http://pubs.acs.org>.

The authors declare no competing financial interest.