## ORGANOPALLADIUM APPROACHES TO PROSTAGLANDINS. 2. SYNTHESIS OF PROSTAGLANDIN ENDOPEROXIDE ANALOGS VIA π-ALLYLPALLADIUM ADDITIONS TO BICYCLIC OLEFINS

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Summary: A variety of prostaglandin endoperoxide analogs are readily available by addition of  $\pi$ -allylpalladium compounds to bicyclic olefins and subsequent treatment with alkenyl and alkynyl organometallics. Pronounced biological activity is evident in these compounds.

Since the discovery of the highly biologically active prostaglandin endoperoxides, great interest has been shown in the synthesis of analogs which might be more chemically and physiologically stable. The majority of compounds synthesized so far have been prepared by Diels-Alder approaches or simple modification of the primary prostaglandins, and differ primarily in substitution of the peroxide linkage by more stable moieties. We wish to report a totally different approach to prostaglandin endoperoxide analogs, one which takes advantage of the ease with which  $\pi$ -allylpalladium compounds add to bicyclic olefins to generate stable, isolable alkylpalladium intermediates readily elaborated into prostaglandin endoperoxide analogs.

The requisite  $\pi$ -allylpalladium compounds are available now via several procedures directly from olefins. However, at the time this work was initiated, no good procedure was available for the direct conversion of terminal monosubstituted olefins to  $\pi$ -allylpalladium compounds, so we developed our own allylic chlorination-palladation sequence. More recently, Trost has reported a more convenient procedure using Pd(0<sub>2</sub>CCF<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> which we have adopted. Using Trost's procedure, except for methyl crotonate in which palladium chloride can be used, we have prepared each of the following  $\pi$ -allylpalladium compounds.

Although these  $\pi$ -allylpalladium chlorides will not add directly to bicyclic olefins, anion exchange using AgOAc followed by hexafluoroacetylacetone affords the corresponding  $\pi$ -allylpalladium hexafluoroacetylacetonates which add readily to bicyclic olefins (1 equivalent, 24-48 hours at room temperature). As indicated, additions to norbornene go very

well, while bicyclo[2.2.2]octene gives lower yields. Norbornadiene also reacts readily, but an excess of olefin was required to avoid double addition products. It is noteworthy that

all of these olefins give exclusively the cis,  $\underline{exo}$  adducts bearing a trans double bond in the side chain, since the addition of  $ary1^{-1,7}$  and  $viny1palladium^8$  compounds to norbornadiene gives cis,  $\underline{endo}$  addition. Several variations in this general procedure can be employed with equally good results. One can add AgOAc, then the olefin and finally the hexafluoroacety1-acetone, and isolate comparable yields of the hexafluoroacety1acetonate adducts. Alternatively, one can prepare the  $\pi$ -ally1palladium trifluoroacetate according to Trost's procedure and add this directly to the bicyclic olefin.

The unsaturated alcohol side chain is readily introduced using 2 equivalents of triphenylphosphine and 1-lithio-3-(2-tetrahydropyranyloxy)-1-octyne as discussed in our previous communication. In this reaction, better results are obtained using the hexafluoroacetylacetonates than the chlorides. As indicated, deprotection affords prostaglandin endoperoxide

analogs in high yield and no difficulty is experienced with the ester functional group. Substitution proceeds with complete retention of the original exo-palladium stereochemistry. Saponification (2 N KOH, CH<sub>3</sub>OH, 30 minutes at reflux) proceeds readily to give the corresponding carboxylic acids.

Both cis and trans allylic alcohols of this basic skeleton can also be prepared. Cis hydrogenation of the triple bond can be effected in high yield. The trans allylic alcohol

is most easily prepared by using vinylcopper reagents directly on the organopalladium intermediates. However, at present the yields are low and this reaction needs further

$$\begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{c} CO_2CH_3 \\ + LiCu \end{array} \\ \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{c} OSiMe_2(\underline{t}\text{-Bu}) \\ \hline \end{array} \begin{array}{c} HOAc \\ \hline \end{array} \\ \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{c} O2CH_3 \\ \hline \end{array} \end{array}$$

work. It is noteworthy that the  $\alpha-$  and  $\beta-$  alcohols of this latter compound are readily separated by column chromatography.

Preliminary biological testing has been carried out on most of the compounds indicated above. All compounds exhibit some inhibition of blood platelet aggregation. The following compound, however, is extremely active, showing inhibition of blood platelet aggregation

approximately half that of PGE, and one-tenth that of prostacyclin, without any attempt yet having been made to separate the diastereomers or to prepare this compound in optically active form. Preliminary results indicate that this compound is a specific inhibitor of thromboxane synthetase. Complete biological results will be published elsewhere at a later date.

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