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Palladium-Catalyzed Reactions with \(N, N'\)-diallyloxy carbonylhydrazines

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Abstract: \(N\)-allyloxy carbonyl-protected hydrazines react with a Pd(0)-catalyst and tributyltin hydride to a versatile intermediate ditincarbamate which can be converted either into the corresponding deprotected or acylated hydrazines.

In a previous communication we reported the synthesis of various cyclic hydrazine compounds 1 via an intramolecular \(N, N'\)-diacylhydrazonium ion cyclization.\(^1\) This work led to products in which both nitrogens are protected with alkyloxycarbonyl groups (R = Me, Et). Deprotection of these residues was not successful upon use of standard conditions (Me\(_3\)SiI, CH\(_3\)CN; KOH, MeOH), probably due to air-sensitivity of the corresponding free hydrazines.

As we were interested in the isolation of the free hydrazines 2 and subsequent alkylation to the bicyclic hydrazines 3, we turned our attention to the allyloxycarbonyl (Alloc) group as a protecting group, for this group is well-known to be cleaved under relatively mild conditions using a palladium(0) catalyst in the presence of a nucleophile.\(^2,\(^3\) In this reaction, the palladium catalyst will react with the Alloc moiety to form a \(\pi\)-allylpalladium complex, which is attacked by the nucleophile to give carbon dioxide and the free amine.

As model systems for these deprotection reactions both ketone 7 and dioxolane 8 were chosen and synthesized as shown in Scheme 1.

Scheme 1

After treatment of hydrazine hydrate with 2 equiv of allyl chloroformate in the presence of a base,\(^4\) the resulting hydrazocompound 4 was oxidized with Pb(OAc)\(_4\) in cold CH\(_2\)Cl\(_2\).\(^5\) Purification of the azoester 5 was effected by taking up the residue in pentane and filtering off the lead salts. Introduction of the butyne moiety via a
Grignard addition, subsequent alkylation with MEMCl and cyclization in formic acid led to the desired ketone 7. The keto function was protected as a dioxolane by using ethylene glycol in refluxing toluene and pTSA (cat). Deprotection of both 7 and 8 by using standard conditions (10% Pd(PPh₃)₄, 0.6 equiv PPh₃, excess of nucleophile, THF, rt), led to various products as shown in Table I.

Table I

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>entry</th>
<th>Alloc compound</th>
<th>nucleophile</th>
<th>solvent</th>
<th>products (yield)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>HCOOH (10 equiv)</td>
<td>THF</td>
<td>9 (49%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>n-BuNH₂ (10 equiv)</td>
<td>THF</td>
<td>10+11 (20-55%) 12 (12-50%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>n-BuNH₂</td>
<td>n-BuNH₂</td>
<td>12 (49%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Depending on the nucleophile that was used, either diallylhydrazine 9 was formed (entry 1), or a mixture of allylhydrazine 10, allylhydrazone 11 and azocompound 12 was detected (entry 2). If the reaction and work-up were carried out under an inert atmosphere, oxidation of allylhydrazine 10 to allylhydrazone 11 could be prevented and 10 and 11 were the only isolated products. If the reaction was carried out in pure n-BuNH₂ azocompound 12 was the only product that could be detected (entry 3).

The formation of these products can be explained by assuming a very rapid reaction of deprotected hydrazine with the π-allylpalladium complex. Only if a large excess of another nucleophile was used (n-BuNH₂ as solvent), formation of allylated products could be avoided, but under these conditions the initial formed free hydrazine is further oxidized to azocompound 12.

In order to prevent N-allylation as a side reaction, Guibé and co-workers used Bu₃SnH, which acts as a very fast hydride-donor. Rapid reaction with the π-allylpalladium complex gives a tributyltin carbamate and propene, which evolves from the reaction mixture. The tin carbamate is cleaved in situ with a proton donor (water or acetic acid) that is already present in the reaction mixture to give the free amine, carbon dioxide and a tin salt. In our case, use of the exact Guibé conditions led to allylhydrazine 13 in quantitative yield (eq 1). This product can only be explained by assuming a very fast reaction between deprotected hydrazine and π-allylpalladium complex that is still present in the reaction mixture.

This result made clear that, before cleavage, the π-allylpalladium complex should first be converted completely into the intermediate tin carbamate. Therefore we used a modification of the Guibé method in which the intermediate ditin carbamate was treated with a proton donor after complete reaction of Bu₃SnH with the palladium complex.
An example of this modification is shown in eq 2 in which dry HCl(g) was used to cleave the ditin carbamate 14 and to protonate the resulting free hydrazine. In this way the oxidation-sensitive hydrazine was precipitated from the reaction mixture as the HCl-salt. This salt could be alkylated with activated dihalides (1.5 equiv, K₂CO₃ (5 equiv), NaI (cat), butanone, rt) to give the corresponding bicyclic hydrazines 16 and 17 in rather low yields.

Remarkably, ditin carbamate 14 proved to be an extremely interesting intermediate for it could not only be cleaved by a simple proton donor, but also by other electrophilic species such as activated carbonyl groups to give the corresponding amides or carbamates. Thus, treatment of the intermediate ditin carbamate with an excess of acetic anhydride (eq 3) gave a quantitative yield of diamide 18.

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\[ \text{Pd(PPh₃)₄} (0.04 \text{ equiv}), \text{Bu₃SnH (2.2 equiv)}, \text{Ac}_₂\text{O (5 equiv), CH₂Cl₂, rt, 10 min} \]

\[ 18 \quad 100\%, \text{mp 56-57 °C} \]

In contrast with the deprotection reactions, the electrophile was added together with the palladium catalyst and the tributyltin hydride, without formation of N-allylated products. Apparently, the tin carbamate shows a much higher reactivity towards the electrophile than to the palladium complex.

Some more examples of this acylation with activated carbonyl compounds are shown in Table II. Although an excess of the electrophile was used (entries 1 and 2), only the monosubstituted products 21 and 22 were formed, probably due to steric hindrance of the first introduced substituent. In entry 1 the Alloc group is replaced by a BOC group, which might be called a 'transprotection'. The use of activated α-amino esters such as 19 and 20 (entries 3 and 4) led to hydrazides 23 and 24.

Table II

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>entry</th>
<th>precursor</th>
<th>activated carbonyl compound</th>
<th>equiv</th>
<th>product (yield)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>'BuO₃C₅O₂⁻Bu</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>21 (87%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>CO₂Bu</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>22 (62%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>FMOC-Gly-OPFP 19</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>23 (74%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>FMOC-L-Ala-OPFP 20</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>24 (46%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\[ [\alpha]_{D}^{17} = +6.0 (c=0.5; CHCl₃) \]

This rapid reaction of tin carbamates with activated carbonyl compounds might be explained by assuming a cyclic transition state 25 (eq 4) in which the nucleophilicity of the nitrogen atom is strongly enhanced by cleavage of the Sn-O bond and concomitant formation of carbon dioxide.
In conclusion, it is stated that Alloc groups are useful protecting groups for hydrazines, for they are easily converted either into the deprotected or transprotected hydrazines. The reaction with the activated α-amino esters offers the promising possibility of peptide bond formation starting from an N-Alloc-protected α-amino ester and an activated α-amino ester. The results of this idea are presented in the following paper.

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References and Notes

6. All new products were appropriately characterized by IR, 1H NMR, 13C NMR and accurate mass measurements.

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