

Palladium-Catalyzed Intermolecular 1,1-Carbobromination of Alkenes with Alkynyl Bromides

Significance: The Chatani group reports a novel method for the synthesis of propargylic bromides via a palladium-catalyzed 1,1-alkynylbromination of alkenes with alkynyl bromides. Notably, in sharp contrast to other carbohalogenations, the reaction does not require any specialized ligand to induce reductive elimination to form the C-X bond; it occurs under ligandless conditions with Pd(OAc)₂ as the palladium precursor.

Comment: Although the reaction occurs under air with a Pd(II) source, an induction time was observed under the standard conditions, whereas no induction time was observed with $Pd_2dba_3 \cdot CHCl_3$. Accordingly, the authors propose Pd(0) as being the active catalyst. The proposed mechanism is comprised of oxidative addition and migratory insertion. β -Hydride elimination is favored over reductive elimination, followed by reinsertion of the alkene. Reductive elimination then affords the final propargylic bromide product.

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