Palladium-Catalyzed Remote Arylative Substitution of Various Terminal Alkenes

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While catalytic allylic substitution has become one of the most powerful classes of transition-metal-catalyzed reactions, the corresponding remote substitution has rarely been explored. In this context, we envisioned that the incorporation of a chain-walking process into catalytic cycles of allylic substitution reactions would realize the remote substitution reactions. Here we report a palladium-catalyzed remote arylative substitution of alkenes bearing a distant acetoxy group via chain walking and β -acetoxy elimination.

The reaction of a terminal alkene having a remote acetoxy group with phenylboronic acid using a 1,10-phenanthroline palladium catalyst provided the remote arylation product with ca. 2:1 regioselectivity. Ligand screening was then conducted to improve the linear/branched regioisomer ratio, and a pyridine-isoxazole ligand was found to give the product with ca. 4:1 regioselectivity. The reaction is applicable to various terminal alkenes having a distant acetoxy group containing 1 to 7 methylenes and arylboronic acids possessing a variety of functional groups. The remote arylative substitution is considered to proceed via transmetalation between an acetoxypalladium species with arylboronic acid, alkene insertion, chain walking, and β-acetoxy elimination.

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