

Novel Regioselective β -Hydrovinylation of Terminal Alkenes in the Presence of Metallocomplexed Catalysts

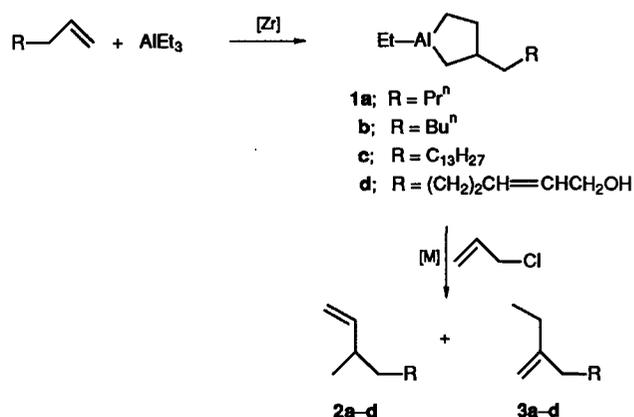
Usein M. Dzhemilev, Askhat G. Ibragimov* and Aleksei P. Zolotarev

Institute of Organic Chemistry, Ural Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences, 450054 Ufa, Russia. Fax: +7 3472 223 569

A novel method for the synthesis of 2-vinylalkanes by reaction of 3-alkyl-substituted aluminacyclopentanes with functionalized allyl compounds in the presence of catalytic amounts of Ni or Co complexes is proposed.

We have recently reported the transformation of 3-alkyl-substituted aluminacyclopentanes (ACPs)^{1,2} into cyclobutane³ or cyclopropane⁴ derivatives in the presence of catalytic amounts of Ni(acac)₂ (Hacac = acetylacetonone) or palladium phosphine complexes.

This communication is concerned with the study of a novel reaction of 3-alkyl-substituted ACPs with functionalized alkyl compounds. The initial ACPs **1** were prepared by a catalytic cyclometallation of hex-1-ene, hept-1-ene, hexadec-1-ene and octa-2,7-dienol with AlEt₃.^{1,2} In the presence of a threefold excess of allyl chloride or allyl ethers, the synthesized ACPs were found to transform into 2-vinylalkanes after hydrolysis under the influence of the three-component catalysts Ni(acac)₂-PPh₃-Bu₂AlH or Co(acac)₃-PPh₃-Bu₂AlH (1:4:8). For example, ACPs **1a-d** formed 3-methyl-1-vinylalkanes **2a-d** in 75% yield in the presence of 5 mol% phosphine complexes of Ni or Co in a ratio of 1: CH₂=CHCH₂Cl = 1:3 for 10 h at 20 °C after hydrolysis of the reaction mixture with aqueous HCl. An equimolar amount of propylene was liberated in the reaction. During each run, 2-vinylalkanes **2a-d** were formed, along with their structural isomers **3a-d** in 5–8% yields (Scheme 1).

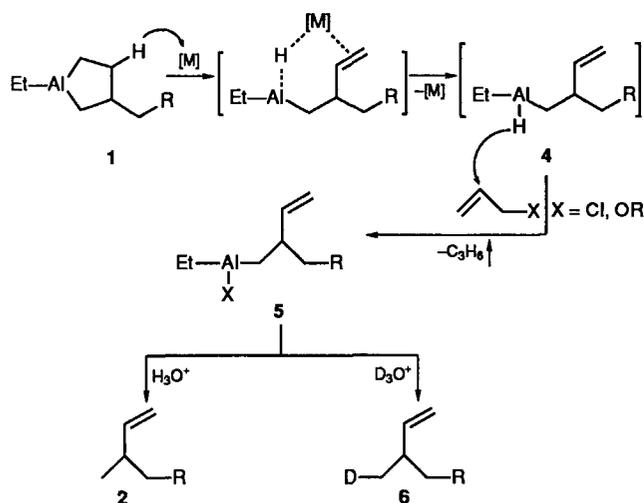


Scheme 1 [M] = Ni or Co complex

Table 1 Effects of solvent, nature of catalyst and allyl substrate on the yield of 3-methyl-n-heptadec-1-ene **2c** (5 mol% [M], 10 h, 20 °C)

Solvent ^a	Yield 2c (%)	Allyl substrate ^b	Yield 2c (%)	Catalyst ^c	Yield 2c (%)
Hexane	75	CH ₂ =CHCH ₂ Cl	75	Ni(acac) ₂ : :Ph ₃ P:Bu ₂ AlH = 1:4:8	75
Pentane	74	MeOCH ₂ CH=CH(CH ₂) ₃ CH=CH ₂	64	Co(acac) ₃ :	
Cyclohexane	74	(CH ₂ =CHCH ₂) ₂ O	58	:Ph ₃ P:Bu ₂ AlH = 1:4:8	68
Benzene	72	PhOCH ₂ CH=CH ₂	56	Pd(aca) ₂ :Ph ₃ P:Bu ₂ AlH = 1:4:8	0
THF ^d	70	BuOCH ₂ CH=CH ₂	5	Cu(acac) ₂ :Ph ₃ P = 1:2	0
Ether	68	N(CH ₂ CH=CH ₂) ₃	0		

^a Ni(acac)₂:Ph₃P:Bu₂AlH = 1:4:8, CH₂=CHCH₂Cl:AlEt₃ = 3:1. ^b Ni(acac)₂:Ph₃P:Bu₂AlH = 1:4:8, allyl substrate:AlEt₃ = 3:1. ^c CH₂=CHCH₂Cl:AlEt₃ = 3:1. ^d THF = tetrahydrofuran.



In the absence of a catalyst complex or allyl compounds, the ACPs studied were never transformed into 2-vinylalkanes. The nature of the solvent has no effect on the yield of vinylalkanes **2**, but the yields of the latter compounds were highly dependent on the structure of the initial allyl compound (Table 1). A number of Fe-, Co-, Ni-, Pd-, and Ir-based catalysts were studied in this reaction, and the highest yields were obtained in the presence of either a cobalt- or nickel-containing catalytic system.

With regard to a mechanism for the β -vinylation reaction of terminal alkenes, it may be assumed that the role of low-valent

transition metal complexes consists of the catalysis of hydride transfer of the β -hydrogen atom in the formed ACPs with further generation of aluminium hydrides **4** and **5**. Aluminium hydrides **4** reduce allyl compounds (allyl chloride, allyl ethers) to propylene,⁶ and are thus transformed into related aluminium halides or alkoxides **5**. Hydrolysis of the latter leads to 2-vinylalkanes **2**, and deuteriohydrolysis leads to the related 1-deuterio-2-vinylalkanes **6** (Scheme 2). Compounds **1**, **2**, **5** and **6** were identified by spectroscopic methods.

The developed method for β -hydrovinylation of terminal alkenes into 3-methylalk-1-enes **2** via the formation *in situ* of 3-substituted aluminacyclopentanes **1** offers a promising new route for the homologation of terminal alkenes.

Received: Moscow, 26th April 1991

Cambridge, 11th July 1991; Com. 1/02112E

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