Tuning Reactivity and Site Selectivity of Simple Arenes in C-H Activation: Ortho-Arylation of Anisoles *via* Arene-Metal π -Complexation

Ricci, P.; Kramer, K.; Larrosa, I. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2014, 136, 18082–18086.

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Abstract



- Directing group free C-H activation
- Unprecedented ortho-selectivity
- Mild methodology
- Useful for late stage functionalization of bioactive compounds

Examples of Anisole Containing Bioactive Compounds



Direct C-H Arylation of Arenes: Requirements and Challenges



- Low reactivity requiring larger amounts of arenes
- Useful regioselectivity was not obtained
- Requirements of directing groups

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Direct C-H Arylation: Keith Fagnou



Lafrance, M.; Rowley, C. N.; Woo, T. K.; Fagnou, K. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2006, 128, 8754.



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Stuart, D. R.; Fagnou, K. Science, 2007, 316, 1172.

Direct C-H Arylation: M. J. Guant



Phipps, R. J.; Gaunt, M. J. Science, 2009, 323, 1593.



Ciana, C-L.; Phipps, R. J.; Brandt, J. R.; Meyer, F-M.; Gaunt, M. J. *Angew. Chem. Int. Et.* **2011**, *50*, 458-462.

Direct C-H Arylation: Others



Yanagisawa, S.; Sudo, T.; Noyori, R.; Itami, K. Tetrahedron, 2008, 64, 6073-6081.



Fujita, K-i.; Nonogawa, M.; Yamaguchi, R. Chem. Commun. 2004, 1926.



Wang, X.; Leow, D.; Yu, J-Q. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2011, 133, 13864-13867.

NO₂

Mechanistic Studies: Keith Fagnou

Concerted Metalation and Deprotonation (CMD) path way





Keith Fagnou 1971-2009 University of Ottawa, Canada

Chem. Lett. 2010, 39, 1118.

Lafrance, M.; Rowley, C. N.; Woo, T. K.; Fagnou, K. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 2006, 128, 8754.

Previous Work by Igor Larossa Group: Enhancing Reactivity via π -Complexation



Hypothesis:

 Cr(CO)₃ complexes of simple arenes enhances the reactivity under CMD type arylation

[CMD: Concerted Metallation Deprotonation]

Testing the Hypothesis:



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DFT Calculations: Probing the Origin of Enhanced Reactivity



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Calculated [TS] **B** < [TS] **A** by 5.7 kcal/mol

- $\Delta G_{interaction} \mathbf{B} \Delta G_{interaction} \mathbf{A} = -9.9 \text{ kcal/mol} (-24.3 \text{ kcal/mol}) = 14.4 \text{ kcal/mol}$
- $\Delta G_{dist} \mathbf{B} \Delta G_{dist} \mathbf{A} = 16.8 \text{ kcal/mol} 36.8 \text{ kcal/mol} = -20.0 \text{ kcal/mol}$
 - Much lower distortion energy cost for B

C-H activation

- $\Delta G_{elongation} \mathbf{B} \Delta G_{elongation} \mathbf{A} = 1.0 \text{ kcal/mol}$
- $\Delta G_{\text{bending}} \mathbf{B} \Delta G_{\text{bending}} \mathbf{A} = 19.1 \text{ kcal/mol}$
 - $\tilde{Cr}(CO)_3$ facilitate the C-H bending in the TS leading to CMD

Arylation of Anisole Type Arenes: Highly *ortho* Selective Pd Catalysed Direct Arylation (*Chosen paper*)



Hypothesis:

Cr(CO)₃ activation can operate on electron rich arenes

- 1. Enhance reactivity toward a CMD process (avoid large excess of arene)
- 2. Eleminate S_EAr type reactivity (*para* reactivity)
- 3. Afford CMD prefferd ortho siomer

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Optimization of the Conditions









Entry	R-CO₂H	additive (2 equiv)	T (°C)	A : B : C (yield%)
1	1-AdCO ₂ H	-	60	58:3:1
2	PhCO ₂ H	-	60	34:1:1
3	<i>p</i> -NO ₂ -C ₆ H ₄ -CO ₂ H	-	60	0:0:0
4	<i>p</i> -NH ₂ -C ₆ H ₄ -CO ₂ H	-	60	52:3:5
5	1-AdCO ₂ H	piperidine	60	0:0:0
6	1-AdCO ₂ H	Et ₃ N	60	57:3:3
7	1-AdCO ₂ H	ТМР	60	78:3:5
				(95:0:5 <i>o</i> : <i>m</i> : <i>p</i> selectivity)
8	1-AdCO ₂ H	TMP	50	69:3:5
9	1-AdCO ₂ H	TMP	60	52:5:6
10	-	TMP	60	39:2:1
11	1-AdCO ₂ H	TMP	60	0:0:0*
13	1-AdCO ₂ H	TMP	60	0:0:0*

TMP: 2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidine, * No Ag₂CO₃ added

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Late Stage Functionalization of Estradiol Derivatives



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Conclusions

- π-Complexation of a Cr(CO)₃ unit to anisole-type arenes can "switch on" a highly ortho-selective Pd-catalyzed direct arylation process.
- Only 1 equiv of the arene under mild conditions (no strong acids/ bases, 60 ° C)
- **Cr-unit** can be used as **a handle for further transformations** on and around the arene
- A concerted metalation-deprotonation type pathway, which is normally not accessible to electron-rich arenes
- Suitable for the late-stage functionalization of anisole-containing bioactive compounds

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Thank you!